



Offshore Wind Power Limited

West of Orkney Windfarm Onshore EIA Report

Volume 2, Supporting Study 14: Traffic Survey Report

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EIAR Traffic Survey Report

West of Orkney Windfarm

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SYSTRA

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1. INTRODUCTION

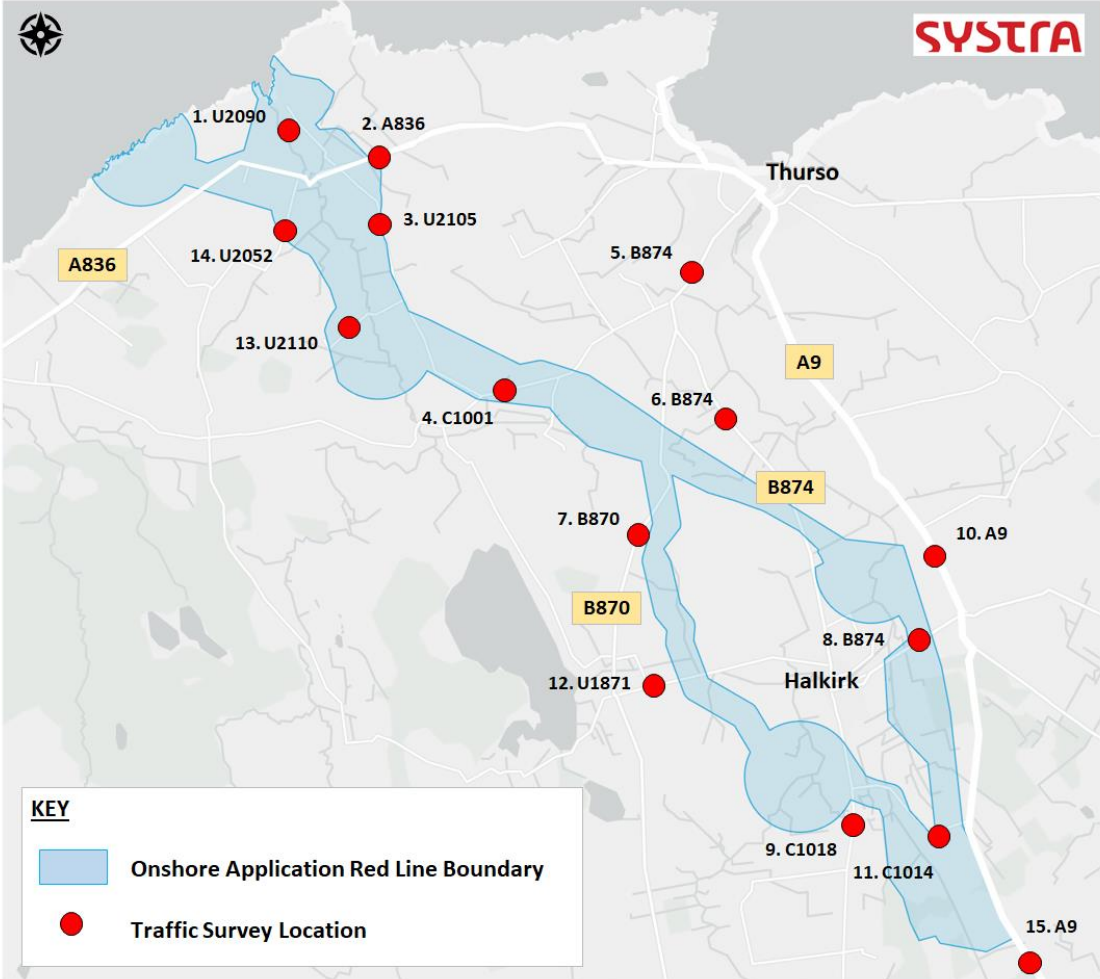
- 1.1.1 Systra Ltd has been commissioned by Xodus Group Ltd, who are working on behalf of Offshore Wind Power Limited (OWPL), to provide traffic and transport advice in relation to the onshore elements of the West of Orkney Windfarm.
- 1.1.2 As part of the Traffic and Transport Chapter of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIA), SYSTRA has commissioned traffic counts in the Caithness area, to establish the baseline traffic conditions on roads that may be impacted by construction traffic related to the associated substation and cable route.
- 1.1.3 During Scoping discussions, The Highland Council (THC) requested that they be provided with a copy of the traffic survey results.
- 1.1.4 This report provides a brief overview of the the traffic surveys that were undertaken, and a summary of the results. A complete set of traffic survey spreadsheets can be sent to THC electronically, should these be required.

2. TRAFFIC SURVEYS

2.1 Locations

2.1.1 SYSTRA commissioned MHC Traffic, a specialist survey company, to undertake the traffic surveys. **Figure 1** shows the 15 traffic survey locations, along with the Onshore Application Red Line Boundary, which was used to help identify suitable count locations.

Figure 1: Automatic Traffic Counter (ATC) Locations



2.1.2 Automatic Traffic Counters (ATC) were in place at the 15 locations shown in **Figure 1** between Sunday 6th November 2022 and Saturday 12th November 2022. The ATCs recorded classified traffic volumes and speeds. Results were recorded in hourly bins, by direction.

2.2 Results

2.2.1 A summary of the Automatic Traffic Counter (ATC) results is provided in **Table 1**. A full set of results is available electronically upon request.

Table 1: Summary of ATC Results

Site No.	Location.	Direction.	Speed Limit - PSL (mph)	Total Vehicles.	5 Day Ave.	7 Day Ave.	Mean Speed (mph)	85%ile Speed (mph)
1	U2090 south of St Mary's Chapel Car Park	North	60	89	13	13	26.0	33.9
		South	60	88	13	13	26.0	32.2
		Combined	60	177	25	25	26.0	33.1
2	A836 west of School Place	East	60	7479	1262	1068	52.3	59.4
		West	60	7407	1250	1058	52.4	60.2
		Combined	60	14886	2512	2127	52.3	59.7
3	U2105 between Lythmore and Forss	North	60	454	75	65	41.4	52.3
		South	60	496	80	71	41.0	51.7
		Combined	60	950	155	136	41.2	51.8
4	C1001 east of Bardnaclavan Farm, Thurso	East	60	4058	643	580	55.1	64.1
		West	60	4083	651	583	53.3	62.1
		Combined	60	8141	1294	1163	54.2	63.2
5	B874 south of Primrose Avenue	North	60	9871	1529	1410	45.0	52.6
		South	60	9817	1507	1402	47.6	55.0
		Combined	60	19688	3036	2813	46.3	53.9
6	B874 south of the Lost Geise Distillery	North	60	4739	747	677	57.2	65.3
		South	60	4695	727	671	54.6	62.5
		Combined	60	9434	1473	1348	55.9	64.1

Site No.	Location.	Direction.	Speed Limit - PSL (mph)	Total Vehicles.	5 Day Ave.	7 Day Ave.	Mean Speed (mph)	85%ile Speed (mph)
7	B780 north of Calder Mains	North	60	501	75	72	45.1	56.7
		South	60	569	83	81	43.9	54.5
		Combined	60	1070	158	153	44.5	55.5
8	B874 between Halkirk & Roadside	East	60	4419	662	631	50.8	59.4
		West	60	4511	686	644	50.4	58.5
		Combined	60	8930	1347	1276	50.6	58.9
9	C1018 north of GR & PH Sutherland, Caithness Summer Fruits	North	60	1742	276	249	47.6	57.7
		South	60	1681	268	240	48.2	60.1
		Combined	60	3423	544	489	47.9	59.1
10	A9 between Roadside & Sordale	North	60	11439	1732	1634	57.8	65.5
		South	60	11752	1784	1679	54.9	62.2
		Combined	60	23191	3516	3313	56.4	64.0
11	C1014 west of Achalone Activities Access	East	60	1239	193	177	40.2	48.2
		West	60	1143	171	163	37.0	44.7
		Combined	60	2382	364	340	38.7	46.8
12	U1871 between B874 & Calder Mains	East	60	650	97	93	45.0	56.8
		West	60	567	85	81	45.4	56.0
		Combined	60	1217	182	174	45.2	56.3
13	U2110 south of Tobarbals House	North	60	88	13	13	35.2	46.9
		South	60	90	14	13	31.8	42.9

Site No.	Location.	Direction.	Speed Limit - PSL (mph)	Total Vehicles.	5 Day Ave.	7 Day Ave.	Mean Speed (mph)	85%ile Speed (mph)
		Combined	60	178	28	25	33.4	45.1
14	U2052 south of A836	North	60	292	43	42	28.1	39.3
		South	60	278	42	40	27.7	36.7
		Combined	60	570	84	81	27.9	38.3
15	A9 south of Spittal Converter Station Access	North	60	4687	701	670	63.3	72.3
		South	60	5062	784	723	56.3	63.9
		Combined	60	9749	1485	1393	59.7	68.8

3. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

3.1 Summary

- 3.1.1 Systra Ltd has been commissioned by Xodus Group Ltd, who are working on behalf of OWPL to provide traffic and transport advice in relation to the onshore elements of the West of Orkney Windfarm.
- 3.1.2 This Traffic Survey Report presents the results of traffic count that have been undertaken to establish the traffic baseline in the the Caithness Onshore Project Area.
- 3.1.3 As agreed with THC, ATCs were undertaken at 15 locations in November 2022. The ATCs recorded classified traffic volumes and speeds. Results were recorded in hourly bins, by direction.

3.2 Conclusion

- 3.2.1 The traffic counts have been succesfully completed, and will be used to form the traffic baseline for used in the EIAR Traffic and Transport Chapter.

Table 2: Table of Abbreviations

Site No.	Location.
ATC	Automatic Traffic Counter
EIAR	Environmental Impact Assessment Report
mph	Miles per hour
OWPL	Offshore Wind Power Limited
THC	The Highland Council

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For more information visit www.systra.co.uk

BIRMINGHAM, ALPHA TOWER

8th Floor
Crowne Plaza,
Suffolk Street
Birmingham
United Kingdom
B1 1TT
Tel: +441213934841

BIRMINGHAM, NEWALL ST

5th Floor
Lancaster House
67 Newhall Street
Birmingham
United Kingdom
B3 1NQ
Tel: +44 (0)121 233 7680

DUBLIN

2nd Floor
Riverview House
21-23 City Quay
Republic Of Ireland
Dublin 2
Tel: +353 (0)1 905 3961

EDINBURGH, MANOR PLACE

37 Manor Place
Edinburgh
United Kingdom
EH3 7EB
Tel: +44 (0)131 225 7900

EDINBURGH, THISTLE ST

Prospect House
5 Thistle Street
Edinburgh
United Kingdom
EH2 1DF
Tel: +44 (0)131 344 4950
Tel: +44 (0)131 220 6966

GLASGOW, ST VINCENT ST

124 St Vincent Street
Glasgow
United Kingdom
G2 5HF
Tel: +44 (0)141 225 4400

GLASGOW, WEST GEORGE ST

250 West George Street
Glasgow
United Kingdom
G2 4QY
Tel: +44 (0)141 221 4030

LEEDS

100 Wellington Street
Leeds
United Kingdom
LS1 1BA
Tel: +44 (0)113 397 9740

LONDON, 15 OLD BAILEY

Seventh Floor
15 Old Bailey
London
United Kingdom
EC4M 7EF

Tel: +44 (0)20 7529 6500

LONDON, 5 OLD BAILEY

Prospect Business Centre
5 Old Bailey
London
United Kingdom
EC4M 7BA

Tel: +44 (0)203 714 4400

MANCHESTER

25th Floor
City Tower
Piccadilly Plaza
Manchester
United Kingdom
M1 4BT
Tel: +44 (0)161 236 0282
Tel: +44 (0)161 831 5600

NEWCASTLE

Floor B
South Corridor, Milburn House
Dean Street
Newcastle
United Kingdom
NE1 1LE
Tel: + 44 (0)191 260 0135

PERTH

13 Rose Terrace
Perth
United Kingdom
PH1 5HA
Tel: +44 (0)173 862 1377

WOKING

Dukes Court
Duke Street
Woking
Surrey
United Kingdom
GU21 5BH
Tel: +44 (0)483 728051

SYSTRA