

# PROJECT COMPARISON REPORT

**Uisenis Wind Farm**

Prepared for: Uisenis Power Limited

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## 1.0 Introduction

This Project Comparison Report (PC Report) has been prepared by SLR Consulting (SLR), with input from Pell Frischmann, MacArthur Green and Land Use Consultants (LUC), to accompany the application by Uisenis Power Limited, to install and operate Uisenis Wind Farm (the proposed development).

The proposed development comprises 25 wind turbines (up to 180m-200m to blade tip height) and associated infrastructure. The proposed development is located on land (the Site) within the Eisgein (Eishken) Estate on the Isle of Lewis, approximately 20km south west of Stornoway.

The Site currently has consent for 45 wind turbines, across three separate applications, as follows:

- Muaitheabhal Wind Farm Main Consent (ECU ref. EC00005222) - 33 turbines up to 145m to blade tip consented in January 2010);
- Muaitheabhal East Extension (ECU ref. EC00005223) - 6 turbines up to 150m to blade tip consented in December 2011); and
- Muaitheabhal South Extension (ECU ref. EC00002096) - 5 turbines up to 150m to blade tip and 1 turbine up to 130m to blade tip consented in September 2015).

The pre-commencement planning conditions attached to these consents have been discharged, and the consents have been implemented through development of a bell mouth junction for the Main Consent and East Extension, and via other limited infrastructure works for the South Extension.

This PC Report compares the predicted effects of the proposed development against the consented Muaitheabhal Wind Farm and extensions (herein after referred to as the 'consented scheme'). **Table 1-1** below summarises the key parameters of the consented scheme and proposed development.

**Table 1-1: Key Parameters of the Consented Scheme and Proposed Development**

Key Parameter	The Consented Scheme	The Proposed Development
Maximum number of wind turbines	45	25
Approximate Capacity (MW)	162MW	165MW
Maximum Blade Tip Height (m)	150m	200m

The Site layout of the consented scheme is shown on **Figure 1.1**, with the Site layout of the proposed development shown on **Figure 1.2**. **Figure 1.3** provides a side-by-side comparison of the Site layouts of the consented scheme and the proposed development.

This PC Report compares the areas of assessment undertaken for the proposed development and the consented scheme, in order to highlight any substantial changes in the residual significance of effects following mitigation, between the two assessments. It should be noted that the Environmental Statements (ES(s)) for the consented scheme were written under previous legislation and guidance when compared to the EIA Report for the proposed development; therefore, findings may differ as a result of these changes.

Note that since the EIA was prepared for the consented scheme, the approaches taken to various assessments have been refined and developed, taking on board new guidance as it has been published, as well as applying experience gained through working on other projects. Approaches that were common between 2000 and 2015 have developed and further scrutiny is now given to the way effects are determined. Greater precision is also applied in explaining them. As such, comparison of effects using simple word scales leaves aside the nuances of

the changes. Where possible, accompanying summary information is provided to explain reasons for differences in judgements. Reference should also be made to the full EIA documentation for each scheme.

## 1.1 Need for the Proposed Development

**Chapter 4** of the Uisenis Wind Farm EIA Report and the Planning Statement which accompanies the Uisenis Wind Farm application provide detail on the various climate change targets and renewable energy policies which are applicable.

**Table 1-2** outlines the relevant Scottish Energy, Electricity and Climate Change Targets that were in place in 2015 when the Muaitheabhal South Extension (the most recent of the three applications that form the consented scheme) was consented, compared with the current suite of Scottish Energy, Electricity and Climate Change Targets.

**Table 1-2: Comparison Summary of Scottish Energy, Electricity & Climate Change Targets in 2015 and Present**

Summary of Scottish Energy, Electricity and Climate Change Targets in 2015		
Target	Target Year	Source
<b>Renewable Energy</b>		
30% of total energy use from renewable sources	2020	2020 Routemap for Renewable Energy in Scotland (2011)
<b>Renewable Electricity</b>		
Meet the equivalent of 100% of electricity demand from renewables sources	2020	2020 Routemap for Renewable Energy in Scotland (2011)
<b>Climate Change</b>		
Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by at least 42% below 1990 / 1995 baseline	2020	The Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009
Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by at least 80% below 1990 / 1995 baseline	2050	The Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009
Summary of (Current) Scottish Energy, Electricity and Climate Change Targets in 2023		
Target	Target Year	Source
<b>Renewable Energy</b>		
50% of total energy use from renewable sources	2030	Scottish Energy Strategy (2017)
Increase the installed onshore wind capacity in Scotland to 20GW	2030	Onshore Wind Policy Statement (2022)
To have decarbonised the energy system almost completely	2050	Scottish Energy Strategy (2017)
<b>Renewable Electricity</b>		
Meet the equivalent of 100% of electricity demand from renewables sources <sup>1</sup>	2020	2020 Routemap for Renewable Energy in Scotland (2011)

<sup>1</sup> Target not yet achieved.

Climate Change		
Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by at least 75% below 1990 / 1995 baseline	2030	Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019
Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by at least 90% below 1990/1995 baseline	2040	Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019
Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions to net zero	2045	Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019

From **Table 1-2** it is clear that even more challenging targets have been set by the Scottish government in the intervening time between the consent for the Muaitheabhal South Extension (2015) and the application for the proposed development (2023).

In addition to the above new / updated energy, electricity and climate change targets, a ‘Climate Emergency’ was declared in Scotland, in spring 2019, by the Scottish Government.

The Scottish Government’s ‘Onshore Wind Policy Statement 22’ (OWPS 22) was published in December 2022, its purpose being to update the Onshore Wind Policy Statement published in 2017 in light of Scotland’s net zero targets. The OWPS ‘22 has been published with a purpose of restating the importance of onshore wind as a tool to accelerate Scotland’s transition towards a net zero society. The policy cites the Russian invasion of Ukraine, and subsequent global energy crisis as an additional reason for the further development of onshore wind in Scotland. The statement emphasises the importance of onshore wind in Scotland as a cheap and reliable source of zero carbon electricity. Within the statement, the Scottish Government commits to an overall ambition of 20GW of total installed onshore wind capacity by 2030, increasing the current installed capacity by 11.3GW. Referring to the projection that Scotland’s peak demand for electricity will at least double within the next two decades, the report states that *“This will require a substantial increase in installed capacity across all renewable technologies.”*

Since the design of the consented scheme, there have been changes in government financial support for renewables and turbine technology. Technology advances in wind turbine development have resulted in significantly more productive turbines with relatively minor increases in turbine dimensions that are able to produce lower cost renewable electricity. It is necessary for onshore wind farms to be designed to maximise yield and efficiency within acceptable environmental and planning parameters. Improving site yield is often achieved through utilisation of the most modern wind turbine technology and use of larger wind turbines. As such, the proposed development allows for a reduction in turbine numbers from 45 to 25 when compared to the consented scheme, facilitated by an increase in turbine tip heights.

The recently adopted National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4) identifies energy developments with a capacity in excess of 50MW as ‘national developments’. The proposed development can therefore be considered a national development and the need case for the proposed development therefore demonstrated/implied.

## 2.0 Comparison Overview

### 2.1 Summary Comparison Table

**Table 2-1** below outlines the subject areas of both consented scheme and the EIA Report for the proposed development. It should be noted that as the consented scheme ES(s) and the EIA Report for the proposed development were written by different authors the chapter titles, and therefore subject areas, in some instances do not share the exact same titles. The subject areas named in **Table 2-1** follow that of the EIA Report for the proposed development.

Headline residual significance findings for the proposed development which represent a change in comparison to the consented scheme are highlighted in **bold text** within **Table 2-1**.



**Table 2-1: Summary Comparison Table**

Technical Topic Area	Headline Residual <sup>2</sup> Significance Findings (Significant or Not Significant)	
	Consented Scheme	The Proposed Development
Landscape and Visual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Significant Landscape Effects Identified</li> <li>• Significant Visual Effects Identified</li> <li>• No Significant Cumulative Landscape or Visual Effects Identified</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Significant Landscape Effects Identified</li> <li>• Significant Visual Effects Identified</li> <li>• No Significant Cumulative Landscape or Visual Effects Identified</li> </ul>
Ecology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Significant Effects Identified</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Significant Effects Identified</li> </ul>
Ornithology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Significant Effects Identified</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Significant Effects Identified</li> </ul>
Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Significant Effects Identified</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Significant Effects Identified</li> </ul>
Archaeology and Cultural Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Significant Effects Identified</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Significant Effects Identified</li> </ul>
Site Access, Traffic and Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Significant Effects Identified</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Significant Effects Identified</li> </ul>
Noise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Significant Effects Identified</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Significant Effects Identified</li> </ul>

<sup>2</sup> Residual meaning the significance of effects once mitigation measures have been applied.

Technical Topic Area	Headline Residual <sup>2</sup> Significance Findings (Significant or Not Significant)	
	Consented Scheme	The Proposed Development
Socio-Economics, Tourism, Recreation and Land Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Significant (positive) Effect on indirect employment generation</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Significant Effects Identified</li> </ul>
Aviation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Significant Effects Identified</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Significant Effects Identified</li> </ul>
Other Issues (Shadow Flicker, Carbon Balance, Telecommunications, and Health & Safety)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Significance on the Climate Change and Carbon Balance not concluded.</li> <li>• No Significant Effects on Environmental Receptors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Significant (Positive) Effect on Climate Change / Carbon Saving</b></li> <li>• No Significant Effects on Environmental Receptors</li> </ul>

## 2.2 Technical Topic Areas with No Notable Change

Those following technical topic areas represent no notable change between the residual significance of findings between the consented scheme and the proposed development (as detailed in **Table 2-1**). Further to this it is considered that these technical topic areas have no other notable differences (between the consented scheme and the proposed development) that merit detailed analysis:

- Archaeology and Cultural Heritage;
- Site Access, Traffic and Transport;
- Noise; and
- Aviation.

As a result of this, Sections 2.2.1 to 2.2.4 provide a short analysis statement of the above technical topic areas. The following topic areas are discussed in more detail in Sections 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.6, 2.7 and 2.8 respectively:

- Landscape and Visual Amenity;
- Ecology;
- Ornithology;
- Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology;
- Socio-Economics, Land Use, Recreation and Tourism; and
- Other Issues.

### 2.2.1 Archaeology and Cultural Heritage

A comparison has been made between the predicted effects on cultural heritage assets, identified in the ES(s) of the consented scheme, and the EIA Report for proposed development.

Results and predicted effects on cultural heritage assets for the consented scheme and for the proposed development are very similar.

For the consented scheme, no significant effects on cultural heritage assets were identified. Mitigation, in the form of marking-out/avoidance of heritage assets, surveying, monitoring and micrositing of infrastructure, is proposed during construction of the consented scheme.

For the proposed development, no significant effects on cultural heritage assets were identified (See EIA Report **Chapter 11**). Mitigation, in the form of archaeological watching briefs is proposed for four non-designated heritage assets (all within the Site application boundary) during construction of the proposed development.

### 2.2.2 Site Access, Traffic and Transport

A comparison has been made between predicted effects on the transport and access issues associated with the consented scheme and the EIA Report for the proposed development. The effects relate to the construction, operation and decommissioning phases and their potential effects on the local road network.

The results from the EIA assessment for the consented scheme show that during construction there is predicted to be a minor impact on traffic flows on the local road network in relation to increased traffic volume and changes to the traffic composition.

Traffic levels during the operational phase of the consented scheme will be low and considerably below the threshold for undertaking formal assessment and these will relate to general maintenance. Traffic levels during the decommissioning of the consented scheme are expected to be lower than during the construction phase.

Mitigation measures proposed included the implementation of a Traffic Management Plan and measures relating to the movements of abnormal load traffic. Following the implementation of the proposed mitigation measures, the potential impacts were predicted to be reduced to negligible.

The results from the EIA assessment for the proposed development show that there will be a temporary increase in traffic volumes on the study area during the construction phase. Traffic volumes will fall considerably outside the peak period of construction.

No capacity issues are expected on any of the roads within the study area due to the additional construction traffic movements associated with the proposed development. The effects of construction traffic are temporary in nature and are transitory.

A review of the road network has been undertaken to assess the feasibility of transporting turbines to the Site and no significant issues have been noted.

Traffic levels during the operational phase of the proposed development will be one or two vehicles per week for maintenance purposes. Traffic levels during the decommissioning of the proposed development are expected to be lower than during the construction phase as some elements may be left in situ and others broken up onsite.

A number of mitigation measures have been proposed over and above those proposed for the consented scheme during the construction phase, including a Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP), road maintenance, off-site improvement works, abnormal load traffic management plan, an Onsite Path Management Plan and a Staff Travel Plan.

Following the implementation of the proposed mitigation measures, the potential impacts were all predicted to be reduced to minor (not significant).

Based on the EIA assessment results for the consented scheme and the proposed development, it is considered that the predicted results are broadly similar, with no significant residual effects anticipated in respect of traffic and transport issues.

### 2.2.3 Noise

A comparison has been made between the predicted noise effects on residential properties, identified in the ES(s) of the consented scheme, and the EIA Report for proposed development.

Results and predicted noise effects on residential properties for the consented scheme and for the proposed development are very similar.

For the consented scheme, no significant effects on residential properties, as a result of construction or operational noise, were identified. Operational noise levels at all residential properties are predicted to lie below ETSU-R-97 daytime and night-time levels.

For the proposed development, no significant effects on residential properties, as a result of construction or operational noise, were identified (See EIA Report **Chapter 13**). Operational noise levels at all residential properties are predicted to lie below ETSU-R-97 daytime and night-time levels.

### 2.2.4 Aviation

A comparison has been made between the predicted effects on aviation receptors, identified in the ES(s) of the consented scheme, and the EIA Report for proposed development.

The proposed development has been assessed (See EIA Report **Chapter 15**) as not impacting any military radar facilities, or impacting on the infrastructure and operation of Stornoway Airport. As the turbines of the proposed development are over 150m tall, there is a statutory requirement to light the wind farm with visible spectrum obstacle/aviation lighting. A visible spectrum aviation lighting scheme has been designed, for the proposed

development, to comply with statutory requirements under the Air Navigation Order (2016) to assist with air safety.

11 of the turbines that form the consented scheme are 150m to tip height and so would also require visible aviation lighting.

The ES's for the consented scheme and EIA Report for the proposed development conclude that there would be no unacceptable impacts on aviation receptors (e.g. radar, and Stornoway airport).

Visible aviation lighting is considered further in the Landscape and Visual section (Section 2.3) below.

## 2.3 Comparison of Landscape and Visual Effects

The Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) for the proposed development is set out in Volume 2, **Chapter 7** of the EIA Report, with supporting figures and visualisations in Volume 3. Volume 4 includes the following technical appendices to the LVIA:

- **Technical Appendix 7.1: LVIA Methodology;**
- **Technical Appendix 7.2: ZTV Mapping and Visualisation Methodology;**
- **Technical Appendix 7.3: Assessment of Effects on Special Landscape Qualities;**
- **Technical Appendix 7.4: Wild Land Impact Assessment;** and
- **Technical Appendix 7.5: Aviation Lighting Impact Assessment.**

The LVIA methodology has been developed primarily in accordance with the principles contained within the Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, 3rd Edition (GLVIA3)<sup>3</sup>. Moderate and major effects are considered to be significant in the context of the EIA Regulations.

A summary of predicted landscape and visual effects is provided in **Table 7-52** of the LVIA.

### 2.3.1 Analysis of Comparative Theoretical Visibility

A comparative blade tip height ZTV is provided as **Figure 2.1a**; this illustrates the areas from which the proposed development would introduce visibility, as compared with the ZTV for the consented schemes. The comparative ZTV indicates that the geographical extent of the area with theoretical visibility of the proposed development would be largely similar to that with theoretical visibility of the consented schemes.

Within 15km there would be some areas of reduced visibility, from which the consented schemes would be visible, but the proposed development would not be visible. This includes extents of the A859 to the north west of the Site near Airidh a Bhruaich (including the Bonnie Prince Charlie Monument), extending west from the road along Allt Salach and to the east towards Sideabhal (84m AOD). Theoretical visibility would also be reduced near the Pairc Land Raiders Monument to the north west of the Site, Eilean Shiophoirt to the west of the Site, the east-facing slopes of Tomnabhal (552m AOD), Sgurr Sgaladail, Cleit Ard (328m AOD) and Caisteal Ard (198m AOD) to the west of the Site, and the upper slopes of Gleann Lacasdail to the south west of the Site. Within 15km, there would be localised areas of additional visibility resulting from the introduction of the proposed development, mostly focused on the east-facing slopes of Beinn a' Mhuil (370m AOD), Liuthaid (492m AOD) and Mullach Bhiohadail (468m AOD), south-facing slopes of Mullach a' Ruisg (473m AOD) to the west of the Site and the summit of Strathabhal (389m AOD) to the south west of the Site.

Within 15-45km of the Site, there would be some areas of reduced theoretical visibility from which the consented schemes would be visible, but the proposed development would not be visible. This includes the area near Sgaoth

<sup>3</sup> Landscape Institute and the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment, (2013). Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, 3rd Edition (GLVIA3).

local (531m AOD) to the south west of the Site, the coastline and slightly elevated landform within the north east of Scalpay to the south west of the Site, Beinn Dhubh (506m AOD) to the south west of the Site and Naideabhal a Muigh (452m AOD) to the west of the Site.

Between 15-45km, there are localised areas of additional visibility resulting from the introduction of the proposed development near Giolabhal Glas (475m AOD), Ceann Reamhar (467m AOD) to the south west of the Site, near Lochan Fhir Mhagil to the north west of the Site and near Loch nan Stearnag to the north of the Site.

### 2.3.2 Analysis of Predicted Landscape Effects

#### *Effects on Landscape Character*

The extent of direct landscape effects resulting from the introduction of the proposed development would be reduced when compared to the consented scheme, particularly within the Prominent Hills and Mountains LCT (326) in the west of the Site. Five turbines of the consented scheme extended south west (beyond the Site boundary of the proposed development) towards the interior of this LCT and west along the ridgeline formed by Beinn Mheadhanach (288m AOD), Feiriosbhal (326m AOD), Creag na h-Uamha and Cleith na Ceardaich (168m AOD). The turbines of the proposed development are contained within the eastern edge of the LCT, near its transition to the Rocky Moorland – Outer Hebrides LCT in the east of the Site, resulting in a more compact cluster of turbines.

In terms of indirect effects, the comparative ZTV (**Figure 2.1a**) indicates that the geographical extent of the area with theoretical visibility of the proposed development would be slightly decreased when compared to the consented scheme. There are areas of theoretical visibility of the consented scheme indicated to the north west of the Site, within the Prominent Hills and Mountains LCT (326), Boggy Moorland – Outer Hebrides LCT (322) and Rocky Moorland – Outer Hebrides LCT (323), from which the proposed development is not theoretically visible. This is largely due to the removal of turbines from the ridgeline formed by Beinn Mheadhanach and Feiriosbhal, which partially contains turbines in the north west of the Site for the proposed development. The geographical extent of indirect landscape effects resulting from the proposed development would be reduced in these LCTs when compared to the consented scheme.

The significance of effect for the LCTs in the Study Area would be comparable for the consented scheme and proposed development. Significant effects would occur for the consented scheme and proposed development for the following LCTs:

- Moderate and significant direct and indirect effects for localised extents of the Prominent Hills and Mountains (LCT 326);
- Moderate and significant direct and indirect effects for localised extents of the Rocky Moorland – Outer Hebrides (LCT 323);
- Moderate and significant indirect effects for localised extents of the Dispersed Crofting (LCT 319);
- Moderate and significant indirect effects for localised extents of the Boggy Moorland – Outer Hebrides (LCT 322); and
- Moderate and significant indirect effects for localised extents of the Linear Crofting (LCT 318).

The extent of indirect effects on Coastal Character Types (CCTs) resulting from the introduction of the proposed development would be reduced when compared to the consented scheme. The CZTV on **Figure 2.1a** indicates theoretical visibility of the consented scheme from localised extents of the Low Rocky Island Coasts (CCT 13) to the south of the Site, near the shores of Loch Claidh and the coastline of Scalpay, from which there is no theoretical visibility of the proposed development. Localised significant indirect effects on this CCT would occur for both the consented scheme and proposed development. The CZTV on **Figure 2.1a** indicates theoretical visibility of the consented scheme from localised extents of the Sounds, Narrows and Islands (CCT 9) along the north-eastern shores of Loch Seaforth, from which there is no theoretical visibility of the proposed development.

### 2.3.3 Analysis of Predicted Effects on Views and Visual Amenity

#### *Effects on Views and Visual Amenity*

**Figures 2.2a to 2.19b** show comparative wirelines for all 18 of the representative LVIA viewpoints. Comparative photomontages are also provided for the following representative viewpoints at the request of the Comhairle nan Eilean Siar (CnES)/ the Western isles Council, which illustrate a range of viewing directions and distances to the Site:

- Viewpoint 1 - Orasaigh (Orinsay);
- Viewpoint 2 - B8060, east of the Site;
- Viewpoint 3 - Beinn Mhor;
- Viewpoint 8 - Baile Ailein;
- Viewpoint 11 - Liurbost;
- Viewpoint 15 - An Cliseam; and
- Viewpoint 16 - Calanais Standing Stones.

A comparison of the visual effects of the proposed development and the consented scheme are provided for each of these viewpoints below.

#### **Viewpoint 1 - Orasaigh (Orinsay)**

Turbines of the consented scheme (**Figure 2.2a-b**) would appear across a medium angle of the middle distance view, seen in a dip in landform between Gearol and Cleite Loch Shaghachain. The hubs and blades of four turbines would be seen against the skyline, with two turbines (T8 and T9 of Muaitheabhal Wind Farm) forming relatively prominent skyline features in the view. These turbines are located on the ridgeline formed by Beinn Mheadhanach (288m AOD), Feiriosbhal (326m AOD), Creag na h-Uamha and Cleith na Ceardaich (168m AOD); removal of turbines from this ridgeline was a key design objective for the proposed development (as noted in **Chapter 2** of the EIA Report). Despite the prominence of these turbines, turbines of the consented scheme would not diminish the scale of the surrounding landform, which steeply encloses outward views from this location.

The turbines of the proposed development (**Figure 2.2c-d**) would appear across a similar horizontal extent of the view in comparison to the consented scheme (**Figure 2.2a-b**). When compared to the consented scheme, the proposed development would introduce fewer, larger-scale turbines in views from this viewpoint. Whilst some turbines of the consented scheme would be fully visible (T8, T9), the bases of all proposed turbines would be screened by intervening landform. The blades of the proposed development would break the skyline, however the scale of surrounding landform on either side of the view would not be diminished. The magnitude of change resulting from the proposed development is considered to be similar to that of the consented scheme. Both the proposed development and consented scheme would result in significant visual effects for views from this location.

#### **Viewpoint 2 – B8060, east of the Site**

The hubs and blades of all turbines of the consented scheme (**Figure 2.3a-b**) would appear across a relatively large angle of middle distance views west. Three turbines of the consented scheme (T7, T8, T9 of Muaitheabhal Wind Farm) would form relatively evident skyline features above the ridgeline formed by Beinn Mheadhanach (288m AOD), Feiriosbhal (326m AOD), Creag na h-Uamha and Cleith na Ceardaich (168m AOD). Turbines of the Muaitheabhal East Extension would appear closer in the view than those of Muaitheabhal Wind Farm, which would lead to the perception of these turbines appearing slightly larger in scale.

The turbines of the proposed development (**Figure 2.3c-d**) would appear across a similar horizontal extent of the view in comparison to the consented scheme (**Figure 2.3a-b**). When compared to the consented scheme, the proposed development would introduce fewer, larger-scale turbines in views from this viewpoint. This will

slightly improve the appearance of the proposed development from this viewpoint, with slightly less overlapping or 'stacking' of turbine blades. Turbines of the proposed development would avoid the ridgeline formed by Beinn Mheadhanach (288m AOD), Feiriosbhal (326m AOD), Creag na h-Uamha and Cleith na Ceardaich (168m AOD), which was a key design objective for the proposed development in order to reduce prominence of turbines in views from the wider landscape and improve landscape 'fit' of the proposed development. Both the proposed development and consented development would appear with a gap in between turbine clusters, separated by the dip in landform along Loch Eisgein and Abhainn Cheothadail.

The magnitude of change resulting from the proposed development is considered to be similar to that of the consented scheme. Both the proposed development and consented scheme would result in significant visual effects for views from this location.

### **Viewpoint 3 - Beinn Mhor**

Turbines of the consented scheme (**Figure 2.4a-b**) would be seen extending across a relatively wide angle of views north east. Turbines of the Muaitheabhal South Extension would extend into relatively close distance views, whereas turbines of Muaitheabhal Wind Farm and the East Extension appear as a slightly more distant feature in the middle distance of views. Turbines in the north west of the Site appear on the ridgeline formed by Beinn Mheadhanach (288m AOD), Feiriosbhal (326m AOD), Creag na h-Uamha and Cleith na Ceardaich (168m AOD), and begin to transcend the scale of this landform in views.

The turbines of the proposed development (**Figure 2.4c-d**) would appear across a slightly reduced horizontal extent of the view in comparison to the consented scheme. When compared to the consented scheme, the proposed development would introduce fewer, larger-scale turbines in views from this viewpoint.

Whilst turbines of the consented scheme would extend across close and middle distance views, turbines of the proposed development would form a discernibly more compact cluster, with turbines appearing more distant in the view from the WLA than the consented scheme. Reducing the spread of turbines in outward views looking across landscape which forms the context to the WLA, and increasing the distance between the WLA and the proposed development, was a key design objective for the proposed development (as noted in **Chapter 2** of the EIA Report). Turbines of the proposed development would avoid the ridgeline formed by Beinn Mheadhanach, Feiriosbhal, Creag na h-Uamha and Cleith na Ceardaich.

The magnitude of change resulting from the proposed development is considered to be similar to that of the consented scheme. Both the proposed development and consented scheme would result in significant visual effects for views from this location.

### **Viewpoint 8 – Baile Ailein**

The hub and blades of one turbine and the blades of a further seven turbines of the consented scheme (**Figure 2.9a-b**) would appear across a relatively small proportion of views south, and would be screened by intervening landform. The blades of turbines in the north west of the site would appear slightly more prominent, though still partially screened by the ridgeline formed by Beinn Mheadhanach, Feiriosbhal, Creag na h-Uamha and Cleith na Ceardaich which forms a distinctive skyline in views south. The hub of one turbine (T10 of Muaitheabhal Wind Farm) would be seen just above intervening landform.

The turbines of the proposed development (**Figure 2.9c-d**) would appear across a slightly wider horizontal extent of the view in comparison to the consented scheme (**Figure 2.9a-b**). Whilst one turbine hub (T10) of the consented scheme would be glimpsed just above intervening landform, only turbine blades of the proposed development would be visible in views from this location. Turbines of the proposed development would appear similar in scale to those of the consented scheme. Unlike the consented scheme, turbines of the proposed development would not appear above the ridgeline formed by Beinn Mheadhanach, Feiriosbhal, Creag na h-Uamha and Cleith na Ceardaich. As such, the proposed development has a slightly improved relationship to the scale of landform in the view.



### Viewpoint 11 – Liurbost

Turbines of the Consented Development (**Figure 2.12a-b**) would extend across a medium angle of relatively distant views south west. Turbines in the north west of the site (T7, T8, T9 of Muaitheabhal Wind Farm) would form relatively evident skyline features above the ridgeline formed by Beinn Mheadhanach (288m AOD), Feiriosbhal (326m AOD), Creag na h-Uamha and Cleith na Ceardaich (168m AOD) and would transcend the scale of this landform, as well as more distant landform (Beinn Mhòr, Gormol and Crionaig) which forms the skyline in views south west from this location.

The turbines of the proposed development (**Figure 2.12c-d**) would appear across a slightly reduced horizontal extent of the view in comparison to the consented scheme (**Figure 2.12a-b**). When compared to the consented scheme, the proposed development would introduce fewer, larger-scale turbines in views from this viewpoint.

Unlike the consented scheme, turbines of the proposed development would not appear above the ridgeline formed by Beinn Mheadhanach, Feiriosbhal, Creag na h-Uamha and Cleith na Ceardaich, which was a key design objective for the proposed development (as noted in **Chapter 2** of the EIA Report). Given the reduced horizontal extent and avoidance of this ridgeline, turbines of the proposed development would have a slightly improved relationship to the scale of landform in the view, notably the distinctive summit of Beinn Mhòr, which would appear as a larger scale feature forming part of the skyline to the west of the proposed development.

The magnitude of change resulting from the proposed development is considered to be similar to that of the consented scheme. Both the proposed development and consented scheme would result in significant visual effects for views from this location.

### Viewpoint 15 – An Cliseam

Turbines of the consented scheme (**Figure 2.16a-b**) would appear across a medium angle of relatively distant views, partially screened by intervening landform. Turbines in the north west of the site (T7, T8, T9 of Muaitheabhal Wind Farm) would form relatively evident features above the ridgeline formed by Beinn Mheadhanach (288m AOD), Feiriosbhal (326m AOD), Creag na h-Uamha and Cleith na Ceardaich (168m AOD), although these turbines would be backclothed by more distant landform.

The turbines of the proposed development (**Figure 2.16c-d**) would appear across a slightly reduced horizontal extent of the available panoramic views from this location in comparison to the consented scheme (**Figure 2.16a-b**). When compared to the consented scheme, the proposed development would introduce fewer, larger-scale turbines in views from this viewpoint, with T19, T20, T21 appearing as relatively evident features, albeit in distant views. Turbines of the proposed development would avoid the lower slopes of the ridgeline formed by Beinn Mheadhanach, Feiriosbhal, Creag na h-Uamha and Cleith na Ceardaich, which was a key design objective for the proposed development (as noted in **Chapter 2** of the EIA Report). Given the reduced horizontal extent and avoidance of this ridgeline, turbines of the proposed development would appear better contained beyond intervening landform in the view from this location within the NSA.

The magnitude of change resulting from the proposed development is considered to be similar to that of the consented scheme. Both the proposed development and consented scheme would result in significant visual effects for views from this location.

### Viewpoint 16 - Calanais Standing Stones

Turbines of the Consented Development (**Figure 2.17a-b**) would appear beyond intervening landform in distant views south east. Three turbine hubs (T8, T9 and T10) of the consented scheme would be glimpsed just above the skyline formed by Beinn Mheadhanach, Feiriosbhal, Creag na h-Uamha and Cleith na Ceardaich.

Whilst three turbine hubs (T8, T9 and T10) of the consented scheme would be glimpsed just above intervening landform, only turbine blades of the proposed development would be visible in views from this location, which was a key design objective for the proposed development (as noted in **Chapter 2** of the EIA Report). Views of turbine blades of the proposed development (**Figure 2.17c-d**) would appear across a slightly wider horizontal

extent of the view in comparison to the consented scheme (**Figure 2.17a-b**). Turbines of the proposed development appear similar in scale to those of the consented scheme. Unlike the consented scheme, turbines of the proposed development would not appear above the skyline formed by Beinn Mheadhanach, Feiriosbhal, Creag na h-Uamha and Cleith na Ceardaich. As such, the proposed development has a slightly improved relationship to the scale of landform in the view. However, given the distant nature of views from this location, the magnitude of change resulting from the proposed development is considered to be similar to that of the consented scheme. Both the proposed development and consented scheme would result in not significant visual effects for views from this location.

### *Effects on Settlements*

The comparative ZTV (**Figure 2.1a**) indicates that the geographical extent of theoretical visibility of the proposed development in views from settlements within the Study Area would be largely similar to that of the consented scheme. However, there is theoretical visibility of the consented scheme indicated from the community of Airidh a Bhruaich to the north west of the Site, for which there is no theoretical visibility of the proposed development. A key design objective for the proposed development (as noted in **Chapter 2** of the EIA Report) was to reduce the prominence of turbines in views from settlements to the north west, north and east, which has been achieved, in part, by the removal of turbines from the ridgeline formed by Beinn Mheadhanach and Feiriosbhal.

Where views of the consented scheme and proposed development are afforded from settlements within 5km of the Site, the magnitude of change and significance of effect resulting from both the consented scheme and proposed development would be comparable.

In views from Orinsay (Viewpoint 1: Orasaigh (Orinsay)), the nearest community to the east of the Site, turbines of the consented scheme (**Figures 2.2a-b**) and proposed development (**Figures 2.2c-d**) would appear across a similar horizontal extent of the view, which turbines forming relatively evident features against the skyline in views from the community. Both the proposed development and consented scheme would result in significant visual effects for views from relatively localised extents in the centre of the community.

In views from other communities located within approximately 5km of the Site, the proposed development would appear across a slightly reduced horizontal extent of views when compared to the consented scheme. In views from Taobh a' Ghlinne (Viewpoint 4: Taobh a' Ghlinne (Glenside)) and Tabost/Habost (Viewpoint 5: B8060 near Tabost (Habost) Church), turbines of the consented scheme (illustrated by **Figure 2.5a** and **2.6a**, respectively) which extend onto the ridgeline formed by Beinn Mheadhanach, Feiriosbhal, Creag na h-Uamha and Cleith na Ceardaich would be evident against the skyline in views. Turbines of the proposed development (illustrated by **Figure 2.5b** and **2.6b**) would not extend onto this ridgeline and would appear at slightly lower elevation, which would improve the relationship of the proposed development to the scale of underlying landform in the view. Both the proposed development and consented scheme would result in significant visual effects for views experienced from these communities.

Where views of the consented scheme and proposed development are afforded from more distant settlements beyond 5km of the Site, the magnitude of change and significance of effect resulting from both the consented scheme and proposed development would be comparable.

In views from the central extents of the community of Ballalan (Viewpoint 8: Baile Ailein), located to the north of the Site, turbines of the consented scheme (**Figures 2.9a-b**) and proposed development (**Figures 2.9c-d**) would be partially screened by intervening landform with blades seen against the skyline. Unlike the consented scheme, turbines of the proposed development would not appear above the ridgeline formed by Beinn Mheadhanach, Feiriosbhal, Creag na h-Uamha and Cleith na Ceardaich, which forms a distinctive skyline in views south. As such, the proposed development has a slightly improved relationship to the scale of landform in the view.

In views from the community of Luirbost (Viewpoint 11 – Liurbost) to the north east of the Site, turbines of the proposed development (**Figures 2.12c-d**) would appear across a slightly reduced horizontal extent of the view in comparison to the consented scheme (**Figures 2.12a-b**). Unlike the consented scheme, turbines of the proposed development would not appear above the ridgeline formed by Beinn Mheadhanach, Feiriosbhal, Creag na h-

Uamha and Cleith na Ceardaich. Given the reduced horizontal extent and avoidance of this ridgeline, turbines of the proposed development would have a slightly improved relationship to the scale of landform in the view. Both the proposed development and consented scheme would result in significant visual effects for views experienced from the centre and east of the community.

In views from the community Acha Mor (Viewpoint 14: Acha Mor (Achamore)), turbines of the consented scheme (**Figure 2.15a**) extend onto the ridgeline formed by Beinn Mheadhanach and Feiriosbhal, and would also extend to the west of this landform. Turbines of the proposed development (**Figure 2.15b**) would appear across a reduced horizontal extent of the view, with turbines avoiding the higher ground of the ridgeline formed by Beinn Mheadhanach and Feiriosbhal. Given the reduced horizontal extent and avoidance of this ridgeline, turbines of the proposed development would have a slightly improved relationship to the scale of landform in the view. Both the proposed development and consented scheme would result in significant visual effects for views experienced from the community.

#### *Effects on Routes*

The comparative ZTV (**Figure 2.1a**) indicates that the geographical extent of theoretical visibility of the proposed development in views from roads within the Study Area would be slightly reduced when compared to the consented scheme. There are areas of theoretical visibility of the consented scheme indicated along the A859 and Hebridean Way to the north west and west of the Site from which the proposed development is not theoretically visible. This includes extents of the road and Hebridean Way between Airidh a Bhruaich and Aird an Troim, and extents of the road and Hebridean Way within the South Lewis, Harris and North Uist NSA near Cleit Ard, including a layby to the north east of Cleit Ard.

The magnitude of change and significance of visual effect experienced from the routes within the Study Area resulting from both the consented scheme and proposed development would be comparable. Both the proposed development and consented scheme would result in significant visual effects for views experienced from localised extents of the A859, A858 and Hebridean Way Walking and Cycling Routes/ NCN Route 780, and for larger extents of the B8060 and Pairc Trust Steimreway Path.

### **2.3.4 Analysis of Effects on Designated Landscapes and Wild Land Areas**

#### *South Lewis, Harris and North Uist NSA*

**Technical Appendix 7.3** of the EIA Report includes an Assessment of Effects on Special Landscape Qualities (AESLQs) of the South Lewis, Harris and North Uist NSA.

A key design objective for the proposed development (as noted in **Chapter 2**) was to limit visibility of the proposed development across the NSA, which was reduced in part by avoiding the siting of turbines on the ridgeline formed by Beinn Mheadhanach and Feiriosbhal. Turbines of the proposed development would be located at 3.7km to the north east of the NSA at its nearest point, which is a slightly increased distance when compared to the consented scheme (located 1.9km to the north east of the NSA at its nearest point). The comparative ZTV (**Figure 2.1a**) indicates that the geographical extent of theoretical visibility of the proposed development in views from the NSA would be slightly reduced when compared to the consented scheme. Theoretical visibility of the consented scheme is indicated from the north eastern coast of Scalpay and Cleit Ard, however the proposed development would not be visible in views from these extents of the NSA. Theoretical visibility of the consented scheme is also indicated from a wider area of elevated landform in the north of the NSA, from which the proposed development would be visible from more limited extents.

In outward views from key hill summits within the NSA (including Viewpoint 15 – An Cliseam) turbines of the consented scheme would appear across a medium angle of relatively distant views with turbines in the north west of the site forming relatively evident features above the ridgeline formed by Beinn Mheadhanach and Feiriosbhal. Turbines of the proposed development would avoid the lower slopes of the ridgeline, and would appear better contained beyond intervening landform, which forms a perceptible transition between the NSA and the lower-lying landscape of the northern Pairc peninsula. The proposed development would appear across

a reduced horizontal extent in outward views from the NSA and at an increased intervening distance when compared to the consented scheme. However, both the consented scheme and proposed development would result in localised significant effects on one of the SLQs of the NSA (the “wild, mountainous character”). Neither the consented scheme nor the proposed development would compromise the objective of designation and the overall integrity of the South Lewis, Harris and North Uist NSA.

#### *Eisgein (WLA 31)*

**Technical Appendix 7.4** of the EIA Report includes a Wild Land Impact Assessment (WLIA) for the Eisgein Wild Land Area (WLA 31).

A key design objective for the proposed development (as noted in **Chapter 2**) was to seek to reduce the overall impacts on the wild land qualities of the Eisgein (WLA 31) by siting turbines away from the southern site boundary. The prominence of the proposed development was also reduced, in part, by avoiding siting turbines on the ridgeline formed by Beinn Mheadhanach and Feiriosbhal.

Turbines of the proposed development would be located at 0.5km to the north of WLA 31 at its nearest point. Two turbines of the consented scheme would be located within WLA 31. The comparative ZTV (**Figure 2.1a**) indicates that the geographical extent of theoretical visibility of the proposed development in views from the WLA would be slightly reduced when compared to the consented scheme. Theoretical visibility of the consented scheme is indicated from some of the lower-lying slopes of Gleann Lacasdail, from which the proposed development would not be visible.

In views from key hill summits within the WLA (including Viewpoint 3 – Beinn Mhor), turbines of the consented scheme would appear across a relatively wide angle of views, with turbines of Muaitheabhal East Extension would extend into relatively close distance views. Turbines in the north west of the Site appear on the ridgeline formed by Beinn Mheadhanach and Feiriosbhal, and begin to transcend the scale of this landform in views. Turbines of the proposed development would appear at a greater intervening distance, and would avoid the ridgeline formed by Beinn Mheadhanach and Feiriosbhal.

The introduction of the consented scheme would result in direct effects on the WLA, including localised direct significant effects on wild land qualities. The introduction of the proposed development (located outside of the WLA) would result in significant effects on Wild Land Quality 1<sup>4</sup> and Wild Land Quality 3<sup>5</sup>, although these would occur as a result of outward views of the proposed development from the WLA. The significant effects are generally considered to be more discernible in the north eastern extents of the WLA, within approximately 5km of the proposed wind turbines.

### 2.3.5 Aviation Lighting Effects

**Technical Appendix 7.5** of the EIA Report includes an assessment of landscape and visual effects resulting from visible aviation lighting associated with the proposed development.

In the interests of aviation safety, structures of  $\geq 150\text{m}$ , including wind turbines, require steady red visible aviation lighting, as set out in Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) guidance<sup>6</sup>. The consented scheme comprises 45 turbines, of which 11 turbines have a maximum tip height of 150m, and the proposed development comprises 25 turbines with a maximum blade tip height of 180-200m. Both the consented scheme and proposed

<sup>4</sup> Wild Land Quality 1: “A very remote area with challenging access over a rugged landform, few visitors, and a strong sense of sanctuary and solitude.” (NatureScot (2017) Eishken – Wild Land Area [pdf]. Available at: <https://www.nature.scot/sites/default/files/2021-06/Wild%20land%20Description%20Eishken-July-2016-31.pdf> [Accessed 27/04/2023])

<sup>5</sup> Wild Land Quality 3: “A simple and wide expanse of peatland and hills at the broad scale, containing a very rugged landform at the local level, with a strong sense of naturalness.” (NatureScot (2017) Eishken – Wild Land Area [pdf]. Available at: <https://www.nature.scot/sites/default/files/2021-06/Wild%20land%20Description%20Eishken-July-2016-31.pdf> [Accessed 27/04/2023])

<sup>6</sup> UK Government (2016) The Air Navigation Order 2016 (SI 2016/765) [online]. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2016/765/contents/made> [Accessed 07/07/2023]

development would therefore require visible aviation lighting which may be perceptible to receptors (people) from locations across the Study Area.

The comparative lighting ZTV on **Figure 2.1b** illustrates areas of theoretical visibility of aviation lighting for the consented scheme, for the proposed development, and where aviation lighting of both the consented scheme and proposed development would be visible. The geographical extent of theoretical visibility of aviation lighting for the consented scheme and proposed development is broadly comparable. There are some areas of theoretical visibility of the lighting associated with the consented scheme to the west and south west of the Site, including within the Eisgein WLA 31, where the lighting associated with the proposed development would not be visible. However, there are some very localised areas of theoretical visibility of the lighting associated with the proposed development within the South Lewis, Harris and North Uist NSA, where the lighting associated with the consented scheme would not be visible. Significant landscape and visual effects associated with aviation lighting for the consented scheme and proposed development are judged to be limited. No additional significant effects on landscape character, designated landscapes or WLA are anticipated. Significant visual effects resulting from the introduction of 2,000 candela visible aviation lighting associated with the proposed development (as set out in **Technical Appendix 7.5** of the EIA Report) are anticipated for relatively localised locations within approximately 12km of the proposed development. Visual effects resulting from the introduction of the 2,000 candela visible aviation lighting associated with the consented scheme are judged to be broadly similar to those of the proposed development.

### 2.3.6 Cumulative Landscape and Visual Effects

The LVIA within **Chapter 7** of the EIA Report considers the potential for cumulative landscape and visual effects resulting from the introduction of the proposed development under future baseline scenarios including all operational and consented wind farm developments (Scenario 1) and all operational and consented wind farm developments and the proposed Harris-Stornoway 132kV OHL replacement (Scenario 2). Given the intervening distance between the proposed development (and consented scheme) and these other wind farm and infrastructure developments, and the different angles of views in which operational, consented and proposed developments would appear, no additional cumulative effects are anticipated for the proposed development or consented scheme.

### 2.3.7 Summary of changes in effects on landscape and visual amenity

A number of landscape and visual design objectives informed the refinement of the turbine layout of the proposed development, and were focused on improving the appearance of the proposed turbines as compared to the consented scheme. Design objectives included the following:

- Avoid siting of turbines on the Feiriosbhal and Beinn Mheadhanach ridge (located along the north western Site boundary) to avoid diminishing the scale and complexity of the underlying landscape, including in views from the South Lewis, Harris and North Uist NSA, Eisgein WLA 31 and settlements to the north west, north and east of the Site;
- Seek to reduce the overall impacts on the wild land qualities of the Eisgein WLA by siting turbines away from the south western Site boundary;
- Seek to reduce overall impacts on the special landscape qualities of the NSA by avoiding areas of higher elevation along the north western Site boundary;
- Minimise, as far as possible, the horizontal extent of turbines and 'stacking' or overlapping of turbine blades; and
- Minimise visibility of lit turbine hubs, as far as possible, in views from settlements to the north west, north and east of the Site and from the Calanais Standing Stones.

These objectives have been fulfilled through a number of design improvements, including the removal of turbines within WLA 31, pulling of turbines away from the south western Site boundary, avoiding the siting turbines on the Feiriosbhal and Beinn Mheadhanach ridge and consideration of visibility of lit turbine hubs. Many of these design improvements have resulted in a reduction in the extent of anticipated effects resulting from the proposed development, as compared to the consented scheme. However, the level of overall significant effect resulting from the proposed development is considered to be comparable to that of the consented scheme.

## 2.4 Comparison of Ecology Effects

A comparison has been made between predicted effects on Important Ecological Features (IEFs) identified in the ES(s) for the consented scheme, and the EIA Report for the proposed development (see **Chapter 8: Ecology** of EIA Report for further details).

Results and predicted effects on IEFs for the consented scheme and for the proposed development are very similar. The only significant effect predicted for the proposed development is due to peatland habitat loss, which will be compensated through habitat restoration as detailed within the outline Habitat Management Plan (**Technical Appendix 8.5** of the EIA Report).

**Table 2-2** below outlines a comparison of habitat loss for the consented schemes and the proposed development.

**Table 2-2: Habitat Loss Comparison**

Consented Scheme: Indirect & Direct Habitat Loss (ha)	Proposed Development: Indirect & Direct Habitat Loss (ha)
103.29ha	82.22ha

As shown in **Table 2-2** above, there is a considerable difference in the estimated indirect and direct habitat loss, as a result of wind farm infrastructure, when comparing the consented scheme and the proposed development. The consented scheme would see a total of approximately 103.29ha of habitat loss, whereas the proposed development would see a total of approximately 82.22ha of habitat loss. This is a difference of approximately 21.07ha of habitat loss, and can primarily be contributed to the smaller number of turbines (including foundations and crane pads) that are part of the proposed development, as well as the reduced amount of new track required.

**Table 2-2** shows that the proposed development would have less direct and indirect habitat loss, as a result of wind turbines and associated infrastructure, than the consented scheme. However, both the proposed development (in the EIA Report) and the consented scheme (in the ES's / SEI) are assessed as having no residual significant effects once mitigation applied.

## 2.5 Comparison of Ornithology Effects

### 2.5.1 Introduction

This section provides a comparison of the predicted effects on ornithological features as a result of the proposed development with that of the consented scheme. It should be read in conjunction with the following documents:

- EIA Report, **Chapter 9: Ornithology**;
- EIA Report, Volume 3: **Figures 9.1 to 9.18** and Confidential **Figures C9.1 to C9.10**;
- EIA Report, Volume 4: **Technical Appendices 9.1 to 9.4**; and
- Consented scheme ES's and SEIs:

- Land Use Consultants (2004). Muaitheabhal Wind Farm: ES;
- Land Use Consultants (2006). Muaitheabhal Wind Farm: SEI;
- Land Use Consultants (2009). Muaitheabhal Wind Farm: SEI;
- Land Use Consultants (2011). Muaitheabhal Wind Farm East Extension: ES;
- Land Use Consultants (2011). Muaitheabhal Wind Farm East Extension: SEI; and
- Land Use Consultants (2013). Muaitheabhal Wind Farm South Extension: ES.

Based on the information provided at the time, NatureScot (formerly Scottish Natural Heritage) did not object to the consented scheme in relation to potential effects on ornithology.

The impact assessment in EIA Report, **Chapter 9: Ornithology** predicted no residual significant effects for the proposed development.

### 2.5.2 Scope of Comparison of Effects

The scope of this assessment follows that presented in EIA Report, **Chapter 9: Ornithology**. The following potential impacts were identified as a result of field surveys, desk studies and consultation:

- Construction (and decommissioning) impacts: direct habitat loss (permanent and temporary) and disturbance due to construction activities; and
- Operational impacts: displacement due to infrastructure, collision risk with operational turbines, and impacts of turbine lighting.

These impacts are considered also to be applicable for the scope of this comparison with the consented scheme and are assessed in turn in the following section.

The ornithological features to be considered for assessment due to the potential for significant effects were determined in the *'Important Ornithological Features Scoped into the Assessment'* of EIA Report, **Chapter 9: Ornithology**. These Important Ornithological Features (IOFs) are:

- Black-throated diver;
- Golden eagle;
- White-tailed eagle;
- Merlin;
- Greenshank;
- Golden plover; and
- Dunlin.

All other species were considered unlikely to have unmitigated significant effects due to the proposed development and were therefore scoped out. It is also considered appropriate here to scope out all other ornithological features, including all designated sites, for this comparison with the consented scheme.

### 2.5.3 Potential Construction Effects

#### Comparison of the Proposed Development with the Consented Scheme

The consented scheme, comprising 45 turbines, would have an overall larger footprint than the 25-turbine proposed development (see **Figure 1.1** for consented scheme layout and **Figure 1.3** for a side-by-side comparison of the Site layouts of the consented scheme and the proposed development). For birds, this means that the

amount of direct habitat loss, both temporary and permanent, would be greater for the consented scheme. This may affect more nesting and foraging habitat of IOFs during the short - and long-term.

It is also the case that the area subject to potential disturbance due to construction activities would be greater for the consented scheme because of the larger footprint associated with the 45 turbines, compared to that of the proposed development's 25 turbines, resulting in the potential for more breeding territories being temporarily affected for some species, or for other species, a greater proportion of a breeding territory being affected during the construction period.

It has been assumed that the construction period would last for a similar duration for the consented scheme and proposed development.

It is also assumed that both the proposed development and consented scheme would deploy measures during the construction phase which would ensure compliance with all wildlife legislation for breeding birds. Measures proposed for the proposed development are listed in the 'Embedded Measures' section of EIA Report, **Chapter 9: Ornithology**, i.e., an Ecological Clerk of Works (ECoW), and pre - and during-construction surveys as part of a Bird Disturbance Management Plan (BDMP) (or similar) or Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP).

### Black-throated Diver

EIA Report, **Chapter 9: Ornithology** predicted a minor adverse and therefore non-significant effect on black-throated diver due to construction disturbance, in part because the embedded mitigation measures would ensure no breeding attempt would be affected.

EIA Report Confidential **Figures C9.5** and **C9.8** show the locations of breeding attempts and lochs utilised by black-throated divers in 2018 and 2022, and when considering the location of these in relation to the nearest infrastructure of the consented scheme (**Figure 1.1**), construction effects associated with the consented scheme would likely be similar to the proposed development, assuming suitable mitigation to ensure avoidance of disturbance to nesting birds. It can therefore be reasonably concluded that based on existing conditions there would be no difference in predicted level of effect associated with the proposed development and consented scheme, i.e., not significant within the context of the EIA regulations.

### Golden Eagle

Seasonal spatial restrictions to construction activities are committed to for the proposed development in order to ensure no golden eagle breeding attempt would be disturbed. It is assumed that suitable measures would also be deployed for the consented scheme to avoid disturbance to nesting birds and ensure legal compliance; however, due to the larger footprint of the 45-turbine layout, it is predicted that temporary construction disturbance to foraging individuals may be more widespread within at least two breeding territories (EA1 and EA2, see EIA Report Confidential **Figure C9.1**) compared to the proposed development. It is also the case that compared to the proposed development, the consented scheme would result in more wind turbines located in areas of higher activity and higher suitability for foraging golden eagles, particularly to the west and south west of the Site (see satellite tag data in EIA Report **Figure 9.8**, Confidential **Figure C9.2** and GET model predictions in Confidential **Figure C9.3**).

Although both the proposed development and consented scheme would have measures to avoid disturbance to nesting birds, the impact of temporary construction disturbance on foraging individuals due to the consented scheme is likely to be greater than that of the proposed development. Despite this, when comparing the consented development and the proposed development, it is considered unlikely there would be any difference in the magnitude of change on the golden eagle Natural Heritage Zone (NHZ 3) / Outer Hebrides population. It would also be the case that direct habitat loss due to temporary and permanent infrastructure would be greater as a result of the consented scheme, albeit again the magnitude of change would be similar to the proposed development at NHZ 3 level. As such, based on the conclusions of the EIA Report, **Chapter 9: Ornithology**,



construction effects due to the proposed development and consented scheme would be minor adverse and not significant.

### White-tailed Eagle

Similar to golden eagle, seasonal restrictions to ensure no disruption to nesting birds would be enforced during the construction phase of both the consented scheme and proposed development.

It is, however, the case that the larger footprint of the consented scheme would result in more widespread temporary construction disturbance to foraging birds than the proposed development, particularly in the south west and west of the Site which would be in relatively higher activity areas and higher habitat suitability for foraging (see EIA Report **Figures 9.6, 9.7, 9.9, 9.15 and 9.16**).

Although both the proposed development and consented scheme would have measures to avoid disturbance to nesting birds, it is likely that the proposed development would have a smaller impact of temporary construction disturbance on foraging individuals than the consented scheme. Despite this, when comparing the consented development and the proposed development, it is considered unlikely there would be any difference in the magnitude of change on the white-tailed eagle NHZ 3 / Outer Hebrides population. It would also be the case that direct habitat loss due to temporary and permanent infrastructure would be greater as a result of the consented scheme, albeit again the magnitude of change would be similar to the proposed development a NHZ 3 level. As such, based on the conclusions in the EIA Report, **Chapter 9: Ornithology**, construction effects due to the proposed development and consented scheme would be minor adverse and not significant.

### Merlin

As a species listed in Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, measures would be required for the consented scheme and proposed development to ensure no disruption to breeding birds. Surveys in 2018 and 2022 (see EIA Report Confidential **Figures C9.6 and C9.9**) suggested that one merlin breeding territory is within the Site, and due to similar locations of proposed infrastructure, versus the consented infrastructure, in that area, impacts on foraging birds are likely to be similar. Surveys in 2018 were based on the consented scheme and therefore covered a larger area than those undertaken in 2022 for the proposed development, and results suggested that a second merlin territory could be affected by construction activities around turbines in the southwest of the Site. Although in both cases territory abandonment is considered unlikely, and temporary disturbance is not likely to be significant at an NHZ 3 population level, the impact of the proposed development is considered to be lower than that of the consented scheme, albeit the magnitude of change at a population level would be similar. This would also be the case for direct habitat loss due to temporary and permanent infrastructure because of the smaller number of turbines under the proposed development. As such, based on the conclusions in the EIA Report, **Chapter 9: Ornithology**, construction effects due to the proposed development and consented scheme would be minor adverse and not significant.

### Breeding Waders

Greenshank is a Schedule 1 listed species and efforts would be made to ensure no disruption to nesting birds or young due to the consented scheme and proposed development. It is, however, possible that foraging birds away from the nest may be subject to construction disturbance. Results of surveys in 2018 and 2022 (EIA Report Confidential **Figures C9.7 and C9.10**) show that the majority of greenshank activity was recorded within the central part of the Site where infrastructure layouts for both the consented scheme and proposed development are relatively similar, and therefore it is predicted that there would be no difference in the predicted magnitude of change associated with the consented scheme and proposed development, and therefore based on the conclusions in the EIA Report, **Chapter 9: Ornithology**, construction effects due to the proposed development and consented scheme would be minor adverse and not significant.

For golden plover and dunlin, breeding activity was more widespread across the Site (see EIA Report **Figures 9.9, 9.10, 9.17 and 9.18**), and for both species it is likely that fewer pairs may be affected by construction disturbance and direct habitat loss due to the smaller footprint of the proposed development. Although the impact is likely

to be smaller as a result of the proposed development than that of the consented scheme, the magnitude of change at an NHZ 3 population level is likely to be the same. As such, construction effects due to the proposed development and consented scheme would be minor adverse and not significant.

## Summary

Overall, it is considered that the proposed development would have lower impacts on IOFs during construction than the consented scheme due to its smaller footprint and therefore, more restricted extent of construction activities. Direct habitat loss would also be smaller as a result of the proposed development due to the smaller footprint compared to the consented scheme. Although impacts associated with the consented scheme would be greater, they are considered likely to have the same magnitude of change at a population level as that predicted for proposed development, resulting in effects of no more than minor adverse and not significant for any IOF, due to the implementation of sufficient measures required to avoid disturbance to breeding birds.

## 2.5.4 Potential Operational Effects

### Displacement

#### *Comparison of the Proposed Development with the Consented Scheme*

The most tangible impacts on birds during the operational phase are likely to be associated with operational turbines. It is considered that the different turbine specifications for the proposed development and consented scheme would have no material difference to the extent or likelihood of displacement of birds. However, the consented scheme, comprising 45 turbines, would have an overall larger footprint than the proposed development, meaning that should birds be displaced due to the presence of turbines, the consented scheme would affect a greater extent of potential breeding and foraging habitat, or greater number of territories, than the proposed development.

#### *Black-throated Diver*

EIA Report, **Chapter 9: Ornithology** predicted a minor-moderate adverse and therefore, significant unmitigated effect on black-throated diver due to the possible displacement of a breeding pair in proximity to the closest turbines and substation. Mitigation in the form of artificial nest raft installation and restrictions on substation lighting would reduce the effect to minor adverse and not significant.

The consented scheme would have a turbine at a similar distance from the breeding loch, and it is assumed that the substation for the consented scheme would be in a broadly similar location i.e., within a few hundred metres of the proposed development substation. This means that without the prescribed mitigation of the proposed development, a significant effect on the NHZ 3 breeding population would be more likely to occur due to the consented scheme.

#### *Golden Eagle*

EIA Report, **Chapter 9: Ornithology** described how up to three breeding territories (EA1 to EA3) may overlap with the proposed development. It was acknowledged that displacement around turbines is likely, and the consequence of this would be loss of foraging habitat. It was considered possible that one territory (EA1) may be significantly affected, but a minor adverse and therefore, non-significant displacement effect on the NHZ 3 population overall would result due to the high population density in the Outer Hebrides.

The consented scheme would have a larger footprint and extend into parts of the Site which are more frequently used, and are of higher suitability for golden eagles, particularly in the west and south west (see satellite tag data in EIA Report **Figure 9.8**, Confidential **Figure C9.2** and GET model predictions in Confidential **Figure C9.3**). The confidential Fielding (2022<sup>7</sup>) golden eagle report undertaken for Uisenis Power Ltd and based on the consented

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<sup>7</sup> Fielding, A. (2022). Eishken Uisenis Renewable Energy Development – An analysis of potential golden eagle habitat loss using the GET Model Confidential report prepared for LUC Ltd.

scheme, concluded a likely significant loss of territory for pair EA1, and possibly also for EA2. It was advised that to reduce the likelihood of territory abandonment, the removal/relocation of consented scheme turbines in the south west in particular would lower potential barrier effects for pair EA1. The design process for the proposed development (see design considerations in EIA Report **Chapter 2**) has taken this advice into account and removed these south western turbines, as well as the westernmost turbines on high suitability habitat (see EIA Report Confidential **Figures 9.2** and **9.3**). Although the magnitude of change to the NHZ 3 population may be the same for the proposed development and consented scheme, it is clear that the proposed development would result in lower displacement impacts on breeding golden eagles, and reduce the likelihood of territory abandonment for EA1, and particularly EA2, compared to the consented scheme. Therefore, based on the conclusions in the EIA Report, **Chapter 9: Ornithology**, displacement effects due to the proposed development and consented scheme would be minor adverse and not significant.

#### *White-tailed Eagle*

Evidence referred to in EIA Report, **Chapter 9: Ornithology** suggests that displacement behaviour of white-tailed eagles is not as strong as for golden eagles, and it was concluded that although there may be localised avoidance of habitat around turbines, a negligible and non-significant effect was predicted for the proposed development. EIA Report **Figure 9.9** shows that compared to most of the Site, activity was relatively frequent in the southern part closest to Loch Sealg, and therefore the omission of the south western turbines included in the consented scheme means that displacement impacts are likely to be lower for the proposed development, albeit the magnitude of change at a NHZ 3 population level would be similar, and the significance of effects is likely to be negligible and non-significant for both projects.

#### *Merlin*

As outlined above in the Potential Construction Effects section, the proposed development and the consented scheme are equally likely to affect a merlin breeding territory due to the similarity of wind farm layout in that part of the Site. This is also likely to be the case for operational displacement effects, although in EIA Report, **Chapter 9: Ornithology** it was concluded that loss of this territory is unlikely. The consented scheme may also overlap with a second merlin territory in the south west, and although again territory abandonment is unlikely, overall impacts on the species are likely to be lower under the proposed development, albeit the magnitude of change and level of significance on the NHZ 3 population may be similar for both, i.e., negligible and not significant.

#### *Breeding Waders*

Due to the smaller footprint, it is likely that fewer breeding wader territories may be affected due to displacement around turbines under the proposed development, particularly for golden plover and dunlin who are found breeding on higher ground in the west and south west, where consented scheme turbines were removed.

Based on the predicted number of wader species territories affected, and associated impacts within the context of respective NHZ 3 breeding populations in EIA Report, **Chapter 9: Ornithology**, the magnitude of change and level of significance predicted for any IOF for the proposed development and consented scheme would likely be similar (minor adverse for greenshank and golden plover, negligible for dunlin), however the likelihood of an unmitigated significant effect would be lower for the proposed development.

#### *Summary*

Overall, it is considered that the proposed development would have lower displacement impacts on IOFs than the consented scheme due to its smaller footprint and avoidance of some areas of higher suitability for most IOFs.

Although impacts associated with the consented scheme would be greater, the magnitude of change resulting from the proposed development is considered to be similar to that of the consented scheme and therefore, the level of significance predicted on any IOF for the proposed development and consented scheme would be the

same for each species, at negligible or minor adverse. The possible exception to this is black-throated diver, where the consented scheme lacks the mitigation measures committed to by the proposed development to achieve a non-significant effect, and therefore based on the conclusions in EIA Report, **Chapter 9: Ornithology**, a minor-moderate adverse and significant effect on the species' NHZ 3 population is predicted.

## Collision Risk

### *Comparison of the Proposed Development with the Consented Scheme*

Although the number of turbines has a large influence in predicted collision rates using the Band *et al.* (2007<sup>8</sup>) model, turbine specifications such rotor diameter and hub height can also influence predicted values.

**Table 2-3** presents the turbine specifications used for collision risk modelling for the main consent, east extension and south extension ES's; the consented scheme (using 2022-23 data); and the proposed development (using 2022-23 data). The 45-turbine consented scheme specifications used to calculate collision rates using 2022-23 flight activity survey data are considered to be sufficiently precautionary and reflective of the candidate turbine specifications that would most likely be used, should the consented scheme be built.

**Table 2-3: Summary of Collision Risk Model Inputs for Consented Scheme and Proposed Development**

Specification	Main Consent ES	East Extension ES	South Extension ES	Consented Scheme (2022-23 data)	Proposed Development
Number of turbines	33	6	6	45	25
Max rotor tip height (m)	145	150	150	150	200
Rotor diameter (m)	107	120	104	104	155
Hub height (m)	90	90	96	96	122.5
Max. chord width (m)	3.5	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.5
Pitch (degrees)	5	15	15	15	15
Rotation period (sec)	3.27	5.5	5.5	5.5	6.4
Turbine operation time	100%	84 %	80 %	85 %	85 %

A comparison of collision rate estimates is presented in **Table 2-4**. For the consented scheme's ES(s), collision modelling was only undertaken consistently for golden eagle and white-tailed eagle due to low flight activity rates recorded for all other species, and so these two eagle species form the basis of the comparative assessment. For all other IOFs, the predicted collision rates for the proposed development were again very low, using data from 2022-23, and therefore can be excluded from comparisons.

<sup>8</sup> Band, W., Madders, M. and Whitfield, D.P. (2007). Developing field and analytical methods to assess avian collision risk at windfarms. In De Lucas, M., Janss, G. and Ferrer, M. (eds) 'Birds and Wind Power'. Quercus.

**Table 2-4: Predicted annual collision rates for individual consented schemes, combined consented scheme and proposed development.**

Species	Golden Eagle	White-Tailed eagle
Main Consent ES	0.268*	0.080*
East Extension ES	0.076	0.048
South Extension ES	0.145	0.301
Consented Scheme cumulative ES	0.489	0.429
Consented Scheme (2022-23 data)	0.582	3.445
Proposed Development (2022-23 data) unmitigated	0.301	2.530**
Proposed Development (2022-23 data) with mitigation	n/a (but likely to reduce above unmitigated collision rate)	0.746 to 1.147

\* Values taken from those used for cumulative collision risk assessment within consented scheme's South Extension ES.

\*\* worst-case annual collision rate based on a 95 % avoidance rate and no mitigation. See **Table 9-10** of EIA Report **Chapter 9** for estimated range of collision rates based on avoidance rate variations and **Table 9-11** for estimated collision rate range when considering mitigation.

#### *Golden Eagle*

EIA Report **Chapter 9: Ornithology** predicted a minor adverse and non-significant collision risk effect due to the proposed development. This conclusion was drawn from interpretation of population modelling which quantified changes in growth rate due to additional mortality on the Outer Hebrides population (see EIA Report, **Technical Appendix 9.4**).

**Table 2-4** shows that for golden eagle, the consented scheme would have a higher annual collision rate (0.582, or one collision every 1.7 years) than the proposed development (0.301 or one collision every 3.3 years), based on 2022-23 flight activity survey data, which is considered to be representative of a typical year (see *Collision Risk* section of EIA Report, **Chapter 9: Ornithology** for rationale). When combining the predicted collision rates for the consented scheme main consent, east extension and south extension in their respective ES's, the predicted cumulative annual collision rate is also higher than the proposed development, at 0.489, or one every 2.0 years. This indicates that the proposed development would have a lower collision risk than the consented scheme, although since the difference in predicted collision rates using comparable data (2022-23) is relatively small, it is likely that the level of significance at the Outer Hebrides population scale would be the same for the proposed development and consented scheme (minor adverse and not significant).

#### *White-tailed eagle*

The 2022-23 survey data produced relatively higher annual collision rates for white-tailed eagle than for the three consented scheme ES's, which is reflective of the increase in white-tailed eagle numbers in the Outer Hebrides, and activity levels on Site in recent years. However, when comparing the results of modelling using the 2022-23 flight survey data, the proposed development (unmitigated) predicted a lower annual collision rate of 2.5 individuals per year, compared to 3.4 individuals under the consented scheme.

EIA Report **Chapter 9: Ornithology** predicted a moderate adverse and therefore, significant unmitigated effect due to collisions associated with the proposed development. This conclusion was drawn from interpretation of population modelling which quantified changes in growth rate due to additional mortality on the Outer Hebrides population (see EIA Report, **Technical Appendix 9.3**).

As a result of this predicted significant effect for the proposed development, mitigation in the form of painting black single turbine blades of seven of the 25 turbines, as well as an extensive monitoring programme has been committed to (see *Mitigation and Residual Effects* section of EIA Report, **Chapter 9: Ornithology**). This mitigation is predicted to increase the avoidance behaviour of white-tailed eagles, thereby reducing collision rates to 0.746 to 1.147 per year. Based on population modelling, a residual minor adverse and non-significant effect was predicted. Additional mitigation in the form of removal of deer and livestock carcasses around turbines is also proposed, which, although not quantified, would further reduce collision risk.

Results therefore indicate that the proposed development would have a lower collision risk than the consented scheme, particularly when mitigation measures are implemented. As these were not planned for the consented scheme, based on the conclusions in EIA Report **Chapter 9: Ornithology**, a moderate adverse and therefore significant effect would be predicted for the consented scheme.

### *Summary*

It is clear that the proposed development would result in lower collision rates for both golden eagle and white-tailed eagle, based on collision risk modelling using the most recent flight activity survey data. This is likely largely due to the higher number of turbines for the consented scheme, as well as the location of some of these turbines in areas of relatively high eagle activity, which have been avoided by the proposed development.

The difference in collision risk is likely to be increased due to the implementation of mitigation for the proposed development (painted blades, carcass removal and monitoring), none of which would take place for the consented scheme. The mitigation measures associated with the proposed development would reduce the predicted significance for white-tailed eagle to minor adverse and non-significant (with a moderate adverse and significant effect predicted for the consented scheme) and reduce the likelihood of a significant effect for golden eagle, albeit a minor adverse effect is predicted for both the proposed development and consented scheme.

## **Lighting**

### *Comparison of the Proposed Development with the Consented Scheme*

As the turbines of the proposed development are over 150m tall, there is a statutory requirement to light the wind farm with visible spectrum obstacle/aviation lighting. This would also be the case for 11 of the 45 consented scheme turbines, which would have a turbine tip height of 150m.

### *All IOFs*

EIA Report **Chapter 9: Ornithology** presents evidence to suggest that the proposed development is unlikely to cause any significant effects to IOFs due to turbine lighting.

As the consented scheme would have fewer turbines with lighting requirements, the possibility of IOFs being affected, either by attraction or displacement, would be reduced, albeit the significance of effects are likely to be negligible for the proposed development as well as the consented scheme.

## **2.5.5 Conclusions**

Overall, for all construction and operational impacts assessed (except for negligible effects of operational turbine lighting), it is clear that the proposed development would result in lower impacts than the consented scheme. This is largely due to the smaller footprint as a result of the reduction in turbine numbers, and the avoidance of locating turbines in higher suitability habitats, particularly for eagles, during the design process. For most impacts, the consented scheme would likely have a similar magnitude of change for any IOF as that predicted for the proposed development in EIA Report **Chapter 9: Ornithology**, and therefore unmitigated effects are likely to be the same (i.e., non-significant). In some cases, however (displacement/substation lighting impacts on black-throated divers and collision risk to white-tailed eagles), an unmitigated significant effect was predicted for the proposed development, which required targeted mitigation.

The committed mitigation of the proposed development would reduce potentially significant displacement effects on black-throated divers (artificial nest rafts, substation lighting restrictions) and white-tailed eagle collision risk (painted turbine blades, carcass removal and low intervention areas around nest sites) to non-significant levels. There is no requirement under the planning conditions for this mitigation to be implemented for the consented scheme, and therefore based on the conclusions in in EIA Report **Chapter 9: Ornithology**, the residual effects under the consented scheme would be minor-moderate adverse (black-throated diver) and moderate adverse (white-tailed eagle) and therefore significant.

## 2.6 Comparison of Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology Effects

A comparison has been undertaken between the predicted effects on the hydrology, hydrogeology and geology (the water environment, peat and carbon rich soils) for the consented scheme and the proposed development. The comparison considers the construction, operational and decommissioning phases of the consented scheme and proposed development.

The consented scheme and proposed development are similar, in that neither, with the adoption of best practice and mitigation, resulted in significant effects predicted (in terms of hydrology, hydrogeology and geology) during their operational life. It is worth noting that the proposed development has less turbines (25 compared to 45), and as a result requires less turbine bases, crane pads, new access track (16.5km compared to 25.9km) and fewer watercourse crossings. This presents a benefit regarding the water environment, peat and carbon rich soils, compared to the consented scheme.

**Table 2-5** below outlines a comparison of excavated volumes of peat and carbon rich soils for the consented schemes and the proposed development.

**Table 2-5: Excavated Peat Volume Comparison**

Headline Residual Significance Findings (Significant or Not Significant)		
Topic Area	Consented Scheme	Proposed Development
Hydrology, hydrogeology and geology (Peat and carbon rich soils)	No significant effects identified	No significant effects identified.
Peat Excavation Volumes (m <sup>3</sup> )	<p><b>Consented scheme (total): 569,646 m<sup>3</sup></b></p> <p>Main Site: 446,995 m<sup>3</sup>                      (Source - CC Appendix 14.1)</p> <p>Eastern Extension: 45,392 m<sup>3</sup>                      (Source CC Appendix 14.1)</p> <p>Southern Extension: 77,259 m<sup>3</sup>                      (Source Carbon Balance Appendix 6.2)</p>	<p><b>Proposed development (total): 194,942 m<sup>3</sup></b></p> <p>(Source - EIA Report Chapter TA 10.2: PMP)</p>

Although, as shown in **Table 2-5** above, no significant effects have been predicted either for the consented scheme or the proposed development, in their respective ES's and EIA Report, there is a considerable difference in the estimated volumes of peat that would need to be excavated. The consented scheme would require a total of 569,646m<sup>3</sup> of peat to be excavated, whereas the proposed development would require a total of 194,942m<sup>3</sup> of peat to be excavated. This is a reduction of 374,704m<sup>3</sup> of peat.

## 2.7 Socio-Economics, Land Use, Recreation and Tourism

A comparison has been made between the predicted effects on socio-economics, land use, recreation and tourism, identified in the ES(s) of the consented scheme, and the EIA Report for proposed development.

Results and predicted effects on socio-economics, land use, recreation and tourism for the consented scheme and for the proposed development are similar.

For the consented scheme, the ES for the main Muaitheabhal Wind Farm (ECU ref. EC00005222), concludes that there would be significant positive effects on indirect employment generation for the Muaitheabhal Community Windfarm Trust and Western Isles Development Trust.

For the proposed development, no significant effects on socio-economics, land use, recreation and tourism, were identified. Positive effects were identified as a result of the proposed development, however these were not deemed significant. It is considered that differences in assessment approach and methodology have resulted in the EIA Report for the proposed development concluding no significant (positive) effects, while the ES for the main Muaitheabhal Wind Farm did.

**Table 2-6** below compares the estimated employment numbers during construction and operation.

**Table 2-6: Comparison of Estimated Employment Numbers (Full Time Equivalent)**

Consented Scheme: FTE Jobs (Construction & Lifetime)	Proposed Development: FTE Jobs (Construction & Lifetime)
333.3	384.9

**Table 2-7** below gives a summary comparison of the community benefits included as part of the consented scheme and proposed development.

**Table 2-7: Summary Comparison of Community Benefits**

Consented Scheme	Proposed Development
Aim to procure 75% of the value of construction contracts, for the consented scheme, from the Outer Hebrides area.	Aim to procure 75% of the value of construction contracts, for the proposed development, from the Outer Hebrides area.
Contribution agreement of 1% revenue to Muaitheabhal Community Wind Farm Trust. Contribution agreement of 0.5% to Western Isles Development Trust.	Shared ownership opportunity for communities in the local area, which are being offered the opportunity to acquire up to a 20% share of the proposed development. If community shared ownership is not progressed (not the desired route for local communities in proximity to the proposed development), a contribution agreement of up to 1.5% of annual revenue would be agreed with the relevant local development trusts.
Community Benefit Fund - Scottish Government recommended rate at time of consent was £1,250 per MW. Based on a capacity of up to 162MW, the proposed 45 wind turbines would contribute approximately £202,500 to the community benefit funds per annum; and £5,062,500 over the 25 year life of the proposed development.	Community Benefit Fund - Scottish Government recommended rate at present is £5,000 per MW. Based on a capacity of 165MW, the proposed 25 wind turbines would contribute approximately £825,000 to the community benefit funds per annum; and £24,750,000 over the 30 year life of the proposed development.
A £750,000 footpath improvement fund.	A £750,000 footpath improvement fund.



Consented Scheme	Proposed Development
£150,000 per annum to a local Eagle Conservation Programme for lifetime of consented scheme.	£150,000 per annum to a local Eagle Conservation Programme for lifetime of proposed development.
-	Establish a paid apprenticeship scheme during the construction of the proposed development.

## 2.8 Other Issues

### Telecommunications

A comparison has been made between the predicted effects on telecommunications infrastructure, identified in the ES(s) of the consented scheme, and the EIA Report for proposed development.

Results and predicted effects on telecommunications infrastructure for the consented scheme and for the proposed development are very similar.

For the consented scheme, no significant effects on telecommunications infrastructure, as a result of construction or operation, were identified.

For the proposed development, no significant effects on telecommunications infrastructure, as a result of construction or operational, were identified.

### Climate Change and Carbon Balance

A comparison has been made between the carbon payback periods predicted in the ES(s) of the consented scheme, and the EIA Report for proposed development. Also compared is the amount (tonnes) of CO<sub>2</sub> savings per year compared to a fossil fuel mix of electricity.

The approximate carbon payback period for the consented scheme is 49 months (4.1 years), compared to approximately 18 months (1.5 years) for the proposed development (see EIA Report **Chapter 16**). The carbon payback period for the consented scheme has been approximated using the assessment detail in the relevant ES(s).

Following the carbon payback period, the amount (tonnes) of CO<sub>2</sub> savings per year compared to a fossil fuel mix of electricity is 206,657 tonnes for the consented scheme. Over the 25 year operational lifetime of the consented scheme this would be approximately 4,319,131 tonnes.

Following the carbon payback period, the amount (tonnes) of CO<sub>2</sub> savings per year compared to a fossil fuel mix of electricity is 249,765 tonnes for the proposed development. Over the 30 year operational lifetime of the consented scheme this would be approximately 7,118,302 tonnes.

It should be noted that the above numbers for the consented scheme are an approximation based on the detail within the various ES's and Supplementary Environmental Information, available.

The ES(s) submitted for the consented scheme did not provide an assessment on significance with regards to climate change, however for the proposed development a significant (positive) effect was identified.

## 3.0 Summary

The PC Report provides a comparison between the consented scheme and the proposed development, including looking at the likely effects of each project, as assessed in the respective ES's, Supplementary Environmental Information and EIA Report.

In terms of a general comparison of the consented scheme and the proposed development, there are considerable differences in these two projects. The consented scheme has 45 wind turbines, where as the proposed development only has 25. However, the tip heights of the consented scheme are smaller at a maximum of 150m, compared to a maximum of 200m for the proposed development. Both the proposed development and the consented scheme would require visible aviation lighting, due to both having turbines at or above 150m to tip height. Further to this, the proposed development would require a shorter amount of new access track and less turbine foundations and crane pads due to having fewer turbines.

Despite the obvious differences between the two projects, there are also considerable similarities, particularly with regards to the findings of the Environmental Impact Assessments (as shown in **Table 2-1**). This is unsurprising as both projects are for large scale wind development, at the same location and within a similar footprint / Site area.

Where there are more considerable differences between the consented scheme and the proposed development to compare, these have been considered in Sections 2.3 to 2.8. Some of these differences are as a result of the re-design of the consented scheme to the proposed development e.g., differences in turbine numbers or turbine height; however, some differences are as a result of external factors. Such external factors include the populations of golden and white-tailed eagle which are considerably larger now than when the consented scheme was assessed, and also the current policy and guidance context which has moved on since the consented scheme was assessed. As a result of this, where considered appropriate (primarily when comparing ornithology, ecology and peat) this PC Report has looked at the consented development in terms of the present day situation.

The main differences, in terms of environmental topics assessed, between the consented scheme and the proposed development are as follows:

- **Landscape and Visual** – Design objectives have been fulfilled, for the proposed development, through a number of design improvements on the consented scheme. These include the removal of turbines within WLA 31, pulling of turbines away from the south western Site boundary, avoiding the siting turbines on the Feiriosbhal and Beinn Mheadhanach ridge and consideration of visibility of lit turbine hubs. Many of these design improvements have resulted in a reduction in the extent of anticipated effects resulting from the proposed development, as compared to the consented scheme. However, the level of overall significant effect resulting from the proposed development is considered to be comparable to that of the consented scheme.
- **Ornithology** – The committed mitigation of the proposed development would reduce potentially significant displacement effects on black-throated divers (artificial nest rafts, substation lighting restrictions) and white-tailed eagle collision risk (painted turbine blades, carcass removal and low intervention areas around nest sites) to non-significant levels. There is no requirement for this mitigation to be implemented for the consented scheme, and therefore the chances of a significant effect would be greater.
- **Ecology** – The consented scheme would see a total of approximately 103.29ha of habitat loss, whereas the proposed development would see a total of approximately 82.22ha of habitat loss.
- **Peat** – The consented scheme would require a total of 569,646m<sup>3</sup> of peat to be excavated, whereas the proposed development would require a total of 194,942m<sup>3</sup> of peat to be excavated. This is a substantial difference of 374,704m<sup>3</sup> of peat.

- **Climate change and carbon balance** - Following the carbon payback period, the amount (tonnes) of CO<sub>2</sub> savings per year (compared to a fossil fuel mix of electricity) is 2,799,171 tonnes more for the proposed development than the consented scheme over each of their operational lifetimes.

The main differences, in terms of community benefit proposed, between the consented scheme and the proposed development are as follows:

- **Community benefit fund** – The proposed development would provide approximately £19,687,500 more in community benefit fund, over the course of its operational life, than the consented scheme would over its.
- **Shared ownership offer** – The proposed development includes an offer of community shared ownership (up to 20%), whereas the consented development does not.
- **Apprenticeship scheme** – The proposed development commits to establishing a paid apprenticeship scheme during the construction of the wind farm, whereas the consented scheme does not.

Based on the findings of the PC Report the overall conclusion that is reached is that the consented scheme and the proposed development would have similar levels of effects on most environmental topics assessed. However, the proposed development would result in less habitat loss, less peat being disturbed and lower predicted bird collisions (per annum), than the consented scheme. The community benefit fund on offer as part of the proposed development is also considerably larger than that of the consented scheme.

## FIGURES

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125000

130000

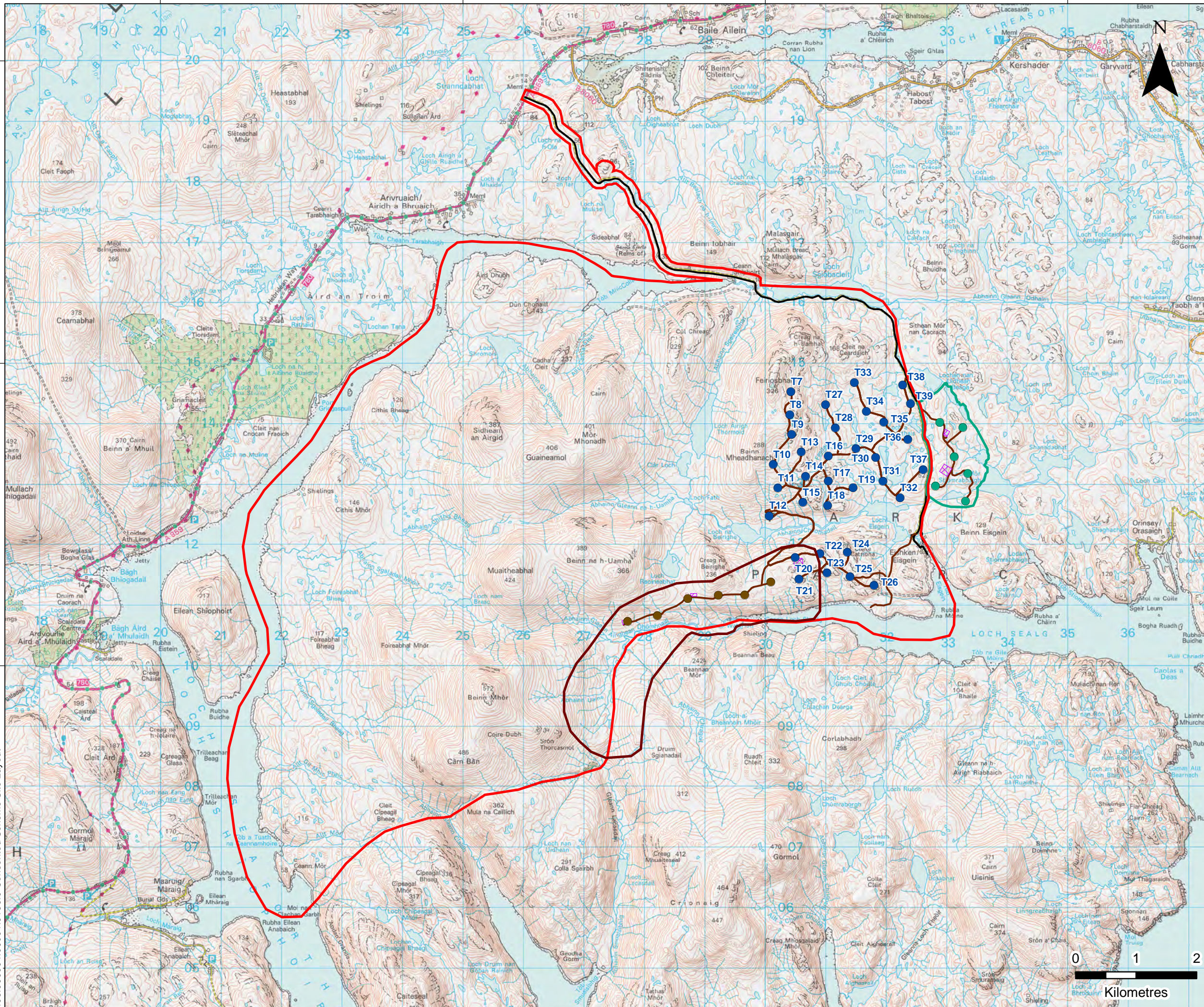
135000

920000

915000

910000

406.00004.00001.0156.0 Consented Scheme Site Layout




**LEGEND**

- Muaitheabhal Windfarm Site Boundary
- Muaitheabhal Windfarm East Extension Site Boundary
- Muaitheabhal Windfarm South Extension Site Boundary
- Muaitheabhal Turbine Location
- Muaitheabhal East Extension Turbine Location
- Muaitheabhal South Extension Turbine Location
- Proposed Substation
- Proposed Borrow Pit
- Proposed Access Track
- Existing Road (To Be Upgraded)



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**UISENIS WIND FARM  
PROJECT COMPARISON REPORT  
CONSENTED SCHEME  
SITE LAYOUT**

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**FIGURE 1.1a**

Scale 1:60,000 @ A3

Date AUGUST 2023

125500

126000

126500

919500

919000

406.000004.00001.0156.0 Consented Scheme Site Layout

# Cnoc Mór nan Annscothan

## A859

### Loch na h-Ola

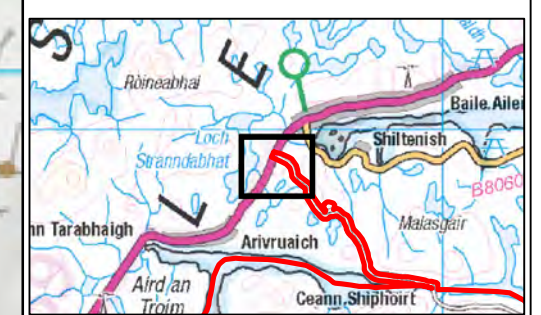
### Allt Goidamol



**LEGEND**

**Consented Scheme**

- Muaitheabhal Windfarm Site Boundary
- Existing Road (To Be Upgraded)



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4/5 LOCHSIDE VIEW  
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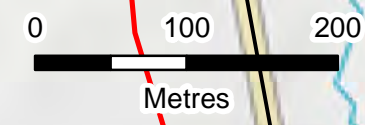
**UISENIS WIND FARM**

**PROJECT COMPARISON REPORT**

**CONSENTED SCHEME**

**SITE LAYOUT**

**FIGURE 1.1b**



Scale 1:5,000 @ A3      Date AUGUST 2023

129500

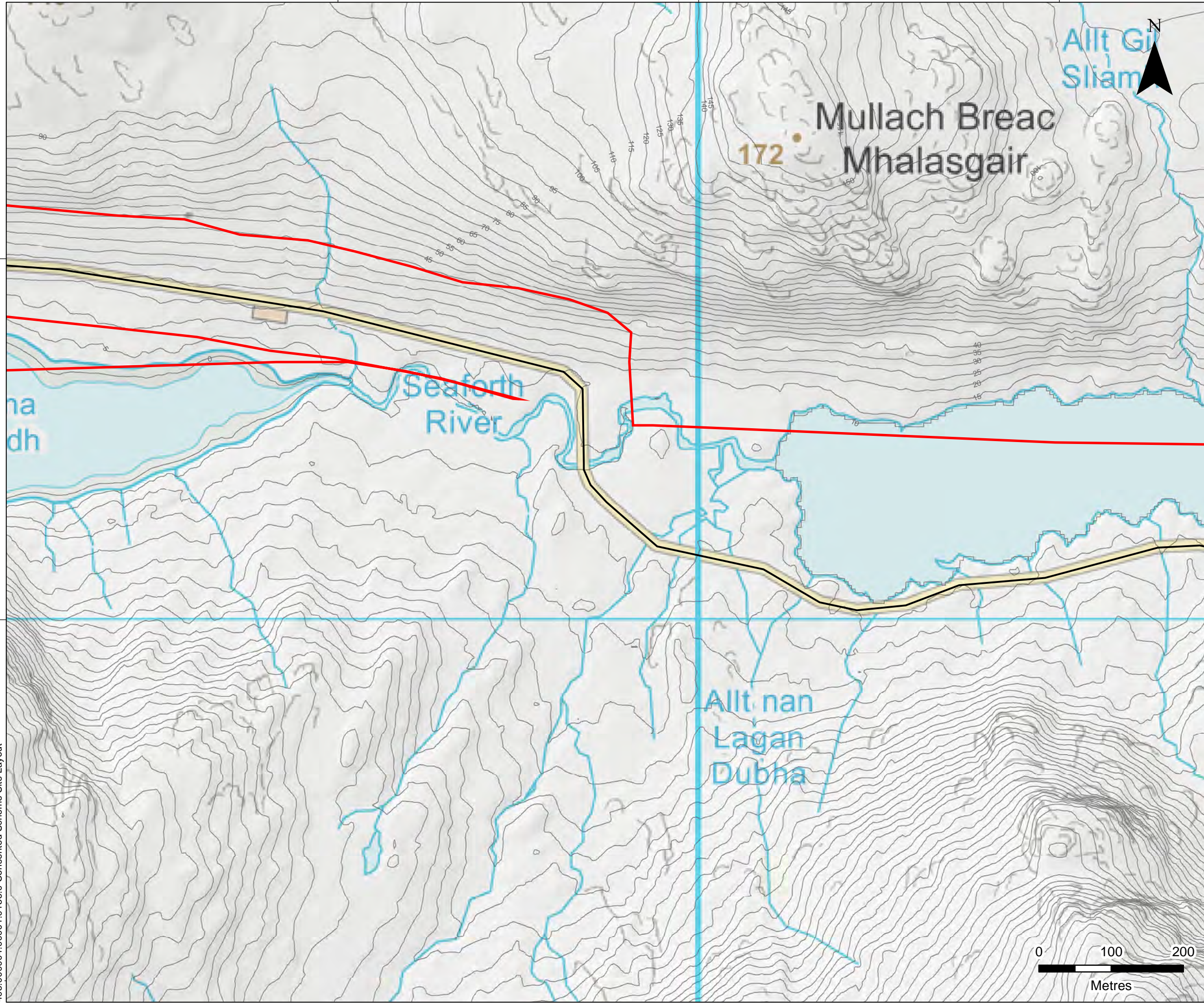
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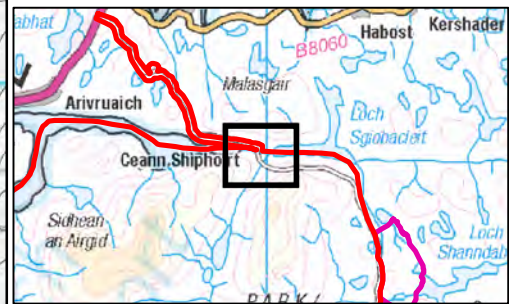
406.00004.00001.0156.0 Consented Scheme Site Layout



**LEGEND**

**Consented Scheme**

- Muaitheabhal Windfarm Site Boundary
- Existing Road (To Be Upgraded)



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**UISENIS WIND FARM**

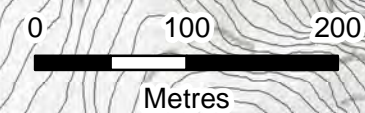
**PROJECT COMPARISON REPORT**

**CONSENTED SCHEME**

**SITE LAYOUT**

**FIGURE 1.1c**

Scale 1:5,000 @ A3 Date AUGUST 2023



131500

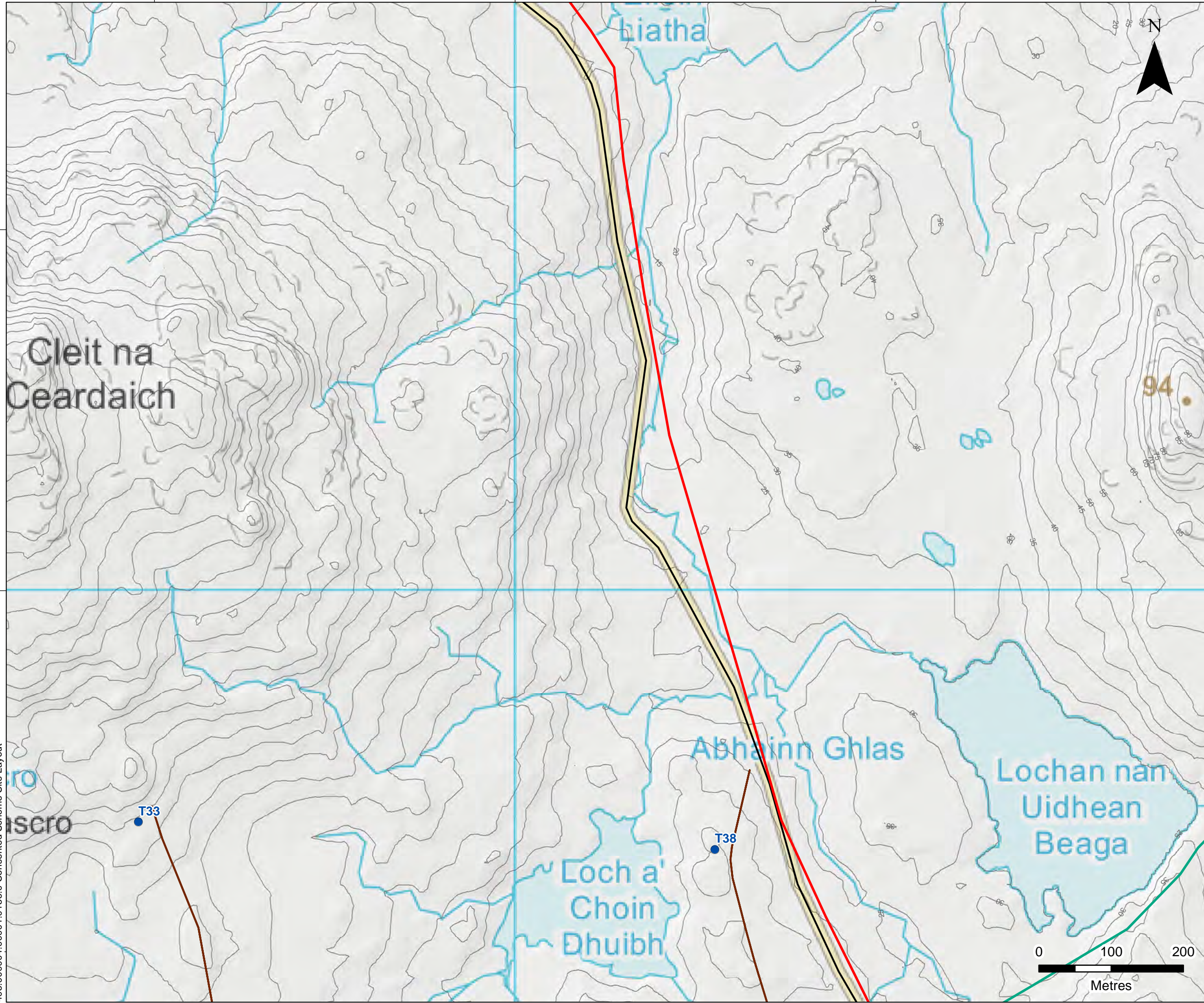
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132500

915500

915000

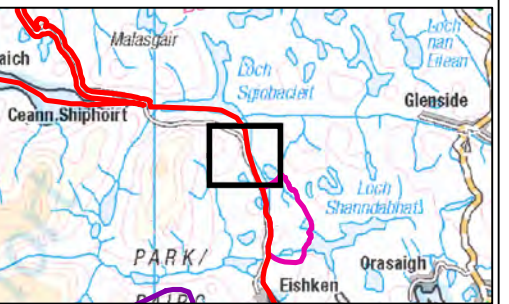
406.00004.00001.0156.0 Consented Scheme Site Layout



**LEGEND**

**Consented Scheme**

- Muaitheabhal Windfarm Site Boundary
- Muaitheabhal Windfarm East Extension Site Boundary
- Muaitheabhal Turbine Location
- Proposed Access Track
- Existing Road (To Be Upgraded)



**Eurowind Energy**

**SLR**

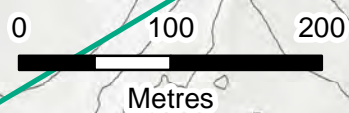
4/5 LOCHSIDE VIEW  
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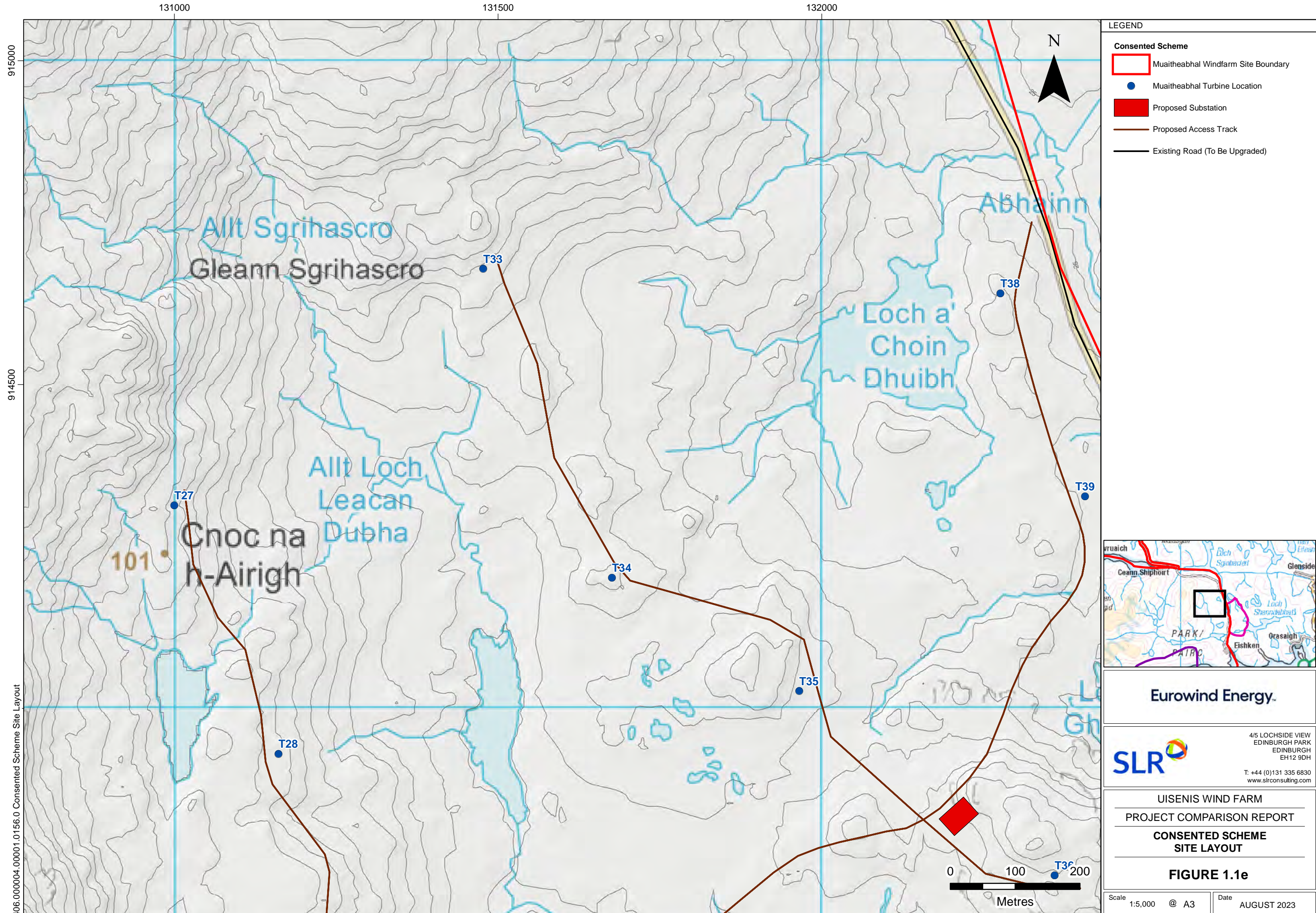
UISENIS WIND FARM  
PROJECT COMPARISON REPORT  
**CONSENTED SCHEME  
SITE LAYOUT**

**FIGURE 1.1d**

Scale 1:5,000 @ A3      Date AUGUST 2023







**LEGEND**

**Consented Scheme**

- Muaitheabhal Windfarm Site Boundary
- Muaitheabhal Turbine Location
- Proposed Substation
- Proposed Access Track
- Existing Road (To Be Upgraded)



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**UISENIS WIND FARM  
PROJECT COMPARISON REPORT  
CONSENTED SCHEME  
SITE LAYOUT**

**FIGURE 1.1e**

Scale 1:5,000 @ A3	Date AUGUST 2023
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406.00004.00001.0156.0 Consented Scheme Site Layout

132500

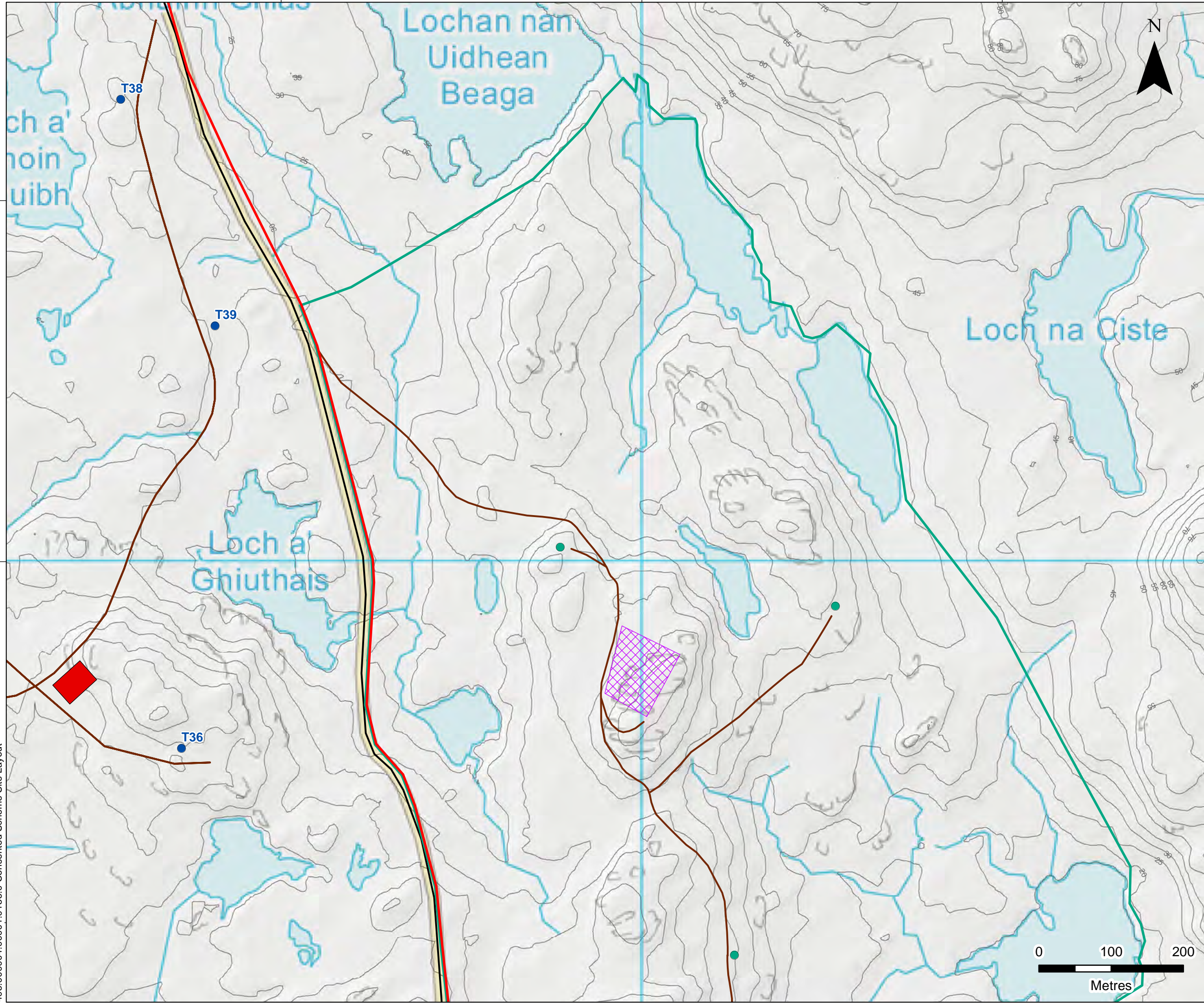
133000

133500

914500

914000

406.000004.00001.0156.0 Consented Scheme Site Layout



**LEGEND**

- Muaitheabhal Windfarm Site Boundary
- Muaitheabhal Windfarm East Extension Site Boundary
- Muaitheabhal Turbine Location
- Muaitheabhal East Extension Turbine Location
- Proposed Substation
- Proposed Borrow Pit
- Proposed Access Track
- Existing Road (To Be Upgraded)



**Eurowind Energy**

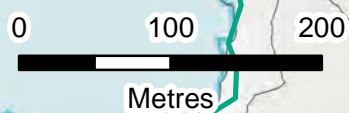
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**UISENIS WIND FARM  
PROJECT COMPARISON REPORT  
CONSENTED SCHEME  
SITE LAYOUT**

**FIGURE 1.1f**

Scale 1:5,000 @ A3	Date AUGUST 2023
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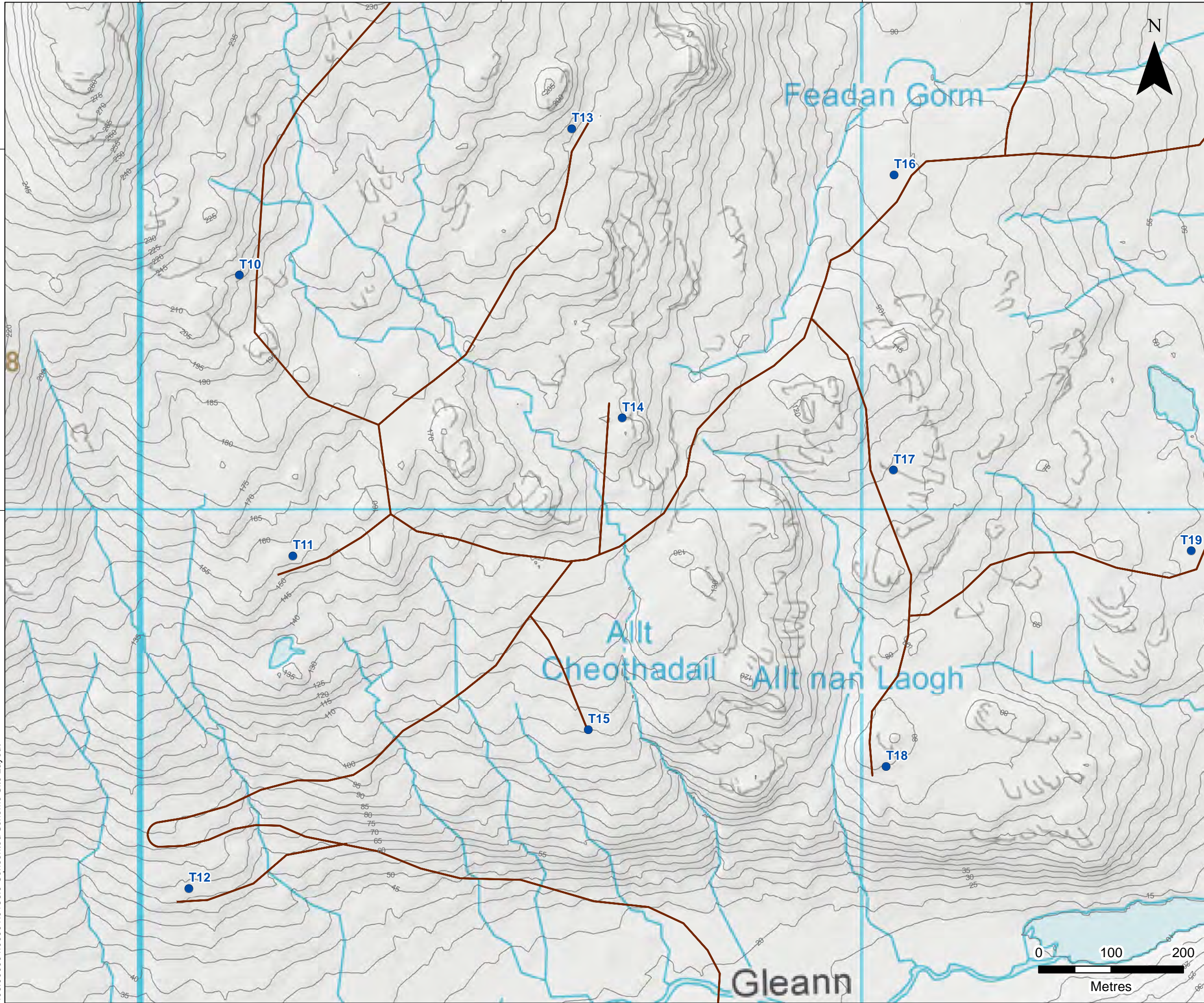
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131000

913500

913000

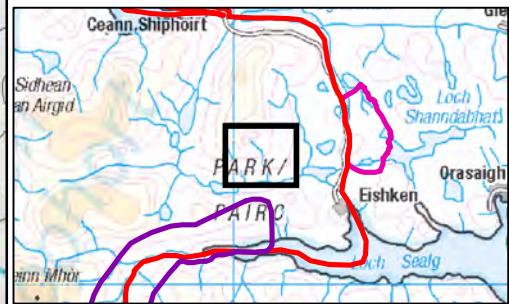
406.00004.00001.0156.0 Consented Scheme Site Layout



**LEGEND**

**Consented Scheme**

- Muaitheabhal Windfarm Site Boundary
- Muaitheabhal Turbine Location
- Proposed Access Track



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4/5 LOCHSIDE VIEW  
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CONSENTED SCHEME  
SITE LAYOUT

**FIGURE 1.1g**

Scale 1:5,000 @ A3      Date AUGUST 2023



131000

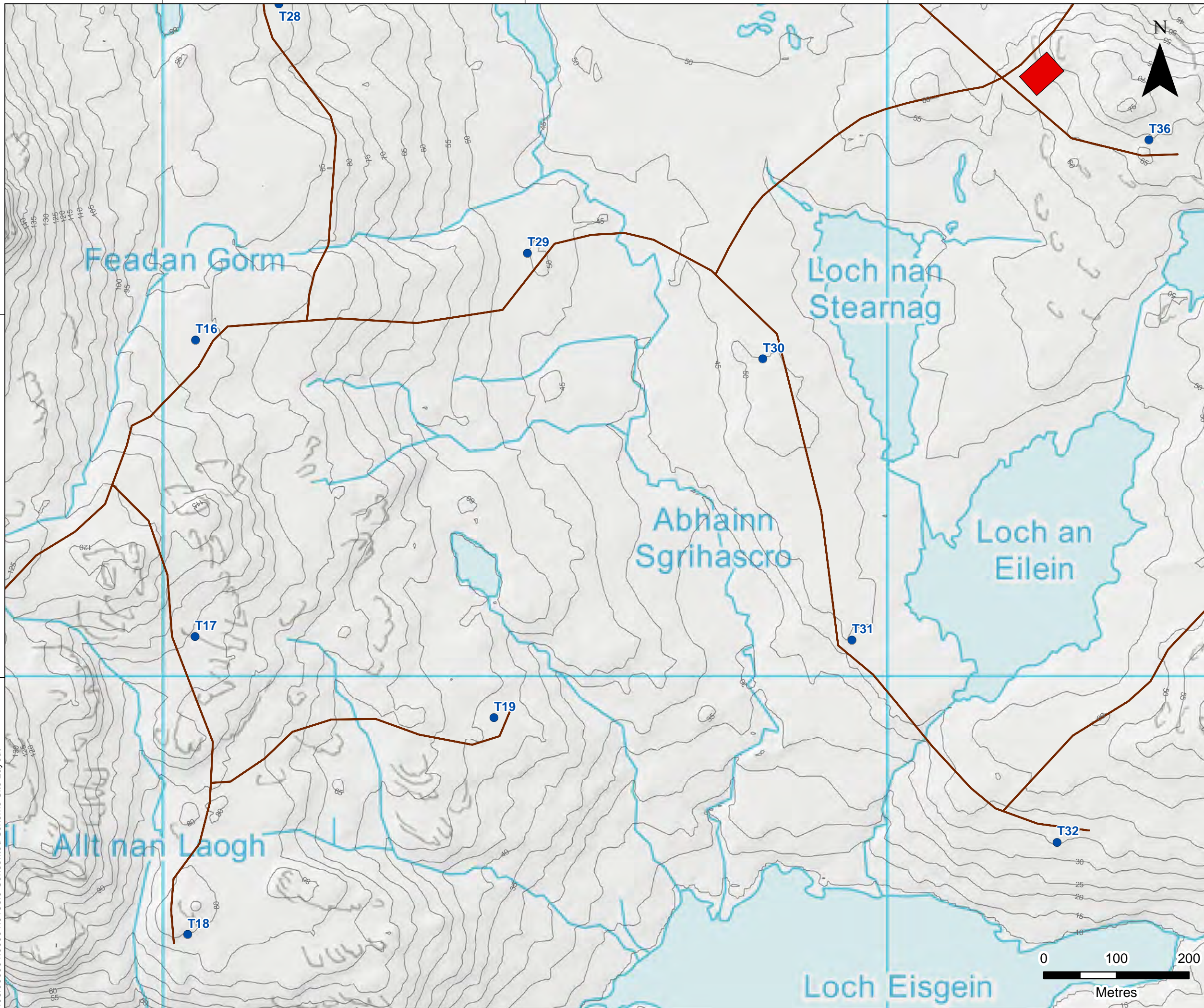
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132000

913500

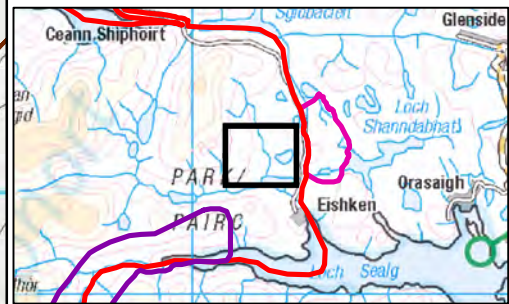
913000

406.000004.00001.0156.0 Consented Scheme Site Layout



**LEGEND**

- Muaitheabhal Windfarm Site Boundary
- Muaitheabhal Turbine Location
- Proposed Substation
- Proposed Access Track



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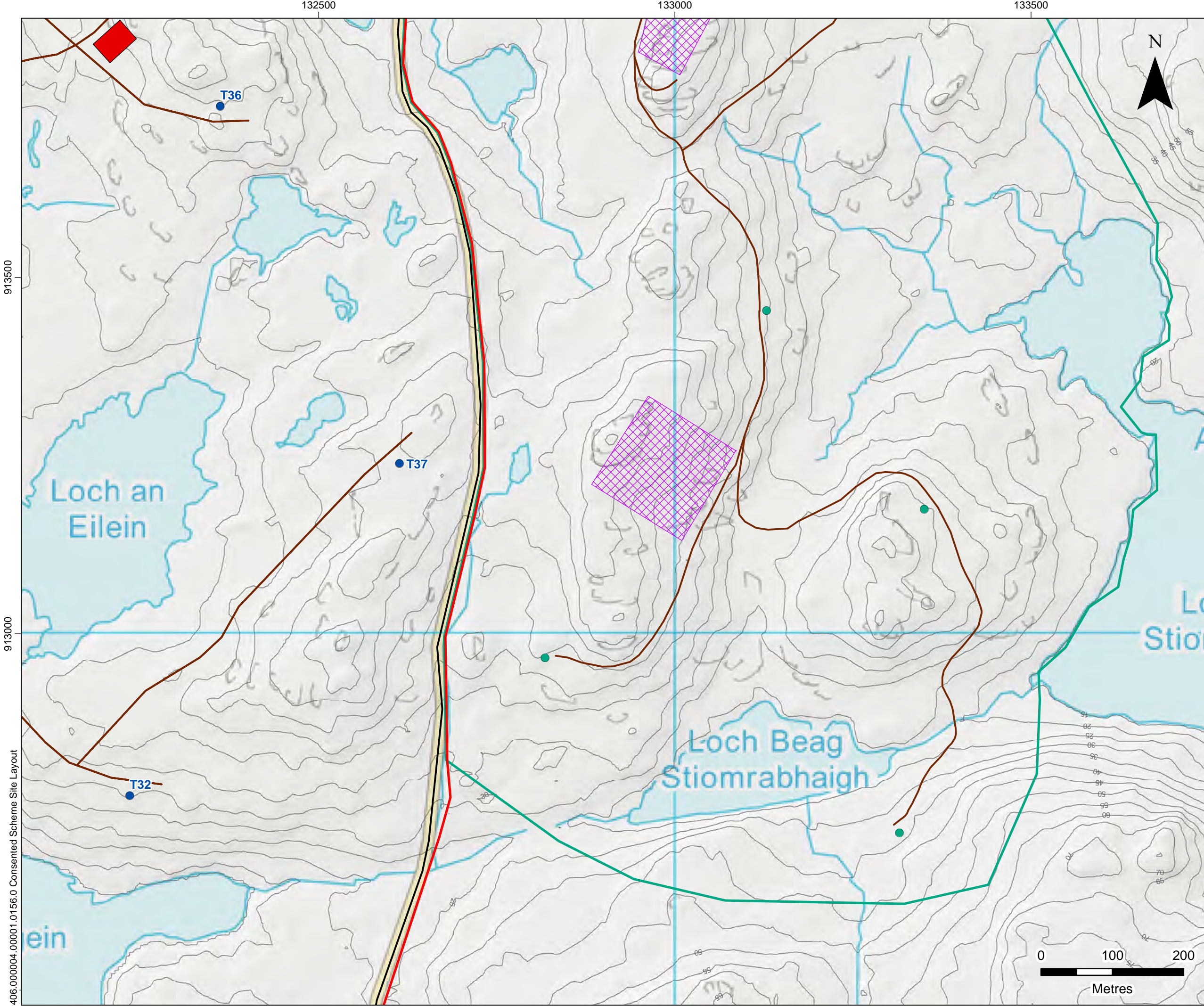
UISENIS WIND FARM  
PROJECT COMPARISON REPORT

**CONSENTED SCHEME  
SITE LAYOUT**

**FIGURE 1.1h**



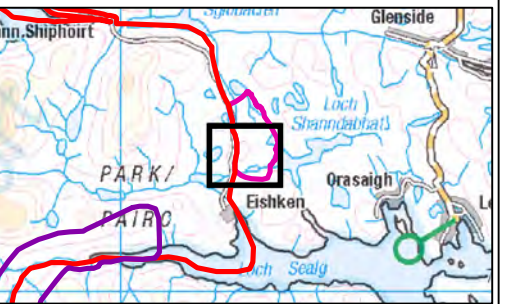
Scale 1:5,000 @ A3 Date AUGUST 2023



**LEGEND**


**Consented Scheme**

- Muaitheabhal Windfarm Site Boundary
- Muaitheabhal Windfarm East Extension Site Boundary
- Muaitheabhal Turbine Location
- Muaitheabhal East Extension Turbine Location
- Proposed Substation
- Proposed Borrow Pit
- Proposed Access Track
- Existing Road (To Be Upgraded)



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**UISENIS WIND FARM**

**PROJECT COMPARISON REPORT**

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**CONSENTED SCHEME**

**SITE LAYOUT**

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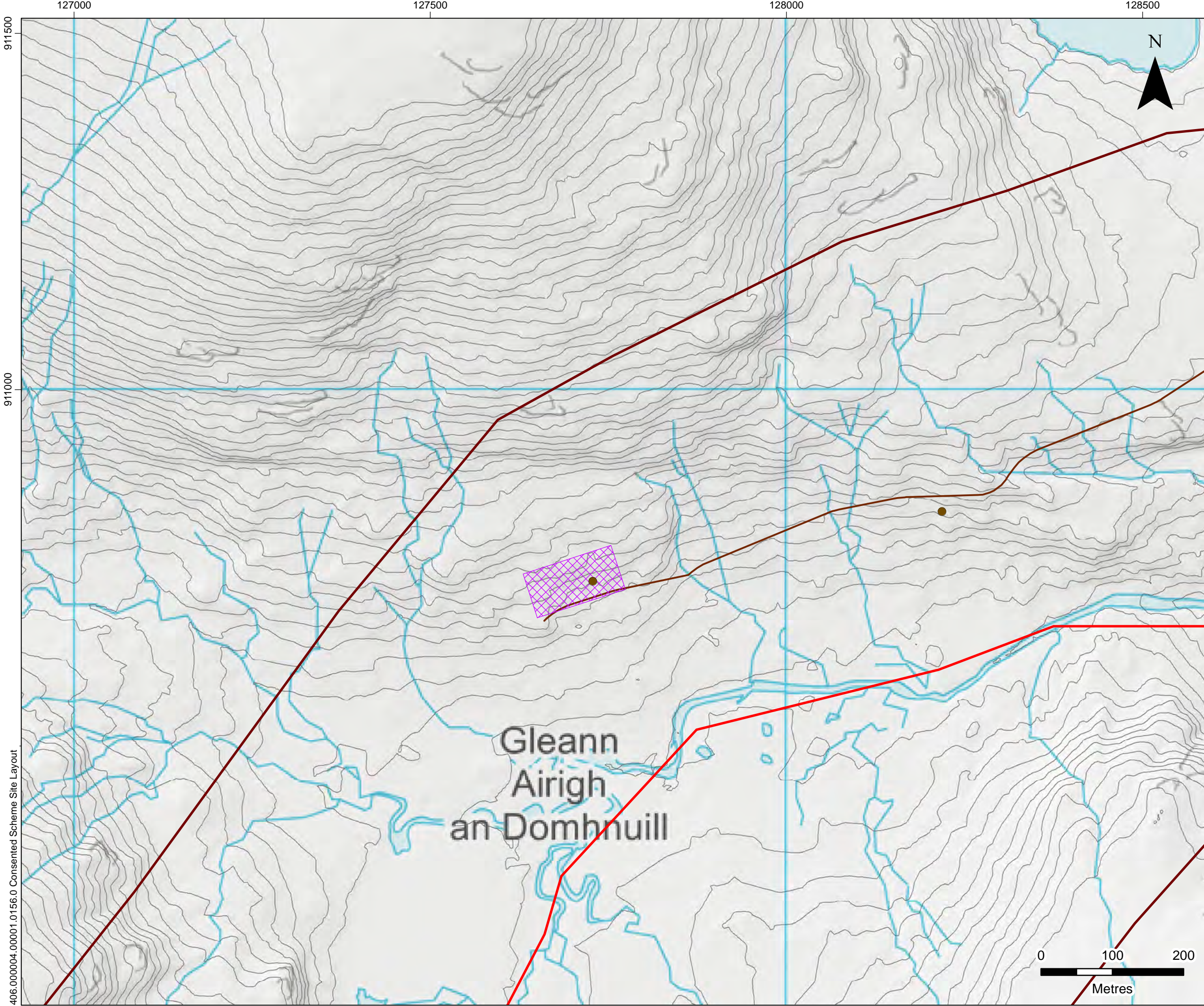
**FIGURE 1.1i**

Scale 1:5,000 @ A3

Date AUGUST 2023



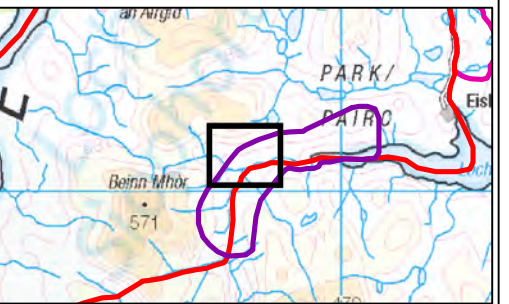
406.00004.00001.0156.0 Consented Scheme Site Layout



**LEGEND**

**Consented Scheme**

- Muaitheabhal Windfarm Site Boundary
- Muaitheabhal Windfarm South Extension Site Boundary
- Muaitheabhal South Extension Turbine Location
- Proposed Borrow Pit
- Proposed Access Track



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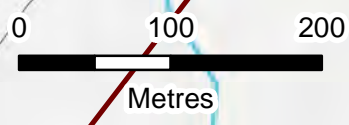
4/5 LOCHSIDE VIEW  
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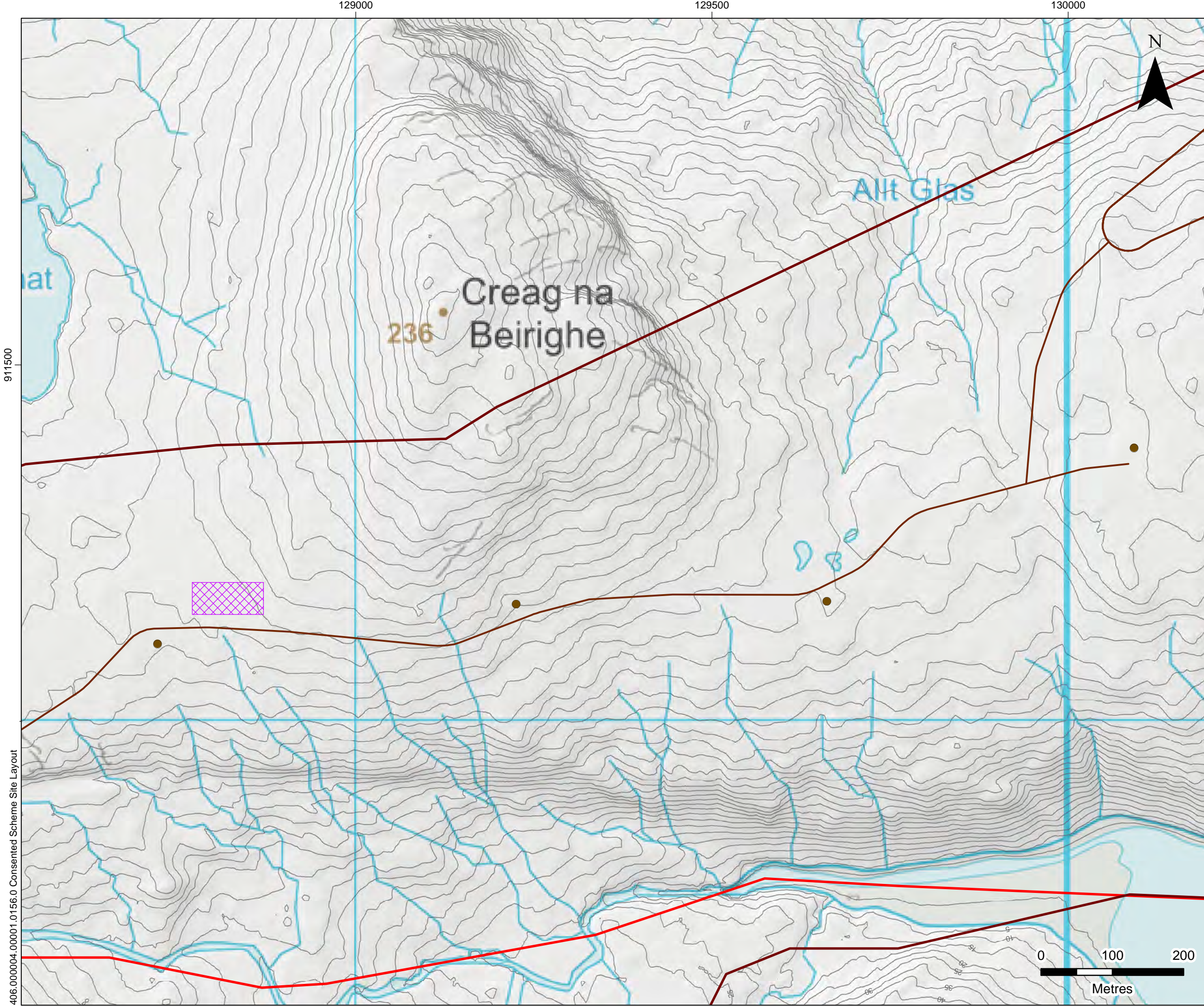
UISENIS WIND FARM  
PROJECT COMPARISON REPORT  
**CONSENTED SCHEME  
SITE LAYOUT**

**FIGURE 1.1j**

Scale 1:5,000 @ A3      Date AUGUST 2023



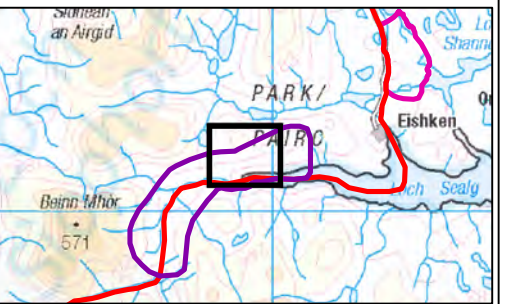
406.00004.00001.0156.0 Consented Scheme Site Layout



**LEGEND**

**Consented Scheme**

- Muaitheabhal Windfarm Site Boundary
- Muaitheabhal Windfarm South Extension Site Boundary
- Muaitheabhal South Extension Turbine Location
- Proposed Borrow Pit
- Proposed Access Track



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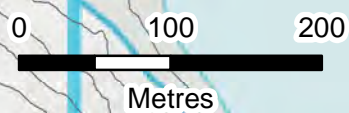
**UISENIS WIND FARM**  
**PROJECT COMPARISON REPORT**  
**CONSENTED SCHEME**  
**SITE LAYOUT**

---

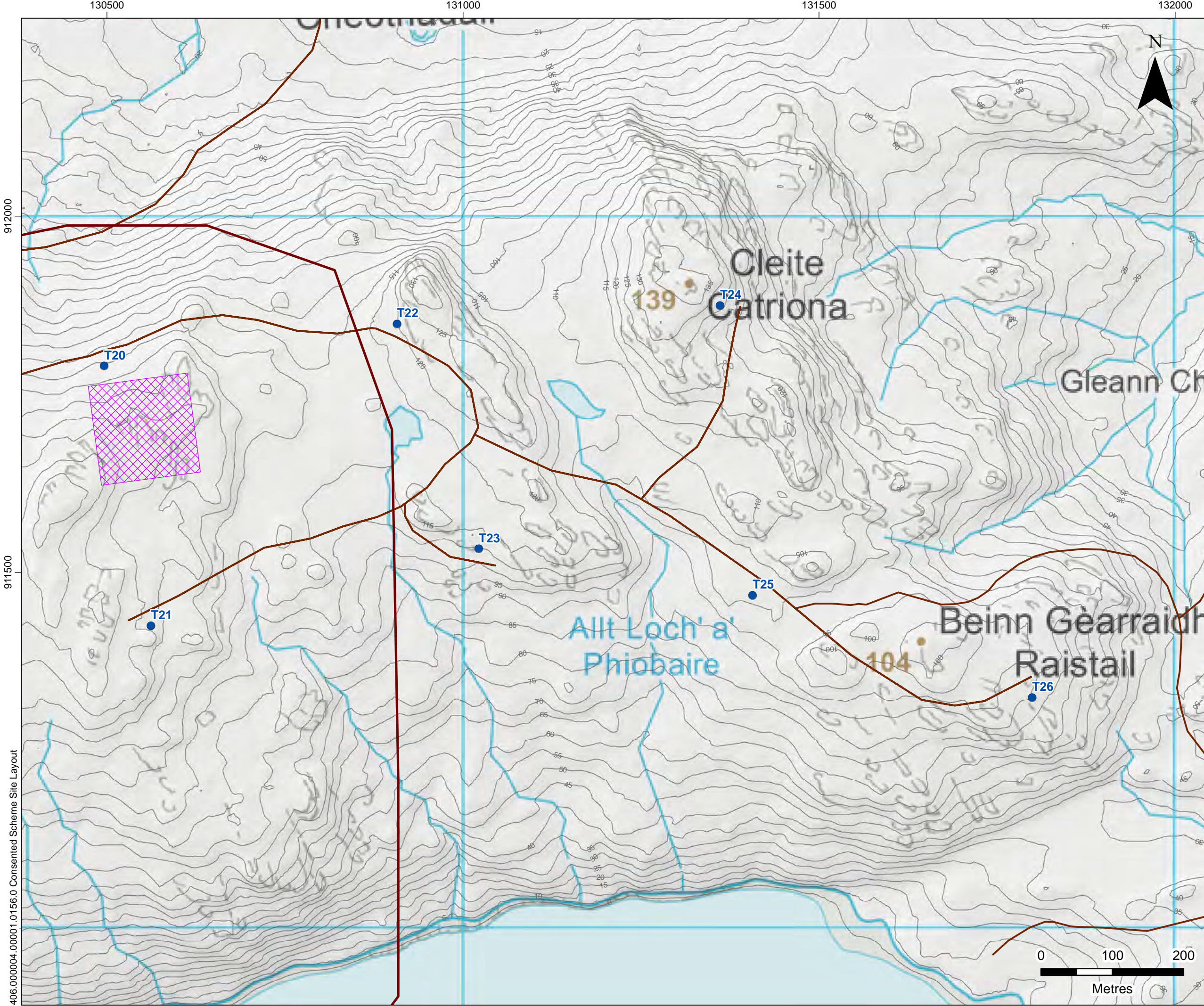
FIGURE 1.1k

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Scale 1:5,000 @ A3	Date AUGUST 2023
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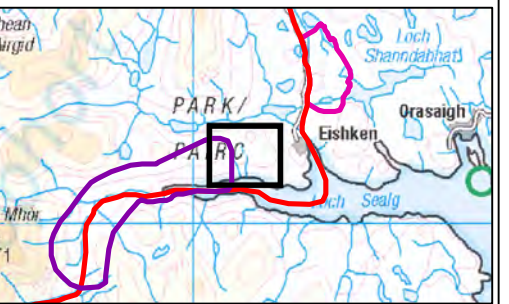


406.00004.00001.0156.0 Consented Scheme Site Layout




**LEGEND**

- Muaitheabhal Windfarm Site Boundary
- Muaitheabhal Windfarm South Extension Site Boundary
- Muaitheabhal Turbine Location
- Proposed Borrow Pit
- Proposed Access Track



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---



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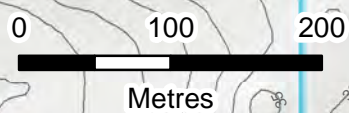
**UISENIS WIND FARM  
PROJECT COMPARISON REPORT  
CONSENTED SCHEME  
SITE LAYOUT**

---

**FIGURE 1.11**

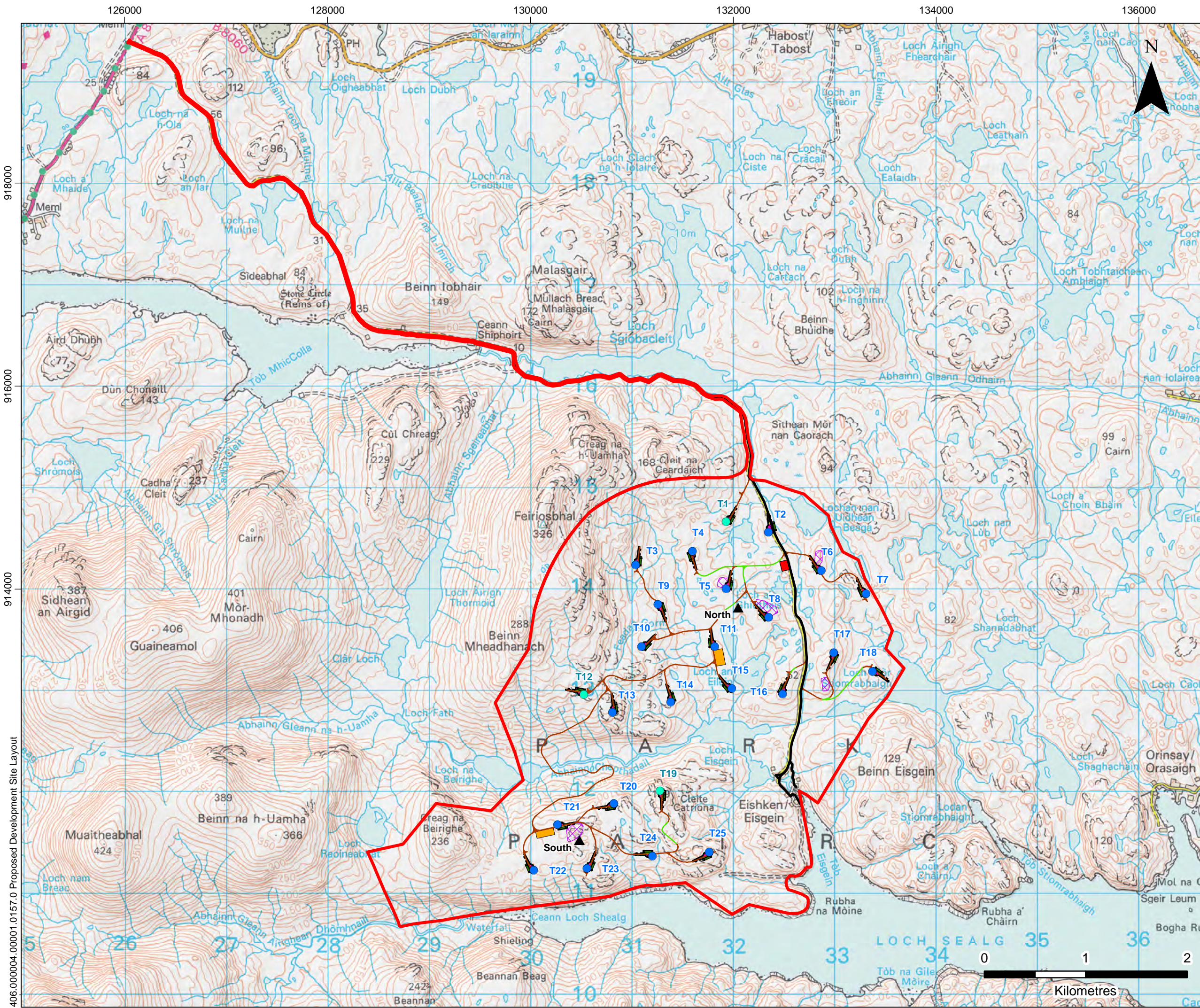
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Scale 1:5,000 @ A3	Date AUGUST 2023
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406.00004.00001.0156.0 Consented Scheme Site Layout





**LEGEND**

- Application Boundary
- Proposed Turbine Location (180 m Blade Tip Height)
- Proposed Turbine Location (200 m Blade Tip Height)
- ▲ Proposed Permanent Met Mast
- Proposed Bespoke Hardstanding Envelope
- Proposed Permanent Substation
- Proposed Permanent Hardstanding
- Proposed Temporary Hardstanding
- Proposed Temporary Bridge Alignment
- Proposed Temporary Construction Compound
- Proposed Clearance Area
- Potential Borrow Pit
- Proposed Access Track / Turning Head
- Proposed Floating Access Track
- Existing Road (To Be Upgraded)



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**UISENIS WIND FARM  
PROJECT COMPARISON REPORT  
PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT  
SITE LAYOUT**

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**FIGURE 1.2a**

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Scale 1:35,000 @ A3      Date AUGUST 2023

406.00004.00001.0157.0 Proposed Development Site Layout

125500

126000

126500

919500

919000

406.00004.00001.0157.0 Proposed Development Site Layout

# Cnoc Mór nan Annscothan



## A859

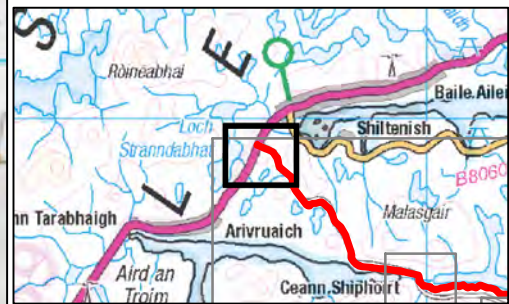
### Loch na h-Ola

### Allt Goidamóil



**LEGEND**

-  Application Boundary
-  Existing Road (To Be Upgraded)



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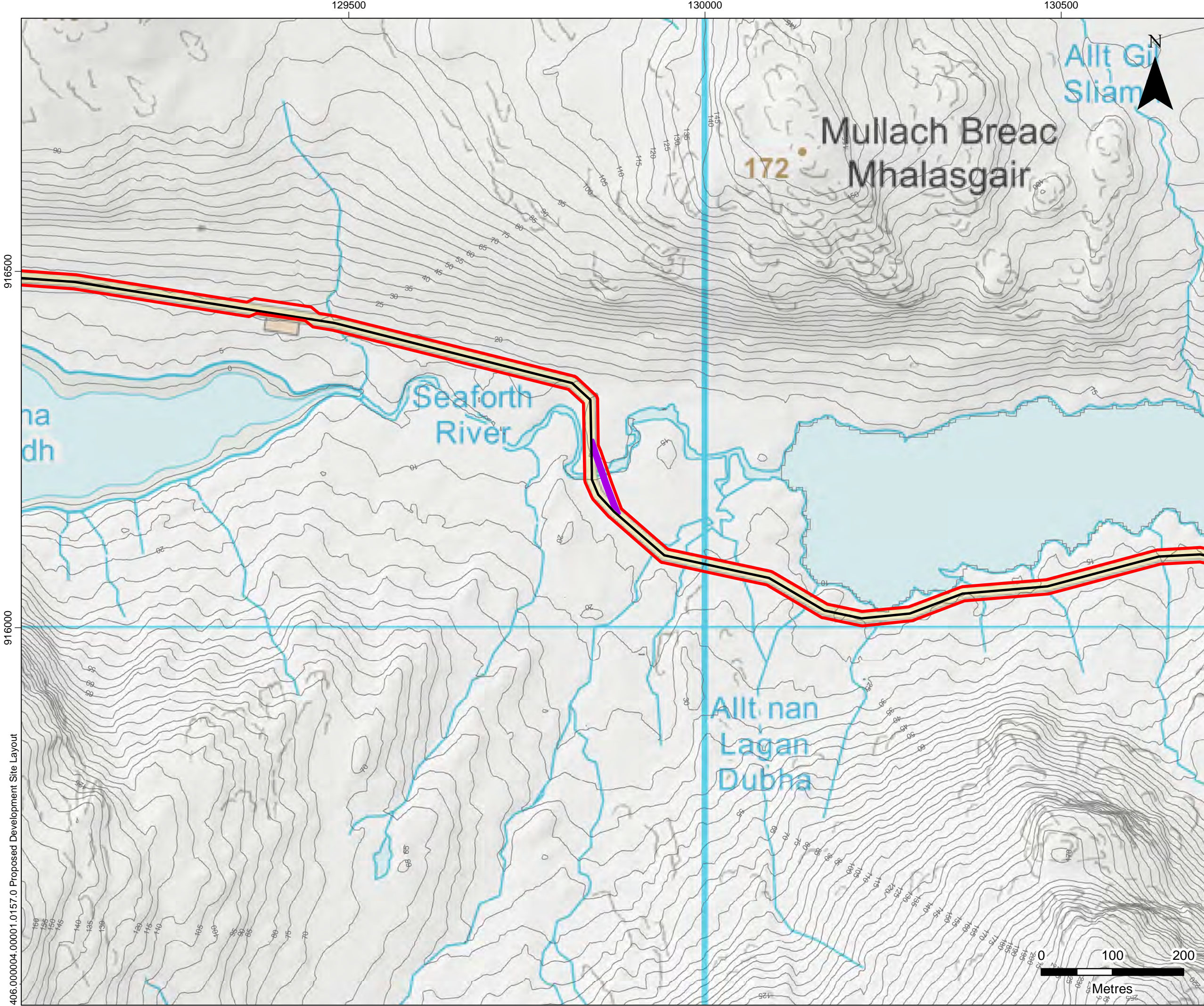
4/5 LOCHSIDE VIEW  
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**UISENIS WIND FARM**  
**PROJECT COMPARISON REPORT**  
**PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT**  
**SITE LAYOUT**

**FIGURE 1.2b**



Scale 1:5,000 @ A3 Date AUGUST 2023



**LEGEND**

- Application Boundary
- Proposed Temporary Bridge Alignment
- Existing Road (To Be Upgraded)

916500

916000

406.000004.00001.0157.0 Proposed Development Site Layout

129500

130000

130500

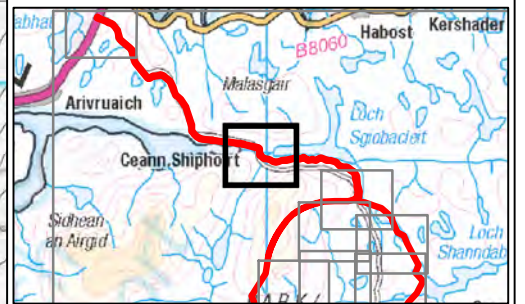
172

Mullach Breac  
Mhalasgair

Allt Gil  
Sliam

Seaforth  
River

Allt nan  
Lagan  
Dubha



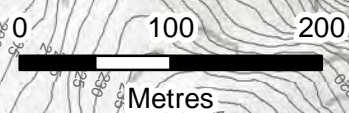
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UISENIS WIND FARM  
PROJECT COMPARISON REPORT  
PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT  
SITE LAYOUT

**FIGURE 1.2c**



Scale 1:5,000 @ A3 Date AUGUST 2023

131500

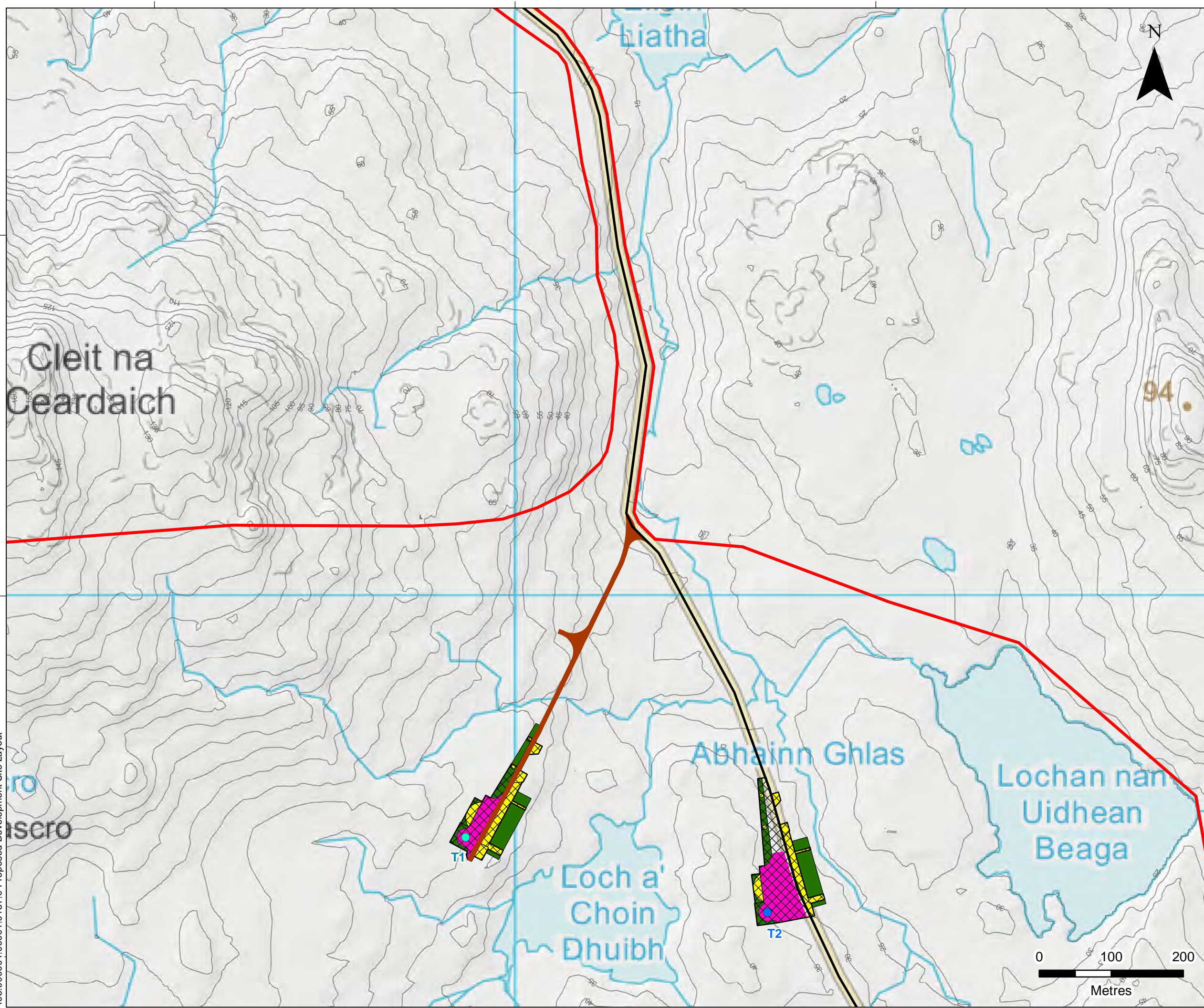
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132500

915500

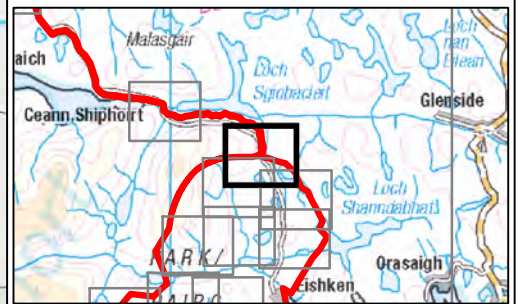
915000

406.000004.00001.0157.0 Proposed Development Site Layout



**LEGEND**

- Application Boundary
- Proposed Turbine Location (180 m Blade Tip Height)
- Proposed Turbine Location (200 m Blade Tip Height)
- Proposed Bespoke Hardstanding Envelope
- Proposed Permanent Hardstanding
- Proposed Temporary Hardstanding
- Proposed Clearance Area
- Proposed Access Track / Turning Head
- Existing Road (To Be Upgraded)



**Eurowind Energy**



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**UISENIS WIND FARM**  
**PROJECT COMPARISON REPORT**  
**PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT**  
**SITE LAYOUT**

**FIGURE 1.2d**

Scale 1:5,000 @ A3 Date AUGUST 2023

131000

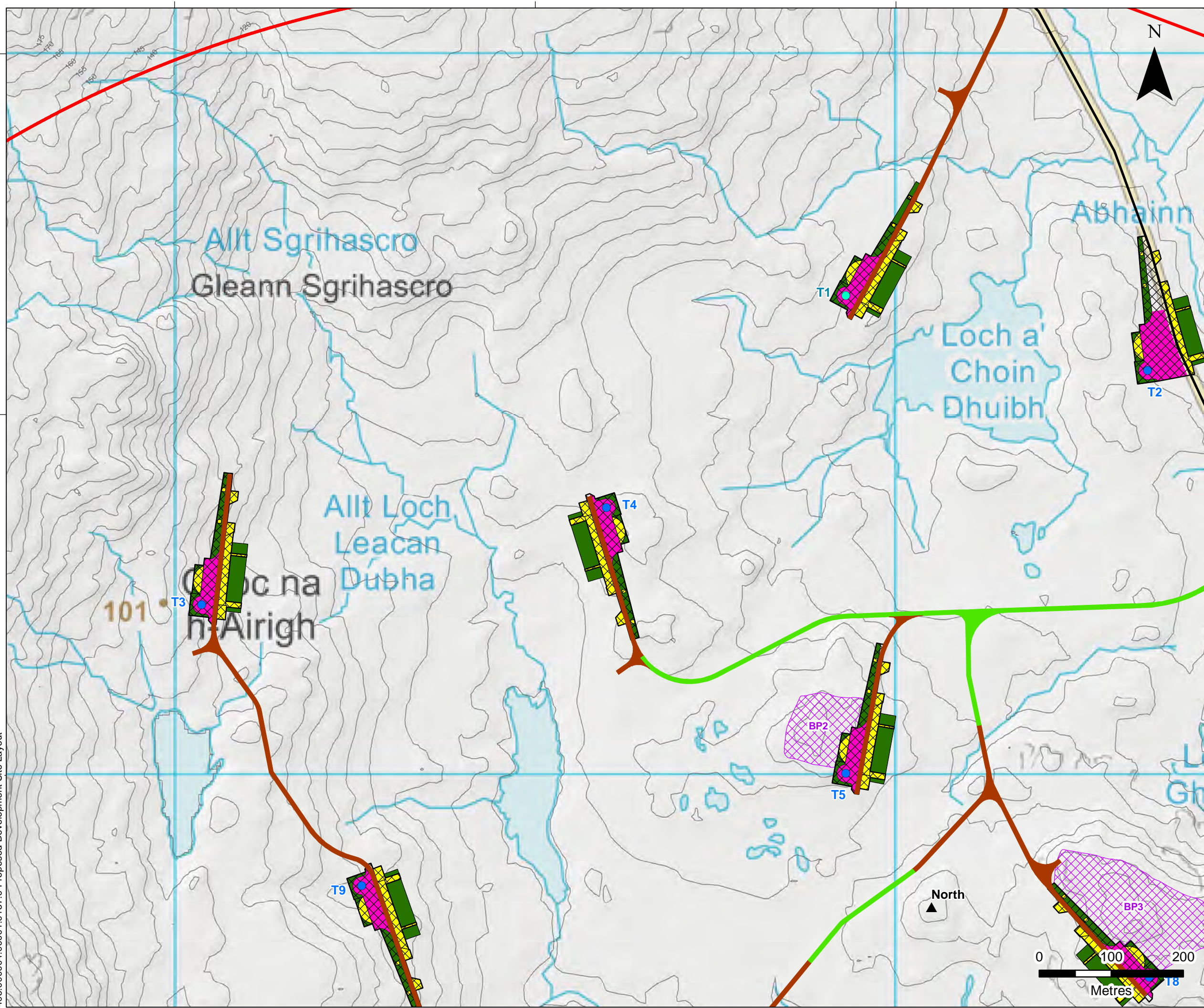
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132000

915000

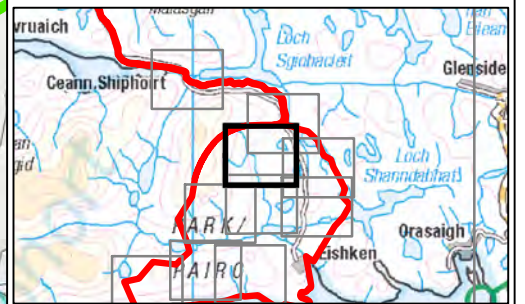
914500

406.00004.00001.0157.0 Proposed Development Site Layout



**LEGEND**

- Application Boundary
- Proposed Turbine Location (180 m Blade Tip Height)
- Proposed Turbine Location (200 m Blade Tip Height)
- ▲ Proposed Permanent Met Mast
- Proposed Bespoke Hardstanding Envelope
- Proposed Permanent Hardstanding
- Proposed Temporary Hardstanding
- Proposed Clearance Area
- Potential Borrow Pit
- Proposed Access Track / Turning Head
- Proposed Floating Access Track
- Existing Road (To Be Upgraded)



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**UISENIS WIND FARM  
PROJECT COMPARISON REPORT  
PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT  
SITE LAYOUT**

**FIGURE 1.2e**

Scale 1:5,000 @ A3      Date AUGUST 2023

132500

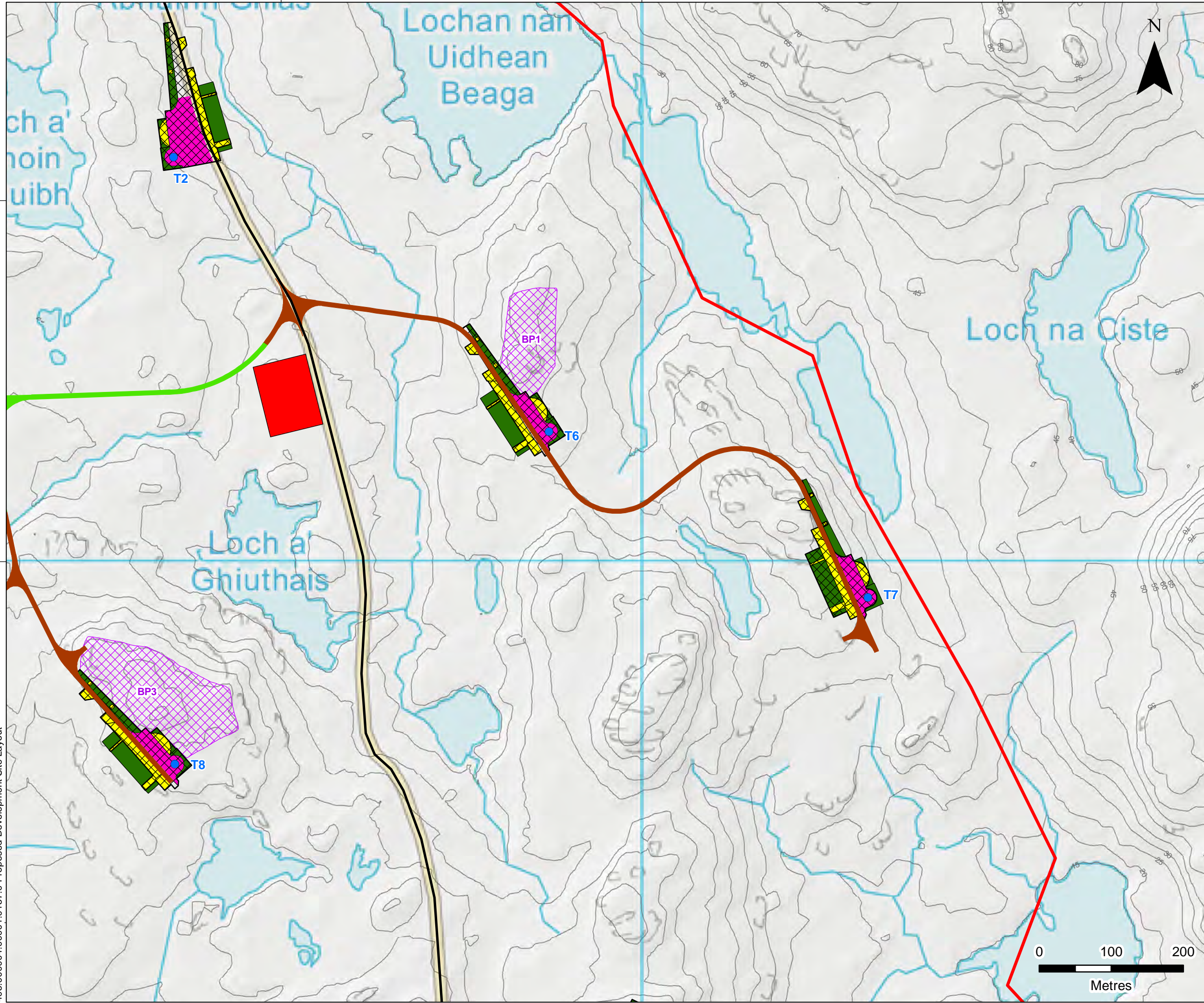
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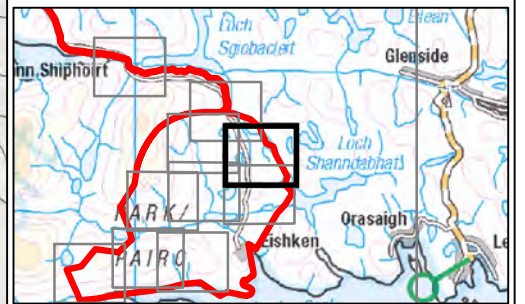
914000

406.000004.00001.0157.0 Proposed Development Site Layout




**LEGEND**

- Application Boundary
- Proposed Turbine Location (200 m Blade Tip Height)
- Proposed Bespoke Hardstanding Envelope
- Proposed Permanent Substation
- Proposed Permanent Hardstanding
- Proposed Temporary Hardstanding
- Proposed Clearance Area
- Potential Borrow Pit
- Proposed Access Track / Turning Head
- Proposed Floating Access Track
- Existing Road (To Be Upgraded)



**Eurowind Energy**

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**UISENIS WIND FARM**  
**PROJECT COMPARISON REPORT**  
**PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT**  
**SITE LAYOUT**

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**FIGURE 1.2f**

Scale 1:5,000 @ A3

Date AUGUST 2023



131000

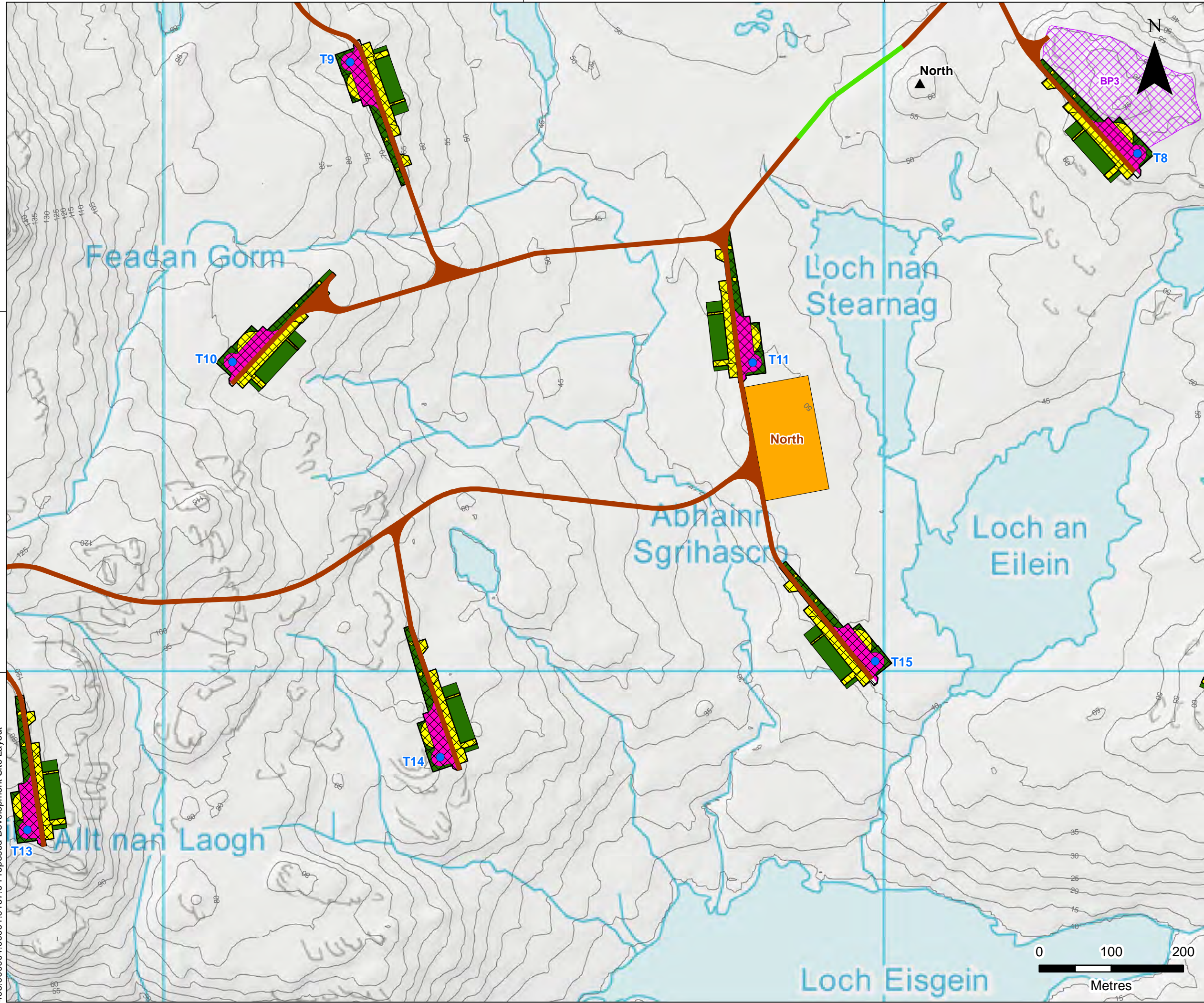
131500

132000

913500

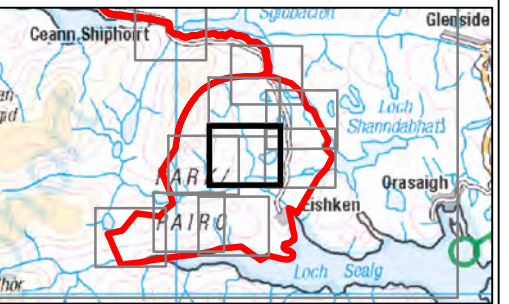
913000

406.000004.00001.0157.0 Proposed Development Site Layout



**LEGEND**

- Application Boundary
- Proposed Turbine Location (200 m Blade Tip Height)
- ▲ Proposed Permanent Met Mast
- Proposed Bespoke Hardstanding Envelope
- Proposed Permanent Hardstanding
- Proposed Temporary Hardstanding
- Proposed Temporary Construction Compound
- Proposed Clearance Area
- Potential Borrow Pit
- Proposed Access Track / Turning Head
- Proposed Floating Access Track



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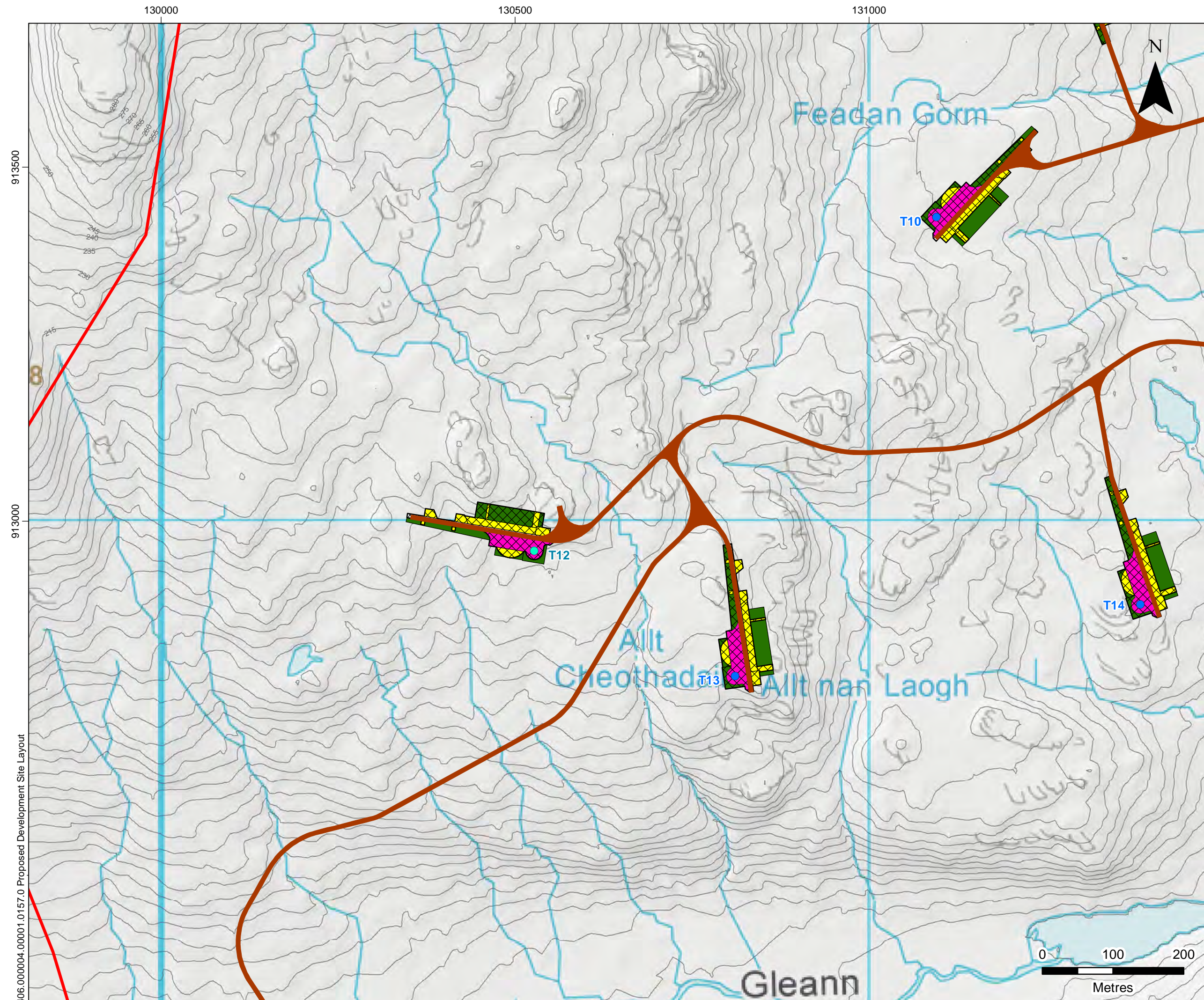
4/5 LOCHSIDE VIEW  
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**UISENIS WIND FARM  
PROJECT COMPARISON REPORT  
PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT  
SITE LAYOUT**

**FIGURE 1.2g**

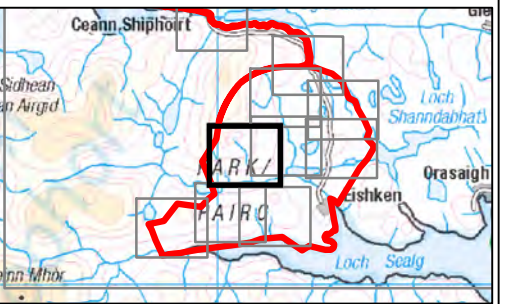
Scale 1:5,000 @ A3      Date AUGUST 2023





**LEGEND**

- Application Boundary
- Proposed Turbine Location (180 m Blade Tip Height)
- Proposed Turbine Location (200 m Blade Tip Height)
- Proposed Bespoke Hardstanding Envelope
- Proposed Permanent Hardstanding
- Proposed Temporary Hardstanding
- Proposed Clearance Area
- Proposed Access Track / Turning Head



**Eurowind Energy**

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---

**UISENIS WIND FARM**

**PROJECT COMPARISON REPORT**

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**PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT**

**SITE LAYOUT**

---

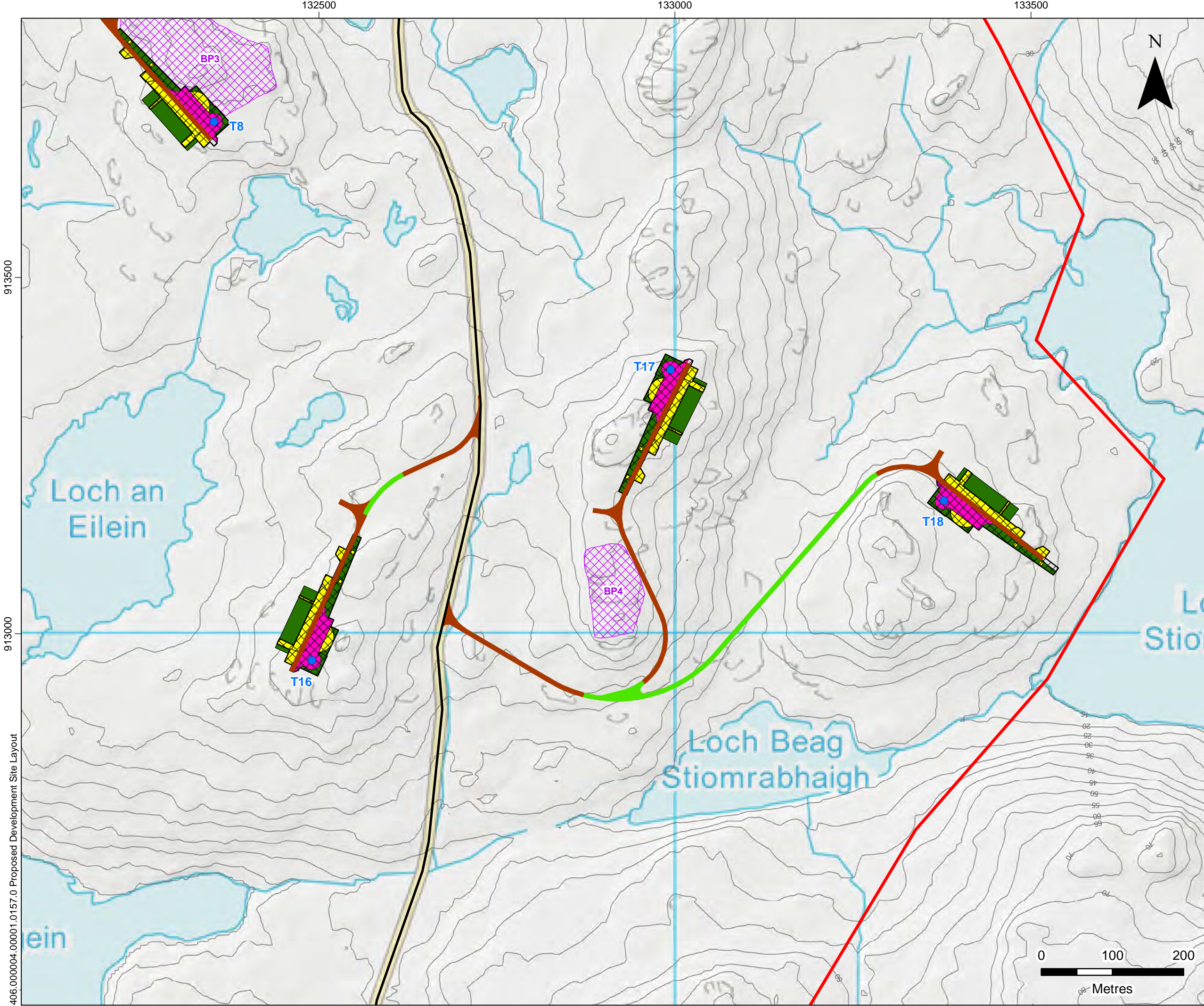
**FIGURE 1.2h**

Scale 1:5,000 @ A3

Date AUGUST 2023

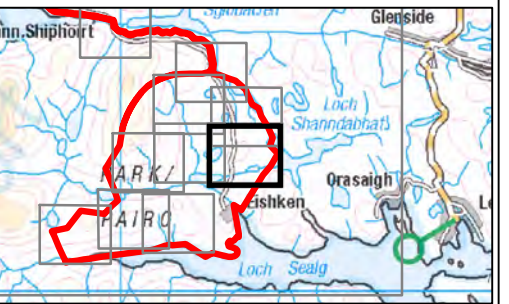
406.00004.00001.0157.0 Proposed Development Site Layout





**LEGEND**

- Application Boundary
- Proposed Turbine Location (200 m Blade Tip Height)
- Proposed Bespoke Hardstanding Envelope
- Proposed Permanent Hardstanding
- Proposed Temporary Hardstanding
- Proposed Clearance Area
- Potential Borrow Pit
- Proposed Access Track / Turning Head
- Proposed Floating Access Track
- Existing Road (To Be Upgraded)



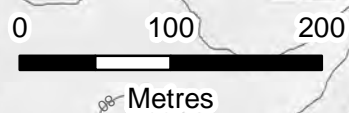
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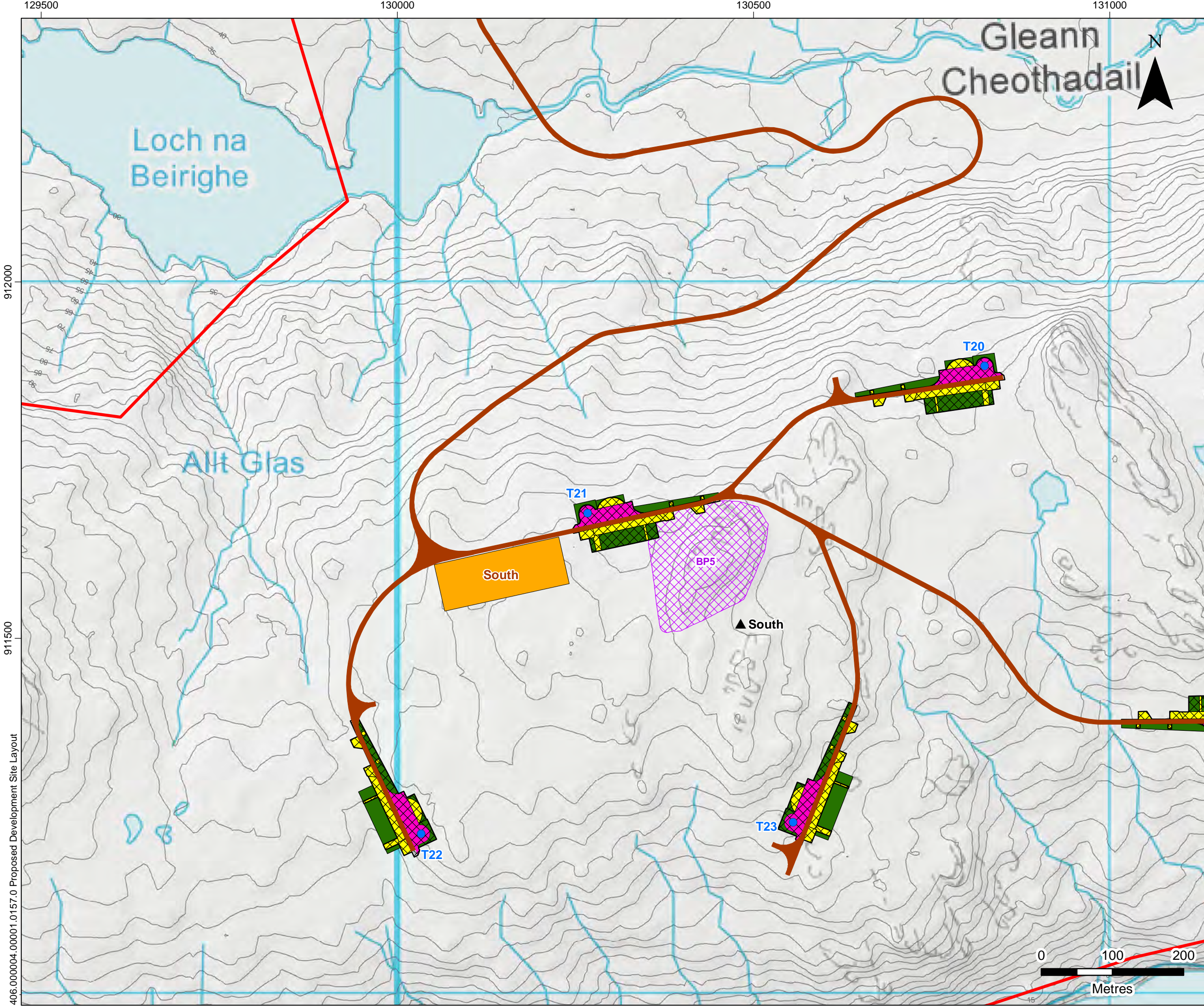
**UISENIS WIND FARM  
PROJECT COMPARISON REPORT  
PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT  
SITE LAYOUT**

**FIGURE 1.2i**



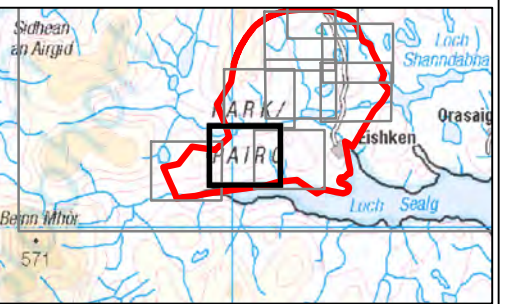
Scale 1:5,000 @ A3 Date AUGUST 2023

406.00004.00001.0157.0 Proposed Development Site Layout



**LEGEND**

- Application Boundary
- Proposed Turbine Location (200 m Blade Tip Height)
- ▲ Proposed Permanent Met Mast
- Proposed Bespoke Hardstanding Envelope
- Proposed Permanent Hardstanding
- Proposed Temporary Hardstanding
- Proposed Temporary Construction Compound
- Proposed Clearance Area
- Potential Borrow Pit
- Proposed Access Track / Turning Head



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**UISENIS WIND FARM**  
**PROJECT COMPARISON REPORT**  
**PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT**  
**SITE LAYOUT**

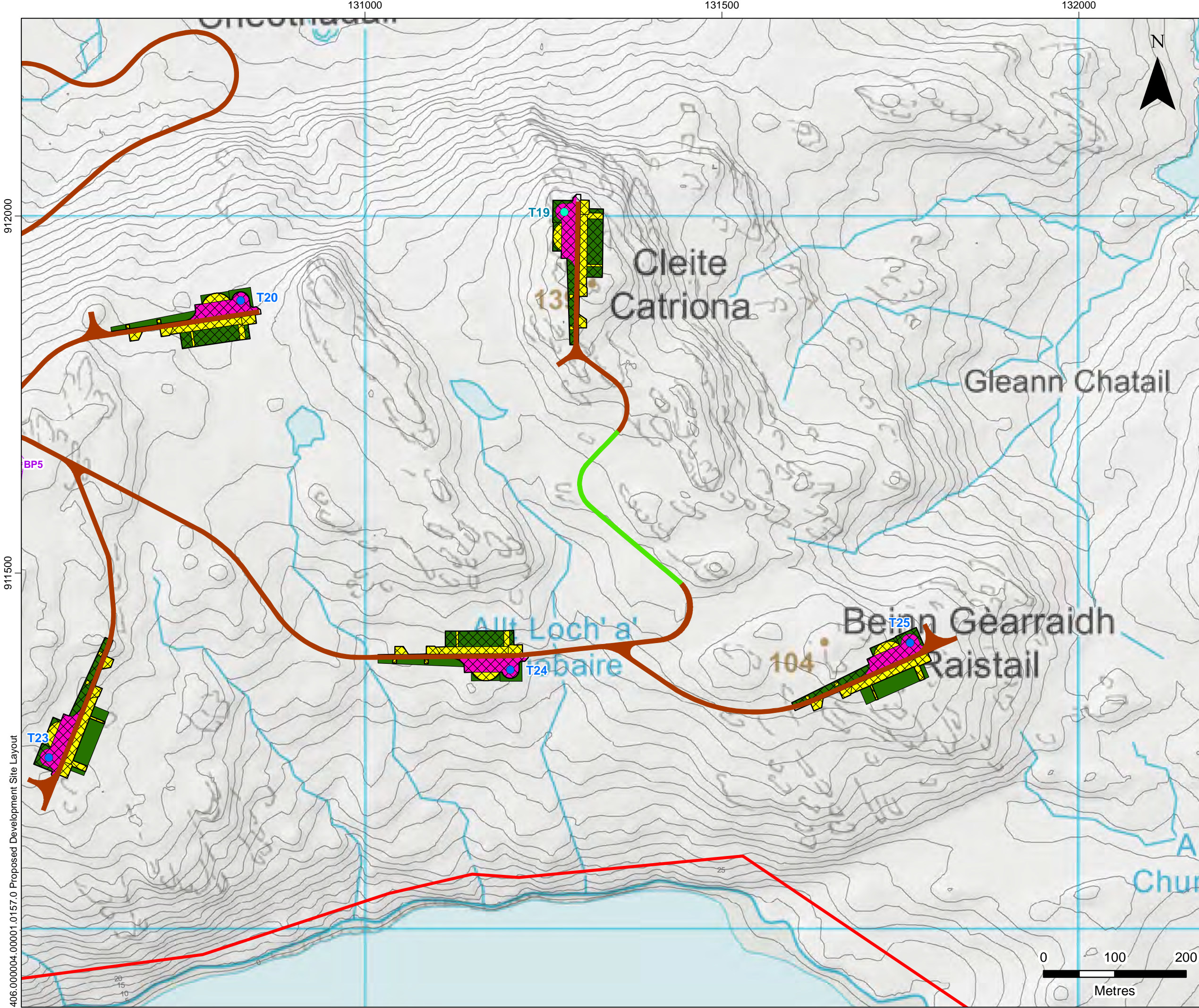
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**FIGURE 1.2j**

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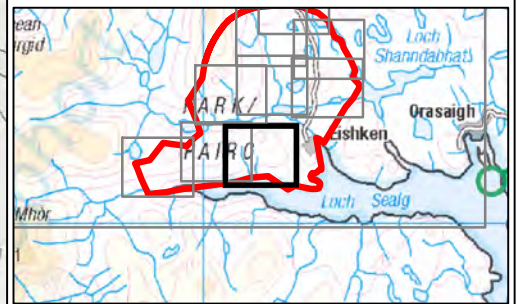
Scale 1:5,000 @ A3      Date AUGUST 2023

406.00004.00001.0157.0 Proposed Development Site Layout



**LEGEND**

- Application Boundary
- Proposed Turbine Location (180 m Blade Tip Height)
- Proposed Turbine Location (200 m Blade Tip Height)
- Proposed Bespoke Hardstanding Envelope
- Proposed Permanent Hardstanding
- Proposed Temporary Hardstanding
- Proposed Clearance Area
- Potential Borrow Pit
- Proposed Access Track / Turning Head
- Proposed Floating Access Track



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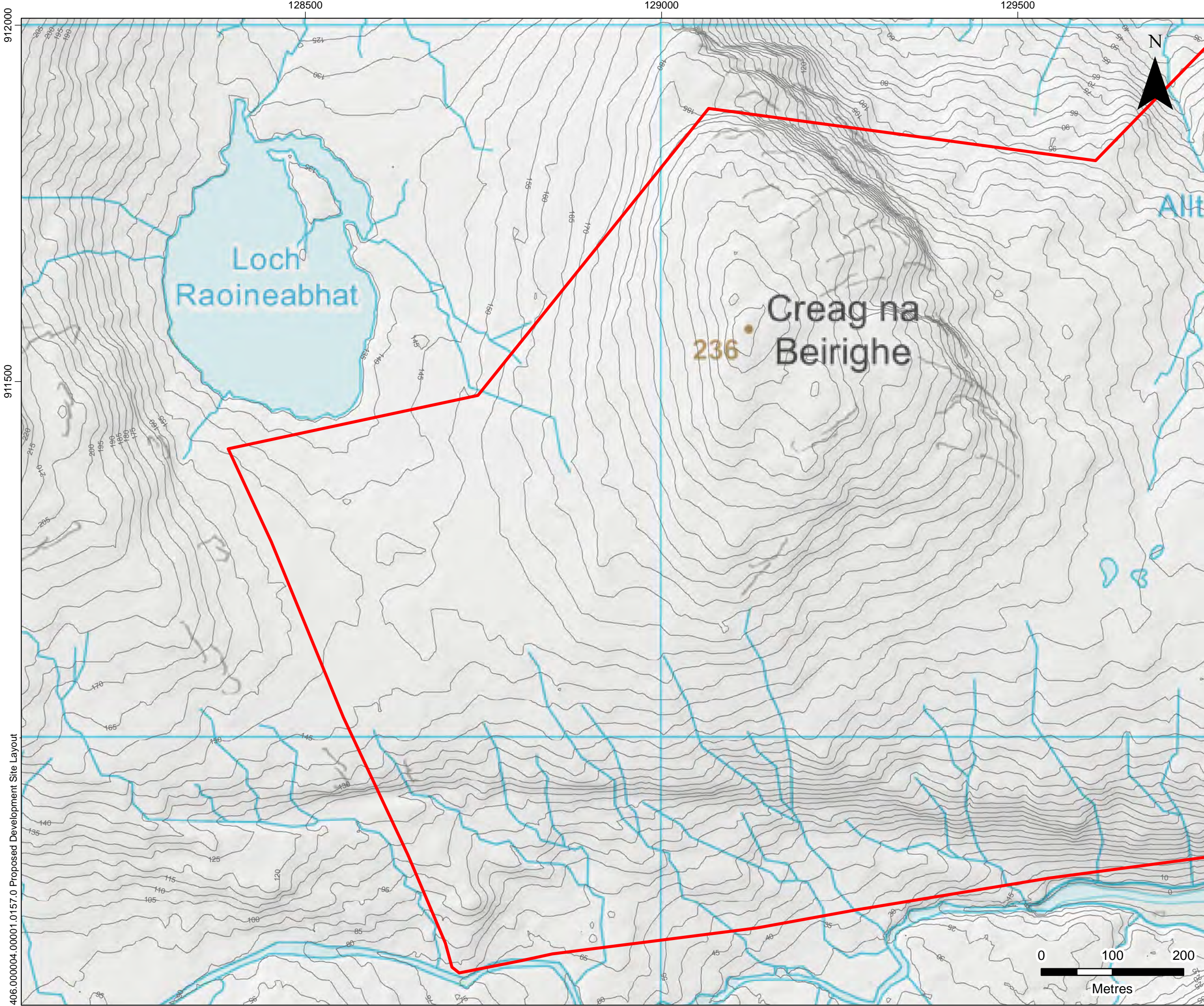
**UISENIS WIND FARM  
PROJECT COMPARISON REPORT  
PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT  
SITE LAYOUT**

**FIGURE 1.2k**




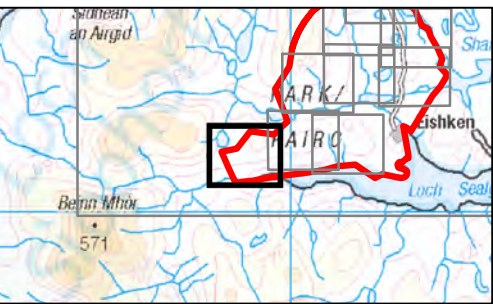
Scale 1:5,000 @ A3 Date AUGUST 2023

406.00004.00001.0157.0 Proposed Development Site Layout



**LEGEND**

 Application Boundary



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**UISENIS WIND FARM**

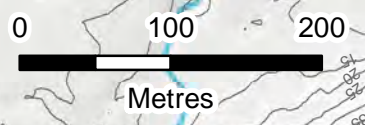
**PROJECT COMPARISON REPORT**

**PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT**

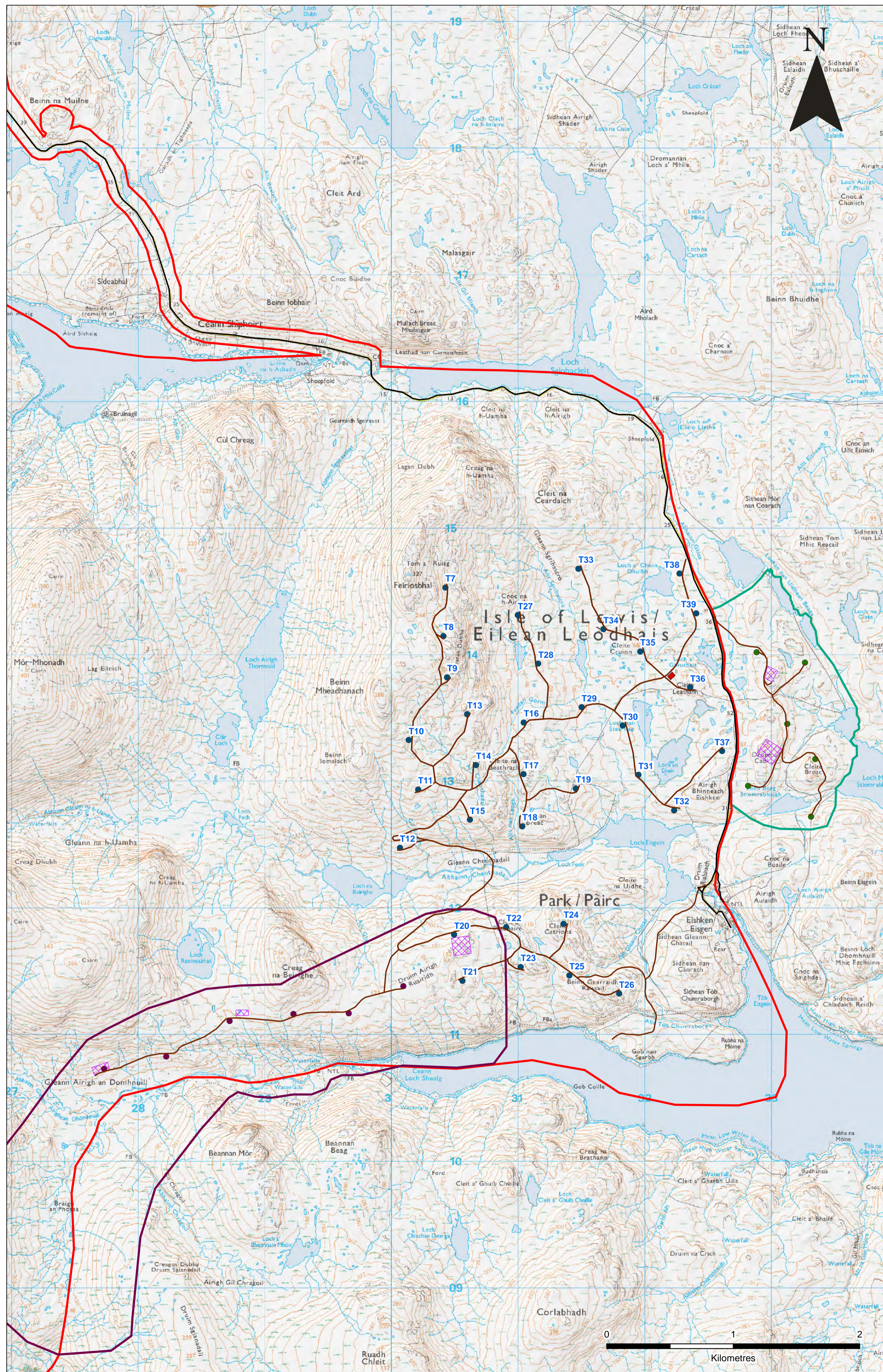
**SITE LAYOUT**

**FIGURE 1.2I**

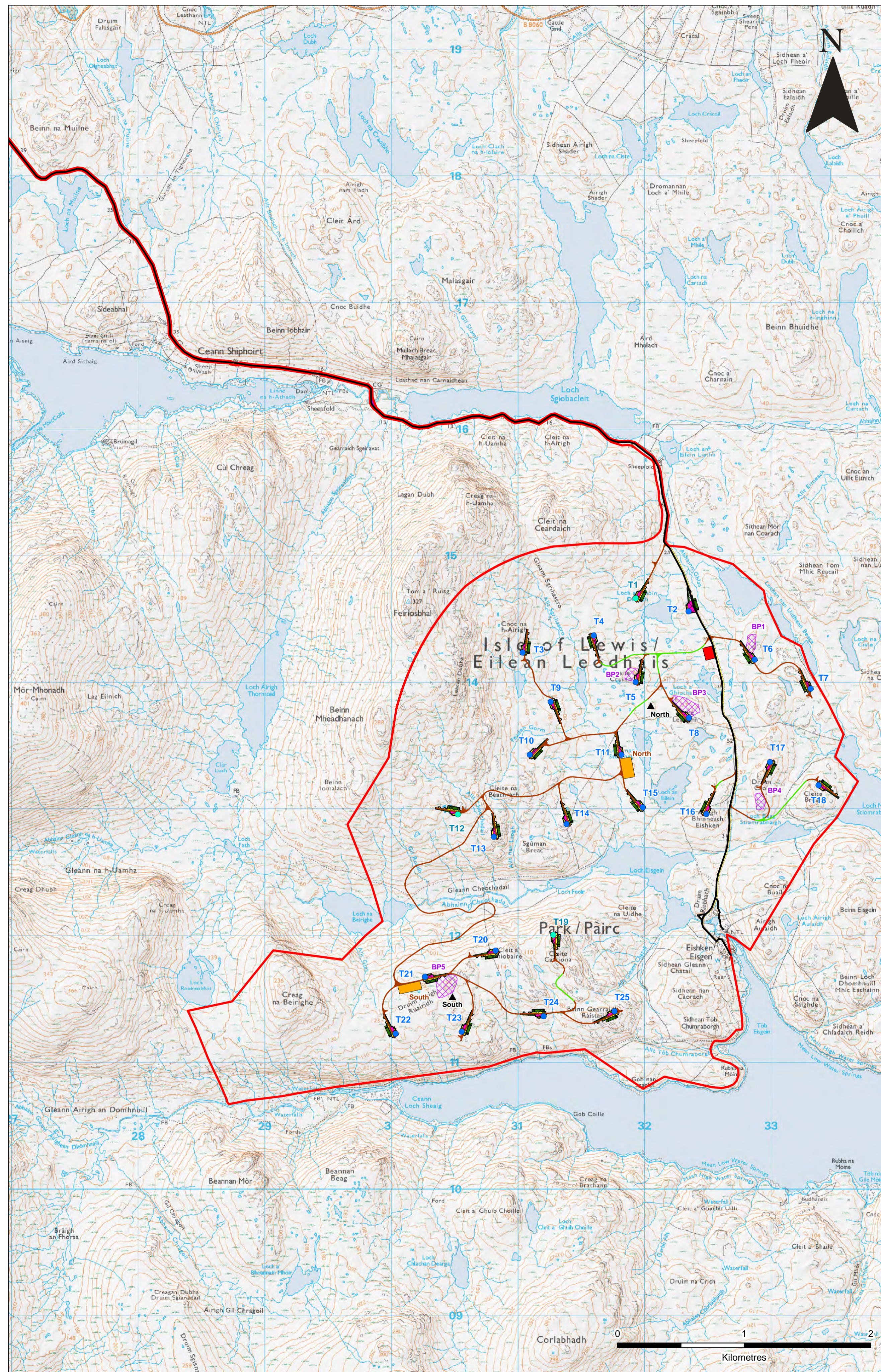
Scale 1:5,000 @ A3      Date AUGUST 2023



406.00004.00001.0157.0 Proposed Development Site Layout



CONSENTED SITE LAYOUT



PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

- Consented Scheme**
- Muattheabhal Windfarm Site Boundary
  - Muattheabhal Windfarm East Extension Site Boundary
  - Muattheabhal Windfarm South Extension Site Boundary
  - Muattheabhal Turbine Location
  - Muattheabhal East Extension Turbine Location
  - Muattheabhal South Extension Turbine Location
  - Proposed Borrow Pit
  - Proposed Substation
  - Proposed Access
  - Existing Road (To Be Upgraded)
- Proposed Scheme**
- Application Boundary
  - Proposed Turbine Location (180 m Blade Tip Height)
  - Proposed Turbine Location (200 m Blade Tip Height)
  - ▲ Proposed Permanent Met Mast
  - Existing Road (To Be Upgraded)
  - Proposed Access Track / Turning Head
  - Proposed Floating Access Track
  - Proposed Temporary Bridge Alignment
  - Proposed Bespoke Hardstanding Envelope
  - Proposed Temporary Hardstanding
  - Proposed Temporary Bridge Alignment
  - Proposed Permanent Hardstanding
  - Proposed Permanent Substation
  - Proposed Clearance Area
  - Proposed Temporary Construction Compound
  - Potential Borrow Pit



**Eurowind Energy.**

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**UISEINIS WIND FARM  
PROJECT COMPARISON REPORT  
CONSENTED & PROPOSED SITE  
LAYOUT COMPARISON**

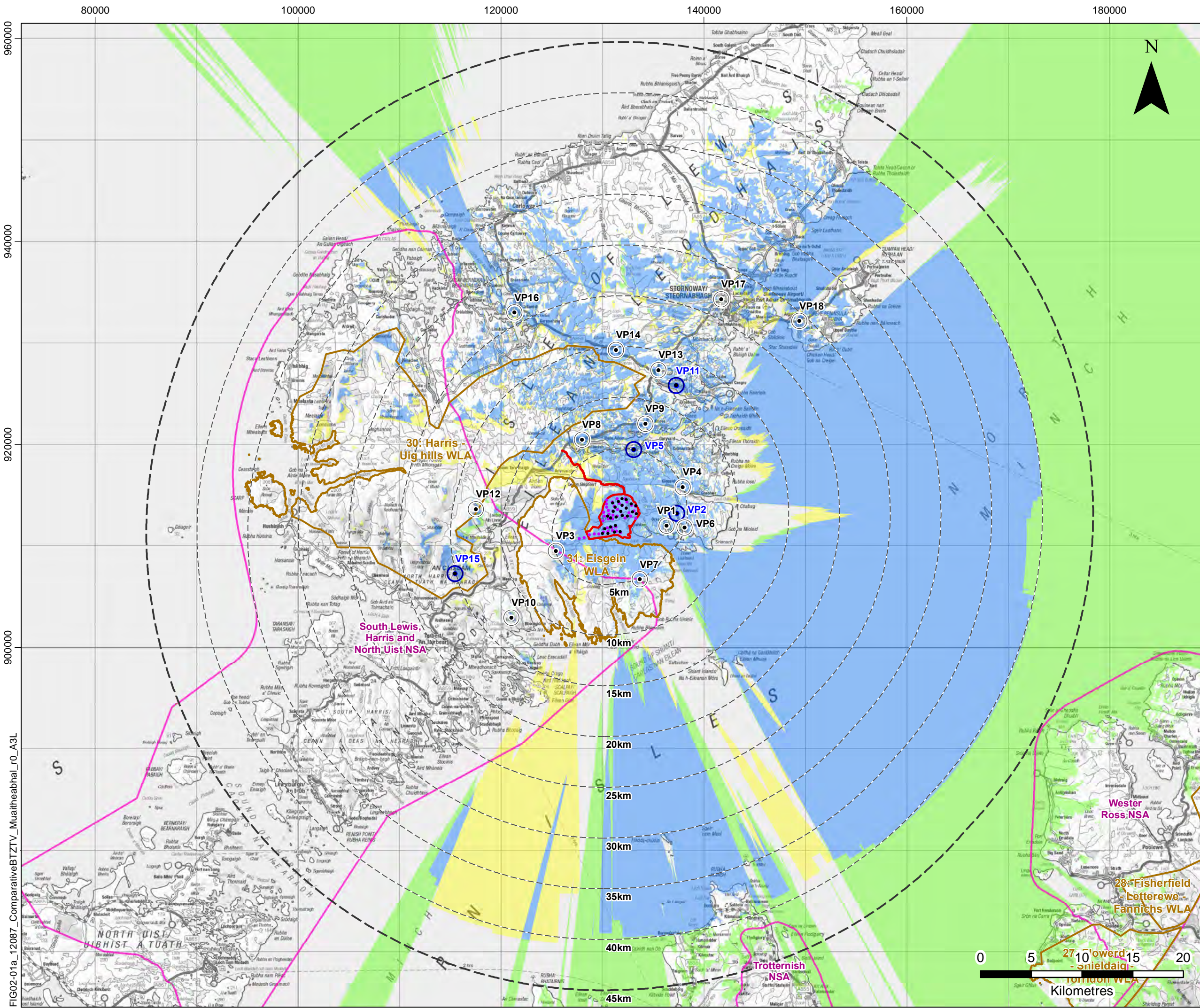
**FIGURE 1.3**

Scale 1:20,000    A1    Date AUGUST 2023

408.000004.00001.0100.0.Consented & Proposed Comparison

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**LEGEND**

- Application boundary
- Turbine
- Consented Muaitheabhal turbine
- 45km LVIA study area
- 5km intervals from turbines
- National Scenic Area (NSA)
- Wild Land Area (WLA)
- Viewpoint

1: Orasay (Orinsay)	10: Todun
2: B8060, east of the Site	11: Liurbost
3: Beinn Mhor	12: Liuthaid
4: Taobh a' Ghlinne (Glenside)	13: A859 near Liurbost
5: B8060 near Tabost (Habost) Church	14: Acha Mor (Achamore)
6: Leumrabhagh	15: An Cliseam
7: Uisinis	16: Calanais Standing Stones
8: Baile Ailein	17: Stornoway War Memorial
9: A859 near Lacasaigh (Laxay) Cemetery	18: An-Cnoc (Knock)

- Only Muaitheabhal visible
- Only Uisenis visible
- Both schemes visible

**Notes:**  
 Dusk viewpoints in blue.  
 The ZTV is calculated to turbine tip height from a viewing height of 2m above ground level. The terrain model assumes bare ground and is derived from OS Terrain 5 height data (obtained from Emapsite in 2023). Earth curvature and atmospheric refraction have been taken into account. The ZTV was calculated using ArcMap 10.8.1 software.

Rev	Date	Comments	Drawn	Reviewed	Approved
0	13/06/2023	Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment	JH	AP	DW

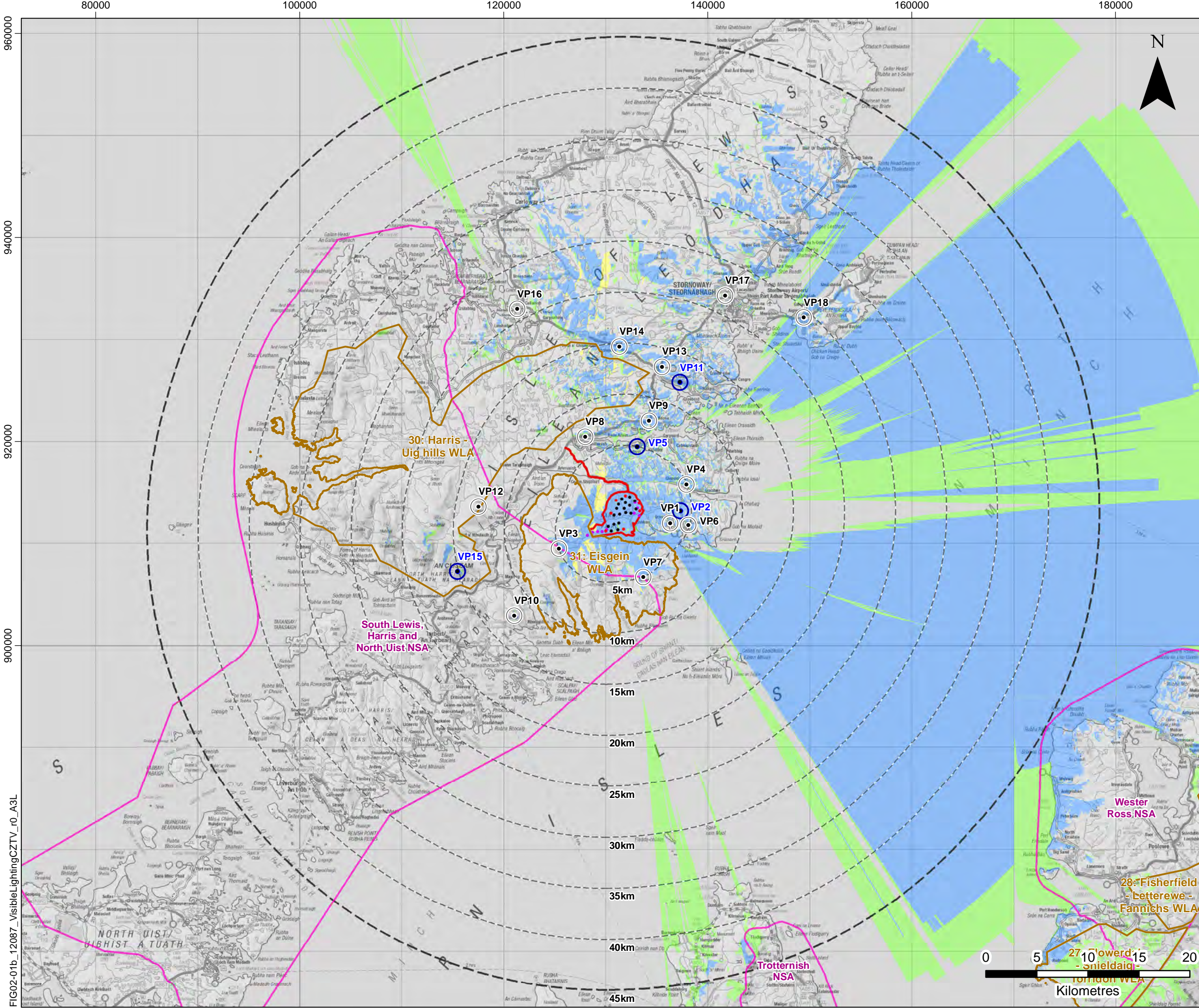


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<https://landuse.co.uk/>

**UISENIS WIND FARM**  
 LVIA  
 COMPARATIVE BLADE TIP HEIGHT ZTV –  
 CONSENTED MUAITHEABHAL (130M - 150M)  
 AND UISENIS (180-200M)

**FIGURE 2.1a**  
 Scale 1:350,000 @ A3 Date AUGUST 2023

FIG02-01a\_12087\_ComparativeBTZTV\_Muaitheabhal\_r0\_A3L



**LEGEND**

- Application boundary
- Turbine with proposed lighting
- Turbine
- Consented Muaitheabhal turbine with lighting
- 45km LVIA study area
- 5km intervals from turbines
- National Scenic Area (NSA)
- Wild Land Area (WLA)
- Viewpoint

1: Orasaigh (Orinsay)	10: Todun
2: B8060, east of the Site	11: Liurbost
3: Beinn Mhor	12: Liuthaid
4: Taobh a' Ghlinne (Glenside)	13: A859 near Liurbost
5: B8060 near Tabost (Habost) Church	14: Acha Mor (Achamore)
6: Leumrabhagh	15: An Cliseam
7: Uisinis	16: Calanais Standing Stones
8: Baile Ailein	17: Stornoway War Memorial
9: A859 near Lacasaigh (Laxay) Cemetery	18: An-Cnoc (Knock)

**Theoretical nacelle lighting visibility**

- Only Muaitheabhal lighting visible
- Only Uisenis lighting visible
- Both sets of lighting visible

**Notes:**  
 Dusk viewpoints in blue.  
 The ZTV is calculated to nacelle lighting height from a viewing height of 2m above ground level. The turbines proposed to have nacelle lighting are turbines 1, 3, 7, 12, 18, 22, and 25 for Uisenis, and all Muaitheabhal Extension turbines apart from T7. The terrain model assumes bare ground and is derived from OS Terrain 5 height data (obtained from Emapsite in 2023). Earth curvature and atmospheric refraction have been taken into account. The ZTV was calculated using ArcMap 10.8.1 software.

Rev	Date	Comments	Drawn	Reviewed	Approved
0	13/06/2023	Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment	JH	AP	DW



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**UISENIS WIND FARM**  
 LVIA  
 COMPARATIVE VISIBLE AVIATION LIGHTING ZTV  
 MUAITHEABHAL EXTENSION (150M) AND  
 UISENIS (180-200M)

**FIGURE 2.1b**

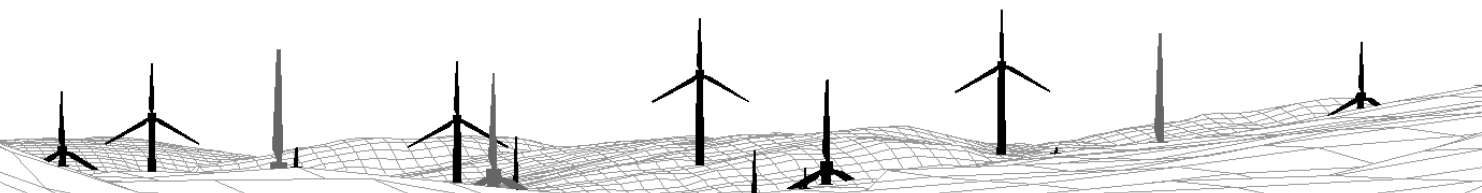
Scale: 1:350,000 @ A3      Date: AUGUST 2023

FIG02-01b\_12087\_VisibleLightingCZTV\_r0\_A3L

Muaitheabhal

Muaitheabhal East Extension

14 17 10 2 31 13 1 16 9 30 29 37 8 28 5 7 3



Wireline drawing - Consented Muaitheabhal, East Extension and South Extension Wind Farms

View flat at a comfortable arm's length

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OS reference:	136331E 912018N	Horizontal field of view:	53.5° (planar projection)
AOD:	12.93 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm
Direction of view:	282°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	3.18 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Wind Farm Developments key:  
Muaitheabhal  
Muaitheabhal East Extension  
Muaitheabhal South Extension

Notes:  
1) Please refer to Figure 7.12 for viewpoint map and cumulative wireframe

Uisenis Wind Farm  
Figure 2.2a  
Viewpoint 1: Orasaigh (Orinsay)





Photomontage - Consented Muaitheabhal, East Extension and South Extension Wind Farms

View flat at a comfortable arm's length

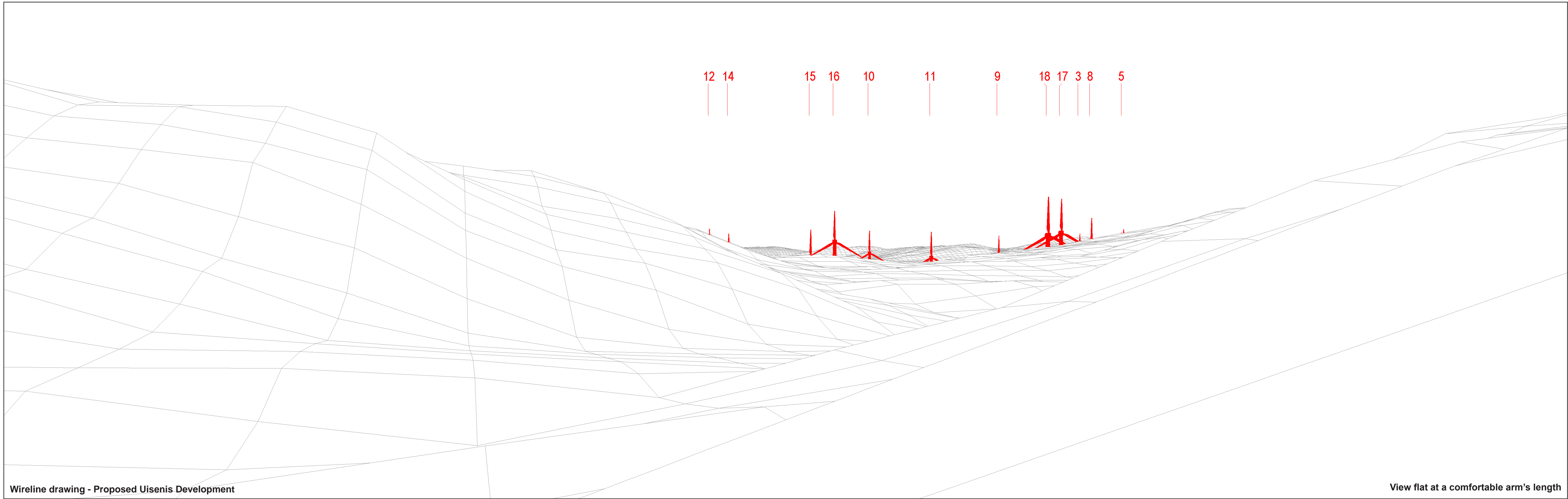


OS reference: 136331E 912018N  
AOD: 12.93 m  
Direction of view: 282°  
Nearest turbine: 3.18 km

Horizontal field of view: 53.5° (planar projection)  
Principal distance: 812.5 mm  
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)  
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Camera: NIKON D750  
Lens: 50mm Fixed Focal Length  
Camera height: 1.5 m

Photography Date: 23/03/2023  
Photography Time: 11:49



Wireline drawing - Proposed Uisenis Development

View flat at a comfortable arm's length



OS reference:	136331E 912018N	Horizontal field of view:	53.5° (planar projection)
AOD:	12.93 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm
Direction of view:	282°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	3.18 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Wind Farm Developments key  
(by status): Proposed scheme

**Notes:**  
1) Please refer to Figure 7.12 for viewpoint map and cumulative wireframe

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Photomontage - Proposed Uisenis Development

View flat at a comfortable arm's length



OS reference: 136331E 912018N  
AOD: 12.93 m  
Direction of view: 282°  
Nearest turbine: 3.18 km

Horizontal field of view: 53.5° (planar projection)  
Principal distance: 812.5 mm  
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)  
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Camera: NIKON D750  
Lens: 50mm Fixed Focal Length  
Camera height: 1.5 m

Photography Date: 23/03/2023  
Photography Time: 11:49

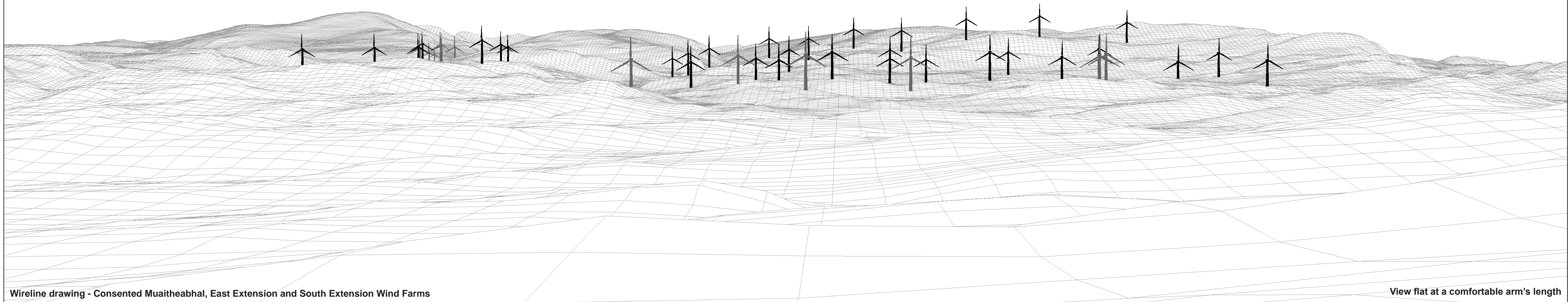
Muaitheabhal

Muaitheabhal South Extension

Muaitheabhal East Extension

26 25 23 11 21 8 7 12 10 9 24 22 20

2 12 18 32 15 1 19 11 31 17 5 14 37 10 30 16 13 3 29 9 36 28 8 35 27 34 4 6 7 39 33 38



Wireline drawing - Consented Muaitheabhal, East Extension and South Extension Wind Farms

View flat at a comfortable arm's length

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OS reference: 137332E 913263N  
 AOD: 88.8 m  
 Direction of view: 268°  
 Nearest turbine: 3.95 km

Horizontal field of view: 53.5° (planar projection)  
 Principal distance: 812.5 mm  
 Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)  
 Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Wind Farm Developments key:  
 Muaitheabhal  
 Muaitheabhal East Extension  
 Muaitheabhal South Extension

Notes:  
 1) Please refer to Figure 7.13 for viewpoint map and cumulative wireframe



Photomontage - Consented Muiltheabhal, East Extension and South Extension Wind Farms

View flat at a comfortable arm's length



OS reference: 137332E 913263N  
AOD: 88.8 m  
Direction of view: 268°  
Nearest turbine: 3.95 km

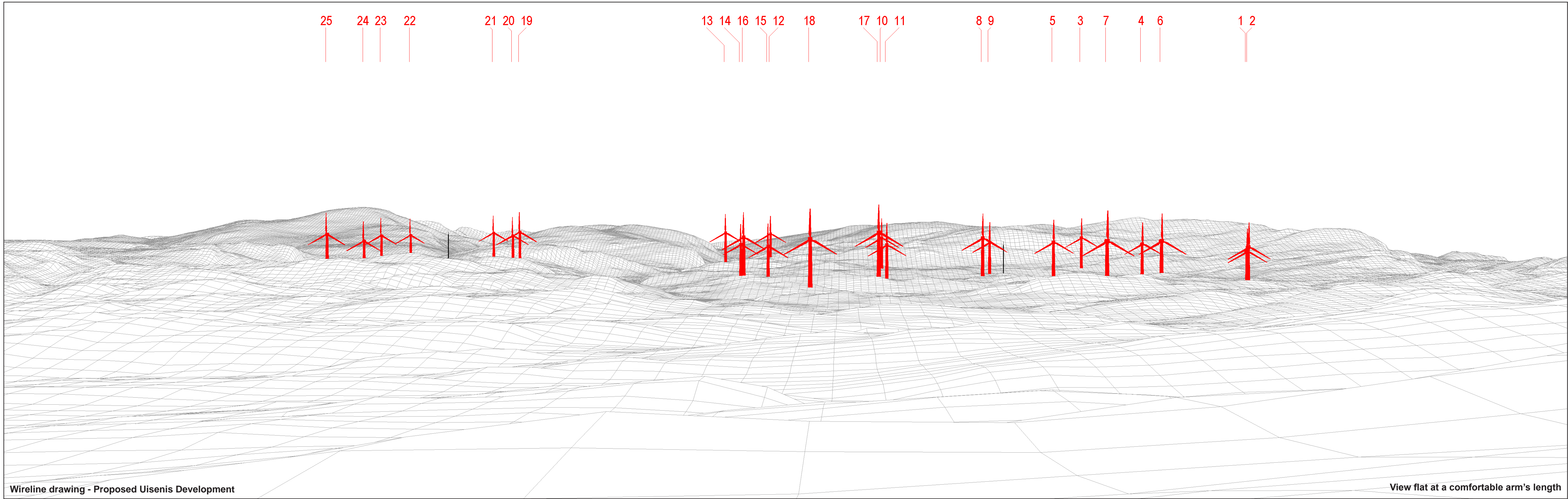
Horizontal field of view: 53.5° (planar projection)  
Principal distance: 812.5 mm  
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)  
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Camera: NIKON D750  
Lens: 50mm Fixed Focal Length  
Camera height: 1.5 m

Photography Date: 23/03/2023  
Photography Time: 10:49

Uisenis Wind Farm  
Figure 2.3b

Viewpoint 2: B8060, east of the Site



Wireline drawing - Proposed Uisenis Development

View flat at a comfortable arm's length



OS reference: 137332E 913263N  
 AOD: 88.8 m  
 Direction of view: 268°  
 Nearest turbine: 3.95 km

Horizontal field of view: 53.5° (planar projection)  
 Principal distance: 812.5 mm  
 Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)  
 Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Wind Farm Developments key  
 (by status): Proposed scheme

Notes:  
 1) Please refer to Figure 7.13 for viewpoint map and cumulative wireframe

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Photomontage - Proposed Uisenis Development

View flat at a comfortable arm's length



OS reference: 137332E 913263N  
AOD: 88.8 m  
Direction of view: 268°  
Nearest turbine: 3.95 km

Horizontal field of view: 53.5° (planar projection)  
Principal distance: 812.5 mm  
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)  
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

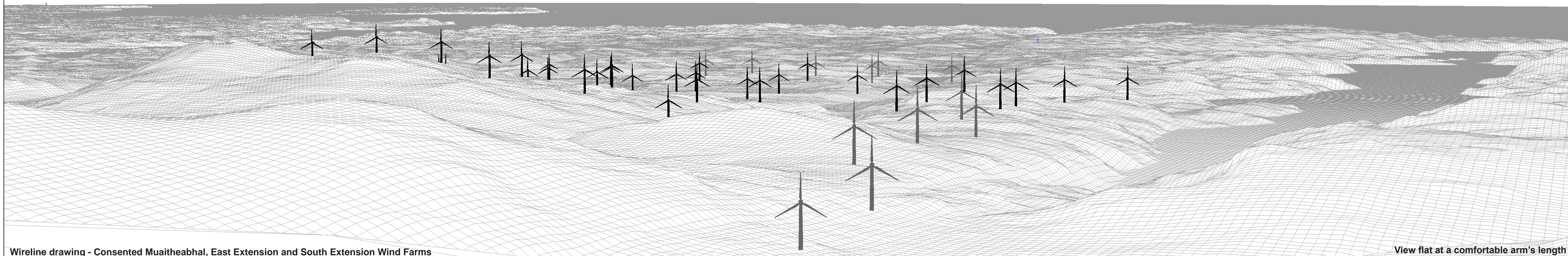
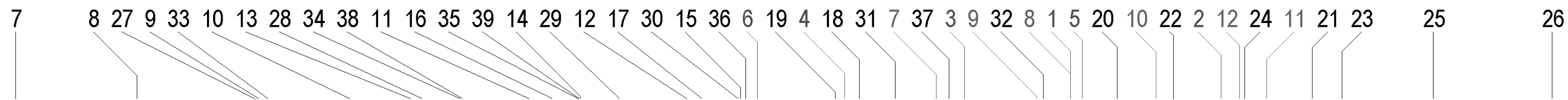
Camera: NIKON D750  
Lens: 50mm Fixed Focal Length  
Camera height: 1.5 m

Photography Date: 23/03/2023  
Photography Time: 10:49

Muaitheabhal

Muaitheabhal South Extension

Muaitheabhal East Extension



Wireline drawing - Consented Muaitheabhal, East Extension and South Extension Wind Farms

View flat at a comfortable arm's length

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OS reference:	125433E 909534N	Horizontal field of view:	53.5° (planar projection)
AOD:	570.04 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm
Direction of view:	62°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	4.90 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Wind Farm Developments key:

- Muaitheabhal
- Muaitheabhal East Extension
- Muaitheabhal South Extension
- Operational

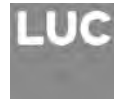
Notes:  
 1) Please refer to Figure 7.14 for viewpoint map and cumulative wireframe





Photomontage - Consented Muaitheabhal, East Extension and South Extension Wind Farms

View flat at a comfortable arm's length



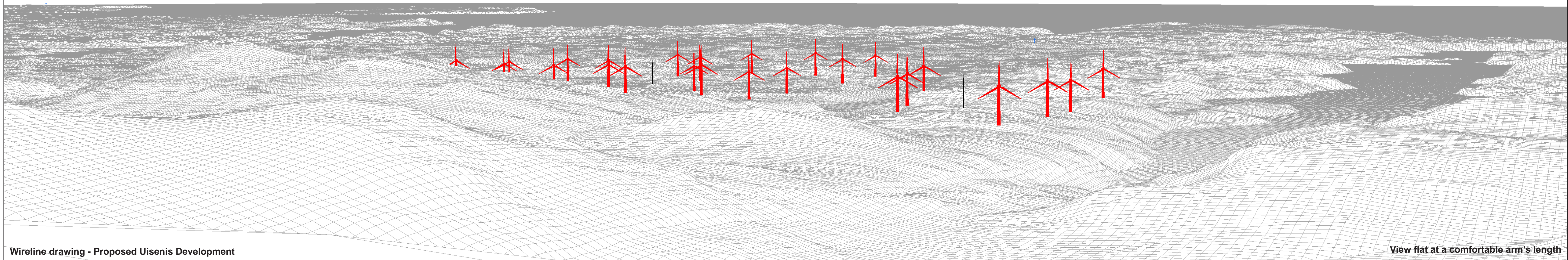
OS reference: 125433E 909534N  
AOD: 570.04 m  
Direction of view: 62°  
Nearest turbine: 4.90 km

Horizontal field of view: 53.5° (planar projection)  
Principal distance: 812.5 mm  
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)  
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Camera: Sony ILCE-9  
Lens: 50mm Fixed Focal Length  
Camera height: 1.5 m

Photography Date: 07/04/2023  
Photography Time: 13:48

3 1 4 9 2 10 5 12 6 11 8 13 14 7 15 17 16 18 21 20 19 22 23 24 25



Wireline drawing - Proposed Uisenis Development

View flat at a comfortable arm's length

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OS reference:	125433E 909534N	Horizontal field of view:	53.5° (planar projection)
AOD:	570.04 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm
Direction of view:	62°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	4.90 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Wind Farm Developments key  
(by status):

Proposed scheme  
Operational

Notes:  
1) Please refer to Figure 7.14 for viewpoint map and cumulative wireframe



Photomontage - Proposed Uisenis Development

View flat at a comfortable arm's length

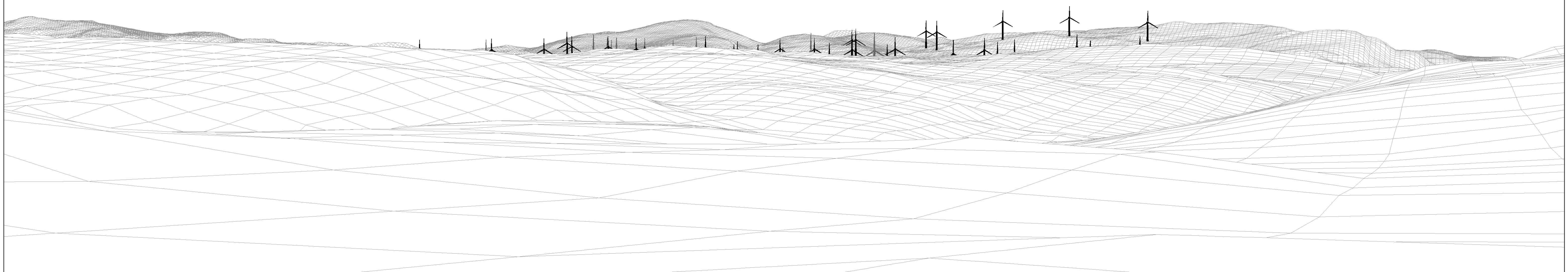
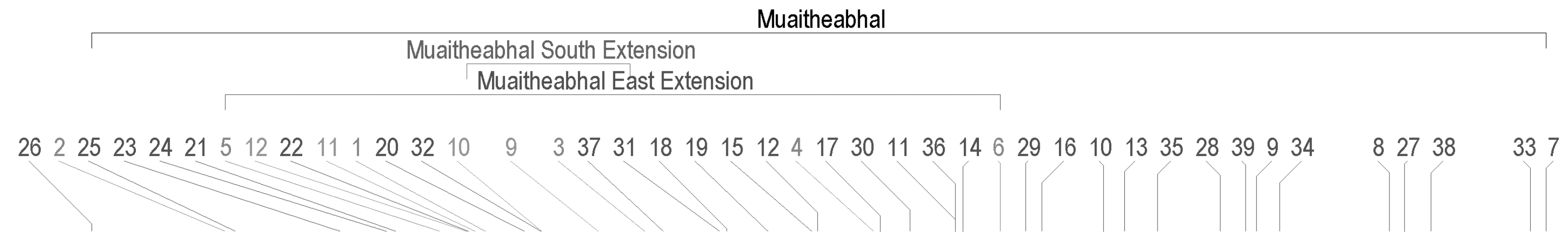


OS reference: 125433E 909534N  
AOD: 570.04 m  
Direction of view: 62°  
Nearest turbine: 4.90 km

Horizontal field of view: 53.5° (planar projection)  
Principal distance: 812.5 mm  
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)  
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Camera: Sony ILCE-9  
Lens: 50mm Fixed Focal Length  
Camera height: 1.5 m

Photography Date: 07/04/2023  
Photography Time: 13:48



**Wireline drawing - Consented Muaitheabhal, East Extension and South Extension Wind Farms**

**View flat at a comfortable arm's length**



OS reference: 137942E 915827N  
 AOD: 54.69 m  
 Direction of view: 247°  
 Nearest turbine: 4.99 km

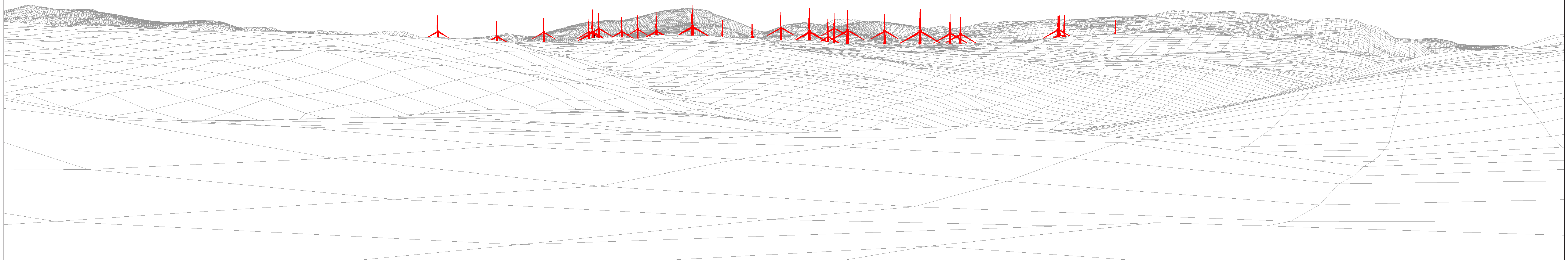
Horizontal field of view: 53.5° (planar projection)  
 Principal distance: 812.5 mm  
 Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)  
 Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Wind Farm Developments key:  
 Muaitheabhal  
 Muaitheabhal East Extension  
 Muaitheabhal South Extension

**Notes:**  
 1) Please refer to Figure 7.15 for viewpoint map and cumulative wireframe

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25 24 23 22 18 19 20 21 16 17 15 14 13 7 11 12 8 10 6 5 9 3 4 2 1



Wireline drawing - Proposed Uisenis Development

View flat at a comfortable arm's length



OS reference: 137942E 915827N  
 AOD: 54.69 m  
 Direction of view: 247°  
 Nearest turbine: 4.99 km

Horizontal field of view: 53.5° (planar projection)  
 Principal distance: 812.5 mm  
 Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)  
 Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Wind Farm Developments key  
 (by status): Proposed scheme

Notes:  
 1) Please refer to Figure 7.15 for viewpoint map and cumulative wireframe

Uisenis Wind Farm  
 Figure 2.5b  
 Viewpoint 4: Taobh a' Ghlinne (Glenside)

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Muaitheabhal East Extension

Muaitheabhal

Muaitheabhal South Extension

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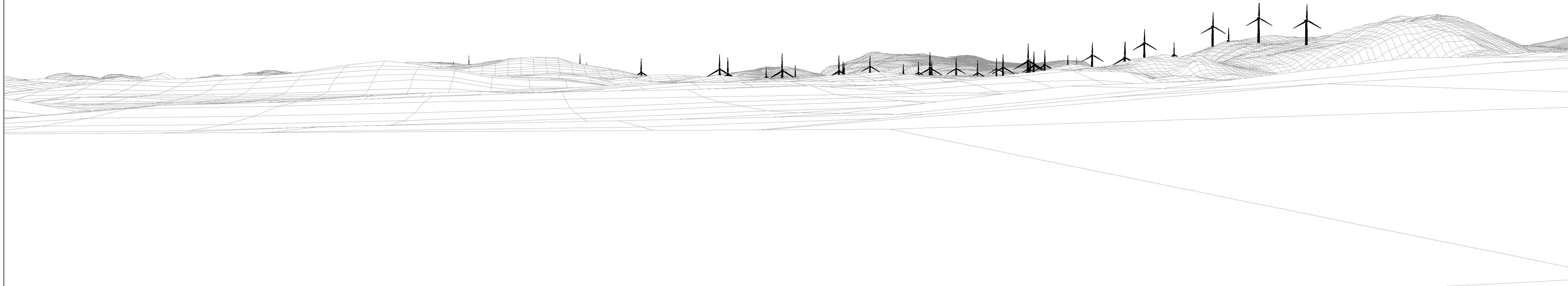
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Wireline drawing - Consented Muaitheabhal, East Extension and South Extension Wind Farms

View flat at a comfortable arm's length



OS reference: 133107E 919529N  
 AOD: 20.75 m  
 Direction of view: 190°  
 Nearest turbine: 5.00 km

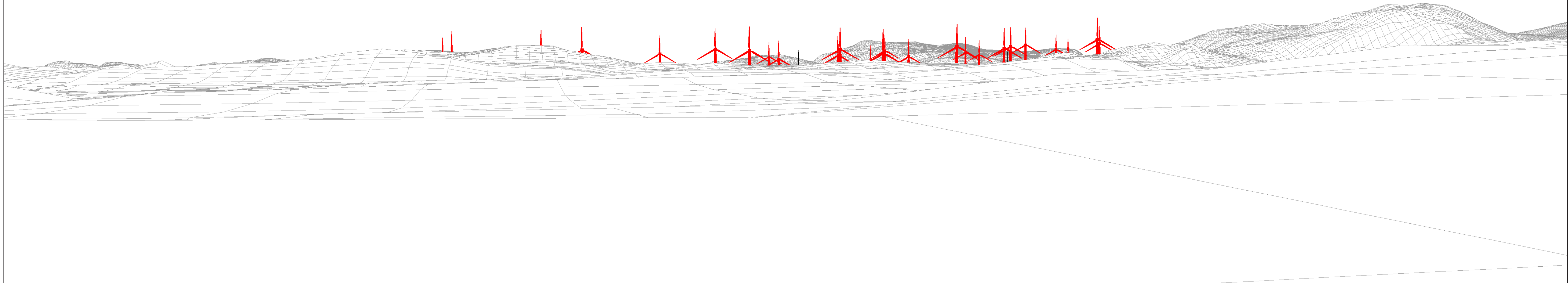
Horizontal field of view: 53.5° (planar projection)  
 Principal distance: 812.5 mm  
 Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)  
 Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Wind Farm Developments key:  
 Muaitheabhal  
 Muaitheabhal East Extension  
 Muaitheabhal South Extension

Notes:  
 1) Please refer to Figure 7.16 for viewpoint map and cumulative wireframe

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18 7      17      6      16      8      2 25 15      11 5 24 1 19 14      4 20 23 9 10 13 21 22 3 12



Wireline drawing - Proposed Uisenis Development

View flat at a comfortable arm's length



OS reference: 133107E 919529N  
 AOD: 20.75 m  
 Direction of view: 190°  
 Nearest turbine: 5.00 km

Horizontal field of view: 53.5° (planar projection)  
 Principal distance: 812.5 mm  
 Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)  
 Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Wind Farm Developments key  
 (by status): Proposed scheme

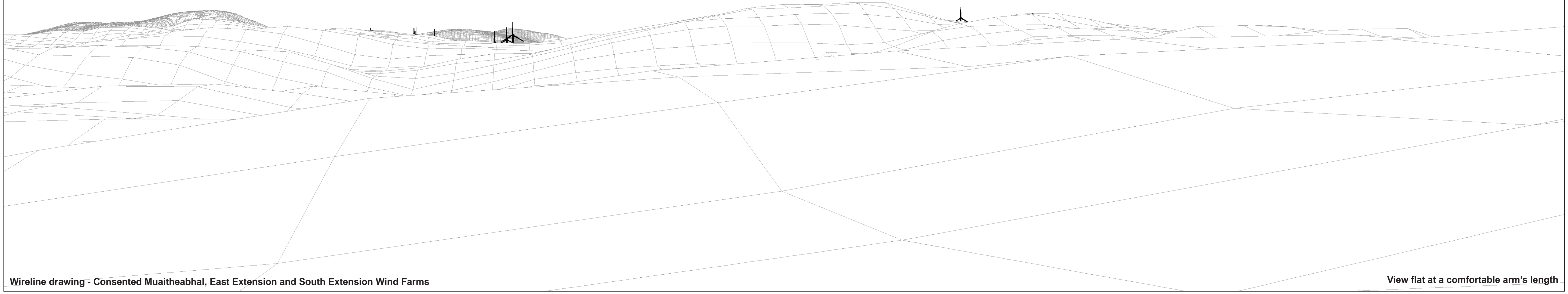
Notes:  
 1) Please refer to Figure 7.16 for viewpoint map and cumulative wireframe

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Muaitheabhal  
 Muaitheabhal South Extension

26      12 25 21 23      20 22 24

8      7



Wireline drawing - Consented Muaitheabhal, East Extension and South Extension Wind Farms

View flat at a comfortable arm's length

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OS reference: 138103E 911869N  
 AOD: 23.39 m  
 Direction of view: 280°  
 Nearest turbine: 4.91 km

Horizontal field of view: 53.5° (planar projection)  
 Principal distance: 812.5 mm  
 Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)  
 Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Wind Farm Developments key:  
 Muaitheabhal  
 Muaitheabhal East Extension  
 Muaitheabhal South Extension

Notes:  
 1) Please refer to Figure 7.17 for viewpoint map and cumulative wireframe



23 22 25 24

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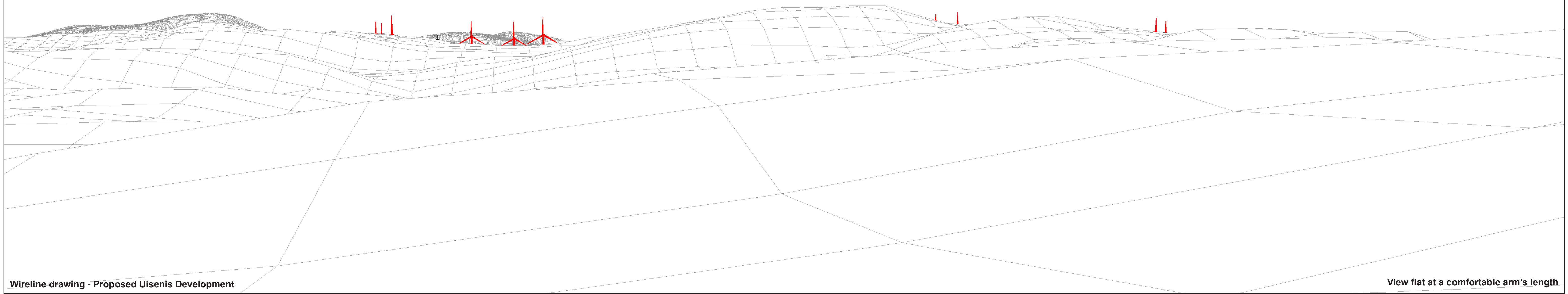
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7 6



Wireline drawing - Proposed Uisenis Development

View flat at a comfortable arm's length

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OS reference:	138103E 911869N	Horizontal field of view:	53.5° (planar projection)
AOD:	23.39 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm
Direction of view:	280°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	4.91 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

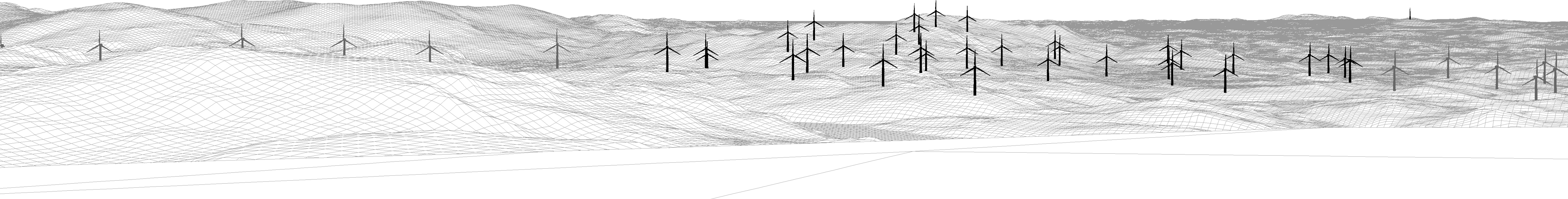
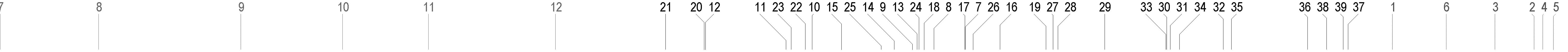
Wind Farm Developments key  
(by status): Proposed scheme

**Notes:**  
1) Please refer to Figure 7.17 for viewpoint map and cumulative wireframe

Muaitheabhal South Extension

Muaitheabhal

Muaitheabhal East Extension



Wireline drawing - Consented Muaitheabhal, East Extension and South Extension Wind Farms

View flat at a comfortable arm's length



OS reference: 133706E 906727N  
 AOD: 370.44 m  
 Direction of view: 330.5°  
 Nearest turbine: 5.06 km

Horizontal field of view: 53.5° (planar projection)  
 Principal distance: 812.5 mm  
 Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)  
 Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Wind Farm Developments key:  
 Muaitheabhal  
 Muaitheabhal East Extension  
 Muaitheabhal South Extension

Notes:  
 1) Please refer to Figure 7.18 for viewpoint map and cumulative wireframe

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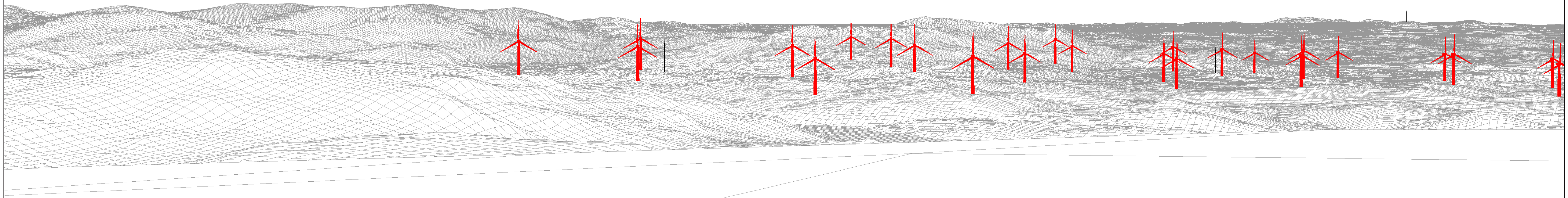
5

1

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6 17

7 18



Wireline drawing - Proposed Uisenis Development

View flat at a comfortable arm's length



OS reference:	133706E 906727N	Horizontal field of view:	53.5° (planar projection)
AOD:	370.44 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm
Direction of view:	330.5°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	5.06 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Wind Farm Developments key  
(by status):

Proposed scheme

**Notes:**  
1) Please refer to Figure 7.18 for viewpoint map and cumulative wireframe

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Muaitheabhal

Muaitheabhal South Extension

Muaitheabhal East Extension

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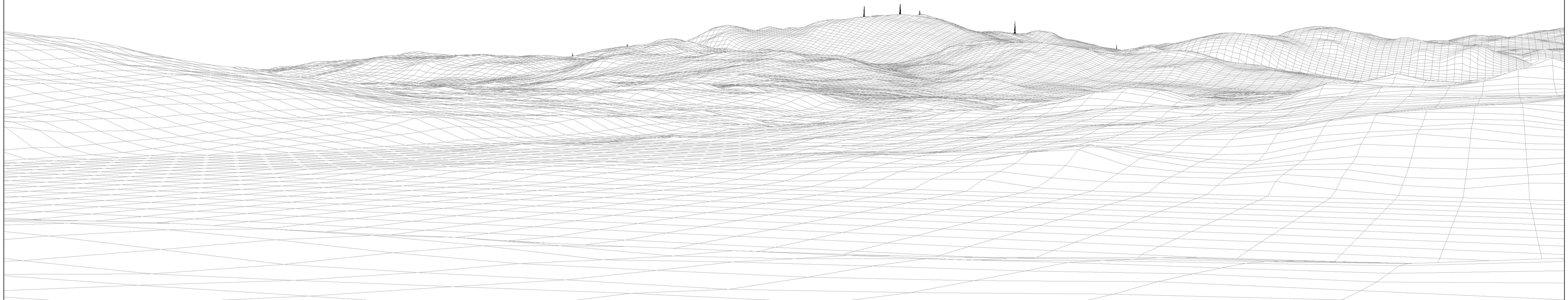
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Wireline drawing - Consented Muaitheabhal, East Extension and South Extension Wind Farms

View flat at a comfortable arm's length

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OS reference:	128007E 920503N	Horizontal field of view:	53.5° (planar projection)
AOD:	35.77 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm
Direction of view:	155°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	6.96 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Wind Farm Developments key:

- Muaitheabhal
- Muaitheabhal East Extension
- Muaitheabhal South Extension

Notes:

1) Please refer to Figure 7.19 for viewpoint map and cumulative wireframe



Photomontage - Consented Muaitheabhal, East Extension and South Extension Wind Farms

View flat at a comfortable arm's length



OS reference: 128007E 920503N  
AOD: 35.77 m  
Direction of view: 155°  
Nearest turbine: 6.96 km

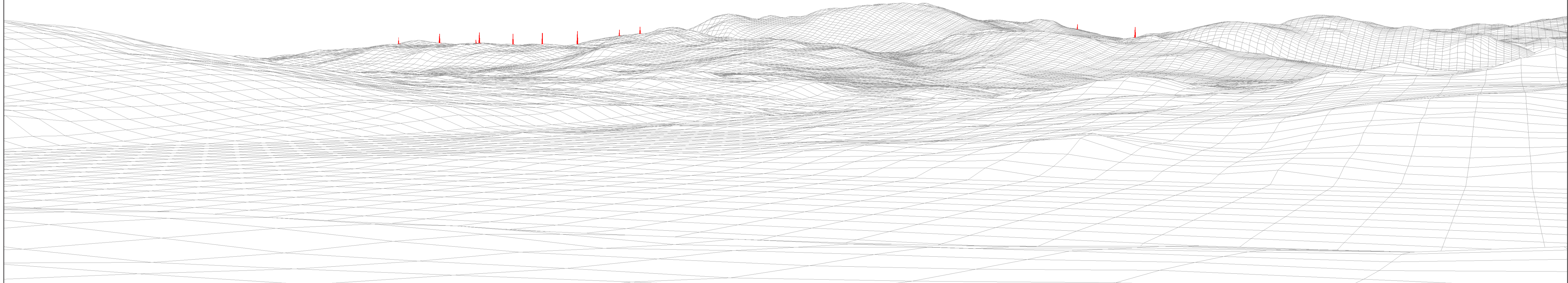
Horizontal field of view: 53.5° (planar projection)  
Principal distance: 812.5 mm  
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)  
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Camera: Sony ILCE-9  
Lens: 50mm Fixed Focal Length  
Camera height: 1.5 m

Photography Date: 27/02/2023  
Photography Time: 15:22

7 6 18 2 17 1 8 5 4

21 22



Wireline drawing - Proposed Uisenis Development

View flat at a comfortable arm's length



OS reference: 128007E 920503N  
 AOD: 35.77 m  
 Direction of view: 155°  
 Nearest turbine: 6.96 km

Horizontal field of view: 53.5° (planar projection)  
 Principal distance: 812.5 mm  
 Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)  
 Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Wind Farm Developments key  
 (by status): Proposed scheme

Notes:  
 1) Please refer to Figure 7.19 for viewpoint map and cumulative wireframe

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Photomontage - Proposed Uisenis Development

View flat at a comfortable arm's length



OS reference: 128007E 920503N  
AOD: 35.77 m  
Direction of view: 155°  
Nearest turbine: 6.96 km

Horizontal field of view: 53.5° (planar projection)  
Principal distance: 812.5 mm  
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)  
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Camera: Sony ILCE-9  
Lens: 50mm Fixed Focal Length  
Camera height: 1.5 m

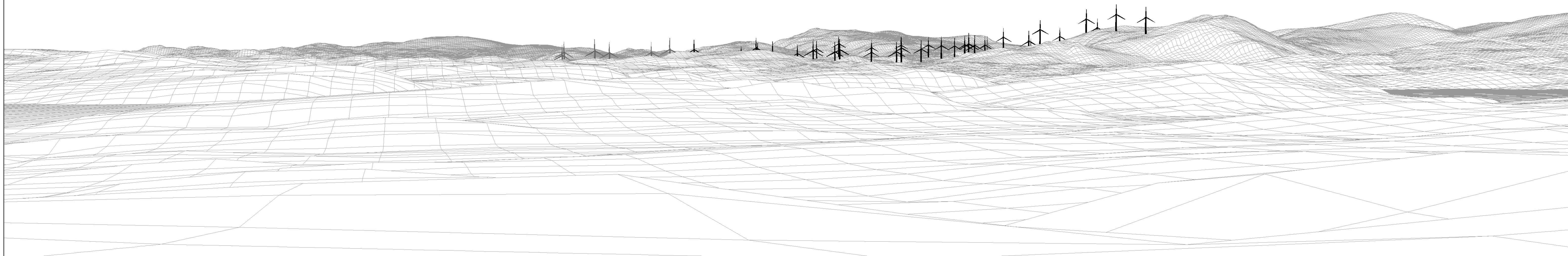
Photography Date: 27/02/2023  
Photography Time: 15:22

Muaitheabhal East Extension

Muaitheabhal

Muaitheabhal South Extension

2 5 4 3 1 6 37 32 36 26 39 31 38 25 30 24 35 19 23 29 22 34 18 21 17 20 16 33 28 15 12 14 27 11 13 11 9 10 8 7



Wireline drawing - Consented Muaitheabhal, East Extension and South Extension Wind Farms

View flat at a comfortable arm's length

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OS reference:	134254E 922063N	Horizontal field of view:	53.5° (planar projection)
AOD:	30.13 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm
Direction of view:	194°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	7.74 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Wind Farm Developments key:

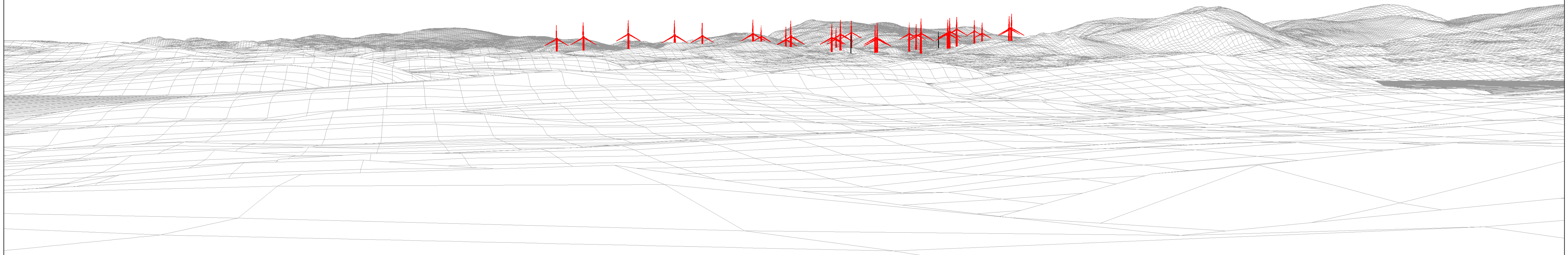
- Muaitheabhal
- Muaitheabhal East Extension
- Muaitheabhal South Extension

Notes:

1) Please refer to Figure 7.20 for viewpoint map and cumulative wireframe



18 7 17 6 16 8 25 15 2 11 24 5 19 14 1 20 23 4 9 10 13 21 22 12 3



Wireline drawing - Proposed Uisenis Development

View flat at a comfortable arm's length



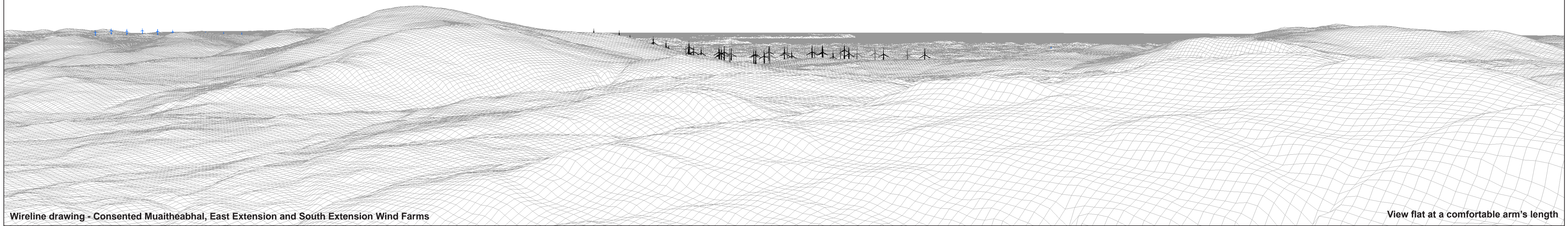
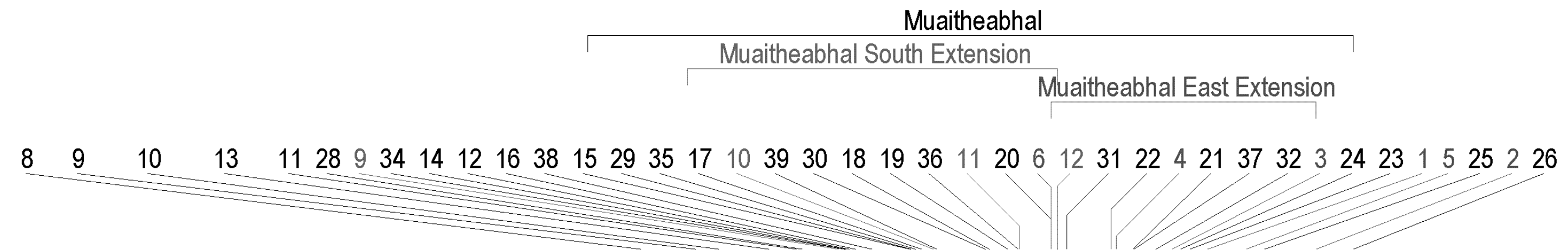
OS reference: 134254E 922063N  
 AOD: 30.13 m  
 Direction of view: 194°  
 Nearest turbine: 7.74 km

Horizontal field of view: 53.5° (planar projection)  
 Principal distance: 812.5 mm  
 Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)  
 Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Wind Farm Developments key  
 (by status): Proposed scheme

Notes:  
 1) Please refer to Figure 7.20 for viewpoint map and cumulative wireframe

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Wireline drawing - Consented Muaitheabhal, East Extension and South Extension Wind Farms

View flat at a comfortable arm's length



OS reference: 121033E 902967N  
 AOD: 526.91 m  
 Direction of view: 47°  
 Nearest turbine: 12.21 km

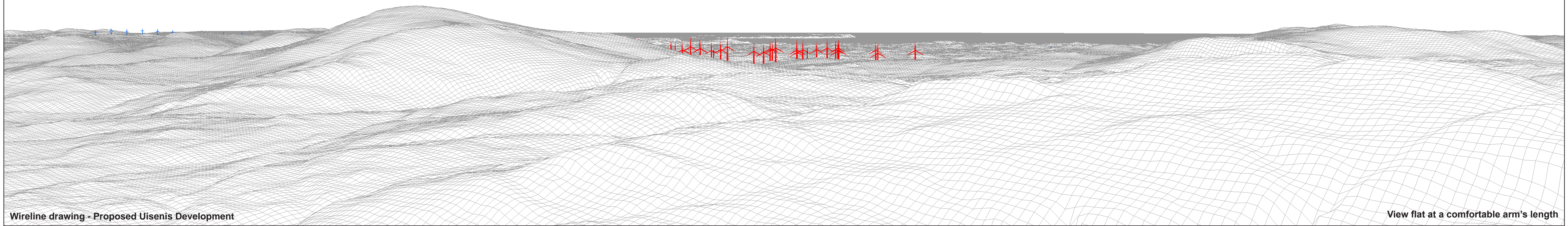
Horizontal field of view: 53.5° (planar projection)  
 Principal distance: 812.5 mm  
 Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)  
 Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Wind Farm Developments key:  
 Muaitheabhal  
 Muaitheabhal East Extension  
 Muaitheabhal South Extension  
 Operational

Notes:  
 1) Please refer to Figure 7.21 for viewpoint map and cumulative wireframe

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3 4 1 9 12 10 2 5 13 11 14 8 6 21 22 15 20 7 19 16 17 23 18 24 25



Wireline drawing - Proposed Uisenis Development

View flat at a comfortable arm's length



OS reference: 121033E 902967N  
AOD: 526.91 m  
Direction of view: 47°  
Nearest turbine: 12.21 km  
Horizontal field of view: 53.5° (planar projection)  
Principal distance: 812.5 mm  
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)  
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

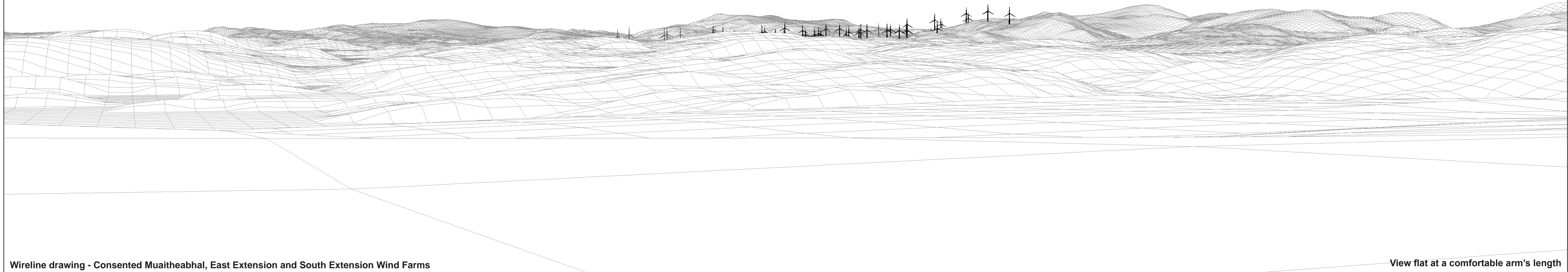
Wind Farm Developments key  
(by status):  
Proposed scheme  
Operational

Notes:  
1) Please refer to Figure 7.21 for viewpoint map and cumulative wireframe

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Muaitheabhal  
 Muaitheabhal East Extension      Muaitheabhal South Extension

2 5 3 4 1 37 6 26 32 36 25 31 39 24 23 30 38 35 19 22 21 29 18 34 20 17 12 16 15 28 11 33 14 12 13 27 11 10 9 10 8 7



Wireline drawing - Consented Muaitheabhal, East Extension and South Extension Wind Farms

View flat at a comfortable arm's length



OS reference: 137284E 925851N      Horizontal field of view: 53.5° (planar projection)  
 AOD: 45.75 m      Principal distance: 812.5 mm  
 Direction of view: 203°      Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)  
 Nearest turbine: 12.32 km      Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Wind Farm Developments key: Muaitheabhal  
 Muaitheabhal East Extension  
 Muaitheabhal South Extension

Notes:  
 1) Please refer to Figure 7.22 for viewpoint map and cumulative wireframe

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Photomontage - Consented Muaitheabhal, East Extension and South Extension Wind Farms

View flat at a comfortable arm's length



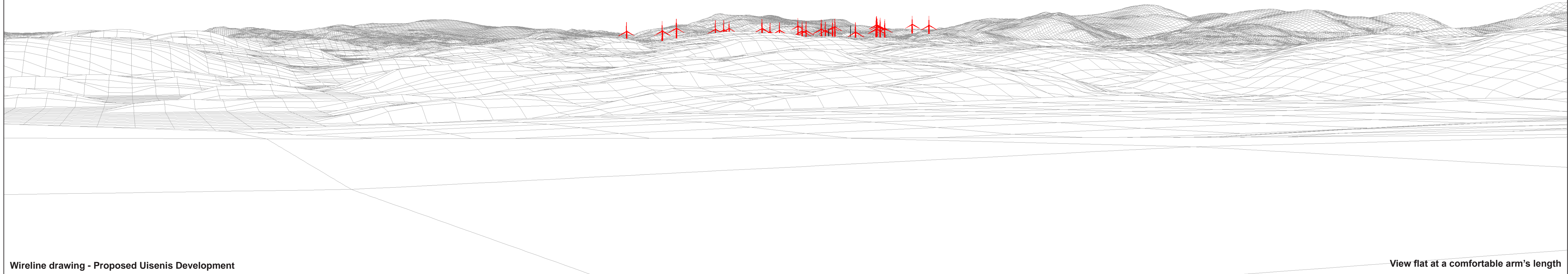
OS reference: 137284E 925851N  
AOD: 45.75 m  
Direction of view: 203°  
Nearest turbine: 12.32 km

Horizontal field of view: 53.5° (planar projection)  
Principal distance: 812.5 mm  
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)  
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Camera: NIKON D750  
Lens: 50mm Fixed Focal Length  
Camera height: 1.5 m

Photography Date: 23/03/2023  
Photography Time: 09:03

18 7 17 16 6 25 8 15 24 19 2 11 5 14 23 20 1 21 4 13 22 10 9 12 3



Wireline drawing - Proposed Uisenis Development

View flat at a comfortable arm's length

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OS reference:	137284E 925851N	Horizontal field of view:	53.5° (planar projection)
AOD:	45.75 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm
Direction of view:	203°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	12.32 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Wind Farm Developments key  
(by status):

Proposed scheme

**Notes:**  
1) Please refer to Figure 7.22 for viewpoint map and cumulative wireframe



Photomontage - Proposed Uisenis Development

View flat at a comfortable arm's length



OS reference: 137284E 925851N  
AOD: 45.75 m  
Direction of view: 203°  
Nearest turbine: 12.32 km

Horizontal field of view: 53.5° (planar projection)  
Principal distance: 812.5 mm  
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)  
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Camera: NIKON D750  
Lens: 50mm Fixed Focal Length  
Camera height: 1.5 m

Photography Date: 23/03/2023  
Photography Time: 09:03

Muaitheabhal

7

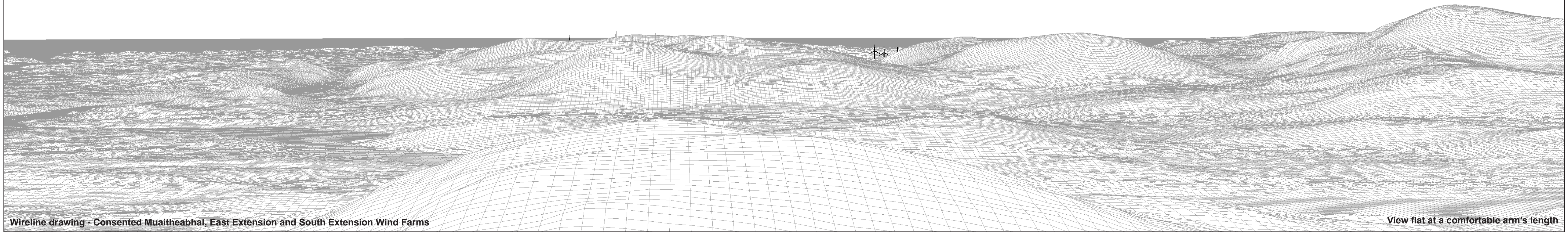
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Wireline drawing - Consented Muaitheabhal, East Extension and South Extension Wind Farms

View flat at a comfortable arm's length

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OS reference:	117535E 913654N	Horizontal field of view:	53.5° (planar projection)
AOD:	490.66 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm
Direction of view:	94°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	12.73 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

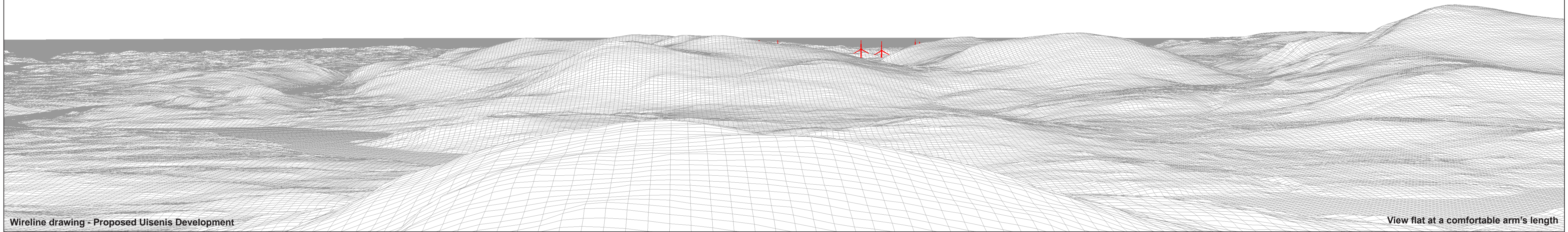
Wind Farm Developments key:

- Muaitheabhal
- Muaitheabhal East Extension
- Muaitheabhal South Extension

Notes:  
 1) Please refer to Figure 7.23 for viewpoint map and cumulative wireframe



12 13 19 20 21 25



Wireline drawing - Proposed Uisenis Development

View flat at a comfortable arm's length



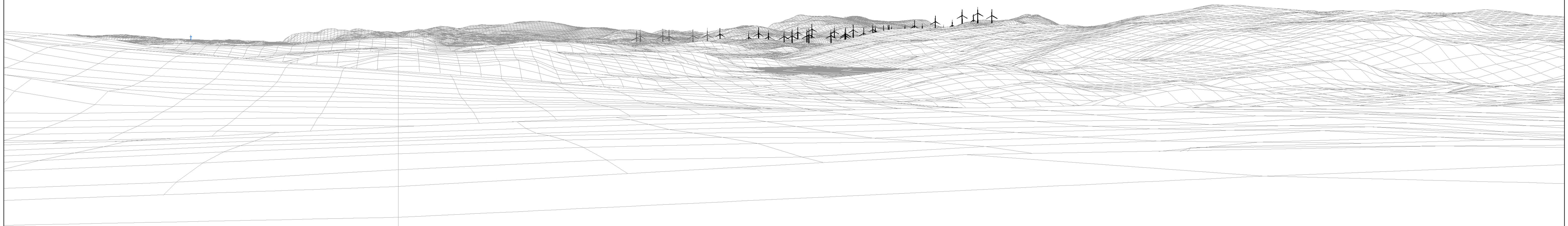
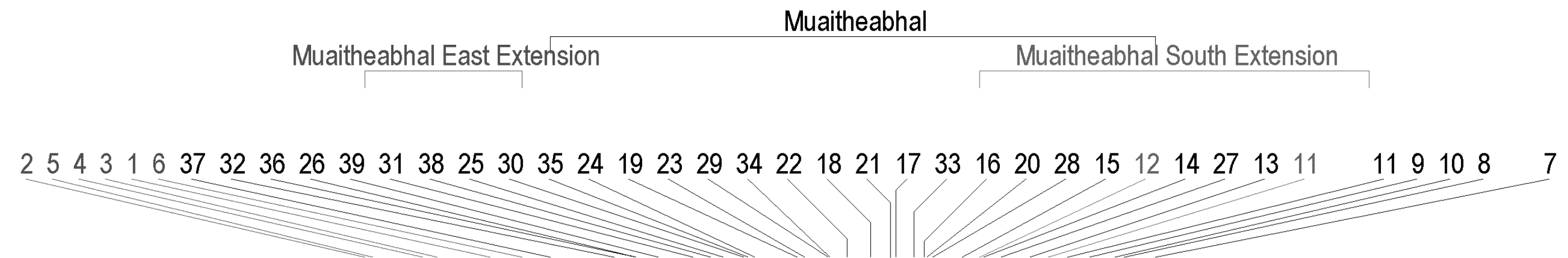
OS reference: 117535E 913654N  
 AOD: 490.66 m  
 Direction of view: 94°  
 Nearest turbine: 12.73 km

Horizontal field of view: 53.5° (planar projection)  
 Principal distance: 812.5 mm  
 Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)  
 Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Wind Farm Developments key  
 (by status): Proposed scheme

Notes:  
 1) Please refer to Figure 7.23 for viewpoint map and cumulative wireframe

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Wireline drawing - Consented Muaitheabhal, East Extension and South Extension Wind Farms

View flat at a comfortable arm's length



OS reference: 135520E 927373N  
 AOD: 72.44 m  
 Direction of view: 198°  
 Nearest turbine: 13.20 km

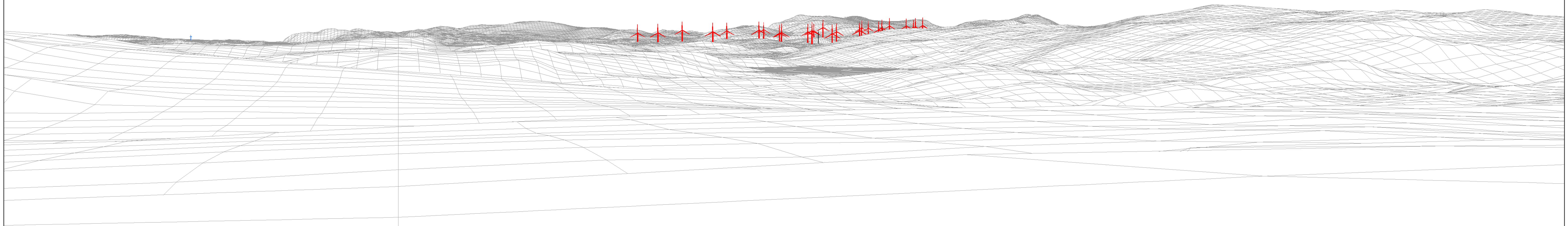
Horizontal field of view: 53.5° (planar projection)  
 Principal distance: 812.5 mm  
 Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)  
 Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Wind Farm Developments key:  
 Muaitheabhal  
 Muaitheabhal East Extension  
 Muaitheabhal South Extension  
 Operational

Notes:  
 1) Please refer to Figure 7.24 for viewpoint map and cumulative wireframe

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18 7 17 6 16 8 25 15 2 11 5 24 19 1 14 4 20 23 9 10 13 21 22 3 12



Wireline drawing - Proposed Uisenis Development

View flat at a comfortable arm's length

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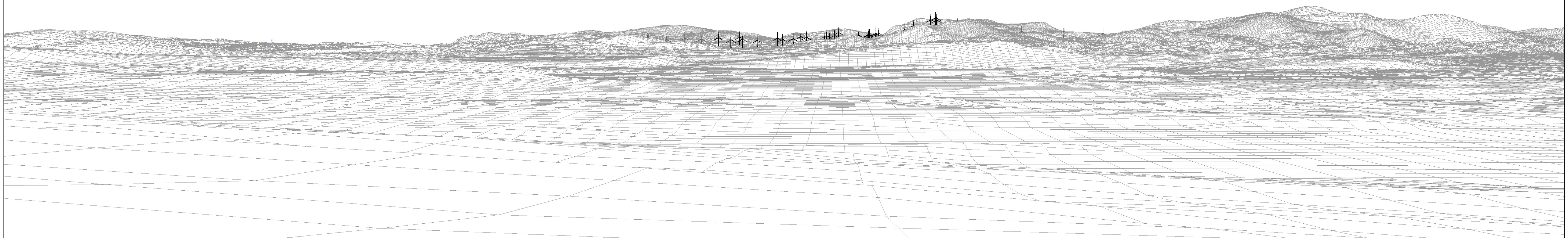
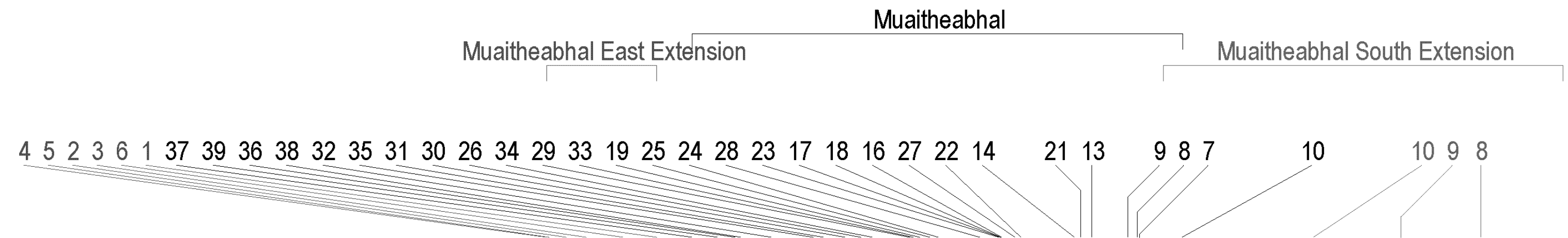


OS reference:	135520E 927373N	Horizontal field of view:	53.5° (planar projection)
AOD:	72.44 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm
Direction of view:	198°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	13.20 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Wind Farm Developments key  
(by status):

Proposed scheme  
Operational

Notes:  
1) Please refer to Figure 7.24 for viewpoint map and cumulative wireframe



Wireline drawing - Consented Muaitheabhal, East Extension and South Extension Wind Farms

View flat at a comfortable arm's length



OS reference: 131363E 929357N  
 AOD: 93.28 m  
 Direction of view: 178°  
 Nearest turbine: 14.70 km

Horizontal field of view: 53.5° (planar projection)  
 Principal distance: 812.5 mm  
 Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)  
 Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

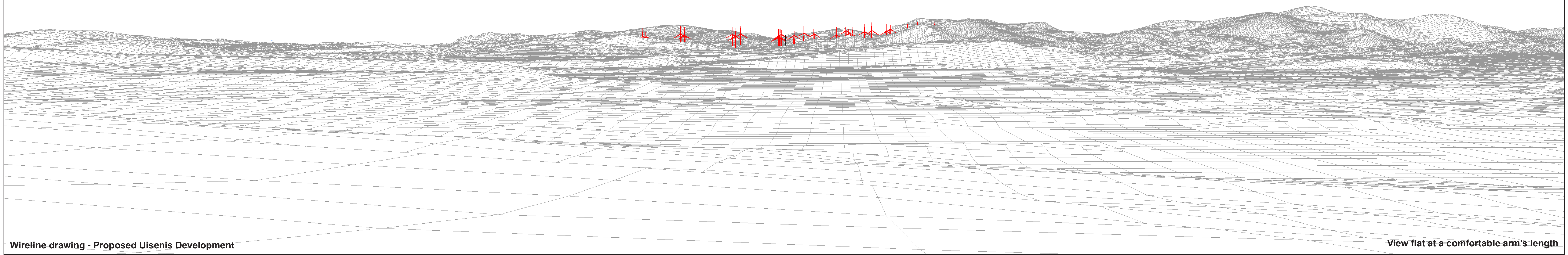
Wind Farm Developments key:

- Muaitheabhal
- Muaitheabhal East Extension
- Muaitheabhal South Extension
- Operational

**Notes:**  
 1) Please refer to Figure 7.25 for viewpoint map and cumulative wireframe

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7 18 17 6 16 2 8 1 15 5 11 25 4 14 19 9 24 10 3 20 13 23 12 21



Wireline drawing - Proposed Uisenis Development

View flat at a comfortable arm's length



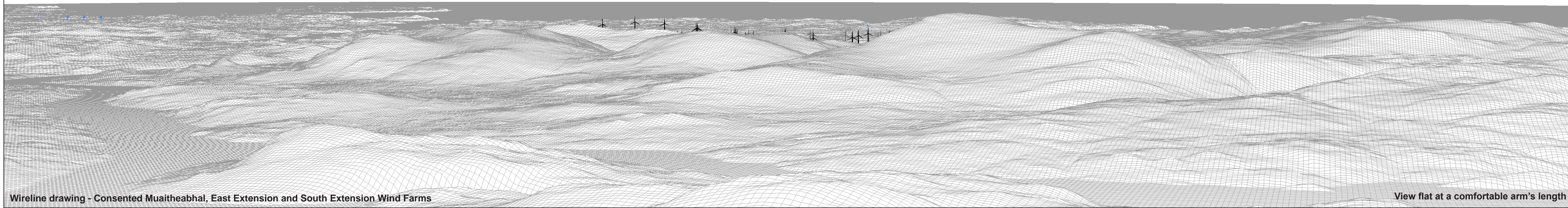
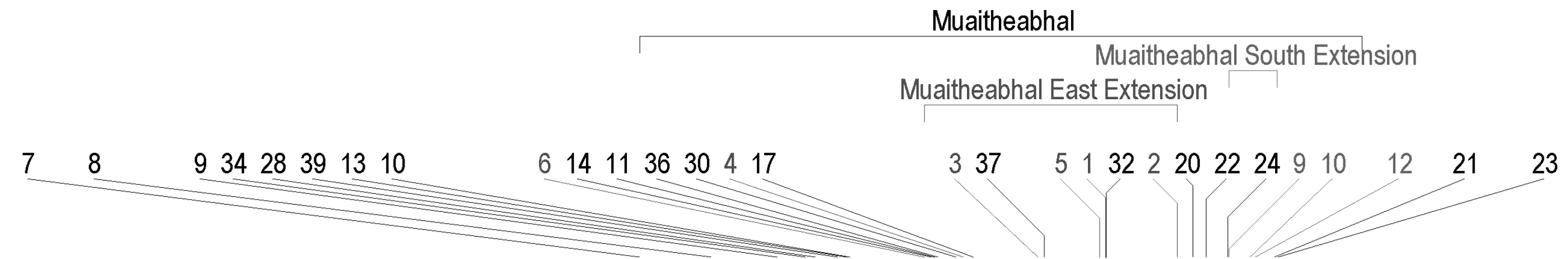
OS reference: 131363E 929357N  
 AOD: 93.28 m  
 Direction of view: 178°  
 Nearest turbine: 14.70 km

Horizontal field of view: 53.5° (planar projection)  
 Principal distance: 812.5 mm  
 Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)  
 Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Wind Farm Developments key  
 (by status):  
 Proposed scheme  
 Operational

Notes:  
 1) Please refer to Figure 7.25 for viewpoint map and cumulative wireframe

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Wireline drawing - Consented Muaitheabhal, East Extension and South Extension Wind Farms

View flat at a comfortable arm's length



OS reference: 115481E 907302N  
 AOD: 797.92 m  
 Direction of view: 71°  
 Nearest turbine: 15.07 km

Horizontal field of view: 53.5° (planar projection)  
 Principal distance: 812.5 mm  
 Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)  
 Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Wind Farm Developments key:

- Muaitheabhal
- Muaitheabhal East Extension
- Muaitheabhal South Extension
- Operational

Notes:  
 1) Please refer to Figure 7.26 for viewpoint map and cumulative wireframe

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Photomontage - Consented Muaitheabhal, East Extension and South Extension Wind Farms

View flat at a comfortable arm's length



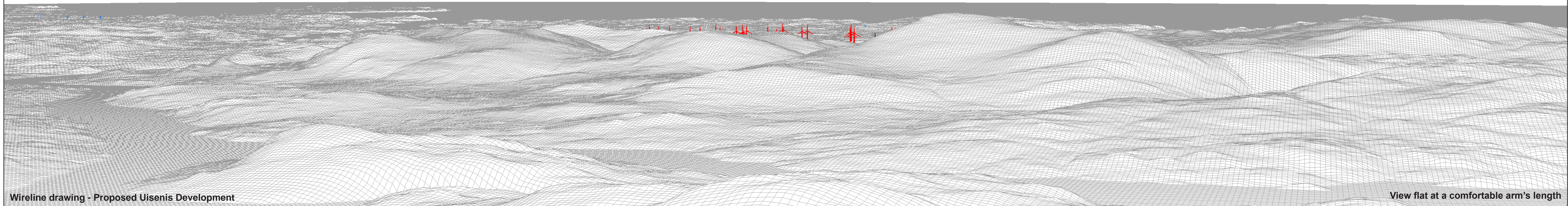
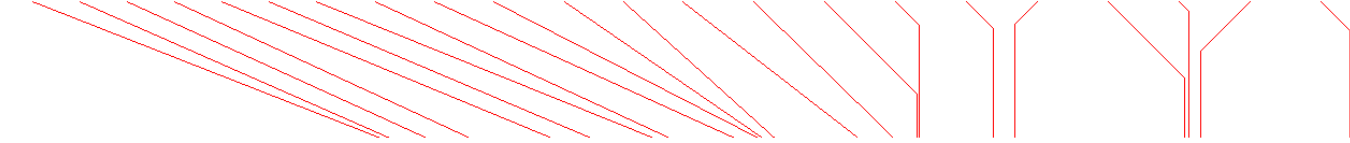
OS reference: 115481E 907302N  
AOD: 797.92 m  
Direction of view: 71°  
Nearest turbine: 15.07 km

Horizontal field of view: 53.5° (planar projection)  
Principal distance: 812.5 mm  
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)  
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Camera: Sony ILCE-9  
Lens: 50mm Fixed Focal Length  
Camera height: 1.5 m

Photography Date: 11/04/2023  
Photography Time: 15:19

1 3 4 2 9 5 6 10 8 12 11 7 13 14 17 15 16 18 20 19 21 22



Wireline drawing - Proposed Uisenis Development

View flat at a comfortable arm's length

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OS reference:	115481E 907302N	Horizontal field of view:	53.5° (planar projection)
AOD:	797.92 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm
Direction of view:	71°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	15.07 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Wind Farm Developments key  
(by status):

Proposed scheme  
Operational

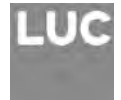
Notes:  
1) Please refer to Figure 7.26 for viewpoint map and cumulative wireframe





Photomontage - Proposed Uisenis Development

View flat at a comfortable arm's length



OS reference: 115481E 907302N  
AOD: 797.92 m  
Direction of view: 71°  
Nearest turbine: 15.07 km

Horizontal field of view: 53.5° (planar projection)  
Principal distance: 812.5 mm  
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)  
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Camera: Sony ILCE-9  
Lens: 50mm Fixed Focal Length  
Camera height: 1.5 m

Photography Date: 11/04/2023  
Photography Time: 15:19

Muaitheabhal

Muaitheabhal South Extension

36

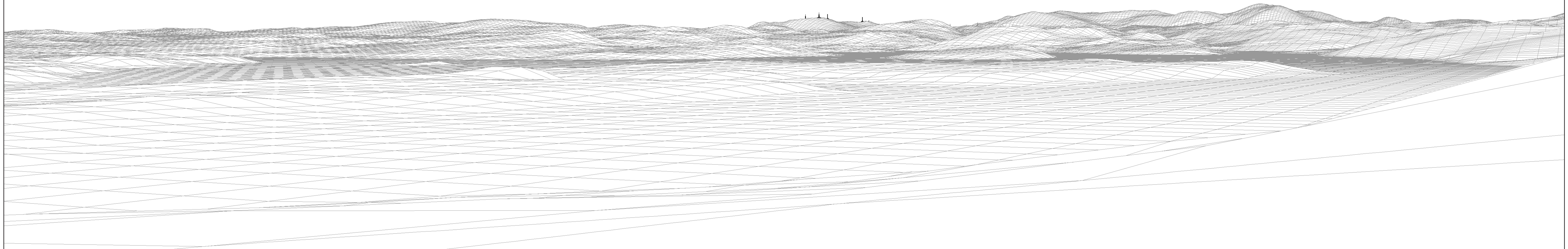
7

8

9

10 11

11 10



Wireline drawing - Consented Muaitheabhal, East Extension and South Extension Wind Farms

View flat at a comfortable arm's length



OS reference: 121325E 933012N  
 AOD: 25.96 m  
 Direction of view: 153°  
 Nearest turbine: 21.14 km

Horizontal field of view: 53.5° (planar projection)  
 Principal distance: 812.5 mm  
 Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)  
 Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Wind Farm Developments key:  
 Muaitheabhal  
 Muaitheabhal East Extension  
 Muaitheabhal South Extension

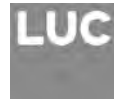
Notes:  
 1) Please refer to Figure 7.27 for viewpoint map and cumulative wireframe

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Photomontage - Consented Muaitheabhal, East Extension and South Extension Wind Farms

View flat at a comfortable arm's length



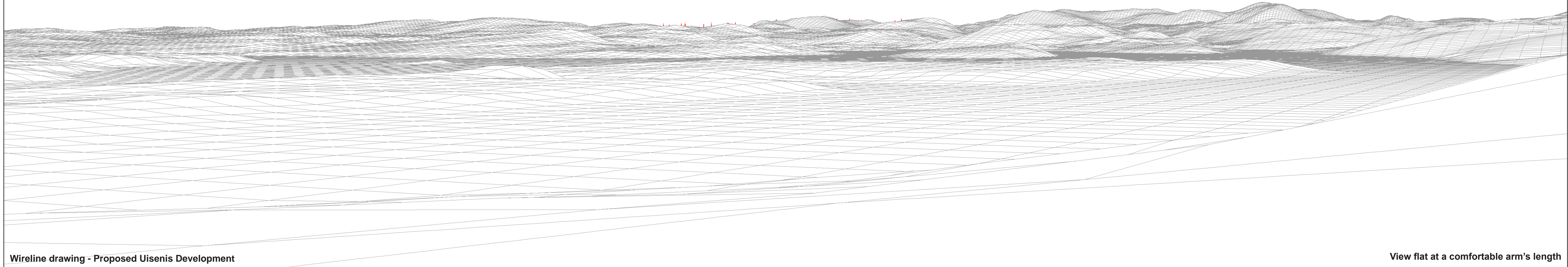
OS reference: 121325E 933012N  
AOD: 25.96 m  
Direction of view: 153°  
Nearest turbine: 21.14 km

Horizontal field of view: 53.5° (planar projection)  
Principal distance: 812.5 mm  
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)  
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Camera: Sony ILCE-9  
Lens: 50mm Fixed Focal Length  
Camera height: 1.5 m

Photography Date: 27/02/2023  
Photography Time: 16:05

6 18 2 17 1 8 5 16 4 11 3 13 12 20 23 21



Wireline drawing - Proposed Uisenis Development

View flat at a comfortable arm's length



OS reference: 121325E 933012N  
 AOD: 25.96 m  
 Direction of view: 153°  
 Nearest turbine: 21.14 km

Horizontal field of view: 53.5° (planar projection)  
 Principal distance: 812.5 mm  
 Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)  
 Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Wind Farm Developments key  
 (by status): Proposed scheme

Notes:  
 1) Please refer to Figure 7.27 for viewpoint map and cumulative wireframe

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Photomontage - Proposed Uisenis Development

View flat at a comfortable arm's length



OS reference: 121325E 933012N  
AOD: 25.96 m  
Direction of view: 153°  
Nearest turbine: 21.14 km

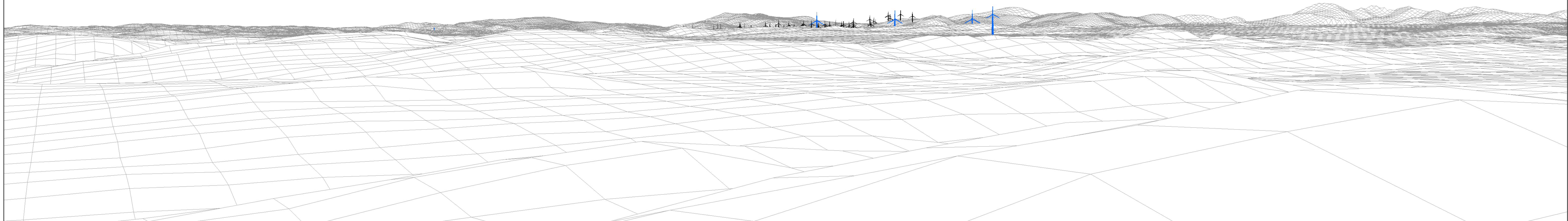
Horizontal field of view: 53.5° (planar projection)  
Principal distance: 812.5 mm  
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)  
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Camera: Sony ILCE-9  
Lens: 50mm Fixed Focal Length  
Camera height: 1.5 m

Photography Date: 27/02/2023  
Photography Time: 16:05

Muaiitheabhal  
 Muaitheabhal East Extension    Muaitheabhal South Extension

2 5 3 4 1 26 37 6 32 25 36 31 24 39 23 30 38 19 35 22 21 29 18 20 34 17 12 16 15 28 11 33 14 12 13 27 11 10 9 10 8 7



Wireline drawing - Consented Muaitheabhal, East Extension and South Extension Wind Farms

View flat at a comfortable arm's length

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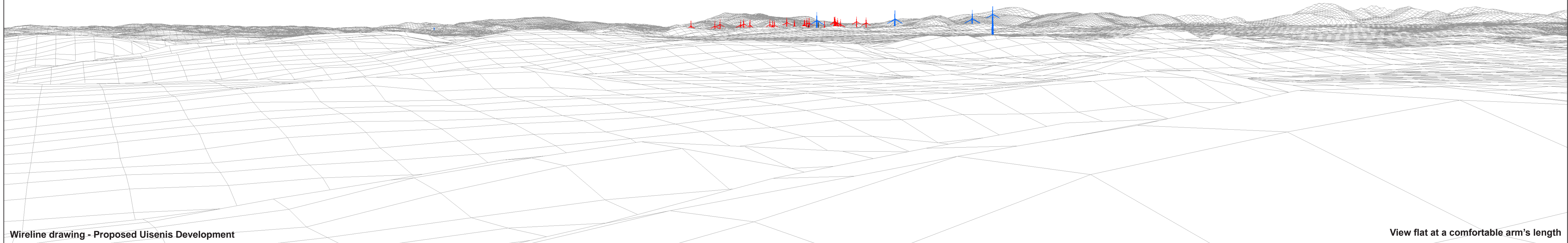
OS reference: 141713E 934340N  
 AOD: 68.79 m  
 Direction of view: 205°  
 Nearest turbine: 21.88 km

Horizontal field of view: 53.5° (planar projection)  
 Principal distance: 812.5 mm  
 Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)  
 Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Wind Farm Developments key:  
 Muaitheabhal  
 Muaitheabhal East Extension  
 Muaitheabhal South Extension  
 Operational

Notes:  
 1) Please refer to Figure 7.28 for viewpoint map and cumulative wireframe

18 7 17 16 25 6 8 15 24 19 11 2 5 14 23 20 1 21 22 13 4 10 9 12 3



Wireline drawing - Proposed Uisenis Development

View flat at a comfortable arm's length

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OS reference:	141713E 934340N	Horizontal field of view:	53.5° (planar projection)
AOD:	68.79 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm
Direction of view:	205°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	21.88 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

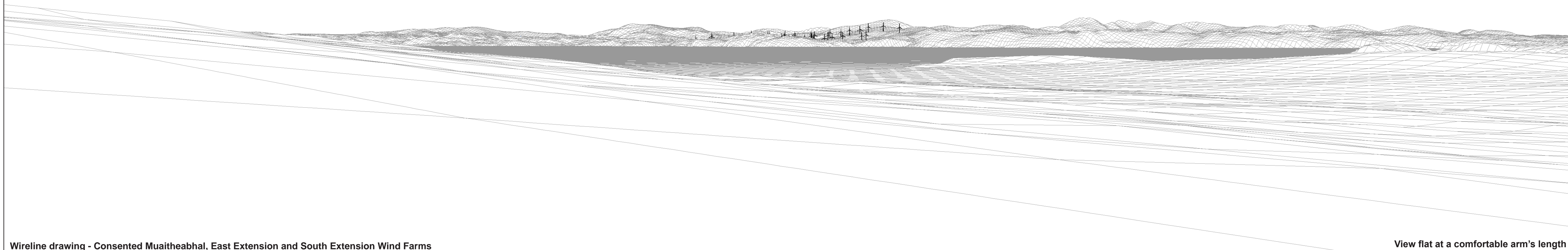
Wind Farm Developments key  
(by status):

Proposed scheme  
Operational

Notes:  
1) Please refer to Figure 7.28 for viewpoint map and cumulative wireframe

Muaitheabhal  
 Muaitheabhal South Extension  
 Muaitheabhal East Extension

2 26 5 1 25 3 4 37 24 21 6 22 36 20 12 19 30 11 18 39 17 10 35 29 15 38 16 12 9 14 34 8 11 28 13 7 10 33 27 9 8 7



Wireline drawing - Consented Muaitheabhal, East Extension and South Extension Wind Farms

View flat at a comfortable arm's length

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OS reference:	149417E 932188N	Horizontal field of view:	53.5° (planar projection)
AOD:	26.42 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm
Direction of view:	223°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	24.329 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

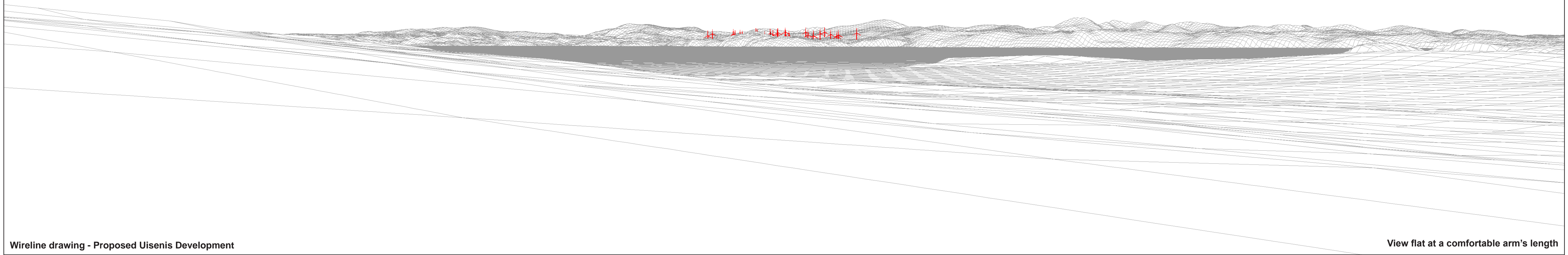
Wind Farm Developments key:

- Muaitheabhal
- Muaitheabhal East Extension
- Muaitheabhal South Extension
- Operational

Notes:  
 1) Please refer to Figure 7.29 for viewpoint map and cumulative wireframe



18 25 17 24 16 7 19 23 15 20 6 8 22 21 14 11 13 5 2 10 12 9 1 4 3



Wireline drawing - Proposed Uisenis Development

View flat at a comfortable arm's length



OS reference: 149417E 932188N  
AOD: 26.42 m  
Direction of view: 223°  
Nearest turbine: 24.329 km  
Horizontal field of view: 53.5° (planar projection)  
Principal distance: 812.5 mm  
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)  
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Wind Farm Developments key  
(by status):  
Proposed scheme  
Operational

Notes:  
1) Please refer to Figure 7.29 for viewpoint map and cumulative wireframe

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