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Energy Consents Unit

In Scotland, certain applications in relation to energy infrastructure are made to the Scottish Ministers for determination.

These cases are administered by the Energy Consents Unit. The following applications are considered by the Scottish Ministers:

- Applications for consent for the construction, extension and operation of electricity generating stations with capacity in excess of 50 megawatts (applications below this threshold are made to the relevant local planning authority);
- Applications for the installation of certain overhead electric lines and associated infrastructure;
- Applications for necessary wayleaves to confer rights over land to install electric lines;
- Compulsory purchase orders promoted under the Electricity Act 1989;
- Applications for consent for large gas and oil pipelines.

Members of the public seeking to make representations please e-mail them to Representations_Mailbox@gov.scot

Such applications cover new developments as well as modifications to existing developments. Applications below these thresholds are made to the relevant local planning authority. Applications for marine energy (e.g. wave, tidal and offshore wind) are made to [Marine Scotland](#)



Making a representation by stating your view as objection, support or a comment matters:

- No one from the ECU will visit our strath – this is your opportunity to give a perspective as someone who lives here /knows the area; in planning applications, rural areas are often described as farmland or sparsely populated habitats which does not reflect who lives here and our community
- You can help the ECU and inform their decision-making process
- If no representations are received this suggests to the planning decision makers that no one has an opinion

Strathnairn Community Council (SCC) are required to submit a response on behalf of the community

SCC's submission is **ONE** representation

If **TWO** people submit representations, the Energy Consents Unit (ECU) will have received **THREE** representations: one from SCC plus two others and so on ...

The following list is an outline of aspect of planning that communities can comment on:

- **Cumulative Effects**
- **Cultural Heritage**
- **Landscape and Visual Impact**
- **Socio-Economics, Tourism, and Recreation**
- **Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology, and Soils**
- **Ornithology**
- **Forestry**
- **Flora and Fauna Inventory**
- **Potential Health Impacts**
- **Noise and Vibration**
- **Proposed Development Description**
- **Ecology and Nature Conservation**
- **Traffic and Transport**
- **Proposed Development Need**
- **Site Selection Process and Alternatives**

How to make a representation

Send an email ...

- State the ECU reference in the subject header and the name of the application
- Important: begin with the words 'I support ...' or 'I object ...'
- Because ... be specific about your reasons referring to aspects of the planning application (cumulative effects/noise/changes to landscape/ lighting, etc)
- State your name and address in block capitals

Email: iamalocal@localnet.com

ECU0094567 Big Wheel Cheese Shop

Dear Sir /Madam,

- I **support** the shop because this will bring positive benefits as a source of local employment and encourage visitors
- I **object** because parking will be a problem, and we already have a shop that sells cheese
- The dairy shop will be convenient for everyone (**comment**)

Yours faithfully

A S CHEESE
THE DAIRY
CHEVIOT
IMA KE1

Where to send your representation ?

Representations_Mailbox@gov.scot

Timeline

Representations cannot be submitted in anticipation of a planning application

Lynemore LIVE on Friday 2nd May: ECU number will be available at that point

30 day period before the deadline closes : we will be seeking an extension

SCC will update the website routinely and offer drop in sessions to keep you informed

The Highland Council (THC) are required to submit a representation

- ECU collate and pass to THC to inform their decision making
- Your views are heard at a local level