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Please tick to confirm your agreement to the following statements:

By submitting a response to the consultation, I agree that Aberdeenshire Council can use the information provided in this form, including my personal data, as part of the review of the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan. This will include consultation on the Main Issues Report (including any subsequent Proposed Plan).

I also agree that following the end of the consultation, i.e. after 8 April 2019, my name and respondent identification number (provided to you by Aberdeenshire Council on receipt of your submission) can be published alongside a copy of my completed response on the Main Issues Report website (contact details and information that is deemed commercially sensitive will not be made available to the public).

The data controller for this information is Aberdeenshire Council. The data on the form will be used to inform a public debate of the issues and choices presented in the Main Issues Report of the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2021. It will inform the content of the Proposed Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan.

Aberdeenshire Council will only keep your personal data for as long as is needed. Aberdeenshire Council will retain your response and personal data for a retention period of 5 years from the date upon which it was collected. After 5 years Aberdeenshire Council will review whether it is necessary to continue to retain your information for a longer period. A redacted copy of your submission will be retained for 5 years beyond the life of the Local Development Plan 2021, possibly until 2037

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If you are unhappy with the way that Aberdeenshire Council or the Joint Data Controllers have processed your personal data then you do have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner's Officer, but you should raise the issue with the Data Protection Officers first. The Data Protection Officers can be contacted by writing to:

- Mr Andrew Lawson, Data Protection Officer, Aberdeenshire Council, Business Services, Town House, 34 Low Street, Banff, AB45 1AY

If you have difficulty understanding this document and require a translation, or you need help reading this document (for example if you need it in a different format or in another language), please phone us on 01467 536230.

Which document(s) are you commenting on?	Main Issues Report	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Draft Proposed Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Strategic Environmental Assessment Interim Environmental Assessment	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Your comments

We write on behalf of SSE Generation Developments (UK) Ltd in response to the Aberdeenshire Council Local Development Plan 2021, Main Issues Report (MIR) consultation.

SSE Generation Developments (UK) Ltd is a subsidiary of SSE Plc which is one of the UK's leading energy companies, involved in the generation, transmission, distribution and supply of electricity, and in the extraction, storage, distribution and supply of gas. Its' purpose is to responsibly provide the energy and related services needed now and in the future.

SSE's vision is to be a leading provider of energy and related services in a low-carbon world. Its' strategy is to create value for shareholders and society from developing, owning and operating energy and related infrastructure and services in a sustainable way.

SSE requires a positive policy framework in relation to renewable energy to be established in the emerging LDP, in particular relating to the future potential to repower and extend these assets.

Chapter 11 of the MIR considers Climate Change and Policy C2 is in respect of Renewable Energy. SSE welcomes that the MIR is in support of renewable energy.

By way of summary, SSE requests that a clearer policy relating to the wind energy development – including repowering and extension - is established in the Proposed Plan. Main Issue 17 notes that the preferred option is to add text relating to re-powering of wind turbines in perpetuity.

SSE also requests that changes are made to the MIR to better support future investment in renewable wind energy developments.

This can be achieved by:

- The provision of a greater emphasis on an evidence based and site specific approach to future wind farm development, instead of a reliance on capacity studies.
- Specific reference to support for repowering existing windfarm locations.
- Identifying existing windfarm locations on LDP proposals map.
- Including reference to the acceptance of windfarm developments.
- The provision for and policy support for offshore grid connections, including grid cabling, associated substations and ancillary equipment. SSE's Beatrice Offshore Wind Farm onshore cable route runs from the coast to Blackhillock substation. SSE seek supporting planning policy for any future installation of onshore grid cables or future extensions to Blackhillock substation.

Conclusion

We trust that these comments by SSE in respect of policies relevant to renewable energy development contained within the MIR can be accommodated in the proposed version of the LDP.

SSE is firmly of the view that wind energy will continue to contribute significantly towards efforts to reduce carbon emissions and help tackle climate change.

We would welcome the opportunity to meet you to discuss these comments further if required, and would in any event be grateful if you could keep us informed of progress on the LDP as it moves towards the Proposed Plan stage.