



Technical Appendix 3-6 Minutes of Meeting with NPWS

EIAR – Volume 3

Muingmore Wind Farm

SLR Project No.: 501.065301.00001

April 2026

Muingmore Wind Farm NPWS Meeting

Date:	12 March 2025	Time:	10am	Location:	Online- Microsoft Teams
Client:	RWE Renewables		SLR Project No.:	501.065301.00001	
Attendees	<p>Applicant Reps: Sean Galvin, Michael James, (RWE). Gareth Hughes, Aislinn O'Brien, Donna Ryan, Ida Bailey, Andrew Torsney – all SLR.</p> <p>NPWS Rep: Eoin Connolly, Divisional Ecologist (EC).</p>				

Item	Discussion Notes	Action By/ Owner
Introductions	<p>Reps for client and NPWS provided introductions for meeting attendees.</p> <p>GH gave summary of project to date, and update on latest design.</p>	
Presentation	<p>GH and AS presented a PowerPoint presentation, outlining the applicant, the proposed project, scoping responses, latest wind farm layout and survey work completed to date.</p>	
NPWS Response (potential bird impacts)	<p>EC stated context of NPWS scoping response highlighting potential impacts on Merlin. Main issue for wind farms in this region is collision risk with SPA bird species and assessment often done incorrectly in EIAs.</p> <p>EC stated that robust NPWS guidance is lacking and needs to be developed using NatureScot guidance as a model.</p> <p>EC highlighted that cumulative effects on Golden Plover (GP) will be a key issue.</p> <p>SG highlighted 4 years of bird survey undertaken will provide robust dataset.</p> <p>AT asked if NPWS have a GP reference population?</p> <p>EC highlighted very small breeding GP population, vulnerable to cumulative impacts and that cumulative assessment shouldn't reiterate conclusions of other assessments but focus on mortality effects.</p> <p>EC highlighted need for assessment to define relevant geographical areas beyond county level with reasonable estimates of bird populations, using NPWS / birdwatch data if relevant.</p> <p>AS stated, that this approach would be taken with reference to NS guidance as appropriate.</p>	

Meeting Minutes



Item	Discussion Notes	Action By/ Owner
	ES stated that offshore bird species and developments should be considered in cumulative assessment.	
Mitigation & Enhancement	<p>AT & IB summarised mitigation and enhancement opportunities being considered to provide Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG). Drain blocking possible to and reduce encroachment by trees and invasive species with aim of increasing areas of blanket bog habitat and rate of carbon sequestration.</p> <p>Most of the open area of site is very degraded due to extensive drainage and peat cutting, so suitable for enhancement with the wind farm able to provide a positive BNG.</p> <p>EC welcomed proposals and flagged up difficulty of getting rid of lodgepole pine on another site.</p>	
Closing comments	GH offered opportunity for questions/comments, and SG, GH and AT thanked EC for the meeting and very useful advice provided.	

Prepared by: Gareth Hughes

13 March 2025

Name

Signature

Date

Agreed to by:

Aislinn O'Brien

13 March 2025

Name

Signature

Date