

# XLCC Hunterston

## Pre-Application Consultation Report



# **PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION REPORT**

**SITE AT HUNTERSTON COAL YARD, NORTH AYRSHIRE**

**PLANNING APPLICATION PROMOTING THE ERECTION OF A HIGH VOLTAGE CABLE PRODUCTION FACILITY INCLUDING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 180M EXTRUSION TOWER WITH ASSOCIATED FACTORIES, RESEARCH AND TESTING LABORATORIES, OFFICES WITH ASSOCIATED STORES, TRANSPORT ACCESS, PARKING AND LANDSCAPING WITH ON-SITE GENERATION AND ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND CABLE DELIVERY SYSTEM**

**SEPTEMBER 2021; Updated FEBRUARY 2022**

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## CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION .....	1
2	CONSULTATION PROCESS .....	2
3	THE ONLINE PUBLIC EVENT .....	4
4	ANALYSIS OF COMMENTS .....	5
5	CONCLUSION .....	13

## APPENDICES

Appendix 1 : Location Plan

Appendix 2 : Proposal of Application Notice

Appendix 3 : Explanatory letter, as sent with Proposal of Application Notice to relevant Community Councils and local groups / key stakeholders, Councillors, MSPs and MPs (Notification list provided)

Appendix 4 : Reminder letter reiterating online public exhibition arrangements as sent to relevant Community Councils and local groups / key stakeholders, Councillors, MSPs and MPs (Notification list provided)

Appendix 5 : Public Notice as it appeared in the Ardrossan Herald and Largs and Millport on 11<sup>th</sup> August 2021

Appendix 6 : Display Boards used at the Online Public Exhibition

Appendix 7 : Copy of host webpage for Online Public Exhibition

Appendix 8 : Frequently Asked Questions

Appendix 9 : Supplementary FAQ with Responses

# 1 INTRODUCTION

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- 1.1 This Pre-Application Consultation Report has been prepared on behalf of XLCC Limited by McNally Associates to comply with the statutory requirements for public consultation stipulated by The Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 2006. These became effective on 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2009 via The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2008.
- 1.2 The report accompanies a planning application promoting the erection of a high voltage cable production facility including the construction of a 180m extrusion tower with associated factories, research and testing laboratories, offices with associated stores, transport access, parking and landscaping with on-site generation and electrical infrastructure and cable delivery system at a site at Hunterston Coal Yard, North Ayrshire.
- 1.3 The proposed application falls into the category of **'major development'** as defined by the Town and Country Planning (Hierarchy of Developments) (Scotland) Regulations 2009 and consequently must follow specific procedures for pre-application consultation.
- 1.4 As a consequence of COVID-19 we were unable to physically host a staffed public exhibition. The Scottish Government published revised guidance on the 23rd April 2020 entitled ***"Coronavirus (COVID-19): planning guidance on pre-application consultations for public events"*** advising on the temporary suspension of the requirement for public events in relation to pre-application consultation (PAC) and the effect of the Town and Country Planning (Miscellaneous Temporary Modifications) (Coronavirus) (Scotland) Regulations 2020, which makes that temporary suspension and outlines alternative online consultation.
- 1.5 This report sets out the steps taken to comply with the statutory requirements of the pre-application process, which includes a minimum twelve-week consultation period.

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## 2 CONSULTATION PROCESS

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- 2.1 Under the terms of The Town and Country Planning (Hierarchy of Developments) (Scotland) Regulations 2009 the proposed development falls into the category of **'Major Development'** and pre-application consultation procedures are required.
- 2.2 A Proposal of Application Notice (**Appendix 2**) was submitted to North Ayrshire Council on 9<sup>th</sup> July 2021 and was accompanied by a location plan of the proposed development site (**Appendix 1**). Correspondence received from North Ayrshire Council states that the Proposal of Application Notice is considered to be satisfactory.
- 2.3 In accordance with the regulations of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations, XLCC Limited stated in the Proposal of Application Notice and subsequent correspondence that they intended to comply with the statutory requirements by:
- ❑ Serving the 'Proposal of Application Notice' in addition to an explanatory letter on Fairlie, West Kilbride, Cumbrae, Largs and Skelmorlie Community Councils.
  - ❑ Serving the 'Proposal of Application Notice' in addition to an explanatory letter on local Councillors, MSPs and MPs for the area.
  - ❑ Hosting an online public exhibition from the 23<sup>rd</sup> August to the 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021 (on the webpage illustrated within **Appendix 7**) and additionally hosting a live web chat on the same webpage between 3pm - 7pm on 25<sup>th</sup> August.
  - ❑ Notifying the public that any questions received from the date of publication of the newspaper advert until the 3<sup>rd</sup> September, will be responded to within 48 hours of receipt.
  - ❑ Making clear that the submission of any comments are not representations to the planning authority and do not affect the statutory rights of making representation during the application process.
  - ❑ Advertising the online exhibition in the Ardrossan Herald and Largs and Millport Herald at least seven days before the event.
- 2.4 At the same time as serving the Proposal of Application Notice on North Ayrshire Council, copies were also sent together with an explanatory letter to local Community Councils, Councillors, MPs and MSPs within or adjacent to the application site. The Community Councils / key stakeholders contacted were Fairlie, West Kilbride, Cumbrae, Largs and Skelmorlie. The list of those contacted and a copy of the explanatory letter sent is contained in **Appendix 3**. A further letter was sent dated 16<sup>th</sup> August 2021 reiterating the arrangements for the public exhibition. The list of those contacted and a copy of the reminder letter sent is contained in **Appendix 4**.
- 2.5 A public notice advertising the online public exhibition was published in the Ardrossan Herald and Largs and Millport Herald (**Appendix 5**) on 11<sup>th</sup> August 2021. The public notice complied with the statutory requirements and stated :
- ❑ the location and description of the proposal

- ❑ amendments to the consultation process required as a consequence of COVID-19
  - ❑ the date and time of the online public exhibition
  - ❑ contact details as to where further information could be obtained
  - ❑ a statement explaining how and by when persons wishing to make comments on the proposal to the applicant can do so
  - ❑ a statement explaining that any comments received are not representations to the planning authority and that should any subsequent planning application be made, representations can be made at that time
- 2.6 XLCC have collated the questions that have been posed from the various information sessions they have held, along with the responses to the public consultation as well as direct approaches to the company via the [info@xlcc.co.uk](mailto:info@xlcc.co.uk) web site.
- 2.7 This process was to facilitate the production of an FAQ sheet. The questions were grouped into common themes and then individual topics have been included within those themes. This FAQ sheet can be found within **Appendix 8**.
- 2.8 In the time following the online public consultation XLCC have continued to liaise with the local community councils and groups:
- Largs
  - Fairlie
  - West Kilbride
  - Cumbrae
  - the action group “Friends of the Firth of Clyde”
- 2.9 XLCC received supplementary questions in response to the FAQ document from these organisations as well as from the public via the consultation email address. XLCC have provided written answers to these (**Appendix 9**) and have also offered to meet all the stakeholders face to face during visits to Hunterston.

### 3 THE ONLINE PUBLIC EVENT

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- 3.1 As outlined in Section 1 as a consequence of COVID-19 we were unable to physically host a staffed public exhibition. The Scottish Government published revised guidance on the 23rd April 2020 entitled “Coronavirus (COVID-19): planning guidance on pre-application consultations for public events” advising on the temporary suspension of the requirement for public events in relation to pre- application consultation (PAC) and the effect of the Town and Country Planning (Miscellaneous Temporary Modifications) (Coronavirus) (Scotland) Regulations 2020, which makes that temporary suspension and outlines alternative online consultation.
- 3.2 In line with this, the applicant hosted an online public exhibition from the 23<sup>rd</sup> August to the 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021 (on the webpage illustrated within **Appendix 7**) and additionally hosting a live web chat on the same webpage between 3pm - 7pm on 25<sup>th</sup> August.
- 3.3 Eleven display boards were prepared and available to view on the online public exhibition. The display boards explained and illustrated the development proposals for the site. **Appendix 6** contains copies of the display boards.
- 3.4 A comments facility was provided on the webpage to allow members of the public the opportunity to provide feedback about the proposals. The public were also invited to submit any comments / questions via email to McNally Associates; with all questions responded to within 48 hours of receipt (with the exemption of the weekend).
- 3.5 The live web chat exhibition was facilitated by representatives of McNally Associates and XLCC Limited who were available to explain the proposals and answer questions.
- 3.6 The online public exhibition received some 266 unique visits (with a total of 370 views and 14 downloads of the presentation boards) throughout the duration of the exhibition being online.

## 4 ANALYSIS OF COMMENTS

4.1 The online public exhibition received some 266 unique visits. 11 comments were received.

4.2 Table 1 analyses the comments received :

**Table 1: Summary of Comments**

COMMENT	RESPONSE
<p>Can you tell me the height of the factory buildings please? Also, what noise-generating machinery will be used and how noisy will they be? What will be housed in the tallest structure? How much of the raw materials will be transported by road during construction and when it's operational? Thank you.</p>	<p>The height of the factory buildings vary in size across the site with the majority being between 9m and 14m to eaves. There is a small building in the middle of the site which will be approximately 40m to eaves, in addition there is the extrusion tower which will be 180m in height. There will be a range of machinery used, the noisiest of which will be 82db at 1.5 metres high and 1 metre away. The tallest structure will be the extrusion tower and this will house / contain an extruder machine which will be used to apply a waterproof coating to the cable. The answer to your final question is to be confirmed based upon procurement, etc. A Traffic Assessment is underway at present and this will, once completed, provide the information you're looking for. The Traffic Assessment will be submitted as part of the planning application.</p>
<p>As the former local newspaper editor who has covered and written about the growth of the Hunterston industrial sites for over half a century this is the most significant development since the nuclear power stations were built, and, indeed, the former IBM computer factory came to Inverclyde at the other side of Largs.</p> <p>I have told Largs Community Council and have written in my Largs &amp; Millport News column that this is the essence of the new industrial revolution. It is green, clean and long-lasting with the almost unique guarantee of 900 staff jobs, plus hundreds more in the supply chain.</p> <p>Those, particularly in Fairlie, who object to everything must learn that in today's climate-challenged world we must all make sacrifices</p>	<p>Noted</p>



COMMENT	RESPONSE
and dispense with the Not In My Backyard mindset.	
<p>I am wholeheartedly in favour of this proposed application.</p> <p>The area has been in continual industrial use during my 40 year life. Any objections on purely aesthetic grounds are baseless. The most significant issue I can see is the use of the main road through Fairlie for heavy traffic but this is manageable.</p> <p>As much as is possible local firms should be engaged to provide services during and after its commissioning.</p> <p>I am sure there will be a welter of objections on many grounds. However given the need for this from an industrial and local economic view I can't see how this can be rejected.</p> <p>Good luck with any application.</p>	Noted
How do you apply for the new jobs at Hunterston?	With regard to job opportunities it is very early on in the process, with the planning application yet to be lodged. Should all necessary permissions be obtained there will be job opportunities widely advertised at the appropriate time and through the appropriate channels. However it should be noted that XLCC will be looking to employ as many local people as possible.
<p>I would like more info on the 180 metre tall extrusion tower.</p> <p>What does 'curing the insulation inside the cable' involve and what is released into the atmosphere from the tower.</p>	<p>The extrusion tower is a fully enclosed essential element of the manufacturing finishing process providing the highly important insulation for the high voltage cables which are manufactured in the factory. The tower will contain a number of extruding machines which will be used to apply coating to the cables. This process will not release anything into the atmosphere from the tower. The structure is a tower and not a chimney of any sort, it is 180m high as the cooling process requires a vertical installation to enable the material extruded to cure in a circular manner, if horizontal it will cure gathering to the bottom and create a defective cable. The height of the tower relates to the speed the machinery and extruders are required to go, this is 1m / minute, the cooling takes 180 minutes so requires</p>

COMMENT	RESPONSE
	180m height.
<p>1. XLCC is a very new company presumably formed for the proposal. Who are you? If the development proceeds, will the factory(s) be owned and operated by XLCC, and if so who will be the major shareholders? If not, is it likely that the facility will be owned and operated by a non-UK company?</p>	<p>XLCC is a new company that is registered in the UK.</p> <p>This is a private company the shareholders are not disclosed to the public.</p> <p>There are no plans for the company to be operated by a non-UK registered business.</p>
<p>2. Do you expect the UK/Scottish taxpayer through Scottish Enterprise or similar government agencies to provide financial support for the development of the facility? Do you expect North Ayrshire Council to provide financial support? In slide 16 of your presentation there is the statement 'additional cost to be in Hunterston'. What is the reason for any such additional cost, and what is it estimated to be?</p>	<p>We will speak to the Scottish and the UK government re grants which may be available.</p> <p>If the factory is located at Hunterston rather than South Wales there is an additional cost for the time to sail the cable laying vessel to Ayrshire. The time for this (return trip) multiplied by the number of trips for the first contract multiplied by the day rate for the vessel = the additional cost of operation from Hunterston compared to South Wales.</p>
<p>3. The proposal refers to two factories at Hunterston. Why two? Does the indicative layout include both factories or only one? If one, where within the site is the second likely to be located? Is it proposed to develop both factories in parallel, or is it likely that there will be a time lag?</p>	<p>The wording 2 factories is a bit misleading, so we apologise for this mistake, we are creating a 6 line factory at Hunterston and a 3 line factory in South Wales, so in essence Hunterston is twice the size of the other factory and called a double factory internally.</p> <p>We require 6 lines at Hunterston to meet the forecast future demand / current order interest.</p> <p>The layouts presented show a 6 line factory.</p>
<p>4. The prime component of HVDC cables is copper. Will this material be delivered to site as ingots/bars or as presized wire? Will on-site extrusion and annealing be part of the cable production process?</p>	<p>The prime component of all HVDC cables is not just copper, we will be extruding our own cables, this will be part of the production process.</p>
<p>5. You suggest that 'cable protection' might be 'outsourced'. If so, would that take place within the overall Hunterston site? And if so, by another company? Why is the full production process to outloading of the cable not being undertaken in the factory(s) as a continuous process?</p>	<p>Cable protection is the term given to the cable when this is buried (or similar) when deployed onto the seabed, sometimes with a concrete 'mat'.</p> <p>The cable protection process is a generic process that can be performed by several off shore operators, these will be asked to quote to provide the service.</p> <p>The cable protection you may be referring</p>

COMMENT	RESPONSE
<p>6. How will raw materials be delivered to site? By road, rail, sea? There is no reference in the presentations to use of the existing rail link.</p> <p>7. What impacts are likely from the development in relation to (i) noise (ii) smell (iii) particulates and (iv) residual waste products, given the proximity to residential areas.</p>	<p>to is the armouring, which is part of the production process, the cable is fully manufactured on site and also tested then loaded onto the vessels for installation.</p> <p>We are awaiting the results from our traffic assessment to see which is the most suitable route, but currently road, rail and water are all on the table as options.</p> <p>In short, we are expecting no noise, smell, particulates, or waste products to be released which would impact residential areas.</p> <p>A bit more detail:</p> <p>(i) Noise, the armouring line which is housed internally in the centre of the site is the loudest machinery, it is measured at 82db from 1m away and at 1.5m height, so by the time it has passed through the building, the trees, embankment etc it will be inaudible, and at far lower levels than the current ambient noise.</p> <p>(ii) We are extruding XLPE not PVC so we are not subject to the plastic smells which you may be thinking of associated with manufacturing.</p> <p>(iii) We are not burning carbon base products for the process, and it must be 'clinically' clean, you will notice we do not have any chimneys on the site. The XLPE must be kept pure. Cross contamination of metals is extremely detrimental, so the process line is a very clean process indeed.</p> <p>(iv) Residual waste – as with all manufacturing waste will be created, this being from staff welfare and manufacturing, all waste will be treated or recycled in line with local and national environmental requirements and regulations.</p>
<p>8. Is it proposed to use the existing Hunterston Jetty for the loading of cable on to ship? If not, is it proposed to develop a dedicated outloading facility adjoining the jetty?</p>	<p>The existing jetty will be used.</p>
<p>9. What structures will require to be placed on the Hunterston Jetty approach and jetty head to enable the cable to be outloaded? Will these</p>	<p>Cable tracks will be required for the jetty (powered by electrical conveyors to minimise the noise) and this will be part of</p>

COMMENT	RESPONSE
<p>additions be part of any planning application?</p> <p>10. You suggest that part of the proposal will be the construction of a cable-laying vessel. Given the technical complexity of such vessels, is it realistic to suggest that a UK shipyard would be able to undertake such construction in the envisaged time frame?</p> <p>11. You refer to 'local partnerships with community groups'. Do you envisage an arrangement similar to that reached between SSE and Fairlie Community Trust?</p> <p>12. On the presumption that the vessel will not be constructed in the UK, and that only one factory is put into operation, what is the estimate of (a) the maximum, and (b) the minimum of jobs provided by the proposal on (c) the Hunterston site, and (d) within North Ayrshire generally?</p> <p>13. The aerial photograph of the site is outdated and as such does not give confidence that the proposal has been well researched with regard to the impact on and benefit to local communities!</p> <p><b>Further question:</b> Thank you for the comprehensive response to my questions, which is very helpful. By chance or coincidence Peel released its</p>	<p>the planning application.</p> <p>The lead time for a cable laying vessel to be commissioned is currently approx. 3.5 years from order. Any shipyard that would construct the vessel has to have the capacity and capability to be awarded the contract.</p> <p>We anticipate that the workforce will nominate local charities etc that they would like to support. We would encourage and support the workforce to be engaged with local charities and good causes.</p> <p>We are unaware of what the existing arrangement is between SSE and FCT, so we cannot comment upon that.</p> <p>We are applying for planning permission to build the 'double factory' with 6 x lines and as previously advised we would plan to build all 6 lines simultaneously. We have instructed a socio-economic study for the wider impact, but we can confirm we will have circa 700 staff directly employed and circa 200 local associated jobs.</p> <p>Ideally local workers will fill most of the positions.</p> <p>The aerial imagery is to give an illustration of the site for visual reference for the purpose of the presentation. As you will know this is not a plan or general arrangement but as it states it is an illustration. We have given and will continue to give every care to ensure the design is fit for its environment and this will be documented in the full planning application. To say that research has not been undertaken at this stage is false, as substantial financial investment has already been made to procure surveys and land. To enable this vast due diligence on the location and environment / planning has been undertaken.</p> <p><b>Further response:</b> I have checked your question with Peel and XLCC and can confirm that it is considered that the proposal from XLCC sits comfortably within the Local Plan and</p>

COMMENT	RESPONSE
<p>Hunterston PARC Development Framework report this week, from which I note that it is suggested that an 'Innovation Campus' /'Incubator PARC Campus' would be located within or very close to the site proposed for the cable factory. Does the XLCC proposal take account of the new development framework?</p> <p>Thank you again for the speed and clarity of your response.</p>	<p>this framework and XLCC's Research and development is in addition to the allocated site on the development framework and will be on their demise.</p> <p>Annex B of the framework has compatible 'Pillars and uses' for the site which would place XLCC under Industry: Renewables Manufacturing, which if you recall was on the list of uses put forward for the local plan consideration.</p> <p>In addition it is considered that the XLCC proposal could act as a catalyst for further innovation activities.</p> <p>I hope that this helps.</p>
<p>Looks like a fantastic opportunity for the local economy hope it goes ahead</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>Will the tower at the proposed cable manufacturing plant have an open top similar to a chimney? If open topped will fumes be expelled? Will materials be brought to site by road or rail? Traffic use on our one coast road, the A78, is very heavy and a source of anger by the residents of Fairlie.</p>	<p>The tower will not have an open top and is not a chimney nor a vent. The extrusion process needs to be 100% clean so it is in a sealed environment. The tower is required as the material from the extruder needs to cool in a vertical position to prevent it cooling towards the bottom and making the cable defective (see image below) :</p> <div data-bbox="858 1249 1262 1480" data-label="Image"> <p>The image contains two circular diagrams. The left one is labeled 'VERTICAL CURING' and shows a dark outer ring and a lighter center. The right one is labeled 'HORIZONTAL CURING' and shows a dark outer ring and a lighter center, with a dark shadow at the bottom, indicating uneven curing.</p> </div> <p>The reason for the height of the tower is the material takes 180 mins for the material to cure, and the plant has to run at 1m / min, so it requires 180m in height.</p> <p>We are currently undertaking a feasibility study for transportation to site by road,rail and boat, once the results are available we will be able to provide our traffic management plan.</p>
<p>In general I would welcome the plant. However I have concerns over noise and air pollution. Is this a noisy and/or smokey manufacturing process?</p>	<p>XLCC Limited have placed an order for a new vessel which they will solely be using, this cable laying vessel is to be Hybrid, so will run off of batteries when approaching</p>

COMMENT	RESPONSE
<p>As an example there are two ships currently moored at the terminal jetty. They run generators 24 hours each day and produce a low frequency noise which I and other local residents find detrimental to the peaceful village.</p> <p>We live on the sea front just under 1 mile from these ships.</p>	<p>port and will connect to a 3MW grid connection on the jetty, so the vessel won't be emitting any noise or pollution as previously encountered. XLCC Limited had seen this had been a previous issue so they have designed the 3MW ship to shore connection, they were already going to use a hybrid vessel as part of their commitment to the environment.</p> <p>The manufacturing itself does not involve any burning of materials, the process is quiet, clean and needs to minimise vibration as the cable needs to cure in a still environment whilst hanging in the tower.</p>
<p>In regards to the proposed development at the old hunterston coal terminal, I personally would be over the moon with a development of this magnitude. I have been a resident of North Ayrshire for many years and I have been incredibly lucky to have been employed just along the road at Hunterston B power station for over a decade now. Having experienced what a large employer can do for an individual in terms of job security and a good quality of life, having another large scale employer can only be a good thing. I hope the local and national authorities, alongside the local residents, see sense and go ahead with the plans. All the best for the future and best of luck.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>I can't seem to find any reference to the Morocco to United Kingdom sub-sea cable that I understand your entire project is reliant on. Can you provide me with details?</p> <p><b>Further question:</b></p> <p>Many thanks for your prompt reply and the information provided. Can you let me know the contact details of the customer?</p>	<p>Many thanks for your e-mail. The proposals consulted upon to seek comment on the information on the exhibition boards and the proposal by XLCC Limited to prepare a planning application promoting the erection of a high voltage cable production facility including the construction of a 180m extrusion tower with associated factories, research and testing laboratories, offices with associated stores, transport access, parking and landscaping with on-site generation and electrical infrastructure and cable delivery system on the site at the Hunterston Coal Yard.</p> <p>The project you refer to below is by a potential customer, of which XLCC Limited have a number of enquires for other</p>

COMMENT	RESPONSE
	<p>schemes from other developers, but this customer is likely to be the first order. Details of this scheme will have to be sought from the customer.</p> <p><b>Further response:</b></p> <p>Unfortunately it is not XLCC's company policy to pass on details of customers' (existing or potential) to members of the public as this is business critical information subject to NDA's, GDPR (General data protection rules) would also preclude the passing on of such information. We welcome any questions regarding the publicised development at Hunterston by XLCC Ltd and will be happy to field questions regarding this application.</p>

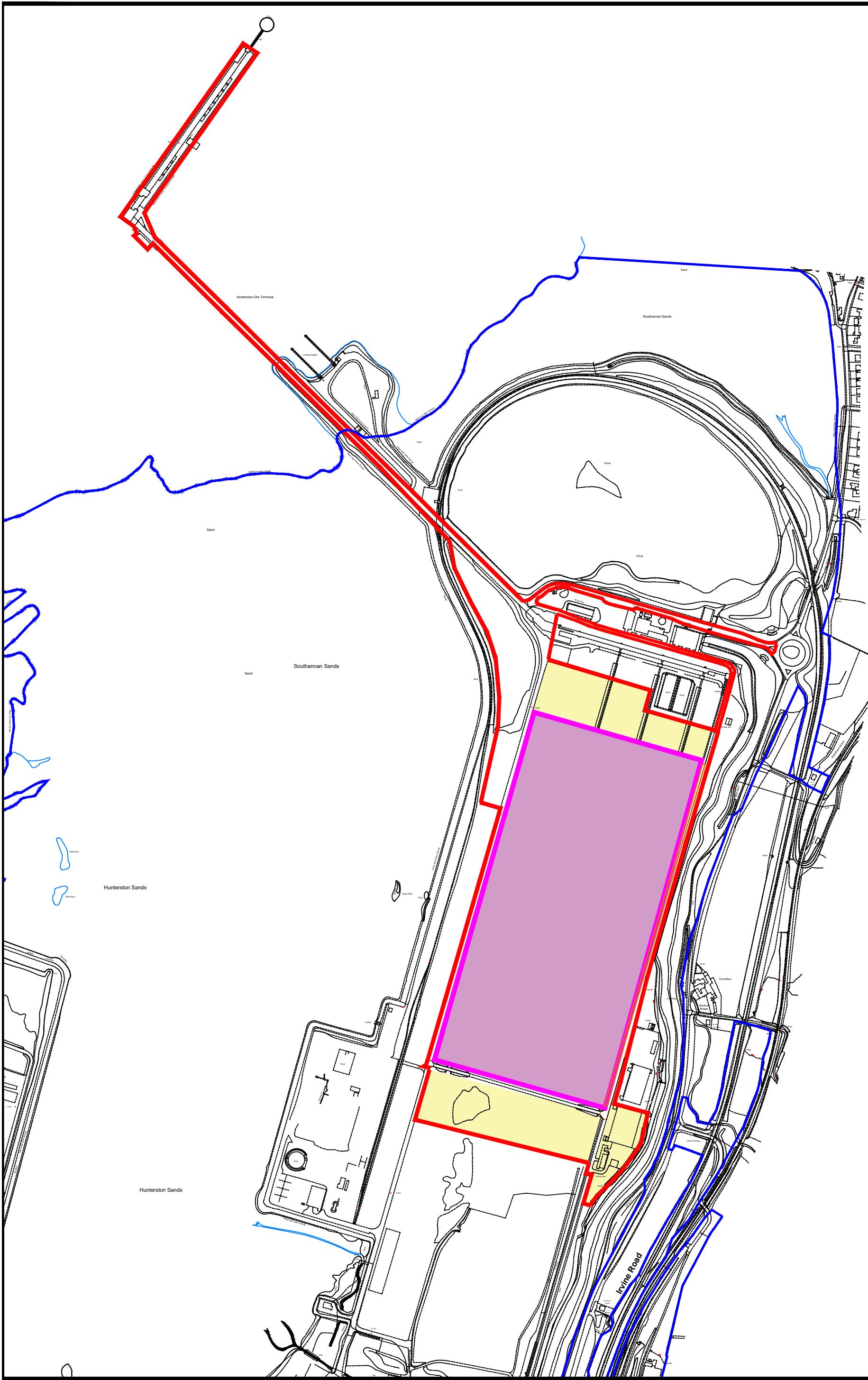
## 5 CONCLUSION

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- 5.1 The statutory pre-application consultation process provided XLCC Limited the opportunity to engage with the local community and to consider views prior to the submission of an Application for Planning Permission.
- 5.2 Local residents, politicians and members of Community Councils were able to view the exhibition and receive an explanation about the proposal. Opportunities were provided to ask questions and submit written comments.
- 5.3 A comments facility was available online, providing the opportunity for members of the public to give their opinion on the proposal. It was also possible to submit written comments by email or post.
- 5.4 Overall it is considered that the public event provided the opportunity for members of the public to learn about the proposal and provide comments. All comments received have been analysed in the production of this report and have been considered in the preparation of the enclosed proposal to seek planning permission for the erection of a high voltage cable production facility including the construction of a 180m extrusion tower with associated factories, research and testing laboratories, offices with associated stores, transport access, parking and landscaping with on-site generation and electrical infrastructure and cable delivery system at a site at Hunterston Coal Yard, North Ayrshire.
- 5.5 Overall, as can be seen by the nature of the submitted comments it is submitted that the proposals were in the main positively received.



**APPENDIX 1:  
LOCATION PLAN**



**LEGEND**

- PROPOSED SITE
- MANUFACTURING FACILITY PARAMETER ENVELOPE (ILLUSTRATIVE)
- CONSTRUCTION LAY-DOWN AND WELFARE (ILLUSTRATIVE)
- LAND IN SAME OWNERSHIP

800M

1:7500 @ A3

400M

0M

<b>CLIENT :</b>	<b>XLCC LTD LIMITED</b> KINGFISHER HOUSE RADFORD WAY BILLERICAY ESSEX CM12 0EQ	
<b>DESCRIPTION :</b>	<b>CABLE MANUFACTURING FACILITY          WITH ASSOCIATED          INFRASTRUCTURE          SITE LOCATION PLAN</b>	
<b>LOCATION :</b>	<b>LAND AT HUNTERSTON PORT          FAIRLIE          KA29 0AZ</b>	
<b>STATUS :</b>	<b>PAN</b>	
<b>SCALE :</b>	1:7500 @ A3	<b>DATE :</b> JUL 2021
<b>DRAWING NUMBER :</b>	LP-L-101	<b>REV :</b> 04 <b>DRAWN :</b> DK

**APPENDIX 2:  
PROPOSAL OF APPLICATION NOTICE**

## PROPOSAL OF APPLICATION NOTICE

Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (Section 35B)  
The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland)  
Regulations 2013 (Regulations 4 -7)

### To be completed for all developments within the national or major categories of development

Name of Council	North Ayrshire Council
Address	Cunninghame House
	Irvine
	KA12 8EE

Proposed development at [Note 1]	Hunterston Coal Yard, North Ayrshire

Description of proposal [Note 2]	The erection of a high voltage cable production facility including the construction of a 180m extrusion tower with associated factories, research and testing laboratories, offices with associated stores, transport access, parking and landscaping with on-site generation and electrical infrastructure and cable delivery system
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Notice is hereby given that an application is being made to

[Note 3] North Ayrshire	Council by [Note 4] XLCC Limited
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Of [Note 5]

Kingfisher House, 1 Radford Way, Billericay CM12 0EQ
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In respect of [Note 6]	Online public exhibition available from 23.8.21 to 3.9.21, with live webchat facility available on the 25.8.21 between 3pm and 7pm
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To take place on [Note 7]	<a href="http://www.mcinnally-associates.co.uk/hcf/index.html">http://www.mcinnally-associates.co.uk/hcf/index.html</a>
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[Note 8] The following parties have received a copy of this Proposal of Application Notice


See attached notification list

[Note 9] For further details contact	Tom McInally (McInally Associates Ltd)
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on telephone number	0141 332 5181
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And/or at the following address	16 Robertson Street, Glasgow G2 8DS
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[Note 10] I certify that I have attached a plan outlining the site

Signed	
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On behalf of	XLCC Limited
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Date	09 July 2021
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**APPENDIX 3:  
EXPLANATORY LETTER, AS SENT WITH PROPOSAL OF APPLICATION  
NOTICE TO RELEVANT COMMUNITY COUNCILS AND LOCAL GROUPS  
AND KEY STAKEHOLDERS, COUNCILLORS, MSPS AND MPS  
(NOTIFICATION LIST PROVIDED)**



Our Ref : TMCI/JL/1529

09 July 2021

«Title» «Title2» «First\_Name» «Surname» «Title3»  
«Address\_1»  
«Address\_2»  
«Address\_3»  
«Address\_4»  
«Town»  
«Postcode»

Dear «Title» «Surname»,

**PROPOSAL OF APPLICATION NOTICE : ERECTION OF A HIGH VOLTAGE CABLE PRODUCTION FACILITY INCLUDING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 180M EXTRUSION TOWER WITH ASSOCIATED FACTORIES, RESEARCH AND TESTING LABORATORIES, OFFICES WITH ASSOCIATED STORES, TRANSPORT ACCESS, PARKING AND LANDSCAPING WITH ON-SITE GENERATION AND ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND CABLE DELIVERY SYSTEM HUNTERSTON COAL YARD, NORTH AYRSHIRE**

Please find enclosed a Proposal of Application Notice in relation to a proposal to seek planning permission in principle for the erection of a high voltage cable production facility including the construction of a 180m extrusion tower with associated factories, research and testing laboratories, offices with associated stores, transport access, parking and landscaping with on-site generation and electrical infrastructure and cable delivery system at a site at Hunterston Coal Yard, North Ayrshire. A location plan of the site concerned is also enclosed.

This is a statutory procedure for major planning applications and provides Community Councils and the general public with the opportunity of expressing an opinion on the proposals prior to the formal submission of the application to the local authority.

As a consequence of COVID - 19 we are unable to physically host a staffed public exhibition in relation to the above noted proposals. Instead we will be hosting the public exhibition online, which can be accessed from the following webpage <http://www.mcinally-associates.co.uk/hcf/index.html>.

The webpage can be accessed from the 23<sup>rd</sup> August to 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021 and any comments /questions can be made both online on the webpages and via email. All comments to be submitted by the 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANTS  
16 ROBERTSON STREET, GLASGOW G2 8DS Tel: 0141-332 5181  
Website: [www.mcinally-associates.co.uk](http://www.mcinally-associates.co.uk)  
VAT Reg. No. 556 5290 23 Company Registration No. 141718

Directors: Tom McInally Dip.T.P. MRTPi HonFRAS (Managing Director), Mrs R. McInally (Company Secretary), Scott Graham B.A. (Hons) MRTPi (Associate Director)

In addition to this we will host a live web chat on <http://www.mcinally-associates.co.uk/hcf/index.html> between 3pm - 7pm on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2021. Any questions received from the public from the date of publication of the newspaper advert until the 10<sup>th</sup> September will be responded to within 48 hours of receipt (during office hours).

Further information may be obtained from McInally Associates Ltd, 16 Robertson Street, Glasgow G2 8DS or via [advice@mcinally-associates.co.uk](mailto:advice@mcinally-associates.co.uk). Persons wishing to make comments on the proposal should do so by 10<sup>th</sup> September to [advice@mcinally-associates.co.uk](mailto:advice@mcinally-associates.co.uk).

Please note that any comments made at this stage are not representations to the planning authority. Should any consequent planning application be made normal neighbour notification and publicity will be undertaken at that time and you will have the opportunity to make formal representations regarding the proposal at that time.

We trust that you find the above in order, however should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom McInally', with a small arrow pointing downwards at the end of the signature.

**TOM MCINALLY DIP TP; MRTPI; HON FRIAS**  
**MCINALLY ASSOCIATES LTD**  
[tommcinally@mcinally-associates.co.uk](mailto:tommcinally@mcinally-associates.co.uk)

Enc.

## Hunterston PAC - Parties Consulted

Title	Title2	First Name	Surname	Title3	Address 1	Address 2	Address 3	Address 4	Town	Postcode	Email	Constituency / Ward
Ms		Patricia	Gibson	MP	Unit 1	78 Princes Street			Ardrossan	KA22 8DF	<a href="mailto:patricia.gibson.mp@parliament.uk">patricia.gibson.mp@parliament.uk</a>	North Ayrshire and Arran
Mr		Kenneth	Gibson	MSP	The Scottish Parliament				Edinburgh	EH99 1SP	<a href="mailto:Kenneth.Gibson.msp@parliament.scot">Kenneth.Gibson.msp@parliament.scot</a>	Cunninghame North
Councillor		Alex	Gallagher		12 Phillips Avenue				Largs	KA30 9EP	<a href="mailto:agallagher@north-ayrshire.gov.uk">agallagher@north-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>	North Coast and Cumbræes
Councillor		Alan	Hill		4 Montgomerie Drive				Fairlie	KA29 0DZ	<a href="mailto:alanhill@north-ayrshire.gov.uk">alanhill@north-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>	North Coast and Cumbræes
Councillor		Tom	Marshall		c/o Member Services	Cunninghame House			Irvine	KA12 8EE	<a href="mailto:tommarshall@north-ayrshire.gov.uk">tommarshall@north-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>	North Coast and Cumbræes
Councillor		Ian	Murdoch		c/o Member Services	Cunninghame House			Irvine	KA12 8EE	<a href="mailto:ianmurdoch@north-ayrshire.gov.uk">ianmurdoch@north-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>	North Coast and Cumbræes
Councillor		Robert	Barr		37 West Park Wynd				Dalry	KA24 5BP	<a href="mailto:rbarr@north-ayrshire.gov.uk">rbarr@north-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>	Dalry and West Kilbride
Councillor		Todd	Ferguson		c/o Member Services	Cunninghame House			Irvine	KA12 8EE	<a href="mailto:toddferguson@north-ayrshire.gov.uk">toddferguson@north-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>	Dalry and West Kilbride
Councillor		Jean	McClung		c/o Member Services	Cunninghame House			Irvine	KA12 8EE	<a href="mailto:jeanmcclung@north-ayrshire.gov.uk">jeanmcclung@north-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>	Saltcoats
Councillor		Ronnie	McNicol		35 Caledonia Road				Saltcoats	KA21 5AJ	<a href="mailto:rmcnicol@north-ayrshire.gov.uk">rmcnicol@north-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>	Saltcoats
Councillor		Jim	Montgomerie	BCAV	54 Sharphill Road				Saltcoats	KA21 5QT	<a href="mailto:jimmontgomerie@north-ayrshire.gov.uk">jimmontgomerie@north-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>	Saltcoats
Councillor		Timothy	Billings		c/o Member Services	Cunninghame House			Irvine	KA12 8EE	<a href="mailto:timothybillings@north-ayrshire.gov.uk">timothybillings@north-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>	Ardrossan and Arran
Councillor		Anthony	Gurney		5 Linnburn Terrace				Ardrossan	KA22 8NR	<a href="mailto:agurney@north-ayrshire.gov.uk">agurney@north-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>	Ardrossan and Arran
Councillor		Ellen	McMaster		c/o Member Services	Cunninghame House			Irvine	KA12 8EE	<a href="mailto:ellenmcmaster@north-ayrshire.gov.uk">ellenmcmaster@north-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>	Ardrossan and Arran
Ms	Chair	Rita	Holmes		Fairlie Community Council	25A Main Road			Fairlie	KA29 0DL	<a href="mailto:rita.c.holmes@gmail.com">rita.c.holmes@gmail.com</a>	
Mr	Chair	John	Lamb		West Kilbride Community Council	c/o 97 Ardrossan Road		Seamill	West Kilbride	KA23 9NF	<a href="mailto:john.gray.lamb@btinternet.com">john.gray.lamb@btinternet.com</a>	
	The Secretary				Largs Community Council						<a href="mailto:largscommunitycouncilofficial@gmail.com">largscommunitycouncilofficial@gmail.com</a>	
Mr	Chair	Graham	Wallace		Cumbræe Community Council						<a href="mailto:cumbræeccouncil@gmail.com">cumbræeccouncil@gmail.com</a>	
Mrs	The Secretary	Gloria	Macdonald		Skelmorlie Community Council						<a href="mailto:skelmorliecc@gmail.com">skelmorliecc@gmail.com</a>	



**APPENDIX 4:  
REMINDER LETTER REITERATING ONLINE PUBLIC EXHIBITION  
ARRANGEMENTS AS SENT TO RELEVANT COMMUNITY COUNCILS AND  
LOCAL GROUPS AND KEY STAKEHOLDERS, COUNCILLORS, MSPS AND  
MPS (NOTIFICATION LIST PROVIDED)**



Our Ref : TMCI/JL/1529

16 August 2021

«Title» «First\_Name» «Surname» «Title3»  
«Title2»  
«Address\_1»  
«Address\_2»  
«Address\_3»  
«Address\_4»  
«Town»  
«Postcode»

Dear «Title» «Surname»,

**PROPOSAL OF APPLICATION NOTICE : ERECTION OF A HIGH VOLTAGE CABLE PRODUCTION FACILITY INCLUDING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 180M EXTRUSION TOWER WITH ASSOCIATED FACTORIES, RESEARCH AND TESTING LABORATORIES, OFFICES WITH ASSOCIATED STORES, TRANSPORT ACCESS, PARKING AND LANDSCAPING WITH ON-SITE GENERATION AND ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND CABLE DELIVERY SYSTEM HUNTERSTON COAL YARD, NORTH AYRSHIRE**

Further to our previous correspondence dated 9<sup>th</sup> July we write to remind you of the forthcoming pre-planning application public exhibition, in relation to the above proposal, which you are invited to attend. Unfortunately, as a consequence of COVID-19 we are unable to physically host a staffed public exhibition in relation to the above noted proposals. Given this, the purpose of this correspondence is to remind you that instead we will be hosting the public exhibition online, which can be accessed from the following webpage <http://www.mcinally-associates.co.uk/hcf/index.html>.

**This webpage (which will include the public exhibition boards) will be available to view between the dates of Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> August to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September.**

In addition, members of the project team will be available via a live-chat facility between 3pm and 7pm on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> August 2021 to explain the proposals in detail and answer any questions you may have. You can also submit any questions both via e-mail to [advice@mcinally-associates.co.uk](mailto:advice@mcinally-associates.co.uk) or on the webpage outlined above. Any questions received from today until the 10<sup>th</sup> September will be responded to within 48 hours of receipt.

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P L A N N I N G & D E V E L O P M E N T C O N S U L T A N T S  
16 ROBERTSON STREET, GLASGOW G2 8DS Tel: 0141-332 5181  
Website: [www.mcinally-associates.co.uk](http://www.mcinally-associates.co.uk)  
VAT Reg. No. 556 5290 23 Company Registration No. 141718

---

Directors: Tom McInally Dip.T.P. MRTPI HonFRAS (Managing Director), Mrs R. McInally (Company Secretary), Scott Graham B.A. (Hons) MRTPI (Associate Director)

Members of the public wishing to make comments on the proposal can do so via the methods outlined above by Friday 10<sup>th</sup> September. These will be analysed and a summary of the comments and how the applicant has considered them will be submitted with the planning application.

Please note that any comments made at this stage are not representations to the planning authority. Should any consequent planning application be made normal neighbour notification and publicity will be undertaken at that time and you will have the opportunity to make formal representations regarding the proposal at that time.

We trust that you find the above in order, however should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom McInally', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**TOM MCINALLY DIP TP; MRTPI; HON FRIAS**  
**MCINALLY ASSOCIATES LTD**  
tommcinally@mcinally-associates.co.uk

Enc.

## Hunterston PAC - Parties Consulted

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Mr		Kenneth	Gibson	MSP	The Scottish Parliament				Edinburgh	EH99 1SP	<a href="mailto:Kenneth.Gibson.msp@parliament.scot">Kenneth.Gibson.msp@parliament.scot</a>	Cunninghame North
Councillor		Alex	Gallagher		12 Phillips Avenue				Largs	KA30 9EP	<a href="mailto:agallagher@north-ayrshire.gov.uk">agallagher@north-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>	North Coast and Cumbræes
Councillor		Alan	Hill		4 Montgomerie Drive				Fairlie	KA29 0DZ	<a href="mailto:alanhill@north-ayrshire.gov.uk">alanhill@north-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>	North Coast and Cumbræes
Councillor		Tom	Marshall		c/o Member Services	Cunninghame House			Irvine	KA12 8EE	<a href="mailto:tommarshall@north-ayrshire.gov.uk">tommarshall@north-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>	North Coast and Cumbræes
Councillor		Ian	Murdoch		c/o Member Services	Cunninghame House			Irvine	KA12 8EE	<a href="mailto:ianmurdoch@north-ayrshire.gov.uk">ianmurdoch@north-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>	North Coast and Cumbræes
Councillor		Robert	Barr		37 West Park Wynd				Dalry	KA24 5BP	<a href="mailto:rbarr@north-ayrshire.gov.uk">rbarr@north-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>	Dalry and West Kilbride
Councillor		Todd	Ferguson		c/o Member Services	Cunninghame House			Irvine	KA12 8EE	<a href="mailto:toddferguson@north-ayrshire.gov.uk">toddferguson@north-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>	Dalry and West Kilbride
Councillor		Jean	McClung		c/o Member Services	Cunninghame House			Irvine	KA12 8EE	<a href="mailto:jeanmcclung@north-ayrshire.gov.uk">jeanmcclung@north-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>	Saltcoats
Councillor		Ronnie	McNicol		35 Caledonia Road				Saltcoats	KA21 5AJ	<a href="mailto:rmcnicol@north-ayrshire.gov.uk">rmcnicol@north-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>	Saltcoats
Councillor		Jim	Montgomerie	BCAV	54 Sharphill Road				Saltcoats	KA21 5QT	<a href="mailto:jimmontgomerie@north-ayrshire.gov.uk">jimmontgomerie@north-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>	Saltcoats
Councillor		Timothy	Billings		c/o Member Services	Cunninghame House			Irvine	KA12 8EE	<a href="mailto:timothybillings@north-ayrshire.gov.uk">timothybillings@north-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>	Ardrossan and Arran
Councillor		Anthony	Gurney		5 Linnburn Terrace				Ardrossan	KA22 8NR	<a href="mailto:agurney@north-ayrshire.gov.uk">agurney@north-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>	Ardrossan and Arran
Councillor		Ellen	McMaster		c/o Member Services	Cunninghame House			Irvine	KA12 8EE	<a href="mailto:ellenmcmaster@north-ayrshire.gov.uk">ellenmcmaster@north-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>	Ardrossan and Arran
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Mr	Chair	John	Lamb		West Kilbride Community Council	c/o 97 Ardrossan Road		Seamill	West Kilbride	KA23 9NF	<a href="mailto:john.gray.lamb@btinternet.com">john.gray.lamb@btinternet.com</a>	
	The Secretary				Largs Community Council						<a href="mailto:largscommunitycouncilofficial@gmail.com">largscommunitycouncilofficial@gmail.com</a>	
Mr	Chair	Graham	Wallace		Cumbræe Community Council						<a href="mailto:cumbræeccouncil@gmail.com">cumbræeccouncil@gmail.com</a>	
Mrs	The Secretary	Gloria	Macdonald		Skelmorlie Community Council						<a href="mailto:skelmorliecc@gmail.com">skelmorliecc@gmail.com</a>	

**APPENDIX 5:  
PUBLIC NOTICE AS IT APPEARED IN THE ARDROSSAN HERALD AND THE  
LARGS AND MILLPORT HERALD ON 11<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2021**

# Motoring



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Church and Religious Notices | Tenders and Contracts | Goods Vehicle Operator Licences

### Planning Notices

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS**  
**Notice under regulation 7(2)(b) Pre-application consultation by the prospective applicant**

Planning Application promoting the erection of a high voltage cable production facility including the construction of a 180m extrusion tower with associated factories, research and testing laboratories, offices with associated stores, transport access, parking and landscaping with on-site generation and electrical infrastructure and cable delivery system at a site at Hunterston Coal Yard, North Ayrshire

As a consequence of COVID-19 we are unable to physically host a staffed public exhibition in relation to the above noted proposals. Instead we will be hosting the public exhibition online, which can be accessed from the following webpage <http://www.mcinally-associates.co.uk/hcf/index.html>

This webpage can be accessed from the 23rd August to the 3rd September 2021 and any comments / questions can be made both online on the webpage and via email. All comments to be submitted by the 10th September.

In addition to this we will host a live web chat on the above noted webpage between 3pm - 7pm on 25th August. Any questions received from the public from the date of publication of this newspaper advert until the 3rd September will be responded to within 48 hours of receipt.

Further information may be obtained from McInally Associates Ltd, 16 Robertson Street, Glasgow G2 8DS or via [advice@mcinally-associates.co.uk](mailto:advice@mcinally-associates.co.uk)

Persons wishing to make comments on the proposal should do so by 10th September to [advice@mcinally-associates.co.uk](mailto:advice@mcinally-associates.co.uk)

This notice does not relate to a planning application. Comments should not be made to North Ayrshire Council. Any comments made to the prospective applicant are not representations to the planning authority. If a planning application is subsequently submitted to North Ayrshire Council, normal neighbour notification and publicity will be undertaken at that time and you will have the opportunity to make formal representations regarding the proposal at that time.

Signed McInally Associates Ltd  
On behalf of XLCC Limited.  
Date 11th August 2021

### Planning Notices

**NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL (B714, SALTCOATS TO DALRY) (TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE) ORDER 2021**

Order made under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, which will make it unlawful for any person to drive or cause or permit to be driven any motor vehicle (with the exception of vehicles engaged on carrying out carriageway improvement works and vehicles accessing local properties) on B714 Saltcoats to Dalry, by reason of works proposed to be executed on or near that road.

The Order will be in operation between **0800hrs on 16th August 2021 and 1700hrs on 23rd August 2021** or until such time as the works are completed, whichever is earlier.

**HAYOCKS ROAD, STEVENSON ROAD HUMP NOTICE 2021**

Notice is hereby given that North Ayrshire Council in exercise of the powers conferred on them by the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 and the Road Humps (Scotland) Regulations Act 1998 ("the Regulations") and of all other enabling powers and after consultation with the Chief Constable of Police Scotland, the Assistant Chief Officer of Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and the Scottish Ambulance Service in accordance with Section 3 of the Regulations hereby give notice of their intention to install road humps as detailed below:-

- Introduction of three sets of double speed cushions, approximately 70mm in height, 1900mm length and 1900mm width constructed between Castlehill Road and Hyslop Road, Stevenston.

Any person wishing to object to this proposal should send details of the grounds of objection in writing to Commercial Services (Roads & Transportation), Cunninghame House, Irvine KA12 8EE before 10th September 2021.

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS)(SCOTLAND) ACT 1997**

Applications listed below together with the plans and other documents may be examined online at [www.eplanning.north-ayrshire.gov.uk](http://www.eplanning.north-ayrshire.gov.uk)  
Comments should be made online at [www.eplanning.north-ayrshire.gov.uk](http://www.eplanning.north-ayrshire.gov.uk). Written representations may also be made to the Head Of Service (Economic Development & Regeneration) at the above address by 03.09.21. Any representations received will be open to public view.

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1)**  
**21/00740/PP; Site To South Of Giffen Mill, Dunlop Road, Barrmill, Beith; Erection of detached 1.5 storey dwelling house to include formation of access from B706, provision of parking, garden ground, landscaping and boundary treatments.**

Craig Hatton  
Chief Executive  
Cunninghame House  
IRVINE KA12 8EE

**North Ayrshire Council**  
Comhairle Siorrachd Àir a Tuath

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 Church and Religious Notices | Tenders and Contracts | Goods Vehicle Operator Licences

### Planning Notices

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING  
 (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE)  
 (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS**  
**Notice under regulation 7(2)(b) Pre-application  
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Further information may be obtained from McInally Associates Ltd, 16 Robertson Street, Glasgow G2 8DS or via [advice@mcinally-associates.co.uk](mailto:advice@mcinally-associates.co.uk)

Persons wishing to make comments on the proposal should do so by 10th September to [advice@mcinally-associates.co.uk](mailto:advice@mcinally-associates.co.uk)

This notice does not relate to a planning application. Comments should not be made to North Ayrshire Council. Any comments made to the prospective applicant are not representations to the planning authority. If a planning application is subsequently submitted to North Ayrshire Council, normal neighbour notification and publicity will be undertaken at that time and you will have the opportunity to make formal representations regarding the proposal at that time.

Signed McInally Associates Ltd  
 On behalf of XLCC Limited.  
 Date 11th August 2021

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We will try to satisfy an advertiser's request regarding the positioning of an ad, but no guarantee of position can be given unless agreed by us and paid for at the rate then current.

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**Copyright**  
 Ads are accepted on condition that we have the right to publish and distribute them in all editions in any form or medium, including for example online and in all electronic media as well as paper. The copyright in work or material we contribute to or re-work for an ad belongs to us. We will dispose of advertiser's copy artwork, photographs or other materials after six months unless collected.

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Our delay or failure to enforce or our waiver of any of our rights under these terms and conditions on any occasion shall not restrict the exercise or enforceability of such rights in the future. These terms and conditions are governed and interpreted in accordance with the laws of England and Wales and subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of England and Wales.

**APPENDIX 6:  
DISPLAY BOARDS USED AT THE ONLINE PUBLIC EXHIBITION**



# SITE AT HUNTERSTON COAL YARD, NORTH AYRSHIRE

1.

PLANNING APPLICATION PROMOTING THE ERECTION OF A HIGH VOLTAGE CABLE PRODUCTION FACILITY INCLUDING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 180M EXTRUSION TOWER WITH ASSOCIATED FACTORIES, RESEARCH AND TESTING LABORATORIES, OFFICES WITH ASSOCIATED STORES, TRANSPORT ACCESS, PARKING AND LANDSCAPING WITH ON-SITE GENERATION AND ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND CABLE DELIVERY SYSTEM

## WHY ARE YOU HERE?

XLCC Limited are in the process of preparing a planning application for the erection of a high voltage cable production facility including the construction of a 180m extrusion tower with associated factories, research and testing laboratories, offices with associated stores, transport access, parking and landscaping with on-site generation and electrical infrastructure and cable delivery system on a site at Hunterston Coal Yard, North Ayrshire.

A proposal of application notice was submitted to North Ayrshire Council on the 9th July 2021 advising the Council of the preparation of the planning application. The plan opposite shows the location of the site.

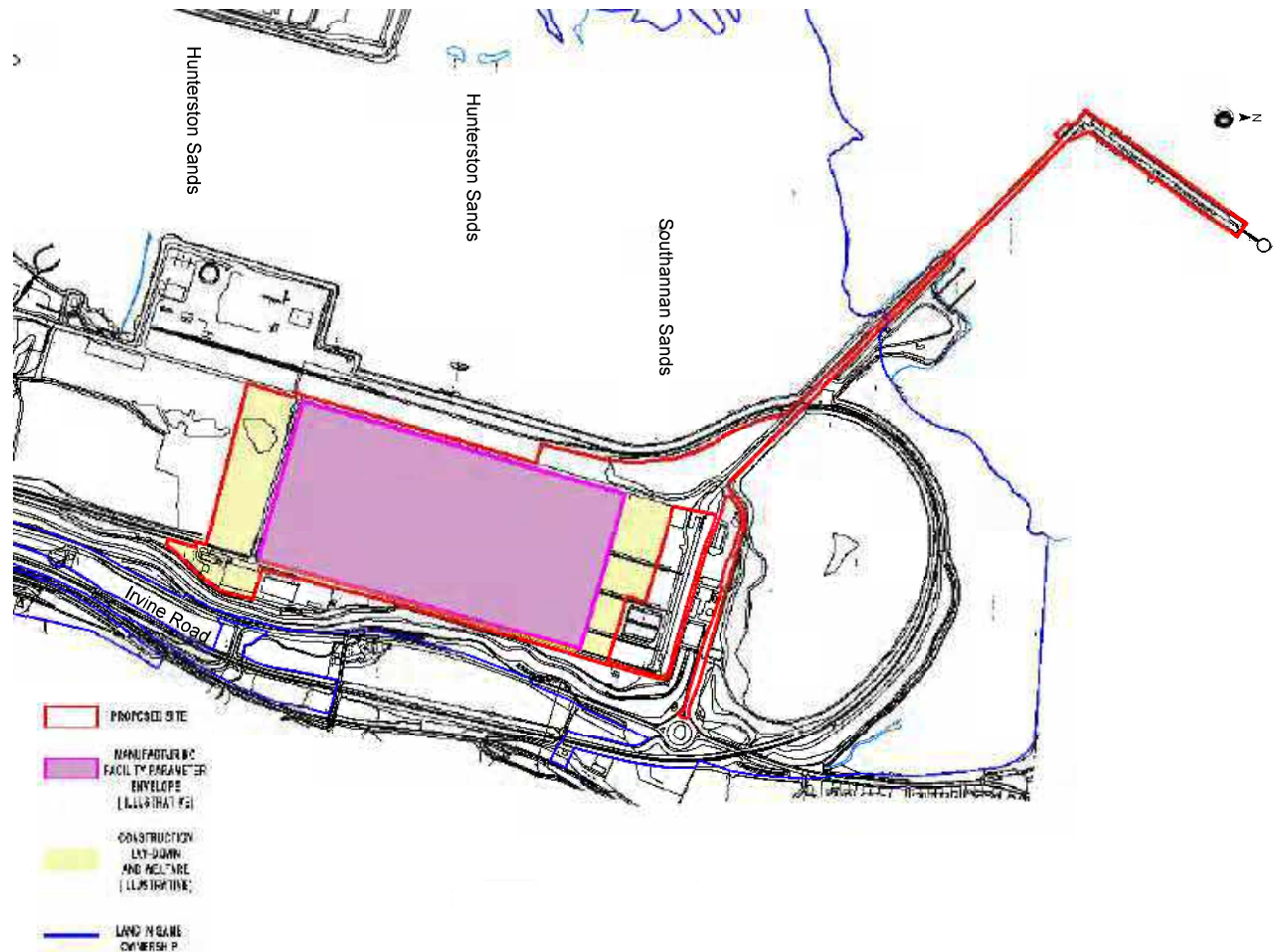
The Proposal seeks planning permission for a major manufacturing complex for the production of high voltage electricity cables for use in distributing renewable energy from a variety of sources. At this time there are only four certified plants in Europe, with none located in the United Kingdom, which manufacture such cables. However, there is growing demand and lengthy waiting times for delivery, slowing the distribution and transmission of renewable energy

The exhibition is part of the pre-application consultation process and seeks to obtain the views of the general public and local interest groups about the proposed development in advance of the finalisation and submission of the planning application.

In this regard it should be noted that all plans and images are subject to change prior to the submission of the planning application.

Members of the public are invited to put forward comments about the proposals by clicking on the 'Submit Your Comment' button on this website. These will be taken into consideration by XLCC Limited in finalising the proposals.

Comments on the proposed development, as outlined on the exhibition boards can also be submitted to [advice@mcinally-associates.co.uk](mailto:advice@mcinally-associates.co.uk) by the 10th September 2021.



LOCATION : SITE AT HUNTERSTON COAL YARD, NORTH AYRSHIRE



# SITE AT HUNTERSTON COAL YARD, NORTH AYRSHIRE

2.

PLANNING APPLICATION PROMOTING THE ERECTION OF A HIGH VOLTAGE CABLE PRODUCTION FACILITY INCLUDING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 180M EXTRUSION TOWER WITH ASSOCIATED FACTORIES, RESEARCH AND TESTING LABORATORIES, OFFICES WITH ASSOCIATED STORES, TRANSPORT ACCESS, PARKING AND LANDSCAPING WITH ON-SITE GENERATION AND ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND CABLE DELIVERY SYSTEM

## LOCATION AND CONTEXT

The proposed development site is part of the former Hunterston Coal Yard located within the wider Hunterston Port and Resource Centre, located on the coast of the West of Scotland, south of the settlement of Fairlie, and north of the EDF Hunterston Power Station.

Primary vehicular access to the site can be gained from the existing site access to the Hunterston Yard via Irvine Road (A78).

XLCC Limited have promoted the development of this site as it presents a unique opportunity to deliver a development of the nature outlined because of the advantages the location offers for deep water access and bulk cargo handling. The site has also been selected because of Hunterston's long history of industrial development, including more recently the construction and location of 194 metre wind turbines (being the offshore wind turbine test facility which was operated by SSE) on the Hunterston Marine Yard. It is of significance to note that the uses proposed are similar to previous industrial activity which has historically been consented on the development site.

In this regard the site's historic designation and use as an industrial development site makes the site an excellent location for the proposed development.

It is considered of significance to note that the proposed development will create in the first instance some 300 construction jobs and in the region of 900 manufacturing jobs. A wide range of employment opportunities will be available from highly skilled scientific and technical roles to research and development, office and manual jobs with an average salary level of around £35,000 per annum.

In addition the proposed complex is likely to act as a catalyst for further investment in the area, attracting elements of its supply chain to the site and beyond as the production level increases.



# SITE AT HUNTERSTON COAL YARD, NORTH AYRSHIRE

3.

PLANNING APPLICATION PROMOTING THE ERECTION OF A HIGH VOLTAGE CABLE PRODUCTION FACILITY INCLUDING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 180M EXTRUSION TOWER WITH ASSOCIATED FACTORIES, RESEARCH AND TESTING LABORATORIES, OFFICES WITH ASSOCIATED STORES, TRANSPORT ACCESS, PARKING AND LANDSCAPING WITH ON-SITE GENERATION AND ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND CABLE DELIVERY SYSTEM

## XLCC - SUBSEA CABLE MANUFACTURING

XLCC will establish a new, export-led, green industry in the UK: world class HVDC subsea cable manufacturing. Their mission is to provide the connectivity required for renewable power to meet future global energy needs.

Their Vision is to :

- Bring HVDC cable manufacturing to the UK for the first time
- Create a world class UK industry linked to the green revolution
- Provide jobs for our post-industrial communities
- Participate in the transformational growth of the renewable energy ecosystem

Currently only five factories with HVDC capacity exist in Europe, meaning the capacity in Europe to facilitate this is limited. There is only a single HVDC subsea cable plant in North America which has zero export capacity. Capacity within Asia has sometimes been used to supply Europe however Asian demand is also growing strongly. This highlights the importance of the development proposals in expanding this green industry to the United Kingdom and encouraging the transformational growth of the renewable energy ecosystem.

**THE XLCC MISSION**

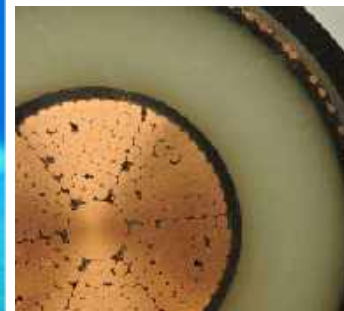
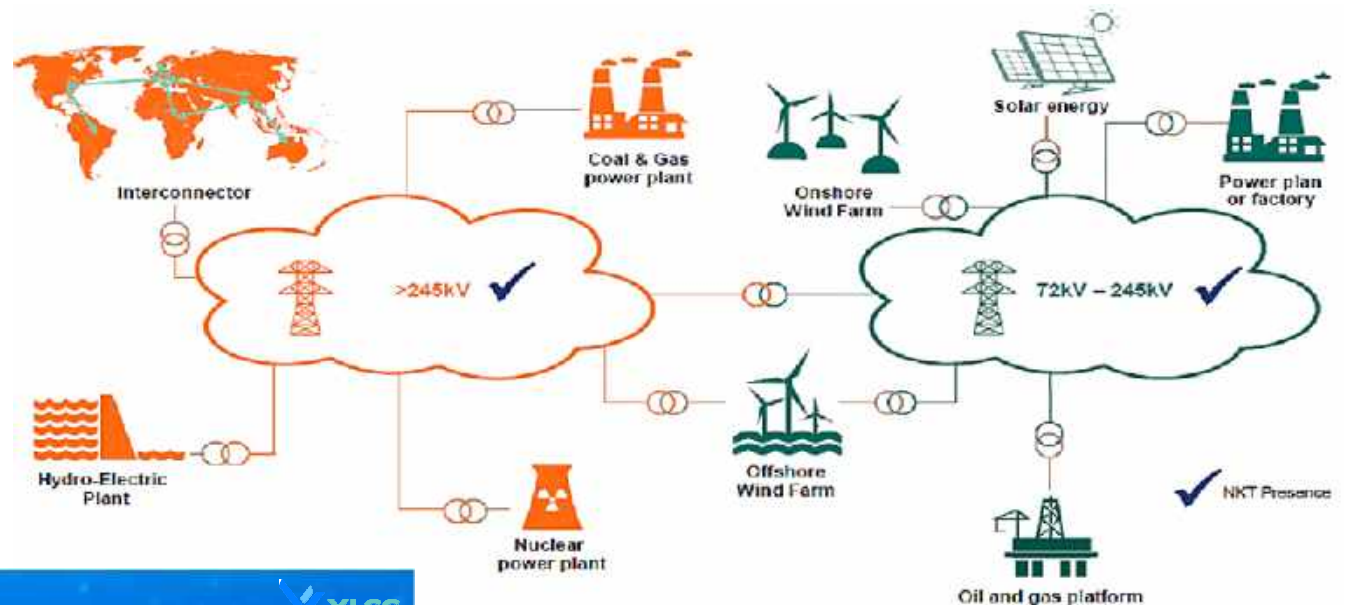
XLCC will establish a new, export-led, green industry in the UK: world class HVDC subsea cable manufacturing.

Their mission is to provide the connectivity required for renewable power to meet future global energy needs.



## USAGE OF HIGH VOLTAGE CABLES

High Voltage (HV) cables are necessary for electricity transmission between supply and demand centres



## CABLE EXAMPLE

- Conductor
- Screen
- Insulating layer
- Screen
- Metallic sheath
- Screen
- Armouring - steel wires, bitumen and polypropylene yarn

LOCATION : SITE AT HUNTERSTON COAL YARD, NORTH AYRSHIRE





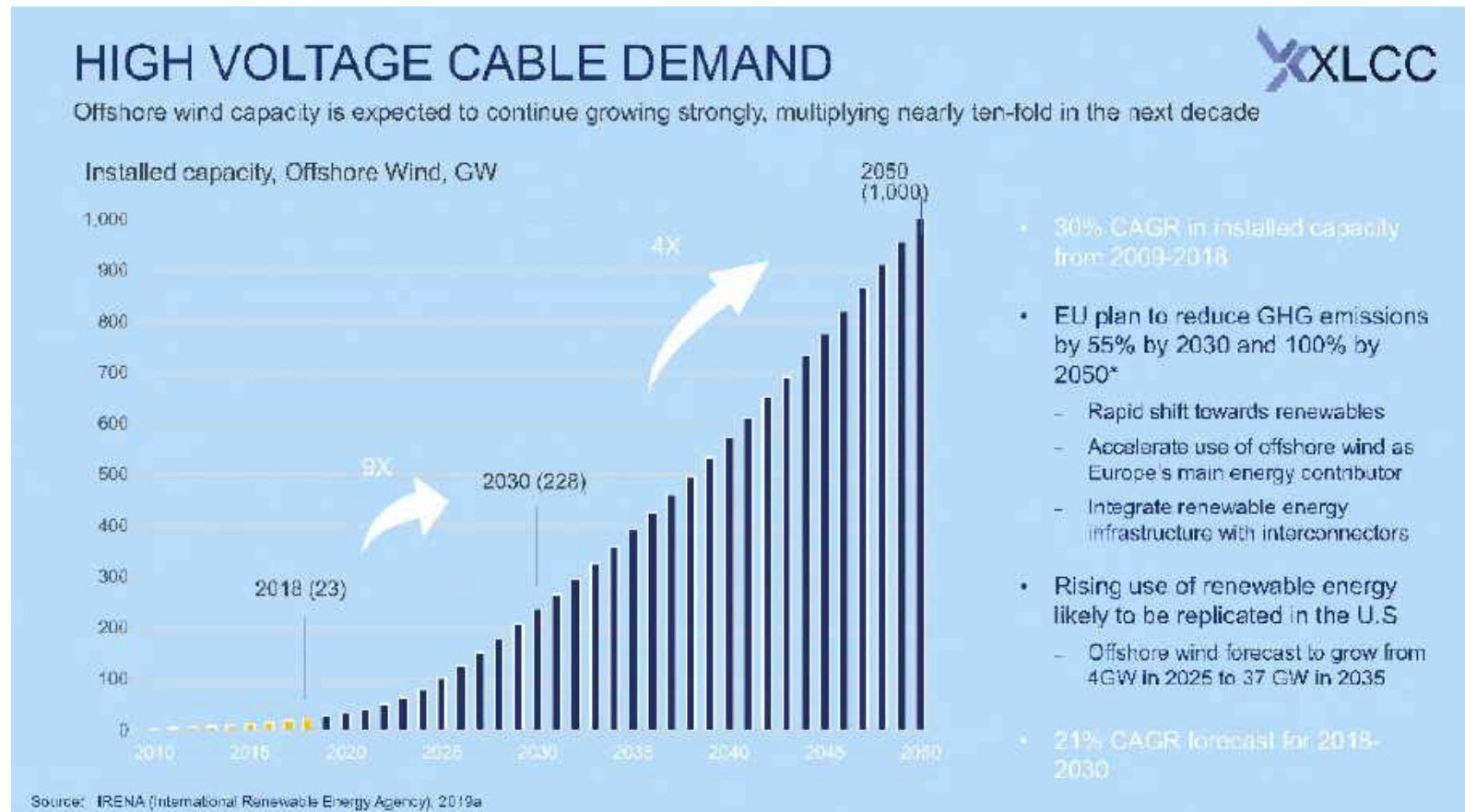
# SITE AT HUNTERSTON COAL YARD, NORTH AYRSHIRE

4.

PLANNING APPLICATION PROMOTING THE ERECTION OF A HIGH VOLTAGE CABLE PRODUCTION FACILITY INCLUDING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 180M EXTRUSION TOWER WITH ASSOCIATED FACTORIES, RESEARCH AND TESTING LABORATORIES, OFFICES WITH ASSOCIATED STORES, TRANSPORT ACCESS, PARKING AND LANDSCAPING WITH ON-SITE GENERATION AND ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND CABLE DELIVERY SYSTEM

## HIGH VOLTAGE CABLE DEMAND

The graph below clearly shows the growing high voltage cable demand from sources such as offshore wind with high voltage cables being necessary for electricity transmission between supply and demand centres. The proposed facility would be in the ideal position to serve such demand.



LOCATION : SITE AT HUNTERSTON COAL YARD, NORTH AYRSHIRE



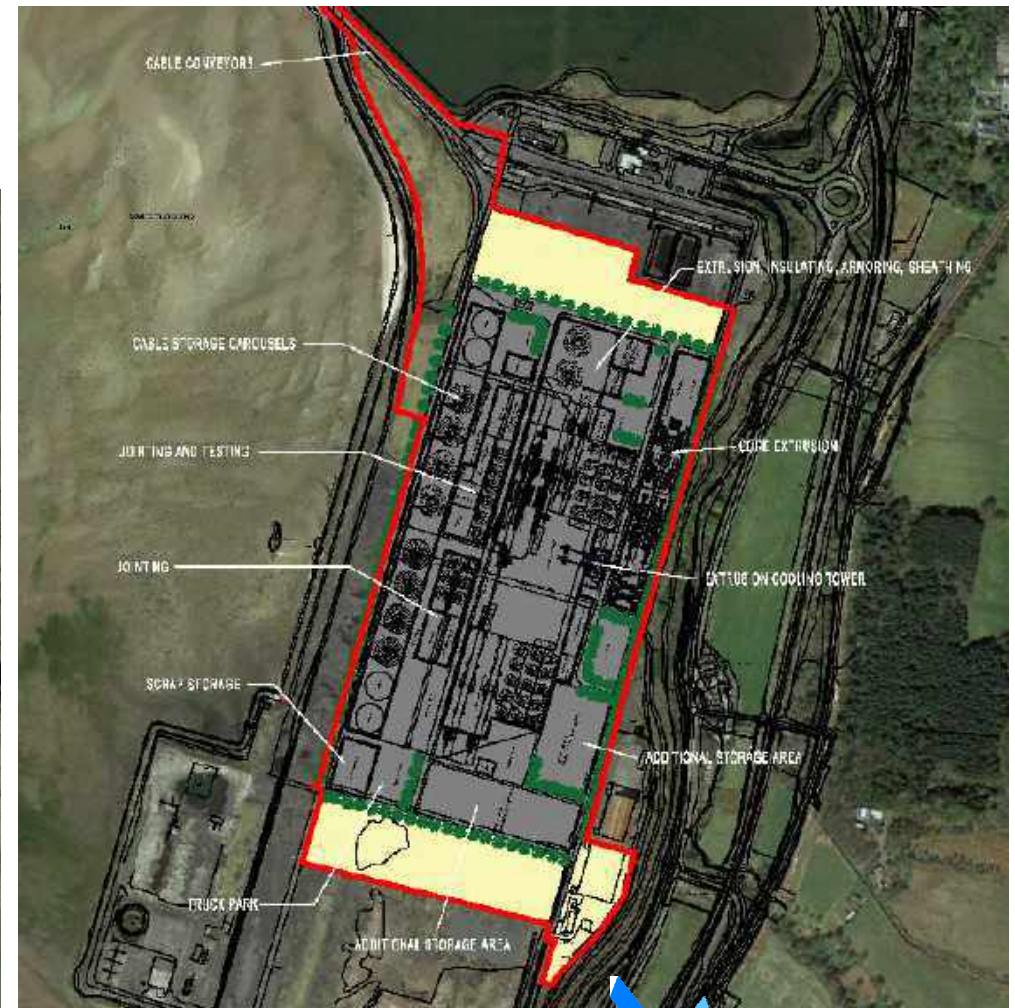
# SITE AT HUNTERSTON COAL YARD, NORTH AYRSHIRE

5.

PLANNING APPLICATION PROMOTING THE ERECTION OF A HIGH VOLTAGE CABLE PRODUCTION FACILITY INCLUDING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 180M EXTRUSION TOWER WITH ASSOCIATED FACTORIES, RESEARCH AND TESTING LABORATORIES, OFFICES WITH ASSOCIATED STORES, TRANSPORT ACCESS, PARKING AND LANDSCAPING WITH ON-SITE GENERATION AND ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND CABLE DELIVERY SYSTEM

## PROPOSED SITE PLAN

The images on the following boards provide an illustration of how the proposals could look.



LOCATION : SITE AT HUNTERSTON COAL YARD, NORTH AYRSHIRE





# SITE AT HUNTERSTON COAL YARD, NORTH AYRSHIRE

6.

PLANNING APPLICATION PROMOTING THE ERECTION OF A HIGH VOLTAGE CABLE PRODUCTION FACILITY INCLUDING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 180M EXTRUSION TOWER WITH ASSOCIATED FACTORIES, RESEARCH AND TESTING LABORATORIES, OFFICES WITH ASSOCIATED STORES, TRANSPORT ACCESS, PARKING AND LANDSCAPING WITH ON-SITE GENERATION AND ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND CABLE DELIVERY SYSTEM



LOCATION : SITE AT HUNTERSTON COAL YARD, NORTH AYRSHIRE



# SITE AT HUNTERSTON COAL YARD, NORTH AYRSHIRE

7.

PLANNING APPLICATION PROMOTING THE ERECTION OF A HIGH VOLTAGE CABLE PRODUCTION FACILITY INCLUDING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 180M EXTRUSION TOWER WITH ASSOCIATED FACTORIES, RESEARCH AND TESTING LABORATORIES, OFFICES WITH ASSOCIATED STORES, TRANSPORT ACCESS, PARKING AND LANDSCAPING WITH ON-SITE GENERATION AND ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND CABLE DELIVERY SYSTEM

## HIGH VOLTAGE CABLE DEMAND

A number of megatrends underpin long-term growth in the high voltage cable industry

1



- Population expansion and urbanisation
- Growing world economy
- Increased need for power

2



- Political ambition to reach Paris 2015 goals worldwide
- Fast expansion of renewable resources

3



- Renewable production capacity located far away from consumption
- New infrastructure to connect supply with demand

4



- Rapid increase in transnational grids
- Load balancing inter-region to enable higher percentage of intermittent renewables
- Inter-connections also improve cost efficiency and grid reliability

PLANNING APPLICATION PROMOTING THE ERECTION OF A HIGH VOLTAGE CABLE PRODUCTION FACILITY INCLUDING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 180M EXTRUSION TOWER WITH ASSOCIATED FACTORIES, RESEARCH AND TESTING LABORATORIES, OFFICES WITH ASSOCIATED STORES, TRANSPORT ACCESS, PARKING AND LANDSCAPING WITH ON-SITE GENERATION AND ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND CABLE DELIVERY SYSTEM

## CABLE FACTORIES LOCATION AND REQUIREMENTS

- The cable factories require to be located near a deepwater port and with access to a jetty to enable the cable to be loaded onto the cable laying vessel.
- In terms of the factory complex the 180m tower is required as the production process (application of cable insulation) requires the cable to be in a vertical position. The extrusion tower is an essential element of the manufacturing finishing process providing the highly important insulation for the high voltage cables which are manufactured in the factory. In this instance the tower will be architect designed as a beacon/symbol for the future of renewable energy and the enlightenment of British Industry
- The cable will move down the tower at 1 metre per minute and insulation takes 3 hours to cure.

## CABLE LAYING VESSEL EXAMPLE

- The pictured example has a single carousel. XLCC will need a vessel large enough to have 2 x carousels (each capable of operating with 12,000 tons in weight)
- The vessel will reload every 30 days (at each factory) and will be in port for up to 12 days to refuel, restock, change crew and to load the cable.
- The cable is capable of dynamic positioning (to hold station at sea) to allow the “jointing” process to take place. This will be done in a covered area on the deck of the ship.





# SITE AT HUNTERSTON COAL YARD, NORTH AYRSHIRE

9.

PLANNING APPLICATION PROMOTING THE ERECTION OF A HIGH VOLTAGE CABLE PRODUCTION FACILITY INCLUDING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 180M EXTRUSION TOWER WITH ASSOCIATED FACTORIES, RESEARCH AND TESTING LABORATORIES, OFFICES WITH ASSOCIATED STORES, TRANSPORT ACCESS, PARKING AND LANDSCAPING WITH ON-SITE GENERATION AND ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND CABLE DELIVERY SYSTEM

## NORTH AYRSHIRE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2

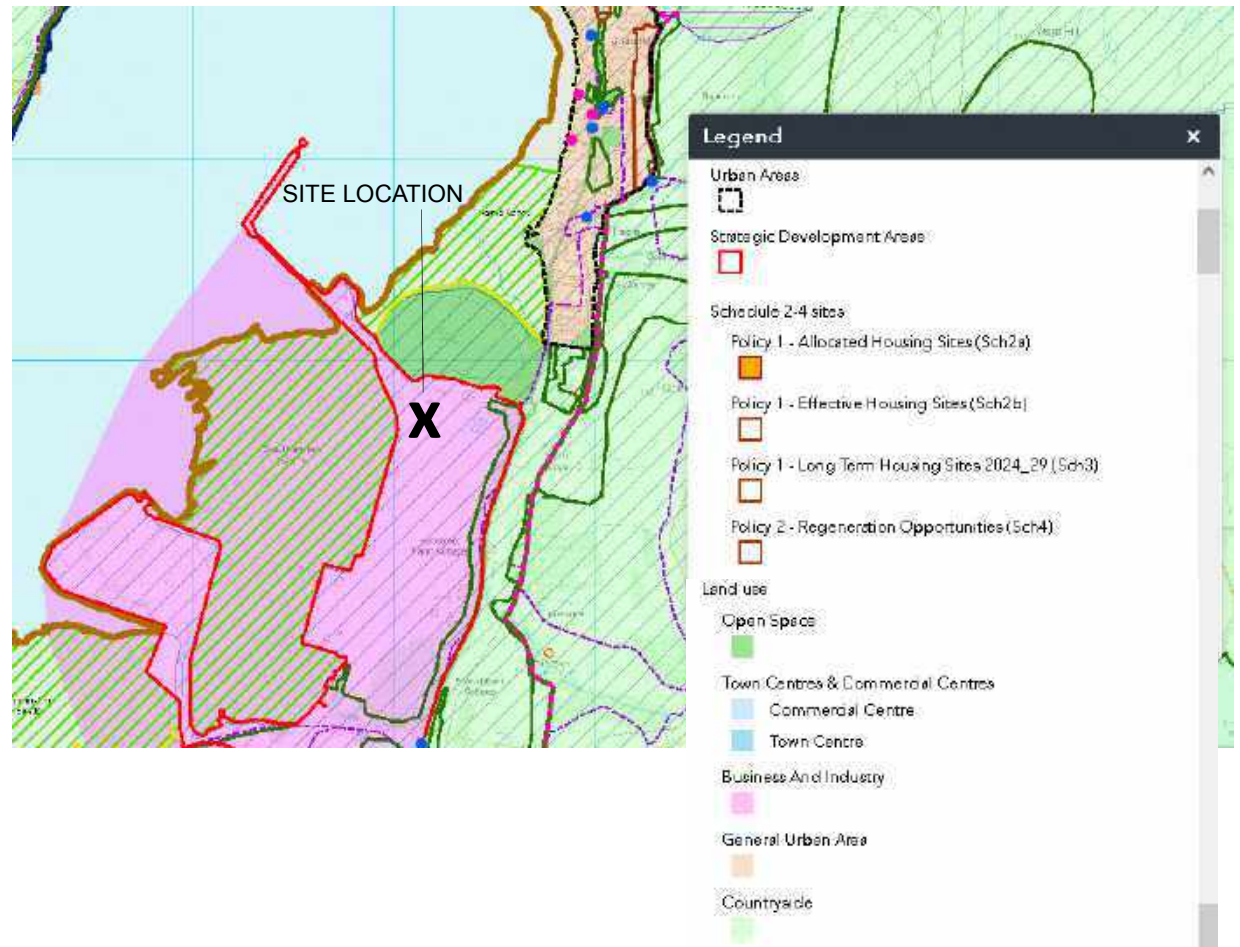
The development site is zoned as a Strategic Development Area (of national importance) under Strategic Policy 3: Strategic Development Areas within the North Ayrshire Local Development Plan 2. The site at Hunterston is also designated for Business and Industry under Schedule 5 of Policy 7- Business and Industry Employment Locations. There are a wide range of diverse uses permitted on the site at Hunterston which include the following :

- Renewables generation, manufacture, maintenance, research and development, testing and training (including support for a renewables skills academy)
- Strategic grid connections recognising its importance as a landfall to support the offshore renewable energy sector

## NATIONAL PLANNING FRAMEWORK 3

The site at Hunterston is identified within the existing National Planning Framework 3 as an area of co-ordinated action where a flexible strategy to development is supported. National Planning Framework 3 notes the following :

“Hunterston has long been identified as a priority for industrial and employment use. It benefits from good transport connections, and close proximity to the cities network. North Ayrshire Council and its partners are exploring future options for the site. Links with ongoing regeneration at Irvine through the Irvine Bay Urban Regeneration Company and its Life Sciences Enterprise Area will continue to be important. Future development at Hunterston should aim to make sustainable use of its key assets, including its deep water access. Activities which could align with our national strategy include manufacturing and servicing support for offshore renewable energy development, building on the success of the onshore test facility for offshore wind turbines. There is local support for coastal tourism development in the area, and the site owner, Clydeport, has its own ambitions. Given its existing infrastructure, Hunterston will be an important landfall for strategic grid connections, including the link from Carradale in Argyll and the ISLES Project.”



LOCATION : SITE AT HUNTERSTON COAL YARD, NORTH AYRSHIRE



PLANNING APPLICATION PROMOTING THE ERECTION OF A HIGH VOLTAGE CABLE PRODUCTION FACILITY INCLUDING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 180M EXTRUSION TOWER WITH ASSOCIATED FACTORIES, RESEARCH AND TESTING LABORATORIES, OFFICES WITH ASSOCIATED STORES, TRANSPORT ACCESS, PARKING AND LANDSCAPING WITH ON-SITE GENERATION AND ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND CABLE DELIVERY SYSTEM

## NORTH AYRSHIRE BENEFITS FROM XLCC PROPOSALS

The proposal will bring many significant benefits to North Ayrshire in the following areas:

### New Growth

- Will generate significant employment opportunities
- Local suppliers and contractors to be used
- Can use and provide services for other tenants at Hunterston and the wider area

### New Industry

- World class manufacturing facility (no other existing facilities in the UK with only 4 in Europe)

### Sustainable Growth from significant demand

- HVDC submarine cable used for interconnector projects (between Nations)
- HVDC submarine cable for offshore wind farms (array cables and export cables back to shore)

### Net Zero

- Supports green economy and renewable energy production
- Support for the Scottish government climate change targets

### New Technology

- Research and Development
- Future cable designs for deeper water than possible today
- New manufacturing methods (processes and materials)

### Equal Opportunities

- Training in transferable skills for other industries

## PROPOSED COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FROM PROPOSALS

- Supporting the Scottish Education equivalent of “key stages” for schools
- STEM training as part of apprenticeships and school/college courses
- Local partnerships with community groups
- Local, regional and national environment schemes

# SITE AT HUNTERSTON COAL YARD, NORTH AYRSHIRE

11.

PLANNING APPLICATION PROMOTING THE ERECTION OF A HIGH VOLTAGE CABLE PRODUCTION FACILITY INCLUDING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 180M EXTRUSION TOWER WITH ASSOCIATED FACTORIES, RESEARCH AND TESTING LABORATORIES, OFFICES WITH ASSOCIATED STORES, TRANSPORT ACCESS, PARKING AND LANDSCAPING WITH ON-SITE GENERATION AND ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND CABLE DELIVERY SYSTEM

## WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

We are keen to know your thoughts on the proposals. In order to make sure your views are considered, please complete a comment by clicking on the 'Submit Your Comments' button on this website or email us at [advice@mcinally-associates.co.uk](mailto:advice@mcinally-associates.co.uk)

Please ensure your comments are returned no later than the 10th September 2021.

All comments made about the proposed development will be taken into account and considered when finalising the proposals and will be included in a report to be submitted to North Ayrshire Council as part of the forthcoming planning application.

## THANK YOU!

For taking the time to visit our online exhibition, we value your feedback. Should you have any queries or would like to hear more about the proposals then please do not hesitate to contact us via the contact details noted above.

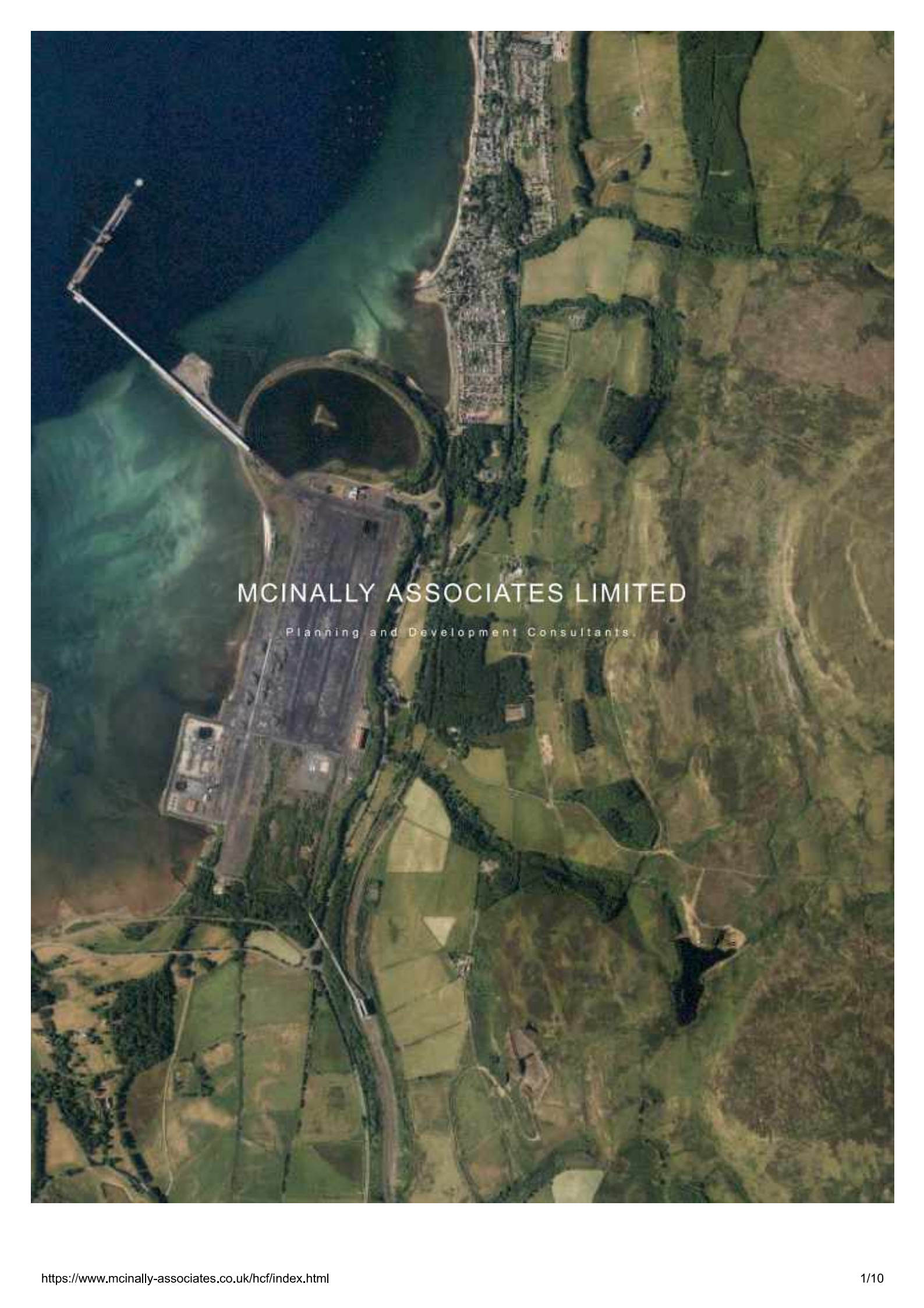


LOCATION : SITE AT HUNTERSTON COAL YARD, NORTH AYRSHIRE



**APPENDIX 7:  
COPY OF HOST WEBPAGE FOR ONLINE PUBLIC EXHIBITION**



An aerial photograph of a coastal area. On the left, a large circular structure, possibly a stadium or arena, is visible. A long pier extends from the shore into the water. To the right of the pier, a town or village is situated along the coast. The surrounding land is a mix of green fields and brownish terrain. The text 'MCINALLY ASSOCIATES LIMITED' is overlaid in the center of the image.

# MCINALLY ASSOCIATES LIMITED

Planning and Development Consultants

## **PUBLIC CONSULTATION EVENT**

Welcome and thank you for visiting our online Public Consultation Event.

### **WHY AM I HERE?**

McInally Associates Ltd on behalf of XLCC Limited submitted a Proposal of Application Notice to North Ayrshire Council on 9th July 2021 advising of the intention to submit a major planning application for the erection of a high voltage cable production facility including the construction of a 180m extrusion tower with associated factories, research and testing laboratories, offices with associated stores, transport access, parking and landscaping with on-site generation and electrical infrastructure and cable delivery system at a site at Hunterston Coal Yard, North Ayrshire, following a consultation period.

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic and in line with the most up-to-date Government guidance McInally Associates have set up this online consultation event as the best possible means of public engagement under these circumstances.

### **THE PROPOSALS**

The proposals put forward by XLCC Limited, which are the subject of this consultation, are for an application for the erection of a high voltage cable production facility including the construction of a 180m extrusion tower with associated factories, research and testing laboratories, offices with associated stores, transport access, parking and landscaping with on-site generation and electrical infrastructure and cable delivery system at a site at Hunterston Coal Yard, North Ayrshire. The proposals are explained in-depth on the exhibition boards below.



# SITE AT HUNTERSTON COAL YARD, NORTH AYRSHIRE

1.

PLANNING APPLICATION PROMOTING THE ERECTION OF A HIGH VOLTAGE CABLE PRODUCTION FACILITY INCLUDING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 180M EXTRUSION TOWER WITH ASSOCIATED FACTORIES, RESEARCH AND TESTING LABORATORIES, OFFICES WITH ASSOCIATED STORES, TRANSPORT ACCESS, PARKING AND LANDSCAPING WITH ON-SITE GENERATION AND ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND CABLE DELIVERY SYSTEM

## WHY ARE YOU HERE?

XLCC Limited are in the process of preparing a planning application for the erection of a high voltage cable production facility including the construction of a 180m extrusion tower with associated factories, research and testing laboratories, offices with associated stores, transport access, parking and landscaping with on-site generation and electrical infrastructure and cable delivery system on a site at Hunterston Coal Yard, North Ayrshire.

A proposal of application notice was submitted to North Ayrshire Council on the 9th July 2021 advising the Council of the preparation of the planning application. The plan opposite shows the location of the site.

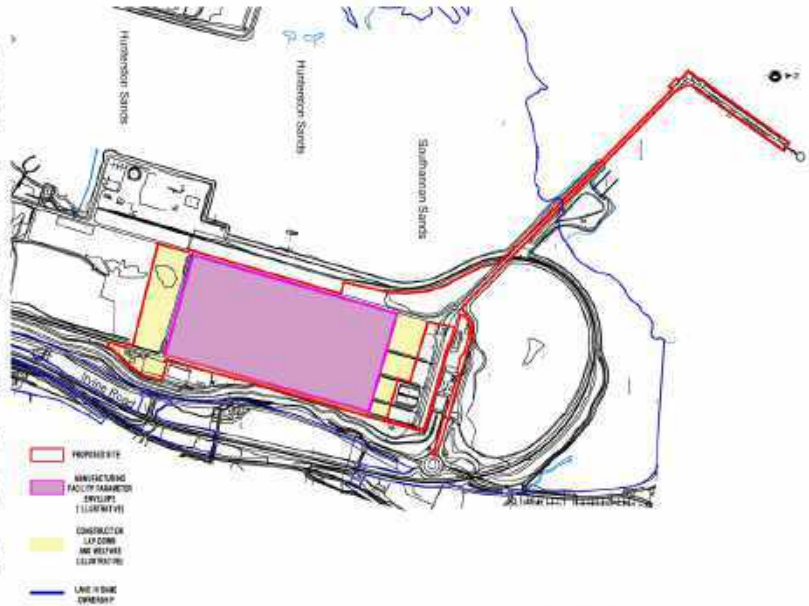
The Proposal seeks planning permission for a major manufacturing complex for the production of high voltage electricity cables for use in distributing renewable energy from a variety of sources. At this time there are only four certified plants in Europe, with none located in the United Kingdom, which manufacture such cables. However, there is growing demand and lengthy waiting times for delivery, slowing the distribution and transmission of renewable energy.

The exhibition is part of the pre-application consultation process and seeks to obtain the views of the general public and local interest groups about the proposed development in advance of the finalisation and submission of the planning application.

In this regard it should be noted that all plans and images are subject to change prior to the submission of the planning application.

Members of the public are invited to put forward comments about the proposals by clicking on the 'Submit Your Comment' button on this website. These will be taken into consideration by XLCC Limited in finalising the proposals.

Comments on the proposed development, as outlined on the exhibition boards can also be submitted to [advice@mcinally-associates.co.uk](mailto:advice@mcinally-associates.co.uk) by the 10th September 2021.



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2.

PLANNING APPLICATION PROMOTING THE ERECTION OF A HIGH VOLTAGE CABLE PRODUCTION FACILITY INCLUDING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 180M EXTRUSION TOWER WITH ASSOCIATED FACTORIES, RESEARCH AND TESTING LABORATORIES, OFFICES WITH ASSOCIATED STORES, TRANSPORT ACCESS, PARKING AND LANDSCAPING WITH ON-SITE GENERATION AND ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND CABLE DELIVERY SYSTEM

## LOCATION AND CONTEXT

The proposed development site is part of the former Hunterston Coal Yard located within the wider Hunterston Port and Resource Centre, located on the coast of the West of Scotland, south of the settlement of Fairlie, and north of the EDF Hunterston Power Station.

Primary vehicular access to the site can be gained from the existing site access to the Hunterston Yard via Irvine Road (A78).

XLCC Limited have promoted the development of this site as it presents a unique opportunity to deliver a development of the nature outlined because of the advantages the location offers for deep water access and bulk cargo handling. The site has also been selected because of Hunterston's long history of industrial development, including more recently the construction and location of 194 metre wind turbines (being the offshore wind turbine test facility which was operated by SSE) on the Hunterston Marine Yard. It is of significance to note that the uses proposed are similar to previous industrial activity which has historically been consented on the development site.

In this regard the site's historic designation and use as an industrial development site makes the site an excellent location for the proposed development.

It is considered of significance to note that the proposed development will create in the first instance some 300 construction jobs and in the region of 900 manufacturing jobs. A wide range of employment opportunities will be available from highly skilled scientific and technical roles to research and development, office and manual jobs with an average salary level of around £35,000 per annum.

In addition the proposed complex is likely to act as a catalyst for further investment in the area, attracting elements of its supply chain to the site and beyond as the production level increases.



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3.

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## XLCC - SUBSEA CABLE MANUFACTURING

XLCC will establish a new, export-led, green industry in the UK: world class HVDC subsea cable manufacturing. Their mission is to provide the connectivity required for renewable power to meet future global energy needs.

Their Vision is to:

- Bring HVDC cable manufacturing to the UK for the first time
- Create a world class UK industry linked to the green revolution
- Provide jobs for our post-industrial communities
- Participate in the transformational growth of the renewable energy ecosystem

Currently only five factories with HVDC capacity exist in Europe, meaning the capacity in Europe to facilitate this is limited. There is only a single HVDC subsea cable plant in North America which has zero export capacity. Capacity within Asia has sometimes been used to supply Europe however Asian demand is also growing strongly. This highlights the importance of the development proposals in expanding this green industry to the United Kingdom and encouraging the transformational growth of the renewable energy ecosystem.

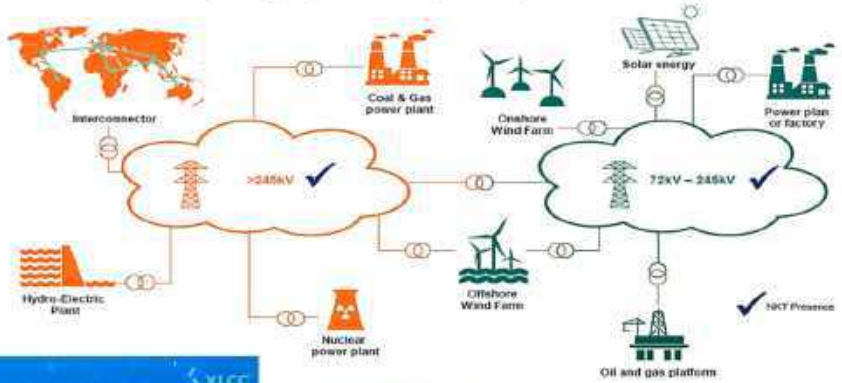
**THE XLCC MISSION**

XLCC will establish a new, export-led, green industry in the UK: world class HVDC subsea cable manufacturing.

Their mission is to provide the connectivity required for renewable power to meet future global energy needs.

## USAGE OF HIGH VOLTAGE CABLES

High Voltage (HV) cables are necessary for electricity transmission between supply and demand centres



**CABLE EXAMPLE**

- Conductor
- Screen
- Insulating layer
- Screen
- Metallic sheath
- Screen
- Armouring - steel wires, bitumen and polypropylene yarn

LOCATION : SITE AT HUNTERSTON COAL YARD, NORTH AYRSHIRE







## SITE AT HUNTERSTON COAL YARD, NORTH AYRSHIRE

6.

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LOCATION : SITE AT HUNTERSTON COAL YARD, NORTH AYRSHIRE



## SITE AT HUNTERSTON COAL YARD, NORTH AYRSHIRE

7.

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### HIGH VOLTAGE CABLE DEMAND

A number of megatrends underpin long term growth in the high voltage cable industry





1



- Population expansion and urbanisation
- Growing world economy
- Increased need for power

2



- Political ambition to reach Paris 2015 goals worldwide
- Fast expansion of renewable resources

3



- Renewable production capacity located far away from consumption
- New infrastructure to connect supply with demand

4



- Rapid increase in transnational grids
- Load balancing inter-region to enable higher percentage of intermittent renewables
- Inter-connections also improve cost efficiency and grid reliability



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### CABLE FACTORIES LOCATION AND REQUIREMENTS

- The cable factories require to be located near a deepwater port and with access to a jetty to enable the cable to be loaded onto the cable laying vessel.
- In terms of the factory complex the 180m tower is required as the production process (application of cable insulation) requires the cable to be in a vertical position. The extrusion tower is an essential element of the manufacturing finishing process providing the highly important insulation for the high voltage cables which are manufactured in the factory. In this instance the tower will be architect designed as a beacon/symbol for the future of renewable energy and the enlightenment of British Industry
- The cable will move down the tower at 1 metre per minute and insulation takes 3 hours to cure.

### CABLE LAYING VESSEL EXAMPLE

- The pictured example has a single carousel. XLCC will need a vessel large enough to have 2 x carousels (each capable of operating with 12,000 tons in weight)
- The vessel will reload every 30 days (at each factory) and will be in port for up to 12 days to refuel, restock, change crew and to load the cable.
- The cable is capable of dynamic positioning (to hold station at sea) to allow the "jointing" process to take place. This will be done in a covered area on the deck of the ship.



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9.

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NORTH AYRSHIRE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2



The development site is zoned as a Strategic Development Area (of national importance) under Strategic Policy 3: Strategic Development Areas within the North Ayrshire Local Development Plan 2. The site at Hunterston is also designated for Business and Industry under Schedule 5 of Policy 7: Business and Industry Employment Locations. There are a wide range of diverse uses permitted on the site at Hunterston which include the following:

- Renewables generation, manufacture, maintenance, research and development, testing and training (including support for a renewables skills academy)
- Strategic grid connections recognising its importance as a landfall to support the offshore renewable energy sector

### NATIONAL PLANNING FRAMEWORK 3

The site at Hunterston is identified within the existing National Planning Framework 3 as an area of co-ordinated action where a flexible strategy to development is supported. National Planning Framework 3 notes the following:

"Hunterston has long been identified as a priority for industrial and employment use. It benefits from good transport connections, and close proximity to the cities network. North Ayrshire Council and its partners are exploring future options for the site. Links with ongoing regeneration at Irvine through the Irvine Bay Urban Regeneration Company and its Life Sciences Enterprise Area will continue to be important. Future development at Hunterston should aim to make sustainable use of its key assets, including its deep water access. Activities which could align with our national strategy include manufacturing and servicing support for offshore renewable energy development, building on the success of the onshore test facility for offshore wind turbines. There is local support for coastal tourism development in the area, and the site owner, Clydeport, has its own ambitions. Given its existing infrastructure, Hunterston will be an important landfall for strategic grid connections, including the link from Carradale in Argyll and the ISLES Project."



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10.

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### NORTH AYRSHIRE BENEFITS FROM XLCC PROPOSALS

The proposal will bring many significant benefits to North Ayrshire in the following areas:

#### New Growth

- Will generate significant employment opportunities.
- Local suppliers and contractors to be used.
- Can use and provide services for other tenants at Hunterston and the wider area.

#### New Industry

- World class manufacturing facility (no other existing facilities in the UK with only 4 in Europe).

#### Sustainable Growth from significant demand

- HVDC submarine cable used for interconnector projects (between Nations)
- HVDC submarine cable for offshore wind farms (array cables and export cables back to shore)

#### Net Zero

- Supports green economy and renewable energy production
- Support for the Scottish government climate change targets

#### New Technology

- Research and Development

### PROPOSED COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FROM PROPOSALS

- Supporting the Scottish Education equivalent of "key stages" for schools
- STEM training as part of apprenticeships and school/college courses
- Local partnerships with community groups
- Local, regional and national environment schemes



- Future cable designs for deeper water than possible today
- New manufacturing methods (processes and materials)

**Equal Opportunities**

- Training in transferable skills for other industries



**LOCATION : SITE AT HUNTERSTON COAL YARD, NORTH AYRSHIRE**

**SITE AT HUNTERSTON COAL YARD, NORTH AYRSHIRE** 11.

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**WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?**

We are keen to know your thoughts on the proposals. In order to make sure your views are considered, please complete a comment by clicking on the 'Submit Your Comments' button on this website or email us at [advice@mcinally-associates.co.uk](mailto:advice@mcinally-associates.co.uk)

Please ensure your comments are returned no later than the 10th September 2021.

All comments made about the proposed development will be taken into account and considered when finalising the proposals and will be included in a report to be submitted to North Ayrshire Council as part of the forthcoming planning application.

**THANK YOU!**

For taking the time to visit our online exhibition, we value your feedback. Should you have any queries or would like to hear more about the proposals then please do not hesitate to contact us via the contact details noted above.



**LOCATION : SITE AT HUNTERSTON COAL YARD, NORTH AYRSHIRE**

[DOWNLOAD A COPY OF THE PROPOSALS](#)

**YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED**

The purpose of this exhibition is to gather the views of the local community and answer any questions you may have in relation to the proposals.

A live-chat facility will be available on Wednesday, 25th August 2021 during the hours of 3pm and 7pm where you will have the opportunity to ask our representatives any questions you may have. You can also submit any queries by e-mailing [advice@mcinally-associates.co.uk](mailto:advice@mcinally-associates.co.uk) or clicking the 'Submit a Query' button below. The deadline for questions will be 10th September 2021. We will endeavour to answer queries by e-mail within a 48 hour period (during office hours).

[SUBMIT A QUERY](#)

This online event will be available for viewing between 23rd August and 3rd September 2021 with formal comments accepted until 10th September 2021. Formal comments should be e-mailed to [advice@mcinally-associates.co.uk](mailto:advice@mcinally-associates.co.uk) or by clicking the 'Submit a Formal Comment' button below.

**Please note that this online event does not relate to a planning application. Comments should not be made to North Ayrshire Council. Any comments made to the prospective applicant are not representations to the planning authority. If a planning application is subsequently submitted to North Ayrshire Council, normal neighbour notification and publicity will be undertaken at that time and you will have the opportunity to make formal representations regarding the proposal at that time.**

[SUBMIT A FORMAL COMMENT](#)

If you are having problems viewing this exhibition online please contact us at [advice@mcinally-associates.co.uk](mailto:advice@mcinally-associates.co.uk) and we will arrange to get this information to you by alternative means.

XLCC Limited are keen to hear your views on the proposals as outlined on this website and would like to thank you for your participation. We understand that this is not the way in which you will have attended such an exhibition in the past and would also thank you for your co-operation.

**APPENDIX 8:  
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

## FAQs

Frequently Asked Questions (and answers) with respect to the XLCC proposed development at Hunterston

The main categories of question are listed below

1. Corporate Structure
2. Noise and Nuisance
3. Traffic and Transport
4. Ancillary work, subcontracts and employment
5. Extrusion Tower and Infrastructure

### Corporate Structure

1. XLCC is a very new company

XLCC is a new company (December 2020) that is registered in the UK

2. Who are you? If the development proceeds, will the factory(s) be owned and operated by XLCC, and if so, who will be the major shareholders?

This is a private limited company where the register of members (the shareholders/investors) is not available to the public. However, there is no person of significant control (PSC) who owns more than 25% of the company and only 2 x people own more than 10% of the company.

3. Is it likely that the facility will be owned and operated by a non-UK company?

There are no plans for the company to be operated by a non-UK registered business.

4. Do you expect the UK/Scottish taxpayer through Scottish Enterprise or similar government agencies to provide financial support for the development of the facility? Do you expect North Ayrshire Council to provide financial support?

The vast majority of the funding will be from the private sector. However, we will speak to the Scottish and the UK government regarding grants which may be available for developments of this size, location and industry which are supporting the UK movement to net zero.

5. You have made a statement 'additional cost to be in Hunterston'. What is the reason for any such additional cost?

If the factory is located at Hunterston rather than South Wales (which is another site that XLCC is seeking to build production facilities) there is an additional cost for the time to sail the cable laying vessel to Ayrshire. The time taken for this (return trip) multiplied by the number of trips for the first contract, multiplied by



the day rate for the vessel = the additional cost of operation from Hunterston compared to South Wales.

6. The proposal refers to two factories at Hunterston. Why two?

The wording “two factories is a bit mis-leading, so we apologise for this mistake, we are creating a 6 line factory at Hunterston and a 3 line factory in South Wales, so in essence Hunterston is twice the size of the other factory and has been labelled internally as a double factory where as it is merely larger than our other proposed facility.

We require 6 lines at Hunterston to meet the forecast future demand / current order interest. The second site in South Wales will have a similar footprint to the 70 acre site in Hunterston to allow for future expansion into a six line facility. However, the current plan is to build a three line facility at this stage.

7. Does the indicative layout include both factories or only one?

The layouts presented show a six line extrusion factory as outlined in Q6.

8. Is it proposed to develop both factories in parallel, or is it likely that there will be a time lag?

It is proposed to build the all six extrusion lines at Hunterston simultaneously.

9. You refer to ‘local partnerships with community groups’. Do you envisage an arrangement like that reached between a previous developer and Fairlie Community Trust?

We anticipate that the workforce will nominate local charities that they would like to support. We would encourage and support the workforce to be engaged with local charities and good causes. It is also likely that the employees will be given a modest amount of paid time off work to support their chosen charities. We recognise that this type of relationship supports both parties as this increase employee engagement and will also result in high employee retention figures.

We are unaware of what the existing arrangement is between the pervious developer and Fairlie Community Trust, so we cannot comment upon that.

## **Noise and Nuisance**

10. What impacts are likely from the development in relation to (i) noise (ii) smell (iii) particulates and (iv) residual waste products, given the proximity to residential areas.

We are expecting no noise, smell, particulates, or waste products to be released which would impact residential areas.

The armouring line which is housed internally in the centre of the site is the loudest machinery, it is measured at 82db from 1m away and at 1.5m height, so by the time it has passed through the building, the trees, embankment and soft landscaping it will be inaudible, and at far lower levels than the current ambient background noise.

We are extruding XLPE not PVC so we are not subject to the plastic smells which may have been considered as associated with the manufacturing.

We are not burning carbon based products for the processes. The materials must be 'clinically' clean, you will notice we do not have and chimneys on the site. The XLPE must be kept pure. Cross contamination of metals and insulation is extremely detrimental to the cable, so the process lines will be kept very clean.

As with all manufacturing waste will be created, this being from staff welfare and manufacturing, all waste will be treated or recycled in line with local and national environmental requirements and regulations.

**11. Have you visited other cable factories to verify how loud they are?**

Yes, we have visited multiple cable factories in Asia and also in Europe. Although there were no noise measurements taken when we were on site the metrics provided by the manufacturers regarding noise production appear to reflect a maximum noise level of up to 82db from 1m away at 1.5m height. As part of our standard on-boarding process all staff will be given training with respect to noise levels and the potential impact this may have on their health.

**12. Will there be a 24 x 7 operation?**

We are planning to operate a 24 x 7 operation for approximately 350 days per year. However, not all the plant and machinery will operate on a 24 x 7 basis. Some equipment will operate at a faster speed than others and outputs from some process can be stored before being used in the next process.

**13. What noise will be created when the Cable Laying Vessel is docking and being re-supplied at the jetty? Are you aware of how noisy the previous vessels have been, when berthed at the jetty? Are you aware of how noisy a previous cable laying vessel was when operating at the jetty?**

We are endeavouring to minimise any noise to local residents. This includes procuring a hybrid powered Cable Laying Vessel which can enter port and exit the port using battery power. We will also power the vessel using electricity when in the port to avoid the need for the diesel engines to power the vessel.

We have instructed the same company to design the onshore carousels and cable tracks who will design the offshore carousels for the vessel. Having a single design for the infrastructure will maximise the efficiency of the cable movement and minimise the noise. This should both mitigate any potential damage to the cable cause by vibration etc as well as minimising any noise from the process.

We are unable to comment on the operation or processes of other vessels and equipment that may use the jetty.

14. What power will be required for a vessel at the jetty?

We anticipate using 2MW of electricity for a vessel berthed at the jetty. We are planning to install 3MW of available power at the jetty to ensure there is an adequate supply.

15. What noise will be generated by other vessels using the jetty?

We are unable to comment on other vessels that may use the jetty for purposes outside of the XLCC project. XLCC will look at the options (including transport by sea) to bring plant and equipment to the site in the construction phase and then the raw materials during the production phase. This will also be influenced by the traffic assessment which is currently being performed.

16. The prime component of HVDC cables is copper. Will this material be delivered to site as ingots/bars or as pre- sized wire? Will on-site extrusion and annealing be part of the cable production process?

The prime component of our HVDC cables is not just copper and could include other metals such as aluminium. It is likely that the raw materials will be delivered on site as ingots and rods.

We will be extruding various layers onto the conductor as part of the production process.

## **Traffic and Transport**

17. How will raw materials be delivered to site? By road, rail, sea? There is no reference in the presentations to use of the existing rail link.

We are awaiting the results from our traffic assessment to see which is the most suitable route, but currently road, rail and sea are available as options for transport.

Whilst the option of using the rail link may be available at Hunterston the delivery to site has to include the availability of the rail network as a whole. If there is a restriction elsewhere in the UK then the option to use the “last mile” may be unavailable.

18. The local roads in Fairlie are too small for large lorries. What route will lorries use to access the site at Hunterston?

We are awaiting the results from our traffic assessment to see which is the most suitable route. We have also been made aware of the fatality caused by a lorry in approx. 2006. The awareness of this will be included in operational plans.

### **Ancillary work, subcontracts and employment**

19. You suggest that ‘cable protection’ might be ‘outsourced’. If so, would that take place within the overall Hunterston site? And if so, by another company?

Cable protection is the term given to the process when the cable is buried (or similar) when deployed onto the seabed, sometimes with a concrete ‘mat’.

The cable protection process is a generic process that can be performed by several offshore operators, these will be asked to quote to provide the service.

20. Why is the full production process of the cable not being undertaken in the factory as a continuous process?

The cable will leave the facility ready to be installed.

21. You suggest that part of the proposal will be the construction of a cable-laying vessel. Given the technical complexity of such vessels, is it realistic to suggest that a UK shipyard would be able to undertake such construction in the envisaged time frame?

The lead time for a cable laying vessel to be commissioned is currently approx. 3.5 years from design tender. Any shipyard that would construct the vessel has to have the capacity and capability to be awarded the contract.

22. On the presumption that the vessel will not be constructed in the UK, and that only one factory is put into operation, what is the estimate of

(a) the maximum, and

(b) the minimum of jobs provided by the proposal on

(c) the Hunterston site, and

(d) within North Ayrshire generally?

We are applying for planning permission to build the six line facility and as above we would plan to build all six lines simultaneously. We have instructed a socio-economic study for the wider impact, but we can confirm we will have circa 900 staff directly employed.

Ideally local workers will fill most of the positions.

There will be another 180 full time roles required for the cable laying process and we estimate that a further 150 roles will be required for the cable protection process. However, these roles could be performed by people living outside of North Ayrshire and have been excluded from the numbers we have stated.

23. Will the employment opportunities be available to people other than those who may be displaced at the Hunterston power station? And will there actually be 900 jobs created?

Employment opportunities will be available for people the appropriate experience or skill sets regardless of where they have worked in the past. Full training will be given where this is required for particular roles and responsibilities.

We expect to have approx. 400 people working on a temporary basis (for up to 18 months) we are estimating that there will be 900 full time, permanent roles. These are likely to include approximately 200 people recruited in 2023 and the balance in 2024.

There will be “shift work” for those functions which will require 24 x 7 operations whereas many of the other roles will operate in normal business hours.

Recruitment will be required for staff at all levels. Permanent roles for the 900 people will include opportunities in the following areas:

- Research and Development
- Engineering
- Manufacturing
- Quality Control
- Health & Safety
- Planning
- Maintenance
- Training
- Administration
- Finance
- Human Resources
- Logistics
- Procurement

- Project Management

In addition to the above there will be a further 180 people required for the cable laying vessel and approximately 150 for the cable protection vessel. These numbers, and those of the wider supply chain, have been excluded from the above as it is likely that most of these people will be employed from outside of the North Ayrshire area.

## **Extrusion Tower and Infrastructure**

24. Is it proposed to use the existing Hunterston Jetty for the loading of cable on to ship? If not, is it proposed to develop a dedicated out-loading facility adjoining the jetty?

The existing jetty will be used for all off and on loading of vessels.

25. What structures will require to be placed on the Hunterston Jetty approach and jetty head to enable the cable to be out-loaded? Will these additions be part of any planning application?

Cable tracks will be required for the jetty (powered by electrical conveyors to minimise the noise) and this will be part of the planning application.

26. The aerial photograph of the site used in the PAN is outdated and as such does not give confidence that the proposal has been well researched about the impact on and benefit to local communities!

The aerial imagery is to give an illustration of the site for visual reference for the purpose of the PAN only. This is not a plan nor general arrangement but as it stated it is an illustration. We have given and will continue to give every care to ensure the design is fit for its environment and this will be documented in the full planning application. To say that research has not been undertaken at this stage is false, as substantial financial investment has already been made to procure surveys and land. To enable this vast due diligence on the location and environment / planning has been undertaken.

27. Is the jetty fit for purpose? This was commissioned via an Act of Parliament many years ago.

The jetty has been upgraded recently and a full survey will be taken to ensure the jetty is safe for the intended use.

28. Are you aware that the site is adjacent to an SSSI area? And have you assessed the impact risk and mitigation for the site.

We are aware that the site is adjacent to the Site of Special Scientific Interest. As part of our planning application we will be conducting a full EIA which will form part of our risk and mitigation strategy.

29. Can you tell me the height of the factory buildings please? What will be housed in the tallest structure?

The height of the factory buildings vary in size across the site with the majority being between 9m and 14m to eaves. There is a small building in the middle of the site which will be approximately 40m to eaves, in addition there is the extrusion tower which will be 180m in height. The tallest structure will be the extrusion tower and this contain an extruder which will be used to apply the insulation to the conductor.

30. I would like more info on the 180 metre tall extrusion tower. What does 'curing the insulation inside the cable' involve and what is released into the atmosphere from the tower.

The extrusion tower is a fully enclosed essential element of the manufacturing process providing the highly important insulation for the high voltage cables which are manufactured in the factory. The tower will contain a number of extruders which will be used to apply coating to the cables.

This process will not release anything into the atmosphere from the tower. The structure is a tower, and not a chimney of any sort, it is 180m high as the cooling process requires a vertical installation to enable the material extruded to cure in a circular manner, if horizontal it will cure gathering to the bottom and create a defective cable. The height of the tower relates to the speed the machinery and extruders are required to go, this is 1m / minute, the cooling takes 180 minutes so requires 180m height.

**APPENDIX 9:  
SUPPLEMENTARY FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS WITH  
RESPONSES**



FAQs and replies re XLCC CABLE FACTORY AT HUNTERSTON **with follow-up questions in red**

### Corporate Structure

FAQ 3- **Is it likely that the facility will be owned and operated by a non-UK company?**

Reply -*"There are no plans for the company to be operated by a non-UK registered business. **Are the two people who own more than 10% UK residents for tax purposes?***

*This is a private limited company and the details of the shareholders are confidential. However, the shareholders who own more than 10% are both UK residents.*

### Noise and Nuisance

FAQ 12

**What impacts are likely from the development in relation to (i) noise (ii) smell (iii) particulates and (iv) residual waste products, given the proximity to residential areas?**

*"We are expecting no noise, smell, particulates, or waste products to be released which would impact residential areas". **On what do you base this assertion? Please substantiate it.***

*XLCC are working with stakeholders to identifying and then assess the likely significant environmental impacts of the development. These assessments will be submitted with the planning application for public scrutiny and to inform the decision by North Ayrshire Council. Such impacts are typically controlled through the imposition of planning conditions, which are enforceable by the local planning authority.*

*"The armouring line which is housed internally in the centre of the site is the loudest machinery, it is measured at 82db from 1m away and at 1.5m height, so by the time it has passed through the building, the trees, embankment and soft landscaping it will be inaudible, and at far lower levels than the current ambient background noise."*

**a. 82db is significant. What noise surveys have been carried out to support your assertion that the building, the trees, embankment and soft landscaping will render this inaudible in the village**

*XLCC recognises that the potential noise impacts of the project require assessment to ensure there are no unacceptable impacts upon the amenity of local residents. The impacts of the development will be assessed using robust*

methodology and mitigation options will be identified to minimise these impacts. The assessment will be submitted with the planning application and planning conditions will be proposed to control impacts.

**b. Where can we see these surveys now?**

The assessment is currently being carried out. The results will be submitted as part of the planning application.

**c. The extrusion tower will be so high that the the trees, embankment and soft landscaping will be dwarfed by it. Will the noise from the tower also be inaudible in the village?**

The effectiveness of the noise mitigation will form part of the noise assessment that will be submitted with the planning application. This will model the potential noise impact at key receptor locations and will propose controls to ensure that noise limits are not exceeded.

**d. What do you regard as the decibel level of the current ambient background noise? How have you measured this and under what conditions?**

the noise assessment that will be submitted with the planning application

*"As with all manufacturing waste will be created, this being from staff welfare and manufacturing, all waste will be treated or recycled in line with local and national environmental requirements and regulations."*

**Will there be any type of waste discharged in to the Clyde?**

No.

FAQ 13

**Have you visited other cable factories to verify how loud they are?**

*"Yes, we have visited multiple cable factories in Asia and also in Europe. Although there were no noise measurements taken when we were on site the metrics provided by the manufacturers regarding noise production appear to reflect a maximum noise level of up to 82db from 1m away at 1.5m height. As part of our standard on-boarding process all staff will be given training with respect to noise levels and the potential impact this may have on their health."* **Please name some of the European factories and their locations.**

We have visited other cable factories across the globe, however what is important for this project us to understand the background noise conditions specific to this site and assess the impact of the development that we are proposing.

**FAQ 14 Will there be a 24 x 7 operation?**

*"We are planning to operate a 24 x 7 operation for approximately 350 days per year. However, not all the plant and machinery will operate on a 24 x 7 basis. Some equipment will operate at a faster speed than others and outputs from some process can be stored before being used in the next process".* **Are you willing to consider not operating between certain hours eg 10pm-7am**

There is a requirement to run the factory on a 24 x 7 basis

**FAQ 15 What noise will be created when the Cable Laying Vessel is docking and being re-supplied at the jetty? Are you aware of how noisy the previous vessels have been, when berthed at the jetty? Are you aware of how noisy a previous cable laying vessel was when operating at the jetty?**

*"We are endeavouring to minimise any noise to local residents. This includes procuring a hybrid powered Cable Laying Vessel which can enter port and exit the port using battery power. We will also power the vessel using electricity when in the port to avoid the need for the diesel engines to power the vessel.*

*We have instructed the same company to design the onshore carousels and cable tracks who will design the offshore carousels for the vessel. Having a single design for the infrastructure will maximise the efficiency of the cable movement and minimise the noise. This should both mitigate any potential damage to the cable cause by vibration etc as well as minimising any noise from the process"***You have indicated the expected db level of noise from the factory. What is the expected db level of noise from the cable ship and related operations on the jetty? What is the basis for this expected noise level? Please substantiate this.**

We cannot provide the noise level from the vessel as this has yet to be built. We can advise that this will be lower than the noise levels from existing vessels due to the steps being taken as described above.

*"We are unable to comment on the operation or processes of other vessels and equipment that may use the jetty."***Please comment on the "operation or process" of other vessels and equipment which will use the jetty in connection with the proposed development, as you will be in a position to impose contractual controls in relation to eg the use of mains electricity instead of generators.**

We will look at the potential options available to deliver equipment and materials to site. All vessels movement/activity associated with the project will be assessed.

#### FAQ 16- What power will be required for a vessel at the jetty?

"We anticipate using 2MW of electricity for a vessel berthed at the jetty. We are planning to install 3MW of available power at the jetty to ensure there is an adequate supply". **How many vessels will be able to use the electricity supply on the jetty at the same time?**

XLCC plan to have a single cable laying vessel at the jetty at any one time. The increased capacity would be to cover any potential upgrades or additional equipment which may have a larger electricity requirement.

#### FAQ 17- What noise will be generated by other vessels using the jetty?

"We are unable to comment on other vessels that may use the jetty for purposes outside of the XLCC project. XLCC will look at the options (including transport by sea) to bring plant and equipment to the site in the construction phase and then the raw materials during the production phase. This will also be influenced by the traffic assessment which is currently being performed." **Please comment on the "operation or process" of other vessels and equipment which will use the jetty in connection with the proposed development, as you will be in a position to impose contractual controls in relation to eg the use of mains electricity instead of generators.**

We will look at the potential options available to deliver equipment and materials to site. All vessels movement/activity associated with the project will be assessed.

#### Traffic and Transport

FAQ 19 -How will raw materials be delivered to site? By road, rail, sea? There is no reference in the presentations to use of the existing rail link.

"We are awaiting the results from our traffic assessment to see which is the most suitable route, but currently road, rail and sea are available as options for transport

Whilst the option of using the rail link may be available at Hunterston the delivery to site has to include the availability of the rail network as a whole. If there is a restriction elsewhere in the UK then the option to use the "last mile" may be unavailable." **Proper traffic assessment is vital. When will your traffic survey be available to the public?**

The traffic survey will be submitted with the planning application.

#### Ancillary work, subcontracts and employment

**FAQ 23- You suggest that part of the proposal will be the construction of a cable-laying vessel. Given the technical complexity of such vessels, is it realistic to suggest that a UK shipyard would be able to undertake such construction in the envisaged time frame?**

*"The lead time for a cable laying vessel to be commissioned is currently approx. 3.5 years from design tender. Any shipyard that would construct the vessel has to have the capacity and capability to be awarded the contract."*

**I had understood that the new cable ship had already been ordered. By what date do you expect it to be ready for use?**

The project management contract for the new vessel has been awarded. This includes the design, the build and the installation of the mission equipment. The shipyard for the construction has yet to be selected.

The vessel is expect to enter sea trials at the end of 2024.



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