

Project Information:

Blackwell Role	Main Contractor
Form of Contract	Fidic Yellow Book
Contract Value	£21M

Blackwell Site Management:

Contracts Manager:	Jim Wilkinson
Construction Manager:	Dave McCracken
Quantity Surveyor:	Gerard Murphy



Services Include:

Civil Engineering **Earthworks** **Geotechnical** **Remediation** **Electrical Works**



Contract Summary:

Blackwell commenced work on the Carrraig Gheal wind farm scheme in Oban in October 2011. This was a Full Balance of Plant project, incorporating 20 wind turbines with a combined installed capacity of 60 MW. The completed wind farm has the capacity to supply renewable energy to 32,000 households in the Argyll and Bute area.

The scope of work involved extensive earthworks operations to form new tracks and widen existing tracks to facilitate the new wind farm. An approximate total of 43km of tracks were formed during this project.



Key Processes:

The main elements of the work included the following:

- Earthworks to form new tracks and widen existing tracks.
- The management of peat and the construction of floating roads over deep peat deposits.
- The excavation and processing of rock to form track and hardstanding topping material. This approach avoided the need to import these materials to site.
- The construction of crane hardstanding areas - each turbine base required a crane hardstanding area from which the wind turbine could be erected.
- The implementation of permanent site drainage. The site was very undulating and reached 550m above sea level, requiring significant drainage installation on very challenging terrain.
- The construction of reinforced concrete bases for the wind turbines, each base comprised approximately 450cu.m of concrete, which was batched on site.
- The construction of transformer bases and met mast foundations.
- The construction of structures crossing multiple watercourses.
- The construction of permanent access points from the existing highway.
- The construction of a wind farm substation.
- The procurement and installation of all electrical equipment.
- Trenching and ductworks for the wind farm electric and SCADA cables.
- Managing the project around sensitive ecological and programme restrictions.

