



## Briefing for the Public Petitions Committee

Petition Number: [PE01537](#)

**Main Petitioner:** Shona Brash on behalf of Coastal Regeneration Alliance

**Subject:** Proposed Energy Park at Cockenzie

Calls on the Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to abandon the proposal for the development of an Energy Park at Cockenzie, and ensure that any future proposals are subject to full public consultation and do not extend beyond the existing footprint of the former power station.

### Background

The [National Planning Framework 3](#) (NPF3) identified Cockenzie as a strategically important location for the development of a dedicated energy hub, to support the emerging renewables market. Scottish Enterprise is currently exploring options for the redevelopment of the former coal fired Cockenzie Power Station, which has consent (under S36 of the Electricity Act 1989) to generate electricity from gas.

In addition to the current activity, Scottish Enterprise believes that an opportunity exists to develop new quayside capability and associated development land to support the creation of a marine energy park. Scottish Enterprise [states](#):

The project seeks to establish Scotland as a European hub for the offshore wind industry through the creation of a facility that can compete internationally in terms of scale, quality and location.

The three main elements of the proposals are as follows:

- New marine infrastructure comprising construction of new quayside to support import/export of goods and deployment of components to offshore wind sites.
- Formation of serviced plots and associated infrastructure for development by others to support manufacturing operations.
- Aggregate extraction to provide material for infill associated with quayside.

It is anticipated that the proposed development will require a number of consents and that applications will be submitted for:

- Planning Permission in Principle for onshore development works (under the Town and County Planning (Scotland) Act 1997).
- Application for a Marine Licence for offshore works (under the Marine Works [Environment Impact Assessment] Regulations 2007).
- Application for a Harbour Empowerment Order (under the Harbours Act 1964) to create a new harbour.

A Proposal of Application Notice, relating to the application for Planning Permission in Principle, was [submitted](#) to East Lothian Council on 2 June 2014. A series of public consultation events also commenced in June 2014.

### **Scottish Government Action**

In October 2011, Scottish Ministers [approved](#) the redevelopment of the coal fired power station into a gas fired one.

As previously noted, Scottish Enterprise is the main agency involved in promoting this development.

### **Scottish Parliament Action**

The Parliament has not previously considered this issue.

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27/11/14

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