

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

1.1 Purpose of the Addendum

- 1.1.1 This Non-Technical Summary (NTS) forms part of an Addendum that has been prepared to present further information following consultation on the Environmental Statement (ES), submitted in June 2011 in support of the Section 36 planning application by Lewis Wind Power Limited (LWP) for the Stornoway Wind Farm.
- 1.1.2 The Addendum should be read in conjunction with the June 2011 ES, which together with the Addendum form the Environmental Statement for the scheme. The Addendum together with the June 2011 ES will be used by Scottish Ministers to inform the process of determining the application.

1.2 The Proposed Stornoway Wind Farm

- 1.2.1 The proposed Stornoway Wind Farm site is located 1.5km west of the town of Stornoway on the Isle of Lewis (see Figure 1.1) and consists of a mixture of open moorland with areas of woodland, and a large number of streams and lochs. The proposed scheme consists of 42 turbines (with a maximum height to vertical blade tip of 143.5m above ground level); a hub height of 90 metres (m); rotor diameter of 107m and a generating capacity of up to 3.6 Megawatts (MW); a sub-station; 2 anemometer masts; 31 kilometres (km) of new and upgraded access tracks and other associated infrastructure (see Figure 1.2). The current proposal is identical to that described in the June 2011 ES.

1.3 Further Information within the Addendum

- 1.3.1 The topics covered in the Addendum are identified in Table 1 alongside detail on the further information that has been provided.

Table 1 Further Information Provided within this Addendum

Topic Section (reference in the Addendum)	Clarifications and Further Information
Borrow Pits (Section 2)	Clarification of the dimensions and locations of the borrow pits.
Landscape and Visual (Appendix A)	Six additional wireframe viewpoints (illustrating the cumulative visual effects of the proposed Stornoway Wind Farm).
Ecology (Appendix B)	Additional figures and information on wetland ecology (including groundwater dependent terrestrial ecosystems).
Ornithology (Appendix C)	Supplementary information on collision risk and displacement.
Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology (Appendix D)	Assessment of flood risk at a river crossing (labelled RX7 on Figure 1.2) and further information on the location and dimensions of the borrow pits.
Peat Management (Appendix E)	Clarification of comments from Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) and supplementary information on peat management.
Peat Stability (Appendix F)	A Peat Stability Assessment.

1.4 Clarifications and Further Information Provided

1.4.1 The following sections provide a summary of the further information presented within the Addendum.

Borrow Pits

1.4.2 SEPA sought clarification from LWP in relation to the locations and dimensions of the proposed borrow pits (including grid references, rock volumes, depth of excavations and volume of materials extracted). This information is provided within the Addendum. SEPA has confirmed that it is satisfied with the information that has been provided.

Landscape and Visual

1.4.3 Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) requested that additional figures be provided to illustrate viewpoints showing operational, consented and proposed wind farms. Although all viewpoints prepared for the ES were cumulatively assessed to include both the Beinn Greidaig and Pentland Road developments, only those wireframes specifically dealing with cumulative impact showed these schemes.

1.4.4 Six additional cumulative viewpoint figures have been prepared. The viewpoints identified are those from within 5km of the site, as identified in the June 2011 ES. Following the production of these figures, it was concluded that there is no change to the findings of the cumulative assessment identified in the June 2011 ES that stated:

1.4.5 *“Whilst no wind farm development can avoid significant landscape or visual effects from receptors within or close to the proposed turbines, in this case the effects are not considered to be unacceptable in landscape and visual terms due to the underlying large scale of the receiving landscape, as well as the relatively open and simple skylines within the study area. These are considered to be of sufficient scale to accommodate a development on the scale of the Stornoway Wind Farm”.*

Ecology

1.4.6 Further information was sought by SEPA with regard to the distribution of National Vegetation Classification (NVC) Communities on the proposed development site; the potential effects on Groundwater Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystems; and how impacts on blanket bogs were minimised.

1.4.7 Additional figures were provided to show the distribution of the NVC communities. This information had no implications for the conclusions of the original assessment of ecological effects, as presented in the June 2011 ES.

1.4.8 Further information about the potential effects of the Stornoway Wind Farm on NVC communities that SEPA considers to be potentially groundwater dependent and are located within 250m of wind turbines or 100m of access tracks are presented in the Addendum. This information had no implications for the conclusions of the original assessment of ecological effects as presented in the June 2011 ES.

1.4.9 Further information on how impacts to ‘very good quality blanket bog’ have been minimised is presented in the Addendum. This includes setting out how these more sensitive areas were, where possible, avoided; as well as through avoidance of

smaller, localised, wetter, patches of sensitive blanket bog habitat identified by micro-siting the track, up to 50m from the proposed layout. The additional information has no implications for the conclusions of the original assessment of ecological effects as presented in the June 2011 ES, that stated:

- 1.4.10 *'The habitat loss of blanket bog under the footprint of the development is considered to be significant. However compensatory restoration of drained plantation areas and areas of peat cutting within the development area will increase blanket bog habitat on site, and will reduce the effect of habitat loss to be insignificant in terms of the EIA Regulations. Low levels of effects that are adverse are predicted for other habitats and species, but are not significant in terms of the EIA Regulations.'*

Ornithology

- 1.4.11 SNH, RSPB Scotland (RSPB) and the Scottish Wildlife Trust (SWT) requested clarifications and further analysis of the potential effects on the ornithological resource of the local area; in particular for red-throated diver and golden eagle.
- 1.4.12 Further analysis undertaken by LWP concluded that the assessment of the effects of collision with operational wind turbines on the red-throated divers of the Lewis Peatlands SPA demonstrates that the population is robust and is unlikely to be pushed into decline if the Stornoway Wind Farm is consented.
- 1.4.13 The cumulative impacts on target species due to collision with operational wind turbines are unlikely to be significant for any of the target species present. The only exception to this is golden eagle where the potential for the population to decline exists if the Pairc Wind Farm is consented at its current size (26 turbines). However, as this project is still in the planning system, LWP and Comhairle nan Eilean Siar suggest that it is therefore a matter for the Scottish Government to assess the overall impacts and make its decision appropriately. The view of Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, as expressed in their report (Environmental and Protective Services Committee 04/10/2011 Stornoway Wind Farm, Isle of Lewis), states that "*Scottish Ministers should consider discounting the Pairc Wind Farm Section 36 application from the cumulative impact assessment for Golden Eagles within the Outer Hebrides Natural Heritage Zone given that this application has not progressed within the consent process*".
- 1.4.14 The displacement of golden eagles due to the presence of the Stornoway Wind Farm is also unlikely to result in a reduction in the productivity or occupation of the breeding territories known to overlap with the site. This is because the turbine locations are in areas that are currently used infrequently by golden eagles and account for only a small percentage of their available territory.
- 1.4.15 The clarifications, information and assessment provided within the Addendum do not result in any modifications to the conclusions drawn within the June 2011 ES, other than that it is likely that the cumulative collision risk for golden eagle would be significant in the event that the Pairc Wind Farm were consented. However, if this scheme is excluded from the assessment, the cumulative collision risk for golden eagle would not be significant.

Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology

- 1.4.16 SEPA requested further information regarding flood risk at the watercourse crossing identified as RX7 in Figure 1.2. Following the provision of additional photographs, SEPA concluded that there is adequate space to accommodate compensatory storage at the location of RX7 (should it be required) and that it would be acceptable for further flood modelling data to be requested under a planning condition.

Peat Management

- 1.4.17 SEPA requested further information on the calculations of peat volumes, the re-use of peat, the practicalities of re-use and possible opportunities to minimise the volume of peat excavated. A further site visit and review of current guidance was used to address the concerns that were raised by SEPA.
- 1.4.18 It was concluded that the Peat Management Strategy (submitted as part of the June 2011 ES) remains fundamentally unchanged and that re-use of peat to restore peat cuttings and forested peatland within the development site will provide a solution to re-use surplus peat and provide ecological benefit.

Peat Stability

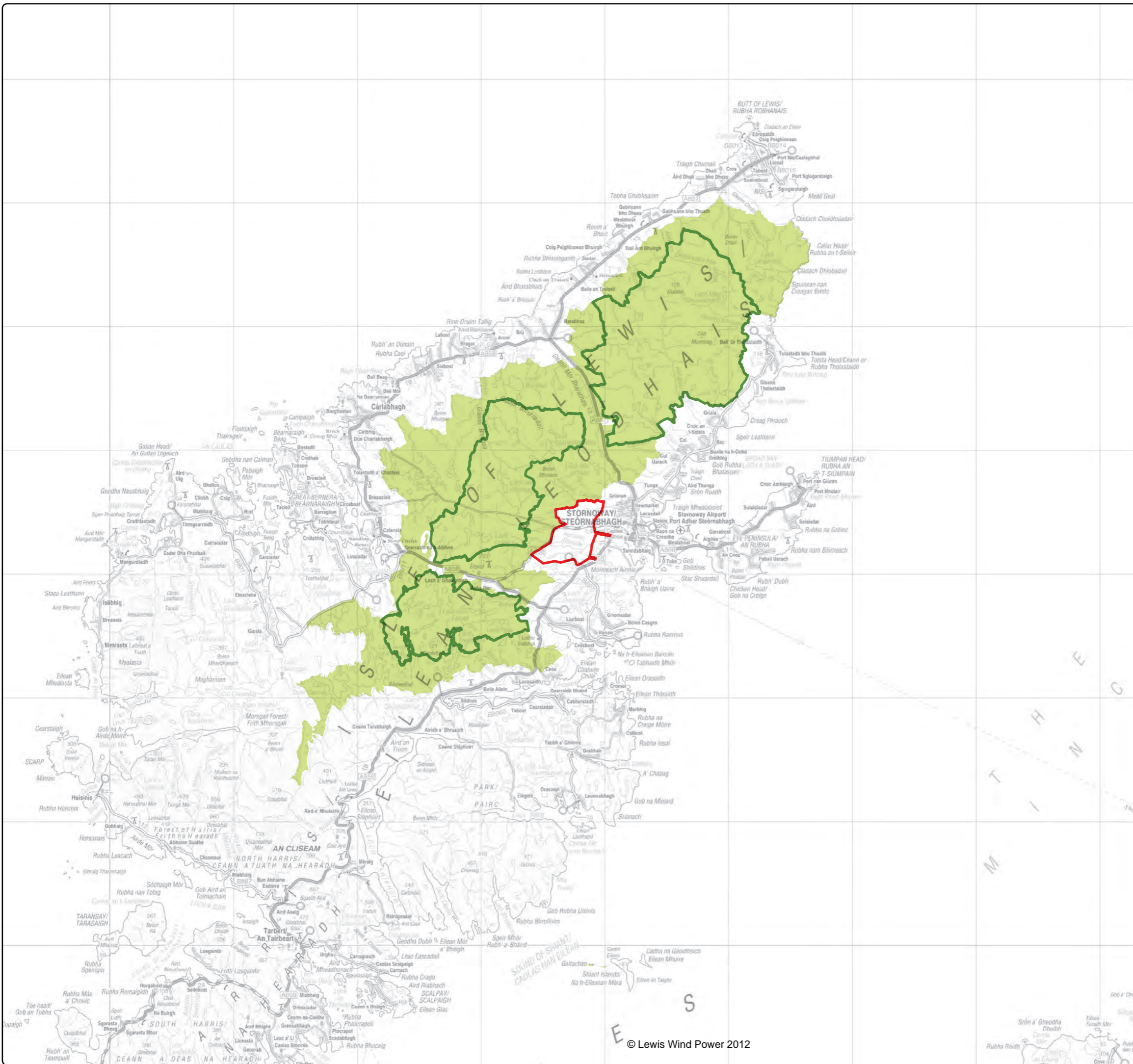
- 1.4.19 A peat landslide risk assessment was requested by the Energy Consents Unit to identify the potential impact of the proposed development on peat stability and to provide recommendations for good design and construction practice to mitigate peat instability risks. An assessment was undertaken and peat failure susceptibility maps were prepared. These maps indicated either very low or low susceptibility across the development site with a very small number of moderate susceptibility areas located away from the proposed infrastructure.
- 1.4.20 A risk assessment was also conducted and risk maps generated showing which slopes within the 50 metre micro-siting corridor of the proposed development had the potential to cause harm to each of five receptors (bog, stream and loch habitats, road network and wind farm infrastructure). The risk maps indicated that for all the receptors identified the project can proceed providing further detailed investigation is undertaken to mitigate any potential risks. This is consistent with LWP's proposals to undertake detailed geotechnical site investigation and site specific stability analysis post-consent.

1.5 How to Provide Comments on the Addendum

Paper copies of this Addendum are available for inspection during normal office hours at:

Comhairle nan Eilean Siar	Stornoway Library
Council Offices	19 Cromwell Street
Sandwick Road	Stornoway
Stornoway	Isle of Lewis HS1 2DA
Isle of Lewis HS1 2BW	

- 1.5.1 The NTS is available in pdf format from our website, www.stornowaywind.com. A paper copy of the NTS is available free of charge from LWP, 75 Trafalgar Lane, Edinburgh, EH6 4DQ and Tel: +44(0)131 6252121.
- 1.5.2 A full copy of the submission can be obtained from LWP, at the address above, at a cost of £5 on CD, with a limited number of paper copies available at a cost of £20.
- 1.5.3 The Addendum can also be viewed at the Scottish Government Library at Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ.
- 1.5.4 Any representations should be made in writing to The Scottish Government, Energy Consents Unit, 4th Floor, 5 Atlantic Quay, 150 Broomielaw, Glasgow, G2 8LU or emailed to representations@scotland.gsi.gov.uk identifying the proposal and specifying grounds for objection or support. Representations should arrive not later than 2nd March 2012. Representations should be dated and clearly state the name and full return email or postal address of those making the representations. Only representations sent by email will receive acknowledgment.
- 1.5.5 All previous representations received in relation to this development remain valid.




Legend

-  Development Area
-  Lewis Peatlands Special Protection Area
-  Lewis Peatlands Special Area of Conservation

Notes:
 i) This figure has been based on the following parameters:
 Turbine layout file: LSTORNAWAY011_Kv2.WFL
 Hub height: 90m
 Rotor diameter: 107m
 Height to blade tip: 143.5m


Orientation



0 5km

Client Name

Lewis Wind Power



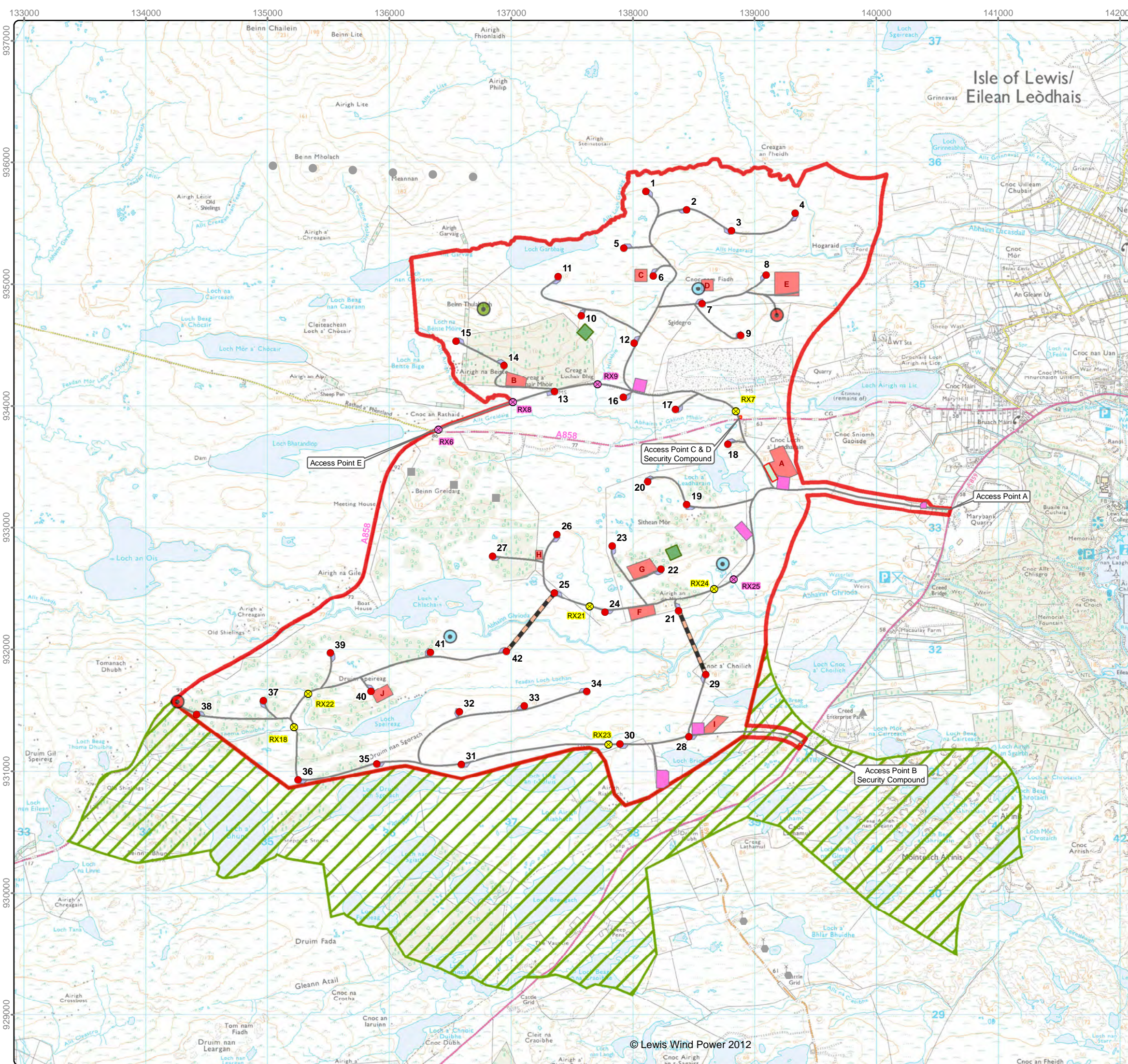
Figure

ES Addendum
Figure 1.1

Title

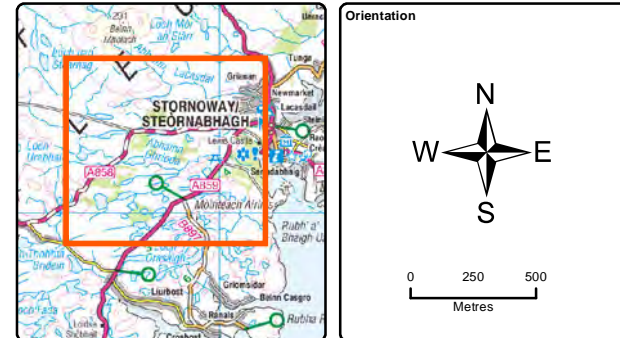
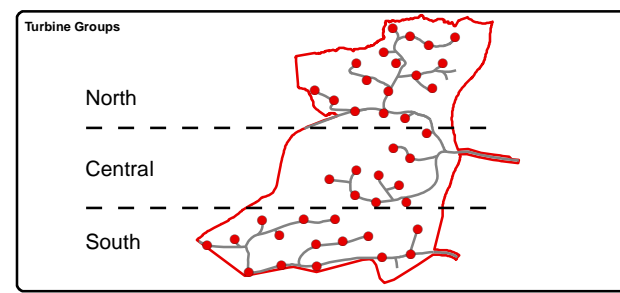
Site Location Map

Drawn	grec01	Checked	horsn	Approved	DS
Date	Jan 2012			Sheet Size	A3
Drawing Number	28343-G080b.indd	Rev	B	Scale	1:300,000



Legend

- Proposed Stornoway Wind Farm Turbine
- River Crossings**
 - ⊗ Bridge
 - ⊗ Culvert
- Mast Locations**
 - ⊗ Existing Met-Mast
 - ⊗ Permanent Supervision Met-Mast - Proposed
 - ⊗ Temporary Met-Mast - Consented
- Access Road
- Underground Cable (Directional Drill)
- Sub-Station
- Security Compound
- Compound
- Crane Pads
- Borrow Pit Search Area
- Peat Storage Area (Temporary)
- Development Area
- No Turbine Construction
- Other Wind Farm Developments**
 - Arnish Wind Farm (operational)
 - ▲ Creed Turbine (consented)
 - Pentland Road Wind Farm (consented)
 - Point and Sandwick Wind Farm (consented)



Lewis Wind Power

Figure 1.2
Site Layout with Borrow Pits

Drawn	CH	Checked	-	Approved	RP
Date	24 January 2012			Sheet Size	A3
Drawing Number	1690_ENV_ECO_1100	Rev	P1	Scale	1:30,000