

CHAPTER 11 – CULTURAL HERITAGE

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11 CULTURAL HERITAGE

11.1 Introduction

- 11.1.1 This Chapter presents the assessment of the potential effects on cultural heritage resulting from the Proposed Development. This Chapter (and its associated Figures and Appendices) is not intended to be read as a standalone assessment, and reference should be made to the introductory chapters of this EIA Report (Chapters 1-6).
- 11.1.2 Cultural heritage comprises a diverse range of elements that are referred to throughout the Chapter as heritage assets. Heritage assets are features created or that have undergone modification from human activity. This includes a wide range of visible and buried archaeological sites and monuments, as well as other historical features or places. Heritage assets comprise World Heritage Sites, scheduled monuments, listed buildings, gardens and designed landscapes (GDL), inventory battlefields, conservation areas, buried archaeological remains, other historical buildings, and earthworks.
- 11.1.3 Additional information which supports this Chapter is presented in the following figures, visualisations, and technical appendices:
- Volume 3: Figures
 - **Figure 11.1: Designated Heritage Assets;**
 - **Figure 11.2: Heritage Assets and the Limit of Deviation;**
 - **Figure 11.3: Designated Heritage Assets and the Zone of Theoretical Visibility;** and
 - **Figure 11.4: Cultural Heritage Viewpoint Locations.**
 - Volume 4: Visualisations – as listed under the contents page.
 - Volume 5: Appendices
 - **Appendix 11.1: Cultural Heritage Assessment Methodology;**
 - **Appendix 11.2: Cultural Heritage Background and Gazetteer;** and
 - **Appendix 11.3: Cultural Heritage Assessment;** and
 - **Appendix 11.4: Potential Mitigation: Undergrounding of Existing 275 kV OHL at Daviot.**
- 11.1.4 The cultural heritage assessment was undertaken by WSP. It was prepared by professional and experienced Heritage consultants with appropriate memberships of Chartered Institute for Field Archaeologists. A table presenting relevant qualifications and experience of the heritage lead who has overseen the Heritage input into this Chapter is included in **Chapter 5: EIA Process and Methodology**.

11.2 Scope of Assessment and Methodology

Scope of the Assessment

- 11.2.1 The scope of the assessment is to:
- describe the assessment methodology and significance criteria used in the assessment;
 - describe the cultural heritage baseline and identify heritage assets that have the potential to be impacted upon;
 - assess the potential effects during construction and operation, including direct and cumulative effects;
 - describe the mitigation and, where appropriate, monitoring measures proposed to address likely significant adverse effects; and
 - describe the residual effects remaining following the implementation of mitigation.

Legislation, Policy and Guidance

- 11.2.2 The applicable legislation, policy and guidance documents are listed in **Appendix 11.1: Cultural Heritage Assessment Methodology**.

Consultation

- 11.2.3 Full details of the consultation process and responses are included in **Chapter 6: Scope and Consultation** and associated appendices, with specific responses relating to cultural heritage summarised in **Table 11.1: Consultation Responses**.

Table 11.1: Consultation Responses

Organisation	Type of Consultation	Response	How response has been considered
The Highland Council	Pre-application Consultation (July 2024)	The Historic Environment Team stated they are satisfied that the potential alignment can be supported alongside an appropriate mitigation strategy. They have stated that the use of photomontages and other visualisations will be required for the full assessment, and that mitigation is likely to involve avoidance, and excavation and recording if not possible.	The assessment includes visualisations where required, and in accordance with consultation with Historic Environment Scotland (HES). The mitigation strategies suggested have been considered and are set out within Section 11.5 .
	Response to Scoping Report (August 2024)	The Historic Environment Team stated the impacts on non-designated heritage assets should be made clear in the assessment. They have requested a walkover survey be conducted to inform the baseline and that indirect impacts on designated heritage assets be scoped in.	In a call with the Historic Environment Team lead (17 September 2024), assurances were provided on the scope that will be followed, including that changes within the setting of heritage assets are part of the assessment. The conversation also clarified that the walkover had been targeted due to the size of the Proposed Development, and it was agreed that this was an appropriate approach to take for the assessment. The walkovers were conducted in August 2023, May 2024, and June 2024.
Moray Council	Response to Scoping Report (August 2024)	The Council's Regional Archaeologist (Aberdeenshire Council) highlighted that the assessment should consider non-designated as well as designated heritage assets, include areas of compensatory planting in the assessment, and consider walkover surveys of key areas, especially in wooded areas. They also stated they would be able to advise on mitigation strategies once the routes have been confirmed and would likely comprise fencing off, archaeological monitoring, and potential archaeological evaluation if undergrounding. They also specifically mentioned	The assessment has considered impacts to non-designated heritage assets, as well as designated heritage assets, including Blackhills House GDL, both in terms of physical impacts and impacts through changes within their setting, where appropriate. The walkover survey conducted was targeted and focussed on key areas, and further walkover surveys have been included as part of the mitigation for the Proposed Development. The mitigation strategies suggested have been considered and are set out within Section 11.5 .

Organisation	Type of Consultation	Response	How response has been considered
		consideration of the potential impacts to Blackhills House GDL.	The details of compensatory planting are not fully developed at this stage to allow for an assessment of impacts to heritage assets. Details of forestry felling can be found within Chapter 12: Forestry .
Aberdeenshire Council – Historic Environment Team	Response to Scoping Report (August 2024)	The Historic Environment Team advised that a Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment is required and should include areas where compensatory planting is proposed.	The assessment of impacts on cultural heritage is provided within the EIA Report. The areas of compensatory planting are not yet known at this stage. Details of forestry felling can be found within Chapter 12: Forestry .
Aberdeenshire Council – Built Heritage Team	Response to Scoping Report (August 2024)	The Built Heritage Team advised that the assessment would need to be supported by photomontages when it is intervisible with any listed building or nationally designated heritage asset. They state that the Proposed OHL Alignment may potentially impact on a number of heritage assets.	We have provided visualisations (see Volume 4: Visualisations) from the listed buildings where the impacts were deemed to have potential for significant effects and following the advice of HES on Category A listed buildings. We have not provided photomontages from every listed building with intervisibility with the Proposed OHL Alignment but have assessed the potential impact considering key aspects of the current setting, and particularly the importance of wide landscape views. Localised screening was also considered in the assessment and the results of the initial assessment of impact is provided within Appendix 11.3: Cultural Heritage Assessment .
Historic Environment Scotland (HES)	Pre-application consultation (August 2024)	HES stated within their response that it may be possible to accommodate the Proposed Development, based on the proposed alignment, but that mitigation may be required to reduce the potential impacts on several scheduled monuments. They also stated that there is a possibility of an objection from HES given the potential impacts. HES recommended that further consultation be conducted and an early opportunity to see wirelines and initial assessments would help to understand the potential impacts better at this stage. HES provided abundant detail on the heritage assets that are of concern for their interests, as well as offering advice on which heritage assets would require	The advice provided by HES was welcomed, as were the separate consultations on scheduling of monuments. Separate consultations were made with HES in February 2025, regarding the visualisations that would be required from their perspective, and 3D model images were used to represent views to and from several heritage assets under their remit. The advice provided regarding the need for photomontages has been taken on board.

Organisation	Type of Consultation	Response	How response has been considered
		photomontages for the final assessment. The response also referred to the Stone circle, 660 m NW of Hillhead of Frendraught (SM13790), and its scheduling since the alignment appraisal had been conducted.	
	Response to Scoping Report and additional consultation (August 2024)	HES had no comments on the methodology tables provided and recommended that the EIA Handbook¹ should be referred to for advice on assessing cultural heritage impacts. HES identified possible significant effects on heritage assets under their remit, and provided details on the heritage assets they have concerns over. This detail also includes advice on where photomontages or other visualisations may be needed.	The comments and recommendations provided by HES was welcomed, as well as the responses to separate consultations regarding the need for and type of visualisation required for the assessment. The advice has been taken on board and visualisations have been provided where requested (see Volume 4: Visualisations). The assessment refers to the EIA Handbook¹ and follows best practice guidance on assessing cultural heritage impacts.
	Consultation on visualisations (February 2025)	HES were content with the information provided to date and were content with the assessments to be undertaken for the majority of heritage assets. They have requested full photomontages from two additional scheduled monuments following review of the visualisation assessment.	The additional consultation on visualisations has been welcomed throughout and assessment includes the photomontages from the requested locations.
National Trust for Scotland	Pre-application consultation (July 2024)	National Trust raised a concern that the preferred alignment would be within the visual landscape of Culloden Battlefield and would irreversibly degrade the sense of place at the battlefield. They are concerned that towers would break the skyline in views to the south and would recommend undergrounding of the cables.	The routing and alignment studies have considered the potential for impacts on the battlefield throughout the design process; further detail is provided in Chapter 4: The Routeing Process and Alternatives. The assessment of impacts upon the battlefield is provided within Appendix 11.3: Cultural Heritage Assessment, with visualisations and 3D model images provided to support the assessment (see Volume 4: Visualisations).

¹ Historic Environment Scotland and Scottish Natural Heritage (2018). Environmental Impact Assessment Handbook. Available at: <https://www.historicenvironment.scot/archives-and-research/publications/publication/?publicationId=6ed33b65-9df1-4a2f-acbb-a8e800a592c0>

Study Area

- 11.2.4 The Limit of Deviation (LoD), as described within **Chapter 3: Project Description**, forms the basis for the identification of heritage assets that could receive direct physical impacts arising from the construction of the Proposed Development. The variety of heritage assets within the LoD has informed the local archaeological and historical context, with this information used to assess the potential for archaeological remains to exist within the LoD.
- 11.2.5 A study area of 2 km was applied from the Proposed OHL Alignment for consideration of the potential for impacts arising through changes within the setting of designated heritage assets, during the operation of the Proposed Development. This study area has been informed by responses to the Scoping Report from HES and defined due to the limited potential for significant effects on designated heritage assets outside of this area. Following responses and consultation with HES, the baseline also includes selected designated heritage assets that are outside of this defined study area, due to wide landscape views forming an important part of their cultural significance.

Determining Baseline

- 11.2.6 The methodology for determining the cultural heritage baseline through desk study and walkover surveys is detailed within **Appendix 11.1: Cultural Heritage Assessment Methodology**. The baseline is defined as the following:
- designated heritage assets within 2 km of the Proposed OHL Alignment;
 - designated heritage assets beyond 2 km from the Proposed OHL Alignment, requested for inclusion within the assessment by HES; and
 - non-designated heritage assets within the LoD.

Methodology for the Assessment of Impacts

- 11.2.7 The impact assessment methodology is detailed within **Appendix 11.1: Cultural Heritage Assessment Methodology** and addresses the requirements of the EIA Regulations through adherence to the guidance referred to in Paragraph 1.1.3 of this appendix.

Limitations and Assumptions

- 11.2.8 The desk-based data on which this assessment has been based was extensive but not exhaustive, thus there remains the possibility that there may be heritage assets that have not been identified. The information obtained from data sources listed in **Appendix 11.1: Cultural Heritage Assessment Methodology** were checked in April 2025 and are accurate and up to date at the time of assessment.
- 11.2.9 Due to the extensive areas covered by the Proposed Development, walkover surveys conducted in August 2023, May 2024, and June 2024, were targeted to areas of higher potential for visible archaeological remains that may not have been previously recorded. Areas that were not covered by the walkover surveys may contain previously undiscovered heritage assets, which may be visible as above ground archaeological remains, or may be sub-surface. It is not considered that the omission of these areas from the walkover surveys detracts from the validity of the assessment presented. Mitigation measures are set out below to ensure all gaps in the previous surveys are covered prior to construction and the production of the detailed mitigation strategies (see **Section 11.5**).
- 11.2.10 Throughout the assessment, the term woodland is used to describe areas of mature woodland that form part of the natural landscape and are not part of a commercial plantation for use as timber. The term forestry is used where there is a commercial interest, and the trees could be removed as part of this commercial operation. The assessment has been undertaken with the assumption that trees within forestry will be removed throughout the lifetime of the Proposed Development and would not provide screening of any visual impacts arising from it.

11.3 Baseline Conditions

11.3.1 The detailed archaeological and historical background related to the LoD and study area, along with descriptions of the heritage assets that form the baseline for the cultural heritage assessment, is provided in **Appendix 11.2: Cultural Heritage Background and Gazetteer** and the locations referred to are shown in **Figure 11.1: Designated Heritage Assets**, and **Figure 11.2: Heritage Assets and the Limit of Deviation**. Each entry in the gazetteer has a heritage asset reference number which is used to identify it within the assessment and on **Figure 11.1: Designated Heritage Assets**, and **Figure 11.2: Heritage Assets and the Limit of Deviation**. Due to the number of heritage assets within the baseline, and for ease of reference within the text and on the figure, the heritage asset reference numbers are prefixed according to designation of the heritage assets, as follows:

- scheduled monuments (S);
- listed buildings (L);
- gardens and designed landscapes or GDLs (G);
- conservation areas (C);
- battlefields (B); and
- non-designated (ND).

11.3.2 The heritage assets also have a unique identifying number provided by HES, and / or The Highland Council, Moray Council, and Aberdeenshire Council Historic Environment Record (HER).

Baseline Summary (excluding the Kellas Alternative Alignment)

11.3.3 There are 823 heritage assets included within the baseline for the assessment. Of these heritage assets, 417 are within the LoD, consisting of 14 designated heritage assets and 403 non-designated heritage assets. A further 379 designated heritage assets are contained within the surrounding 2 km study area, with an additional 27 designated heritage assets beyond 2 km added to the baseline, following consultation with HES.

Heritage assets within the LoD

11.3.4 There are 403 non-designated heritage assets within the LoD of the Proposed Development, ranging from prehistoric settlement and funerary activity, medieval settlement, and ecclesiastical activity, through to post-medieval and modern settlement and agricultural activity.

11.3.5 There are 14 designated heritage assets within the LoD consisting of:

- Beaufort Castle (GDL00052; G1);
- Corff House, fort (SM3195; S3);
- Reelig (Easter Moniach) (GDL00416; G12);
- Dunain Lodge (LB8047; L70);
- Dunain House (LB8047; L71);
- Borlum, ring-ditch (SM5142; S11);
- Caledonian Canal, Dochgarroch Lock – Muirtown Locks (SM6499; S12);
- Leys Castle (GDL00264; G4);
- Mains of Daviot Farm ring cairn and stone circle (SM11876; S20);
- Easter Rattich, depopulated settlement (SM11876; S31);
- Old House, Clunas House (LB1737; L87);
- Office, Clunas House (LB1737, L88);
- Clunas House (LB1737; L89); and
- Burn of Redpath Bridge (LB1633; L213).

Heritage assets within the study area and wider landscape

11.3.6 There are an additional 379 heritage assets within the 2 km study area and a further 27 within the wider landscape that form the baseline for the assessment. These are all designated heritage assets and consist of:

- 51 scheduled monuments;
- 340 listed buildings comprising:
 - 35 Category A;
 - 170 Category B; and
 - 135 Category C.
- nine GDLs;
- one registered battlefield; and
- five conservation areas.

Archaeological Potential

11.3.7 The Proposed Development contains a large variance in topography, past land use, and known heritage assets. The higher topographies generally are composed of stoney, clayey and more compacted soils and deposits which are traditionally less attractive for earlier settlement and farming practices. However, this is typically where heritage assets relating to defensive structures, or pastoral agricultural activity would be found. The lower topographies typically are composed of glaciofluvial deposits of gravels and sands, which are free-draining deposits used for arable farmland and where settlements are typically found from all periods. The detailed assessment of archaeological potential for each period is contained within **Appendix 11.2: Cultural Heritage Background and Gazetteer**.

11.3.8 The LoD has medium potential to contain prehistoric remains, especially in the low-lying areas, with higher topographies less likely (where remains tend to be visible). Prehistoric archaeological remains are anticipated to be settlement related and would be of low to medium cultural significance. There is low potential for Pictish and medieval archaeological remains as activity from these periods is rarely discovered and tends to be focussed on current towns / villages that have grown out of the earlier settlements. Any archaeological remains from these periods would probably relate to agricultural activity and would be of low cultural significance. There is also low potential for post-medieval archaeological remains, as the extensive evidence of post-medieval agricultural activity within the LoD suggests that most sub-surface remains are already known to exist. If present, post-medieval remains would likely be related to agricultural activity and would be of low to negligible cultural significance.

Baseline Summary (Kellas Alternative Alignment)

11.3.9 There are ten heritage assets included within the baseline for the assessment of the Kellas Alternative Alignment, consisting of two listed buildings (also within the Proposed Development baseline) and eight non-designated heritage assets:

- Listed buildings:
 - Kellas House (LB2345; L117); and
 - The Lodge, Kellas House (LB2346; L118);
- Non-designated heritage assets
 - Bodnastalker farmstead (NJ15SE0058; ND137);
 - Loch Na Curs buildings (NJ15SE0035; ND138);
 - Loch Na Curs well (NRHE ID 371230; ND139)
 - Glenlatterach farmstead, mill pond, and lade (NJ25SW0036; ND146)
 - Mill Our trackway (NJ25SW0076; ND148)

- Mill Our trackway (NJ25SW0077; ND150)
- Mill Our trackway (NJ25SW0071; ND151); and
- Marnoch road (NJ25NW0047; ND162).

11.3.10 All of these heritage assets relate to post-medieval activity, with the Kellas House a typical example of a larger estate with gate lodge, and the other heritage assets typical of rural agricultural practices and small industries.

Future Baseline

11.3.11 The future baseline in relation to cultural heritage is expected to be the same as the present. The heritage assets within the baseline are a static resource, which have reached equilibrium within their environment and do not change (i.e., decay or grow) unless their environment changes as a result of human or natural intervention. For upstanding heritage assets, there may be some decay over time in the absence of the Proposed Development, and for sub-surface heritage assets, continued agricultural activity and vegetation development could cause disturbance.

Sensitive Receptors

11.3.12 The non-designated heritage assets within the LoD have the potential to be physically impacted upon during construction, and these impacts may result in significant effects.

11.3.13 The designated heritage assets within the study area and the selected designated heritage assets outside of the study area have the potential to be impacted during the operation of the Proposed Development through changes within their setting, and these impacts may result in significant effects.

Issues Scoped Out

11.3.14 Direct impacts during construction and operation of the Proposed Development on World Heritage Sites and Marine Protected Areas has been scoped out of the cultural heritage assessment as there are no such sites present within the Proposed Development or within the 2 km study area.

11.3.15 It is not anticipated that there would be any indirect or secondary impacts from the construction or operation of the Proposed Development, therefore the assessment of indirect impacts on all heritage assets has been scoped out. This includes areas of management felling that are being recommended to manage the risk of windthrow. This would potentially bring commercial felling activity forward in some areas, with replanting required as a condition of any statutory felling licence granted. This process will be the responsibility of the landowners and will be in compliance with The UK Forestry Standard². All physical impacts and changes within the setting of heritage assets are assessed as direct impacts.

11.3.16 Direct physical impacts during construction of the Proposed Development on scheduled monuments, listed buildings, and conservation areas has been scoped out of the cultural heritage assessment as these will be avoided as part of the design for the Proposed Development (see **Chapter 3: Project Description**).

11.3.17 Direct impacts through changes within the setting of heritage assets during construction has been scoped out, as any changes would be temporary and would not result in residual significant effects.

² Forest Research (2023). The UK Forestry Standard – The government's approach to sustainable forestry. Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/651670336a423b0014f4c5c0/Revised_UK_Forestry_Standard_-_effective_October_2024.pdf

11.4 Assessment of Likely Significance of Effects

Embedded Mitigation

- 11.4.1 Throughout the route selection and alignment selection process for the design of the Proposed Development, potential impacts to heritage assets have been considered and consultation has been undertaken with HES, The Highland Council Historic Environment Team, and the Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service (who advise Moray Council and Aberdeenshire Council on archaeological matters) to avoid adverse impacts as much as possible. This includes avoidance of known heritage assets and consideration of potential impacts through changes within the setting of heritage assets during operation of the Proposed Development.
- 11.4.2 This avoidance of impacts through the design process included the following:
- ensuring no towers were located within the Beaufort Castle GDL (GDL00052; G2) or that would disturb the woodland surrounding the Caledonian Canal (SM6499; S12);
 - increasing the distance of the Proposed OHL Alignment from Culloden Battlefield (BTL6; B1) and routing around the southern side of Saddle Hill;
 - maintaining an alignment to the north of Frendraught House (LB9449; L293) to avoid visual impacts looking south from the principal rooms over the gardens; and
 - maintaining parallel alignment to the existing 275 kV OHL in a number of locations to reduce effects on a number of heritage assets during operation due to massing of electrical infrastructure.

Predicted Construction Impacts

- 11.4.3 All ground breaking activities associated with the construction of the Proposed Development have the potential to directly impact upon heritage assets. Such activities include, but are not limited to groundworks, rock breaking, topsoil stripping, ground compaction, access, drainage, stockpiling, and storage.
- 11.4.4 These construction related activities could lead to the following impacts:
- complete or partial loss of a heritage asset as a result of ground excavation;
 - damage to a heritage asset as a result of ground excavation;
 - damage to a heritage asset due to compaction; and
 - damage to a heritage asset as a result of ground vibration caused by construction.
- 11.4.5 For the purposes of this assessment, construction related impacts are only being reported in this Chapter for the heritage assets that are located directly within the tower working areas (see **Figure 3.9: Typical Tower Working Area Arrangement**), or on access tracks leading to a tower location, where ground breaking works would be required i.e. new permanent, new temporary, and upgrades to poor and very poor existing tracks. The dismantling of towers, erection of temporary towers and all works related to OHL crossings are also included, but does not include all heritage assets within the LoD.
- 11.4.6 For the other heritage assets within the LoD that are not anticipated to be impacted by the current design of the Proposed Development, it is assumed that there would be no physical impacts to their known extents. The exception to this is Beaufort Castle (GDL00052; G1) as forestry felling of the designed woodland would be required as part of the Proposed Development.
- 11.4.7 The full list of heritage assets within the LoD is provided within **Appendix 11.2, Annex A: Cultural Heritage Gazetteer**, which also references the local authority where each heritage asset is located. The measures to preserve the heritage assets within the LoD in situ or by record are included within the additional mitigation measures below (see **Section 11.5**).

Heritage assets impacted by forestry felling

- 11.4.8 The Beaufort Castle GDL (GDL00052; G1) would be physically impacted during construction due to the removal of woodland underneath the conductors that would over sail the northern extents of the GDL. The magnitude of impact on the GDL from the forestry felling has been assessed as **Negligible Adverse** due to the location of the woodland at the northern edge of the GDL, which is not one of the main designed elements of the GDL. As a heritage asset of High cultural significance, the resulting significance of effect would be **Slight Adverse**.

Heritage assets impacted by tower compounds

- 11.4.9 There are 42 non-designated heritage assets which have the potential to be impacted by construction activities relating to the tower compounds. These are presented in **Table 11.2: Non-designated heritage assets impacted by construction activities at tower working areas**. Where the significance of effect is Moderate Adverse or above, these are potentially significant in the context of the EIA Regulations (in accordance with the methodology set out in **Appendix 11.1: Cultural Heritage Assessment Methodology**), and are highlighted in bold text in **Table 11.2**. It is assumed that all of the areas within the tower working area would be subject to groundworks which may result in direct physical impacts to heritage assets which are within their footprint. The cultural significance of the heritage assets, the magnitude of impact from the Proposed Development, and the resulting significance of effect prior to mitigation, have been assessed based on the assessment methodology presented in **Appendix 11.1: Cultural Heritage Assessment Methodology**.

Table 11.2: Non-designated heritage assets impacted by construction activities at tower working areas

Heritage Asset Ref.	Name	Impact	Cultural Significance	Magnitude of impact (Adverse)	Significance of effect
ND2	Site of Old Kiltarlity manse and garden	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Minor	Slight adverse
ND16	Rectangular enclosure – Groam of Annat	Partial loss of heritage asset	Low	Moderate	Slight adverse
ND32	Cairn – Reelig Wood, Kirkhill	Loss of heritage asset	Low	Major	Moderate adverse
ND43	Cuillard - enclosure	Loss of heritage asset	Low	Major	Moderate adverse
ND58	Hut circle - east of Newton of Leys, Inverness	Loss of heritage asset	Medium	Major	Large adverse
ND66	Cairnfield and hut circle, Cottartown	Loss of heritage asset	Medium	Major	Large adverse
ND72	Ruallan – building	Loss of heritage asset	Low	Major	Moderate adverse
ND77	Military Road 141424	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Minor	Slight adverse
ND84	Cluaisnahadig – Township	Loss of heritage asset	Low	Major	Moderate adverse
ND86	Farm, South of Achagour - farmstead	Loss of heritage asset	Low	Major	Moderate adverse
ND93	Farmstead - New Inn Wood (Botnamain)	Loss of heritage asset	Low	Major	Moderate adverse
ND102	Knockach Burn – cairns	Partial loss of heritage asset	Low	Moderate	Slight adverse
ND107	Shian Dou – section of disused railway	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Negligible	Slight adverse

Heritage Asset Ref.	Name	Impact	Cultural Significance	Magnitude of impact (Adverse)	Significance of effect
ND113	Little Corshellach - farmstead	Partial loss of heritage asset	Low	Moderate	Slight adverse
ND118	Little Corshellach – stone and turf dyke	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Negligible	Slight adverse
ND135	Fairy Knowe – possible dun	Loss of heritage asset	Low	Major	Moderate adverse
ND143	Glenchapel – sunken trackway	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Minor	Slight adverse
ND148	Mill Our - trackway	Partial loss of heritage asset	Low	Major	Moderate adverse
ND172	Hart Hill – boundary stone	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Minor	Slight adverse
ND173	Hart Hill – boundary stone	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Minor	Slight adverse
ND174	Hart Hill – boundary stone	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Minor	Slight adverse
ND178	Netherglen – standing stone	Loss of heritage asset	Low	Major	Moderate adverse
ND179	Glen of Rothes – section of disused railway	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Negligible	Slight adverse
ND197	Orbliston – farmstead	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Minor	Slight adverse
ND199	Orbliston – cropmarks	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Medium	Minor	Slight adverse
ND204	Burnside of Dipple – rectangular enclosure	Partial loss of heritage asset	Low	Moderate	Slight adverse
ND223	Balloch Wood – military road	Partial loss of heritage asset	Low	Moderate	Slight adverse
ND228	Greenwood – drainage	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Negligible	Minor	Neutral
ND232	Military Road - rig and furrow, platforms, and enclosures	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Minor	Slight adverse
ND234	Holloway	Partial loss of heritage asset	Low	Moderate	Slight adverse
ND247	Glen of Coachford – military road	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Negligible	Slight adverse
ND254	Ruthven – site of motte or fortalice	Partial loss of heritage asset	Low	Moderate	Slight adverse
ND267	Cumrie – longhouse, enclosures, kailyard and rig	Partial loss of heritage asset	Low	Moderate	Slight adverse
ND268	Haggieshall – enclosures	Loss of heritage asset	Low	Major	Moderate adverse

Heritage Asset Ref.	Name	Impact	Cultural Significance	Magnitude of impact (Adverse)	Significance of effect
ND287	Croft of Cloyne – site of building	Partial loss of heritage asset	Low	Moderate	Slight adverse
ND289	Crofts of Hillhead – farmstead	Loss of heritage asset	Low	Major	Moderate adverse
ND298	Drumblair – rig and furrow	Partial loss of heritage asset	Low	Moderate	Slight adverse
ND305	Carlinraig – building and enclosure	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Minor	Slight adverse
ND312	Cragietocher – cropmarks	Partial loss of heritage asset	Low	Moderate	Slight adverse
ND338	Allathan – site of farmstead and smithy	Partial loss of heritage asset	Negligible	Moderate	Slight adverse
ND365	Crichie House	Partial loss of heritage asset	Medium	Moderate	Moderate adverse
ND399	Daviot Cottage – farmstead	Loss of heritage asset	Low	Major	Moderate adverse

- 11.4.10 Of the 42 non-designated heritage assets impacted upon from works within the tower working areas, there are 15 significant effects identified, prior to mitigation, consisting of two Large Adverse and 13 Moderate Adverse.

Heritage assets impacted by access tracks

- 11.4.11 There are 57 non-designated heritage assets which have the potential to be impacted by activities relating to the construction of access tracks within the LoD. These are presented in **Table 11.3: Heritage assets impacted by construction activities for access tracks**. Where the significance of effect is Moderate Adverse or above, these are potentially significant in the context of the EIA Regulations (in accordance with the methodology set out in **Appendix 11.1: Cultural Heritage Assessment Methodology**), and are highlighted in bold text in **Table 11.3**. These access tracks may be temporary or permanent, but it is anticipated that the necessary ground works would result in direct physical impacts to heritage assets within the tracks. The cultural significance of the heritage assets, the magnitude of impact from the Proposed Development, and the resulting significance of effect prior to mitigation, have been assessed based on the assessment methodology presented in **Appendix 11.1: Cultural Heritage Assessment Methodology**.

Table 11.3: Heritage assets impacted by construction activities for access tracks

Heritage Asset Ref.	Name	Impact	Cultural Significance	Magnitude of impact (Adverse)	Significance of effect
ND16	Rectangular enclosure – Groom of Annat	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Minor	Slight adverse
ND26	South Lodge - enclosure	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Medium	Minor	Slight adverse
ND40	Milton of Dunain township	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Minor	Slight adverse
ND62	Military Road 139503	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Negligible	Slight adverse
ND66	Cairnfield and hut circle, Cottartown	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Medium	Minor	Slight adverse

Heritage Asset Ref.	Name	Impact	Cultural Significance	Magnitude of impact (Adverse)	Significance of effect
ND73	Upper Ruallan – farmstead	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Minor	Slight adverse
ND76	Newlands of Glengeoullie Bridge	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Minor	Slight adverse
ND77	Military Road 141424	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Negligible	Slight adverse
ND82	Clunas Well, Cawdor	Loss of heritage asset	Low	Major	Moderate adverse
ND95	Cairn Duhie – boundary stone	Loss of heritage asset	Low	Major	Moderate adverse
ND100	Glenorney Wood – Military Road	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Negligible	Slight adverse
ND102	Knockach Burn – clearance cairns	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Minor	Slight adverse
ND103	Woodside – clearance cairns	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Negligible	Slight adverse
ND104	Woodside – croft	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Minor	Slight adverse
ND107	Shian Dou – section of disused railway	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Negligible	Slight adverse
ND118	Little Corshellach – stone and turf dyke	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Negligible	Slight adverse
ND140	Glen Latterach - spring	Loss of heritage asset	Low	Major	Moderate adverse
ND143	Glenchapel – sunken trackway	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Negligible	Slight adverse
ND146	Glenlatterach – farmstead, millpond and lade	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Negligible	Slight adverse
ND148	Mill Our - trackway	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Minor	Slight adverse
ND150	Mill Our - trackway	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Negligible	Neutral
ND162	Marnoch Road	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Minor	Slight adverse
ND179	Glen of Rothes – section of disused railway	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Negligible	Slight adverse
ND184	Cowslacks – remains of a building	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Negligible	Slight adverse

Heritage Asset Ref.	Name	Impact	Cultural Significance	Magnitude of impact (Adverse)	Significance of effect
ND187	Badentinan Wood – boundary stone	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Minor	Slight adverse
ND197	Orbliston – farmstead	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Negligible	Neutral
ND199	Orbliston – cropmarks	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Medium	Negligible	Slight adverse
ND204	Burnside of Dipple – rectangular enclosure	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Minor	Slight adverse
ND223	Balloch Wood – military road	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Minor	Slight adverse
ND228	Greenwood – drainage	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Negligible	Negligible	Neutral
ND229	Mains of Auchoynanie – remains of house and site of earlier manor	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Negligible	Slight adverse
ND242	Military Road – possible cairn	Loss of heritage asset	Low	Major	Slight adverse
ND245	Balloch Wood – cairns	Partial loss of heritage asset	Low	Moderate	Slight adverse
ND247	Glen of Coachford – military road	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Minor	Slight adverse
ND262	White Hill – track and dyke	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Minor	Slight adverse
ND267	Cumrie – longhouse, enclosures, kailyard and rig	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Negligible	Slight adverse
ND268	Haggieshall – enclosures	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Minor	Slight adverse
ND278	Well of Kinnoir	Loss of heritage asset	Low	Major	Moderate adverse
ND284	Knightsmill – remains of farmstead	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Negligible	Neutral
ND289	Crofts of Hillhead – farmstead	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Minor	Slight adverse
ND293	Home Farm, Drumblair – farmstead, mill lade and pond	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Negligible	Neutral
ND297	Drumblair Wood – rig and furrow	Loss of heritage asset	Low	Major	Moderate adverse
ND301	Croft of Feith-Hill - quarry	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Negligible	Negligible	Neutral

Heritage Asset Ref.	Name	Impact	Cultural Significance	Magnitude of impact (Adverse)	Significance of effect
ND302	Lenshaw – boundary stone	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Minor	Slight adverse
ND307	Crofts of Pitglassie – rectangular enclosure	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Minor	Slight adverse
ND309	Crofts of Pitglassie – site of small building	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Minor	Slight adverse
ND312	Cragietocher – cropmarks	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Minor	Slight adverse
ND318	Little Colp – cropmarks	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Negligible	Neutral
ND320	Balquhindachy – farmstead	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Minor	Slight adverse
ND322	Balquhindachy – farmstead	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Minor	Slight adverse
ND327	Burnside of Idioch – buildings	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Minor	Slight adverse
ND341	Mains of Allathan – site of destroyed cottage	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Negligible	Minor	Slight adverse
ND359	Little Kirkhill – farmstead	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Negligible	Neutral
ND361	Upper Crichtie – farmstead	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Negligible	Neutral
ND365	Crichtie House	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Medium	Negligible	Slight adverse
ND368	Kinmundy – house	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Medium	Negligible	Neutral
ND372	Braeside – site of farmstead and enclosures	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Minor	Slight adverse

11.4.12 Of the 57 non-designated heritage assets impacted upon from works within the access tracks, there are five significant effects identified of Moderate Adverse, prior to mitigation.

Overall impact on heritage assets within both tower compounds and access tracks

11.4.13 There are 20 non-designated heritage assets which have the potential to be impacted during construction by both the tower compounds and the access tracks. Where this occurs, an overall Significance of Effect, prior to mitigation, has been determined based on the combined impacts. These are presented in **Table 11.4: Overall impact on heritage assets within tower compounds and access tracks**. Where the significance of effect is Moderate Adverse or above, these are potentially significant in the context of the EIA Regulations (in accordance with the methodology set out in **Appendix 11.1: Cultural Heritage Assessment Methodology**), and are highlighted in bold text in **Table 11.4**.

Table 11.4: Overall impact on heritage assets within tower compounds and access tracks

Heritage Asset Ref.	Name	Type	Cultural Significance	Magnitude of impact (Adverse)		Overall Significance of effect
				Tower	Access	
ND16	Rectangular enclosure – Groom of Annat	Partial loss of heritage asset	Low	Moderate	Minor	Slight adverse
ND66	Cairnfield and hut circle, Cottartown	Loss of heritage asset	Medium	Major	Minor	Large adverse
ND77	Military Road 141424	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Minor	Negligible	Slight adverse
ND102	Knockach Burn – cairns	Partial loss of heritage asset	Low	Moderate	Minor	Slight adverse
ND107	Shian Dou – section of disused railway	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Negligible	Negligible	Slight adverse
ND118	Little Corshellach – stone and turf dyke	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Negligible	Negligible	Slight adverse
ND143	Glenchapel – sunken trackway	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Minor	Negligible	Slight adverse
ND148	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Partial loss of heritage asset	Low	Major	Minor	Moderate adverse
ND179	Glen of Rothes – section of disused railway	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Negligible	Negligible	Slight adverse
ND197	Orbliston – farmstead	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Minor	Negligible	Slight adverse
ND199	Orbliston – cropmarks	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Medium	Minor	Negligible	Slight adverse
ND204	Burnside of Dipple – rectangular enclosure	Partial loss of heritage asset	Low	Moderate	Minor	Slight adverse
ND223	Balloch Wood – military road	Partial loss of heritage asset	Low	Moderate	Minor	Slight adverse
ND228	Greenwood – drainage	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Negligible	Minor	Negligible	Neutral
ND247	Glen of Coachford – military road	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Negligible	Minor	Slight adverse
ND267	Cumrie – longhouse, enclosures, kailyard and rig	Partial loss of heritage asset	Low	Moderate	Negligible	Slight adverse
ND268	Haggieshall – enclosures	Loss of heritage asset	Low	Major	Minor	Moderate adverse
ND289	Crofts of Hillhead – farmstead	Loss of heritage asset	Low	Major	Minor	Moderate adverse
ND312	Cragietocher – cropmarks	Partial loss of heritage asset	Low	Moderate	Minor	Slight adverse
ND365	Crichie House	Partial loss of heritage asset	Medium	Moderate	Negligible	Moderate adverse

- 11.4.14 The combined impacts on non-designated heritage assets from the tower working areas and the access tracks did not result in an increase to the highest impact levels already stated from the individual activities of construction. Therefore, there are no additional significant effects identified.

Potential archaeological remains

- 11.4.15 From the assessment of archaeological potential, it has been assumed that any previously unknown sub-surface remains within the tower compounds and access tracks would probably be of Low cultural significance. The construction of the Proposed Development would remove all traces of any archaeological remains discovered and would be a magnitude of impact of Major Adverse. Therefore, the resulting significance of effect on potential archaeological remains has been assessed as **Moderate Adverse**, prior to mitigation.

Predicted Operational Impacts

- 11.4.16 Impacts during the operation of the Proposed Development would relate to permanent changes within the setting of heritage assets due to the addition of modern infrastructure within the existing landscape. A full assessment of the designated and non-designated heritage assets within the baseline, and the resulting significance of effects of the potential impacts, has been detailed within **Appendix 11.3: Cultural Heritage Assessment**. A bare earth Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) (**Figure 11.3: Designated Heritage Assets and the Zone of Theoretical Visibility**) was used in the assessment of effects related to visual changes within the setting of designated heritage assets. This was supplemented by 3D Model Render and photomontage visualisations, where requested by HES. The location of the viewpoints for the visualisations is presented in **Figure 11.4: Cultural Heritage Viewpoint Locations**.
- 11.4.17 For the assessment of operational impacts, it has been assumed that the tower locations will not deviate from those shown within the **Figure 3.1: Site Layout**. Any changes to the Proposed OHL Alignment, post-submission, will require re-assessment where the tower is brought closer to a designated heritage asset that is currently impacted at a Minor Adverse magnitude of impact or higher. For all assessments conducted, the design height has been assumed as the operational height for each tower, as detailed in **Appendix 3.1: Tower Schedules**. The vertical LoD has been considered throughout, but no impacts greater than those stated are anticipated if the towers have to be taller than the current design height. For the detailed assessments where photomontage visualisations are provided, the vertical LoD is shown as a blue line on the photo wire, to provide an indication of potential maximum height (see **Volume 4: Visualisations**).

Summary of Operational Impacts

- 11.4.18 An initial assessment was conducted on the heritage assets within the baseline, based on the contribution made to the cultural significance of the heritage asset from its setting, the results of the ZTV, and visual barriers noted on aerial photography. Following the initial assessment, there are no impacts anticipated on 710 heritage assets within the baseline due to one of the following reasons:
- no visibility according to the ZTV;
 - wide landscape views not contributing to the setting of the heritage asset; and
 - views of the Proposed OHL Alignment not being possible due to intervening topography or other screening such as woodland or buildings etc.
- 11.4.19 These 710 assets are listed within the relevant section of **Appendix 11.3: Cultural Heritage Assessment** and consist of:
- 20 scheduled monuments;
 - 318 listed buildings;
 - four conservation areas; and
 - 368 non-designated heritage assets.

- 11.4.20 Based on the initial assessments, and the low potential for changes within the setting resulting in significant effects, simple assessments (see **Appendix 11.1: Cultural Heritage Assessment Methodology** for definition) of 49 designated and non-designated heritage assets were undertaken. The simple assessments of ten scheduled monuments, nine listed buildings, eight GDLs, one conservation area, and three non-designated heritage assets resulted in **Neutral** significance of effects due to No Change within the settings of the heritage assets. Simple assessments of a further seven listed buildings, two GDLs, one conservation area, and eight non-designated heritage resulted in **Slight Adverse** significance of effects due to very minor or slight changes within the setting of these heritage assets.
- 11.4.21 Detailed assessments were undertaken for the remaining 41 heritage assets as there was a medium to high potential for changes within the setting of the heritage assets to result in a significant effect. The detailed assessments are provided within **Appendix 11.3: Cultural Heritage Assessment** where the significance of effect was deemed not significant according to the methodology set out within **Appendix 11.3: Cultural Heritage Assessment Methodology** (Slight Adverse or below). However, due to the nuances within the methodology provided, effects of Slight Adverse following a Minor Adverse magnitude of impact, on a heritage asset of High cultural significance, has the potential to lead to a significant effect, and so are detailed within the Chapter with justification provided for the effect level.
- 11.4.22 Of the detailed assessments presented in **Appendix 11.3: Cultural Heritage Assessment**, 14 scheduled monuments, six listed buildings, two GDLs, one registered battlefield, and one conservation area resulted in one **Neutral** significance of effect to Achnagairn House (LB7807; L55) and 23 **Slight Adverse** significance of effects due to Negligible Adverse impacts within the setting of heritage assets of High cultural significance. These heritage assets comprised:
- Corff House, fort SW of (SM3195; S3);
 - Dun Mor, fort, Ballindoun (SM2423; S6);
 - Phoinneas Hill, enclosure (SM4729; S5);
 - Caledonian Canal, Dochgarroch Lock – Muirtown Locks (SM6499; S12);
 - Borlum, ring ditch 170 m NE of (SM5142; S11);
 - Achvraid, hut circles 1030 m SSE of (SM11561; S14);
 - Achvraid, hut circles 800 m SE of (SM11786; S15);
 - Carn Glas Chambered Cairn (SM2392; S16);
 - Clava Cairns (SM90074; S30);
 - Rehiran Farm House, cairn 1530 m ESE of (SM11797; S34);
 - Cairnton, stone circle 480 m NE of (SM11; S43);
 - Conzie Castle and Doocot (SM5899; S44);
 - Stone circle, 365 m WSW of Raich Farm (SM42; S46);
 - Parkhouse Hill stone circle (SM2; S53);
 - Achnagairn House (LB7807; L55);
 - Reelig House and Walled Garden, Reelig House (LB7821; L59-L60);
 - Ardclach Bell Tower (LB551; L95);
 - West Outbuilding at Corse Croft, Kinnoir, Huntly (LB43681; L285);
 - Hatton Castle (LB16431; L313);
 - Beaufort Castle GDL (GDL00052; G1);
 - Hatton Castle (GDL00399; G10);
 - Battle of Culloden (BTL6; B1);
 - Culloden Muir (CON32; C2);

Detailed Assessment of Operational Impacts

- 11.4.23 The assessments below relate to heritage assets of High cultural significance that are assessed as having a magnitude of impact of Minor Adverse or above. These levels of impact have the potential to result in significant effects in terms of the EIA Regulations according to the methodology set out within **Appendix 11.1: Cultural Heritage Assessment Methodology**. Justification is provided for the level of effect chosen in each assessment where the methodology provides for professional judgement in stating the final significance of effect.
- 11.4.24 There are 12 scheduled monuments and five listed buildings within the assessment, and they are located within the following local authority areas:
- The Highland Council
 - Kiltarlity Old Parish Church (SM5570; S2) and Kiltarlity Old Parish Church Burial Ground (LB8081; L10);
 - Torbreck, stone circle SW of (SM3098; S13);
 - Mains of Daviot Farm, ring cairn and stone circle 600 m NNE of (SM3085; S20);
 - Daviot Castle (SM5486; S22);
 - Beaufort Castle (LB8068; L16); and
 - Moniack Castle (LB7818; L52).
 - Aberdeenshire Council
 - Arn Hill, stone circle, Rothiemay Station (SM4; S41);
 - Kinnoir Old Church, church 550 m WSW of Corse of Kinnoir (SM5619; S42);
 - Stone Circle, 660 m NW of Hillhead of Frendraught (SM13790; S45);
 - Hare Stone, stone circle 480 m NW of Feith-Hill (SM338; S47);
 - North Pitglassie, stone circle 1320 m SW of (SM38; S48);
 - Mains of Hatton stone circle (SM30; S49);
 - Corrydown, stone circle 150 m NE of (SM16; S50);
 - Fedderate Castle (SM5951; S51);
 - Cobairdy House (LB9453; L287);
 - Hill of Culsh (Dingwall Fordyce) Monument (LB16156; L323); and
 - Saint John's Church and Chapel Well, Longside (LB9419; L344).
- 11.4.25 From the assessments completed, there are two significant effects identified, to Mains of Daviot Farm, ring cairn and stone circle 600 m NNE of (SM3085; S20) and Hare Stone, stone circle 480 m NW of Feith-Hill (SM338; S47), due to changes within their setting.

Kiltarlity Old Parish Church (SM5570; S2) and Kiltarlity Old Parish Church Burial Ground (LB8081; L10)

- 11.4.26 This scheduled monument consists of the remains of the old parish church at Kiltarlity, built in the 16th century (see **Figure 11.1: Designated Heritage Assets** Page 1 of 12. The heritage asset survives as ruins approximately 4 m in height at its gable ends and may have been built on top of an earlier church - the 13th century church of 'Kyntarlargyn', dedicated to the Pictish Saint Talorgan, and presumed to align with the conception of the Kiltarlity Parish in 1226. The upstanding remains likely preserve the earlier church beneath. As such, this heritage asset is a rare example of a 16th century medieval parish church, with potential to overlie remains from an early medieval Pictish church. Surrounding the scheduled monument is the Category B listed Kiltarlity Old Parish Church Burial Ground (LB8081; L10), containing 18th and 19th century tombstones surrounded by an irregularly shaped rubble wall.

- 11.4.27 The heritage asset is located on an area of flat ground between the River Beaully and a B road, and there is a modern fishery building 25 m to the east. The surrounding woodland to the north, west and south help to maintain the setting of a sheltered, rural location, with semi-open views of the river and opposite banks to the east and southeast.
- 11.4.28 The cultural significance of the church and burial ground comes from the potential to provide further evidence through excavation for ecclesiastical architecture, parish organisation, burial practices, and material culture during the medieval and early modern period. The localised setting of the church and burial ground, and the views of the river, also contribute to its cultural significance.
- 11.4.29 The Proposed OHL Alignment would be located 470 m to the southeast of the church, with a tower within the open fields, backdropped by the woodland at the river's edge. There would also be a tower visible over the top of the trees on the opposite bank of the river to the east, with screening of the tower base from the woodland along the river's edge (**Visualisation 11.31: VP31 3D Model Render from Kiltarlity Old Parish Church (SM5570; S2) and Kiltarlity Old Parish Church Burial Ground (LB8081; L10)**).
- 11.4.30 The magnitude of impact during operation has been assessed as Minor Adverse, as the introduction of the tower in views to the southeast, and the visibility of the tower in views to the east, result in slight changes to a few key aspects of the heritage assets cultural significance. As a heritage asset of high cultural significance, the resulting significance of effect would be **Slight Adverse**. The significance of effect has been determined as not significant as the localised views of the river, and sheltered rural location would be retained, with minimal impacts on how the heritage asset is understood, appreciated, and experienced.

Torbreck, stone circle SW of (SM3098; S13)

- 11.4.31 This scheduled monument is a prehistoric stone circle composed of nine upstanding stones in a sub-circular shape (see **Figure 11.1: Designated Heritage Assets** Page 2 of 12). The stone circle is considered to be a complete circle with its nine monoliths, though it is noted that at one point there may have been an additional two concentric circles with a passage connecting the outer and inner rings. These outer elements have likely been removed by farming and grazing activity. The heritage asset is located within a cultivated field 500 m southwest of Torbreck, which is still in use as an area of grazing and chicken rearing. The land sits in the lowlands to the north of a prominent ridge, giving views along the length of the ridgeline.
- 11.4.32 No statement of significance is provided within the listing, but the monument is of national importance as it is a rare example of a complete stone circle, despite missing its outer rings. The setting of the stone circle is a minor aspect of its cultural significance due to proximity of the farm and agricultural buildings adjacent to it, but one key view would be of the nearby prominent points in the landscape, such as the ridgeline to the southeast. Views to the west and southwest are blocked by the adjacent farmstead and woodland / forestry, and the existing 275 kV OHL is visible in views to the east.
- 11.4.33 The Proposed OHL Alignment would introduce electrical infrastructure 550 m to the south of the stone circle (**Visualisation 11.14: VP14 Torbreck Stone Circle (SM3098; S13)**) and remove the existing 132 kV OHL from Beaully to Knocknagael substations to the north and east. The Proposed OHL Alignment would be screened by the woodland to the immediate southwest but would be prominent in views above the farm building and agricultural shelters / greenhouses to the south, breaking the horizon as it crosses the ridgeline in views to the southeast. The current views to the northeast would have the existing OHL removed, opening these views up more than they are currently.
- 11.4.34 The magnitude of impact during operation has been assessed as Minor Adverse due to slight changes within key views towards the ridgeline to the south. As a heritage asset of High cultural significance, the resulting significance of effect would be **Slight Adverse**. The significance of effect has been determined as not significant, as the presence of the farm to the immediate south already detracts from views in this direction, and with a negligible beneficial impact from the removal of the existing OHL to the northeast, the Proposed OHL Alignment would not impact on how the stone circle is currently understood and appreciated.

Mains of Daviot Farm, ring cairn and stone circle 600 m NNE of (SM3085; S20)

- 11.4.35 This scheduled monument is a prehistoric ring cairn and stone circle measuring 20 m in diameter though only two monoliths of the surrounding circle survive (see **Figure 11.1: Designated Heritage Assets** Page 2 of 12). The internal cairn has been nearly levelled from robbing of the stones, though the main structure is still intact. Considering this, the cairn is a relatively well-preserved example of a Clava-type ring cairn. The Clava type cairns were distinct not just in structure, but also their locations in river valleys and low-ground situations. This heritage asset occupies an inconspicuous location, set within a natural hollow overlooked by higher ground. The cairn and stone circle are located in an agricultural field, flanked by two patches of woodland. Approximately 300 m to the east there is a steep drop towards the River Nairn and then a rise of elevated ground which overlooks the location of the ring cairn and stone circle. To the south, the agricultural landscape continues. To the east and north, the landscape is cut by a B road, and beyond is the large mature woodland of Daviot Wood, approximately 500 m away. There is an existing OHL approximately 100 m to the north of the cairn and stone circle that dominates the views in this direction, and to the northwest and northeast towards the River Nairn valley.
- 11.4.36 The cultural significance of the ring cairn and stone circle is derived from its inherent potential to make a significant addition to the understanding of the past, in particular Early Bronze-Age religious and funerary practices in northeast Scotland and their relationship to what was happening elsewhere in the British Isles. The setting of the ring cairn and stone circle is an important element in its cultural significance, although the existing OHL to the north, and in views northwest and northeast, detract from the importance of this element. Key aspects of its setting are the relationship with the glen containing the small burn to the north and northwest, as the ring cairn and stone circle would have been located to overlook this small watercourse. The location within a natural hollow and the localised ridgelines would also be a key aspect, providing views towards the ring cairn and stone circle from the east and southwest. All of these views are currently impacted by the existing OHL. Views into the River Nairn valley are not possible due to the natural hollow within which it sits.
- 11.4.37 The Proposed OHL Alignment would be located 120 m to the south of the heritage asset at its closest point, with towers visible in views to the east and southwest (see **Visualisation 11.3: VP3 Mains of Daviot Ring Cairn (SM3085; S20)**). The nearest tower would be located behind a small rise in topography containing a patch of mature woodland, so would be partly screened and would not dominate the ring cairn and stone circle. Views on approach to the ring cairn and stone circle from the southwest would include the Proposed OHL Alignment in the foreground but towers would be at the edge of these views rather than obstructing them (see **Visualisation 11.15: VP15 3D Model Render on the approach to Mains of Daviot Ring Cairn (SM3085; S20)**). To the east of the ring cairn and stone circle, the tower would be located on top of or just beyond the ridgeline so views from this location would be similar to the current views. Overall, the introduction of new electrical infrastructure to the south, east, and southwest at close proximity, would impact on the open views from the ring cairn and stone circle.
- 11.4.38 The magnitude of impact during operation has been assessed as Moderate Adverse due to considerable changes within the setting of the ring cairn and stone circle, as all views from the ring cairn and stone circle would include electrical infrastructure. As a heritage asset of High cultural significance, the resulting significance of effect would be **Moderate Adverse**. The ring cairn and stone circle would still be able to be understood as a prehistoric monument, with potential to contribute to our understanding of prehistoric ritual activity, but despite the existing OHL detracting from how it is currently appreciated and experienced, the impacts would further reduce our ability to appreciate and experience the ring cairn and stone circle such that the integrity of the setting may be significantly impacted upon.

Daviot Castle (SM5486; S22)

- 11.4.39 The scheduled monument consists of the remains of Daviot castle, which date from the early fifteenth century (see **Figure 11.1: Designated Heritage Assets** Page 2 of 12). The castle occupies a prominent spur overlooking the River Nairn, 100 m north northeast of House of Daviot (LB1702; L82) and is thought to have been built by David, first Earl of Crawford (c.1359-1407). The castle is thought to have consisted of a square building surrounded by a thin curtain wall incorporating round-towers at each of its four corners. It is defended by steep natural slopes on its north, east, and west sides, and a ditch and gatehouse probably protected the southern approach. The surviving upstanding remains consist of the northeast tower, a portion of the curtain wall, several portions of mortared masonry and traces of the foundations of the southeast tower. The castle ruins survived till 1840 when they were all but destroyed to provide lime for manure.
- 11.4.40 Its cultural significance derives from being the remains of a fifteenth century castle with the potential to provide evidence of its occupation, and provide further evidence through excavation and analysis, for defensive architecture, domestic occupation, and material culture during the period of its construction and use. The setting of the castle is an important element in its cultural significance, with the relationship with Daviot House (LB1702; L82) and the enclosed, internal courtyard of the former castle forming its rear garden and lawn, one of the key aspects. Views from the promontory are mainly blocked by woodland on the steep slopes, but open views are available to the north and northeast from the edge of the former curtain wall, towards the River Nairn valley, and include the existing 275 kV OHL.
- 11.4.41 The Proposed OHL Alignment would be located 370 m to the north of the castle at its closest point, running southwest to northeast, and would be closer and more prominent than the existing 275 kV OHL. It would appear in views to the northeast towards the River Nairn valley, where two towers would be visible either side of the valley, with the others towers further northeast being screened by the woodland (see **Visualisation 11.34: VP34 3D Model Render from Daviot Castle (SM5486; S22)**). There would be visibility from the base of the promontory as well, with towers clearly visible in distant views up the slopes to the northeast (see **Visualisation 11.4 VP4 View from base of promontory containing Daviot Castle (SM5486; S22)**).
- 11.4.42 The magnitude of impact would be Minor Adverse due to slight changes within the setting of the castle, due to increasing the prominence of the electrical infrastructure in the open views from the castle to the northeast. As a heritage asset of High cultural significance, the resulting significance of effect would be **Slight Adverse**. The significance of effect has been determined as not significant, as the presence of the existing 275 kV OHL in the key views to the northeast reduce the importance of these views to the setting of the castle such that the changes from the Proposed OHL Alignment would not impact on how the castle is currently understood and appreciated.

Arn Hill, stone circle, Rothiemay Station (SM4; S41)

- 11.4.43 This scheduled monument is a prehistoric recumbent stone circle consisting of four surviving stones in a subcircular layout on a distinct mound (see **Figure 11.1: Designated Heritage Assets** Page 9 of 12). Two of the stones are prone, one has been obviously shifted from its original location, and the fourth is a large recumbent stone securely lain on a bed of small flat rocks. The recumbent stone is also called the Ringing Stane as it produces a metallic sound when struck. Folklore states that the sound can be heard from Portsoy, 14 km away. The stone circle is located within a cultivated field, on an east-facing slope. The River Deveron is approximately 350 m to the east, flowing south along the valley.

- 11.4.44 No statement of significance is provided with the listing, but the significance is derived from the potential to provide information on prehistoric ritual practices and is one of numerous stone circles in the wider area with the closest at Rothiemay Castle, Stone Circle, 400 m NNW of (SM344) which is 3.4 km to the northeast. The setting of the stone circle on a prominent east-facing slope looking over the River Deveron Valley to the southeast is an important element in its cultural significance, as are the views of the valley to the south, which are less impacted by the modern railway running through the valley. Other key aspects include views towards other prominent points in the landscape, and views towards the stone circle from the B9022 and other locations across the Deveron Valley are also possible, although the surviving stones are not as prominent as other stone circle examples. Wider views beyond the valley would also form part of the stone circles setting within the rural agricultural landscape.
- 11.4.45 The Proposed OHL Alignment would be located approximately 1.1 km to the southwest of the stone circle at its closest point. The OHL would be visible as background elements in the key views from the stone circle to the south and southeast as it crosses the River Deveron (see **Visualisation 11.6: VP6 Arn Hill Stone Circle (SM4; S41)**). There would be no impact to views towards the stone circle from the road or across the valley, but the OHL would also be a background element to the wider landscape views to the southeast.
- 11.4.46 The magnitude of impact during operation has been assessed as Minor Adverse due to slight changes within the setting of the stone circle. As a heritage asset of High cultural significance, the resulting significance of effect would be **Slight Adverse**. The significance of effect has been determined as not significant, as the tower locations would be distant enough and sit behind the farmstead of Haddoch and some pockets of woodland so that only the full height would be visible once it crosses the valley. Local views of the river would not be detracted from and views of the prominent ridge lines to the east and northeast would not be impacted.
- Kinnoir Old Church, church 550 m WSW of Corse of Kinnoir (SM5619; S42)
- 11.4.47 The scheduled monument consists of the remains of the old parish church of Kinnoir (see **Figure 11.1: Designated Heritage Assets** Page 9 of 12). The church was dedicated to St Marnan, who is thought to have been buried here in the middle of the 7th century. His relics were thought to have been preserved here and were the object of pilgrimages until the 16th century. Only the foundations of the church survive. It is situated in the north quadrant of a rectangular graveyard (Kirktown of Kinnoir Graveyard, Corse of Kinnour, Huntly (LB13712; L284)), east of the River Deveron. The footings define a single-chambered building measuring 17 m by 7 m over walls 0.65 m thick and 0.2 m high. The church bell (removed to Strathbogie Church) inscription explains that it was obtained in 1653. Kinnoir is likely to have remained in use into the 18th century. The parishes of Kinnoir and Dunbennan became known collectively as Huntly in 1725.
- 11.4.48 The monument's cultural significance is derived from being a member of a large group of churches that were the main centres of worship forming the parish network throughout medieval Scotland. It also has the potential, through archaeological investigation, to contribute to our understanding of ecclesiastical architecture, sources of patronage, medieval society, and material culture during the period of its construction, use, and subsequent abandonment. The setting of the church is an important element in its cultural significance, sitting within a rural, agricultural landscape, with localised views over the river to the south, west, and north key aspects. Views towards the church on approach from the southeast would be another key aspect.
- 11.4.49 The Proposed OHL Alignment would be located 990 m to the northeast of the church and would be visible in views towards the river in this direction (**Visualisation 11.21: VP21 Kinnoir Old Church (SM5619; S42)**). The views on approach would contain the Proposed OHL Alignment in the background (**Visualisation 11.20: VP20 Kinnoir Old Church (SM5619; S42)**).

- 11.4.50 The magnitude of impact during operation has been assessed as Minor Adverse due to slight changes within the setting of the church, with the Proposed OHL Alignment appearing in background views on the approach to the church and adding a modern electrical infrastructure into views to the north where it crosses the river. As a heritage asset of High cultural significance, the resulting significance of effect would be **Slight Adverse**. The significance of effect has been determined as not significant as there would be no impacts to the views to the west and north, and due to the distance from the Proposed OHL Alignment, the impacts do not detract from how the church is understood and appreciated within the localised setting of the graveyard.

Stone Circle. 660 m NW of Hillhead of Frendraught (SM13790; S45)

- 11.4.51 This scheduled monument is a prehistoric recumbent stone circle (see **Figure 11.1: Designated Heritage Assets** Page 10 of 12). It is comprised of four complete stones and a broken recumbent stone to the south. One of the stones has boreholes from an attempt to destroy the stone from the mid-19th century. Despite the removal of some stones and the destruction attempt, the stone circle remains fairly prominent within a plantation wood. The stone circle was formerly known as the Covenanters Preaching Stones, indicative of its historical reuse. The heritage asset is located on a northeast facing slope at the edge of a dense plantation on Bogcoup Hill. Most of the trees in the immediate vicinity have been cleared for a trackway to its east, which grants the heritage asset views in this direction. Other views are inhibited by the plantation, which is in place for grouse shooting as part of the estate. However, it is assumed that this could be removed as part of commercial forestry practices and would not provide permanent screening.
- 11.4.52 The cultural significance of the stone circle derives from its potential to provide information about this class of monument type in the region and is one of many throughout the wider landscape. The setting of the stone circle is an important element in its cultural significance, with a key aspect its relationship with, and views towards, the low-lying areas and small glens containing unnamed burns to the north and southeast. Current views in these directions are screened by partially felled commercial forestry, with more open views in a southeasterly direction. The planting and felling activities associated with the commercial forestry detract somewhat from what would be a rural agricultural setting for the stone circle. There is no potential intervisibility with the Stone circle, 365 m WSW of Raich Farm (SM42; S46) approximately 1.1 km to the northeast due to intervening topography.
- 11.4.53 The Proposed OHL Alignment would be located 850 m to the southeast at its closest point, and it would be visible when the forestry is removed, as it runs further northeast before heading southeast and east at Drumblair Wood, approximately 2.2 km from the stone circle (see **Visualisation 11.35: VP35 3D Model Render from Hillhead of Frendraught (SM13790; S45)**). The forestry plantation would screen the majority of views at this time, but the OHL would be visible in this direction, situated behind the adjacent hills and the farmstead of Hillhouse of Frendraught, with the tower bases partially obscured by the topography.
- 11.4.54 The magnitude of impact has been assessed as Minor Adverse due to slight changes within the setting of the stone circle, as the views to the southeast would have the Proposed OHL Alignment in the background. As a heritage asset of High cultural significance, the resulting significance of effect would be **Slight Adverse**. The significance of effect has been determined as not significant as the key aspects to the north and northeast would not be impacted, and the towers would be in background views with some topographical and woodland screening. The impacts would not be enough to detract from how the stone circle is understood, appreciated, and experienced.

Hare Stone. stone circle 480 m NW of Feith-Hill (SM338; S47)

- 11.4.55 This scheduled monument is a prehistoric stone circle comprising two remaining stones, a recumbent stone, and the west flanker (see **Figure 11.1: Designated Heritage Assets** Page 10 of 12). The western stone has fallen and features six cup-marks on its surface. Several cists were found in the area of what would have been the circle. The stone circle is located within a cultivated field, on an east-facing slope.

- 11.4.56 No description or statement of significance has been provided in the listing, but the cultural significance would be derived from its potential to provide information about this class of monument type in the region and is one of many throughout the wider landscape. The setting of the stone circle is an important element in its cultural significance, with more open views to the northeast over the lower lying ground of the Burn of Tollo valley a key aspect. These views already include the five wind turbines of the Carlinraig Wind Farm in the background. More open views are available to the north northeast between the hills of Carlinraig and Gallows Hill. The nearest stone circle is the North Pitglassie, stone circle (SM38; S48), located 2.1 km to the east, but there is no intervisibility due to its position on the opposite, east-facing slope of Gallows Hill.
- 11.4.57 The Proposed OHL Alignment would be located 1.2 km to the south of the stone circle at its closest point, running east to west before cutting northeast along the western side of Gallows Hill (see **Visualisation 11.7: VP7 Hare Stone Stone Circle (SM338; S47)**). The towers would break the skyline when passing the ridgeline of the hill and would be clearly visible from the Stone Circle as the OHL heads into the lower lying areas between Gallows Hill and Carlinraig to the northeast. The addition of the Proposed OHL Alignment into the valley would introduce modern infrastructure in all distant views of the lower lying areas and ridgelines from the stone circle.
- 11.4.58 The magnitude of impact during operation has been assessed as Moderate Adverse due to considerable changes within the small valley containing the stone circle, as it would introduce modern infrastructure in the background of the remaining open views from the stone circle to the northeast. As a heritage asset of High cultural significance, the resulting significance of effect would be **Moderate Adverse**. The impacts would result in significant effects, but the impacts are not enough to significantly impact upon the integrity of the setting of the stone circle. The setting already includes the Carlinraig wind turbines in key views to the Burn of Tollo, but it still retains the localised setting and relationship with the burn, so that it is able to be understood, appreciated, and experienced. The Proposed OHL Alignment does not impact on this relationship, and the localised setting. There are also no impacts to views towards the stone circle from the local road or on approach from Carlinraig cottage, which are also key to how the stone circle is understood, appreciated, and experienced.

North Pitglassie, stone circle 1320 m SW of (SM38: S48)

- 11.4.59 This scheduled monument is a prehistoric recumbent stone circle composed of two stones including the recumbent stone (see **Figure 11.1: Designated Heritage Assets** Page 10 of 12). The remainder of the circle is presumed to have lain to the northeast of the visible stones. The stone circle is located on an east facing slope just off the summit of Gallows Hill. The stone circle is within a cultivated field overlooking the Burn of Uppermill and the numerous farmsteads to the southeast and east, backdropped by several distant wind turbines. The cultural significance of the stone circle derives from its potential to provide information about this class of monument type in the region and is one of many throughout the wider landscape. The setting of the stone circle is an important element in its cultural significance, and the open views into the Burn of Uppermill valley and the lochans is a key aspect. Wide ranging views are available from the stone circle to the east and southeast, and there is visibility from Mains of Hatton stone circle (SM338; S49), at 1.6 km to the southeast, as well as Corrydown stone circle (SM16; S50) to the northeast at 2.2 km. Reciprocal views from the stone circle to these other two stone circles does not appear to be possible due to their locations just over the ridgelines of the small hills upon which they sit.
- 11.4.60 The Proposed OHL Alignment would be located 550 m to the west, northwest, and north of the stone circle as it runs below the ridgeline of Gallows Hill and into the lower lying ground towards the confluence of the Burn of Uppermill, the Burn of Glasslaw, and the Burn of Cliffbog (see **Visualisation 11.8: VP8 North Pitglassie Stone Circle (SM38; S48)**). It would be a peripheral and distant element in views to the northeast when looking towards the Burn of Uppermill valley, and would be visible in peripheral, background views from Mains of Hatton stone circle (SM338; S49) (see **Visualisation 11.27: VP27 Mains of Hatton Stone Circle (SM30; S49)**), adjacent to the wind turbines of Carlinraig Wind Farm. It would also be visible in peripheral views from Corrydown stone circle (SM16; S50) (see **Visualisation 11.9: VP9 Corrydown Stone Circle (SM16; S50)**).

- 11.4.61 The magnitude of impact during operation has been assessed as Minor Adverse due to slight changes within the setting of the stone circle as it is viewed from the other contemporary and related stone circles in the low-lying area within which it sits. As a heritage asset of High cultural significance, the resulting significance of effect would be **Slight Adverse**. The significance of effect has been determined as not significant due to the poor preservation of the stone circle making it difficult to appreciate the monument when looking at it from distance. With only two stones abutting each other and the remainder of the stone circle ploughed regularly, the impacts on views towards the heritage asset would not be deemed significant enough to affect how the stone circle is understood, appreciated, and experienced.

Mains of Hatton stone circle (SM30; S49)

- 11.4.62 This scheduled monument is a prehistoric recumbent stone circle, comprised of fourteen stones and a recumbent stone (see **Figure 11.1: Designated Heritage Assets** Page 10 of 12). The stone circle measures 22 m in diameter and was previously affected by the addition (and removal) of a modern water tank. A number of stones have been removed from the circle and deposited near the recumbent stone. The stone circle is located on a gentle slope dropping away to the southeast from the summit of a low hill. The circle is within a cultivated field within a low-lying rural landscape. The cultural significance of the stone circle derives from its potential to provide information about this class of monument type in the region and is one of many throughout the wider landscape. The setting of the stone circle is an important element in its cultural significance, despite the presence of a wind turbine 130 m to the southwest, and the key aspects would be the views to the southeast towards the Small Burn, and the visibility of the North Pitglassie stone circle (SM38; S48), located 1.6 km to the northwest. Corrydown stone circle (SM16; S50) is located 2 km to the northeast but would not be visible due to intervening topography, buildings, and woodland.
- 11.4.63 The Proposed OHL Alignment would be located 2.1 km to the northwest of the stone circle, being peripheral in the background of the views towards North Pitglassie stone circle (SM38; S48) (**Visualisation 11.27: VP27 Mains of Hatton Stone Circle (SM30; S49)**), and adjacent to the wind turbines of the Carlinraig Wind Farm. There would be no impact in views towards the more open and lower-lying areas of the Small Burn and beyond.
- 11.4.64 The magnitude of impact during operation has been assessed as Minor Adverse due to slight changes within the setting of the stone circle when looking northwest towards the North Pitglassie stone circle (SM38; S48). As a heritage asset of High cultural significance, the resulting significance of effect would be **Slight Adverse**. The open views to the southeast would not be impacted, and due to the poor preservation of the North Pitglassie, stone circle 1320 m SW of (SM38; S48), with only two stones abutting each other and the remainder of the stone circle ploughed regularly, the impacts on views towards this heritage asset would not be deemed significant enough to result in a significant effect. The associations with a nearby burn and small valley appear to be more important aspects of the stone circle than the visibility between them.

Corrydown, stone circle 150 m NE of (SM16; S50)

- 11.4.65 This scheduled monument is a prehistoric recumbent stone circle comprised of a recumbent stone and several displaced stones, presumably not in their original positions (see **Figure 11.1: Designated Heritage Assets** Page 10 of 12). The diameter cannot be said with any certainty, though earlier surveys have stated it to be around 23 m. There are pebble beds internally suggesting a burial cairn within the circle. The heritage asset is located within a cultivated field, just below the summit of a hill overlooking the Burn of Uppermill to the northeast and east where it becomes the Burn of Howemill. The cultural significance of the stone circle derives from its potential to provide information about this class of monument type in the region and is one of many throughout the wider landscape. The setting of the stone circle is an important element of its cultural significance, and the key aspects include the setting within the bend of the burn and the views along the lower lying areas associated with the watercourses. The visibility of North Pitglassie stone circle (SM38; S48), located 2.2 km to the southwest, is another key aspect of its setting.

- 11.4.66 The Proposed OHL Alignment would be located 680 m to the northwest at its closest point, with the line continuing to the west and northeast from this point (**Visualisation 11.9: VP9 Corrydown Stone Circle (SM16; S50)**). The towers to the west would be visible at the edge of views when looking towards North Pitglassie stone circle (SM38; S48) and would only be peripheral in views towards the Burn of Howemill.
- 11.4.67 The magnitude of impact during operation has been assessed as Minor Adverse due to slight changes within the setting of the stone circle when looking towards North Pitglassie stone circle (SM38; S48). As a heritage asset of High cultural significance, the resulting significance of effect would be **Slight Adverse**. The open views to the northeast and east would not be impacted, and due to the poor preservation of the North Pitglassie stone circle (SM38; S48) with only two stones abutting each other and the remainder of the stone circle ploughed regularly, the impacts on views towards this heritage asset would not be deemed significant enough to result in a significant effect. The associations with the nearby burn and small valley appear to be more important aspects of the stone circle than the visibility between them.

Fedderate Castle (SM5951; S51)

- 11.4.68 The scheduled monument consists of the upstanding remains of Fedderate Castle, a 15th century stronghold overlying a 13th-century defensive site (see **Figure 11.1: Designated Heritage Assets** Page 12 of 12). This once impressive castle is thought to have been built by William de Crawford who held the barony from 1474-1519. It appears to have been bombarded by artillery and is said to have been besieged after the battle of Killiecrankie (1689) by King William's troops as it was in the hands of supporters of King James VII, who had fled there after the battle. The structure superseded an earlier tower dating from the 13th century (a stone removed from the site around 1830 was dated 1257). Fedderate was formerly surrounded by a ditch and a bog, and was accessible by means of a causeway and ditch, traces of which could still be seen around 1790. The area has since been drained and cultivated leaving no visible traces of these features. The castle remains sit in low lying ground with open views of the rural agricultural landscape surrounding it.
- 11.4.69 The cultural significance of the castle derives from its example as a 15th century tower house which has been utilised as a site of defensive settlement from the 13th century for at least 300 years. It provides above ground evidence for domestic architecture of the 15th century, and has the potential to provide further evidence, through excavation, for the layout of the earlier defensive and settlement, economy, social organisation, and material culture from the 13th century onwards. The setting of the castle is an important element of its cultural significance with wide open views possible to the northeast where the topography is flat, and middle-distance views to the west and south where it is slightly undulating. Key aspects of the setting would relate to views towards the monument from the nearby roads of the A981 looking southwest and views north from the local road to the south. Views to and from The Hill of Culsh (Dingwall Fordyce) Monument (LB16156; L323), a local landmark on the prominent ridgeline to the south, would also be a key aspect of its setting.
- 11.4.70 The Proposed OHL Alignment would be located 1.1 km to the southwest of the castle and would be visible in views from the west southwest through to the south before being blocked by intervening woodland and modern housing at New Fedderate Cottages (see **Visualisation 11.28: VP28 Fedderate Castle (SM5951; S51)**). It would detract from views towards and from The Hill of Culsh (Dingwall Fordyce) Monument (LB16156; L323), with towers present in the low-lying areas between the castle and monument. It would also be present in the distant background views looking south from the A981.
- 11.4.71 The magnitude of impact during operation has been assessed as Minor Adverse due to slight changes within the setting of the castle from towers intervening between views to and from The Hill of Culsh (Dingwall Fordyce) Monument (LB16156; L323). As a heritage asset of High cultural significance, the resulting significance of effect would be **Slight Adverse**. The significance of effect has been determined as not significant as the views towards the castle from the south and views over the open landscape to the north would not be impacted upon. The impacts on views from the south would not be enough to significantly detract from how the castle is understood, appreciated, and experienced.

Beaufort Castle (LB8068; L16)

- 11.4.72 This Category A listed building is a post-medieval castle situated in the GDL of Beaufort Castle (GDL000052; G1) under private ownership (see **Figure 11.1: Designated Heritage Assets** Page 1 of 12). The heritage asset comprises a three-storey residence of red sandstone and includes a private Roman Catholic chapel, still in use as such. The existing castle was built in 1880 after the original structure, known as Castle Downie, was burnt down in 1746. Castle Downie is thought to have been built circa 1400 and was the original stronghold of the Frasers of Lovat. Parts of Castle Downie may survive at the southeast of Beaufort Castle, though landscape gardening has removed trace of the outer defences.
- 11.4.73 Beaufort Castle is situated in the mature woodland and designed landscape of Beaufort Castle (GDL000052; G1), on the southern banks of the River Beaully, approximately 3 km southwest of Beaully and 2 km north of Kiltarlity. The castle is on a slightly elevated portion of land, which grants visibility of the wider landscape, and historically has acted as a prominent area from which the Frasers of Lovat lead. The immediate surroundings are dense woodland to the north, east, and west, and a vast lawn to the south, restricting views to within the GDL. The castle derives its cultural significance from its architectural value and its historical associations as the seat of the Frasers of Lovat. The setting of the castle, located in a prominent position in the landscape, also forms an important element of its cultural significance. Key aspects of the castles setting include views to the south and the open areas within the GDL towards Home Farm at the southern edge. Its immediate surroundings, any wider landscape views from upper levels of the castle, and the connection to the River Beaully, also contribute to its cultural significance.
- 11.4.74 The Proposed OHL Alignment would be located approximately 830 m to the north and northwest of the castle. It would introduce more prominent electrical infrastructure into an area containing the existing Beaully Substation and other OHLs. From lower levels of the castle, the Proposed OHL Alignment would be completely screened by the mature woodland vegetation surrounding the castle and along the river's edge and it would not be visible in the key views towards Home Farm or internal views within the GDL. From upper levels of the castle, the towers would be visible when looking out at the distant hills but would be backdropped by the hills in views from the roof (see **Visualisation 11.1: VP1 Beaufort Castle (LB8068; L16) and Gardens (GDL000052; G1)**).
- 11.4.75 The magnitude of impact during operation has been assessed as Minor Adverse due to slight changes to the key views from the upper levels of the castle looking north. As a heritage asset of high cultural significance, the resulting significance of effect would be **Slight Adverse**. The significance of effect has been determined as not significant as the internal views towards the GDL would be unchanged, and the wide landscape views in all other directions from the upper levels would not be impacted upon.

Moniack Castle (LB7818; L52)

- 11.4.76 This Category B listed building is a tower house, built in 1600, which features later additions in 1804 and 1830 (see **Figure 11.1: Designated Heritage Assets** Page 1 of 12). The tower house has a private chapel still in ecclesiastical use. The tower house was built by the Lovat Frasers and is the only castle that still belongs to them. The tower house preserves many of its original features and is currently in use as a residence. Its associated buildings and extensions were in use as a winery until 2012. It is located in a semi-rural location 1.5 km southwest of Kirkhill, the nearest settlement. The immediate grounds are bordered in mature trees and contain a couple of cottages, tennis courts, and the Balblair Stone, Symbol stone, Moniak Castle Wineries (SM932; S7). No statement of significance is provided within the listing, but the cultural significance of the castle is derived from being a rare example of a surviving early post-medieval tower house, and its architectural and historical interest. The setting of the tower house is an important element of its cultural significance, with key aspects being its immediate setting within the sparse wooded area, as well as views northwest over the former gardens at the rear of the tower house, and the open fields beyond.
- 11.4.77 The Proposed OHL Alignment would be located 780 m to the northeast of the tower house. It would be present in views to the northwest over the former gardens, but would not be visible in other directions, except from the upper floors of the tower due to the woodland around the house.

- 11.4.78 The magnitude of impact during operation has been assessed as Minor Adverse due to slight changes within the setting due to additional electrical infrastructure in the background of key views to the northwest. As a heritage asset of High cultural significance, the resulting significance of effect would be **Slight Adverse**. The significance of effect has been determined as not significant as the current setting includes an existing OHL in the views being impacted. The removal of one of these and the Proposed OHL Alignment being closer are not enough of an impact to suggest a significant adverse effect.

Cobairdy House (LB9453: L287)

- 11.4.79 This Category B listed building was built in circa 1855-60 and is a late Georgian Italianate survival, two-storey harled house with margins and a piended roof (see **Figure 11.1: Designated Heritage Assets** Page 10 of 12). It is set within a designed landscape, which includes a walled garden to the west of the house and sparse woodland to the south, west and northwest.
- 11.4.80 The cultural significance derives from its architectural interest as a larger and rather earlier looking edition, of Knockleith in Auchterless Parish. Its setting is an important element of its cultural significance due to the designed garden features nearby, along with open views of the immediate fields to the east, with wider views containing an existing OHL.
- 11.4.81 The Proposed OHL Alignment would be located 250 m to the south of the house at its closest point, running southeast from this location. It would be visible above and through the sparse woodland to the south, especially in winter months and would introduce another element of electrical infrastructure in views from the house.
- 11.4.82 The magnitude of impact during operation has been assessed as Minor Adverse due to slight changes within the setting of the house due to the introduction of further electrical infrastructure in background views of the designed garden within which it sits. As a heritage asset of High cultural significance, the resulting significance of effect would be **Slight Adverse**. The significance of effect has been determined as not significant as the Proposed OHL Alignment would be partially screened by woodland and only visible in background views from the house.

Hill of Culsh (Dingwall Fordyce) Monument (LB16156: L323)

- 11.4.83 This category B listed building consists of a steeple with a squared granite ground floor, designed by James Matthews in 1876 and built to the memory of William Dingwall Fordyce M.P. in 1877 (see **Figure 11.1: Designated Heritage Assets** Page 12 of 12). It is located on the Hill of Culsh with the New Deer Cemetery to the immediate south. The cultural significance of the monument derives from its architectural interest, as well as its' historical interest as a memorial to a former local M.P. The setting of the monument is a key aspect of its cultural significance as a local landmark and views towards the monument from the approaches to the north and south, as well as other local roads to the east, would be a key aspect.
- 11.4.84 The Proposed OHL Alignment would be located 1.1 km to the northeast of the monument at its closest point as it runs northwest and southeast through the low-lying ground in the area. The Proposed OHL Alignment would be visible in views to the north through to the southeast as there are open views in this direction from it. It would introduce electrical infrastructure into the rural agricultural landscape and may detract from some views from the roads to the north and from the A981 to the east.
- 11.4.85 The magnitude of impact during operation has been assessed as Minor Adverse due to slight changes within the setting of the monument, due to its presence in some views towards the local landmark from roads to the north and east. As a heritage asset of High cultural significance, the resulting significance of effect would be **Slight Adverse**. The significance of effect has been determined as not significant as the monument would still be visible without interruption from the majority of locations along the routes to the north and east, with intermittent visibility when towers are present.

Saint John's Church and Chapel Well, Longside (LB9419; L344)

- 11.4.86 This Category B listed building is a 19th century church built in 1853 by William Hay (see **Figure 11.1: Designated Heritage Assets** Page 12 of 12). It is built from squared granite rubble in an early pointed style with some individual detail. The church is located beyond the southeastern edge of the Burn of Cairngall, which splits it from the built-up parts of Longside. It is located on the west side of the A950 out of Longside with buildings to the immediate south.
- 11.4.87 The cultural significance of the church derives from its historical interest and architectural detail as a good example of an ecclesiastical building designed by William Hay. The setting of the church has some importance in its cultural significance, with the open views to the east over the rural landscape, a key aspect. With the slight rise in topography to the east and southeast of the church, wide landscape views are not possible.
- 11.4.88 The Proposed OHL Alignment would be located 1.8 km to the south of the church and would be visible at its eastern end where it is due to enter the proposed Netherton 400 kV substation. The slight rise in the immediate area to the east and southeast would screen the base of the towers but they would be visible beyond this ridgeline.
- 11.4.89 The magnitude of impact during operation has been assessed as Minor Adverse due to slight changes within the setting of the church due to the introduction of modern electrical infrastructure in background views across the immediate rural landscape. As a heritage asset of High cultural significance, the resulting significance of effect would be **Slight Adverse**. The significance of effect has been determined as not significant as the contribution made to the setting from these views would not significantly impact upon the cultural significance of the church.

Kellas Alternative Alignment

Predicted Construction Impacts

- 11.4.90 There are four non-designated heritage assets within the tower working areas or access tracks related to the Kellas Alternative Alignment. These are presented in **Table 11.5: Heritage assets impacted by construction activities**. Where the significance of effect is Moderate Adverse or above (significant in accordance with the methodology set out in **Appendix 11.1: Cultural Heritage Assessment Methodology**), these are highlighted in bold text in **Table 11.5**. It is assumed that the area within the tower compound would be subject to groundworks which would result in direct physical impacts to heritage assets which are within their footprint. The cultural significance of the heritage assets, the magnitude of impact from the Kellas Alternative Alignment, and the resulting significance of effect have been assessed based on the assessment methodology presented in **Appendix 11.1: Cultural Heritage Assessment Methodology**.

Table 11.5: Heritage assets impacted by construction activities

Heritage Asset Ref.	Name	Impact	Cultural Significance	Magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
ND146	Glenlatterach – farmstead, mill pond and lade	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Negligible	Neutral
ND148	Mill Our - trackway	Loss of heritage asset	Low	Major	Moderate adverse
ND150	Mill Our - trackway	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Negligible	Neutral
ND162	Marnoch - road	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Low	Negligible	Neutral

- 11.4.91 Of the four non-designated heritage assets within the tower working areas, the assessment has identified one significant effect, prior to mitigation.

Predicted Operational Impacts

- 11.4.92 There are no impacts anticipated on the non-designated heritage assets as their setting is not an important element in their cultural significance. There would also be no impacts to The Lodge, Kellas House (LB; L118) due to a lack of visibility as a result of the surrounding woodland. The impacts for Kellas House (LB; L117) have been assessed as Negligible Adverse, as the Kellas Alternative Alignment would be visible on the north facing slopes of the opposing hills, but there would be adequate screening provided by the woodland to the south to reduce these impacts (see **Visualisation 11.19: VP19 Kellas House (LB2345; L117)**). The resulting significance of effect would be **Slight Adverse**.

11.5 Additional Mitigation

Construction Phase

- 11.5.1 Mitigation measures are presented for heritage assets which have been identified as having potential direct physical impacts from the construction phase of the Proposed Development. These are outlined in **Table 11.6: Construction Phase Mitigation Measures**. This includes pre-construction mitigation measures in the form of demarcation and avoidance in the first instance, followed by archaeological investigation where this is not possible. This is in keeping with Policy 7 of NPF4, and the requirements of Highland Council, Moray Council and Aberdeenshire Council, where preservation in situ is the primary response to predicted impacts on heritage assets, then minimisation of impacts, then preservation by record where avoidance is not feasible and heritage assets cannot be preserved.
- 11.5.2 There are no mitigation measures recommended for the impacts to Beaufort Castle GDL (GDL00052; G1) as there is no avoiding the tree removal at this location and it is not possible to replant due to wayleave requirements for the Proposed Development.

Table 11.6: Construction Phase Mitigation Measures

Reference	Description
CH1	Walkover of tower compounds and access tracks An archaeological walkover targeted to all tower compounds and access tracks is required prior to construction. This will identify if there are any unrecorded upstanding remains that would have direct physical impacts to them from the construction phase of the Proposed Development. Should any upstanding remains be identified, they will be preserved by record through an earthwork survey and historic building recording (CH4), in the first instance, and archaeological investigations (CH3) where required.
CH2	Demarcation and avoidance There are designated and non-designated heritage assets within the LoD, which are outside the tower working areas and access tracks. Based on the design, these should not be directly physically impacted during the construction phase of the Proposed Development. Prior to construction activities, they will be demarcated by an archaeological contractor to make it clear that they are to be avoided. Demarcation will take the form of visible barriers or fencing placed 5 m from the edge of the scheduled areas or listed building for designated heritage assets, and 5 m from the edge of the known location for non-designated heritage assets. The locations of all of the heritage assets within the LoD will be provided for inclusion within any wayleave plans. The designated heritage assets which are to be demarcated and avoided are listed below. Non-designated heritage assets are highlighted in blue in Appendix 11.2: Cultural Heritage Background and Gazetteer, Annex A: Cultural Heritage Gazetteer. • Beaufort Castle (GDL00052; G1); • Caledonian Canal, Dochgarroch Lock – Muirtown Locks (SM6499; S12); • Moniack Bridge (LB7823; L56); • Easter Rattich, depopulated settlement (SM11876; S31); and • Mains of Daviot Farm ring cairn and stone circle (SM11876; S20).

Reference	Description
	The methodology and details of demarcation required will be set out within the Archaeological Project Design ³ to be agreed with The Highland Council Historic Environment Team (HCHET) and the Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service (ACAS), who advise both Moray Council and Aberdeenshire Council on archaeological matters. Where heritage assets within tower working areas or access tracks are highlighted, and can be avoided at the detailed design stage, then these will be included within this mitigation strategy.
CH3	Archaeological Investigations Archaeological investigations in the form of monitoring and recording at access tracks will be undertaken by an archaeological contractor during groundworks in order to preserve any identified archaeological remains by record. This includes heritage assets which are known within the baseline, and those which may be identified as part of the monitoring. The archaeological monitoring and recording methodology will be set out in an Archaeological Project Design to be agreed with HCHET and ACAS and will follow the standards and guidance from the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA). Should the archaeological remains prove to be more extensive and complex, this may require a programme of open area excavation, as determined by the archaeological advisors to the local planning authorities. Should this be required, groundworks related to construction will temporarily cease in this area to allow for open area excavation and recording following the methodology of the approved Archaeological Project Design. Archaeological investigations in the form of archaeological evaluation, excavation, or monitoring and recording will be undertaken at tower compounds, prior to construction and by an archaeological contractor, in all areas where there are groundworks. This will be undertaken to preserve by record⁴ any known heritage assets due to be impacted by the Proposed Development, or any other identified archaeological remains. The archaeological investigations required for each tower location will be set out within an Archaeological Project Design to be agreed with HCHET and ACAS following CIfA standards and guidance. Heritage assets within the baseline that require archaeological investigations are highlighted in orange within Appendix 11.2, Annex A: Cultural Heritage Gazetteer.
CH4	Earthwork survey and historic building recording A programme of survey and recording of earthwork features and structures within the tower compounds and access tracks should be undertaken prior to construction by an archaeological contractor. This would allow for recording of heritage assets which would be directly impacted by construction and allow for partial preservation of their cultural significance by record. For upstanding structures, a historic building recording (Level 1 or Level 2⁵ as appropriate) should be undertaken to record structures in their current state. The methodology of the works would be set out within an Archaeological Project Design, to be agreed with HCHET and ACAS following standards and guidance set out by CIfA. Heritage assets which should be subject to an earthwork survey and historic building recording are highlighted in green within Appendix 11.2, Annex A: Cultural Heritage Gazetteer. Should upstanding remains not be visible as part of the earthwork survey or historic building recording, they should be preserved by record through archaeological investigations (CH3) if there are sub-surface remains present.

11.5.3 The mitigation strategies presented above are reflected within the tables of **Appendix 11.3 – Cultural Heritage Assessment**.

³ Archaeological Project Design is used as a universal term for the document that sets out how the archaeological work will be conducted. This document may be called something different depending on the jurisdiction of the work.

⁴ Archaeological recording of a heritage asset through non-intrusive and intrusive means to gather as much information from the surviving archaeological remains before it is destroyed.

⁵ Historic England (2016). Understanding Historic Buildings: A guide to good recording practice. Available at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/understanding-historic-buildings/heag099-understanding-historic-buildings/>

Operational Phase

- 11.5.4 Mitigation measures should be set out for heritage assets which have been identified as having significant effects from the operational phase of the Proposed Development. As stated in **Paragraph 11.4.1** and **Paragraph 11.4.2**, each stage of the design of the Proposed Development has been assessed in order to reduce impacts to heritage assets wherever feasible. Due to the nature of the Proposed Development, in most cases, it would not be possible to provide additional mitigation against operational phase impacts related to changes within the setting of heritage assets. Mitigation to reduce impacts would typically involve blocking or screening views of the Proposed OHL Alignment using landscape planting around the Proposed Development, but this would have little effect due to the height of the towers. Landscape planting adjacent to heritage assets would itself cause an impact through changes within the setting of the heritage assets and is not recommended as a mitigation solution. Therefore, no mitigation is recommended to reduce the significant effect reported for Hare Stone, stone circle 480 m NW of Feith-Hill (SM338: S47).
- 11.5.5 Additional mitigation is recommended in relation to Mains of Daviot Farm, ring cairn and stone circle 600 m NNE of (SM3085; S20), due to the significant effect reported. The mitigation measures are set out within **Table 11.7** and **Appendix 11.4: Potential Mitigation: Undergrounding of Existing 275kV OHL at Daviot**.
- 11.5.6 It is proposed that the existing 275 kV OHL is removed and replaced with a short section of underground cable (UGC) with two associated Cable Sealing End (CSE) compounds in the vicinity of the ring cairn and stone circle. The underground cable works would have the benefit of Permitted Development rights. This mitigation is described as potential mitigation, as the Applicant will be required to seek consent under the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 for the CSEs and, where required, any temporary or permanent access tracks, once exact locations of the proposed infrastructure are confirmed by the Principal Contractor. Refinement of the design is progressing as part of the detailed design phase normally undertaken by the Principal Contractor at this stage in the development process. The Applicant commits to developing the proposals, applying for consent and working with statutory consultees to facilitate consent being granted.
- 11.5.7 Indicative locations of the CSE compounds, along with relevant environmental constraints information and a visualisation / wireline are provided in **Appendix 11.4: Potential Mitigation: Undergrounding of Existing 275 kV OHL at Daviot**. UGC routeing between each of the CSE compounds will be undertaken as part of the design work being undertaken by the Principal Contractor.

Table 11.7: Operation Phase Mitigation Measures

Reference	Description
CH5	Removal of existing 275 kV OHL Mitigation to reduce the impacts to the Mains of Daviot Farm, ring cairn and stone circle 600 m NNE of (SM3085; S20) would involve undergrounding of a section of the existing 275 kV OHL located to the north of the ring cairn and stone circle. See Appendix 11.4: Potential Mitigation: Undergrounding of Existing 275 kV OHL at Daviot for further details.

Kellas Alternative Alignment

- 11.5.8 The mitigation strategies to reduce the construction related impacts for the heritage assets within the LoD of the Kellas Alternative Alignment are presented in **Table 11.6** above and marked in the same way within the tables of **Appendix 11.2, Annex A: Cultural Heritage Gazetteer**.
- 11.5.9 No mitigation is recommended for impacts stated in relation to Kellas House (LB2345; L117) as the impacts are assessed as not significant.

11.6 Residual Effects

Construction Phase

- 11.6.1 During the construction phase of the Proposed Development, the implementation of the mitigation measures summarised in **Table 11.6** would avoid or reduce the impact on any heritage assets within the LoD. Once the mitigation is considered, any residual effects arising from the construction phase of the Proposed Development would be no greater than **Slight Adverse (not significant)** on 75 heritage assets. The residual significance of effect is calculated using the same methodology set out within **Appendix 11.1: Cultural Heritage Assessment Methodology**, where the cultural significance of the heritage asset is considered alongside the impact following mitigation.
- 11.6.2 A summary of the predicted effects before mitigation, the mitigation required to remove or reduce those impacts, and the residual effects after mitigation for heritage assets with the potential to be directly impacted by the construction activities is shown in **Table 11.8**.

Table 11.8: Residual effects from the Proposed Development during construction

Heritage Asset Reference No.	Description of effect	Pre-mitigation impact and effect		Mitigation measures	Residual impact and effect	
		Magnitude of Impact	Significance of Effect		Magnitude of Impact	Significance of Effect
G1	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Negligible adverse (Permanent)	Slight adverse (Permanent)	None recommended	Negligible adverse (Permanent)	Slight adverse (Permanent, not significant)
ND2, ND16, ND26, ND40, ND66, ND73, ND76, ND102, ND104, ND143, ND146, ND162, ND172, ND173, ND174, ND187, ND197, ND232, ND262, ND268, ND302, ND305, ND307, ND309, ND320, ND322, ND327, ND372.	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Minor adverse (Permanent)	Slight adverse (Permanent)	(CH4) Earthwork survey and historic building recording	Negligible adverse (Permanent)	Slight adverse (Permanent, not significant)
ND16, ND113, ND223, ND234, ND245, ND287, ND298, ND338	Partial loss of heritage asset	Moderate adverse (Permanent)	Slight adverse (Permanent)	(CH4) Earthwork survey and historic building recording	Minor adverse (Permanent)	Slight adverse (Permanent, not significant)
ND32, ND148, ND399	Loss of heritage asset	Major adverse (Permanent)	Moderate adverse (Permanent)	(CH4) Earthwork survey and historic building recording (CH3) Archaeological Investigations – to check for sub-surface remains	Moderate adverse (Permanent)	Slight adverse (Permanent, not significant)
ND43	Loss of heritage asset	Major adverse (Permanent)	Moderate adverse (Permanent)	(CH3) Archaeological investigations	Moderate adverse (Permanent)	Slight adverse (Permanent, not significant)

Heritage Asset Reference No.	Description of effect	Pre-mitigation impact and effect		Mitigation measures	Residual impact and effect	
		Magnitude of Impact	Significance of Effect		Magnitude of Impact	Significance of Effect
ND58	Loss of heritage asset	Major adverse (Permanent)	Large adverse (Permanent)	(CH2) Demarcation and avoidance	No change (Permanent)	Neutral (Permanent, not significant)
ND62, ND77 ND100, ND103, ND107, ND118, ND143, ND179, ND184, ND229, ND247.	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Negligible adverse (Permanent)	Slight adverse (Permanent)	(CH4) Earthwork survey and historic building recording	No change (Permanent)	Neutral (Permanent, not significant)
ND66	Loss of heritage asset	Major adverse (Permanent)	Large adverse (Permanent)	(CH4) Earthwork survey and historic building recording (CH3) Archaeological investigations	Moderate adverse (Permanent)	Moderate adverse (Permanent, significant)
ND72, ND82, ND84, ND86, ND93, ND95, ND135, ND140, ND178, ND278, ND289, ND297	Loss of heritage asset	Major adverse (Permanent)	Moderate adverse (Permanent)	(CH4) Earthwork survey and historic building recording	Moderate adverse (Permanent)	Slight adverse (Permanent, not significant)
ND199, ND312.	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Minor adverse (Permanent)	Slight adverse (Permanent)	(CH3) Archaeological investigations	Negligible adverse (Permanent)	Slight adverse (Permanent, not significant)
ND204, ND254, ND312	Partial loss of heritage asset	Moderate adverse (Permanent)	Slight adverse (Permanent)	(CH3) Archaeological investigations	Minor adverse (Permanent)	Slight adverse (Permanent, not significant)
ND228	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Minor adverse (Permanent)	Neutral (Permanent)	(CH3) Archaeological investigations	Negligible adverse (Permanent)	Neutral (Permanent, not significant)
ND242	Loss of heritage asset	Major adverse (Permanent)	Slight adverse (Permanent)	(CH4) Earthwork survey and historic building recording	Moderate adverse (Permanent)	Slight adverse (Permanent, not significant)
ND150, ND284, ND293, ND301, ND359, ND361, ND368	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Negligible adverse (Permanent)	Neutral (Permanent)	(CH4) Earthwork survey and historic building recording	No change (Permanent)	Neutral (Permanent, not significant)
ND318	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Negligible adverse (Permanent)	Neutral (Permanent)	(CH3) Archaeological investigations	No change (Permanent)	Neutral (Permanent, not significant)
ND148, ND232, ND341	Partial loss or damage to heritage asset	Minor adverse (Permanent)	Slight adverse (Permanent)	(CH4) Earthwork survey and historic building recording	Negligible adverse (Permanent)	Neutral (Permanent, not significant)

Heritage Asset Reference No.	Description of effect	Pre-mitigation impact and effect		Mitigation measures	Residual impact and effect	
		Magnitude of Impact	Significance of Effect		Magnitude of Impact	Significance of Effect
ND365	Partial loss of heritage asset	Moderate adverse (Permanent)	Moderate adverse (Permanent)	(CH4) Earthwork survey and historic building recording	Minor adverse (Permanent)	Slight adverse (Permanent, not significant)

- 11.6.3 Following mitigation of (CH4) earthwork survey and historic building recording and (CH3) archaeological investigations on the Cairnfield and hut circle, Cottartown (ND66), in order to minimise the impacts, the residual significance of effect on the hut circle would be **Moderate Adverse** (significant).
- 11.6.4 The Hut circle – East of Newton Leys, Inverness (ND58) is on the edge of a tower working area. Due to the peripheral location, mitigation measures of demarcation and avoidance (CH2) will be implemented. This would prevent direct physical impacts to the heritage asset and would result in a Neutral significance of effect. This would be preferable to (CH4) earthwork survey and historic building recording and / or (CH3) archaeological investigations which would result in a residual significance of effect of Moderate adverse, which would be a significant effect.

Operational Phase

- 11.6.5 The residual effects during the operational phase of the Proposed Development for the majority of the heritage assets within the baseline would be the same as that stated in the main assessment (see **Section 11.4 Assessment of Likely Significant Effects**), as no mitigation to reduce or remove the impacts is feasible. Therefore, the residual effect on Hare Stone, stone circle 480 m NW of Feith-Hill (SM338: S47) would be **Moderate Adverse**. As stated in the assessment above, the impacts are not enough to significantly impact upon the integrity of the setting of the stone circle. The setting already includes the Carlinraig wind turbines in key views to the Burn of Tollo, but it still retains the localised setting and relationship with the burn, so that it is able to be understood, appreciated, and experienced. The Proposed OHL Alignment does not impact on this relationship, and the localised setting. There are also no impacts on views towards the stone circle from the local road or on approach from Carlinraig cottage, which are also key to how the stone circle is understood, appreciated, and experienced.
- 11.6.6 The residual effect on the Mains of Daviot Farm, ring cairn and stone circle 600 m NNE of (SM3085; S20) would be **Moderate Adverse**, given that the potential mitigation set out in **Table 11.7** and **Appendix 11.4: Potential Mitigation: Undergrounding of Existing 275kV OHL at Daviot** is subject to Town and Country Planning permission and therefore cannot be committed to at this stage. Should the potential mitigation be consented, then the residual effect has been assessed as **Slight Adverse**. The potential mitigation would have the benefit of opening up the key views towards the small burn to the north and open the views along the glen to the northeast. It would also remove the towers from the background of localised views from the edge of the hollow within which the ring cairn and stone circle are located and reduce the impact of electrical infrastructure in views towards the ring cairn and stone circle from more distant approaches. The Proposed OHL Alignment, albeit close to the ring cairn and stone circle, would not be as dominant a presence as the existing OHL, as the closest tower would be partly screened. Views from the southwest approach would still be impacted, as would views further east (see **Appendix 11.4, Visualisation 11.4.1: Mains of Daviot Farm, ring cairn and stone circle 600 m NNE of (SM3085; S20) post mitigation**).
- 11.6.7 The magnitude of impact during operation of the Proposed Development, after implementation of the potential mitigation, would be reduced to Minor Adverse due to slight changes within the setting of the ring cairn and stone circle. As a heritage asset of High cultural significance, the resulting significance of effect would be **Slight Adverse**. The significance of effect has been determined as not significant after mitigation as the removal of the existing towers in close proximity would open up the area between the ring cairn and stone circle, and the small burn to the north, allowing for a better appreciation and experience of the heritage asset.

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- 11.6.8 During the construction phase of the Kellas Alternative Alignment, the implementation of the mitigation measures summarised in **Table 11.6** would avoid or reduce the impact on any heritage assets within the LoD. Once the proposed mitigation is considered, any residual effects arising from the construction phase of the Kellas Alternative Alignment would be no greater than **Slight Adverse (not significant)**. A summary of the predicted effects before mitigation, the mitigation required to remove or reduce those impacts, and the residual effects after mitigation for heritage assets with the potential to be directly impacted by the construction activities is shown in **Table 11.9**.

Table 11.9: Residual effects from the Kellas Alternative Alignment during construction

Heritage Asset No.	Description of effect	Pre-mitigation impact and effect		Mitigation measures	Residual impact and effect	
		Magnitude of Impact	Significance of Effect		Magnitude of Impact	Significance of Effect
ND146	Construction within former farmstead extents	Negligible adverse (Permanent)	Slight adverse (Permanent)	(CH4) Earthwork survey and historic building recording	Negligible adverse (Permanent)	Neutral (Permanent, not significant)
ND148	Loss of heritage asset	Major adverse (Permanent)	Moderate adverse (Permanent)	(CH4) Earthwork survey and historic building recording	Moderate adverse (Permanent)	Slight adverse (Permanent, not significant)
ND150	Partial loss of heritage asset	Negligible adverse (Permanent)	Slight adverse (Permanent)	(CH4) Earthwork survey and historic building recording	Negligible adverse (Permanent)	Neutral (Permanent, not significant)
ND162	Partial loss of heritage asset	Negligible adverse (Permanent)	Neutral (Permanent)	(CH4) Earthwork survey and historic building recording	Negligible adverse (Permanent)	Neutral (Permanent, not significant)

11.7 Assessment of Cumulative Effects

- 11.7.1 The following assessment has been undertaken in line with the methodology in **Chapter 5: EIA Process and Methodology, Section 5.5** (Cumulative Effects). From the list of cumulative developments provided, **Table 11.10** lists those that have been scoped out of this assessment.

Table 11.10: Cumulative developments scoped out of Chapter 11: Cultural Heritage

Application Reference	Local Authority	Development Name	Reason for Scoping Out
Pre-application	The Highland Council	Beauly to Denny Overhead Line Diversion	No impacts from the Beauly to Denny Overhead Line Diversion on shared receptors
Pre-application	The Highland Council	Spittal to Loch Buidhe to Beauly 400 kV Project	No shared receptors
APP / 2024 / 1927	Aberdeenshire Council	Greens 400 kV Substation	No shared receptors
Pre-application	Aberdeenshire Council	Greens Underground Cable Connection	Shared receptors are non-designated with no impacts related to changes within their setting.
App / 2024 / 1714	Aberdeenshire Council	Netherton Hub – 400 kV substation, 132 kV substation, HVDC switching station, two converter stations and operations base	The shared receptors with the Proposed Development have been assessed as having no impact, so no in-combination effects are anticipated.

Application Reference	Local Authority	Development Name	Reason for Scoping Out
Pre-application	Aberdeenshire Council	New Deer to Peterhead Overhead Line Diversion	The shared receptors with the Proposed Development have been assessed as having no impact, so no in-combination effects are anticipated.
Pre-application	The Highland Council	Western Isles HVDC UGC	No shared receptors
24 / 05097 / S36	The Highland Council	Knocknagael BESS	The shared receptors with the Proposed Development are not anticipated to be impacted by the Knocknagael BESS, so no in-combination effects are anticipated.
24 / 01548 / FUL	The Highland Council	Beauly BESS	The shared receptors with the Proposed Development are not anticipated to be impacted by the Beauly BESS, so no in-combination effects are anticipated.
24 / 02831 / FUL	The Highland Council	Kilmorack Substation	The shared receptors with the Proposed Development have been assessed as having no impact, so no in-combination effects are anticipated.
23 / 03113 / FUL	The Highland Council	Caulternich Farm Energy Storage Project	The shared receptors with the Proposed Development have been assessed as having no impact, so no in-combination effects are anticipated.
21 / 04988 / FUL	The Highland Council	Beauly Substation	The shared receptors with the Proposed Development are not anticipated to be impacted by the Beauly Substation as there is an existing substation adjacent to it, so no in-combination effects are anticipated.
21 / 01521 / S36 and ECU00003225	The Highland Council	Cairn Duhie Wind Farm Redesign	The shared receptors with the Proposed Development have been assessed as having no impact, so no in-combination effects are anticipated.
24 / 02830 / FUL	The Highland Council	Aigas Substation	The shared receptors with the Proposed Development have been assessed as having no impact, so no in-combination effects are anticipated.
23 / 02340 / SCOP	The Highland Council	Balmore Wind Farm	The shared receptors with the Proposed Development have been assessed as having no impact, so no in-combination effects are anticipated.
24 / 04177 / SCOP	The Highland Council	Ballach Wind Farm	The shared receptors with the Proposed Development have been assessed as having no impact, so no in-combination effects are anticipated.
24 / 03837 / SCOP	The Highland Council	Inverness College Campus	No shared receptors
24 / 03625 / SCOP	The Highland Council	Carn Na Saobhaidh Wind Farm	The shared receptors with the Proposed Development have been assessed as having no impact, so no in-combination effects are anticipated.
22 / 05289 / S36 and ECU00001999	The Highland Council	Ourack Wind Farm	The shared receptors with the Proposed Development have been assessed as having no impact, so no in-combination effects are anticipated.
24 / 01633 / SCOP	The Highland Council	Lynemore Wind Farm	The shared receptors with the Proposed Development have been assessed as

Application Reference	Local Authority	Development Name	Reason for Scoping Out
			having no impact, so no in-combination effects are anticipated.
22 / 01732 / S36 and ECU00003453	The Highland Council	Tom Nan Clach Wind Farm Extension	No shared receptors as outside of 10 km from the Proposed Development.
22 / 03143 / SCOP	The Highland Council	Fairburn Wind Farm Extension	The shared receptors with the Proposed Development have been assessed as having no impact, so no in-combination effects are anticipated.
ECU00000718	Moray Council	Berry Burn Wind Farm	The shared receptors with the Proposed Development have been assessed as having no impact, so no in-combination effects are anticipated.
ECU00005237	Moray Council	Gibston Farm BESS	The shared receptors with the Proposed Development have been assessed as having no impact, so no in-combination effects are anticipated.
24 / 01898 / SCO	Moray Council	Rosarie Quarry	No shared receptors
ECU00004556	Moray Council	Teindland Wind Farm	The shared receptors with the Proposed Development have been assessed as having no impact, so no in-combination effects are anticipated.
20 / 01251 / MIN	Moray Council	Blackmuir Quarry	The shared receptors with the Proposed Development have been assessed as having no impact, so no in-combination effects are anticipated.
ECU00005136	Moray Council	Blackhills Wind Farm	The shared receptors with the Proposed Development have been assessed as having no impact, so no in-combination effects are anticipated.
24 / 01073 / APP	Moray Council	Corshellach Energy Storage	The shared receptors with the Proposed Development have been assessed as having no impact, so no in-combination effects are anticipated.
22 / 00715 / APP	Moray Council	Drum Farm Energy Storage	The shared receptors with the Proposed Development have been assessed as having no impact, so no in-combination effects are anticipated.
22 / 00499 / APP	Moray Council	Cairdshill Quarry	The shared receptors with the Proposed Development have been assessed as having no impact, so no in-combination effects are anticipated.
22 / 01488 / APP	Moray Council	Keith Battery Storage	The shared receptors with the Proposed Development have been assessed as having no impact, so no in-combination effects are anticipated.
ECU00003404	Moray Council	Blackhillock Battery Storage	The shared receptors with the Proposed Development have been assessed as having no impact, so no in-combination effects are anticipated.
23 / 00519 / S37 and ECU00004733	Moray Council	Elchies (Rothes III) Wind Farm Grid Connection works	No shared receptors as 5 km from the Proposed Development.
19 / 01653 / MIN	Moray Council	Marchfield Quarry	The shared receptors with the Proposed Development have been assessed as having no impact, so no in-combination effects are anticipated.

Application Reference	Local Authority	Development Name	Reason for Scoping Out
24 / 00617 / EIA	Moray Council	Cairds Hill Wind Farm	The shared receptors with the Proposed Development have been assessed as having no impact, so no in-combination effects are anticipated.
25 / 00354 / MIN	Moray Council	Dykeside Farm Quarry	No shared receptors
24 / 00375 / S36 and ECU00003365	Moray Council	Aultmore Wind Farm Redesign	The shared receptors with the Proposed Development have been assessed as having no impact, so no in-combination effects are anticipated.
ENQ / 2024 / 0039	Aberdeenshire Council	Stromar Offshore Wind Farm Onshore Works	The shared receptors with the Proposed Development have been assessed as having no impact, so no in-combination effects are anticipated.
APP / 2024 / 2000	Aberdeenshire Council	Mui Mhor Onshore Works	The shared receptors with the Proposed Development have been assessed as having no impact, so no in-combination effects are anticipated.
APP / 2024 / 1812	Aberdeenshire Council	Caledonia Offshore Wind Farm Onshore Works	The shared receptors with the Proposed Development have been assessed as having no impact, so no in-combination effects are anticipated.
Permitted Development	Aberdeenshire Council	Spittal – Peterhead UGC	No shared receptors
Permitted Development	Aberdeenshire Council	EGL3 UGC	No shared receptors
APP / 2023 / 1454	Aberdeenshire Council	Buchan Offshore Wind Farm Onshore Works	The shared receptors with the Proposed Development have been assessed as having no impact, so no in-combination effects are anticipated.
APP / 2023 / 1454	Aberdeenshire Council	Greenvolt Onshore Works	The shared receptors with the Proposed Development have been assessed as having no impact, so no in-combination effects are anticipated.
APP / 2025 / 0338	Aberdeenshire Council	Whitestones Solar Project	No shared receptors
APP / 2025 / 0514	Aberdeenshire Council	Hill of Stoneyfield Wind Farm	No shared receptors
APP / 2022 / 0592	Aberdeenshire Council	Glens of Foudland Wind Farm Bainshole	The shared receptors with the Proposed Development have been assessed as having no impact, so no in-combination effects are anticipated.

In-combination Effects: Stage 1 – Associated SSEN Transmission Developments

- 11.7.2 From the list of associated SSEN Transmission network upgrades, only the construction of the proposed Fanellan substation has the potential, in combination with the Proposed Development, to result in an increase in the impacts to heritage assets within the baseline that may result in a significant effect during operation.

Proposed Fanellan 400 kV Substation and Converter Station

- 11.7.3 The proposed Fanellan substation and the Proposed Development have similar receptors, as the Proposed Development would connect into the substation. From the assessment conducted, only impacts to Beaufort Castle (LB8068; L16) would have the potential for significant cumulative effects, as the impacts on other receptors are deemed to be Negligible.

- 11.7.4 The impacts from the Proposed OHL Alignment on Beaufort Castle (LB8068; L16) have been assessed as Minor Adverse, and a similar level of impact was identified for Fanellan substation. Impacts would all relate to views from the upper levels of the castle and in the same direction, so in-combination, the impacts would not increase as the views from the roof and upper rooms would be impacted to the same level by either development. The significance of effect would be **Slight Adverse**.

In-combination Effects: Stage 2 – Other Developments

- 11.7.5 From the list of other SSEN Transmission and third-party developments, there are no developments listed that have the potential, in combination with the Proposed Development, to result in an increase in the impacts to heritage assets within the baseline, which may result in a significant effect during operation.

Kellas Alternative Alignment

- 11.7.6 There would be no cumulative effects between the Kellas Alternative Alignment and the Kellas Drum Wind Farm, as the same screening around Kellas House (LB2345; L117) would reduce any potential impacts on the only shared receptor between the two potential developments.

11.8 Summary and Conclusions

- 11.8.1 There are 425 heritage assets noted within the LoD for the Proposed Development, consisting of 14 designated heritage assets and 411 non-designated heritage assets. The assessment identified that there would be predicted impacts on heritage assets from physical impacts during construction of the Proposed Development on 79 non-designated heritage assets including four within the Kellas Alternative Alignment.
- 11.8.2 The assessment concluded there would be a Slight Adverse significance of effect on the Beaufort Castle GDL (GDL00052), during construction due to tree felling at its northern edge. The assessment also concluded there would be two Large Adverse, 16 Moderate Adverse, 50 Slight Adverse, and 11 Neutral significance of effects on non-designated heritage assets, prior to mitigation. Mitigation measures are proposed which would remove or reduce predicted impacts and would involve demarcation and avoidance, earthwork and historic building recording, and archaeological investigations to be undertaken in line with an appropriate Archaeological Project Design. Following consideration of appropriate mitigation measures, and after further assessment, only one asset results in residual effects of Moderate Adverse on the Cairnfield and hut circle, Cottartown (ND66).
- 11.8.3 In relation to the policies within NPF4, as the Cairnfield and hut circle, Cottartown (ND66) cannot be avoided, the mitigation requirements set out would minimise the impacts through excavation, recording, analysis, archiving, and publication, ensuring preservation of the hut circle by record.
- 11.8.4 There are 393 designated heritage assets contained within the LoD and 2 km study area for the assessment, with an additional 27 designated heritage assets added to the baseline following consultation with HES. During the operational phase of the Proposed Development, impacts from changes within the setting of heritage assets would be anticipated on 26 scheduled monuments, 18 listed buildings, two GDLs, the Culloden battlefield (BTL6), and eight non-designated heritage assets. The assessment noted there would be two Moderate Adverse, and 52 Slight Adverse significance of effects on the heritage assets impacted during operation, prior to mitigation. The Moderate Adverse effects would be on the following heritage assets:
- Mains of Daviot Farm, ring cairn and stone circle 600 m NNE of (SM3085; S20); and
 - Hare Stone, stone circle 480 m NW of Feith-Hill (SM338; S47).
- 11.8.5 The residual effect on the Mains of Daviot Farm, ring cairn and stone circle 600 m NNE of (SM3085; S20), would be Moderate Adverse, given that the potential mitigation set out in **Table 11.7** and **Appendix 11.4: Potential Mitigation: Undergrounding of Existing 275kV OHL at Daviot** is subject to Town and Country Planning permission and therefore cannot be committed to at this stage. Should the potential mitigation be consented, then the residual effect has been assessed as Slight Adverse.

- 11.8.6 No mitigation measures are recommended for Hare Stone, stone circle 480 m NW of Feith-Hill (SM338: S47) as mitigation to reduce these impacts would require blocking or screening views of the Proposed OHL Alignment using landscape planting around the scheduled monument, which itself would cause an impact through changes within the setting of the heritage asset and is not recommended as a mitigation solution.
- 11.8.7 The impacts to Hare Stone, stone circle 480 m NW of Feith-Hill (SM338: S47) would result in significant effects, but the impacts to the integrity of the stone circle's setting is not deemed to be significant in terms of the policies in NPF4. The stone circle would retain the key relationships with the small burn that it overlooks, and other key aspects would be retained to allow for the stone circle to be understood, appreciated, and experienced.