

## **General planning principles - East Balvicar renewal**

GEN 1 General planning principle: The site to be licenced sites will use existing infrastructure of a fallow mussel farm and as such add no further burden to the planning principles

GEN 2 Economic benefit: Algae cultivation is a new venture in this geographical area and as such inputs a new income to the local and national economy

GEN 3 Social benefit: The use of existing infrastructure to grow algae during fallow periods of mussel farming, allow a more sustainable employment to local workers who would otherwise struggle

GEN 4 Co-existence: As part of an existing network of aquaculture farms, this alga cultivation project sits comfortably with other developments in the area.

GEN 5 Climate change: Algae cultivation requires no more than clean water and sunshine to produce the crop. As such there is little more required beyond the seeding at the beginning and harvesting at the end that require fossil fuels. There are no feed or treatment inputs throughout the process. The carbon captured during the growing period is short term current carbon with little sequestration value.

GEN 6 Historic environment: As we will be using existing infrastructure, no additional impacts will be felt on the local environment

GEN 7 Landscape/seascape: As GEN 6

GEN 8 Coastal process and flooding: As GEN 6

GEN 9 Natural heritage: As GEN 6

GEN 10 Invasive non-native species: All vessels, equipment and personnel will strictly follow current Biosecurity plans already in place. The algae species being cultivated are native and are found locally on rocky foreshores.

GEN 11 Marine litter: Any waste generated from the project will be disposed of ashore through local, certified commercial waste disposal. There are no Special Waste requirements envisaged.

GEN 12 Water quality and resource: There are no fresh water needs or waste water created from the algae cultivation. Seawater around the growing area will improve as nutrient loading in the water is taken up by the plants.

GEN 13 Noise: We envisage no additional noise pollution from this project.

GEN 14 Air quality: We envisage no impact on local air quality from this project.

GEN 15 Planning alignment: The use of existing infrastructure means that there is no addition pressure on the local environment at the shore facilities or the local roads and villages. The harvest season is short (4 to 6 weeks in total) and will require only a few vehicles to move the harvest on to processing.

GEN 16 Planning alignment B: As GEN 15

GEN 17 Fairness: The algae cultivation will be a lower impact on other marine users than the previous shellfish cultivation.

GEN 18 Engagement: Local engagement will be undertaken from the beginning and throughout the project.

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GEN 19 Sound evidence: This project is a scaled-up version of trials conducted through Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS), will retain SAMS as partners and be conducted by staff with advanced scientific knowledge in this emerging field.

GEN 20 Adaptive management: Robust management of the project will be undertaken by staff with decades of Aquaculture experience.

GEN 21 Cumulative impacts: Algae cultivation amongst the existing Fin-fish Farms in the area will be seen an ecosystem benefit and may forward the ground breaking Integrated Multi-trophic Aquaculture ideals.