



APPENDIX 10-1

CARBON CALCULATIONS

Payback Time

Payback Time

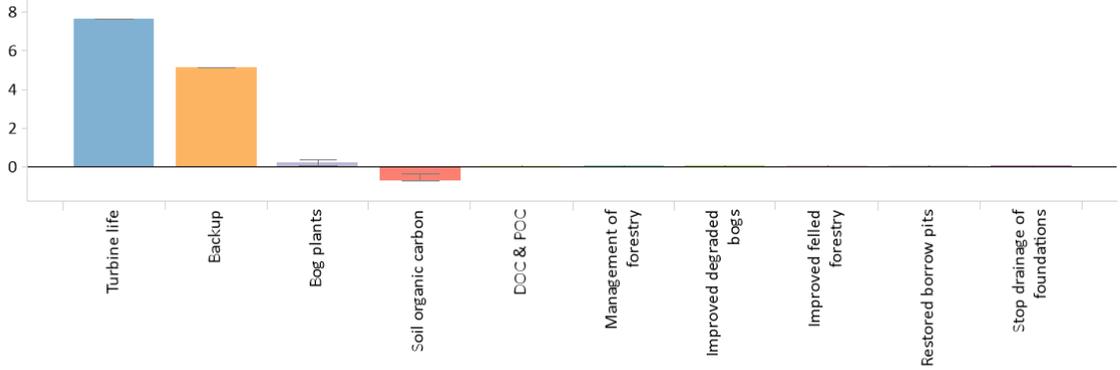
Payback Time - Checksheet Data

	Exp.	Min.	Max.
1. Windfarm CO2 emission saving over...			
...coal-fired electricity generation (t CO2 / yr)	338,486	328,815	348,157
...grid-mix of electricity generation (t CO2 / yr)	93,297	90,632	95,963
...fossil fuel-mix of electricity generation (t CO2 / yr)	165,564	160,834	170,294
Energy output from windfarm over lifetime (MWh)	11,037,600	10,722,240	11,352,960
Total CO2 losses due to wind farm (tCO2 eq.)			
2. Losses due to turbine life (eg. manufacture, construction, decommissioning)	105,299	105,299	105,299
3. Losses due to backup	70,956	70,956	70,956
4. Losses due to reduced carbon fixing potential	2,840	870	4,942
5. Losses from soil organic matter	-9,371	-9,873	-4,830
6. Losses due to DOC & POC leaching	0	0	0
7. Losses due to felling forestry	0	0	0
Total losses of carbon dioxide	169,724	167,252	176,367
8. Total CO2 gains due to improvement of site (t CO2 eq.)			
8a. Change in emissions due to improvement of degraded bogs	0	0	0
8b. Change in emissions due to improvement of felled forestry	0	0	0
8c. Change in emissions due to restoration of peat from borrow pits	0	0	0
8d. Change in emissions due to removal of drainage from foundations & hardstanding	0	0	0
Total change in emissions due to improvements	0	0	0
RESULTS			
Net emissions of carbon dioxide (t CO2 eq.)	169,724	167,252	176,367
Carbon Payback Time			
...coal-fired electricity generation (years)	0.5	0.5	0.5
...grid-mix of electricity generation (years)	1.8	1.7	1.9
...fossil fuel-mix of electricity generation (years)	1.0	1.0	1.1
Ratio of soil carbon loss to gain by restoration (not used in Scottish applications)	No gains!	No gains!	No gains!

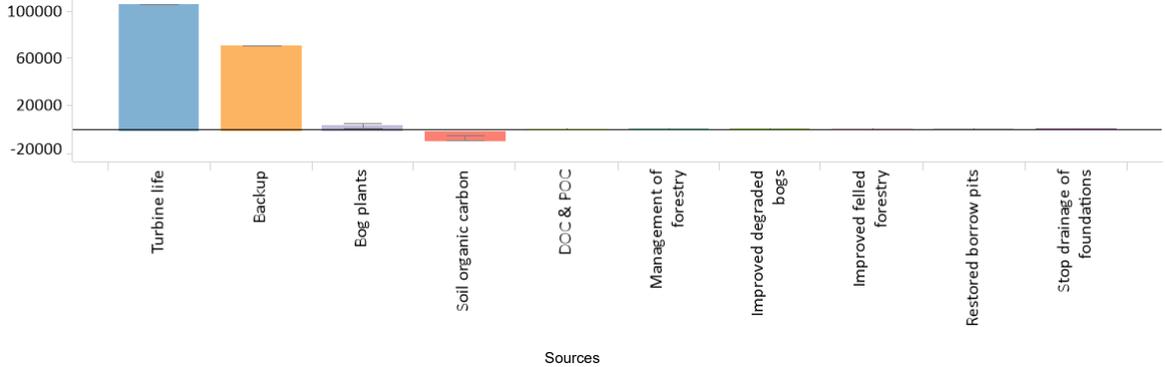
Payback Time - Charts

Payback Time
 Payback Time - Chart output Data

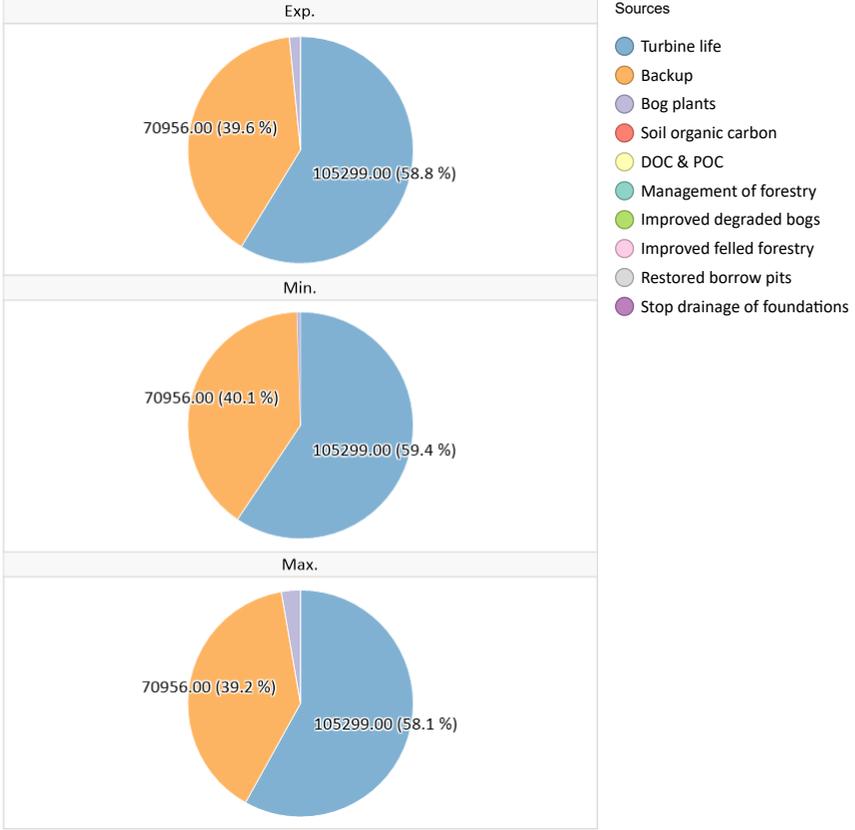
Carbon payback time (months) using fossil-fuel mix as counterfactual



Greenhouse gas emissions (t CO2 eq.)



Proportions of greenhouse gas emissions from different sources



View

[Payback Time](#)
[Payback Time - Characteristic Data](#)

[Print this page](#)

Carbon Calculator v1.6.1

Seven Hills Wind Farm Location: 53.449541 -8.155479

Energia Renewables ROI Ltd.

Core input data

Input data	Expected value	Minimum value	Maximum value	Source of data
Windfarm characteristics				
Dimensions				
No. of turbines	20	20	20	Ch.4
Duration of consent (years)	30	30	30	Ch.4
Performance				
Power rating of 1 turbine (MW)	6	6	6	Ch.4
Capacity factor	35	34	36	SEAI Report
Backup				
Fraction of output to backup (%)	5	5	5	SNH Guidance
Additional emissions due to reduced thermal efficiency of the reserve generation (%)	10	10	10	Fixed
Total CO2 emission from turbine life (tCO2 MW ⁻¹) (eg. manufacture, construction, decommissioning)	Calculate wrt installed capacity	Calculate wrt installed capacity	Calculate wrt installed capacity	
Characteristics of peatland before windfarm development				
Type of peatland	Acid bog	Acid bog	Acid bog	Generic
Average annual air temperature at site (°C)	9.3	5.7	12.9	Ch.10
Average depth of peat at site (m)	0	0	0	N/A
C Content of dry peat (% by weight)	55	50	60	Default Value
Average extent of drainage around drainage features at site (m)	15	5	20	Default Value
Average water table depth at site (m)	0.5	0.1	1	Default Value
Dry soil bulk density (g cm ⁻³)	0.1	0.09	0.11	Default Value
Characteristics of bog plants				
Time required for regeneration of bog plants after restoration (years)	10	5	15	Best Practice in Raised Bog Restoration in Ireland

5. Loss of soil CO₂ (a, b)

Payback Time
Payback Time - Charstinput Data

Emissions due to loss of soil organic carbon

Loss of C stored in peatland is estimated from % site lost by peat removal (table 5a), CO₂ loss from removed peat (table 5b), % site affected by drainage (table 5c), and the CO₂ loss from drained peat (table 5d).

5. Loss of soil CO₂

	Exp.	Min.	Max.
CO ₂ loss from removed peat (t CO ₂ equiv.)	-9371.23	-9873.17	-4829.97
CO ₂ loss from drained peat (t CO ₂ equiv.)	0	0	0
RESULTS			
Total CO ₂ loss from peat (removed + drained) (t CO ₂ equiv.)	-9371.23	-9873.17	-4829.97
Additional CO ₂ payback time of windfarm due to loss of soil C...			
...coal-fired electricity generation (months)	-0.33	-0.36	-0.17
...grid-mix of electricity generation (months)	-1.21	-1.31	-0.6
...fossil fuel - mix of electricity generation (months)	-0.68	-0.74	-0.34

CO₂ loss from removed peats

If peat is treated in such a way that it is permanently restored, so that less than 100% of the C is lost to the atmosphere, a lower percentage can be entered in cell C10.

5b. CO₂ loss from removed peat

	Exp.	Min.	Max.
CO ₂ loss from removed peat (t CO ₂)	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO ₂ loss from undrained peat left in situ (t CO ₂)	9371.23	9873.17	4829.97
RESULTS			
CO ₂ loss attributable to peat removal only (t CO ₂)	-9371.23	-9873.17	-4829.97

Volume of Peat Removed

% site lost by peat removal is estimated from peat removed in borrow pits, turbine foundations, hard-standing and access tracks. If peat is removed for any other reason, this must be added in as additional peat excavated in the core input data entry.

5a. Volume of peat removed

	Exp.	Min.	Max.
Peat removed from borrow pits			
Area of land lost in borrow pits (m ²)	0	0	0
Volume of peat removed from borrow pits (m ³)	0	0	0
Peat removed from turbine foundations			
Area of land lost in foundation (m ²)	4500	4500	4500
Volume of peat removed from foundation area (m ³)	0	0	0
Peat removed from hard-standing			
Area of land lost in hard-standing (m ²)	29350	29300	29350
Volume of peat removed from hard-standing area (m ³)	0	0	0
Peat removed from access tracks			
Area of land lost in floating roads (m ²)	0	0	0
Volume of peat removed from floating roads (m ³)	0	0	0
Area of land lost in excavated roads (m ²)	93500	93495	93505
Volume of peat removed from excavated roads (m ³)	0	0	0
Area of land lost in rock-filled roads (m ²)	0	0	0
Volume of peat removed from rock-filled roads (m ³)	0	0	0
Total area of land lost in access tracks (m ²)	93500	93495	93505
Total volume of peat removed due to access tracks (m ³)	0	0	0
RESULTS			
Total area of land lost due to windfarm construction (m ²)	127350	127295	127355
Total volume of peat removed due to windfarm construction (m ³)	0	0	0

5. Loss of soil CO2 (c,d,e)

Payback Time
Payback Time - Charstinput Data

Volume of peat drained

Extent of site affected by drainage is calculated assuming an average extent of drainage around each drainage feature as given in the input data.

5c. Volume of peat drained

	Exp.	Min.	Max.
Total area affected by drainage around borrow pits (m2)	0	0	0
Total volume affected by drainage around borrow pits (m3)	0	0	0
Peat affected by drainage around turbine foundation and hardstanding			
Total area affected by drainage of foundation and hardstanding area (m2)	86220	24720	122960
Total volume affected by drainage of foundation and hardstanding area (m3)	0	0	0
Peat affected by drainage of access tracks			
Total area affected by drainage of access track(m2)	561000	186990	748040
Total volume affected by drainage of access track(m3)	0	0	0
Peat affected by drainage of cable trenches			
Total area affected by drainage of cable trenches(m2)	0	0	0
Total volume affected by drainage of cable trneches(m3)	0	0	0
Drainage around additional peat excavated			
Total area affected by drainage (m2)	0	0	0
Total volume affected by drainage (m3)	0	0	0
RESULTS			
Total area affected by drainage due to windfarm (m2)	647220	211710	871000

Emission rates from soils

Note, CO2 losses are calculated using two approaches: IPCC default methodology and more site specific equations derived for this project. The IPCC methodology is included because it is the established approach, although it contains no site detail. The new

5e. Emission rates from soils

	Exp.	Min.	Max.
Calculations following IPCC default methodology			
Flooded period (days/year)	178	178	178
Annual rate of methane emission (t CH4-C/ha year)	0.04	0.04	0.04
Annual rate of carbon dioxide emission (t CO2/ha year)	35.2	35.2	35.2

CO2 loss due to drainage

Note, CO2 losses are calculated using two approaches: IPCC default methodology and more site specific equations derived for this project. The IPCC methodology is included because it is the established approach, although it contains no site detail. The new equations have been derived directly from experimental data for acid bogs and fens (see Nayak et al, 2008 - Final report).

5d. CO2 loss from drained peat

	Exp.	Min.	Max.
Calculations of C Loss from Drained Land if Site is NOT Restored after Decommissioning			
Total GHG emissions from Drained Land (t CO2 equiv.)	0	0	0
Total GHG emissions from Undrained Land (t CO2 equiv.)	0	0	0
Calculations of C Loss from Drained Land if Site IS Restored after Decommissioning			
Losses if Land is Drained			
CH4 emissions from drained land (t CO2 equiv.)	-222.67	-376.13	18560.63
CO2 emissions from drained land (t CO2)	47849.27	16796.64	14472.23
Total GHG emissions from Drained Land (t CO2 equiv.)	0	0	0
Losses if Land is Undrained			
CH4 emissions from undrained land (t CO2 equiv.)	-222.67	-376.13	18560.63
CO2 emissions from undrained land (t CO2)	47849.27	16796.64	14472.23
Total GHG emissions from Undrained Land (t CO2 equiv.)	0	0	0
RESULTS			
Total GHG emissions due to drainage (t CO2 equiv.)	0	0	0

7. Forestry CO2 loss

Payback Time
 Payback Time - CharisInput Data

CO₂ loss from forests - calculation using detailed management information

Forest carbon calculator (Perks et al, 2009)

Total potential carbon sequestration loss due to felling of forestry for the wind farm (t CO ₂)
Total emissions due to cleared land (t CO ₂)
Emissions due to harvesting operations (t CO ₂)
Fossil fuel equivalent saving from use of felled forestry as biofuel (t CO ₂)
Fossil fuel equivalent saving from use of replanted forestry as biofuel (t CO ₂)
RESULTS
Total carbon loss associated with forest management(t CO ₂)

Emissions due to forest felling - calculation using simple management data

Emissions due to forestry felling are calculated from the reduced carbon sequestered per crop rotation. If the forestry was due to be removed before the planned development, this C loss is not attributable to the wind farm and so the area of forestry to be felled should be entered as zero.

	Exp.	Min.	Max.
Area of forestry plantation to be felled (ha)	0	0	0
Carbon sequestered (t C ha ⁻¹ yr ⁻¹)	0	0	0
Lifetime of windfarm (years)	30	30	30
Carbon sequestered over the lifetime of the windfarm (t C ha ⁻¹)	0	0	0
RESULTS			
Total carbon loss due to felling of forestry (t CO ₂)	0	0	0
Additional CO ₂ payback time of windfarm due to management of forestry			
...coal-fired electricity generation (months)	0	0	0
...grid-mix of electricity generation (months)	0	0	0
...fossil fuel - mix of electricity generation (months)	0	0	0

8. CO2 gain - site improvement

Payback Time
Payback Time - Charstounut Data

Gains due to site improvement

Note, CO2 losses are calculated using two approaches: IPCC default methodology and more site specific equations derived for this project. The IPCC methodology is included because it is the established approach, although it contains no site detail. The new equations have been thoroughly tested against experimental data (see Nayak et al, 2008 - Final report).

Degraded Bog

	Exp.	Min.	Max.
1. Description of site			
Area to be improved (ha)	0	0	0
Depth of peat above water table before improvement (m)	0	0	0
Depth of peat above water table after improvement (m)	0	0	0
2. Losses with improvement			
Improved period (years)	0	0	0
Selected annual rate of methane emissions (t CH4-C ha-1 yr-1)	0.496	0.483	0.509
CH4 emissions from improved land (t CO2 equiv.)	0	0	0
Selected annual rate of carbone dioxide emissions (t CO2 ha-1 yr-1)	0.349	-0.609	1.306
CO2 emissions from improved land (t CO2 equiv.)	0	0	0
Total GHG emissions from improved land (t CO2 eqiv.)	0	0	0
3. Losses without improvement			

Borrow Pits

	Exp.	Min.	Max.
1. Description of site			
Area to be improved (ha)	0	0	0
Depth of peat above water table before improvement (m)	0	0	0
Depth of peat above water table after improvement (m)	0	0	0
2. Losses with improvement			
Improved period (years)	0	0	0
Selected annual rate of methane emissions (t CH4-C ha-1 yr-1)	0.496	0.483	0.509
CH4 emissions from improved land (t CO2 equiv.)	0	0	0
Selected annual rate of carbone dioxide emissions (t CO2 ha-1 yr-1)	0.349	-0.609	1.306
CO2 emissions from improved land (t CO2 equiv.)	0	0	0
Total GHG emissions from improved land (t CO2 eqiv.)	0	0	0
3. Losses without improvement			

Felled Forestry

	Exp.	Min.	Max.
1. Description of site			
Area to be improved (ha)	0	0	0
Depth of peat above water table before improvement (m)	0	0	0
Depth of peat above water table after improvement (m)	0	0	0
2. Losses with improvement			
Improved period (years)	0	0	0
Selected annual rate of methane emissions (t CH4-C ha-1 yr-1)	0.496	0.483	0.509
CH4 emissions from improved land (t CO2 equiv.)	0	0	0
Selected annual rate of carbone dioxide emissions (t CO2 ha-1 yr-1)	0.349	-0.609	1.306
CO2 emissions from improved land (t CO2 equiv.)	0	0	0
Total GHG emissions from improved land (t CO2 eqiv.)	0	0	0
3. Losses without improvement			

Foundations & Hardstanding

	Exp.	Min.	Max.
1. Description of site			
Area to be improved (ha)	0	0	0
Depth of peat above water table before improvement (m)	0	0	0
Depth of peat above water table after improvement (m)	0	0	0
2. Losses with improvement			
Improved period (years)	30	30	30
Selected annual rate of methane emissions (t CH4-C ha-1 yr-1)	0.496	0.483	0.509
CH4 emissions from improved land (t CO2 equiv.)	0	0	0
Selected annual rate of carbone dioxide emissions (t CO2 ha-1 yr-1)	0.349	-0.609	1.306
CO2 emissions from improved land (t CO2 equiv.)	0	0	0
Total GHG emissions from improved land (t CO2 eqiv.)	0	0	0
3. Losses without improvement			

3. CO2 loss backup

Payback Time
Payback Time - Charstinput Data

Emissions due to backup power generation

CO2 loss due to back up is calculated from the extra capacity required for backup of the windfarm given in the input data.

Wind generated electricity is inherently variable, providing unique challenges to the electricity generating industry for provision of a supply to meet consumer demand (Netz, 2004). Backup power is required to accompany wind generation to stabilise the supply to the consumer. This backup power will usually be obtained from a fossil fuel source. At a high level of wind power penetration in the overall generating mix, and with current grid management techniques, the capacity for fossil fuel backup may become strained because it is being used to balance the fluctuating consumer demand with a variable and highly unpredictable output from wind turbines (White, 2007). The Carbon Trust (Carbon Trust/DTI, 2004) concluded that increasing levels of intermittent generation do not present major technical issues at the percentages of renewables expected by 2010 and 2020, but the UK renewables target at the time of that report was only 20%. When national reliance on wind power is low (less than ~20%), the additional fossil fuel generated power requirement can be considered to be insignificant and may be obtained from within the spare generating capacity of other power sectors (Dale et al, 2004). However, as the national supply from wind power increases above 20%, without improvements in grid management techniques, emissions due to backup power generation may become more significant. The extra capacity needed for backup power generation is currently estimated to be 5% of the rated capacity of the wind plant if wind power contributes more than 20% to the national grid (Dale et al 2004). Moving towards the SG target of 50% electricity generation from renewable sources, more short-term capacity may be required in terms of pumped-storage hydro-generated power, or a better mix of offshore and onshore wind generating capacity. Grid management techniques are anticipated to reduce this extra capacity, with improved demand side management, smart meters, grid reinforcement and other developments. However, given current grid management techniques, it is suggested that 5% extra capacity should be assumed for backup power generation if wind power contributes more than 20% to the national grid. At lower contributions, the extra capacity required for backup should be assumed to be zero. These assumptions should be revisited as technology improves.

Assumption: Backup assumed to be by fossil-fuel-mix of electricity generation. Note that hydroelectricity may also be used for backup, so this assumption may make the value for backup generation too high. These assumptions should be revisited as technology develops.

	Exp.	Min.	Max.
Reserve energy (MWh/yr)	52,560	52,560	52,560
Annual emissions due to backup from fossil fuel-mix of electricity generation (tCO2/yr)	2,365	2,365	2,365
RESULTS			
Total emissions due to backup from fossil fuel-mix of electricity generation (tCO2)	70,956	70,956	70,956

1. CO2 emission saving

Payback Time
 Payback Time - Charstlopout Data

Emissions due to turbine life

The carbon payback time of the windfarm due to turbine life (eg. manufacture, construction, decommissioning) is calculated by comparing the emissions due to turbine life with carbon-savings achieved by the windfarm while displacing electricity generated from coal-fired capacity or grid-mix.

Capacity factor calculated from forestry data

Area name	Value type	Capacity factor (%)	Wind speed ratio	Average site windspeed (m/s)	Annual theoretical energy output (MW / turbine yr)
-----------	------------	---------------------	------------------	------------------------------	--

Capacity factor - Direct input

	Exp.	Min.	Max.
Capacity factor (%)	35.0	34.0	36.0

	Exp.	Min.	Max.
Annual energy output from windfarm (MW/yr)			
RESULTS			
Emissions saving over coal-fired electricity generatio...	338,486	328,815	348,157
Emissions saving over grid-mix of electricity generati...	93,297	90,632	95,963
Emissions saving over fossil fuel - mix of electricity g...	165,564	160,834	170,294

2. CO2 loss turbine life

Payback Time

Payback Time - Charstinput Data

Emissions due to turbine life

The carbon payback time of the windfarm due to turbine life (eg. manufacture, construction, decommissioning) is calculated by comparing the emissions due to turbine life with carbon-savings achieved by the windfarm while displacing electricity generated from coal-fired capacity or grid-mix.

Calculation of emissions with relation to installed capacity

	Exp.	Min.	Max.
Emissions due to turbine from energy output (t CO2)	5139	5139	5139
Emissions due to cement used in construction (t CO2)	2528	2528	2528

Direct input of emissions due to turbine life

	Exp.	Min.	Max.
Emissions due to turbine life (tCO2/windfarm)			

RESULTS

	Exp.	Min.	Max.
Losses due to turbine life (manufacture, construction, etc.) (t CO2)	105299	105299	105299
Additional CO2 payback time of windfarm due to turbine life			
...coal-fired electricity generation (months)	4	4	4
...grid-mix of electricity generation (months)	14	14	13
...fossil fuel - mix of electricity generation (months)	8	8	7

4. Loss CO2 fixing pot.

[Payback Time](#)
[Payback Time - Charis Output Data](#)

Emissions due to loss of bog plants

Annual C fixation by the site is calculated by multiplying area of the windfarm by the annual C accumulation due to bog plant fixation.

	Exp.	Min.	Max.
Area where carbon accumulation by bog plants is lost (ha)	77.46	33.90	99.84
Total loss of carbon accumulation up to time of restoration (tCO2 eq./ha)	37	26	50
RESULTS			
Total loss of carbon fixation by plants at the site (t CO2)	2840	870	4942
Additional CO2 payback time of windfarm due to loss of CO2 fixing potential			
...coal-fired electricity generation (months)	0	0	0
...grid-mix of electricity generation (months)	0	0	1
...fossil fuel - mix of electricity generation (months)	0	0	0

6. CO2 loss DOC & POC

Payback Time
 Payback Time - CharisInput Data

Emissions due to loss of DOC and POC

Note, CO2 losses from DOC and POC are calculated using a simple approach derived from generic estimates of the percentage of the total CO2 loss that is due to DOC or POC leaching.

	Exp.	Min.	Max.
Gross CO2 loss from restored drained land (t CO2)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Gross CH4 loss from restored drained land (t CO2 equiv.)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Gross CO2 loss from improved land (t CO2)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Gross CH4 loss from improved land (t CO2 equiv.)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total gaseous loss of C (t C)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total C loss as DOC (t C)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total C loss as POC (t C)	0.00	0.00	0.00
RESULTS			
Total CO2 loss due to DOC leaching (t CO2)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total CO2 loss due to POC leaching (t CO2)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total CO2 loss due to DOC & POC leaching (t CO2)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Additional CO2 payback time of windfarm due to DOC & POC			
...coal-fired electricity generation (months)	0	0	0
...grid-mix of electricity generation (months)	0	0	0
...fossil fuel - mix of electricity generation (months)	0	0	0