



PRESS RELEASE

1st October 2018

SIMEC Energy submits planning application for Glenshero Wind Farm £158m scheme to provide clean power for Scottish industry

[SIMEC Energy](#), part of Sanjeev Gupta's [GFG Alliance](#), has formally applied to build a £158m Highland wind farm at [Glenshero](#), following a year of environmental and technical studies and extensive public consultation.

The company, which already operates a major hydro power plant linked to the [British Liberty Aluminium](#) smelter at Fort William, has submitted an application to the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit.

The 168-megawatt scheme, comprising 39 turbines located around eight kilometres north west of Laggan, is intended to provide green power for Scottish industry and represents a significant boost to the GFG Alliance's investments in Scotland.

If approved, the wind farm would trigger up to £158m of capital investment with approximately £23m being spent in the Highland's economy during construction alone. Contracts for services that would likely be awarded to local firms include; haulage, aggregate, plant hire, concrete, and accommodation.

The detailed environmental and technical studies as well as the consultation process has been conducted by leading renewable energy company [RES](#), SIMEC's chosen developer for the project. The consultation with the local community saw over 900 newsletters sent out to residents and over 70 attendees at public exhibitions at Laggan and Fort Augustus.

The Glenshero Wind Farm proposal forms part of SIMEC's ambitious [GREENMETAL](#) strategy and represents an exciting opportunity to support Scotland's industrial growth by contributing low-carbon power for industry.

Under the Glenshero plans, steel for the wind-tower structures could also be rolled at GFG's Liberty Dalzell plant in Motherwell and the towers possibly fabricated at a new neighbouring wind turbine manufacturing facility which the company hopes to set up.

The Glenshero project is also central to GFG Alliance's vision to further develop the [Lochaber estate](#) lands for the benefit of the regional economy and communities. The aim is to enhance and expand existing hydro-power production as well as developing new recreational facilities, upgraded visitor

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accommodation, improved agriculture, forestry and fisheries, providing better access to the land and more support for new local businesses.

If approved, SIMEC intends to develop opportunities for the local community to share in the ownership of the wind farm.

Jay Hambro, chief executive of SIMEC Energy said: “Developing this wind farm will be a landmark for green energy in Scotland and we are proud to bring forward a project that will deliver clean, competitive power to Scottish industry and the wider economy. Onshore wind has been shown to provide one of the cheapest and cleanest forms of power on the market today so we look forward to pressing ahead with this exciting scheme.”

Duncan Mackison, chief executive of JAHAMA Highland Estates, the GFG division which manages and develops the estate lands, said:

“This is a very exciting step for the project and our plans for the estate. We’re hugely grateful to everyone who participated in the public consultations – the feedback from local people, from our neighbours, together with our environmental studies has been used to inform the design of the proposals which we’ve now submitted.

“If approved this project will bring significant benefits to the local area and local economy both in the short term, as part of the construction and longer term as part of our plans to develop the estate and support local industry and jobs for years to come.”

Lucy Whitford, RES’ Development Director commented: “RES is delighted to be working with SIMEC on their first onshore wind proposal in the UK, as part of their unique GREENMETAL strategy. Glenshero Wind Farm will support Scottish industry by providing access to the lowest cost form of energy and will significantly benefit the local economy throughout construction.”

The full planning application will be made available at the following websites and locations:



Source	Location
Glenshero Wind Farm – Project Website	www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk
ECU Website *It may take a few days before the application is validated and available via this source.	www.energyconsents.scot/ApplicationSearch.aspx
Hard Copies	Laggan Stores Coffee Bothy & Gallery Laggan Inverness-shire PH20 1AH
	Fort Augustus Service Point Memorial Hall Fort Augustus PH32 4DJ
	The Highland Council Inverness Service Point Town House High Street Inverness IV1 1JJ

Further information from Eoghan Mortell 07977 555116/Jonathan Levy 07718 494 214

Notes to editors:

GFG Alliance

The GFG Alliance is a London-headquartered international group of businesses, founded and owned by the British Gupta Family, with a revenue of over US\$15 billion and around 14,000 staff. It combines energy generation, metal manufacturing, engineering, natural resources and financial services, working together to deliver a common business strategy. The Alliance comprises Liberty - an integrated industrial and metals business — SIMEC – an energy, resources and infrastructure group - Wyelands — a banking and financial services arm – and JAHAMA Estates —the Alliance’s global property division. Through its GREENSTEEL strategy, the GFG Alliance promotes industrial revival based on low-carbon and sustainable production methods.

RES

As the world’s largest independent renewable energy company, RES has delivered more than 16 GW of renewable energy projects across the globe and supports and operational asset portfolio exceeding 3.5 GW worldwide for a large client base.