

Fiona Simpon
Chief Planner
Planning, Architecture and Regeneration Division
Scottish Government
Victoria Quay, Edinburgh
EH6 6QQ

05 August 2024

Dear Fiona,

Request for Information Regarding Process for Amending NPF4 to Reflect Renewable Development in New National Parks

Scottish Renewables (SR) is the voice of Scotland's renewable energy industry. Our vision is for Scotland to lead the world in renewable energy. We work to grow Scotland's renewable energy sector and sustain its position at the forefront of the global clean energy industry. We represent over 360 organisations that deliver investment, jobs, social benefit, and reduce the carbon emissions which cause climate change.

Our members work across all renewable technologies in Scotland, the UK, Europe, and around the world, ranging from energy suppliers, operators, and manufacturers to small developers, installers, and community groups, as well as companies throughout the supply chain. In representing them, we aim to lead and inform the debate on how the growth of renewable energy can provide solutions to help sustainability heat and power Scotland's homes and businesses.

With Galloway being nominated as the prospective new National Park in Scotland, we are requesting clarity on how renewable energy development will be treated in the new park.

The New National Parks Appraisal Framework Guidance for Nominations stated:

'All areas of Scotland are eligible to submit nominations to become a new National Park (including those that have current or potential onshore wind developments). To ensure any National Park addresses the climate emergency and supports progressive development, we will develop new bespoke planning policy on onshore wind to be applied in new National Parks. This means that a new National Park will be treated differently to existing National Parks with respect to NPF4 policy for onshore wind'.

We are requesting details on how and when NPF4 will be amended to include a 'bespoke' planning policy for a new National Park. Now that a potential site has been selected and the reporter process is beginning, it would be helpful for the reporter and all stakeholders to have a clear understanding of what this new 'bespoke' planning policy entails before the consultation process is too far along.

We look forward to hearing more details about the process and timeline for this NPF4 amendment and are happy to discuss it with you in more detail.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Megan Amundson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Megan Amundson
Head of Onshore Wind and Consenting
Scottish Renewables