VOLUME 1: CHAPTER 4: SCOPE AND CONSULTATION

Figures (Volume 2 of this EIA Report)

There are no figures associated with this Chapter

Appendices (Volume 4 of this EIA Report)

Appendix 4.1: Public Consultation Report

Appendix 4.2: Screening Request and Proposed Scope of Environmental Appraisal – June 2023

Appendix 4.3: Scoping Report – October 2023

Appendix 4.4: Scoping Opinion – March 2024

Appendix 4.5: Scoping Matrix

4. SCOPE AND CONSULTATION

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The EIA Regulations require that an EIA should describe the likely significant effects of a proposed development on the environment. Scoping of potential likely significant effects having regard to the physical impacts of a proposed development provides a basis for ensuring that the assessment of environmental effects is appropriately limited to issues of genuine potential significance. This ensures a proportionate approach to EIA that is focused on likely significant effects to be considered and assessed. Consultation and engagement with stakeholders early in the process, with advice and input from key consultees being sought at the early stages of a project, helps greatly to inform decisions about the design and EIA work for a proposed development.

4.1.2 This Chapter describes the pre-application consultation, the Screening and Scoping process and further consultation that was undertaken to determine the scope of the EIA Report, and the consultations that were undertaken to inform the local community of the Proposed Development. This Chapter also includes a brief description of the environmental receptors of potential significance associated with the Proposed Development which are addressed in detail in the EIA Report, and those that are scoped out.

4.2 Route and Alignment Stage Consultation

4.2.1 SSEN Transmission has sought to maintain an open dialogue with local communities within the vicinity of the Proposed Development throughout the evolution of the project. This has included carrying out consultation events during the route and alignment selection stages, engaging with local elected members such as Ward Councillors and Community Councils and engaging with landowners, residents, community groups and businesses that may be affected by the Proposed Development. SSEN Transmission has held parallel communication with other stakeholders, including statutory consultees, to understand their views on the proposals at the route and alignment selection stages, which has led to key areas of design evolution and development.

4.2.2 The appraisal of route options was set out in a Consultation Document[1], published in October 2021, and virtual public consultations were held in January 2022. Comments received from all stakeholders (including members of the public) in response to the Consultation Document (October 2021), or following virtual consultation events, were documented in a Report on Consultation, published in May 2022.[2] The Report on Consultation also outlined the Applicant's responses provided at route stage consultation, along with confirmation of the action to be taken, where relevant. Key updates carried through to the alignment stage are described in **Chapter 2 - Routeing Process and Alternatives**.

4.2.3 The appraisal of alignment options was set out in a Consultation Document,[3] published in January 2023, and in-person consultations were held in February 2023. Comments received from all stakeholders (including members of the public) in response were documented in a Report on Consultation, published in June 2023.[4] The Report on Consultation also outlined the Applicant's responses provided at alignment stage consultation, along with confirmation of the action to be taken, where relevant. Key updates taken into account through the design development are described in **Chapter 2 - Routeing Process and Alternatives**.

4.2.4 Both the route and alignment stage consultation processes, the consultation responses, SSEN Transmission's responses to the consultation responses and the subsequent action that was taken where relevant are described in further detail in **Appendix 4.1**, the Public Consultation Report.

[1] Melgarve Cluster Consultation Document: Route Options (October 2021), produced by SSEN Transmission
[2] Melgarve Cluster Project: Report on Consultation (Route Stage) (May 2022), produced by SSEN Transmission
[3] Melgarve Cluster Project: Consultation Document: Alignment Options (January 2023), produced by SSEN Transmission
[4] Melgarve Cluster Project: Report on Consultation – Alignment Options (June 2023), produced by SSEN Transmission

4.3 Screening

4.3.1 As outlined in **Chapter 1 – Introduction and Background**, the Screening Determination of the Scottish Ministers issued on 20 September 2023, confirmed that the Proposed Development constitutes 'EIA Development', and the application for consent under section 37 of the 1989 Act should be accompanied by an EIA Report (see **Appendix 1.1**).

4.4 Scoping

4.4.1 In October 2023, an EIA Scoping Report[5] was submitted to Scottish Ministers by the Applicant to support a formal request under Regulation 12 of the Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017 for a Scoping Opinion to determine the information to be provided within the EIA Report (see **Appendix 4.3**).

4.4.2 The Scoping Opinion of the Scottish Ministers was issued on 1st March 2024 and can be seen in **Appendix 4.4**.

4.4.3 The responses, contained within the Scoping Opinion, were considered in detail during the EIA process. **Appendix 4.5** of this EIA Report includes a matrix detailing the key issues that were raised in the Scoping Opinion and how and where they are addressed in the EIA Report.

4.5 Key Scoping Issues

4.5.1 The Scoping Opinion makes reference to site specific issues of interest to the Scottish Ministers, to be considered and addressed in addition to those laid out in responses from consultees. The issues raised were as follows.

Drinking Water Protected Areas

"*Scottish Water provided information on whether there are any drinking water protected areas or Scottish Water assets on which the development could have any significant effect. Scottish Ministers request that the company contacts Scottish Water…and makes further enquiries to confirm whether there are any Scottish Water assets which may be affected by the development, and includes details in the EIA report of any relevant mitigation measures to be provided.*

Scottish Ministers request that the Company investigates the presence of any private water supplies which may be impacted by the development. The EIA report should include details of any supplies identified by this investigation, and if any supplies are identified, the Company should provide an assessment of the potential impacts, risks, and any mitigation which would be provided."

4.5.2 The presence of Drinking Water Protected Areas (DWPA), Scottish Water assets and private water supplies have been investigated as part of the assessment of impacts on the water environment (see **Chapter 10 - Geology Hydrology and Hydrogeology**). Further consultation with Scottish Water was not required as Scottish Water's scoping response provided all the required information. This along with published data sets was sufficient for the assessment as discussed in the noted chapter.

Fish Species

"[Marine Directorate – Science Evidence Data and Digital (MD-SEDD)] *provide generic scoping guidelines for overhead line development…which outline how fish populations can be impacted during the construction, operation and decommissioning of a wind farm development or overhead line development and informs developers as to what should be considered, in relation to freshwater and diadromous fish and fisheries, during the EIA process.*

[5] Melgarve Cluster Project: Scoping Report (October 2023), produced by SSEN Transmission

"In addition to identifying the main watercourses and waterbodies within and downstream of the proposed development area, developers should identify and consider, at this early stage, any areas of Special Areas of Conservation where fish are a qualifying feature and proposed felling operations particularly in acid sensitive areas.

"MD-SEDD also provide standing advice for overhead line development…which outlines what information, relating to freshwater and diadromous fish and fisheries, is expected in the EIA report. Use of the checklist provided, should ensure that the EIA report contains the required information; the absence of such information may necessitate requesting additional information which may delay the process. Developers are required to submit the completed checklist in advance of their application submission."

4.5.3 Potential impacts on fish populations are discussed and assessed within **Chapter 8 – Ecology.** The likely impacts of the Proposed Development on watercourses and waterbodies are assessed in **Chapter 10 - Geology, Hydrology and Hydrogeology**. Potential impacts on Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) are considered across both noted chapters and **Appendix 8.1- Shadow Habitats Regulation Appraisal (HRA)**. The requested checklist, containing all required information, has been provided to MD-SEDD along with submission of the application.

Peat Landslide Risk

"Scottish Ministers consider that where there is a demonstrable requirement for peat landslide hazard and risk assessment (PLHRA), the assessment should be undertaken as part of the EIA process to provide Ministers with a clear understanding of whether the risks are acceptable and capable of being controlled by mitigation measures. The Peat Landslide Hazard and Risk Assessments: Best Practice Guide for Proposed Electricity Generation Developments (Second Edition)…should be followed in preparation of the EIA report, which should contain such an assessment and details of mitigation measures."

4.5.4 A PLHRA has been carried out as part of the EIA Report and is included in **Appendix 10.1: Peat Landslide Hazard and Risk Assessment (PLHRA)** and referenced in **Chapter 10 – Geology, Hydrology and Hydrogeology** of the EIA Report.

Landscape and Visual Impact

"The scoping report identified viewpoints at chapter 5 section 5.5.14 that will be prepared to inform and support the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment ('LVIA' Highland Council have identified that no viewpoints have been included within the supporting information provided and that the LVIA should provide Zone of Theoretical Visibility analysis and identify key viewpoints to represent the most sensitive surrounding visual receptors. Please note NatureScot's detailed comments and requests in regard to the assessment of Landscape and Visual Impacts including viewpoint locations and the Special Landscape Qualities (SLQs).

Scottish Ministers advise the applicant to take note and address the detailed comments made by NatureScot regarding Landscape and visual impacts including the potential for significant effects on some of the Special Landscape Qualities (SLQ's) of the Cairngorms National Park […]"

4.5.5 A series of photomontage visualisations have been prepared to support the LVIA, included with the EIA Report in Volume 3a and Volume 3b. The viewpoint locations are described in **Chapter 7 - Landscape and Visual**. The Scoping Report identified viewpoint locations for the preparation of visualisations. The visual assessment is receptor-based and considers all potential receptors within the study area rather than a small number of viewpoints, which provides a more detailed and robust assessment. The visualisations are illustrative of the types of view that would be obtained and are considered fully representative of visual receptors using the study area.

4.5.6 A Zone of Theoretical Visibility analysis is provided in **Chapter 7 - Landscape and Visual**.

4.5.7 NatureScot consultation responses in relation to the assessment of Landscape and Visual Impacts including viewpoint locations and SLQs are summarised within **Chapter 7 - Landscape and Visual** and **Appendix 4.5 – Scoping Matrix**.

Special Areas of Conservation (SACs)

"Scottish Ministers advise the applicant to take note and address the detailed comments made by NatureScot regarding […] the potential for impacts to protected areas in particular the River Spey Special Area of Conservation (SAC), the potential for impacts, including cumulative impacts, to birds such as golden eagles and the potential impacts to priority peatland habitats and provide the appropriate mitigation measures."

4.5.8 NatureScot consultation responses in relation to assessment of River Spey Special Area of Conservation (SAC) are summarised within **Chapter 8 – Ecology**, **Chapter 9 – Ornithology, Chapter 10 - Geology Hydrology and Hydrogeology** and **Appendix 8.1: Shadow Habitat Regulations Appraisal**. Summary also present in **Appendix 4.5 – Scoping Matrix**.

Pre-application Consultation

"Ministers expect Company's [sic] *to carry out adequate pre-application consultation and to demonstrate what alternatives to the proposal were considered before arriving at the design they apply for. Ministers agree with the Planning Authority that the EIA should include a description of the main development alternatives, which are relevant to the proposal and its specific characteristics, and an indication of the main reasons for selecting the chosen option, including a comparison of the environmental effects."*

4.5.9 As noted earlier in this Chapter, pre-application consultation was undertaken at various stages throughout the project, including a formal Scoping exercise, public consultation via virtual and in-person exhibitions at routeing and alignment stages, and consultation with community councils. This is further detailed in **Appendix 4.1 – Public Consultation Report**. Alternatives to the Proposed Development are discussed in **Chapter 2 - The Routeing Process and Alternatives**.

Further Consultation

"Ministers are aware that further engagement is required between parties regarding the refinement of the design of the proposed development regarding, among other things, surveys, management plans, peat, finalisation of viewpoints, cultural heritage, cumulative assessments and request that they are kept informed of relevant discussions."

4.5.10 As outlined in **Appendix 4.5**, the Scoping Matrix, Scottish Ministers have been kept informed of any further discussions with consultees.

Mitigation Measures

"The Scottish Ministers are required to make a reasoned conclusion on the significant effects of the proposed development on the environment as identified in the environmental impact assessment. The mitigation measures suggested for any significant environmental impacts identified should be presented as a conclusion to each chapter. Applicants are also asked to provide a consolidated schedule of all mitigation measures proposed in the environmental assessment, provided in tabular form, where that mitigation is relied upon in relation to reported conclusions of likelihood or significance of impacts."

4.5.11 Proposed mitigation measures are described towards the end of each technical chapter (Chapter 7 - 13), following assessment of likely significant effects. **Chapter 3 - The Proposed Development** also includes some general mitigation measures which apply across the Proposed Development. All proposed mitigation measures set out throughout the EIA Report are collated within a tabulated Schedule of Mitigation, included **Chapter 14 – Schedule of Mitigation.**

4.6 Further Consultee Engagement

4.6.1 Stakeholder consultation has been ongoing since the early stages of the project and has continued throughout the scoping and EIA process. As described in **Section 4.2** of this Chapter and in **Appendix 4.1 – Public Consultation Report**, during the route and alignment stages of the project, stakeholders were given the opportunity to provide feedback on the route, alignment and design solution options identified, and all responses received were summarised in the relevant report on consultation documents[2,4].

4.6.2 **Table 4.1** provides a summary of some of the key meetings and engagement that was been undertaken by the Applicant with statutory consultees during the routeing, alignment and EIA stages of the project.

Table 4.1: Summary of Further Consultee Engagement

Consultee	Date	Summary of Engagement
Routeing stage- Statutory Consultee Meeting	3rd November 2021	Formal Pre-App meeting facilitated by The Highland Council. Attended by SSEN Transmission and representatives from SEPA, NatureScot, and Historic Environment Scotland. Specialist officers from within The Highland Council were also in attendance. At this meeting, SSEN Transmission delivered presentations on the routeing stage options to the representatives in attendance and followed with a round table discussion of each statutory consultee's comments and suggested actions in relation to the proposals.
Alignment Stage - Statutory Consultee Meeting	7th February 2023	Attended by SSEN Transmission and representatives from The Highland Council and SEPA. At this meeting, SSEN Transmission delivered presentations on the alignment stage options to the representatives in attendance and followed with a round table discussion of each statutory consultee's comments and suggested actions in relation to the proposals.
Alignment Stage Statutory Consultee Meeting	17th February 2023.	Attended by SSEN Transmission, and NatureScot. At this meeting, SSEN Transmission delivered presentations on the alignment stage options to the representatives in attendance and followed with a round table discussion of each statutory consultee's comments and suggested actions in relation to the proposals.

4.6.3 In further written consultation following scoping, most notably, SEPA raised some comments on 26th of December 2023 in relation to potential design changes to minimise impacts on peat and hydrology. The Applicant reviewed these comments and endeavoured to make these changes, in discussion with SEPA, where practicable. These design changes are described in **Chapter 2 - The Routeing Process and Alternatives**.

4.7 Gate Check

4.7.1 In accordance with the guidance for gate checking procedures *Good Practice Guidance for Applications under Section 36 and 37 of the Electricity Act 1989*[6], a Gate Check Report would normally be issued to the ECU and key stakeholders, prior to submission of the section 37 application. The purpose of the Gate Check Report is to outline consultations with statutory and non-statutory consultees, engagement with the local community and

[6] Good Practice Guidance for Applications under Section 36 and 37 of the Electricity Act 1989 (Energy Consents Unit, February 2022). [online] Available at: https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/advice-and-guidance/2022/02/good-practice-guidance-applications-under-sections-36-37-electricity-act-1989/documents/energy-consents-unit-good-practice-guidance-applications-under-section-36-37-electricity-act-1989-february-2022/energy-consents-unit-good-practice-guidance-applications-under-section-36-37-electricity-act-1989-february-2022/govscot%3Adocument/energy-consents-unit-good-practice-guidance-applications-under-section-36-37-electricity-act-1989-february-2022.pdf

how matters raised during the scoping process have been dealt with in the EIA Report. Key stakeholders would be invited to comment on the Gate Check Report to ensure they are satisfied with the approach taken within the EIA Report prior to submission of the section 37 application.

4.7.2 Due to a delay in receiving the scoping opinion, there has not been time for the Proposed Development to go through the gate check process. A Gate Check Report was therefore not issued to the ECU and key stakeholders prior to submission. All matters raised timeously during the scoping process have been addressed within this EIA Report, as far as possible.

4.8 Issues Scoped into the EIA Report

4.8.1 The following topics have been 'scoped in' to the EIA Report, as set out within the Scoping Report (see **Appendix 4.4**):

- Landscape and Visual;
- Ecology;
- Ornithology;
- Geology, Hydrology and Hydrogeology; and
- Traffic and Transport.

4.8.2 In addition, following receipt of the Scoping Opinion (**Appendix 4.4**), an assessment on cultural heritage (indirect effects) and socio-economic, recreation and tourism has been included within the EIA Report. These topics were initially scoped out within the Scoping Report (**Appendix 4.3**).

4.9 Issues Scoped out of the EIA Report

4.9.1 It is considered that the following topics do not require to be the subject of detailed EIA work as it is considered that they are not likely to give rise to significant effects. They were referred to in the Scoping Report (see **Appendix 4.4**) as topics to be scoped out from further consideration within the EIA Report.

Forestry

4.9.2 The Proposed Development does not intersect or come into close proximity to any forestry plantation.

4.9.1 The closest forestry to the Proposed Development is Sherramore Forest, situated north-east of Melgarve substation, which includes pockets of native woodland. It would be avoided by the Proposed Development by approximately 250 m.

4.9.2 As the Proposed Development would not require felling of any forestry plantation, there was considered no requirement for a forestry assessment to be undertaken and included in this EIA Report.

4.9.3 There is some potential for the works to affect areas previously planted as part of the substation proposals. SSEN Transmission will seek to minimise the impact on previously planted areas within the substation boundary where possible during detailed design. It is proposed that a future application to THC will be submitted to vary the landscaping condition of consent for Melgarve substation, and propose appropriate compensatory planting requirements for any loss.

Land Use and Agriculture

4.9.4 The majority of the land within the vicinity of the Proposed Development is Class 6.3, land of very limited agricultural value according to the Macaulay System (now Hutton Institute) of Land Capability for Agriculture.[7] Other common land uses within the vicinity of the Proposed Development include shooting on estate land.

4.9.5 Land use impacts associated with the Proposed Development are anticipated to be minimal. The construction work may result in some temporary loss of land or access restriction; however, it is considered that this can be adequately managed through wayleave agreements with the relevant landowners. The permanent loss of land to tower locations and cable sealing end compounds would be negligible and it would remain possible for grazing to continue around and under towers during their operational lifetime.

4.9.6 As construction effects would be minimal, and as it would remain possible for grazing to continue around and under towers during their operational lifetime, this topic has been scoped out of the EIA in its entirety. Dialogue would be maintained by the Applicant and the Principal Contractor with landowners throughout the construction period to ensure any potential disruption as a result of the proposed works is kept to a minimum.

4.9.7 No contaminated land has been identified within the vicinity of the Proposed Development, therefore, no contaminated land assessment has been undertaken.

Population and Human Health

4.9.8 The Proposed Development is located within a remote rural area. There are no main settlements that are within the general vicinity of the Proposed Development. The closest residential settlements are limited to include Fort Augustus, approximately 10 km to the west, and Laggan, located approximately 11 km southeast from the Proposed Development.

4.9.9 Possible effects associated with construction and operation of the Proposed Development in relation to population and human health could include the below, and a summary is included for each point in relation to it being scoped out of this EIA:

- Noise and vibration during the construction phase:
    - Construction noise and vibration would be short term and intermittent and could be controlled through the implementation of a noise management plan, which would be developed as part of the CEMP prepared by the Principal Contractor. As such, and given the remoteness of construction activity for much of the project, no detailed assessment of construction noise and vibration associated with plant noise or traffic was proposed as part of the EIA.
- Operational effects of noise from the OHL:
    - Given the nature of the Proposed Development, its remoteness and distance from residential dwellings, no operational noise effects are expected, so no inclusion was proposed as part of the EIA.
- Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMF):
    - EMFs arise from electric charges and current flow. The UK Health Protection Agency (HPA) is the government body responsible for policy and guidance of EMFs. Exposure guidelines for transmission lines have been developed by the International Commission on Non-Ionising Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) to ensure protection of human health in different situations, occupational exposure and public exposure which have been adopted by the HPA for application in the UK. The Proposed Development is situated in a very remote location with the closest residential receptors 3.5 km distant at the closest interface (properties at Garva

[7] The James Hutton Institute. (2020). *Land Capability for Agriculture in Scotland*. [online] Available at: https://www.hutton.ac.uk/learning/exploringscotland/land-capability-agriculture-scotland [Accessed 17.01.24].

Beg/Garvamore as set out in **Chapter 7: Landscape and Visual** and shown in **Figure 7.4**). In addition, the line will operate at 132 kV which generates a lower level of EMF. The Proposed Development will adhere to the relevant regulations and guidance relating to EMF and it was therefore concluded that no likely significant effect on human health associated with EMFs is predicted, and it was therefore scoped out of the assessment in its entirety from this EIA.

- Operational effects of additional electromagnetic interference to medium and long wave (AM) radio signals and TV signals:
  - Electromagnetic interference to medium and long wave (AM) radio signals at properties within close proximity to OHLs can be known to occur. Corona discharge is unlikely to cause significant interference to VHF reception (i.e. FM radio or digital radio and television which operate in the UHF range). Micro-gap discharge can affect digital television and radio reception, but is not considered to be a source of long term annoyance as equipment is built and maintained to high standards and any such discharge would be the subject of remedial action. Impacts to digital television, digital radio and FM radio reception was therefore scoped out of the assessment in its entirety from this EIA.
  - Potential effects from OHLs on TV signals can occur due to physical obstruction of the signal. The Proposed Development would not represent a significant obstruction and it is not anticipated that any adverse effects on TV reception would be experienced. The operation of high voltage OHLs can generate electromagnetic fields over a wide range of frequencies, from power (50 Hz) to radio frequencies. It is anticipated that the Proposed Development would emit low-level radio frequency interference (RFI) but that in practice little radio and television interference would arise, except when directly beneath the OHL. Therefore, this topic has been scoped out of the EIA in its entirety.

Air Quality and Climate Change

4.9.10 There is a potential for the Proposed Development to give rise to some localised and temporary construction related releases associated with dust and construction traffic exhaust emissions. However, the nature of construction activities means these would be localised, short term and intermittent. Emissions associated with the Proposed Development would be limited to temporary and short-term emissions of exhaust gases from vehicles and construction plant, and the potential for the release of carbon dioxide as a result of dewatering and exposing peat and peat soils during construction. Neither source is considered likely to be significant in terms of global warming potential (GWP). Any potential effects would further be minimised through the implementation of mitigation measures, in particular the project CEMP which will be produced prior to construction starting by the Applicant and Principal Contractor (An Outline CEMP can be seen in **Appendix 3.6**) and relevant GEMPs (see **Appendix 3.4**).

4.9.11 With regard to climate adaptation, consideration has been and would continue to be given to the potential implications of climate change on the OHL design and the design of tower support structures (e.g. design for increased flood risk and adverse weather); however, no potential for impacts have been identified.

4.9.12 The Proposed Development would contribute to connecting renewable electricity generation capacity to the transmission network, in turn displacing emissions associated with fossil fuel-based electricity generation elsewhere. As such, this issue is scoped out of the EIA and no assessment of air quality and climate change is included as part of this EIA Report.

Accidents and Disasters

4.9.13 Potentially significant effects which can arise in relation to accidents and disasters from developments of this type include severe weather events and structural damage to towers, as well as the potential for risks during the construction phase.

4.9.14 Given the nature of the Proposed Development, the potential for effects related to the vulnerability to accidents and disasters are likely to be limited to those associated with unplanned power outages, due to extreme weather or structural damage. Crisis management and continuity plans are in place across the SSE Group. These are tested regularly and are designed for the management of, and recovery from, significant energy infrastructure failure events. Where there are material changes in infrastructure (or the management of it) additional plans are developed.

4.9.15 Furthermore, the Principal Designer would need to fully assess risks and mitigate as appropriate during the construction stage as part of the requirements of the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations (2015).

4.9.16 Potential significant effects relating to the vulnerability of the Proposed Development to accidents and disasters has therefore been scoped out of this EIA Report in its entirety.

4.10 Other Issues

Aviation

4.10.1 The Proposed Development would not infringe the safeguarding criteria and operation of any airport in Scotland, and so no assessment on aviation has been included in the EIA Report. This was confirmed in the scoping response from Highlands and Islands Airports Limited (HIAL) and National Air Traffic Society (NATS).

Other Factors Identified in 2017 EIA Regulations

4.10.2 The 2017 EIA Regulations introduced a number of factors to be considered within an EIA Report; specifically, those factors listed under Regulations 4(3) and 4(4), and Schedule 4. **Table 4.2** describes how this EIA Report has addressed these factors.

Table 4.2: Assessment of Factors Identified in Regulations 4(3), 4(4) and Schedule 4

Topic	Potential for Significant Effects
Population and Human Health	This Chapter (**Volume 1: Chapter 4 - Scope and Consultation**) considers potential effects on potential effects relating to population and human health from EMF, EMI, air quality, noise and / or vibration effects in **Section 4.6: Scoped-out Issues.** Potential effects on water supplies are considered in **Volume 1: Chapter 10 - Geology Hydrology and Hydrogeology.**
Biodiversity (in particular species and habitats protected under Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora)	The requirement to consider effects on biodiversity is addressed in **Volume 1: Chapter 8 - Ecology,** and **Chapter 9 – Ornithology.**
Land and Soil (and natural resources availability)	The potential effects on geological receptors, peat and groundwater resources are considered in **Volume 1: Chapter 10 - Geology Hydrology and Hydrogeology.**
Water (and natural resource availability)	The potential effects on the water environment are considered in **Volume 1: Chapter 10 - Geology Hydrology and Hydrogeology.**
Air and Climate	This Chapter (**Volume 1: Chapter 4 - Scope and Consultation**) considers potential effects on air and climate in **Section 4.6**: **Scoped-out Issues.**

Material Assets, Cultural Heritage	This Chapter (**Volume 1: Chapter 4 - Scope and Consultation**) considers potential for effects on material assets and cultural heritage including archaeological assets and historic landscapes in **Section 4.6**: **Scoped-out Issues**.
Landscape	**Volume 1: Chapter 7 - Landscape and Visual** considers the potential effects of the Proposed Development on landscape.
Major Accidents and Disasters	This Chapter (**Volume 1: Chapter 4 - Scope and Consultation**) considers potential effects relating to major accidents and disasters under **Section 4.6**: Scoped-out Issues.
Interaction Between Factors (cumulative effects)	The approach to cumulative effects is outlined within **Chapter 5 – EIA Process and Methodology** and is considered within each of the technical chapters (7 – 13) where appropriate.