

Press release from Save Glen Lednock: not for publication until 5th March 2026

CAMPAIGNERS WELCOME ‘MAJOR SETBACK’ FOR PERTSHIRE WIND FARM PLANS

Campaigners against the controversial Glen Lednock and Glentarken wind farm plans [1] have welcomed a landmark ruling by the Court of Session in Edinburgh on 17th February [2]. The Save Glen Lednock group say that the Court’s decision to throw out the Wull Muir wind farm application in the Borders – for failing to consider the environmental implications of its grid connection – has ‘massive implications’ for the Perthshire projects. Martin Downing of the campaigning group said:

‘This decision by the Court of Session is a major setback for the multi-national developers, Low Carbon and SSE, since they also failed to include in their planning applications or Environmental Impact Assessments any consideration of the impact of the grid-connection infrastructure – and the Glen Lednock and Glentarken wind farms could only function if they were connected to the grid.’

Key criticisms of the Wull Muir developer by the Court included: ‘Failure to evaluate whether the wind farm and grid connection constituted a single "project"; ‘Inadequate handling of cumulative environmental effects of interdependent components’; ‘Irrationality’; and ‘Reliance on operational benefits without assessing the unassessed adverse impacts of the grid connection’. Martin Downing commented:

‘These devastating criticisms have massive implications for the Glen Lednock and Glentarken proposals. The only mention of the grid connections in the planning applications are brief paragraphs stating that they would be connected to the Killin substation. Bearing in mind that these connections would cross miles of sensitive upland landscapes adjacent to the National Park and National Scenic Areas, that are home to many species of birds of prey, it is completely illogical that the impacts of these connections have not been considered as part of the wind farm applications.’

The Court of Session ruling comes hard on the heels of Perth & Kinross Council’s unanimous objections to both wind farms, following robust objections by NatureScot, the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park Authority, and many other organisations, together with over 330 members of the public.

Save Glen Lednock argue that the landmark ruling will also impact on other wind farms proposed for Perthshire. Martin Downing pointed out:

‘The Meall Dearg Wind Farm, near Amulree – proposed by EnergieKontor (the same company proposing the Borders wind farm) – currently has a live planning application. This too does not consider the grid connection in its Environmental Impact Assessment, with not even a hint of where that connection might be. This is significant, as NatureScot have already stated that there is a “significant omission” of data in the EIA with regards to the cumulative impacts on birds of prey from the many proposed wind farms in the region.’

More info: Martin Downing on 07909-964456

Notes for editors:

[1] Since June 2025 the Save Glen Lednock group has been campaigning against plans by the multi-national companies Low Carbon and SSE to develop wind farms in the unspoilt mountains to the northwest of Comrie. The Glen Lednock and Glentarken wind farms would be immediately adjacent to each other and would, in effect, create one gigantic complex

comprising 31 massive turbines, each up to 200m high – more than three times the height of the Scott Monument in Edinburgh.

[2] (*Summary of Court of Session findings in the attached document.*) The statutory appeal before the First Division, Inner House, Court of Session concerned whether planning permission for the Wull Muir Wind Farm was lawfully granted in circumstances where the grid-connection infrastructure was not included as part of the planning application or the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). On 15 December 2022, EnergieKontor UK Ltd submitted a planning application to Scottish Borders Council for the erection of eight wind turbines and associated infrastructure, to be sited approximately 1.3 kilometres north-east of the village of Heriot. The appellant, Raeshaw Farms Limited, operates a farm and estate in close proximity to the proposed development and lodged objections to the application.

The application was initially refused by the Council. On appeal by the interested party, Scottish Ministers appointed a Reporter, who issued a decision on 14 January 2025 granting planning permission subject to various conditions. That decision was challenged by the appellant in this statutory appeal under section 239 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997.

The Court of Session, delivering its opinion through Lady Wise (with the Lord President and Lord Erich concurring), quashed the Reporter's decision and remitted the case to a different Reporter for a fresh determination. The court identified fundamental legal errors in the Reporter's approach.

END OF RELEASE