

1. The Secretary
Nigg & Shandwick Community Council

2. The Secretary
Cromarty & District Community Council

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15 May 2023

Our Ref: 312862(10231)/AO

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: PROPOSED HIGH VOLTAGE CABLE MANUFACTURING PLANT ON LAND EAST OF NIGG ENERGY PARK – SITE INVESTIGATIONS PRIOR TO PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION OF PLANNING APPLICATION

We refer to the ongoing pre-application consultation for the above proposal.

As part of the supporting assessments required to accompany the planning application, we are writing to inform you about various site investigations that must be carried out over the next 3 months. A ground conditions survey will also inform the detailed design of the foundations required for the buildings.

These exploratory investigations include geo-technical works involving boreholes (104 in number) and soils sampling, ground water monitoring, machine excavated trial pits, infiltration testing for surface water drainage and chemical testing of selected soil samples to determine whether the ground is contaminated. The excavating machinery on site will include a cable rig, digger and rotary driller.

The following works are outlined to be undertaken: -

- 45no cable percussive boreholes will be drilled to rockhead including in-situ testing and recovery of samples, the casings will remain in boreholes for advancement into the rock using the rotary rig.
- 45no. rotary core boreholes will be undertaken with the recovered rock sampled.
- 14no. cable percussive boreholes will be drilled to rockhead and have 63mm ground water monitoring pipes installed.
- 25no. Electric Cone Penetration tests undertaken using the wheeled and tract machine.
- 72no. machine excavated trail pits with in-situ testing and 2no infiltration testing.
- Geotechnical testing of samples at a UKAS accredited laboratory.
- Chemical testing of selected soils samples for the determination of human health risk, at a UKAS and MCERTS accredited laboratory.

These works commenced on Tuesday 9 May and are expected to take place over a period of 9 to 11 weeks, within the hours of 8am to 7pm, Mondays to Fridays, and on Saturdays from 8am to 1pm. There will be no works on Sundays or public/bank holidays.



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Below is the proposed work schedule.

Item/Week beginning	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Trial pits											
Cable rig											
Support digger											
Rotary drilling											
Second cable rig											
Testing											

The scope of these surveys has been significantly reduced so that only the minimum number of necessary excavations are being conducted at this stage. The work plans have also been checked by Global Energy's Operations and Health Safety and Environmental Quality teams, and they are satisfied that the detailed health and safety controls are sufficient.

On 24 April 2023, Global Energy Nigg Ltd representatives and I met with Highland Council Planning officials who confirmed that no planning consent is required for these activities. In addition to notifying the landowners, Global Energy Nigg Ltd have engaged with Council Environmental Health officers. We were also advised to notify the Nigg & Shandwick and Cromarty Community Councils.

If you have any questions about these works, please do not hesitate to Mr Rory Gunn, Facilities Director at Nigg Energy Park (tel. 01862 851700 or by email – Rory.Gunn@gegroun.com).

Yours sincerely,



Alan M Ogilvie, MRTPI
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Planning & Design
MABBETT & ASSOCIATES LTD