

# Ray II Wind Farm

## Community Involvement Plan

Existing Ray Wind Farm

## About Ray II Wind Farm

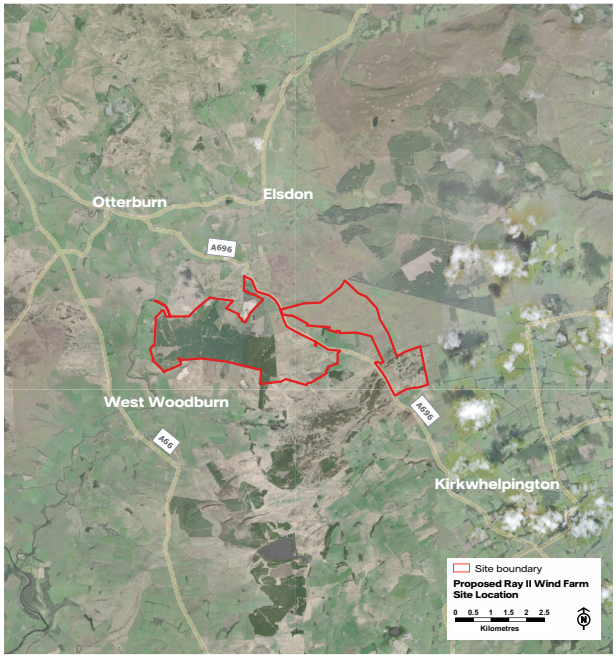
Ray II is a proposal for a wind farm of around 20 wind turbines, site access tracks, underground cabling, a substation, a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and a grid connection.

The site is in Northumberland, immediately adjacent to the existing Ray Wind Farm which has been operated by Vattenfall for nearly 10 years.

Ray II is classed as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) so the planning permission needed is called a Development Consent Order (DCO). Further details on the DCO can be found later in this leaflet.

Ray II is at the pre-application stage of the DCO process. When the DCO application is made it will include an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) which will assess the effects of the project. Working with specialists, we are currently carrying out the survey and assessment work needed to inform the design and EIA of the project.

We are now seeking to understand the views and feedback of the local community, local authority and other key stakeholders to help us shape the proposal.




PROJECTION: British National Grid. Contains OS data © Crown copyright and database right 2026. Earthstar Geographics.

Larger maps available at www.vattenfall.co.uk/ray2

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## Current status

**In May 2026, we contacted local residents to inform them that assessment work was underway to explore the potential for a Ray II wind farm.**

Around 120 people came along to introductory coffee afternoons to find out more and start asking questions and sharing concerns and ideas on a broad range of topics - from the visual impact of the project through to ideas for important opportunities and impacts that should be explored.

Since then, Vattenfall and its team of specialists have been reviewing the feedback from consultees on our plans for survey and assessment work, much of which is now underway. It includes:

**Landscape and visual assessment work**

**Noise monitoring**

**Environmental surveys - including bird, bat and protected mammal surveys**

**Peat depth analysis**

**Technical studies in relation to transport and grid connection**

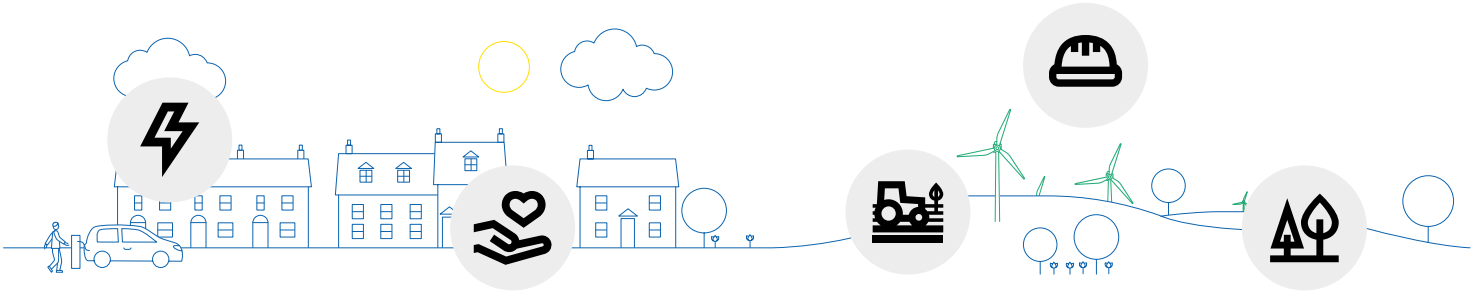
This assessment work will shortly be reporting back to the project and will help us understand how the site design should be shaped, as well as helping to provide answers to feedback and queries from the local community and stakeholders.



## Pre-Application consultation

As more information becomes available, we want to make sure you have the opportunity to share your views on the project and we are committed to making sure that we engage with you in an open and transparent way.

We will continue conversations with stakeholders across the area. In the coming weeks and months we will provide a series of feedback opportunities on a range of topics and these events will be publicised widely in the local area.



## How to get involved

We will provide a range of opportunities for you to find out more about the developing proposals and share your feedback, both in person and digitally.

This will include public consultation events where we will share updates from our latest site surveys and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) work, answer questions and listen to your views.

At the public consultation events, information will include:

- → Draft project layout
- → Visualisations of the project from key viewpoints
- → Interactive 3D model showing the project in the local area
- → Information on the environmental studies and how they have influenced the design of the project (including information on any mitigation proposals and plans for potential enhancements too)
- → Information on what would happen during the construction phase



We will also have more focused engagement with events attended by specialists on topics that have been raised so far by local communities.

The project web page will be updated regularly with information on the project and upcoming consultation events.

We will work to engage with harder to reach groups using social media feedback forms, Freepost and direct mail-outs.

Your feedback is important to help develop the proposal and will be considered along with the environmental survey work, feedback from our specialists and statutory consultees like Northumberland County Council, Environment Agency, Natural England, Historic England, Northumberland National Park and many others.

## What are we consulting on?

Understanding the views and feedback of the local community, local authority and other key stakeholders plays an important part in designing our proposal. As we move through the pre-application stage, as well as sharing the results of the survey and assessment work for your consideration, we will also be looking for feedback on:

**Environmental considerations, for example, private water supply locations, local biodiversity and key species**

**Opportunities for environmental enhancement, sustainability and long-term legacy benefits**

**Local heritage interests**

**Public rights of way and recreational routes**

**Local supply chain and business involvement**

# The DCO process

Ray II is classed as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) so the planning permission needed is called a Development Consent Order (DCO). Ray II is at the pre-application stage so we would encourage feedback from local communities, and other stakeholders, to help us shape our proposal before an application is made to the Planning Inspectorate. This is the time when your feedback can have the most impact - both your concerns and the opportunities that the project could offer.

Following acceptance of the application, members of the local community will have an opportunity to register to have their say. Registered parties can then provide comments and participate during the examination. Anyone from the local community can register their interest and provide their feedback and comments during the examination stage. The Planning Inspectorate will make a recommendation to the Secretary of State, who will then make a final decision whether to grant consent.

## Key expected dates (subject to change)

**Jan 27- Nov 27**
**Pre-application engagement**

**Dec 27**
**DCO Application**

**Apr 28 -Oct 28**
**Examination Period**

**Apr 29**
**Decision by Secretary of State**

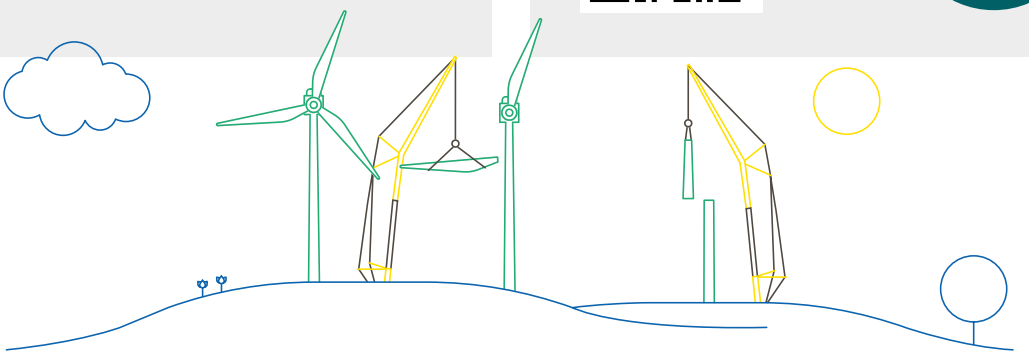
## About Vattenfall

Vattenfall is a renewable energy developer and has been working in North East England for more than 15 years, from its base in Hexham. We aim to develop well-designed renewable energy projects and work with local communities to understand local priorities and maximise opportunities that could provide lasting local benefit.

## Get in touch

You can reach the Ray II Wind Farm project team at the following email address **ray2@vattenfall.com** or by writing to us at FREEPOST RAY2 (no stamp required).

**www.vattenfall.co.uk/ray2**



**Vattenfall Wind Power Ltd**
St Andrew's House
Haugh Lane
Hexham NE46 3QQ
www.vattenfall.co.uk

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