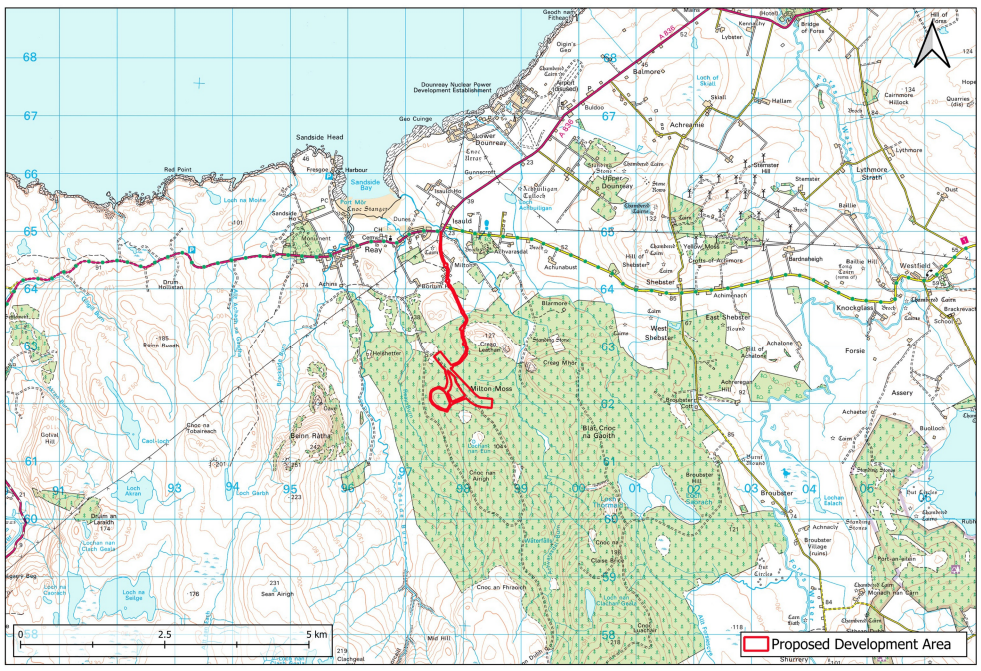
WELCOME TO LIMEKILN BESS COMMUNITY OPEN DAY



Welcome to the first round of public consultation for the Limekiln Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) proposal, the next phase of the Limekiln Wind Farm development.

What is a BESS?

Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) play a vital role in ensuring a stable, reliable, and sustainable energy syestem. They store excess electricity when demand is low and release it back into the grid when needed. In turn this reduces our reliance on fossil fuels and so supports our country's transition to clean energy.

Site Location

The proposed development is located within the footprint of the newly operational Limekiln Wind Farm, located to the south of Reay in Caithness. Feasibility studies undertaken to date have indicated that the land available is well suited for this scale and nature of development.

Why is this project important?

The proposed BESS will improve the efficiency of Limekiln Wind Farm and the local grid, helping to alleviate pressure during times of peak energy production. This enhances energy security, reduces power outages, and creates a more resilient and cost-effective electricity network

As well as contributing to the benefits outlined above, this project will, if consented, support local construction jobs along with local supply chains during construction and operation and offer community benefit, supporting the long-term future of local communities.

The Developer

Boralex is a Canadian based independent power provider. Boralex has developed, and now operates a large portfolio of wind farms and a number of solar parks, primarily in Canada and France. The company also owns and operates large hydro-electricity projects in Canada.

In July 2022 Boralex acquired 100% of Infinergy's (UK based renewable energy company) interests in the UK. As part of Boralex, we will now own and operate our projects after the development stage.

Today's event

Please take a look at the information banners around the venue to learn more about the proposal and please do not hesitate to speak with any of the project team members who are here to answer your questions.

If you would like to leave a written comment, please help yourself to a 'Voice Your Opinion' comment form, available from the reception desk

There are several ways to obtain further information and to contact us:

- The website www.limekilnwindfarm will be updated regularly to provide you with the latest information. We will publish the application documents, including the Environmental Impact Assessment Report, on the website once the application has been submitted.
- Email us at info@limekilnwindfarm.co.uk
- Write to us at FREEPOST BORALEX

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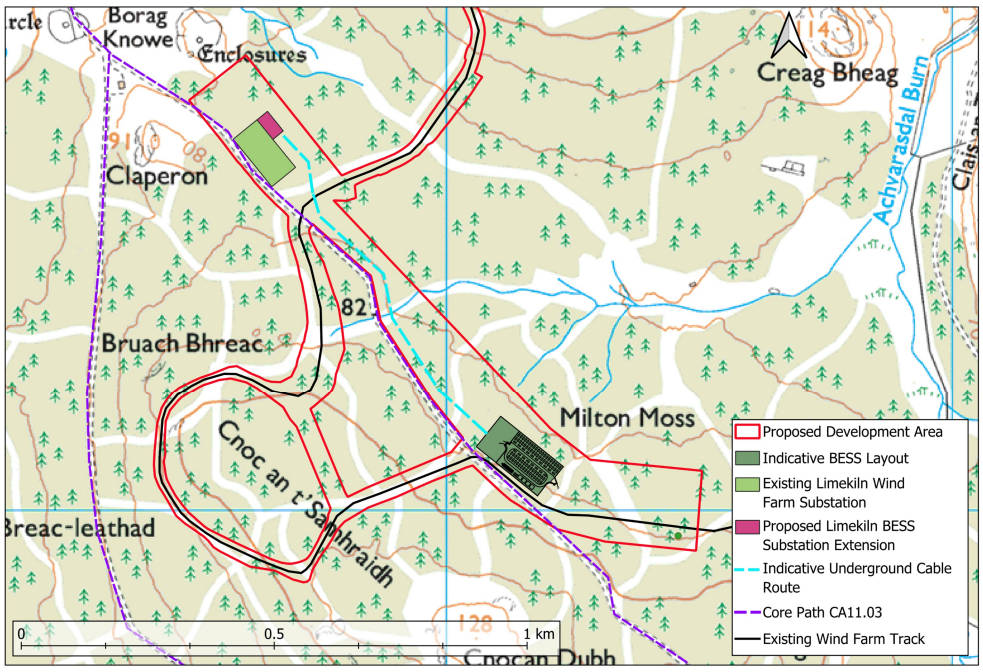
THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT



Boralex is currently investigating the potential for a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) of up to 70 Megawatts (MW) within the newly operational Limekiln Wind Farm.

Key Features of the Proposed Development

- *Site Area*: approximately 22 hectares of a combination of commercial forestry and wind farm infrastructure;
- *Proposed BESS location:* The Proposed Development will be located on the reinstated temporary construction compound which was utilised for the construction of Limekiln Wind Farm;
- *Substation location and connection point*: An extension to Limekiln Wind Farm's substation, the Proposed Development's intended point of connection, is situated approximately 700 metres northwest of the proposed BESS location; and
- *Underground cable connection:* The Proposed Development includes an underground cable connection from the BESS location to the substation extension.

Site Design

The Proposed Development Area, shown with a red line, is larger than the final development footprint to allow flexibility in final design. The layout of the BESS facility, including the onsite access track will be shaped by ongoing assessment work.

Why this location

- The Proposed Development will be well screened by surrounding forestry so will have minimal landscape and visual impact;
- Minimal disturbance to undisturbed ground by using the reinstated temporary compound area and permanent onsite tracks for Limekiln Wind Farm;
- The proposed location of the temporary construction compound was not identified as a priority habitat for the Wind Farm application so minimal environmental impact is predicted; and
- The proposed location of the temporary construction compound has not yet been replanted with trees as part of the forestry plan for the Wind Farm.

Infrastructure

Proposed Site Layout

It is anticipated that the BESS compound area will be approximately 1.5 hectares, and the Substation extension will be approximately 0.5 hectares.

The main part of the facility is likely to consist of around 90 battery storage units housed in containers, installed in rows. Each container will be approximately 6 m long, 2.4 m wide and 2.9 m high and likely to be dark green in colour. There will be Power Conversion Systems (PCS) and transformers serving each set of two containers. Fire detection and suppression systems and water storage tanks will also be installed within the facility.

Construction and Site Access

The potential effects of construction traffic will be assessed throughout the design and Environmental Report process in consultation with The Highland Council (THC) and Transport Scotland. Impacts will be minimised as much as possible. Further details around the planned route to site and expected traffic movements will be provided in the planning application.

It is anticipated that the route to Site will be the same used for Limekiln Wind Farm, whereby any Abnormal Load Vehicles will arrive by sea, exit the port of Scrabster and head west on the A836 to the Limekiln Wind Farm entrance. Any other materials and components will be imported by road, and it is anticipated that the majority of these will approach from the south via the A9 and A836.

Access into the Site will be taken from the A836 and use the existing wind farm tracks meaning no new tracks will be required for the Proposed Development, minimising impact to undisturbed land.

Should Limekiln BESS be consented, construction would not be expected to commence until approximately Summer 2027.

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