

## VOLUME 1: CHAPTER 14: SCHEDULE OF MITIGATION

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## 14. SCHEDULE OF MITIGATION

### 14.1 Introduction

14.1.1 The purpose of this Chapter is to provide a summary of mitigation measures proposed throughout this Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), to minimise or offset the potential effects of the Proposed Development on the receiving environment.

### 14.2 Summary of Measures

14.2.1 **Table 14.1** provides a summary of those mitigation measures identified throughout the EIA related to The Proposed Development.

**Table 14.1: Schedule of Mitigation Measures**

Topic	Mitigation Reference	Issue	Mitigation / Monitoring Measure	EIA Report Reference	Responsibility
<b>General</b>	G1	Site Access	Construction access would utilise existing tracks where possible. The Contractor would determine where access is required, and for which items of plant, and prepare a Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) in consultation with SSEN Transmission and the local roads authority. To address potential impacts from construction traffic and describe all mitigation and signage measures that are proposed on public road accesses, a CTMP would be prepared pre-construction in consultation with THC and Transport Scotland. Access along or crossing Core Paths, or any recreational routes would be managed via an Outdoor Access Plan, which would form part of the CTMP. The CTMP implemented for the works would be reviewed throughout the project and updated as necessary.	3.10.5 – 3.10.6 Volume 4, Appendix 3.3: Outline Site Restoration Plan  Volume 4, Appendix 11.1: Transport Assessment	Contractor/SSEN Transmission
	G2	Site Reinstatement	Following commissioning of the Proposed Development, it is anticipated that all areas disturbed temporarily during construction would be reinstated. Reinstatement would form part of the contract obligations for the Principal Contractor and would include the removal of all temporary access tracks, all work sites around the tower locations and the re-vegetation of laydown areas to recreate the former habitat as far as possible.	3.13.9-3.13.16, Volume 4, Appendix 3.3: Outline Site Restoration Plan	Contractor/SSEN Transmission
	G3	Construction Hours	Construction activities would in general be undertaken during daytime periods only. This would involve work between approximately 07:00 to 19:00 in the summer and 07:30 to 17:00 (or as daylight allows) in the winter, seven days a week. Any variation in these working hours would be agreed in advance with The Highland Council.	3.12.2, 11.10.2  Volume 4, Appendix 11.1: Transport Assessment	Contractor
	G4	Construction Environmental Management	The development and implementation of a site-specific Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP). This document would detail how the Principal Contractor would manage the site in accordance with all commitments and	3.13.2 – 3.13.6  Volume 4, Appendix 3.4:	Contractor ECoW

			mitigation detailed in the EIA Report, statutory consents and authorisations, industry best practise and guidance. The CEMP would also reference General Environmental Management Plans (GEMPs) and Species Protection Plans (SPPs), which have been developed by SSEN Transmission and are included in Appendix 3.4 and 3.5 of this EIA. The implementation of the CEMP would be managed on site by a suitably qualified and experienced Environmental Clerk of Works (ECoW), with support from other environmental professionals as required.	SSEN Transmission General Environmental Management Plans (GEMPs) Volume 4, Appendix 3.5 SSEN Transmission Species Protection Plans (SPPs) Volume 4, Appendix 3.6: Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP)	
	G5	Micro-siting	Micrositing of OHL Tower foundations would be made prior to construction activities.	3.6.8 – 3.6.10	Contractor/SSEN Transmission/ECoW
	G6	Existing Melgarve Substation Planting	<p>There is some potential for the works to install the Proposed Development UGC into the existing Melgarve substation to affect areas previously planted as part of the Melgarve substation proposals.</p> <p>An assessment of the impact on the recently planted woodland as a result of the Proposed Development and a detailed compensatory planting proposal to appropriately compensate will be prepared prior to construction works commencing. This is likely to be included in a forthcoming planning application for the variation of the landscaping condition at the substation.</p>	3.13.7 – 3.13.8, 7.11.6	SSEN Transmission

<b>Landscape and Visual</b>	LV1	Restoration of Existing Vegetation Types	Following construction of the Proposed Development, all construction sites and disturbed ground would be reinstated, for example the reinstatement of temporary tracks, to tie into adjacent undisturbed areas, and implemented through good practice and construction management, as set out in the site specific CEMP.	7.11.4 – 7.11.5, Volume 4, Appendix 3.6: Outline CEMP, Volume 4, Appendix 10.1: Peat Management Plan	Contractor/SSEN Transmission
	LV2	Earthworks	Proposed earthworks would be implemented as far as possible to reduce the long-term footprint of the Proposed Development in the surrounding landscape context.	7.11.2 – 7.11.3	Contractor/SSEN Transmission
<b>Ecology</b>	E1	Pre-Construction and Construction	All works would be carried out in accordance with industry good practice construction and pollution prevention measures, guidance and legislation as well as the use of a project specific CEMP and SPPs (see Appendix 3.5 and Appendix 3.6), developed in agreement with statutory consultees.	8.6.32 – 8.6.36, 8.10.1 – 8.10.2 Volume 4, Appendix 3.5 SSEN Transmission Species Protection Plans (SPPs) Volume 4, Appendix 3.6: Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP)	Contractor/ECOW
	E2	Habitat Management	An Outline Habitat Management Plan (OHMP) in consultation with the Local authority and NatureScot will be developed and implemented to manage the maintenance, restoration and enhancement of bog habitats and other upland habitats.	8.1.6, 8.11.2, 8.13.4 Volume 4, Appendix 8.4: Outline Habitat	SSEN Transmission/ Contractor

				Management Plan	
	E3	Protected Species	Preconstruction surveys for protected species will be undertaken no more than 6 months in advance to identify any new ecological constraints and to ascertain the activity status of previously identified features within proximity of planned works.	8.8.23 – 8.8.25 Volume 4, Appendix 3.5 SSEN Transmission Species Protection Plans (SPPs)  Volume 4, Appendix 8.3 – Protected Species Survey Report	Contractor
<b>Ornithology</b>	O1	Protected Species Birds	<p>A Bird Protection Plan (BPP) would be in place, in consultation with NatureScot. included in Appendix 3.2 General Environmental Management Plans (GEMPs) and Appendix 3.5 Species Protection Plans (SPPs).</p> <p>Pre-construction checks would be undertaken by a qualified ecologist/ornithologist to identify, and mitigate for, the presence of protected bird species and nests as well as for breeding birds. Survey areas will be species specific and will include a buffer of 1km from the Proposed Development to search for active nest or roost of Schedule 1/1A species. To avoid accidental destruction of bird nests, all nests within proximity to works will be identified, marked and made known to contractors prior to works commencing.</p>	9.10.1 – 9.10.2, Volume 4, Appendix 3.4: SSEN Transmission General Environmental Management Plans (GEMPs)  Volume 4, Appendix 3.5: SSEN Transmission Species Protection Plans (SPPs)	Contractor/ECoW
	O2		Should a nest of birds listed in Schedules 1 and 1A species be located within a 500 m radius, in advance of construction and dismantling works, a disturbance risk assessment would be	9.10.1 – 9.10.2, Volume 4, Appendix 3.4:	Contractor/ECoW

			prepared under the BPP, and if necessary, submitted to Nature Scot for agreement before recommencing work.	SSEN Transmission General Environmental Management Plans (GEMPs)	
	O3		Best practice measures outlined in the project specific CEMP, GEMP and SPP's must be followed.	Volume 4, Appendix 3.4: SSEN Transmission General Environmental Management Plans (GEMPs)  Volume 4, Appendix 3.5 SSEN Transmission Species Protection Plans (SPPs)  Volume 4, Appendix 3.6: Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP)	Contractor/ECOW/SSEN Transmission
<b>Geology, Hydrology and Hydrogeology</b>	GHH1	Pre-construction and Construction	During construction, a wet weather protocol would be developed detailing the procedures to be adopted by all site staff during periods of heavy rainfall (e.g. inspection and maintenance regimes of sediment and runoff control measures), in extreme cases works may be temporarily suspended until weather / ground conditions allow.	10.8.9 - 10.8.10	Contractor

	GHH2	Environmental Clerk of Works	A suitably qualified ECoW will be appointed prior to the commencement of construction to advise on all ecological matters. The ECoW will be required to be present onsite as appropriate during the construction phase and will carry out monitoring of works and briefings with regards to any ecological sensitivities to the relevant staff of the Principal Contractor and subcontractors.	10.8.12 – 10.8.13	Contractor/ECoW
	GHH3	Water Crossings	<p>Good practice in relation to new water crossings would be implemented; involving</p> <p>The design of the watercourse crossings would be agreed with SEPA prior to construction and be regulated in accordance with CAR;</p> <p>The appropriate crossing type would be identified from SEPA's good practice guidance and would take into account any ecological and hydrological constraints; and</p> <p>The crossing would be sized and designed so as to minimise effect upon flood risk (dized to accommodate at least the 200 year flow).</p> <p>A schedule of watercourse crossings is included within Volume 4, Appendix 10.3: Schedule of Watercourse Crossings. The crossings would be designed to pass the 200-yr flood event and would be agreed upon by SEPA and THC as part of the final CEMP.</p>	10.8.28 Volume 4, Appendix 3.6: Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) Volume 4, Appendix 10.3: Schedule of Watercourse Crossings	Contractor
	GHH4	Safeguarding of Carbon Rich Soils and Peat	<p>Earthworks would be localised and minimised as far as practicable, and the following best practise measures will be detailed in the site CEMP in order to safeguard peat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Peat excavation to form access tracks to tower locations would be minimised, utilising existing roads where appropriate, low loading bearing access vehicles would be used, and where required temporary portable tracking would be deployed, to safeguard peat below the access routes;</li> <li>• Works would be undertaken in accordance with SSEN Transmission's GEMPs which will ensure peat</li> </ul>	10.8.14 – 10.8.18, Volume 4, Appendix 3.4: SSEN Transmission General Environmental Management Plans (GEMP)	Contractor



			<p>stripping, excavation and storage is kept to an absolute minimum; and</p> <p>Any temporary peat storage will be located so that peat slide risk is not increased and safeguards will be deployed in accordance with SSEN Transmission's GEMP, for example, to ensure existing hydrological conditions are maintained and drying of the peat does not occur.</p>	Volume 4, Appendix 3.6: Outline CEMP	
	GHH5	Pollution Risk	<p>Good practice measures in relation to pollution prevention would include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• refuelling would take place at least 30m from watercourses and where possible it would not occur when there is risk that oil from a spill could directly enter the water environment. For example, periods of heavy rainfall or when standing water is present would be avoided;</li> <li>• foul water generated onsite would be managed in accordance with PPG4;</li> <li>• areas would be designated for washout of vehicles which are a minimum distance of 30m from a watercourse;</li> <li>• washout water would also be stored in the washout area before being treated and disposed of;</li> <li>• a vehicle management plan and speed limit would be strictly enforced onsite to minimise the potential for accidents to occur;</li> <li>• if any water is contaminated with silt or chemicals, runoff would not enter a watercourse directly or indirectly prior to treatment;</li> <li>• water would be prevented as far as possible, from entering excavations such as tower foundations;</li> <li>• procedures would be adhered to for storage of fuels and other potentially contaminative materials in line with the Controlled Activity Regulations, to minimise the potential for accidental spillage; and</li> <li>• a plan for dealing with spillage incidents would be designed prior to construction, and this would be adhered</li> </ul>	10.8.22, Volume 4, Appendix 3.6: Outline CEMP GEMP	Contractor

			to should any incident occur, reducing the effect as far as practicable. This would be included in the final CEMP for the Proposed Development.		
	GHH6	Sedimentation and Erosion during construction works	<p>Good practice measures for the management or erosion and sedimentation would include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• all stockpiled materials would be located out with a 10m buffer from watercourses;</li> <li>• water would be prevented as far as possible, from entering excavations such as tower foundations through the use of appropriate cut-off drainage;</li> <li>• where the above is not possible, water would pass through a number of settlement areas and silt/sediment traps to remove silt prior to discharge into the surrounding drainage system;</li> <li>• clean and dirty water onsite would be separated and dirty water would be filtered before entering the water environment;</li> <li>• if the material is stockpiled on a slope, silt fences would be located at the toe of the slope to reduce sediment transport;</li> <li>• the amount of ground exposed, and time period during which it is exposed, would be kept to a minimum;</li> <li>• silt/sediment traps, single size aggregate, geotextiles or straw bales would be used to filter any coarse material and prevent increased levels of sediment. Further to this, activities involving the movement or use of fine sediment would avoid periods of heavy rainfall where possible; and</li> <li>• SSEN construction personnel and the Principal Contractor would carry out regular visual inspections of watercourses to check for suspended solids in watercourses downstream of work areas.</li> </ul>	10.8.23/GEMP	Contractor
	GHH7	Soils and Hydrology	The CEMP will also outline measures to ensure that the works minimise the risk to soils, peat, geology, groundwater, surface water and licensed water uses. It will include a project specific	10.8.6	Contractor

			<p>drainage plan and materials (soils and peat) management plan. The drainage plan would detail the passive measures that would be deployed to treat both the quality and quantity of water shed from the works area in accordance with Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) techniques. The materials management plan will show how soils and peat arisings will be safeguarded, managed and used in restoration on site.</p>	<p>Volume 4, Appendix 3.6: Outline CEMP</p>	
	GHH8	Peat Management	<p>A Peat Management Plan (PMP) would be further developed at pre-construction stage, following further site and ground investigation works, which would provide further detail on how peat would be managed and re-used on site. This would be secured by a condition of consent and prepared in consultation with THC and SEPA. A Peat Management Plan (PMP) is included in Volume 4, Appendix 10.2: PMP</p>	<p>10.8.14 – 10.8.18 Volume 4, Appendix 10.2: Peat Management Plan</p>	Contractor
	GHH9	Peat Landslide	<p>A Design and Geotechnical Risk Register would be compiled to include risks relating to peat instability, as this would be beneficial to both the developer and the Contractor in identifying potential risks that may be involved during construction. Good construction practice and methodologies to prevent peat instability within area that contain peat deposits are identified in Volume 4, Appendix 10.1 – Peat Landslide Hazard and Risk Assessment (PLHRA).</p>	<p>10.8.14 – 10.8.18, Volume 4, Appendix 10.1 – Peat Landslide Hazard and Risk Assessment (PLHRA).</p>	Contractor
	GHH10	Surface Water and Groundwater Quality	<p>Works would be undertaken in accordance with the GEMPs and relevant technical guidance, PPG / GPPs and other codes of best practise, to limit the potential for contamination of both ground and surface waters. In addition, a site-specific CEMP would be prepared by the Principal Contractor and include a surface and groundwater quality management plan. These measures should significantly reduce the likelihood of pollutants, including suspended solids, being discharged to nearby watercourses or groundwater (including River Tarff and Glen Doe Reservoir DWPA, River Spey catchment, SAC and SSSI).</p>	<p>10.8.19 – 10.8.21 Volume 4, Appendix 3.6: Outline CEMP</p>	Contractor

	GHH11	Water Abstraction	<p>Good practice that would be followed in addition to the CAR Licence regulations includes:</p> <p>water use would be planned so as to minimise abstraction volumes;</p> <p>water would be re-used where possible;</p> <p>abstraction volumes would be recorded; and</p> <p>abstraction rates would be controlled to prevent significant water depletion in a source.</p>	10.8.26 – 10.8.27	Contractor
	GHH12	Fluvial Flood Risk	<p>Good practice in relation to the management of surface water runoff rates and volumes where new permanent tracks or temporary compounds would include the following.</p> <p>drainage systems would be designed to ensure that any sediment, pollutants or foreign materials which may cause blockages are removed before water is discharged into a watercourse;</p> <p>onsite drainage would be subject to routine checks to ensure that there is no build-up of sediment or foreign materials which may reduce the efficiency of the original drainage design causing localised flooding; and</p> <p>appropriate drainage would attenuate runoff rates and reduce runoff volumes to ensure minimal effect upon flood risk.</p>	10.8.24, Volume 4, Appendix 3.6: Outline CEMP	Contractor
	GHH13	Buffer to Water Features	<p>As part of the Proposed Development design, and with the exception of required watercourse crossings, generally a buffer of more than 10 m has been applied to watercourses and water features such as lochs and ponds, where technically and practically possible.</p>	10.8.18	Contractor
<b>Traffic and Transport</b>	T1	Construction Traffic Management	<p>A Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) would be prepared in consultation with SSEN Transmission and the local roads authority. To address potential impacts from construction traffic and describe all mitigation and signage measures that are proposed on public road accesses, a CTMP would be prepared pre-construction in consultation with the Highland Council and Transport Scotland.</p>	11.10.1 – 11.10.2 Volume 4, Appendix 11.1: Traffic Assessment	Contractor/SSEN Transmission

	T2	Abnormal Wear and Tear	An agreement may be required between The Highland Council and Transport Scotland to cover the costs of abnormal wear and tear on roads in close proximity to access junctions and Core Paths. Any necessary repairs would be coordinated with the Roads Authority.	11.10.3 – 11.10.7	Contractor/SSEN Transmission
	T3	Outdoor Access Management	Access along or crossing Core Paths, or any recreational routes, would be managed via an Outdoor Access Plan which would form part of the CTMP.	11.10.9 – 11.10.14	Contractor
<b>Socio-Economic</b>	SE1	Local Economy and Employment Opportunities	<p>SSEN Transmission has committed to maximise the economic opportunities for the local area and business and communities in the Highland Council area, where possible, as it does with all its schemes in the UK.</p> <p>A Community Benefit Fund will be utilised following UK government guidance when it is finalised and published.</p> <p>In all cases lead contractors are strongly encouraged to use local suppliers where they have the competency and are competitive as part of the supply chain.</p>	12.8.1 – 12.8.5	SSEN Transmission
<b>Cultural Heritage</b>	CH1	Watching Briefs	If required, SSEN Transmission would seek to agree the scope of the archaeological watching brief(s) with THC HET in advance of construction phase development works commencing.. The scope of the agreed works would be confirmed in a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI).	13.10.3	Archaeological Clerk of Works/Contractor
	CH2	Post Excavation Assessment and Reporting	If new, archaeologically significant discoveries are made during archaeological monitoring, and it is not possible to preserve the discovered features in situ, provision will be made for the excavation where necessary, of any archaeological deposits encountered. The provision will include the consequent production of written reports, on the findings, with post-excavation analysis and publication of the results of the works, where appropriate.	13.10.4	Archaeological Clerk of Works/Contractor