



No further development is currently permitted in the Eskdalemuir Consultation Zone (ECZ). This document outlines the priority and order of work required to restart development, optimise development in the zone, and support the Ministry of Defence (MOD) in safeguarding the ECZ.

There are 3 interlinked programmes of work that will unlock Eskdalemuir but happen independently/concurrently:

- **Legal mechanism:** Government must develop a legal mechanism that will support the implementation of the defined management processes for development, including the SIL, within the ECZ. Without a legal mechanism, the MOD will continue to apply the 2014 algorithm to manage SGV on further development proposals in the ECZ. No further development will take place in the ECZ in this case.
- **Planning and policy processes:** MOD are currently reviewing an audit of the baseline (current) level of seismic ground vibrations (SGV) and will determine a seismic impact limit (SIL) value. Through government consultation, a minimum GW capacity of development within the 50km consultation zone will be determined.
- **Technical work:** Xi Engineering is currently completing the remaining technical work that will support the MOD in safeguarding the array and support government in optimising capacity in the ECZ. Xi is also developing management tools for MOD and industry.

Currently, the Scottish and UK Governments have not shared any information on the progress made towards developing a legal mechanism.

### Regulatory preconditions

This workstream will determine the legislative solution to support MOD in using the SIL. The Scottish and UK Governments must develop and implement law to support the MOD in using the SIL. Without law in place, no further development takes place in the ECZ.

**Government must create a law.** This will specify the exclusion zone and the corresponding GW SIL level. The law must also require consultation with the MOD within the 50km zone. MOD requires a legal mechanism to be put in place to move forward with a SIL. The 15km exclusion zone and SIL affected area are located only in Scotland.

Timeline undetermined

Government responsibility

### Planning and policy processes

This workstream will determine the content and processes used in the regulations. This will inform MOD on a practical process for optimising development while safeguarding the array.

Baseline audit verification - which will determine a SIL value (SGV value).

Expected Q3 2025

MOD responsibility

MOD issues finalised approach to safeguarding the Array.

Expected Q3 2025

MOD responsibility

Scottish Government consultation on management approach (optimisation of development within the consultation zone) - including the exclusion zone and the SIL GW value.

Timeline undetermined

Scottish Government responsibility

Publication of management approach by Scottish Government.

Timeline undetermined

Scottish Government responsibility



### Technical work.

This workstream will support the technical management process to optimise development in the ECZ. These workstreams are underway and are not holding up the process of unlocking Eskdalemuir.

MOD Preconditions and Analysis in conjunction with AWE.

Expected Q2 2025

Xi work package 2

Process documentation and engineering analysis.

Expected Q2 2025

Xi work package 3

Industry tool build.

Expected Q2 2025

Xi work package 5

MOD tool build.

Expected Q3 2025

Xi work package 4