FIELD

FIELD NEW DEER

New Deer will be made up of the following components:

- **Battery energy storage units**, which will be used to store the energy from the grid.
- **Power conversion systems** (including inverters and transformers), which convert energy from alternating current to direct current, so that it can be stored by the batteries.
- **On-site transformers and an interface substation**, which either steps up or steps down the voltage of the energy being stored.
- An **underground cable connection** to connect the battery to the planned Greens (New Deer 2) substation.
- **Site access tracks** to allow vehicles (including emergency vehicles) to safely get around the site.
- **Drainage arrangements** to allow surface water to drain from the site at the same rate as the existing site.
- **Site security**, including CCTV, fencing and lighting.
- **Landscaping** for biodiversity enhancement.

Since our last consultation event, we've made the following changes in response to your feedback, engagement with other stakeholders, and the progression of ongoing technical studies:

- Introduction of a 4-metre-high bund along the site's western boundary
- Introduction of a proposed re-routed recreational walking track to connect to Bailey's Walk
- Two fire water tanks to ensure fire water supply
- Revised landscaping design to reduce visibility from surrounding viewpoints
- Shifted site 40 m south to avoid conflict with SSE's proposed 400 kV OHL
- Enlarged and revised attenuation basin.

FIELD

WHAT ARE WE PROPOSING TO BUILD AND OPERATE?

Field builds and operates large batteries which store energy to help create a greener, more stable electricity grid.

We'd like to build one of these batteries, Field New Deer, on land to the north west of the planned Greens (New Deer 2) Substation.

Field New Deer would have a maximum export capacity of 400 MW.

This would be achieved by supplying the grid with electricity stored when renewable energy generation is high, therefore reducing reliance on high carbon energy sources when renewable generation is low.

Field has several battery sites across Great Britain in operation and construction, including our 200 MW battery in Hartmoor which will commence construction in 2026. Field New Deer would join a nationwide network of batteries which, together, will help the UK reach net zero.

FIELD

INDICATIVE TIMELINE

Winter 2024/25

Early environmental assessments and design work

Tuesday 25th February 2025

Public consultation event 1

Tuesday 18th March 2025

Public consultation event 2

Spring 2025

Submission of planning application

Autumn 2025

Determination of planning application

2028 onwards

Construction and operation

FIELD

STORING ENERGY IN ABERDEENSHIRE

Scotland has set a target to become net zero by 2045.* Batteries enable much greater use of renewable energy, and therefore play an important role in helping Scotland reach net zero.

Batteries are a vital part of how we can make the most of renewable energy, which is why we believe that they can play a part in the Aberdeenshire Council's route map to 2030 and beyond. Below is the council's statement regarding to their drive for net zero within Aberdeenshire.

"On 18 March 2020 Aberdeenshire Council, agreed a Climate Change Declaration committing to working towards a carbon free society by reducing its own emissions by 75% (2010/11 baseline) by 2030 and to work with others across the region to ensure that Aberdeenshire reaches Net Zero by 2045."

*https://www.gov.scot/policies/climate-change

FIELD

WHY DO WE NEED BIG BATTERIES?

To reach net zero, increase energy security and help reduce energy bills, we need to store renewable energy and improve the electricity grid's stability and reliability.

Our batteries are designed to fill gaps in the UK's electricity supply by charging up when renewable energy is being produced (such as on windy or sunny days) and discharging energy back into the grid when needed (e.g. when the wind isn't blowing, the sun isn't shining, or we aren't able to import enough energy from elsewhere).This ensures plenty of electricity is available for people to make their morning cuppa, even on a calm, overcast winter's day.

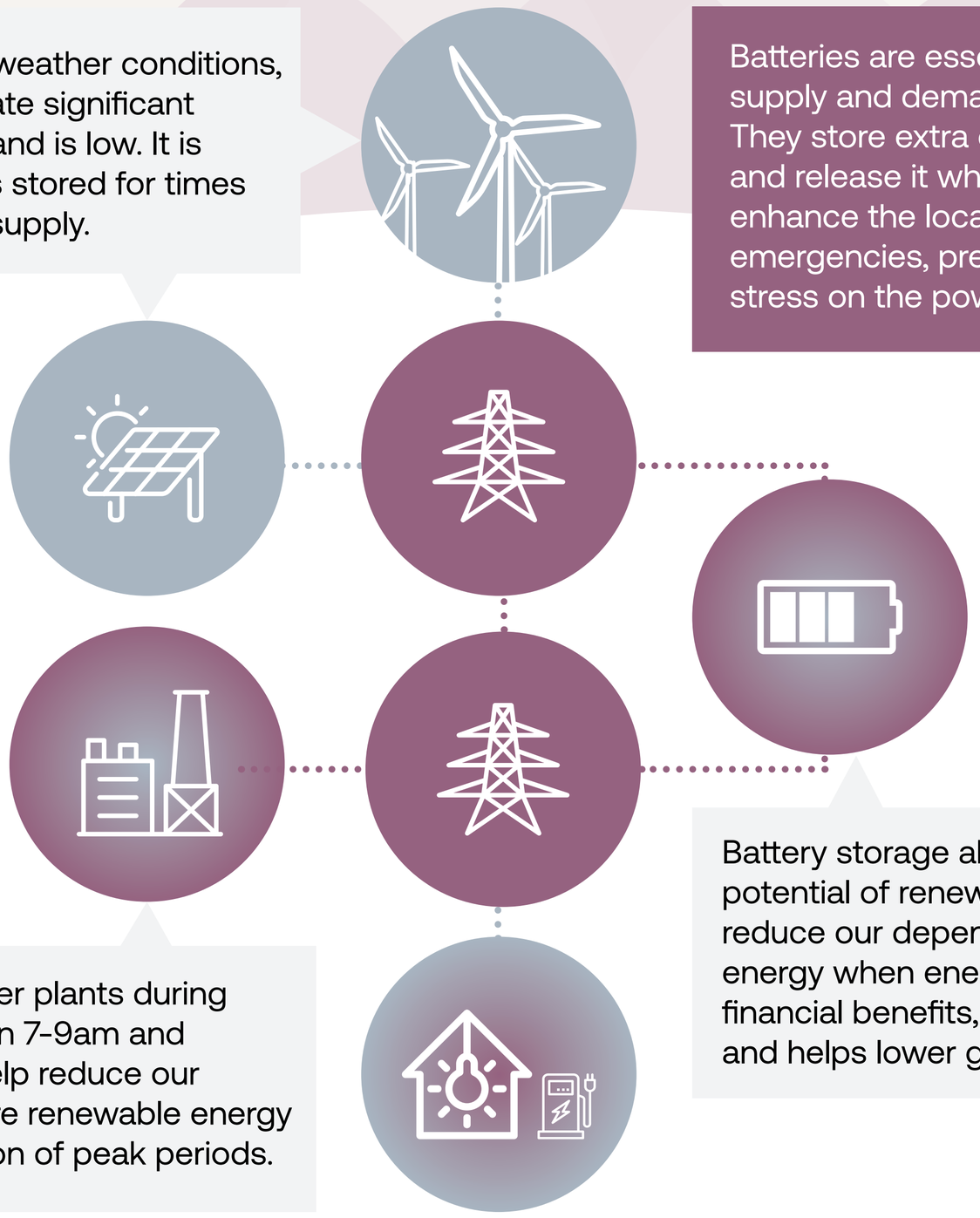
These batteries work a lot like the batteries you use at home, only instead of using our batteries to power a torch or TV remote, we operate large, 'grid scale' batteries.

This means we can rely more on renewable energy and less on expensive fossil fuels to provide electricity to thousands of homes and businesses.

Batteries are also very good at keeping the grid stable, by maintaining a constant and predictable supply of electricity to the grid, at the right frequency.

Changes in the supply and demand of electricity on the network create changes in this electrical frequency. This needs to be closely monitored, as if frequency is too high or too low, the network can't operate properly. This site will help to keep this frequency at the right level, which in turn helps reduce the chances of network disruptions or blackouts.

Wind and solar energy rely on weather conditions, meaning they can often generate significant amounts of energy when demand is low. It is important this excess energy is stored for times when demand is greater than supply.



Batteries are essential for managing energy supply and demand throughout the day. They store extra energy when demand is low and release it when demand is high. They enhance the local power grid's stability during emergencies, preventing blackouts and reducing stress on the power infrastructure.

We currently turn on gas power plants during peak periods such as between 7-9am and 6-8pm. Battery storage will help reduce our reliance on gas power, as more renewable energy can be stored up in anticipation of peak periods.

Battery storage allows us to maximise the potential of renewable energy sources and reduce our dependence on fossil fuel based energy when energy demand is highest. This has financial benefits, such as reducing energy costs, and helps lower greenhouse gas emissions.

FIELD

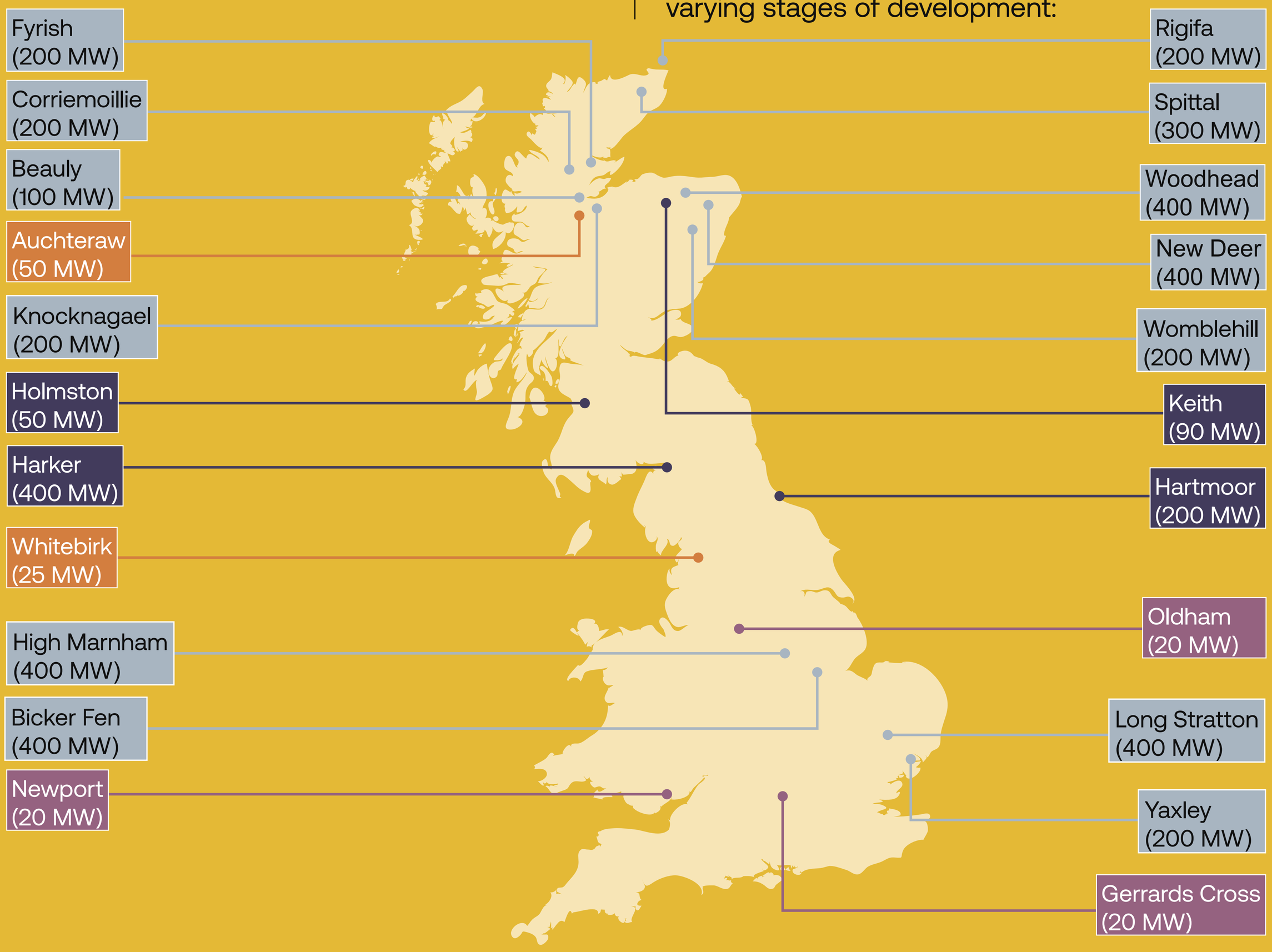
WHO WE ARE

Field is a leading developer, owner and operator of grid-scale batteries across the UK and Europe. Field's aim is to develop battery projects that reduce climate change emissions, support the stable operation of the electricity grid, and bring down electricity prices for consumers.

We're responsible for all stages of project development, from initial landowner engagement through to concept design, planning, construction and operation. We're committed to designing, building and operating projects that are safe, environmentally sustainable and have as little impact as possible on the communities around them.

We value ongoing engagement with our communities to understand and respond to local perspectives and concerns, and will work with local communities throughout every stage of the project.

This site would form part of Field's extensive portfolio of battery projects across the UK and Europe. In the UK, we have several projects at varying stages of development:



FIELD

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why do we need batteries in this area?
The north east of Scotland has an abundance of renewable energy resources like wind, hydro and tidal power.

Locating the batteries in close proximity to the north east's renewable assets like wind farms ensures this stored energy can be utilised as efficiently as possible, with minimal transmission losses.

At a local level, we've selected a site as close as possible to the substation, which prevents the need for unnecessarily long and intrusive grid connection cables or overhead lines.

How does this help Scotland's energy security?
Scotland has set an ambitious target of becoming net zero by 2045. Achieving this will require a massive increase in renewable energy generation and widespread electrification of transport and heating.

However, this transition also creates challenges around managing Scotland's energy security and resilience as we need more electricity and as we become more reliant on weather dependent renewable resources like wind and solar power.

Projects like this act as giant electric reservoirs, charging up when renewable energy is being produced, ensuring a steady supply of electricity, regardless of the variable renewable conditions. They allow more renewable energy to be used and reduce dependence on fossil fuels.

By storing the abundant Scottish renewable energy for when it's needed, batteries will play a vital role in keeping the lights on across the country while the energy system decarbonises.

When will this site be built?
We will be submitting our planning application to the Energy Consents Unit in Spring 2025. If we are granted consent, we would look to start construction in 2028 and it will take about two years to complete construction.

Are battery energy storage sites noisy?
The main noise associated with batteries are the cooling fans, which keep the batteries from overheating. Noise is measured against existing background noise levels and noise levels are required to meet the relevant British Standards and World Health Organisation Noise Guidelines.

We have carried out baseline noise surveys to understand the existing background noise conditions around the site. We'll carry out a detailed noise assessment to model the predicted noise levels from the operational battery equipment against existing background levels.

This assessment will identify any potential noise impacts on nearby noise-sensitive receptors like homes. Where potential impacts are identified, we'll incorporate mitigation measures into the design, such as acoustic fencing or the orientation of equipment, to ensure operational noise meets relevant regulations.

Will the project impact local traffic?
Once operational, the battery will have minimal impact on local traffic, with only occasional visits required for maintenance.

When the battery is being built, construction traffic is managed through a Construction Traffic Management Plan. This will include details of construction traffic numbers, vehicle routing and working hours.

As with all aspects of the development, we welcome input from the local community to help reduce any impact on local roads where possible.

FIELD

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Will the project impact trees or bats?
We have selected this site because of its absence of ecologically sensitive features. We also carry out full ecological surveys, including bird and bat surveys, to identify any potential ecological impacts, and we provide biodiversity enhancements to compensate for any impacts that do occur. This is typically through the planting of native species as part of our landscaping, which will also help to minimise any potential visual impacts.

Are the batteries safe?
Grid-scale batteries are safe facilities. We work hard throughout site design, construction and into operation to ensure the safety of our sites. We only use batteries that have best-in-class fire safety performance and will be compliant with all relevant fire safety standards.

The batteries will be constantly monitored and in the unlikely event that a fire does occur, the facility will employ automatic fire detection and suppression systems.

We're also working with the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service to ensure suitable emergency response procedures are in place, including a Battery Safety Management Plan.

How will the site security be managed?
The security and safety of our battery storage facilities is extremely important. This site will have robust security measures in place, including:

- Perimeter fencing and secure gated access to prevent unauthorized entry
- 24/7 CCTV monitoring of the site
- Appropriate security lighting to aid CCTV coverage
- Routine inspections and maintenance by Field's operational staff.

How are cumulative impacts assessed with other planned developments in the area?
We are aware of several other developments proposed in the surrounding area. We are working with other developers where possible to ensure that cumulative impacts, particularly in relation to noise, traffic and visual impacts, are appropriately managed. The final details of these mitigation measures will be agreed before construction starts, when the exact timelines for all projects are known. We welcome any feedback or knowledge from the local community about other proposals you are aware of, so that we can ensure these are appropriately considered.

How are are we working with local communities?
We own and operate all our sites throughout their lifespans. As a responsible developer and operator, listening to local communities matters to us, as it allows us to understand and respond to local issues, and ultimately build and operate better battery sites. We engage early with communities throughout the development process, oversee the construction on-site and we're responsible for the project once it's in operation. We're part of communities for the long-term.

FIELD

OUR OTHER BATTERY SITES

Field's experienced team manages each battery storage project's full lifecycle. With projects going through every stage of development and operation, we apply learnings and best practices across our portfolio to ensure reliable, safe and sustainable facilities. A brief overview of three of these sites is included below:

Field Auchteraw
50 MW, near Fort Augustus
In construction

Field Auchteraw will be capable of producing up to 50 MW of electricity once operational. Located near Fort Augustus, Field is continuing to work closely with The Highland Council, with the project expected to start operating in mid-2025.

The project demonstrates Field's expertise in developing battery storage on greenfield sites while prioritising landscaping and biodiversity measures to complement the surrounding environment. We've worked closely with the local community to manage traffic impacts; including implementing a one-way system for construction traffic to half the number of construction vehicles on a sensitive local road in response to concerns raised by the community.

Field Oldham
20 MW, near Manchester
Operational

Field Oldham started operating in 2022 and can produce up to 20 MW of electricity. The site is located in a warehouse in the Greater Manchester region.

Field Gerrards Cross
20 MW, Buckinghamshire
Operational

Field Gerrards Cross started operating in April 2024 and can produce up to 20 MW of electricity. The site occupies an existing industrial site alongside an operating water treatment plant.

With automated systems, industry-leading safety protocols, and 24/7 remote monitoring in place, Field Gerrards Cross and Field Oldham highlight our commitment to safe, responsible operations.

FIELD

FIRE SAFETY MANAGEMENT

Safety is our top priority. We take a comprehensive approach to fire risk management through careful design, operating procedures, and emergency planning.

Battery Design and Safety Systems

- Batteries must be compliant with all relevant fire codes and safety standards, and we'll only use batteries with the highest fire safety ratings and performance will be used.
- Battery containers are fitted with early fault and fire detection technology, internal fire suppression systems, and reinforced casing to ensure fires do not spread to other units.
- Appropriate separation distances are provided between battery strings, access roads, and surrounding properties to ensure firebreaks are in place.

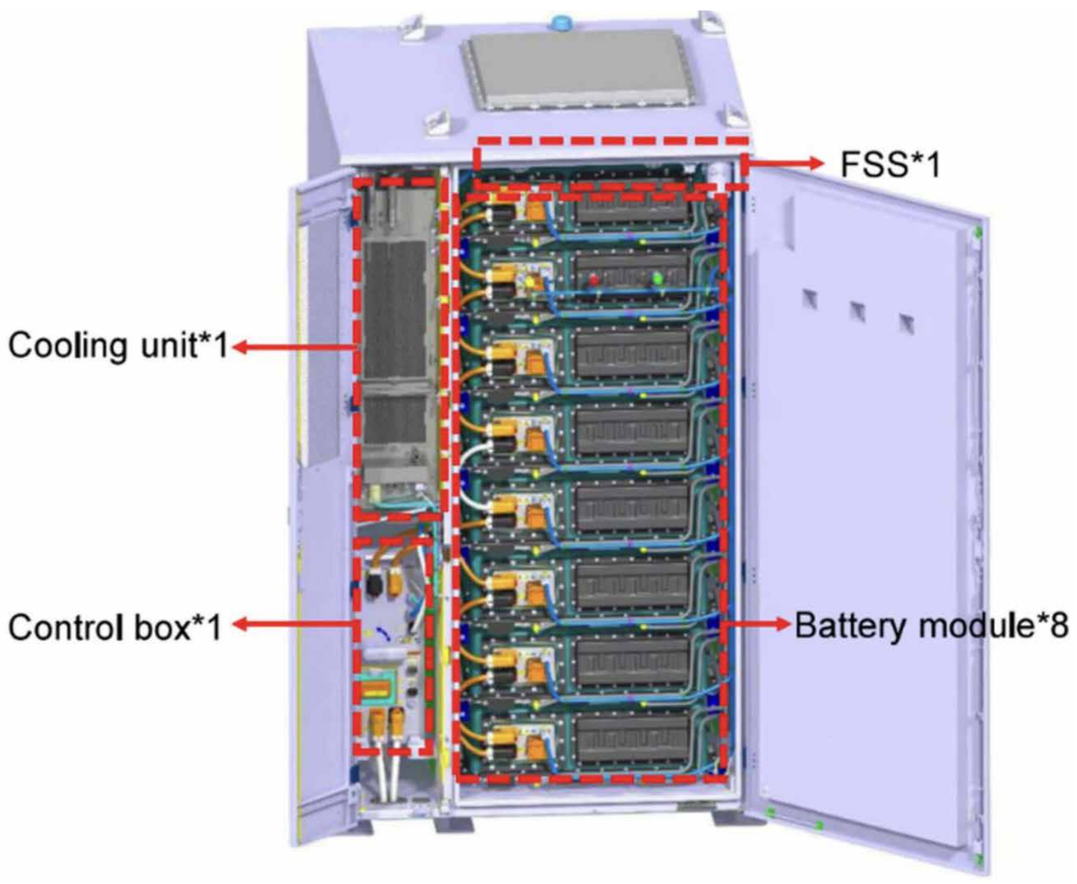
Emergency Planning and Response

- A detailed Battery Safety Management Plan is being developed, which will be agreed with relevant authorities before the project starts operating. This identifies potential hazards and associated safety mechanisms for the long-term operation of the Project.
- Field is continuing to engage with the National Fire Chiefs Council and Scottish Fire and Rescue Service across our portfolio of projects, including regular on-site consultations and site familiarisation visits. An Emergency Response Plan will be prepared in consultation with the Fire and Rescue Service for use in the unlikely event that there is an emergency on site.

Construction & Operation Oversight

- 24-hour surveillance and fault detection systems will ensure any faults are identified, isolated and responded to as quickly as possible, including de-energisation when necessary.
- Field will undertake routine site inspections, maintenance and testing throughout the life of the project.

Field is committed to implementing industry best practices and working closely with fire authorities to ensure the safety of our facilities, our staff, and local communities. We welcome any further inputs as we finalise the fire safety approach for this site.



FIELD

HOW WE'LL MANAGE THE CONSTRUCTION PROCESS

The construction of Field New Deer will involve careful planning and management to minimise disruption to local communities and roads.

Before we start building, we'll develop detailed management plans and agree these with Aberdeenshire Council to ensure works are carried out responsibly, and all impacts are reduced as much as possible.

Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP):

Our CEMP will set out procedures and mitigation measures to manage and monitor environmental impacts during construction such as:

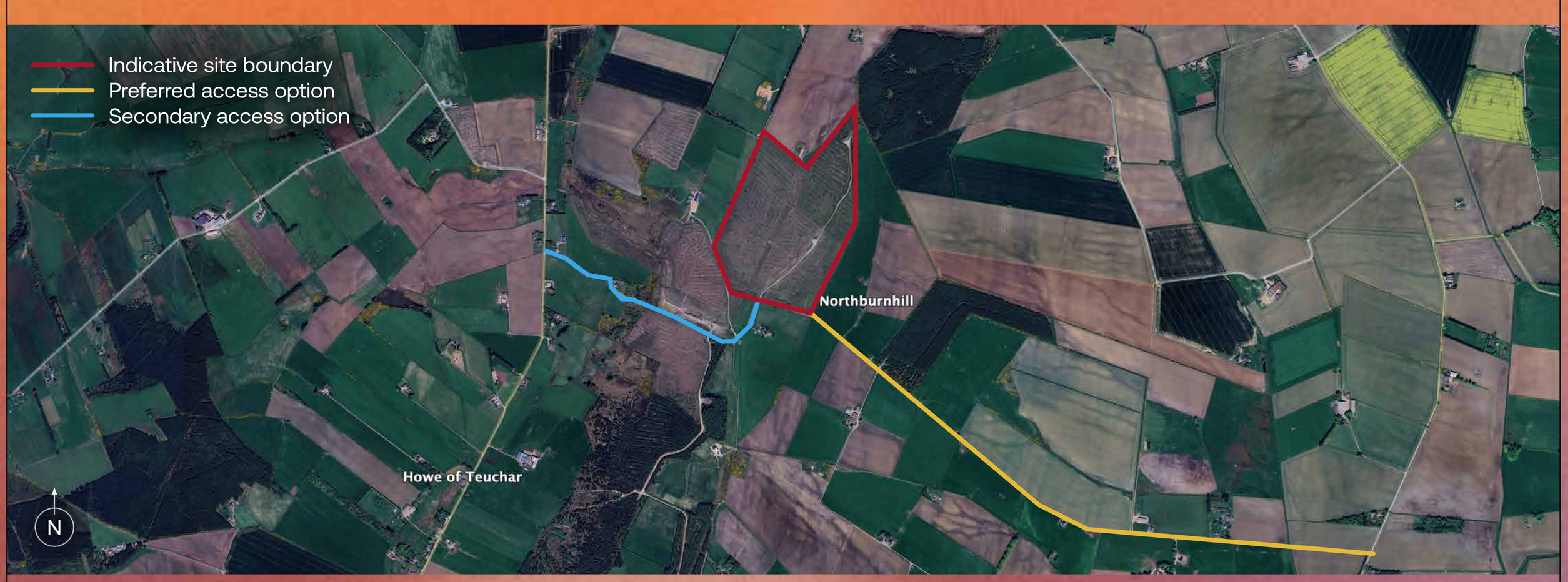
- Noise, dust and vibration controls
- Measures to prevent mud on roads
- Waste management and recycling
- Pollution prevention guidance
- Ecological protection.

We'll work closely with Aberdeenshire Council and other stakeholders to agree the detailed CEMP requirements.

Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP):

Our CTMP will be implemented to effectively manage all construction traffic to and from the site, including:

- Agreed routes for construction vehicles to avoid sensitive areas;
- Agreed construction working hours;
- Details of any road upgradeor widening works if required;
- A procedure for monitoring road conditions and remediation works if required;
- Measures to encourage worker vehicles to avoid peak times or vehicle share where possible;
- Contact details to raise any road safety issues; and
- Coordination with any other planned developments in the area to manage cumulative traffic impacts



FIELD

WHAT OUR BATTERIES WILL LOOK LIKE

Our battery units will be housed in secure cabinets or containers, similar to those shown in the images below, which were taken at our Field Newport site. These allow for a modular design where individual battery racks can easily accessed during routine inspections and maintenance.

This site will comprise multiple battery cabinets arranged in rows, known as ‘strings’. These will be connected via underground cables to other important electrical infrastructure like transformers, an on-site substation, and underground cabling to the main grid connection point at the substation.

To reduce visual impacts of the proposal, native landscaping will be incorporated to help screen and soften views of the site.

The below image shows what the proposed battery storage units look like. While the infrastructure may be visible from select viewpoints, our design aims to minimise impacts on the local landscape as much as possible.

An image taken at Field Newport (April 2024)

FIELD

VIEWPOINTS

Viewpoint 1
Minor Road near Berryhill

Viewpoint 3
Minor Road near Sunnyside Lodge

Viewpoint 4
Hillend of Teuchar

FIELD

PLANNING APPLICATION

To support our planning application, we are proposing to submit the following documents and assessments:

- Ecology Statement
- Ground Condition Risk Assessment
- Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
- Flood Risk Assessment / Drainage Strategy
- Noise Impact Assessment
- Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Statement
- Peat Depth Survey Report
- Tree Management Report
- Transport Statement and Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan
- Outline Battery Safety Management Plan
- Planning Statement
- Pre-application Consultation Report.

Following submission, these documents will be available to the public via the Energy Consents Unit's website.

Please note that comments made during this pre-application consultation phase are not representations to the Scottish Ministers. Following submission of the planning application to the Energy Consents Unit, there will be an opportunity to make representations directly to the Scottish Ministers.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

We'll continue accepting feedback via post or email until Monday 24th March 2025.

We'll then integrate your feedback into the final planning application and submit this to the Energy Consents Unit in Spring 2025.

After it's submitted, you will have the opportunity to make a representation about the application to the Scottish Ministers, via the Energy Consents Unit.

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

For more information, please visit our website at **www.fieldnewdeer.co.uk**

If you have any questions or you'd like to provide comments, please do not hesitate to email us at **feedback@fieldnewdeer.co.uk**.