Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks
TRANSMISSION

Beauly to Blackhillock to New Deer to Peterhead 400 kV Project

Environmental Impact Assessment Report

Volume 5 | Appendices

Appendix 7.4.1 - Visual Effects: The Highland Council

APPENDIX 7.4.1 – VISUAL EFFECTS: THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL

Appendix Tables

1. Visual Effects: The Highland Council

1.1.1 **Table 1.1** below should be read in conjunction with **Chapter 7: Landscape and Visual Assessment**.

1.1.2 The locations of visual receptors, receptor groups and viewpoints are shown on **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors and Viewpoint Locations** and **Figure 7.7: Visual Context.** Representative viewpoint visualisations are shown in **Volume 4: Visualisations 7.1** to **7.19, 7.54, 7.55** & **7.58** and **Visualisations THC 1: Viewpoint 1** to **THC 22: Viewpoint 58.**

1.1.3 **NOTE:** Consideration of year 15 effects is only given where there is a significant proportion of additional forestry management felling[1] or forest edge fringe planting[2] in the view. Any management felling undertaken out with the Operational Corridor (OC) would be solely under the control of the relevant landowner (and not the Applicant). For the purposes of this assessment, it has been assumed that management felling would take place and that areas of management felling would be replanted back to the edge of the OC following installation of the overhead line (OHL) (see **Chapter 12: Forestry** for further details) and would therefore, after 15 years, provide additional screening.

1.1.4 Some limited areas of mitigation planting within the OC itself would also occur (such as across The Aird) to visually break up the planting edge (see **Appendix 7.6: Forestry Landscape Mitigation Principles** for further details). No other planting is proposed and therefore the majority of receptors would not have a different visual experience at year 15. As a result, only a small proportion of receptors below are required to be considered at year 15. Where they are, assessment at year 15 is included.

1.1.5 **NOTE** also that where year 15 assessment is included, we have on occasion, included an additional visualisation to show both the regrowth of management felling areas back to the edge of the OC and of establishing forest edge fringe planting growth at an interim year of year 7, in addition to year 15. The year 7 visualisations demonstrate the likely growth of forestry within the management felling areas or forest edge fringe planting by this stage, as requested by The Highland Council. However, given the small change in growth between operational phase year of opening and year 7, this additional scenario has not been considered in the assessment of effects as no change to magnitude is anticipated at year 7 due to the limited extent of planting in views. Year 7 effects are therefore considered to be the same as year of opening in assessment terms.

1.1.6 As stated in **Appendix 7.1: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Methodology**, professional judgement is used to determine whether effects of Moderate Adverse are considered to be significant or non-significant. Where an effect of Moderate Adverse is identified as being non-significant, qualification is provided in each instance as to why it is considered non-significant.

[1] Management felling is defined as areas of felling beyond the OC to the nearest 'windfirm' edge (known as the 'green edge'), where the trees have developed next to open ground, in order to reduce the risk of windthrow.
[2] Forest edge fringe planting refers to deciduous planting within the OC proposed in order to soften the appearance of the coniferous forest edge. The discrete areas of fringe planting are within the OC and therefore under the control of the Applicant. It forms part of the Proposed Development itself and is not additional mitigation planting.

Table 1.1: Appendix 7.4.1 - Visual Effects: The Highland Council

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
RESIDENTIAL RECEPTORS					
THC-R-1a	**Fanellan, Beaufort Castle, west of Beaufort Castle, and east of Hughton** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 20) Representative viewpoint VP 1 River Beauly (**Visualisation 7.1: Viewpoint 1: River Beauly** & **Visualisation THC-1: Viewpoint 1: River Beauly**) Receptor group can be found on **Page 2** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a rural wooded landscape with potential near to mid-distance views across the River Beauly valley to more distant hills. The susceptibility of these receptors is recorded as **High**. Value These views are not identified as nationally or regionally significant and whilst there are some detracting features there are scenic backdrops. The designation of Beaufort Castle Garden and Designed Landscape (GDL) is also an indication of value. The value of these views is recorded as **Medium to High**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Residents are located in between the River Beauly and Culburnie, to the east of Ruttle Wood and set within a mixed deciduous and coniferous woodland. Views into the well wooded landscape are near to mid-distance, being well contained or filtered by surrounding vegetation with a strong sense of enclosure. Some of the landscape around Beaufort Castle and along the River Beauly adds a more varied and intimate wooded parkland character, part of which is designated as a GDL. Properties on the mid slope of Tòrr Mòr are more open and afford elevated views southeast. Detracting features include the existing Beauly-Denny 400 kV OHL, the Beauly Substation and two OHLs running east out of Beauly Substation, with towers occasionally evident above intervening trees. View During Construction Construction activity, including use of cranes for tower installation, felling of managed commercial forestry and native broadleaf woodland within and beyond the Operational Corridor (OC) and for temporary access tracks, would be noticeable on the skyline above existing vegetation and where there are more open views. The mixture of coniferous and deciduous vegetation would provide some screening of lower-level construction activity, but the installation of the towers and potential movement from helicopters for conductor stringing would temporarily impact local tranquillity and the rural character of views. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* Whilst the movement and activity of construction would have ceased, the Proposed Development would be a perceptible feature within predominantly filtered views in the near to mid-distance. The Proposed Development would only be perceptible across a small portion of the view, although one angle tower would be introduced immediately southeast of Fanellan, and visible in the more open farmland. The Proposed Development would be visible in the skyline on the mid slopes of Tòrr Mòr and as it crosses the River Beauly to the northeast of Fanellan, although elsewhere it would be largely backclothed by existing vegetation within the well wooded farmland between Fanellan and the River Beauly. Blocks of mixed woodland and coniferous forestry along with mature field boundary and roadside trees result in mostly filtered or narrow, framed views of the Proposed Development from residential properties and their curtilage both in the near and mid-distance. The Proposed Development would result in a permanent OC through blocks of existing forestry. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* There is a good amount of deciduous vegetation in Ruttle Wood, around the lower slopes of Tòrr Mòr, on the edges of Fanellan Wood, around Cruives, and along the River Beauly. In summer months, the deciduous woodland associated with the River Beauly corridor, around Beaufort Castle, and in Fanellan Wood, as well as deciduous field boundary trees and garden vegetation would provide additional screening, particularly for lower portions of the Proposed Development, although the Proposed Development would remain visible for many residents in the skyline above intervening trees. The magnitude of change is assessed as reducing to **Low to Medium**. The geographical extent would be low to medium, and the duration would be long-term. Effects are identified as **Moderate Adverse** but **non-significant** in summer, as views would be further filtered by deciduous vegetation being in leaf and providing additional screening to lessen the impact of the Proposed Development in views.	During Construction **Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Low to Medium**	During Construction **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Moderate Adverse** (non-significant)
THC-R-1b	**Fanellan** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 5) Representative viewpoint N/A	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a rural wooded landscape with far-distance views across the River Beauly valley to more distant hills. The susceptibility of these receptors is recorded as **High**. Value These views are not identified as	Existing View Residents are located on the mid slopes of Tòrr Mòr, along Fanellan Road to the east and adjacent to, Ruttle Wood. They are set with within a landscape of mixed deciduous and coniferous woodland and pasture fields, on elevated ground above the River Beauly. Views are principally open with far-distance views south across the valley, although some receptors have a sense of enclosure due to surrounding curtilage vegetation or adjacent woodland. The principal detracting feature is the existing Beauly-Denny 400 kV OHL crossing the hillside upslope of the receptors. View During Construction Construction activity, including use of cranes for tower installation, felling of managed commercial forestry and native broadleaf woodland within and beyond the OC and for temporary access tracks, would be clearly noticeable on the skyline above existing vegetation for residential receptors in the five properties along Fanellan Road (including Fanellan Cottages, Upper Fanellan Cottages and Fanellan Croft). The properties are set within an open, pastoral landscape with views across to the construction activity. Whilst Fanellan Cottages in particular has some screening from garden vegetation, the proximity of construction activity (approx. 250-450 m	During Construction **High** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **High**	During Construction **Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Major Adverse** (significant)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
	Receptor group can be found on **Page 2** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	nationally or regionally significant and there are some detracting features. The value of these views is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **High**	away) and on two sides (west and south) would be particularly intrusive. The magnitude of change is assessed as **High.** The geographical extent would be medium to high, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would appear on two sides within wide, open views. One larger angle tower would be introduced immediately southeast of Fanellan and would be clearly visible for residential receptors in the five elevated properties, introducing permanent infrastructure into near distant views on two sides of the properties. Whilst garden and roadside vegetation would provide some screening, particularly of lower portions of towers, the Proposed Development would occupy a clearly noticeable portion of the view. The magnitude of change is assessed as **High**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* Garden and roadside deciduous vegetation would add some additional screening in summer, particularly of the lower portions of the towers, but due to the proximity of the residential receptors to the Proposed Development, it would remain clearly visible. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium to High**. The geographical extent would be low to medium, and the duration would be long-term.	Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Medium to High**	Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Major Adverse** (significant)
THC-R-2	**Culburnie, Creraig (Crerag), west of Hughton** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 46) Representative viewpoint VP2 Creraig (Crerag) (**Visualisation 7.2: Viewpoint 2: Creraig (Crerag)** & **Visualisation THC-2: Viewpoint 2: Creraig (Crerag)**) Receptor group can be found on **Page 2** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a rural wooded landscape with potential mid to far-distance views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High**. Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant, but it contains few detracting features and is set within an attractive rural landscape. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Residents are located on the mid to lower slopes of Meall Mor to the north of Boblainy Forest in between the River Beauly and the A833. Receptors are surrounded by coniferous forestry and deciduous woodland, and views are predominantly slightly elevated, framed by vegetation and focussed across the valley to the north and northwest, with a strong sense of enclosure. There are few detracting features with views being mainly rural and tranquil, but the existing 275 kV OHL is visible on the slopes of Tòrr Mòr to the north, with some towers evident above intervening trees in the mid-distance. View During Construction Felling of forestry and native broadleaf woodland within and beyond the OC and for access tracks would be perceptible in the mid-distance on the opposite valley side, particularly at Fanellan. The use of cranes and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would also be noticeable movements and elements in the landscape, albeit temporary and at distance, and covering a small portion of the view. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be a perceptible feature in the mid-distance to the north within views that are elevated, predominantly filtered or interrupted by intervening large areas of mixed woodland and coniferous forestry. The Proposed Development would be seen in the context of the existing 275 kV OHL towers across the slopes of Tòrr Mòr. The Proposed Development would be partially screened by the well wooded farmland on lower ground between Fanellan and the River Beauly. Towers would mostly be seen against a backdrop of woodland and forestry whilst the top of some towers (including two angle towers) leading up to Tòrr Mòr may extend into the skyline of some views from lower elevations. Whilst the more exposed sections at Fanellan would be visible in views, the Proposed Development as it heads eastwards would be largely screened from all views due to intervening topography, vegetation and built form. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* In summer months, intervening mixed deciduous woodland associated with Boblainy Forest, as well as deciduous field boundary trees and deciduous trees around Culburnie and the edges of Fanellan Wood, would all provide a small degree of additional screening, but the Proposed Development would remain visible for some residents in the more open slopes of Tòrr Mòr in the mid-distance. The magnitude of change remains **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Low**	During Construction **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant)
THC-R-3	**Kilmorack (east)** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 10) Representative	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home around the A831 and are likely to have an appreciation of both well wooded farmland, an existing OHL and filtered views to traffic on the A831. Even so, there is potential for far-distance views	Existing View Residents are located along the A831 and River Beauly corridor to the southwest of Beauly. Receptors are surrounded by garden vegetation, mature roadside trees and woodland along the River Beauly resulting in predominantly heavily filtered or interrupted views south and a sense of enclosure. Detracting features include the A831, the hydroelectric power station, and existing OHL with towers occasionally evident above intervening trees or across areas of more open foreground (such as at Kilmorack cemetery). View During Construction Construction activity, principally the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be noticeable movement and elements above the treeline in some views (particularly from more elevated locations), but the loss of tree	During Construction **Low**	During Construction **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
	viewpoint N/A Receptor group can be found on **Pages 1** & **2** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	towards wooded hill slopes. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High.** Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant and contains some detracting features. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **High**	canopy is unlikely to be readily perceptible. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be a small but perceptible feature in the mid-distance to the south within views that are predominantly filtered or interrupted by intervening vegetation. The Proposed Development would be seen beyond the existing OHL and towers and beyond the A831 and River Beauly, above the intervening treeline in the mid-distance ground. Towers (including angle towers) are likely to be seen against a backdrop of hills, woodland and forestry, although some would become skylined on the approach into the proposed Fanellan substation. Even so, they would add a detracting feature into the rural view, albeit occupying only a small proportion of the view. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* In summer months, intervening trees and vegetation would provide a small degree of additional screening, but the Proposed Development would remain visible above intervening treelines for some residents in the mid-distance. The magnitude of change remains **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term.	Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Low**	Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant)
THC-R-4a	**Kilmorack (west)** & **Torgormack** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 80) Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor group can be found on **Pages 1** & **2** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a rural wooded landscape with potential mid to far-distance views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High**. Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant but contains few detracting features in a rural setting. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Residents are located to the north and northwest of the River Beauly between the western section of Kilmorack and Torgormack. Views are generally framed by Tòrr Mòr and Ruttle Wood to the south and by surrounding blocks of woodland and mature field boundary trees. Some receptors, particularly at higher elevations, have glimpsed views across the valley towards more distant hills, with Tòrr Mòr in the mid-distance. Receptors are often well screened by surrounding trees, garden vegetation and local rises in topography and have limited views towards the southeast. There are generally few detracting features within the attractive, rural views apart from the presence of some existing OHLs and towers in glimpsed views back clothed by vegetation and more distant hills. View During Construction The Proposed Development would not be readily perceptible for most receptors, although the use of cranes for installing towers, as the potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be noticeable movements in the near to mid-distance within rural, attractive views, albeit much of the construction works and activity would be screened from views and temporary in nature. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible to Low**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would not be a readily perceptible feature for most receptors, although in glimpsed views, and from slightly higher elevations, views of the tops of towers and OHL would be noticeable through gaps in vegetation. The infrastructure across the River Beauly valley would be backclothed against surrounding vegetation and hills, as its approach up the lower slopes of Tòrr Mòr would be screened by intervening topography and vegetation. The Proposed Development would not substantially detract from otherwise attractive views but would introduce a new feature through the landscape in the mid to far-distance for those receptors with open views into the River Beauly valley. The removal of the existing Beauly to Knocknagael 132 kV OHL immediately to the foreground of the Proposed Development would slightly offset the impact of the introduction of new taller towers where the two are both visible, but the Proposed Development would be a detracting feature in views where it is visible. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible to Low**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* In summer months, intervening trees would provide a degree of additional screening, particularly for the lower portions of the Proposed Development, but it would remain backclothed and visible where there are open views. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible.** The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Negligible to Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Negligible to Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Negligible**	During Construction **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Minor Adverse** (non-significant)
THC-R-4b	**Kilmorack to Ruilick** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a rural wooded landscape with potential mid to far-distance	Existing View Residents are located on lower to mid ground to the north of the River Beauly between Kilmorack and Ruilick. Many receptors afford open, panoramic mid to far-distance views southeast across adjacent, well wooded farmland towards distant hills associated with The Aird. Views are often framed by Tòrr Mòr to the south and by surrounding small blocks of woodland and mature field boundary trees and the Beauly Firth to the east appears within some wider panoramic views. Receptors are often well screened by surrounding trees or local rises in topography and have no views towards the site of the Proposed Development. There are few detracting features within	During Construction **Low to Medium**	During Construction **Moderate Adverse** (non-significant)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
	group = 45) Representative viewpoint VP 1 River Beauly (**Visualisation 7.1: Viewpoint 1: River Beauly** & **Visualisation THC-1: Viewpoint 1: River Beauly**) Receptor group can be found on **Page 1** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High** Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant but contains few detracting features in a rural setting. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **High**	the attractive, rural views apart from the existing OHLs and towers in glimpsed views. View During Construction In many views, construction activity would be screened, but the movement and height of tower installation, including the use of cranes and the potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be noticeable in glimpsed views through the rural valley. Where noticeable, it would be in the near to mid-distance, interrupting the rural backdrop of views. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low to Medium. The geographical extent would be low to medium, and the duration would be short-term. Effects are identified as **Moderate Adverse** but **non-significant** as low-level construction activity would be mostly contained by surrounding vegetation, taller elements interrupted by vegetation, and would be seen in the context of existing OHLs. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would remain screened in many views, but where it is visible, it would be a clearly perceptible feature in the near to mid-distance. The Proposed Development would be seen beyond the existing OHL and towers, with some sections seen above intervening treelines, whilst other sections would be backclothed by hills and vegetation. The removal of the existing Beauly to Knocknagael 132 kV OHL and towers immediately to the fore of the Proposed Development would very slightly offset the impact of the introduction of new taller towers, but there would be an overall increase in detracting features in views where they are visible. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* In summer months, intervening trees would provide a small degree of additional screening, but the Proposed Development would remain visible above intervening treelines for some residents. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term.	Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Low**	Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant)
THC-R-5	**Residents between A831 and River Beauly** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 9) Representative viewpoint VP 1 River Beauly (**Visualisation 7.1: Viewpoint 1: River Beauly** & **Visualisation THC-1: Viewpoint 1: River Beauly**) Receptor group can be found on **Pages 1** & **2** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a rural wooded river valley with potential near to mid-distance views. The susceptibility of these receptors is recorded as **High**. Value The views are not identified as nationally or regionally significant. Although they contain the detracting features of Beauly Substation, Balblair Quarry and three existing OHLs, views in the context of the River Beauly corridor will be valued by residents. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Residents are located in between a large meander in the River Beauly and Beauly Substation on the A831. Views are relatively well contained by deciduous woodland adjacent to the River Beauly and surrounding Beauly Substation, giving a strong sense of enclosure in the low-lying landscape. More open, oblique views south are afforded across open arable fields for residential receptors south of Lovat Bridge with Tòrr Mòr and hills associated with The Aird visible in the background. Residential receptors at Groam of Annat are afforded filtered, near-distance views north towards the existing OHLs, whilst receptors at the property at Cruives (and in rental properties such as Cruives Lodge and North Lodge) afford heavily filtered near distant views east and north towards the site of the Proposed Development. The River Beauly itself is intermittently visible over short sections and is otherwise well screened by woodland. Detracting features include Beauly Substation, Balblair Quarry, the existing Beauly-Denny 400 kV OHL running southwest, and two existing OHLs running east out of Beauly Substation and crossing the River Beauly. The existing 400 kV, 275 kV OHLs and existing Beauly to Knocknagael 132 kV OHL are most visible running through open arable fields between Groam of Annat and Lovat Bridge, with other sections visible above the tree line. View During Construction Clearance of vegetation within the OC and for access tracks, as well as management felling of forestry beyond the OC, would be noticeable but would not generally open up views from properties. The larger tracts of management felling at Cruives, however, would be more noticeable, and open up views from properties at Cruives towards the Balblair quarry site. Even so, the majority of construction activity would be backdropped by existing vegetation which would continue to screen Beauly Substation and Balblair Quarry. Groam Poultry Farm is located around 115 m from the centreline of the Proposed Development and receptors here would have direct, clear views of it. Residents here are likely to have views along a 1 km stretch of line, including a tower within 120 m. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium-High** for most receptors, but **High** for Groam Poultry Farm. The geographical extent would be medium to high, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be a clearly noticeable feature in near-distant views for residential receptors within a cluster of properties to the south of Lovat Bridge and the A862. The entirety of up to three new towers would be visible across open arable fields to the south, immediately beyond the existing 275 kV OHL, with the tops of further towers (including an angle tower) appearing in the skyline to the east and west above the tree line. Removal of the existing Beauly to Knocknagael 132 kV OHL would ensure only two	During Construction **Medium to High** **High** (Groam Poultry Farm only) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Medium to High** **High** (Groam Poultry Farm only) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Medium** **Medium to High** (Groam Poultry Farm only)	During Construction **Major Adverse** (significant) **Major Adverse** (significant, Groam Poultry Farm only) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Major Adverse** (significant) **Major Adverse** (significant, Groam Poultry Farm only) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant) **Major Adverse** (significant, Groam Poultry Farm only)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
			OHLs remain visible, with the Proposed Development more distant than the existing 275 kV OHL. Towers would be located in parallel with the remaining 275 kV OHL towers to help contain their spread in views, and some views are filtered by surrounding vegetation. Residential receptors at Groam of Annat (including in rental properties such as Groam Farmhouse and River Beauly Lodge) would afford near distant, oblique and direct views, with some views slightly filtered by mixed deciduous and coniferous woodland and hedgerows. The Proposed Development would be seen against the existing 275 kV OHL beyond. Removal of the existing Beauly to Knocknagael 132 kV OHL would enable only two OHLs to remain in the view but replacing it with the significantly taller infrastructure of a 400 kV OHL and in closer proximity. Receptors to the south and at Groam Poultry Farm would afford clear views towards the Proposed Development. In combination with the existing OHL there would be a wirescaping effect within the River Beauly valley setting, further deteriorating views for residential receptors in the local, low-lying landscape. The removal of towers associated with the existing Beauly to Knocknagael 132 kV OHL would enable only two OHL to remain within views, but the Proposed Development would result in a new OC through blocks of existing forestry and replace the existing Beauly to Knocknagael 132 kV with the substantially taller infrastructure of the Proposed Development. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium to High** for most receptors but remains **High** for Groam Poultry Farm. The geographical extent would be medium to high, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* Summer foliage would offer a small degree of additional filtered visual screening for residential receptors looking towards the Proposed Development, but new towers would continue to be visible above the surrounding tree line. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium** for most receptors, and **Medium to High** for Groam Poultry Farm. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term.		
THC-R-6	**Wester Balblair** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 35) Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor group can be found on **Page 1** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of the adjacent A831 but within well contained views south and within a wider rural valley near the River Beauly. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High.** Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant. Although it contains the detracting feature of an existing OHL and the A831, with Balblair Quarry and Beauly Substation beyond the A831, views into surrounding farmland will be locally valued. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Residents are located on the northern side of the A831 to the west of the River Beauly. Properties are reasonably well spaced and built with varying directions of views. Some properties front onto the A831, some into farmland to the west, north or east, and some into the centre of the village. Views south are screened by woodland on the southern side of the A831 and properties looking east are screened by field boundary woodland. All properties are generally well surrounded by garden vegetation. Detracting features include an existing 275 kV OHL in open farmland immediately to the west; the A831; and Balblair Quarry and Beauly Substation beyond the A831. The quarry and Beauly Substation are both screened by roadside vegetation to strongly limit views from the single storey (or occasional 1.5 or 2-storey) properties in Wester Balblair, even in winter, although some of the infrastructure within Beauly Substation is visible from the northern extents of the village due to wayleaves for the existing OHL opening up visibility. The existing 275 kV and 132 kV OHLs to the south of Lovat Bridge are not readily noticeable, even in winter. View During Construction Construction activity would not be readily noticeable, with the exception of the top of cranes for tower installation, and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be a barely perceptible feature in the mid-distance, and likely to be screened by immediate surrounding trees for the majority of residential receptors. There is the potential for the tops of towers to be seen to the south and southeast above intervening trees in the mid-distance for residential receptors on the northern extent of the village, but views would still be interrupted by intervening houses and garden vegetation, with moving traffic on the A831 also a distraction. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* Summer foliage would offer slight additional visual screening for residential receptors which already have interrupted, heavily filtered views towards the Proposed Development to the south. However, as visibility of the Proposed Development is predominantly the tops of towers above the treeline, this would not be much altered in summer. There is consequently unlikely to be a noticeable change in visibility of the Proposed Development between summer and winter. The magnitude of change would therefore remain **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Negligible** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Negligible** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Negligible**	During Construction **Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Minor Adverse** (non-significant)
THC-R-7	**Drumindorsair, Broallan, Ruisaurie, Ruilick, Rheindown**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely	Existing View Residents are located on higher ground to the north of the River Beauly between Drumindorsair and Rheindown. Receptors typically have attractive, elevated, open, and panoramic mid to far-distance views south and east across adjacent, well wooded farmland		

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
	(approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 113) Representative viewpoint VP3 Ruisaurie **(Visualisation 7.3: Viewpoint 3: Ruisaurie** & **Visualisation THC-3: Viewpoint 3: Ruisaurie**) Receptor group can be found on **Page 1** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	to have an appreciation of a rural wooded landscape with potential mid to far-distance, panoramic views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High.** Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant but contains few detracting features in a rural, elevated setting. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **High**	towards distant hills associated with The Aird and Boblainy Forest. Tòrr Mòr appears prominently to the south and views are often framed by blocks of surrounding woodland and roadside / field boundary trees. The higher elevation allows views down into the valley, including views of the built form of Beauly and Wester Balblair, and detracting features such as Beauly Substation, Balblair quarry, and existing OHLs across the Beauly valley. Whilst these detracting features are generally backclothed by surrounding hills and vegetation, they are distinctive features in open, panoramic views. View During Construction Movement associated with construction activity would be perceptible in views, especially the use of cranes and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, as well as felling of forestry, particularly over The Aird on the opposite side of the valley, albeit at distance and occupying a small to moderate portion of panoramic views. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low to medium, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be a perceptible feature for many receptors in the mid to far-distance to the southeast within rural, attractive and predominantly panoramic views. The Proposed Development would be seen beyond existing OHLs and towers and would be largely backclothed by the surrounding wooded landscape. Tree removal and crossing The Aird may result in towers becoming skylined in distant views, and the artificially straight line through woodland may draw the eye, but they would not be readily perceptible due to distance and the small portion of the view they would occupy. The Proposed Development would not substantially detract from far-distance attractive views, but it would introduce an additional man-made feature through the landscape in the mid to far-distance for those receptors with open views into the River Beauly valley and beyond and would add slightly to the perception of wirescaping in the valley at this location, in a small portion of the view. Any skylined element would be more noticeable, albeit characteristic of existing features in the landscape. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low to medium, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* In summer months, intervening trees would provide a small degree of additional screening, but the Proposed Development would remain visible for some residents in the mid to far-distance of a small portion of the view, including where the Proposed Development crosses The Aird. The magnitude of change is assessed as remaining **Low**. The geographical extent would be low to medium, and the duration would be long-term. View During Operational Phase Year 15 (Summer) Areas of management felling replanted back to the edge of the OC following installation of the OHL and forest edge fringe planting (refer to **Appendix 7.6: Forestry Landscape Mitigation Principles**) across The Aird are likely to have re-established in this time. The replanted forestry and forest edge fringe planting would be distantly perceptible as it would close the large gaps in tree canopy cover over The Aird, making it much less distinguishable across the hillside. The Proposed Development, however, would remain distantly perceivable across the wider landscape. The magnitude of change remains **Low**. The geographical extent would be low to medium, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Low** Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Low**	During Construction **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant)
THC-R-8	**Kiltarlity, Glaichbea, Camault Muir** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 600) Representative viewpoint VP6 Kiltarlity (**Visualisation 7.6: Viewpoint 6: Kiltarlity** & **Visualisation THC-6: Viewpoint 6:**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a rural wooded landscape with potential mid-distance views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High**. Value Views are not identified as nationally or regionally significant, but they contain few detracting features. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity	Existing View Residents are located within Kiltarlity, Glaichbea and Camault Muir to the north of Boblainy Forest, west of the A833. Receptors scattered within Glaichbea and Camault Moor are slightly more elevated but are surrounded by belts of mixed woodland and vegetated field boundaries alongside Bruiach Burn as well as small areas of coniferous forestry, all of which strongly interrupt and filter views north and northwest. residential receptors to the south of Kiltarlity lie within slightly more open farmland and afford occasional distant views northwest. Within Kiltarlity, views are generally well contained by surrounding woodland (including Balgate Wood) and vegetation along the Bruiach Burn. Views are generally well contained by local vegetation but where afforded, far-distance views are attractive, far reaching, and rural in nature, with few detracting features apart from existing OHLs in the valley, largely backclothed by rising hills beyond. View During Construction Construction activity would be perceptible across the River Beauly and floodplain landscape to the north and northwest, in mid to far-distance views. Activity, including use of cranes and the potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be noticeable on the skyline of most views, although ground level construction would be largely screened. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be short-term.	During Construction **Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening	During Construction **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
	Kiltarlity) Receptor group can be found on **Page 2** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	**High**	View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be a perceptible feature in the mid to far-distance to the north and northwest within more open views and predominantly filtered or interrupted by intervening vegetation. The Proposed Development would be visible as it crosses the mid slopes of Tòrr Mòr into the well wooded farmland on lower ground between Fanellan and the River Beauly. It would be backclothed by Tòrr Mòr and coniferous forestry in many views, with lower portions of towers screened altogether. Some more open views would allow visibility of the whole towers, whilst some would see towers skylined, but views would generally be interrupted by vegetation, topography and built form. Given the moderate distance to the Proposed Development, and it being seen as a relatively small element within a hilly and well wooded landscape, the magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* In summer months, deciduous field boundary trees, and the deciduous trees within intervening mixed woodland around the Bruiach Burn and its tributaries, Fanellan Wood, and woodland associated with Boblainy Forest, would all provide a degree of additional screening, but the Proposed Development would remain visible for some residents in the mid-distance. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible to Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term.	(Summer) **Negligible to Low**	(Summer) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant)
THC-R-9	**Belladrum** (approximate number of residential receptors = 35) Representative viewpoint VP58 Belladrum **(Visualisation 7.58: Viewpoint 58: Belladrum** & **Visualisation THC-22: Viewpoint 58: Belladrum**) Receptor group can be found on **Pages 1, 2, 3** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a rural wooded landscape with potential mid to occasional far-distance rural views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High**. Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant but contains few detracting features. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Residents are located on low lying ground within Belladrum, between the A833 and Black Wood. Receptors are well contained by mixed woodland and forestry, which interrupts and heavily filters views northwest, with the background of many mid-distance views formed by woodland to the west of the A833. Some areas of Belladrum afford more far-distance panoramic views across northwest to Tòrr Mòr and distant hills beyond. Views are generally well contained and attractive with few detracting features apart from the A833 for some receptors. View During Construction Construction activity in the valley would not be readily perceived, although the use of cranes and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be distracting movements in the landscape where open views are afforded. The northern section of Belladrum, being in closer proximity to the proposed construction works, is likely to experience a greater degree of visual exposure to construction activities. This includes partial visibility of lower-level construction activities through existing trees from upper storeys, as well as intermittent views of construction works potentially appearing skylined across The Aird. The potential activity and movement of helicopters would also be distinctive in the generally tranquil landscape, but transient and very short-term. For the majority of receptors, the magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. For those in closest proximity to the north (approx. 10 residences), the magnitude of change is assessed as **Low to Medium.** The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be short-term. For those receptors in closest proximity to the north, efects are identified as **Moderate Adverse** but **non-significant** as construction works would be partially screened by intervening vegetation and only intermittently visible through the wooded landscape. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would not be readily perceptible in the mid to far-distance where it crosses the River Beauly valley on lower ground. Many views remain heavily filtered or interrupted by intervening trees, even in winter. Where visible, the Proposed Development would generally be backdropped by more distant hills and vegetation. In some more open views, or where receptors are in closer proximity, the Proposed Development would appear in the skyline above the tree lines beyond the A833 – where it crosses higher ground on the approach into Fanellan – as well as where if crosses up The Aird. For most receptors, the magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible to Low**. For those in closest proximity to the north (approx. 10 residences), the magnitude of change is assessed as **Low to Medium.** The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term. For those receptors in closest proximity to the north, effects are identified as **Moderate Adverse** but **non-significant** as the Proposed Development would generally be backdropped by more hills and vegetation, with partial screening by intervening vegetation, with the Proposed Development impacting only a small portion of the view. *Summer* In summer months, intervening mixed woodland and field boundary trees would provide further screening, slightly reducing the visibility of the Proposed Development. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible** for most receptors, and **Low** for those in closest proximity to the north. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Low** **Low to Medium** (closest 10 receptors) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Negligible to Low** **Low to Medium** (closest 10 receptors) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Negligible** **Low** (closest 10 receptors)	During Construction **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) **Moderate Adverse** (non-significant, closest 10 receptors) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) **Moderate Adverse** (non-significant, closest 10 receptors) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Minor Adverse** (non-significant) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant, closest 10 receptors)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
THC-R-10	**Tomnacross, Ardendrain, Foxhole** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 145) Representative viewpoint VP6 Kiltarlity (**Visualisation 7.6: Viewpoint 6: Kiltarlity & Visualisation THC-6: Viewpoint 6: Kiltarlity**) Receptor group can be found on **Pages 2 & 4** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a rural wooded landscape with potential mid to far-distance views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High**. Value The views are not identified as nationally or regionally significant, but they contain few detracting features. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Residents are located within Tomnacross and Ardendrain on either side of the well wooded A833 and Belladrum Burn corridor, in between Boblainy Forest and The Aird. Receptors are generally well contained by mixed woodland and large areas of forestry, which interrupt and heavily filter views north. Some residential receptors to the north and south of Ardendrain are slightly more elevated and afforded broader views northwest and northeast, with distant hills visible in the background, where gaps in surrounding trees allow. Views are well contained and attractive with few detracting features apart from the A833. View During Construction Construction activity would not be readily perceived across the River Beauly valley, although construction of the upper portions through use of cranes and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be more readily noticeable due to the uncharacteristic movement and height on the skyline. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be a barely perceptible feature in the mid to far-distance to the north, northwest and northeast for those few residential receptors with a more open, elevated outlook. The Proposed Development would likely be backdropped against distant hills and forestry to the north and seen against existing OHLs associated with the existing Beauly Substation in the background of views. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* In summer months, intervening mixed woodland field boundary trees would provide some further screening to already well screened views. The magnitude of change is considered to remain **Negligible.** The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Negligible** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Negligible** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Negligible**	During Construction **Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Minor Adverse** (non-significant)
THC-R-11	**Beauly & Beauly south** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 350) Representative viewpoints VP4 Beauly (**Visualisation 7.4: Viewpoint 4: Beauly & Visualisation THC-4: Viewpoint 4: Beauly); and** **VP15 Culduthel Mains Road, Inverness** **(Visualisation 7.15: Viewpoint 15: Culduthel Mains Road, Inverness & Visualisation THC-15: Viewpoint 15: Culduthel Mains**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and those on the southwestern extent of Beauly have an appreciation of a rural wooded river valley. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High** Value The view is not identified as regionally or locally significant. Views for those on the southwestern extent of Beauly contain few detracting features. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Residents are located within Beauly, immediately west of the River Beauly and adjacent to the Far North railway line. Receptors on the southwestern edge of Beauly have a range of outlooks from properties and their curtilages, including open and direct views to oblique and / or screened views. Views typically look south / southwest beyond the railway line towards the site of the Proposed Development. Views are across large fields in the foreground with roadside trees, and across an attractive, well wooded river valley in the mid ground with far-distance views of hills including The Aird to the southeast and Tòrr Mòr to the southwest. Existing OHLs can be seen largely backclothed by vegetation and distant hills, although occasionally visible above intervening trees, particularly to the to the southwest when running on higher ground from the north into Beauly Substation, but they are not a dominant feature in the mid-distance of broad, rural views. Some residential receptors in properties to the south of Beauly, and on the southern edge of Beauly slightly set back with open space to their front (such as Maple Vale) fronting in the direction of the site of the Proposed Development, would have direct, although interrupted, views across farmland to the south, particularly from the first floor, between intervening houses and garden vegetation towards the well-treed River Beauly corridor and the site of the Proposed Development area beyond. View During Construction Construction activity, and potentially some loss of tree canopies around the River Beauly and over The Aird, would be perceptible above and beyond intervening trees. Use of cranes and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would introduce uncharacteristic movement into the landscape and skyline in the mid and far-distance views, although low-level access works and working areas would be largely screened. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low to Medium**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be short-term. Effects are identified as **Moderate Adverse** but **non-significant** due to the limited extent of construction activity likely to be visible in the view, the screening of low-level activity, and construction of towers likely to be perceived alongside existing OHLs. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be a perceptible feature in the mid-distance above intervening tree lines beyond the River Beauly corridor for those residential receptors on the edge of Beauly or with some open views towards the south. The Proposed Development would be visible across a wide portion of the view and in combination with the adjacent existing OHL, would increase the overall presence of OHL infrastructure into the landscape in the mid-distance, potentially with a degree of wirescaping. The removal of the existing 132 kV OHL towers immediately to the fore of the Proposed Development in views would slightly offset the impact of the	During Construction **Low to Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Low to Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Low**	During Construction **Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
	Road, Inverness) Receptor group can be found on **Pages 1** & **3** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors** &: **Viewpoint Locations**		introduction of new taller towers, but a degree of wirescaping may be seen in small portions of some views. The focus of broad views into surrounding farmland and the wooded river valley would not substantially change, and whilst the Proposed Development would be largely backclothed by distant forestry and hills within The Aird, some towers are likely to be skylined due to relative proximity and the presence of flat, open land to the south of Beauly. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low to Medium**. The geographical extent would be low to medium, and the duration would be long-term. Effects are identified as **Moderate Adverse** but **non-significant** as the Proposed Development would generally be backdropped by more distant hills and vegetation, lower-level sections of towers screened by intervening vegetation, and towers seen in combination with existing OHLs, Removal of the existing 132 kV OHL would also slightly lessen the impact. *Summer* The Proposed Development would continue to be visible in the mid-distance but some additional screening would be afforded from intervening deciduous vegetation. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low to medium, and the duration would be long-term.		
THC-R-12	**Teandalloch, Ardnagrask, Aultvaich** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 40) Representative viewpoint VP5 Ardnagrask (**Visualisation 7.5: Viewpoint 5: Ardnagrask & Visualisation THC-5: Viewpoint 5: Ardnagrask**) Receptor group can be found on **Page 1** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have a distant appreciation of the wider rural landscape, with mid to far-distance views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High.** Value The views are not identified as nationally or regionally significant, but they contain few detracting features in a rural setting. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Residents are located between Rheindown Wood and Muir of Ord to the north of the River Beauly and approximately 4 km from the site of the Proposed Development. The slightly elevated location in the foothills of Cnoc Croit na Maoile and Creag na Manachainn affords many receptors open, panoramic mid to far-distance views south across gently undulating, low-lying farmland with distant hills associated with The Aird forming the background of views to the southeast. The Beauly Firth to the east is also visible for some receptors. There are few detracting features within attractive, rural views except existing 132 kV and 275 kV OHLs clearly visible crossing north-south through Ardnagrask and Teandalloch. View During Construction Construction activity would not be readily perceived beyond the River Beauly, although the use of cranes and / or helicopters would be more noticeable, particularly over The Aird where they would be visible moving objects in the skyline. Ground-level construction works, and lower lying sections of the Proposed Development would not be readily perceptible, with any glimpses backclothed by vegetation and hills. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be a barely perceptible feature in the far-distance to the south and southeast within rural, attractive and panoramic views. The Proposed Development would be backclothed by hills and vegetation to the south, although where it crosses The Aird, some towers may be skylined and distantly discernible. The removal of trees for the OC and management felling may also be noticeable as an artificial straight line through the woodland. Even so, the Proposed Development would not detract from the baseline characteristics and wider panoramic, attractive views, being visible in a very small portion of the view only, and at distance. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* In summer months, intervening trees would provide a small degree of additional screening, but the Proposed Development would remain distantly perceivable, particularly crossing The Aird. The magnitude of change remains **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term. View During Operational Phase Year 15 (Summer) Across The Aird. areas of management felling replanted back to the edge of the OC, and forest edge fringe planting within the OC (refer to **Appendix 7.6: Forestry Landscape Mitigation Principles**) would be likely to have re-established in this time. The replanted forestry and forest edge fringe planting would be distantly perceptible as it would close the large gaps in tree canopy cover over The Aird, but the Proposed Development would remain distantly perceivable. The magnitude of change remains **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Negligible** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Negligible** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Negligible** Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Negligible**	During Construction **Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Minor Adverse** (non-significant)
THC-R-13	**Residents along the A862, including Dunballoch, Meikle Phoineas, Cononbank Farm** & **Drumreach**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a rural, undulating landscape with near to mid-distance views. The susceptibility of the receptor is	Existing View Residents of detached individual properties are intermittently spaced and located along the A862 corridor between Beauly and Drumchardine. Overlooking the A862 and with an awareness of two existing OHLs in close proximity, most views are southwards across the A862 from slightly elevated locations on mid slopes, although those from Beauly Holiday Park to the A833 junction are on slightly lower-lying ground. All have typically expansive, open and attractive views, culminating in the background hills and forestry associated with The Aird. Field boundary trees, garden vegetation and hedgerows provide some limited additional screening in summer months. Detracting features include existing 132 kV and 275 kV OHLs and the A862.	During Construction **High**	During Construction **Major Adverse** (significant)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
	(approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 21) Representative viewpoints VP8 Easter Moniack (**Visualisation 7.8: Viewpoint 8: Easter Moniack & Visualisation THC-8: Viewpoint 8: Easter Moniack); and** **VP54 A862, Kirkhill (Visualisation 7.54: Viewpoint 54: A862, Kirkhill & Visualisation THC-20: Viewpoint 54: A862, Kirkhill**) Receptor group can be found on **Pages 1, 2** & **3** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	recorded as **High**. Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant. Although it contains the detracting features of existing 132 kV and 275 kV OHLs and the A862, views towards hills to the south will be valued. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **High**	View During Construction Felling of managed commercial forestry to accommodate the OC within Long Wood, and within and beyond the OC over The Aird, as well as construction of temporary access tracks through adjacent fields would be noticeable, although less so than the construction of the towers via cranes or the potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing. The construction activity would create additional movement and height in the relatively tranquil landscape and in close proximity to receptors. The magnitude of change is assessed as **High**. The geographical extent would be high, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be a prominent feature from properties, appearing in close proximity, including to the front of some properties. Cononbank Farm and Drumreach would be 'boxed in' between the existing 275 kV OHL and the Proposed Development, although the removal of towers associated with the existing Beauly to Knocknagael 132 kV OHL to the north of the A862 would slightly offset the impact of the introduction of new taller towers from the Proposed Development. Residential receptors west of Long Wood (including those at Dunballoch) would view the Proposed Development in parallel with the retained existing OHL. The parallelling of towers would help contain the structures in views, although a degree of wirescaping is likely to be experienced. Two lines of towers, OHL and two angle towers within fields to the south of the A862 would be viewed in full or on the skyline to the southeast, adversely impacting attractive views to the hills beyond. New towers would be openly visible in the foreground, in their entirety and appear in the skyline above the tree lines and background hill forms. Residential receptors around Meikle Phoineas would have the Proposed Development and existing OHL to the rear of the properties, albeit in close proximity, but the majority of residential receptors along the A862 would see existing OHL to the rear of properties, and the Proposed Development to the front. Despite an existing awareness of nearby OHLs, the Proposed Development would be in close proximity and cross a large portion of the view. The magnitude of change is assessed as **High**. The geographical extent would be high, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* Summer foliage of field and road boundary trees and hedgerows would offer a small degree of additional visual screening for residential receptors looking towards the Proposed Development. However, the openness of existing views would result in numerous new towers continuing to be openly visible across surrounding fields and in the skyline of views. The magnitude of change therefore remains **High**. The geographical extent would be high, and the duration would be long-term. View During Operational Phase Year 15 (Summer) Management felling planting of commercial forestry back to the edge of the OC and forest edge fringe planting (refer to **Appendix 7.6: Forestry Landscape Mitigation Principles**) across The Aird would be likely to have re-established in this time. The proposed forest edge fringe planting would soften the appearance of the cleared, straight-line tract of forestry within the OC by softening the artificially straight edges of the cleared forest corridor and making its appearance more organic and natural in the landscape. The replanted management felling may help partially screen the lower portions of some individual towers but the Proposed Development would remain highly visible. The overall effect is unlikely to change as a result and is anticipated to remain as **High**. The geographical extent would be high, and the duration would be long-term.	Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **High** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **High** Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **High**	Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Major Adverse** (significant)
THC-R-14	**Windhill** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 137) Representative viewpoints VP4 Beauly (**Visualisation 7.4: Viewpoint 4: Beauly & Visualisation THC-4: Viewpoint 4: Beauly); and** **VP5 Ardnagrask**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of the attractive, rural, undulating landscape with both local and far-distance views. The susceptibility of receptors is recorded as **High**. Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant but contains few detracting features in a rural setting within the Highlands. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**.	Existing View Residents are located within Windhill on low ground to the north of the River Beauly, south of Muir of Ord and approximately 4 km from the site of the Proposed Development. Many receptors are well contained within residential areas (such as The Carins and along the B9169) although residential receptors to the southern end of Windhill in particular (including those in detached properties on Windhill Road) have mid to far-distance views all around, including south towards distant hills associated with The Aird. Detracting features include the A862 and industrial units but views out are generally attractive and far reaching. View During Construction Construction activity would not be readily perceived beyond the River Beauly. Cranes and the potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be noticeable on the skyline at distance, but little else would be perceptible apart from potentially a large area of management felling over The Aird. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible to low, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be a barely perceptible feature in the far-distance to the south. Where visible, it would be distantly perceived above intervening treelines within a very small portion of the view but would be largely backclothed by hills and vegetation associated with The Aird, where an area of cleared forestry may be noticeable. The Proposed Development would not detract from the	During Construction **Negligible** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Negligible** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Negligible**	During Construction **Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Minor Adverse**

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
	(Visualisation 7.5: Viewpoint 5: Ardnagrask & Visualisation THC-5: Viewpoint 5: Ardnagrask) Receptor group can be found on **Pages 1 & 3** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Sensitivity **High**	baseline view. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* In summer months, intervening trees would provide a small degree of additional screening, such that the Proposed Development would be barely perceptible, or remain only distantly perceivable above intervening treelines for some residents in the far-distance. The magnitude of change would remain **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term. View During Operational Phase Year 15 (Summer) Areas of management felling replanted back to the edge of the OC following installation of the OHL and forest edge fringe planting (refer to **Appendix 7.6: Forestry Landscape Mitigation Principles**) across The Aird is likely to have re-established in this time. The replanted forestry and forest edge fringe planting may be distantly perceptible as it would close the large gaps in tree canopy cover over The Aird, but the Proposed Development would remain distantly perceivable. The magnitude of change remains **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term.	Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Negligible**	(non-significant) Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Minor Adverse** (non-significant)
THC-R-15	**Muir of Ord** (approximate number of residential receptors with a potential view on the edge of the settlement = 400) Representative viewpoint VP5 Ardnagrask (**Visualisation 7.5: Viewpoint 5: Ardnagrask & Visualisation THC-5: Viewpoint 5: Ardnagrask**) Receptor group can be found on **Pages 1 & 3** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents within Muir of Ord to the west of Beauly Firth. Residents of dwellings at home are likely to have an appreciation for the attractive, rural surrounding landscape. The susceptibility of receptors is recorded as **High**. Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant but contains limited detracting features. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Residents are located within Muir of Ord on slightly rising, well wooded arable farmland to the west of the Beauly Firth. Views are mostly contained by surrounding trees, garden vegetation, woodland and buildings, although distant views south towards the site of the Proposed Development are experienced by a few receptors but generally restricted to the tops of distant hills and heavily filtered or interrupted by vegetation or built form. There are few detracting features. View During Construction Construction activity would not be perceptible beyond the River Beauly, except perhaps the use of cranes for tower installation and the potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing over The Aird, together with a large area of management felling. This would be very short-term and temporary and would not readily detract from the landscape quality or background view. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would not be readily perceptible for receptors within Muir of Ord in the distance to the south, although towers crossing The Aird may be distantly just perceptible in some views and potentially an area of cleared forestry. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* Views would be more contained in summer by intermediate surrounding trees and the Proposed Development would be imperceptible. The magnitude of change is assessed as **No change**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term. View During Operational Phase Year 15 (Summer) Views would continue to be screened from Muir of Ord by year 15 summer and therefore this has not been assessed.	View During Construction **Negligible** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Negligible** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **No Change**	View During Construction **Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Neutral**

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
THC-R-16	**Balchraggan, Cabrich** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 44) Representative viewpoint VP7 Balchraggan (**Visualisation 7.7: Viewpoint 7: Balchraggan & Visualisation THC-7: Viewpoint 7: Balchraggan**) Receptor group can be found on **Pages 1, 2 & 3** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a rural, undulating landscape with near to mid-distance views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High**. Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant. Although it contains detracting features of existing OHLs and traffic on the A862, views across wooded farmland will be valued. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Residents of detached individual properties within Balchraggan and on the mid slopes of Creag na Nighinn (c 20 to 60 m AOD) are afforded relatively elevated, open views north and northeast across rural farmed floodplains towards the River Beauly / Beauly Firth and rising hills beyond. Fields bound by mature trees and blocks of forestry give the feel of a well wooded landscape and this, along with hills to the west, south, and east, create some sense of enclosure. Due to the local topography and woodland on hill slopes to the west and south, in particular, many views are focussed north or north-eastwards. Forestry beyond the A862 forms the background of the view along with more distant hills, with traffic on the A862 visible in the mid ground. Existing towers are apparent across the landscape, some impinging into the skyline, particularly in views from lower elevations. Intervening deciduous field trees offer slightly more screening in summer months, but the A862 and existing OHL remain detracting features within otherwise attractive views for residents. View During Construction Lower-level construction activity would be visible in some views, whilst temporary access tracks through fields to the north would also be noticeable. The use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would also be particularly distracting, resulting in conspicuous, uncharacteristic movement and activity in the mid-distance, and impinge into the skyline. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium to High**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be openly perceptible and appear in the near to mid-distance of views. It would be seen traversing agricultural fields to the north in combination with the existing retained OHL, which lies 200-300 m beyond. This would create a degree of wirescaping for some receptors. The removal of the existing Beauly to Knocknagael 132 kV OHL to the north of the A862 would slightly offset the impact of the introduction of larger, taller towers, but the new towers would be visible to some in their entirety and appear in the skyline of views above existing retained towers. The lower portions of the Proposed Development would be backclothed by surrounding fields and woodland. While detracting elements of the A862 and the existing OHL would remain visible for residents, the introduction of larger, taller towers within an otherwise attractive rural landscape would further deteriorate near to mid-distance views. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* Summer foliage of field boundary trees, garden vegetation and deciduous woodland blocks would offer a small degree of additional visual screening for residential receptors looking north and northeast. The Proposed Development would remain openly visible in the skyline and in combination with the existing OHL would remain a significant detracting feature. The magnitude of change is considered to remain **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Medium to High** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Medium**	During Construction **Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant)
THC-R-17	**Achnagairn, West Croft** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 38) Representative viewpoint VP54 A862, Kirkhill (**Visualisation 7.54: Viewpoint 54: A862, Kirkhill & Visualisation THC-20: Viewpoint 54: A862, Kirkhill**) Receptor group can	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a rural, undulating landscape with near to mid-distance views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High**. Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant. Although it contains detracting features of existing OHLs and the A862, views towards hills to the south will be valued. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity	Existing View Residents are located within Achnagairn, West Croft and along the B9164, south of Kirkhill and north of the A862. Properties in Achnagairn are well screened by dense woodland associated with Achnagairn Castle estate and afford heavily filtered views south only. Scorry Breac and Wester Kirkhill on the B9164 afford elevated first floor views south, filtered or interrupted by intervening field and garden vegetation. Residential receptors in properties in West Croft are slightly elevated above the A862 and afford an open outlook from the rear, although property boundary and field vegetation contain views. Parallel OHLs are seen in the foreground of views and an awareness of traffic on the A862 immediately beyond substantially detracts from otherwise rural, attractive views towards hills and forestry to the south. Field boundary and roadside trees and hedgerows provide screening in summer months. View During Construction Construction activity and temporary access tracks through fields to the south would be noticeable, including the use of any cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing creating additional movement and height in the landscape. The proximity of the Proposed Development (approx. 250 m at its closest) would result in clear visibility of construction of the nearest towers for most residential receptors and impinge on the skyline. Removal of the existing Beauly to Knocknagael 132 kV OHL would also bring construction activity into close proximity to many residential receptors. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium to High**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be barely perceptible within heavily filtered views from receptors on the southern edge of Achnagairn, perceptible in the mid-distance from properties on the B9164 and appear as a prominent feature from properties in West	During Construction **Medium to High** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Medium to High** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Medium**	During Construction **Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
	be found on **Page 3** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	High	Croft. The Proposed Development would appear in near distant, slightly elevated views from West Croft, immediately beyond the A862 and would be seen in combination with the existing retained OHL and for most residential receptors, is likely to create a wirescaping effect in the view. New towers would be viewed in the skyline, some openly visible in their entirety, with an angle tower noticeable in fields to the south of the A862, further deteriorating attractive views towards hills and forestry associated with The Aird. The Proposed Development would appear as an artificially straight line across The Aird, further drawing attention to its location and the removal of trees for the OC and management felling would also be noticeable as artificial straight lines through the woodland over The Aird. The removal of the existing Beauly to Knocknagael 132 kV OHL to the north of the A862 would slightly offset the impact of the introduction of new taller towers. Despite an existing awareness of nearby OHLs and the A862, the magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium to High**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* Summer foliage of field and road boundary trees, hedgerows, and garden and estate vegetation would offer additional visual screening for many residential receptors looking towards the Proposed Development, while others would retain a more open outlook. New towers in the near and mid-distance would continue to be openly visible through fields to the south of the A862 and would appear in the skyline of views. the magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. View During Operational Phase Year 15 (Summer) Areas of management felling replanted back to the edge of the OC following installation of the OHL and forest edge fringe planting (refer to **Appendix 7.6: Forestry Landscape Mitigation Principles**) across The Aird is likely to have re-established in this time. The replanted forestry and forest edge fringe planting would noticeably close the large gaps in tree canopy cover over The Aird in mid-distant views, and the proposed forest edge fringe planting would soften the appearance of the cleared, straight-line tract of forestry within the OC by softening the artificially straight edges of the cleared forest corridor and making its appearance more organic and natural in the landscape. This re-planting, however, would not soften the foreground views of the Proposed Development, where it would remain highly visible and in close proximity to receptors. The magnitude of change is assessed as remaining **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term.	Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Medium**	Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant)
THC-R-18	**Easter Moniack** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 28) Representative viewpoint VP8 Easter Moniack (**Visualisation 7.8: Viewpoint 8: Easter Moniack & Visualisation THC-8: Viewpoint 8: Easter Moniack**) Receptor group can be found on **Page 3** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home to the south of the A862 and are likely to have an appreciation of both well wooded farmland, an existing OHL and filtered views to traffic on the A862. Detached properties have the potential for open north facing views with an appreciation of the surrounding Highlands landscape. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High**. Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant but contains few detracting features apart from a filtered occasional appreciation of traffic on the A862. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Residents are located within Easter Moniack immediately south of the A862 and on the southern edge of the broad River Beauly valley within low lying, well wooded farmland. Receptors are backdropped by sharply rising landform associated with The Aird immediately south with a farmed, wooded river valley occupied by the A862 to the north. Views north are near to mid-distance, often framed or filtered by belts of deciduous woodland, distinctive mature field boundary trees and property curtilage vegetation, giving a moderate sense of enclosure within low lying views. Detracting features include filtered views to moving traffic on the A862 and the existing 132 kV and 275 kV OHLs to the north of the A862 with towers appearing in the skyline. Residential receptors within detached properties, including Lower Achnagairn and Wester Moniack, closer to the A862, afford more open views north where not heavily contained by woodland. Moniack Castle and Reelig House are well contained by deciduous woodland, particularly in summer, but retain some far-distance views through trees to the northwest as well as southeast towards The Aird. View During Construction Construction activity, felling and temporary access tracks through fields to the north would be clearly noticeable and in very close proximity, particularly for those nearer the A862. The use of cranes and helicopters would be particularly distracting and artificial in the local landscape. Construction activity is likely to be visible to the north, east and southeast up The Aird, including areas of management felling. For receptors with open surrounding views and those in closest proximity to the Proposed Development, the magnitude of change is assessed as **High.** For those receptors more enclosed by vegetation, the magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium to High.** The geographical extent would be medium to high, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be a prominent feature in the foreground of views and would be openly visible in the near-distance from properties in Easter Moniack, particularly from those closest to the A862. New towers would form prominent vertical features in the skyline of relatively enclosed and framed views north, with one angle tower adjacent to the A862 being particularly prominent and openly visible for nearby residents. The Proposed Development would be seen in the foreground of the existing retained 275 kV OHL, which runs on slightly higher ground to the north beyond the A862, resulting in a wirescaping effect in an otherwise attractive view. Even for receptors with more enclosed views, where the Proposed Development crosses The Aird, towers would be visible between and above the treeline over a short section, and through areas of felled forestry. The removal of the existing Beauly to Knocknagael 132 kV OHL to the north of the A862 would slightly offset the impact of the introduction of new taller towers, but even so, the scale of the	During Construction **High** (open views) **Medium to High** (enclosed views) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **High** (open views) **Medium to High** (enclosed views)	During Construction **Major Adverse** (significant, open views) **Major Adverse** (significant, enclosed views) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Major Adverse** (significant, open views) **Major Adverse** (significant, enclosed views)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
			Proposed Development and proximity to receptors with open outlooks would result in a magnitude of change being assessed as **High.** For those receptors more enclosed by vegetation, the magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium to High.** The geographical extent would be medium to high, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* Intervening field boundary trees, curtilage vegetation and surrounding woodland would offer additional screening of the Proposed Development in summer months from those properties more enclosed by vegetation but would still be highly perceptible in the low-lying landscape for the nearest residential receptors. For those residential receptors with open views, the magnitude of change is assessed as remaining **High**, but for those with more enclosed views, the magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium to high, and the duration would be long-term. View During Operational Phase Year 15 (Summer) Areas of management felling replanted back to the edge of the OC, as well as forest edge fringe planting within the OC across The Aird (refer to **Appendix 7.6: Forestry Landscape Mitigation Principles**) would be likely to have re-established in this time. The replanted forestry would noticeably close the large gaps in tree canopy cover over The Aird and the proposed forest edge fringe planting would soften the appearance of the cleared, straight-line tract of forestry within the OC by softening the artificially straight edges of the cleared forest corridor and making its appearance more organic and natural in the landscape. The replantiing, however, would only be noticeable in mid-distant and background views, and the Proposed Development would remain highly visible in the foreground of views. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining **High**, but for those with more enclosed views, the magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium to high, and the duration would be long-term.	Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **High** (open views) **Medium** (enclosed views) Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **High** (open views) **Medium** (enclosed views)	Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Major Adverse** (significant, open views) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant, enclosed views) Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Major Adverse** (significant, open views) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant, enclosed views)
THC-R-19	**Knockbain, Rebeg** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 30) Representative viewpoint VP9 Knockbain (**Visualisation 7.9: Viewpoint 9: Knockbain & Visualisation THC-9: Viewpoint 9: Knockbain**) Receptor group can be found on **Pages 3** & **4** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a rural, undulating landscape with elevated near to mid-distance views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High** Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant. Views across attractive wooded and rural farmland landscape with few detracting features will be valued, as will views towards Reelig Glen. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium to High**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Residents of detached individual properties within Knockbain and Rebeg on the mid slopes of Tor Clunes and Mam a' Chatha (approx. 40 to 110 m AOD) afford elevated but heavily filtered views north and northeast into farmed plains and woodland. Surrounding trees strongly contain views, particularly in summer, but the elevated position of properties results in opportunities for broader views from the first floor of some properties. The well wooded landscape gives a strong sense of enclosure and remoteness, with the A862 not openly evident to the north. Views are generally focussed north and distant hills and woodland within the farmed plains form the background of views, with existing 275 kV OHLs perceptible in the mid-distance, generally backclothed by hills and vegetation but some being skylined. View During Construction Construction activity would be perceptible in the mid-distance to the north, crossing northwest to northeast across the view. Ground level construction works are unlikely to be perceptible, being largely screened from view, but construction of the towers through use of cranes, and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be noticeable movements and uncharacteristic features on the skyline of mid-distant views and in a small proportion of the view. Felling of trees across The Aird would also be noticeable The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as **Low to Medium.** The geographical extent would be low to medium, and the duration would be short-term. Effects are identified as **Moderate Adverse** but **non-significant** as higher level construction activity is only likely to be perceived together with existing OHLs and visible across a relatively small oportion of the view and at a little distance. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be readily perceptible and appear in the mid-distance of views above intervening tree lines. It would be seen traversing arable fields to the north in combination with the existing OHL, which lies 200-300 m beyond, resulting in a degree of wirescaping effect for receptors. The lower portions of the Proposed Development would not be readily visible, but the upper portions would be skylined in many views. The foreground and background of views would remain unchanged while the midground of the view would have new vertical features perceptible, introducing additional detracting elements within an otherwise rural and attractive outlook. Many views would remain heavily filtered by surrounding trees, but gaps between leafless branches, and between trees or properties would allow views northwest, north and northeast. The removal of trees for the OC and management felling would be noticeable as artificial straight lines through the woodland over The Aird to the east. The nature of views would not substantially change due to the existing OHLs being perceptible in views, but the Proposed Development, where visible, would form a noticeable and discordant element in views, impinging into the skyline. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as **Low to Medium**. The geographical extent would be low to medium, and the duration would be long-term. Effects are identified as **Moderate Adverse** but **non-significant** as lower portions of the Proposed Development would not be readily	During Construction **Low to Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Low to Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Low** Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Low**	During Construction **Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
			perceptible whilst upper portions would be seen in conjunction with existing OHLs. *Summer* Summer foliage of field boundary trees, surrounding woodland and garden vegetation would all offer additional visual screening for residential receptors, although the Proposed Development would remain visible in the skyline in some views. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low to medium, and the duration would be long-term. View During Operational Phase Year 15 (Summer) Areas of management felling replanted back to the edge of the OC following installation of the OHL and forest edge fringe planting across The Aird to the east (refer to **Appendix 7.6: Forestry Landscape Mitigation Principles**) would be likely to have re-established in this time. The replanted forestry would noticeably close the large gaps in tree canopy cover over The Aird and the proposed forest edge fringe planting would soften the appearance of the cleared, straight-line tract of forestry within the OC by softening the artificially straight edges of the cleared forest corridor and making its appearance more organic and natural in the landscape. Even so, the Proposed Development would remain visible in the skyline across a small ot moderate portion of some views. The magnitude of change is assessed as remaining **Low**. The geographical extent would be low to medium, and the duration would be long-term.		
THC-R-20	**Kirkhill** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 600) Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor group can be found on **Pages 1 & 3** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have appreciation of a rural, undulating landscape with near to mid-distance views within the scenic Highlands. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High**. Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally or locally significant and it contains a number of detracting features including existing OHLs and the A862. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Residents are located within Kirkhill, off the B9164. Many residential receptors are well screened by other surrounding properties and contained by surrounding vegetation, but most, such as those on Mansefield Park, afford more distant, filtered views south, and with views out to the tops of surrounding hills. An existing 275 kV OHL crosses through Kirkhill so is readily visible in the near to mid-distance, with towers prominent through adjacent fields. Two existing OHLs to the south of the village are also perceptible in some views, backclothed by hills beyond and generally screened by intervening trees. The well forested hills of The Aird, including Phoineas Hill and Croc na Moine, can be seen in the distance to the south and southeast. View During Construction Lower-level construction activity to the south would not be readily perceived, although the movement from potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, and the presence of cranes for tower installation, would be visible on the skyline of views, particularly from upper storey windows, disrupting the rural quality of the landscape. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as **Low.** The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would not be readily perceptible within many views due to surrounding vegetation and buildings, but where views south are afforded, particularly from upper storey windows, there are likely to be glimpsed views across the landscape of the Proposed Development, albeit largely in the valley and backclothed by surrounding hills and vegetation. Crossing of The Aird may result in some towers being skylined in some views, and the artificially straight line through woodland may draw the eye. For those receptors with a view south the Proposed Development is likely to be seen within filtered views, beyond existing OHLs in the foreground and midground, and largely backclothed. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* Summer foliage of field boundary and roadside trees and hedgerows would offer a small degree of additional visual screening within far-distance views from properties with a view southward. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as **Negligible to Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Negligible to Low**	During Construction **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant)
THC-R-21	**Newton** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 35 Representative viewpoint VP10 A832, Newton (**Visualisation 7.10:**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents to the north of Beauly Firth. Residents of dwellings at home are likely to have an appreciation for the surrounding scenic rural landscape, the Beauly Firth, and wooded landscape beyond the Beauly Firth with potential far-distance views south. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High**	Existing View Residents are located between Tarradale House and Newton along on the A832, on low lying arable farmland to the north of the Beauly Firth. Distant views south are relatively open and extensive with occasional intervening boundary vegetation. Rural farmland characterises the foreground of the view with the Beauly Firth to the foot of well wooded hills beyond, along with hills associated with The Aird and Boblainy Forest seen in the background. There are few detracting features apart from existing 132 kV and 275 kV OHLs perceptible on the mid slopes of hills beyond the Beauly Firth and local utilitarian farm buildings. View During Construction Construction activity would not be readily perceptible in the distance beyond the Beauly Firth, although use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing may be distantly perceptible above the hills and crossing The Aird. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be short-term.	During Construction **Negligible** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Negligible**	During Construction **Minor adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Minor adverse** (non-significant)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
	Viewpoint 10: A832, Newton & Visualisation THC-10: Viewpoint 10: A832, Newton) Receptor group can be found on **Page 3** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant, but it contains few detracting features and views across the Beauly Firth would be valued. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium to High**. Sensitivity **High**	View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would not be readily perceptible in the far-distance, broad views south, although it may be discernible traversing the upper slopes of hills associated with The Aird. Towers would generally be backclothed by hills and vegetation, but some may be visible in the skyline over the top of Cnoc na Moine and hills associated with The Aird. The top of towers may be discernible above distant tree lines or the OC may be visible, appearing as an artificial straight line through large areas of woodland and coniferous forestry. Due to the distance of view, and small portion of the view changed, the overall magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* In summer months, the Proposed Development would remain distantly perceivable above intervening treelines or as an artificial line through woodland for some residents in the far-distance. The magnitude of change remains **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term. View During Operational Phase Year 15 (Summer) Areas of management felling replanted back to the edge of the OC and forest edge fringe planting across The Aird (refer to **Appendix 7.6: Forestry Landscape Mitigation Principles**) would be likely to have re-established in this time. The replanted forestry and forest edge fringe planting would be distantly perceptible as it would close the large gaps in tree canopy cover over The Aird, but the Proposed Development would remain distantly perceivable. The magnitude of change remains **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term.	Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Negligible** Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Negligible**	Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Minor adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Minor adverse** (non-significant)
THC-R-22	**Pine Chalets, Ardmachdonie, Newtonhill (south), Altnacardich (south)** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 38) Representative viewpoint VP12 Pine Chalets, Newtonhill (**Visualisation 7.12: Viewpoint 12: Pine Chalets, Newtonhill & Visualisation THC-12: Viewpoint 12: Pine Chalets, Newtonhill**) Receptor group can be found on **Page 3** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a rural, wooded landscape with elevated near to far-distance views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High**. Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant. There are panoramic views north towards the Beauly Firth as well as tranquil, well wooded views with few detracting features. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium to High**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Residents of detached individual properties are located to the south of Newtonhill, at Ardmachdonie, and to the south of Altnacardich (southeast of Newtonhill) on the mid to rising slopes of hills associated with The Aird. Many of the properties afford elevated panoramic views north across wooded and farmed plains towards the Beauly Firth in the distance, with rising hills beyond but many views are also heavily filtered or interrupted by surrounding, largely coniferous, forestry. Views towards the site of the Proposed Development are generally narrow and contained by surrounding forestry, and the rising, well wooded hills of The Aird largely block views to the south and east. There is a strong sense of enclosure and a good sense of remoteness. There are few detracting features, save for wood poles / wires and OHL visible in the valley below, backdropped by vegetation and hills. View During Construction Construction activity, including substantial areas of felling and temporary access tracks would be readily noticeable for nearby residential receptors, particularly towards Altnacardich. Use of cranes and potential use of helicopters would add uncharacteristic height and movement into the skyline, with ground-level views available for nearby properties opened up by the extensive felling. Whilst many residential receptors would only view the works obliquely, the proximity and magnitude of activity would temporarily alter the baseline characteristics. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as **High**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be a prominent feature and appear in the near to mid-distance of views. Those receptors closest to the Proposed Development would view towers in their entirety and in the skyline above rising landform and surrounding forestry. Residential receptors slightly more distant would have some additional screening to create a narrower view but would still view the Proposed Development clearly on the skyline, and potentially would also view towers in their entirety. The Proposed Development would result in a new OC through blocks of existing forestry over The Aird and substantial clear felling would result in increased visibility to nearby towers, including angle towers (one near Ardmachdonie, one near Altnacardich), and a noticeable substantial change in forestry cover would remain (as replanting of management felled areas would not provide any screening by this stage). Due to the tranquil, rural, remote characteristics of the existing views, and a noticeable change in terms of forestry cover, the introduction of the Proposed Development in close proximity to receptors would result in a magnitude of change that is assessed as **High**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* The Proposed Development would continue to be readily visible in the foreground and above intervening trees in the near to mid-distance as the majority of trees in the area are coniferous. Whilst some slight increasing in foreground screening may be present in some views due to deciduous garden vegetation or roadside trees, the majority of views would remain similar to winter views. The	During Construction **High** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **High** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **High** Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Medium to High**	During Construction **Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Major Adverse** (significant)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
			magnitude of change would therefore remain as **High.** The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. View During Operational Phase Year 15 (Summer) Management felling planting back to the edge of the OC across The Aird is likely to have re-established in this time, along with forest edge fringe planting (refer to **Appendix 7.6: Forestry Landscape Mitigation Principles**). Proposed forest edge fringe planting would soften the appearance of the cleared, straight-line tract of forestry within the OC by softening the artificially straight edges of the cleared forest corridor and making its appearance more organic and natural in the landscape. The additional planting would help screen lower portions of towers through The Aird, particularly for residential receptors south of Altnacardich but the Proposed Development would remain highly visible. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium to High**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term.		
THC-R-23a	**Drumchardine, Inchmore, Holme, Craggach** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 69) Representative viewpoint VP11 Drumchardine (**Visualisation 7.11: Viewpoint 11: Drumchardine & Visualisation THC-11: Viewpoint 11: Drumchardine**) Receptor group can be found on **Page 3** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a rural, undulating landscape with near to mid-distance views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High**. Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant. Although it contains detracting features of existing OHLs and the A862, views southwest across wooded farmed plains are attractive. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Residents are located within Drumchardine, Inchmore, Holme, Craggach and Easter Craggach, on either side of the A862 to the southeast of Kirkhill. Properties generally have limited views south towards the Proposed Development, interrupted by roadside and garden vegetation and localised topography, as well as the steeply rising foothills of The Aird. A number of residential receptors are afforded far-distance views southwest across farmed, and well wooded and undulating fields, including those occupied by the Allt na Criche watercourse. Views are framed to the south by landform and forestry while to the north, distant hills across a wide field of view can be seen, including views towards the Beauly Firth. Existing OHLs are seen in the foreground or mid ground of views adding prominent detracting features into views, and an awareness of traffic on the A862 also detracts from otherwise attractive, albeit somewhat utilitarian, vistas. View During Construction Construction activity, felling and temporary access tracks through fields to the west would be particularly noticeable from Drumchardine, Inchmore, Holme and Craggach. The construction activity, including use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would add additional detracting elements into the landscape, whilst the works to remove the existing Beauly to Knocknagael 132 kV OHL would be within close proximity to receptors. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be noticeable within mid-distance views, appearing across a wide portion of many views as it traverses fields between the A862 and forestry within Craggach Wood on the lower slopes of The Aird to the south. The removal of the existing Beauly to Knocknagael 132 kV OHL within near-distance views would help to offset the impact of the introduction of new taller towers, but the Proposed Development would be visible in the skyline, with some towers visible in their entirety for a few receptors with views to the southwest, further deteriorating views and increasing the sense of wirescaping in the local area. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as **Low to Medium**. The geographical extent would be low to medium, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* Summer foliage of field and deciduous woodland vegetation would offer a small degree of additional visual screening for some residential receptors but the proportion of coniferous woodland, and the presence of the Proposed Development above the treeline would result in the Proposed Development remaining visible in the mid-distance in the skyline of views, even in summer. The magnitude of change remains as **Low to Medium**. The geographical extent would be low to medium, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Low to Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Low to Medium**	During Construction **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Moderate Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Moderate Adverse** (significant)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
THC-R-23b	**Lentran (west), Lentranhill, Englishton Muir** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 52) Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor group can be found on **Page 3** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a rural, undulating landscape with near to mid-distance views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High.** Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant and there are numerous detracting features in views, including existing 132 kV and 275 kV OHLs and the A862. Views south are across wooded farmed to forested uplands are attractive. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Residents are located to the west of Lentran, and at Lentranhill to the east of the A862, then further east at Englishton Muir. Residential receptors generally have limited views south towards the site of the Proposed Development, interrupted and filtered by roadside and garden vegetation and localised topography, as well as the steeply rising wooded foothills of the northern section of The Aird. A number of residential receptors afford far-distance views south across farmed, and well wooded and undulating fields, although the majority have views northwards, with southern views interrupted by woodland, including Holme Wood and Craggach Wood. Existing OHLs are strongly detracting features in the foreground or mid ground of views to the south, and an awareness of traffic on the A862 for those at Lentran also detracts from attractive vistas. View During Construction Construction activity, particularly management tree felling and installation of towers through use of cranes and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing across The Aird would be noticeable in the mid to far-distance, primarily beyond woodland blocks or above existing tree lines. Lower-level construction activity would be screened from view. Removal of the existing Beauly to Knocknagael 132 kV OHL would also be clearly noticeable in views due to its proximity. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low to Medium.** The geographical extent would be Low, and the duration would be short-term. Effects are identified as **Moderate Adverse** but **non-significant** as lower-level construction activity would be screened, long-distance views towards upper portions would be typically interrupted and across a small portion of the view. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be just noticeable within mid-distance views, where it crosses forestry within Craggach Wood and on the slopes of The Aird. The removal of existing towers associated with the 132 kV OHL within views would improve near-distance views, and help offset the impact of the introduction of new taller towers on the mid to distant skyline. The tops of towers are likely to remain visible in glimpsed views. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as **Negligible to Low**. The geographical extent would be negligible to low, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* Summer foliage of field and deciduous woodland vegetation would offer additional visual screening for some residential receptors, although the good proportion of coniferous woodland in mid to distant views remains to screen views. The Proposed Development would, however, remain visible in some oblique views above the treeline. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Low to Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Negligible to Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Negligible**	During Construction **Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Minor Adverse** (non-significant)
THC-R-24	**Newtonhill, Altnacardich** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 24 Representative viewpoint VP12 Pine Chalets, Newtonhill (**Visualisation 7.12: Viewpoint 12: Pine Chalets, Newtonhill & Visualisation THC-12: Viewpoint 12: Pine Chalets, Newtonhill**) Receptor group can	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a rural, forested landscape with elevated near to far-distance views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High** Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant. There are panoramic views north towards the Beauly Firth as well as tranquil, well wooded views with few detracting features. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium to High**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Residents of detached individual properties are located within Newtonhill, and Altnacardich, on the mid to rising slopes of hills associated with The Aird. Many of the properties afford elevated panoramic views north across wooded and farmed plains towards the Beauly Firth in the distance, with rising hills beyond. Views are typically framed by woodland, roadside trees or garden vegetation, with views south and southeast limited by the rising hills of The Aird. Views are either intimate and enclosed or elevated and far-distant, but all with a sense of remoteness. There are few detracting features, save for nearby wood poles / wires and OHL visible in the valley below, generally backdropped by vegetation and hills. View During Construction Construction activity and large areas of felling would be noticeable due to loss of tree canopies and presence of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing in a generally tranquil and rural landscape. Lower-level construction activity is not likely to be discernible. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be a noticeable feature and appear in the mid-distance of views above intervening tree lines, particularly for those residential receptors in properties with a more open outlook. It would be seen traversing arable fields in proximity to the A862 to the northwest in the mid-distance and rising up onto the slopes of An Leacainn, Mam Mor and Cnoc na Moine. The Proposed Development would be a noticeable detracting feature in the skyline above the tree line for many residential receptors, albeit partially screened by intervening vegetation. It would result in a new OC through blocks of existing forestry, and as the replanting of the management felling areas would not have re-established by this time, visibility of towers would remain, along with large gaps in tree canopy up The Aird. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Medium** Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer)	During Construction **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Moderate Adverse**

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
	be found on **Page 3** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**		*Summer* Summer foliage of field boundary trees and garden vegetation would offer a small degree of additional visual screening for residential receptors but due to the extent of coniferous planting, the Proposed Development would remain visible in summer. The magnitude of change would therefore remain **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. View During Operational Phase Year 15 (Summer) Management felling planting of commercial forestry back to the edge of the OC is likely to have re-established in this time. The replanted forestry would be noticeable as it would close the large gaps in tree canopy cover over The Aird. Even so, the Proposed Development would remain visible on the skyline and an uncharacteristic feature in the view. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low to Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. Effects are identified as reducing to **Moderate Adverse** and **non-significant** as there would be fewer gaps in tree canopy cover over The Aird, and the OC would be less distinct, drawing the eye less forcibly.	**Low to Medium**	(non-significant)
THC-R-25	**Residents along the A82 and to the west of the River Ness** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 35) Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor group can be found on **Pages 3** & **4** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a rural, river valley landscape with distant views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High**. Value Views are not specifically identified as nationally or regionally significant, but they overlook an area of importance for tourists – the River Ness. Views contain detracting features including two existing OHLs and the busy tourist route of the A82, but views north and south through the river valley will be valued. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium to High**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Residents are located between Dochgarroch Locks and Inverness, on either side of the A82 to the west of the River Ness and Caledonian Canal and include those in properties at Lagnalean & Dalreoch in the south, to Loch Ness Country House Hotel in the north. Residential receptors are typically afforded low lying, attractive views through the wooded valley of the River Ness with hills associated with The Aird to the west and rising landform to the east, with views largely contained within the river valley landscape by mature riverside and field boundary vegetation. The A82 is fairly well contained by roadside trees and vegetation, apart from a section between Lagnalean and Loch Ness Country House Hotel where it is openly visible, together with two existing 132 kV and 275 kV OHLs and towers apparent within the skyline. Views north from properties north of Dochgarroch are typically well contained and filtered by intervening woodland. Residential receptors located in more open farmland further north afford more distant, open views south with surrounding hills and woodland forming the background of views. Traffic on the A82 and the presence of two existing OHL near Dalreoch and Dunain are key detracting features in views. The Dunain Mains Quarry is generally well screened from views. View During Construction Construction activity including felling within and beyond the OC on The Aird and temporary access tracks would be noticeable for nearby residential receptors, particularly installation of the towers through use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing. Residential receptors further north would also experience views of activity from the removal of the existing Beauly to Knocknagael 132 kV OHL. Even so, activity would generally be restricted to a relatively small portion of the view, with some works screened, or partially screened, by intervening vegetation. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be a noticeable feature within near to mid-distance views from receptors to the north and south, although largely seen in oblique views only. It would appear within more filtered, interrupted views from receptors to the north of Dochgarroch but would be more apparent from receptors to the north with more open vistas. Here, it would be visible within a wider portion of views as it traverses the river valley and onto hill sides to the east and west. New towers would be viewed in the skyline, openly visible in their entirety or above trees and together with the retained existing OHL this would further deteriorate views through the river valley and create areas of wirescaping. The removal of the existing Beauly to Knocknagael 132 kV OHL and towers would slightly offset the impact of the Proposed Development and the introduction of new taller towers into the landscape. One large angle tower would be introduced immediately east of Lagnalean and would be noticeable adjacent to the Caledonian Canal above intervening trees to the south or east, introducing new infrastructure into near to mid-distance views. The Proposed Development would result in a new OC through blocks of existing forestry on the lower to mid slopes of hills to the west, slightly increasing visibility of towers, and may be seen as an artificially straight line through forestry, drawing the eye. Overall, many views are filtered by intervening vegetation, even in winter. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* Summer foliage of roadside and field vegetation would offer additional visual screening for some residential receptors looking towards the Proposed Development. New towers would continue to be visible through open fields to the north and appear in the skyline of views. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Medium** Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Medium**	During Construction **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
			View During Operational Phase Year 15 (Summer) Management felling planting back to the edge of the OC is likely to have re-established in this time, along with forest edge fringe planting (refer to **Appendix 7.6: Forestry Landscape Mitigation Principles**). However, replanted forestry across the lower eastern slopes of The Aird is unlikely to provide much additional screening of towers as most views are focussed towards the River Ness. Whilst the fringe planting would soften the appearance of the straight-line tract of forestry within the OC by making its appearance more organic and natural in the landscape, the Proposed Development here would remain visible above the tree line. The overall effect is unlikely to change as a result and is anticipated to remain as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term.		
THC-R-26	**Dochgarroch, Ballindarroch** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 12) Representative viewpoint VP55 A82, Dochgarroch (**Visualisation 7.55: Viewpoint 55: A82, Dochgarroch**) Receptor group can be found on **Page 4** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a rural, river valley landscape with near to mid-distance views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High** Value Views here are not identified as nationally or regionally significant but are around a popular tourist route. Although it contains the detracting feature of traffic on the A82, views north through the narrow, wooded river valley are attractive. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium to High**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Residents are located within Dochgarroch, to the west of the A82, and at Ballindarroch to the east of the A82. All are adjacent to the River Ness, Caledonian Canal and Loch Dochfour. Residential receptors are typically afforded low lying, attractive views within a fairly narrow, steeply sided valley that is well contained by surrounding woodland and roadside belts of trees. Receptors that are more elevated to the west of the A82 have far-distance views across Loch Dochfour to Dochfour Wood. Mid-distance filtered or interrupted views north are afforded where the valley opens up slightly more to the north of Loch Dochfour. Most residential receptors look across the A82, typically with main frontages of properties orientated towards the water, viewing the site of the Proposed Development from oblique angles only. The A82 is fairly well contained by roadside trees although there is an awareness of moving traffic, detracting from otherwise tranquil views. Views are more contained in summer. View During Construction Construction activity would be perceptible to the northeast in generally glimpsed views only. Any cranes used for tower installation would be visible through / within trees, along with potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing intruding into the relative tranquillity of the landscape and into the skyline. Even so, views would be oblique, mid-distance and partially screened, even in winter. the magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible to Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would not be readily perceptible in the mid-distance to the north / northeast. It would likely appear within filtered, interrupted views from receptors within Dochgarroch and Ballindarroch, above intervening tree lines, within a narrow portion of the view as it traverses the river valley to the north of Lagnalean and onto more distant hills beyond Scaniport to the east. New towers may be viewed in the skyline, particularly one taller tower adjacent to the Caledonian Canal, although in the background of filtered views. The Proposed Development north and northwest across The Aird would not likely be perceptible due to intervening vegetation and topography. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible to Low**. The geographical extent would be negligible to low, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* Summer foliage of garden, roadside and field vegetation would offer further visual screening for residential receptors looking towards the Proposed Development. New towers in the mid-distance would be even less perceptible. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Negligible to Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Negligible to Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Negligible**	During Construction **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Minor Adverse** (non-significant)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
THC-R-27a	**Scaniport (south)** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 6) Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor group can be found on **Page 4** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a rural, river valley landscape with near to mid-distance views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High**. Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant. Views north across wooded farmland will be valued. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Residents are located on the southern side of Scaniport on either side of the B862, to the east of the River Ness on slightly lower-lying ground. Residential receptors are typically afforded low lying, attractive views north across the well wooded farmed river valley and towards open, gently rising landform to the northeast, although typically interrupted by surrounding farm buildings or roadside vegetation. Blocks of woodland and tree belts form the extent of mid-distance views to the north with the Drumashie Plantation and local hills restricting far-distance views east. Apart from local roads, there are no detracting features within the view. View During Construction Construction activity would be perceptible to the northeast as it crosses to the front of Cullaird and up onto Drummossie Muir. Cranes for tower installation and the potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be noticeable features on the skyline above or between intervening trees. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low to Medium**. The geographical extent would be low to medium, and the duration would be short-term. Effects are identified as **Moderate Adverse** but **non-significant** as lower-level construction activity would not be readily perceived and views would be typically interrupted by intervening vegetation. Activity would be seen across a relatively small portion of the view and at a little distance. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be a perceptible feature in the mid-distance to the northeast, where it would appear within both open and interrupted views from receptors as it rises gently to the east of the B862. Towers are likely to be partially backclothed by blocks of woodland and hills, but the tops of the nearest towers would be visible in the skyline. One angle tower adjacent to Cullaird may be particularly noticeable from Midtown, albeit at an oblique angle and filtered by intervening vegetation and agricultural buildings. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low to Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. Effects are identified as **Moderate Adverse** but **non-significant** as views would be predominantly interrupted by intervening vegetation or built form, and sometimes oblique, or at a little distance. *Summer* Summer foliage of roadside and field vegetation would offer further visual screening for residential receptors looking towards the Proposed Development. New towers in the mid-distance would be less perceptible, except perhaps for Midtown. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining **Low to Medium**. The geographical extent would be low to medium, and the duration would be long-term. Effects are identified as remaining **Moderate Adverse** and **non-significant** as summer foliage would further screen already interrupted views.	During Construction **Low to Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Low to Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Low to Medium**	During Construction **Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Moderate Adverse** (non-significant)
THC-R-27b	**Residents to the south of Scaniport, off the B862** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 5) Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor group can be found on **Page 4** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a rural, river valley landscape with near to mid-distance views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High**. Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant. Views north across wooded farmland will be valued. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Residents are located to the south of Scaniport and to the east of the B862 and include Kinchyle and Drumashie. Residential receptors around Kinchyle have oblique views northwards along the flat valley adjacent to the River Ness. Receptors at Drumashie also have oblique views northwards but their more elevated location allows for far-distance views towards the tops of more distant hills, although the foreground plateau generally limits views into the valley or across lower ground. There are generally no detracting features in views. The existing 132 kV and 275 kV OHLs in the distance are not generally discernible. View During Construction Lower-level construction activity, including tree felling, would not be perceptible to the northeast, although the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be noticeable features on the skyline above or between intervening trees. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible to low**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would not be readily perceptible in the mid-distance to the northeast, although the tops of towers and oblique glimpses through intervening tree lines would appear in the distance where it crosses to the front of Cullaird and up onto Drummossie Muir. Even so, the magnitude of change is assessed as remaining **Negligible to low**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Negligible to Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Negligible to Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Negligible**	During Construction **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Minor Adverse**

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
			Summer Summer foliage of roadside and field vegetation would offer further visual screening for residential receptors looking towards the Proposed Development. New towers in the mid-distance would be even less perceptible. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term.		(non-significant)
THC-R-28	**Lagnalean & Dalreoch (Lower Dunain) west of the River Ness, with Cullaird, Laggan, Scaniport (north) east of the River Ness** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 21) Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor group can be found on **Pages 3 & 4** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a rural, river valley landscape with near to mid-distance views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High** Value Views are not specifically identified as nationally or regionally significant, but they overlook the River Ness valley, as well as rural wooded farmland. Views contain few detracting features on the east side of the River Ness, although two existing OHLs and the busy tourist route of the A82 are present to the west side of the river. Views north and south through the wooded farmland and river valley will be valued. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Residents are located within Lagnalean & Dalreoch (Lower Dunain) to the west of the River Ness, and in Scaniport (north), Cullaird, and Laggan to the east of the River Ness. Residential receptors at Lagnalean & Dalreoch have properties which typically face east / southeast towards the River Ness, backdropped by The Aird, but with some far-distance views towards Drummossie Muir to the southeast. Views are filtered by intervening vegetation and local changes in topography. Detached properties at Cullaird generally look northeast – southwest with open, slightly elevated views southwest onto the site of the Proposed Development in the near-distance. Residential receptors within Laggan are well contained by woodland, roadside trees and vegetation alongside Laggan Burn, all heavily filtering or screening views north. Some receptors are afforded more open views northeast onto rising open farmland and the site of the Proposed Development in the near-distance. Attractive, rural views are framed by surrounding hills, woodland and forestry with Drumashie Plantation on a local prominent hill to the southeast and hills associated with The Aird forming the background to the west. Apart from the B862, there are no detracting features within most views, although existing 132 kV and 275 kV OHLs near Dalreoch are clearly visible. View During Construction Construction activity, including felling to accommodate the OC across the B862, River Ness and A82 and felling within and beyond the OC on The Aird. Construction of temporary access tracks and upgrades through adjacent fields would be clearly noticeable in the near-distance. The installation of the towers, particularly with the use of cranes and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be particularly noisy and intrusive, both to the east of the River Ness where the landscape is slightly more tranquil away from the A82, and to the west. The works would introduce characteristic movement, activity and height into very close proximity. The magnitude of change is assessed as **High**. The geographical extent would be medium to high, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be a highly noticeable feature in the foreground of views for residential receptors of detached properties at Cullaird and Lagnalean and result in a slight 'boxing in' on two sides of properties at Dalreoch. However, at Dalreoch, removal of the existing Beauly to Knocknagael 132 kV OHL would remove the existing OHL immediately adjacent to properties and reduce the extent of 'boxing in' from the Proposed Development. The Proposed Development would be perceptible from receptors in Laggan although heavily filtered by intervening trees. For residents of properties within open fields adjacent to the Proposed Development, including Cullaird, the Proposed Development would appear in the near-distance with towers visible in their entirety and in the skyline, introducing new infrastructure within otherwise attractive uninterrupted rural views. The Proposed Development would continue to be seen further east as it passes over rising landform and the northern extent of Drumashie Plantation, where a small amount of clearance to accommodate a new OC would result in slightly increased visibility. One angle tower adjacent to Cullaird would be particularly prominent in the foreground of views, although it would be slightly off-site from the direct line of sight from the main property. Given the general lack of detracting features and the foreground of views being substantially disturbed by the introduction of the Proposed Development, the magnitude of change is assessed as **High**. The geographical extent would be medium to high, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* Whilst deciduous vegetation would provide some additional screening for residential receptors at Lagnalean, Laggan and Scaniport, receptors at Cullaird would view the Proposed Development across open farmland, and so there would be no change to the foreground views in summer months with no intervening vegetation offering any additional screening. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed to remain as **High**. The geographical extent would be medium to high, and the duration would be long-term. View During Operational Phase Year 15 (Summer) Management felling planting back to the edge of the OC is likely to have re-established in this time, along with forest edge fringe planting (refer to **Appendix 7.6: Forestry Landscape Mitigation Principles**). However, replanted forestry across the lower eastern slopes of The Aird is unlikely to provide much additional screening of towers as most views are focussed towards the River Ness, apart from potential views from Cuillard Lagnalean and one property on the A82. Whilst the fringe planting would soften the appearance of the straight-line tract of forestry within the OC by making its appearance more organic and natural in the landscape, the Proposed Development here would remain visible above the tree line. The overall effect is unlikely to change as a result and is anticipated to remain as **High**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **High** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **High** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **High** Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **High**	During Construction **Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Major Adverse** (significant)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
THC-R-29	**Essich** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 8) Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor group can be found on **Page 4** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of rural, well wooded uplands with mid to distant views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High**. Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant but the presence of existing OHLs aggregating at Knocknagael Substation are detracting features in otherwise attractive views north across wooded farmland. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Residents are located within and to the east of Essich on the mid slopes of Drummossie Muir (approx. 120 m to 200 m AOD) and include individual detached properties of Balvonie of Leys and Balvonie Cottage off the B861 and Balrobert House, Balrobert Farm, and Achvraid off Essich Road. The attractive, rural views vary through the undulating upland between open, elevated distant views north to the Beauly Firth, to intermittent and more enclosed views where they are interrupted by tree belts and plantations, but all feel remote and tranquil in nature. Hills associated with The Aird to the west can be seen in the distant background and there is an appreciation of existing OHLs to the north and east. View During Construction Construction activity, small areas of felling to accommodate the OC, temporary access tracks through adjacent fields and construction activity including installation of angle towers and a diamond crossing (OHL Crossing 1) would be clearly noticeable for all receptors, while a small amount of additional management felling of trees would also be noticeable for residents at Balvonie of Leys and Balvonie Cottage. The magnitude of change is assessed as **High**. The geographical extent would be high, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be a highly noticeable feature in near to mid-distant views and would be intermittently apparent across a wide portion of views for residents of individual, relatively isolated properties. The Proposed Development would be perceptible through trees as it crosses higher ground to the west, and when crossing Essich Road and higher ground to the east. Landform and vegetation would interrupt views to wider sections of the Proposed Development but towers, including a diamond crossing (OHL Crossing 1), would appear noticeably within the skyline and would be far more prominent than the existing OHLs to the north, due to the taller towers and their location on higher ground. There would be tree clearance to accommodate a new OC on the Big Burn and within small plantations, resulting in increased visibility of the lower portions of towers for residents at Balrobert, Balvonie of Leys and Balvonie Cottage. A diamond crossing to the west of Big Burn and an angle tower immediately west of Essich Road would add to the clutter of infrastructure visible in the skyline and creating a wirescaping effect converging on the existing Knocknagael Substation. Removal of the existing 132 kV OHL into Knocknagael Substation would slightly offset the presence of the Proposed Development in some views, particularly Balrobert Farm and House, which would be less intensively 'boxed in' as a result. Residential receptors at Balvonie of Leys would become 'boxed in' on three sides. Given the remoteness of views and towers likely to appear in the skyline of attractive views, the magnitude of change is assessed as **High**. The geographical extent would be high, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* Views of the Proposed Development across open farmland would not alter in summer months as there is no intervening vegetation offering any additional screening. However, deciduous vegetation around Knocknagael Substation, Drumashie Plantation, and along Big Burn would offer some additional screening for residential receptors to the south (including at Achvraid) but also a small degree of thicker screening for short sections of the Proposed Development for residents at Balrobert Farm, Balrobert House, Balvonie Cottage, and Balvonie of Leys. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as **Medium to High**. The geographical extent would be medium to high, and the duration would be long-term. View During Operational Phase Year 15 (Summer) Management felling planting of commercial forestry back to the edge of the OC is likely to have re-established in this time. The replanted forestry would not be readily noticeable due to its very limited extent, but for some receptors, notably those at Balvonie of Leys and Balvonie Cottage, the replanting would provide a slightly thicker screen for a very short section of the Proposed Development just east of the existing Knocknagael Substation. However, the visibility of most of the Proposed Development would remain unchanged in Year 15. The magnitude of change is assessed as remaining **Medium to High**. The geographical extent would be medium to high, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **High** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **High** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Medium to High** Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Medium to High**	During Construction **Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Major Adverse** (significant)
THC-R-30	**Residents of scattered properties between the B862 & B861, south of Inverness** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have a sli ghtly elevated appreciation of rural, well wooded uplands with mid to distant views. The susceptibility of the receptor is	Existing View Residents are located between the River Ness (Torbreck) and Milton of Leys within and to the east of Essich on the lower to mid slopes of Drummossie Muir (approx. 50 m to 180 m AOD) and include those within individual detached properties at Stone End, Torbreck, Drumdevan, Knocknagael, Balmore of Leys, Braeton of Leys, Newton of Leys, Leys Home Farm, Leys Castle, and The Grange. Leys Home Farm and Leys Castle are well contained by woodland to the south, as are properties at Knocknagael. The attractive, rural views vary through the gently rising landform to the south of Inverness, from open, elevated and intermittent interrupted by tree belts and plantations, to the more isolated properties that feel more remote and tranquil in nature with views to distant hills associated with The Aird to the west, and the Beauly Firth, Inverness and more distant hills to the north. Existing OHLs are a prominent detracting feature to the west, and particularly to the south, appearing in the skyline above and crossing the hills.	During Construction **Low to Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter)	During Construction **Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
	group = 52) Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor group can be found on **Pages 4 & 6** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	recorded as **High**. Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant. Views across wooded farmland and to distant hills will be valued but contains the detracting feature of existing OHLs. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **High**	View During Construction Construction activity would be perceptible in near to mid-distance views, including some loss of tree canopy over The Aird and in small pockets across Drummossie Muir. The use of cranes during tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would add additional, albeit very short-term and temporary, features into the local landscape. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low to Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be short-term. Effects are identified as **Moderate Adverse** but **non-significant** as lower-level construction activity would not be readily perceived, would be short term, and viewed in conjunction with existing OHLs which are prominent in views. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be a perceptible feature in near to mid-distance views and would be intermittently apparent across a wide portion of views for residents of individual, relatively isolated properties. The Proposed Development would be perceptible both crossing The Aird (particularly for residential receptors nearer Stone end, Torbreck and Knocknagael), as well as east of the River Ness valley on the mid slopes of Drummossie Muir, crossing Essich Road and on higher ground to the east. Landform and vegetation would interrupt views to the Proposed Development and help limit visibility; however, towers are likely to appear within the skyline beyond the existing OHL to the south and west. The removal of the existing Beauly to Knocknagael 132 kV OHL within the view for those receptors close to Essich Road would slightly offset the impact of new, more distant, but taller towers, although a diamond crossing and an angle tower would also be visible in the skyline above intervening vegetation for receptors with views towards Knocknagael Substation. The Proposed Development would appear in combination with, and beyond, the existing retained OHL, and for a long stretch would appear in parallel with the existing 275 kV OHL travelling eastwards across Drummossie Muir and helping to contain the infrastructure to a single line across the skyline. Many residential receptors have views fronting downslope towards the north, such that the Proposed Development would not intrude on key far-distance views from properties. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low to Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. Effects are identified as **Moderate Adverse** but **non-significant** as views would be predominantly interrupted, and the Proposed Development would be seen beyond the existing OHL, resulting in a minor increment set in the context of the existing transmission infrastructure. *Summer* Vegetation across Drummossie Muir is largely coniferous, but deciduous vegetation is typically found around properties, and on the edge of larger coniferous forestry. In summer, the deciduous vegetation would provide a little additional screening and filtering of views for some residential receptors. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term.	**Low to Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Low**	**Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant)
THC-R-31	**Oldtown of Leys, Slackbuie, Drumdevan, Inverness** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 1832) Representative viewpoint VP15 Culduthel Mains Road, Inverness (Visualisation 7.15: **Viewpoint 15: Culduthel Mains Road, Inverness & Visualisation THC-15: Viewpoint 15:**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a wider rural landscape with potential mid to far-distance views, but contained within near-distance, suburban views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **Medium to High.** Value The view is not specifically identified as nationally or regionally significant but views for those on the outskirts into adjacent rural landscape are scenic, whilst some urban views are historic with a good sense of place. There are detracting features in an urban setting,	Existing View Residents are located within Oldtown of Leys, Drumdevan and Slackbuie on the southern edge of Inverness. Views from within dense housing estates include typical urban elements of buildings, roads, signage, light columns and traffic, although many properties still afford narrow, mid-distance views to surrounding hills and forestry to the south associated with Drummossie Muir, albeit interrupted by intervening vegetation and built form. An existing OHL can be perceived in the distance to the south. View During Construction Construction activity would not be readily perceived on higher ground in the mid-distance to the south due to intervening vegetation, built form and local topography. Some activity – particularly cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be more noticeable on the skyline due to their movement and height, but would be seen in the context of foreground activity. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be a perceptible feature in the mid to far-distance to the south, perceived above intervening treelines particularly from the first floor of properties. New towers would appear in the skyline but generally seen within a narrow field of view containing other detracting features (including existing OHL, traffic and urban infrastructure), or screening features such as intervening vegetation and properties. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* In summer months, intervening street and garden trees would provide additional screening, but the Proposed Development would	During Construction **Negligible** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Negligible** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Negligible**	During Construction **Negligible to Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Negligible to Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Negligible to Minor Adverse** (non-significant)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
	Culduthel Mains Road, Inverness) Receptor group can be found on **Pages 3, 4** & **6** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	including existing OHL in some views. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **Medium to High**	remain distantly perceivable above intervening treelines for some residents. The magnitude of change is considered to remain **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term.		
THC-R-32	**Balnafoich, Inverarnie, Mains of Faillie, Scatraig** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 125) Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor group can be found on **Pages 4, 6** & **7** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of the surrounding rural landscape within the River Nairn valley and rising forested hills beyond. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High.** Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant but it contains few detracting features in a rural setting. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Residents are located between Balnafoich on the B861, and the A9 at Scatraig within the broad valley of the River Nairn, to the south of Drummossie Muir. Rising ground of the valley sides limit and form the background of views to the northwest and southeast. Views are focussed within the attractive farmed strath (flat, wide valley) to the southwest, with hills to the north and south and associated forestry framing and containing views. There are few detracting features apart from local roads, the A9, and the Mid Lairgs Quarry. View During Construction Construction activity is not anticipated to be perceived in the far-distance to the north, although cranes for tower installation and the potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing may indicate uncharacteristic activity in the skyline of mid to far-distance views. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would potentially be visible for a limited number of receptors on valley sides, appearing intermittently in the background above the ridgeline of Drummossie Muir, but would be a barely perceptible feature in the far-distance. The Proposed Development would not detract from views or their baseline character or features. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* In summer months, some limited additional screening from deciduous woodland within the Nairn Valley would further interrupt views, but there would remain very limited perceptibility of the Proposed Development. The magnitude of change remains **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Negligible** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Negligible** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Negligible**	During Construction **Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Minor Adverse** (non-significant)
THC-R-33	**Craggie, Craggiemore, Daviot, Auchnahillin** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 92) Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor group can be found on **Pages 6** & **7** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of the surrounding rural landscape within the River Nairn valley and rising forested hills beyond. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High.** Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant but it contains few detracting features in a rural setting with some far-distance scenic views. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium to High**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Residents are located alongside and to the east of the A9 within Daviot, Craggie and Auchnahillin within the valleys of the River Nairn and Craggie Burn. Properties are more elevated to the south of Craggie through the well wooded Craggie Burn valley that is also utilised by the B9154 and Highland Railway Line. Views are typically elevated but interrupted and narrow, contained by Drummossie Muir and the distinctive local hill form of Meall Mor, as well as large areas of forestry within the valleys and woodland belts following watercourses and roads. Views are attractive, often far-reaching, and rural, with few detracting features apart from the well contained A9 corridor, local roads / railway infrastructure, Daviot Quarry and occasional vertical elements such as turbines or poles. The existing 275 kV OHL across Drummossie Muir is not readily perceptible in views, but appears intermittently within more open, elevated locations. View During Construction Construction activity would be perceived on higher ground to the north, particularly if cranes are used for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, which would be readily noticeable across more open views. The loss of trees and lower-level construction activities (such as tracks and tower platform construction) would not be perceptible, being screened by intervening topography and vegetation. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be a perceptible but small feature in the mid to far-distance to the north. It would potentially be visible for a limited number of receptors, namely those with more open, elevated views across the valley, where it would appear within a small portion of the view intermittently above intervening vegetation as it crosses the River Nairn valley and disappears behind Meall Mor. The Proposed Development would not readily detract from the existing baseline character of views but would be an additional	During Construction **Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Low**	During Construction **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
			detracting feature in a small portion of some views. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* In summer months, deciduous vegetation along the watercourses would contribute to screening of views for more enclosed properties and those in close proximity to the watercourses, but there would be little change in visual amenity from the more open, elevated views with visibility in winter. The Proposed Development would therefore be potentially intermittently perceptible in the distance to the north for some receptors, above intervening vegetation in the mid to far-distance. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term.		
THC-R-34	**Milton of Leys, Inverness** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 1435) Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor group can be found on **Pages 3** & **6** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of the surrounding rural landscape, but within a more urban immediate context. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **Medium to High.** Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant and contains detracting features in a largely suburban setting. Views for those on the outskirts into adjacent rural landscape will generally be more scenic. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **Medium to High**	Existing View Residents are located within Milton of Leys on the southern edge of Inverness. Views from within dense housing estates include typical urban elements of buildings, roads, light columns and traffic. Residents of properties on the southern edge afford interrupted views south onto the gently rising landform of Drummossie Muir, predominantly from the first floor, with Bogbain Wood and forestry in the mid ground limiting far-distance views towards the site of the Proposed Development. The existing 132 kV OHL crossing the residential area from east to west is visible in some views, but the existing 275 kV OHL further south is not generally perceptible beyond the rising mid ground and woodland. View During Construction Construction activity would not be readily perceptible in the far-distance to the south, although the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would impinge temporarily into the skyline. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible to Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be a barely perceptible feature in the mid to far-distance to the south, predominantly for residential receptors of properties on the southern edge of Milton of Leys and from the first floor. The Proposed Development would potentially be perceived above intervening forestry and Bogbain Wood where it crosses on higher landform to the south. Where new towers are perceptible, they would appear beyond the existing 275 kV OHL. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible to Low**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* In summer months, intervening street and garden trees, as well as deciduous woodland on the edges of Bogbain Wood and Drummossie Muir, would provide additional screening, and the Proposed Development would remain barely perceptible. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Negligible to Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Negligible to Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Negligible**	During Construction **Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Negligible to Minor Adverse** (non-significant)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
THC-R-35	**Bogbain, Upper Muckovie, Lower Muckovie, Easter Bogbain** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 30) Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor group can be found on **Page 6** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of the surrounding rural landscape with far-reaching views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High**. Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant, but it contains detracting features including telecommunications mast, the A9 and a suburban influence from proximity to Inverness. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Residents are located to the east of the A9, within Bogbain and the B9177, across to Upper Muckovie and Easter Bogbain further east. Properties afford mid to far-distance views across rising topography that leads to Meall Mor and Bhuidhe Mhor in the background. Intervening forestry and belt of field trees limit views, but the site of the Proposed Development would be intermittently perceptible to the south and southeast. An existing 132 kV OHL is viewed in close proximity with towers openly apparent in the skyline, and the A9 forms another detracting feature for those receptors in Bogbain. The existing 275 kV OHL is occasionally visible in distant views, beyond the 132 kV OHL. View During Construction Construction activity would not be readily perceived to the south, although the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would add additional activity and vertical elements into the skyline of views, increasing awareness of construction. Lower-level construction activity would be screened by intervening vegetation and topography. Removal of management felling woodland may be distantly perceptible across Meall Mor and Creagan Glas but would form only a small portion of views. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible to Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development will be a perceptible but minor feature in the mid to far-distance to the south and southeast. It would be viewed at mid to far-distance beyond existing OHLs where it crosses the River Nairn valley and rises onto higher landform on lower to mid slopes of Meall Mor, with Bhuidhe Mhor in the background of views. Much of the Proposed Development would be backclothed by surrounding hills, although it may appear in the skyline of some views. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible to Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* In summer months, intervening street and garden trees, and deciduous woodland within intervening woodland and along the river valley would provide additional screening, although the Proposed Development would remain distantly perceivable above intervening treelines for some residents. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Negligible To Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Negligible to Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Negligible**	During Construction **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Minor Adverse** (non-significant)
THC-R-36	**Inshes Wood, Cradlehall, Westhill, Resaurie, Smithton, Culloden, Balloch** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 5076) Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor group can be found on **Pages 5 & 6** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of the wider landscape, including the Beauly Firth, albeit within localised suburban views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **Medium to High**. Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant and contains detracting features in an urban setting. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **Medium to High**.	Existing View Residents are located within the suburban fringes to the east of Inverness, to the east of the A9. Views from within dense housing estates include typical urban elements of buildings, roads, signage, light columns, traffic, as well as bustle and activity from surrounding road users and other residents. Residential receptors of properties on the southern edge are afforded interrupted views south onto the gently rising landform of Drummossie Muir and intervening forestry, field vegetation and roadside belts of trees. View During Construction Construction activity would not be readily perceived in the far-distance to the south, although the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing may be distantly perceptible on the skyline but seen in the context of existing urban activity. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible.** The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would not be visible to the south, being screened by intervening vegetation and landform. Therefore, the magnitude of change is assessed as **No Change**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* The Proposed Development would remain screened in summer months. The magnitude of change therefore remains as **No Change.** The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Negligible** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **No Change** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **No Change**	During Construction **Negligible to Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Neutral** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Neutral**

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
THC-R-37	**Residents off the B851, south of Castleton (Castletown), Castletown, Cottartown, Mains of Daltulich, Easter Craggie** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 39) Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor group can be found on **Pages 6 & 7** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have a near to mid-distance appreciation of the surrounding rural landscape within often well wooded views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High**. Value Views are not identified as nationally or regionally significant, but they are scenic and attractive around the River Nairn valley. Detracting features include the existing 275 kV OHL and the A9. The value of views here is recorded as **Medium to High**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Residents of individual detached properties are located through the River Nairn valley, alongside the B851 to the southwest of Inverness, to the east of the River Nairn, and on the lower slopes of Meall Mor between Easter Craggie to the south and Castletown to the north. Views are well contained and limited to near or mid-distance by forestry, woodland and the hill form of Meall Mor limiting views to the east. Views from properties are focussed through the farmed strath local landscape in the corridor of the River Nairn. The majority of properties are afforded oblique, filtered views towards the site of the Proposed Development, through garden or field boundary vegetation, while a few receptors to the north have a more open aspect, notably Daviot Lodge and Daviot Steading (Mains of Daviot) which look across open fields with clear views across the site of the Proposed Development. Cottartown, Castletown and Easter Craggie afford more mid-distance views through the valley towards the site of the Proposed Development with forestry forming the background of views, that are more focussed to the west. The rounded and forest covered hill form of Meall Mor is a feature in many views, with the existing 275 kV OHL traversing its lower northern slopes. The existing 275 kV OHL is highly noticeable crossing the River Nairn and traversing the lower slopes of Meall Mor, visible above and through intervening trees. A number of residential receptors (including those at Craigard and North Birches) are located adjacent to the existing 275 kV OHL, which is prominent in views. Even so, many views feel relatively remote, tranquil and undeveloped within the broad, wooded river valley. View During Construction Construction activity, including felling to accommodate the OC, management felling beyond the OC, and temporary access tracks through adjacent fields and woodland would be clearly noticeable for most receptors, including the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing impacting local tranquillity. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium to High**. The geographical extent would be high, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be a prominent feature for receptors through the farmed and well wooded river valley. It would be seen in the near to mid-distance through open fields and on the lower slopes of Meall Mor, and in combination with the existing 275 kV OHL would create a wirescaping effect and impinge into the skyline of open and filtered attractive low level valley views. Existing vegetation offers screening for some receptors, particularly along the River Nairn and railway line, but for those with an open aspect the introduction of substantial new infrastructure within the valley would further deteriorate views and the feeling of remoteness and tranquillity. Daviot Lodge and Daviot Steading in particular would be able to see towers in their entirety in the near-distance with the Proposed OHL running across the view, while receptors further to the north and south would afford a slightly less open aspect of the Proposed Development and see towers above or between intervening vegetation and treelines. Residential receptors immediately south of the existing 275 kV OHL (including Craigard and North Birches) would become partially 'boxed in', with OHL infrastructure on two sides. For receptors in Easter Craggie and Cottartown, the Proposed Development would be a prominent feature within narrow and oblique views above intervening trees in the mid-distance. Much of the Proposed Development would be clearly visible on the skyline of portions of views and seen alongside the existing 275 kV OHL to exacerbate the influence of infrastructure in the area. The Proposed Development would draw the eye where it crosses through forestry to the west at Drummossie and east at Meall Mor, appearing as an artificially straight tract through the landscape. The overall experience of rural views within the river valley would slightly change as a result, albeit introducing additional infrastructure of similar character to the existing OHL. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium to High**. The geographical extent would be high, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* In summer months, garden vegetation and deciduous vegetation alongside the B851, the River Nairn and the railway line, will offer a degree of additional screening for some receptors. However, the Proposed Development will continue to be a highly noticeable new feature through the attractive, broad river valley for many receptors, and particularly those with more open direct views such as Daviot Lodge and Daviot Steading. The magnitude of change is therefore considered to remain as **Medium to High**. The geographical extent would be medium to high, and the duration would be long-term. View During Operational Phase Year 15 (Summer) Management felling planting of commercial forestry back to the edge of the OC, as well as forest edge fringe planting within the OC (refer to **Appendix 7.6: Forestry Landscape Mitigation Principles**), is likely to have re-established in this time. Replanted forestry may provide some additional screening of the lower portion of individual towers along roadsides, the River Nairn, and on the lower slopes of Meall Mor, where the artificial straight edges would be softened by the more natural fringe planting to create a more organic and natural appearance in the landscape, but the Proposed Development would remain highly noticeable for residential receptors. The overall effect is unlikely to change as a result and is anticipated to remain **Medium to High**. The geographical extent would be medium to high, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Medium to High** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Medium to High** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Medium to High** Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Medium to High**	During Construction **Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Major Adverse** (significant)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
THC-R-38	**Nairnside** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 90) Representative viewpoint VP16 Culloden Battlefield (**Visualisation 7.16: Viewpoint 16: Culloden Battlefield & Visualisation THC-16: Viewpoint 16: Culloden Battlefield**) Receptor group can be found on **Pages 5 & 6** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have appreciation of a rural, pastoral landscape and river valley, on the edge of Inverness. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High**. Value These views are not specifically identified as nationally or regionally significant, but they contain few detracting features apart from infrastructure associated with the suburbs of Inverness and a 132 kV OHL. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium to High**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Residents of individual detached properties are located across Nairnside to the west of the River Nairn across a relatively flat but well treed plateau between Westhill and Culloden Muir, to the west of the B851. Many views are well contained and limited to near or mid-distance views by forestry, woodland, garden and roadside vegetation. However, there are also far-distance views, particularly north towards the Beauly Firth and hills beyond, but also southeast and the hill form of Meall Mor which limits further views beyond. A local 132 kV OHL is present in views, particularly those with more open views to the southeast. View During Construction Construction activity, particularly felling across Meall Mor to accommodate the OC and temporary access tracks may be just noticeable, but the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be more obvious detracting elements on the skyline in glimpsed views, albeit very temporary, short-term, and generally in glimpsed views only. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would not be readily perceptible in views due to distance, intervening topography, vegetation and built form. The tops of towers crossing Meall Mor to the east or along the valley to the west may be discernible in filtered views above existing vegetation on the mid to far-distant skyline, but it would occupy only a small portion of the view and would not readily alter existing baseline character of views. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible to Low**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* In summer months, garden vegetation and deciduous vegetation alongside across the River Nairn valley would offer a degree of additional screening for receptors and further reduce its influence. The magnitude of change for is assessed as **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term. View During Operational Phase Year 15 (Summer) Management felling planting of commercial forestry back to the edge of the OC, as well as forest edge fringe planting within the OC (refer to **Appendix 7.6: Forestry Landscape Mitigation Principles**), is likely to have re-established in this time. Replanted forestry may provide some additional distant screening of the lower portion of individual towers on the lower slopes of Meall Mor, where the artificial straight edges would be slightly softened by the more natural fringe planting to create a more organic and natural appearance in the landscape, but the Proposed Development would remain noticeable. The overall effect is unlikely to change as a result and is anticipated to remain as **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Negligible to Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Negligible** Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Negligible**	During Construction **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Minor Adverse**

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
THC-R-39	**Castletown (Castleton), Easter Daltullich, Ballaggan** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 49) Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor group can be found on **Pages 5** & **6** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home with an appreciation of the surrounding rural valley. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High**. Value Views are not specifically identified as nationally or regionally significant, but the Culloden Viaduct (Clava Nairn viaduct) is distinctive and important. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium to High**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Residents are located to the northeast of Castletown (Castleton) and to the south of Culloden and the B851, on the lower slopes of Bhuidhe Mhor and Beinn Bhuidhe Bheag. Views south for the majority of residential receptors in individual detached properties are restricted by intervening landform (associated with the railway line in particular), garden vegetation, buildings and forestry on the mid slopes of hills to the south. Some residential receptors adjacent to the River Nairn afford filtered views across rising landform and can see the site of the Proposed Development to the south along with an existing 132 kV OHL in near distant views to the north, and a more distant 275 kV OHL which appears in the skyline in the background above forestry to the south. The viaduct to the north is a distinctive and highly attractive feature. There are few detracting features apart from the existing OHL and wood poles within an otherwise attractive, rural, undulating river valley. View During Construction Lower-level construction activity would be predominantly screened from all receptors, although the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be more readily noticeable and detracting features on the skyline, albeit short-term and temporary. Management felling on Meall Mor may also be noticeable. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would not be visible for the majority of receptors where landform and vegetation intervene. For a few properties with more open views to the south, the Proposed Development would be perceptible in the background on higher ground and is likely to appear on the skyline, in conjunction with and just beyond the existing 275 kV OHL. The change would only be perceived across a small portion of filtered views towards higher ground and whilst there would be a degree of wirescaping where it is seen with the existing 275 kV OHL, the overall experience of rural views within a river valley would not change substantially as a result. Therefore, the magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* In summer months, the Proposed Development would continue to be perceptible on the skyline to the south in conjunction with the existing 275 kV OHL although some deciduous intervening vegetation would offer a degree of additional screening for some views. Even so, the magnitude of change is assessed as remaining **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term. View During Operational Phase Year 15 (Summer) Management felling planting of commercial forestry back to the edge of the OC, as well as forest edge fringe planting within the OC (refer to **Appendix 7.6: Forestry Landscape Mitigation Principles**), is likely to have re-established in this time. Replanted forestry may provide some additional distant screening of the lower portion of individual towers on the lower slopes of Meall Mor, where the artificial straight edges would be softened by the more natural fringe planting to create a more organic and natural appearance in the landscape, but the Proposed Development would remain noticeable. The overall effect is unlikely to change as a result and is anticipated to remain as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Low** Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Low**	During Construction **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant)
THC-R-40	**Leanach, Newlands of Culloden, Properties on the B851** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 170) Representative viewpoint VP16 Culloden Battlefield (**Visualisation 7.16:**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home with rural and often panoramic views across distant, undisturbed hills within a rural foreground. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High**. Value Views around Culloden are associated with Culloden battlefield, recognised as a key tourist attraction. View are typically slightly elevated across a scenic landscape, albeit containing some detracting	Existing View Residents are located on slightly elevated, open ground to the north of the River Nairn, alongside the B851 and within Leanach and Newlands of Culloden. Residential receptors in properties scattered alongside the B851 corridor and on the southern edge of Leanach and Newlands of Culloden afford relatively elevated (approx. 130 to 160 m AOD), far-distance and open views southeast towards the rolling open uplands that include the hills of Meall Mor, Bhuidhe Mhor, Beinn Uan, Saddle Hill and Beinn Bhuidhe Bheag, in the background of the view. Rolling, well wooded farmland can be seen in the near to mid ground. An existing 132 kV OHL in close proximity and one 275 kV OHL visible on the skyline of distant hills form detracting features in otherwise attractive, rural views. View During Construction Construction activity would be noticeable beyond the existing OHL on the mid slopes of rising topography associated with Meall Mor, Bhuidhe Mnor and Beinn Bhuidhe Bheag in the far-distance to the south, progressively being installed along the opposite hillside. The use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing across the distant ridgeline would be clearly noticeable and distracting in the background of views. Management felling on Meall Mor may also be noticeable. Even so, the construction works would occupy a relatively small proportion of the overall view. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low to Medium**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be short-term. Effects are identified as **Moderate Adverse** but **non-significant** as construction activity would only be noticeable in the background of views beyond the existing OHL at distance, occupying a relatively small portion of the view only.	During Construction **Low to Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Low to Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Low to Medium**	During Construction **Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Moderate Adverse**

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
	Viewpoint 16: Culloden Battlefield & Visualisation THC-16: Viewpoint 16: Culloden Battlefield) Receptor group can be found on **Pages 5** & **6** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	features including near 132 kV and distant 275 kV OHL's. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium to High**. Sensitivity **High**	View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be a perceptible feature in the far-distance to the south, where it would be seen across a wide portion of the view on the mid slopes of hills, but only occasionally impinging into the distant skyline beyond the existing 275 kV OHL. The majority of the Proposed Development would be backclothed by hills, and its location beyond the summit of Saddle Hill would screen the lower portions of towers from view. The Proposed Development would be seen paralleling sections of the existing 275 kV OHL across the landscape, increasing infrastructure presence across distant remote hills and some individual towers may be more visible through areas of management felling, deteriorating distant views of uplands to the south. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low to Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. Effects are identified as **Moderate Adverse** but **non-significant** as the Proposed Development would only be perceptible in the far-distance beyond the existing OHL and largely backclothed by hills. *Summer* In summer months, the open, slightly elevated views across to the distant hills would result in the Proposed Development remaining perceptible on the mid slopes of hills to the south for some receptors, and impinging into the skyline, although many receptors would also have additional screening form garden, field boundary and roadside vegetation. Even so, the magnitude of change is assessed as remaining **Low to Medium**. The geographical extent would be low to medium, and the duration would be long-term. Effects are identified as remaining **Moderate Adverse** and **non-significant** as many receptors would have some additional screening in summer months, but visibility would remain similar to winter views. View During Operational Phase Year 15 (Summer) Management felling planting of commercial forestry back to the edge of the OC, as well as forest edge fringe planting within the OC (refer to **Appendix 7.6: Forestry Landscape Mitigation Principles**), is likely to have re-established in this time. Replanted forestry may provide some additional distant screening of the lower portion of individual towers on the lower slopes of Meall Mor, where the artificial straight edges would be softened by the more natural fringe planting to create a more organic and natural appearance in the landscape, but the Proposed Development would remain noticeable. The overall effect is unlikely to change as a result and is anticipated to remain as **Low to Medium**. The geographical extent would be low to medium, and the duration would be long-term. Effects are identified as remaining **Moderate Adverse** and **non-significant** as replanted forestry would provide a small degree of additional screening, but visibility would remain similar.	Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Low to Medium**	(non-significant) Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Moderate Adverse** (non-significant)
THC-R-41	**Viewhill, Braehill, Feabuie** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 54) Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor group can be found on **Pages 5** & **6** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of the rural, more enclosed landscape. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High**. Value Views are not specifically identified as nationally or significant but are scenic, agricultural and rural, with few detracting features apart from existing OHLs. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium to High**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Residents are located within Viewhill, Braehill and Feabuie to the southeast of Balloch. The majority of residential receptors have views interrupted by intervening landform or vegetation to contain them to the near distant flat plateau. Views south towards the site of the Proposed Development are not generally available, although receptors in properties on the southern edge of Viewhill are likely to have views south, particularly from the first floor above intervening landform and vegetation. Views from these properties have far-distance views above elevated farmland to the tops of distant hills, culminating on the rolling open uplands that include the hills of Meall Mor, Bhuidhe Mhor, Beinn Uan, Saddle Hill and Beinn Bhuidhe Bheag, in the background. Rolling, well wooded farmland can be seen in the near to mid ground. There are few detracting features except local wood poles and signage, and glimpses of the 275 kV OHL on the distant skyline in otherwise attractive views. View During Construction Construction activity would not be readily perceived on higher ground in the far-distance to the south. The use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be more distinctive, uncharacteristic elements on the distant skyline but would not interrupt the general characteristics of views. Management felling over Meall Mor would be barely perceptible from this distance. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible to Low.** The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be a perceptible feature in the far-distance to the south for receptors at the southern end of Viewhill only. The Proposed Development is likely to be seen across a moderate portion of the view on the mid slopes of distant hills to the south, appearing beyond existing OHLs in the background. It would be seen parallelling with sections of existing 275 kV OHL, creating a distant wirescaping effect on the hillside, introducing new infrastructure and slightly deteriorating views of uplands to the south. Given the distance of view that would predominantly be experienced from the first floor, the magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible to Low**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Negligible to Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Negligible to Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Negligible to Low**	During Construction **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
			Summer In summer months, the Proposed Development would continue to be just perceptible on the skyline and mid slopes of hills to the far southeast, where there are open views south. Whilst views would be slightly softened by intervening vegetation on the mid slopes, towers that are skylined would remain perceptible. The magnitude of change is assessed as remaining **Negligible to Low**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term.		
THC-R-42	**Newton of Petty, Tornagrain, Drumine, Brackley, Gollanfield, Blackcastle** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 400) Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor group can be found on **Pages 5 & 8** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents to the south of Beauly Firth. Residents of dwellings at home are likely to have an appreciation for the wooded landscape beyond the Beauly Firth with potential far-distance views south. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High**. Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant but contains few detracting features and views across the Beauly Firth will be valued. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Residents are located between Newton of Petty and Blackcastle along the A96. Receptors are located within low lying arable farmland to the south of the Beauly Firth and can typically afford mid-distance views south towards rolling wooded farmland and woodland. Topography and vegetation often restrict distant views south towards open rolling upland associated with the site of the Proposed Development. Detracting features include the A96, railway infrastructure, existing OHLs and Inverness airport. View During Construction Construction activity would not be readily perceived on higher ground in the far-distance to the south. The use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing may be distantly visible but would not alter the baseline characteristics of the view. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be either not visible or barely perceptible in the far-distance beyond rolling wooded farmland. Where visible, the Proposed Development may potentially be seen on the mid slopes of distant hills from some receptors but would represent no perceptible change in the baseline characteristics of the view. The magnitude of change is assessed as **No Change**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be short-term. *Summer* In summer months, intervening deciduous vegetation would further screen the Proposed Development, although it may potentially remain distantly perceivable to the south. Even so, the magnitude of change is assessed as remaining **No Change**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Negligible** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **No Change** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **No Change**	During Construction **Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Neutral** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Neutral**
THC-R-43	**Cantraywood** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 75) Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor group can be found on **Pages 5, 6 & 8** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of the surrounding rural landscape, with the elevated views allowing panoramic views to the south. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High**. Value Views are not identified as nationally or regionally significant, but they contain few detracting features apart from an existing 132 kV OHL in the near-distance and a 275 kV OHL across more distant hills. Views across rolling farmland towards uplands will be valued. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium to High**.	Existing View Residents are located around Cantraywood, off the B9006, adjacent to Culloden Forest, including Cantraydoune, Easter Galcantray and Achindown. Residential receptors have relatively elevated panoramic views, directed to the southeast from Cantraywood, as well as south and north from properties around the Assich Forest, but views are often interrupted by intervening garden or nearby field boundary vegetation and the extensive woodland of the Assich Forest on rising ground to the south. There is a mix of open and intermittent appreciation of the site of the Proposed Development in the distance to the south with views culminating on the rolling open uplands in the background that include the hills of Creag an Daimh, Carn Maol and Beinn Bhuidhe Bheag with the large Assich Forest on the mid slopes. Rolling, well wooded farmland can be seen in the near to mid ground. Local infrastructure (wood poles), an existing 132 kV OHL in close proximity, and a more distant 275 kV OHL, form detracting features in otherwise attractive, rural views. View During Construction Construction activity would be perceptible on higher ground in the mid to far-distance to the south, and the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be distracting with their height and movement in the background of views. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be negligible to low, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be a perceptible feature in the distance to the south. It would likely be seen across a moderate portion of the view on the mid slopes of distant hills, appearing beyond existing OHLs in the background and largely backclothed by hills and vegetation. It would be seen parallelling sections of the existing 275 kV OHL, which would increase the presence of manmade infrastructure on the hillside, and slightly deteriorating views of uplands to the south. Given the distance of views, largely backclothed by hills and vegetation, the magnitude of change is assessed as remaining **Low**. The geographical extent would be negligible to low, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Low**	During Construction **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
		Sensitivity **High**	*Summer* In summer months, whilst deciduous vegetation would provide some additional foreground or mid-distance screening, the Proposed Development would continue to be distantly perceptible on the mid slopes of hills to the south. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining **Low**. The geographical extent would be negligible to low, and the duration would be long-term.		
THC-R-44	**Drummournie, Wester Barevan, Kirkton of Barevan, Rereach** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 22) Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor group can be found on **Pages 5, 6 & 8** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have a good appreciation of the open uplands and forested farmland. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High**. Value The view is not specifically identified as nationally or regionally significant but views across rolling farmland and forests are scenic and attractive. There are few detracting features apart from a prominent existing 275 kV OHL. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium to High**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Individual detached properties are scattered through the rolling farmlands and forest landscape that incorporates Assich Forest and Cawdor Wood, to the south and southwest of Cawdor. Views south are intermittent and interrupted by surrounding forestry. Views are more open for receptors at Ruallan, Rehiran, Rereach and Glengeoullie that are set within larger clearings on the southern edge of Assich Forest and Cawdor Wood, and where rising, undulating landform leading to Creag an Daimh and Carn Maol forms the background of views. The existing 275 kV OHL is prominent within the skyline of views in the near-distance. Views are rural, remote and tranquil and have no detracting features apart from the existing OHL. View During Construction Construction activity, felling and temporary access tracks across the hills to the south would be clearly noticeable, particularly from Ruallan which fronts onto the rising hills, whilst the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would add additional features in the skyline of views and impact on the tranquillity of the local landscape. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium to High**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be prominent in the near to mid-distance to the south for residential receptors in a few individual properties with more open views, while surrounding coniferous forestry reduces visibility of the Proposed Development from many receptors. Where most visible, the Proposed Development would be seen in combination with the existing 275 kV OHL to which it runs parallel, across a moderate portion of the view and would appear within the skyline on rising landform above the smaller towers associated with the existing 275 kV OHL. There would be a concentration of infrastructure across the hills to the south, and one angle tower would be noticeable from Rehiran (which backs on to the hillside) and particularly from Ruallan which fronts onto the hillside. The Proposed Development would add additional detracting features within attractive, rural views. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium to High**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* In summer months, the Proposed Development would remain prominent in the near to mid-distance, on higher landform to the south and intervening deciduous vegetation would only provide a small degree of additional screening. The Proposed Development would remain skylined in views and therefore the magnitude of change is assessed as remaining **Medium to High**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Medium to High** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Medium to High** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Medium to High**	During Construction **Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Major Adverse** (significant)
THC-R-45	**Croy, Clephanton, Cawdor, Culchanny, Piperhill** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 147) Representative: Viewpoint VP17 B9091, Nairn (**Visualisation 7.17: Viewpoint 17: B9091, Nairn & Visualisation THC-17: Viewpoint 17: B9091, Nairn**)	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and likely to have an appreciation of the surrounding very gently undulating rural landscape with forested hills and trees. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High.** Value Views within Cawdor Castle GDL are highly valued and contain few detracting features. The value of the view is recorded as **High**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Residents are located within Croy, Clephanton, Cawdor, Culchanny and Piperhill within well wooded and gently rolling farmland across, and on the edge of, the River Nairn floodplain. Views are restricted to near to mid-distance views south by intervening large areas of woodland and forestry, including Cawdor Wood and Dallaschyle Wood, although there are some occasional glimpsed far-distance views from properties set back slightly from woodland within more open locations. There are generally far-distance views northwards across the Nairn valley to more distant hills, and few detracting features. View During Construction Construction activity in the distance would not be readily perceived beyond Cawdor Wood. However, the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing may be discernible in some views due to their height and movement on the skyline, but they would not alter the baseline characteristics of views. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development is unlikely be visible beyond large areas of intervening woodland and forestry. The magnitude of change is assessed as **No Change**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* In summer months, the Proposed Development would remain screened from view beyond large areas of intervening woodland and forestry. The magnitude of change is assessed as **No Change**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be	During Construction **Negligible** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **No Change** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **No Change**	During Construction **Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Neutral** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Neutral**

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
	Receptor group can be found on **Pages 5 & 8** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**		long-term.		
THC-R-46	**South Nairn** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 250) Representative: Viewpoint VP17 B9091, Nairn (**Visualisation 7.17: Viewpoint 17: B9091, Nairn & Visualisation THC-17: Viewpoint 17: B9091, Nairn**) Receptor group can be found on **Page 8** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents to the south of Nairn. Residents of dwellings at home are likely to have an appreciation for the farmed landscape with potential far-distance views south. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High.** Value Views are not identified as nationally or regionally significant, but they contain few detracting features and views across the rural, scenic landscape will be valued. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Residents are scattered through low lying farmland to the south of Nairn between the B9091 and A96. Receptors are typically afforded mid-distance views south towards a rolling farmland and forest landscape. The upland landscape associated with the site of the Proposed Development is seen in the background of some far-distance views. Detracting features are limited to main roads, local wood poles and an existing 132 kV OHL crossing directly through the area in the near-distance of views. The site of the Proposed Development is perceivable on the background of views where more distant south / southeast views towards distant hills are afforded. View During Construction Construction activity would not be readily perceived in the far-distance to the south although some forestry removal and the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing are likely to be distinguishable on the hillsides, particularly for receptors with far-distance views. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible.** The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be perceptible in the far-distance beyond rolling farmland and forests for some receptors with a more open, elevated outlook. It would be seen in conjunction with the existing 275 kV OHL on the mid slopes of distant hills, within open upland, as well as near and mid-distance views of the 132 kV OHL. In some locations, the Proposed Development would become skylined above the distant hills in a very small portion of the view, but for most receptors it would represent no perceptible change in the view. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible.** The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* In summer months, the Proposed Development would remain distantly perceivable to the south for receptors with more open views, although deciduous vegetation would provide some more localised screening. The magnitude of change is assessed as remaining **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Negligible** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Negligible** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Negligible**	During Construction **Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Minor Adverse** (non-significant)
THC-R-47	**Nairn** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 600) Viewpoint VP17 B9091, Nairn (**Visualisation 7.17: Viewpoint 17: B9091, Nairn & Visualisation THC-17: Viewpoint 17: B9091, Nairn**) Receptor group can be found on **Page 8** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents within Nairn. Residents of dwellings at home are likely to have a more limited appreciation of the wider farmed landscape, except those on the periphery with potential far-distance views south. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **Medium to High.** Value Views are not identified as nationally or regionally significant and they contain detracting features associated with larger conurbations such as signage, lighting, infrastructure, and traffic. However, views from properties on the southern edge across the coastal farmland will be valued. The value of the view	Existing View Residents are located within Nairn, in low lying coastal farmland. Residential receptors on the periphery of the town typically afford more attractive views into the surrounding farmed landscape with the potential for mid to far-distance views south towards rolling farmland and forest landscape. The upland landscape associated with the site of the Proposed Development is seen in the background of far-distance views. Landform and blocks of woodland frame and contain views out of the town. Detracting features include urban and suburban infrastructure, main roads and an existing 132 kV OHL crossing east-west in farmland immediately to the south. View During Construction Most construction activity would not be perceived in the far-distance to the south, although the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing may be more discernible where they impinge onto the skyline of distant views for some receptors. Even so they would not alter the existing baseline characteristics of views. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible.** The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would not be generally perceptible in the far-distance beyond rolling farmland and forests, It may be distantly perceptible for some receptors with a more open outlook on the southern edge of the town, where it would generally be seen backclothed by hills. The Proposed Development may potentially be seen in conjunction with the existing 275 kV OHL on the mid slopes of distant hills, within open upland, from some receptors but even so, it would not alter the key characteristics of views. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* There would be little change in summer for open, distant views towards the Proposed Development, where it would remain distantly	During Construction **Negligible** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Negligible** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Negligible**	During Construction **Negligible to Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Negligible to Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Negligible to Minor Adverse** (non-significant)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
		is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **Medium to High.**	perceivable to the south for a small number of receptors. The magnitude of change is assessed as remaining **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term.		
THC-R-48	**Little Urchany, Regoul, Torrich, Newlands of Inchnacaorach** (approximate number of residential receptors = 41) Representative viewpoint VP18 Urchany (**Visualisation 7.18: Viewpoint 18: Urchany & Visualisation THC-18: Viewpoint 18: Urchany**) Receptor group can be found on **Page 8** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of the surrounding rural, undulating and well wooded farmland with some affording distant, scenic views towards distant hills. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High**. Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant but generally contain no detracting features apart from the existing 275 kV OHL. Views across rolling farmland will be valued. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Residents are located to the east of Cawdor, to the south of the B9090 within well wooded rolling farmland. Receptors are afforded intermittent near to far-distance views across an undulating landscape, with some more open views allowing views across farmland and lower-lying land towards the site of the Proposed Development to the south. Views are rural, tranquil and attractive with no detracting features apart from the distant existing 275 kV OHL across the hillside. View During Construction Lower-level construction activity would not be perceived in the mid-distance to the south due to intervening blocks of woodland and coniferous forestry. Removal of woodland for management felling may be just noticeable on the hill slopes, but the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be more noticeable on the skyline due to their height and movement. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low.** The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be intermittently perceptible in the distance to the south for some residential receptors with more open elevated views. Intervening landform and vegetation results in limited perception over a small portion of views for many receptors, but the Proposed Development would be seen parallel or just beyond the existing 275 kV OHL in the distance but is unlikely to impinge into the skyline. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* Deciduous garden, field and roadside vegetation would provide additional screening for enclosed views, but the Proposed Development would remain distantly perceptible in summer due to the amount of coniferous forestry in the surrounding landscape. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Low**	During Construction **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant)
THC-R-49	**Urchany** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 33) Representative viewpoint VP18 Urchany (**Visualisation 7.18: Viewpoint 18: Urchany & Visualisation THC-18: Viewpoint 18: Urchany**) Receptor group can be found on **Page 8** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors &**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have a mid-distant appreciation of the surrounding rural, rolling and well wooded farmland. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High**. Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant but contains no detracting features apart from an existing 275 kV OHL. Views across rolling farmland and forests will be valued. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium to High**. Sensitivity	Existing View Individual detached properties are scattered through the rolling farmlands and forest landscape that incorporates Urchany, to the southeast of Cawdor and west of the A939. Views to the south are intermittent, being interrupted by forestry, field trees and woodland alongside local watercourses, and well contained by surrounding forestry. Views are more open for residential receptors in properties set within larger clearings in blocks of forestry and low hills and the existing 275 kV OHL can be clearly seen in the background above the tree lines. Views are rural, tranquil and attractive with no detracting features apart from the mid-distance existing 275 kV OHL. View During Construction Construction activity and felling to accommodate the OC and beyond through Clunas Wood, on higher ground to the south, would be likely to be noticeable, along with the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing. The construction activity would be seen in small portions of the view but would be uncharacteristic, noisy and intrusive. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be low to medium, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be intermittently perceptible in the mid-distance to the south for residential receptors in individual properties with more open views. Intervening vegetation reduces visibility for many receptors, but for some the Proposed Development would be seen across a moderate portion of the view and appear within the skyline on rising landform and above the smaller towers associated with the existing OHL. The Proposed Development would be seen immediately beyond the existing OHL, intensifying the effects of infrastructure across more remote hills, and one angle tower is likely to be seen to the northwest of Clunas. Additional detracting features would appear within attractive, rural views. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer*	During Construction **Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Medium**	During Construction **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
	Viewpoint Locations	**High**	In summer months, the Proposed Development would remain intermittently perceptible above intervening coniferous tree lines in the mid-distance, on higher landform to the south. Intervening deciduous vegetation would only provide a small degree of additional screening. The magnitude of change is assessed as remaining **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term.		
THC-R-50	**Urchany, Clunas, Residents between Mains of Clunas and Newlands of Fleenas Wood** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 11) Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor group can be found on **Page 8** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have a near to mid-distance appreciation of the rural, rolling and well wooded farmland. Most receptors are very well contained within woodland to create more intimate views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **Medium to High**. Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant and contains some detracting features such as an existing 275 kV OHL. Views across rolling farmland and forests will be valued. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **Medium to High**	Existing View Individual detached properties are scattered within well forested, rolling farmland between Mains of Clunas and Newlands of Fleenas Wood, to the west of Redburn. Views from properties are generally near distant and enclosed in woodland, limiting far-distance views beyond. However, many properties are in slightly more open settings, including Newlands of Knockaneorn and Lubliester, set within larger clearings which occasionally allow some far-distance views between blocks of forestry. Typically, the foreground of views is of enclosed farmland with forestry in the mid ground limiting any views beyond. The existing 275 kV OHL can only be intermittently seen in the background between, or occasionally above the tree line and views are rural, remote and tranquil with generally no detracting features. View During Construction Construction activity, felling to accommodate the OC and temporary access tracks would be noticeable, particularly around Mains of Clunas, Cluaisnahadig, and south of Newlands of Clunas along with the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing introducing noticeable movement, height and activity into the tranquil landscape. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium to High**. The geographical extent would be medium to high, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be intermittently noticeable in the near to mid-distance for receptors in individual properties through the forested landscape, and typically only above intervening tree lines and topography. For residential receptors at Newlands of Knockaneorn and Lubliester, the Proposed Development would be more prominent in the near-distance as it passes through adjacent forestry, introducing new infrastructure into the skyline of otherwise undisturbed views, and one angle tower would be noticeable to the west of Mains of Clunas. The Proposed Development would mostly be seen in combination with the existing 275 kV OHL and would result in new infrastructure through the forested farmland. There would be tree clearance through the forestry to accommodate a new OC, resulting in increased visibility of towers for residents around Newlands of Knockaneorn and Lubliester, and for those around Mains of Clunas, Cluaisnahadig, and Clunaswell Cottage in particular. For receptors at Clunaswell Cottage, the property would become 'boxed in', albeit surrounded by coniferous woodland. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium to High**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* In summer months, limited deciduous garden, field and roadside vegetation would provide a little additional screening, particularly for lower sections of the towers, but the Proposed Development would remain noticeable above or between intervening trees in the near to mid-distance due to amount of coniferous forestry making little difference between winter and summer. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining **Medium to High**. The geographical extent would be low to medium, and the duration would be long-term. View During Operational Phase Year 15 (Summer) Management felling planting of commercial forestry back to the edge of the OC is likely to have re-established in this time. The replanted forestry would help to screen the lower portions of some individual towers, particularly from receptors at Mains of Clunas, Cluaisnahadig and Clunaswell Cottage. For receptors at Clunaswell Cottage, the property would remain closely 'boxed in' with the Proposed Development clearly visible in views south, but for other receptors, the replanting would provide some additional screening. The overall effect would slightly change as a result for the majority of receptors, with the magnitude of change being assessed as **Medium**, but remaining **Medium to High** for receptors at Clunaswell Cottage. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Medium to High** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Medium to High** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Medium to High** Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Medium to High** (Clunaswell Cottage only) **Medium**	During Construction **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant) (Clunaswell Cottage only) **Moderate Adverse** (significant)
THC-R-51	**Bruachmary, Balmore, Newlands of Knockaneorn, Whitefold** (approximate number of residential	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of the surrounding upland moorlands but set within large areas of coniferous forestry screening many far-distant views. The	Existing View Individual detached properties are scattered through the upland moorland and forest landscape that incorporates Bruachmary, Knockaneorn, Balmore, Newlands of Knockaneorn, Whitefold and Balmackiver to the southeast of Clunas and south of the site of the Proposed Development. Views are from predominantly large, detached properties and are typically contained and interrupted in the near to mid-distance by surrounding large blocks of forestry, local undulations in landform, garden vegetation and farm buildings. Properties in Bruachmary are settled amongst forestry and undulating landform with narrow, interrupted views north. Residential receptors of properties at Balmore, Knockaneorn, Whitefold and Balmachiver are afforded views north across open pasture between blocks of forestry but are interrupted by curtilage vegetation whilst Newlands of Knockaneorn looks directly onto Knockaneorn Wood	During Construction **Medium** Operational Phase -	During Construction **Moderate Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase -

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
	properties in receptor group = 18) Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor group can be found on **Pages 8 & 9** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **Medium to High**. Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant and contains no detracting features apart from an existing 275 kV OHL. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium to High**. Sensitivity **Medium to High**	in close proximity. Views are remote, tranquil and for some, incorporate forested hills to the east and west in the background above the intervening tree lines. The existing 275 kV OHL to the north is not a highly noticeable feature within attractive views, only occasionally appearing within more open, distant views from properties. View During Construction Lower-level construction activity would not be perceived in the mid-distance to the north beyond blocks of woodland and forestry, although the loss of tree canopy through Clunas Wood may be just discernible from viewers at Bruachmary. The use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be more noticeable due to the height and movement in the skyline. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be a noticeable feature in the mid-distance to the north for residential receptors in individual detached properties, albeit occupying a small portion of views, and rarely in combination with the existing 275 kV OHL. The Proposed Development is likely to appear intermittently where landform and surrounding coniferous forestry allow, within the skyline of views. Towers are likely to appear as new features above the tree line, introducing infrastructure and detracting features into the skyline of attractive, remote views although in only a small portion of the view. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as **Low to Medium**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term. Effects are identified as **Moderate Adverse** but **non-significant** as views would be intermittent, occupy a small portion of the view only, and the uncharacteristic activity, movement, and disruption of construction would have ceased. *Summer* In summer months, the Proposed Development would remain intermittently noticeable above on the skyline in the mid-distance through the more remote upland landscape for individual residential receptors, as there is limited deciduous vegetation providing any additional screening. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining **Low to Medium**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term. Effects are identified as remaining **Moderate Adverse** and **non-significant** as many receptors would have some additional screening in summer months, but visibility would remain similar to winter. View During Operational Phase Year 15 (Summer) Management felling planting of commercial forestry back to the edge of the OC is likely to have re-established in this time. The replanted forestry would help to strengthen screening of some individual towers, particularly from receptors at Bruachmary, but the overall effect would not substantially change due to existing screening. The magnitude of change is assessed as remaining **Low to Medium**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term. Effects are identified as remaining **Moderate Adverse** and **non-significant** as replanted forestry would provide a small degree of additional screening, but visibility would remain similar to winter.	Year of Opening (Winter) **Low to Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Low to Medium** Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Low to Medium**	Year of Opening (Winter) **Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Moderate Adverse** (non-significant)
THC-R-52	**Dulsie, Milltown, Glenferness Estate** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 9) Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor group can be found on **Page 9** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors &**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of the rural, well wooded scenic river valley. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High**. Value The southern section is edged by the Drynachan, Lochindorb and Dava Moors SLA, although the majority of receptors are not located within a designated landscape. Even so, views are attractive and contain no detracting features. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**	Existing View Residents are located within the well-wooded, attractive River Findhorn valley at Dulsie, Milltown and the Glenferness Estate, to the west of the B9007. Views from properties are typically limited to near to mid-distance and are well contained by mixed deciduous woodland and coniferous forestry through the river valley and by the landform rising from the valley to the east and west. View During Construction Construction activity would not be readily perceived beyond forestry to the north. The use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be more noticeable, adding activity and height into the skyline of mid to distant views above the treeline, but most of the works would be screened from view. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible.** The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would not be readily discernible to the north from properties in the well wooded river valley. Intervening landform and vegetation prevent far-distance views north. The magnitude of change is assessed as **No Change**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* Deciduous vegetation would provide further strengthening of screening between properties and the Proposed Development in	During Construction **Negligible** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **No Change** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **No Change**	During Construction **Minor Adverse** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Neutral** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Neutral**

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
	Viewpoint Locations	**to High**. Sensitivity **High**	summer months. The magnitude of change is assessed as remaining **No Change.** The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term.		
THC-R-53	**Achagour** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 4) Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor group can be found on **Page 8** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of the forested, more intimate landscape, but the existing 275 kV OHL is highly prominent in the foreground and skyline. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High**. Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant but contains no detracting features apart from an adjacent existing 275 kV OHL. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Individual detached properties are located to the north of Achagour Fishery, settled within a large forestry clearing. Views are well contained in the mid ground by surrounding forestry with surrounding buildings, open grassland and fishery ponds in the foreground. An existing adjacent 275 kV OHL is highly prominent in the foreground of views, appearing in the skyline and above surrounding forestry and detracting from the otherwise scenic landscape with views towards more distant hills. View During Construction Felling of managed commercial forestry beyond the OC and temporary access tracks would be noticeable, whilst the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would add additional activity and height into the landscape and further intensify detracting features in views. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium to High**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be clearly noticeable in the near-distance above intervening tree lines for residential receptors within individual properties. Towers would be seen against the skyline in combination with, and slightly beyond, the existing adjacent 275 kV OHL, resulting in further deterioration of tranquil views. There would be tree clearance through forestry to accommodate a new OC, resulting in slightly increased visibility of towers. The angle towers just to the southwest of the fisheries would also be clearly noticeable, particularly for residential receptors in the nearest properties. Given the presence of the adjacent 275 kV OHL in close proximity, the introduction of additional towers to the south would intensify the concentration of infrastructure in the view, even with some towers being in parallel. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium to High**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* In summer months, the deciduous vegetation surrounding properties further north would provide additional screening, although the Proposed Development would remain noticeable above intervening tree lines in the near to mid-distance and within the skyline due to the amount of coniferous vegetation providing year-round screening. The magnitude of change is assessed as remaining **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Medium to High** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Medium to High** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Medium**	During Construction **Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant)
THC-R-54a	**Residents on Lethen Road, Braeside** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 7) Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor group can be found on **Page 8** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of rural, science, far-distant, tranquil views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High**. Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant, but it contains no detracting features. Views across rolling, well wooded farmland will be valued. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium to High**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View A small group of properties is located within Braeside, to the north of Littlemill and the A939, and west of Fornighty. These properties sit on a local rise in landform, affording elevated views (approx. 110 to 130 m AOD) to the south across rolling farmland and forest towards uplands and the site of the Proposed Development in the background. Views are broadly contained by surrounding landform, with forest-covered hills of Lethen Bar to the east and The Ord to the west, and with Newlands of Fleenas Wood and Dulsie Wood on rising ground to the south. There are no detracting features, aside from wood poles, within attractive, rural and far-distance views. View During Construction Lower-level construction activity would not be perceptible in the distance to the south due to intervening coniferous and deciduous woodland and landform. The use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing are likely to be perceptible on the skyline in the distance but would not readily alter the baseline characteristics of the view. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would not be noticeable in most views due to intervening garden, roadside and field boundary vegetation and woodland blocks. The tops of towers may be perceptible in the far-distance to the south above intervening trees, but the Proposed Development is likely to be seen across a very small portion of the view only, between areas of forestry, and largely seen against a backdrop of distant hills. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Negligible** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Negligible** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Negligible**	During Construction **Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Minor Adverse** (non-significant)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
			Summer In summer months, deciduous vegetation would provide further screening in near to mid-distance views, reducing visibility further. From some upper storey windows, however, the Proposed Development may continue to be perceptible on the distant mid slopes of hills to the south. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term.		
THC-R-54b	**Littlemill, Redburn** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 63) Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor group can be found on **Page 8** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of rural, science, far-distant, tranquil views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High**. Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant, but it contains no detracting features. Views across rolling, well wooded farmland will be valued. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium to High**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Scattered properties located throughout well wooded, rolling farmland between Littlemill and Redburn, along the A939. Properties are generally located on gently rolling terrain, enclosed by woodland. Some far-distance views south are afforded across rolling farmlands and forests towards uplands and the site of the Proposed Development in the background. However, views are broadly contained by surrounding landform with the forest covered hills of Lethen Bar to the east and The Ord to the west, with Keppernach Wood, Clunas Wood, Newlands of Fleenas Wood, and Dulsie Wood enclosing views to the south. There are few detracting features save for the A939 and occasional glimpses of the existing 275 kV OHL. View During Construction Despite proximity of some residential receptors to the construction activity, the majority of construction activity would be screened by the surrounding woodland. Loss of tree canopy from tree felling would be noticeable, as would the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing on the skyline. Even so, the amount of surrounding woodland would screen much of the activity. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would not be noticeable in most views due to intervening garden, roadside and field boundary vegetation and extensive woodland blocks. Where there are gaps in forestry and more open views, the tops of towers would be perceptible, but the Proposed Development would be seen across a small portion of the view only, between areas of forestry, and largely seen against a backdrop of distant hills, although some towers would be skylined in views. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* In summer months, large areas of deciduous vegetation around Redburn, on the eastern extent of Keppernach Wood, would provide further screening in near to mid-distance views, reducing visibility further. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as **Negligible to Low**. The geographical extent would be negligible to low, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Negligible to Low**	During Construction **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant)
THC-R-55	**Ardclach** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 4) Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor group can be found on **Pages 8 & 9** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of the forested landscape, albeit blighted by an existing 275 kV OHL. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High**. Value Views are not specifically identified as nationally or regionally significant but there are historic features (such as Ardclach Bell tower) and there are few detracting features apart from an existing 275 kV OHL. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium to High**.	Existing View Individual detached properties are located to the north of the River Findhorn within a large clearing of surrounding forestry. Residential receptors in two properties, including Levrattich, are afforded well contained views south towards the site of the Proposed Development and can see the existing 275 kV OHL, with views from Levrattich being more open and direct. Other properties, including Ardclach, are well settled within surrounding forestry and views south are well screened. View During Construction Felling of managed commercial forestry beyond the OC and temporary access tracks would be noticeable and reduce the level of screening of lower portions of the towers for properties. The use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be particularly noticeable and intrusive in the tranquil valley. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium to High**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be a clearly noticeable feature in the near to mid-distance from two properties. Views from two properties at Levrattich are more open and the Proposed Development, including an angle tower, would be seen in fields to the south across a wide portion of the view, appearing beyond the existing OHL, resulting in a slight wirescaping effect. Towers would be seen impinging into the skyline, resulting in additional infrastructure intensifying the detracting features within relatively remote, attractive views. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as **Medium to High**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* In summer months, the Proposed Development would remain noticeable above intervening tree lines in the near to mid-distance and	During Construction **Medium to High** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Medium to High** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Medium to High**	During Construction **Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Major Adverse** (significant)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
		Sensitivity **High**	within the skyline, with limited or no deciduous vegetation to provide additional screening. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining **Medium to High**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term.		
THC-R-56a	**Ferness** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 14) Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor group can be found on **Pages 8 & 9** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of the surrounding narrow, rural wooded valley along the B9007, River Findhorn, and Tomnarroch Burn. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High**. Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant and contains a few detracting features including an existing 275 kV OHL and main roads (including the B9007 and A930). Views across the wooded valley will be valued. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Individual detached properties are located within Ferness and off the B9007, to the west of the A939, within the narrow, wooded valley of the River Findhorn and Tomnarroch Burn. A row of properties in Ferness are afforded oblique views south with New Inn Wood containing views in the mid ground to the east and southeast, and wooded valley of the River Findhorn and Tomnarroch Burn containing views to the west and southwest. Receptors at Tomnarroch Farm and at Drumore are all relatively well contained by surrounding woodland, plantations and garden vegetation but do afford some views out across the undulating landscape to the north and south. Receptors at Achnabechan are situated in a larger clearing in open farmland but views north are interrupted by farm buildings. The 275 kV OHL is openly visible for receptors in the near to mid-distance with towers appearing in the skyline. Otherwise, views for receptors are typically contained within an attractive, undulating and well wooded landscape with little visibility of hills to the south. View During Construction Construction activity including substantial felling to accommodate the OC, the 275 kV OHL realignment and temporary access tracks would be noticeable, particularly from the closest properties, at Achnabechan and Tomnarroch Farm. The use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, and the activity, movement and loss of tree canopy due to felling operations and installation of towers would also be clearly perceptible to receptors at properties at Drumore and Ferness. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium to High**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be a noticeable feature in the near to mid-distance for residential receptors in individual detached properties. It would appear within oblique views for receptors in Ferness in the mid-distance but would be more apparent in the near-distance for receptors at Tomnarroch Farm, Drumore and Achnabechan. New towers would be seen in the skyline, above and between intervening tree lines and in combination with the existing, slightly realigned 275 kV OHL, introducing new infrastructure into the wooded undulating valley and further deteriorating views. There would be tree clearance to accommodate a new OC to the east and west of the B9007 through woodland and plantations, resulting in slightly increased visibility of towers, including two angle towers, for Achnabechan in particular. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as **Medium to High**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* In summer months, the Proposed Development would remain clearly noticeable in the near to mid-distance through the wooded valley for individual residential receptors. Deciduous vegetation would provide additional screening for receptors, particularly at Ferness and Drumore. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. View During Operational Phase Year 15 (Summer) Management felling planting of commercial forestry back to the edge of the OC is likely to have re-established in this time. The replanted forestry would strengthen existing screening, particularly the lower portions of some individual towers, but the Proposed Development would remain visible. The overall effect is unlikely to change as a result and is anticipated to remain as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Medium to High** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Medium to High** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Medium** Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Medium**	During Construction **Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant)
THC-R-56b	**Factors Cottage, Ferness** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 1) Representative viewpoint	Susceptibility Receptors at Factors Cottage, Ferness are residents at home and are likely to have an appreciation of the surrounding wooded setting along the B9007 and Tomnarroch Burn. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High**. Value The view is not identified as	Existing View An individual detached property located southwest of Ferness off the B9007, enclosed by deciduous and evergreen vegetation associated with the Tomnarroch Burn. The wooded landscape encloses views, even in winter, within the attractive landscape of the Tomnarroch Burn. It is located in very close proximity to the existing 275 kV OHL, which is the key detracting feature in views, albeit well screened by intervening woodland. View During Construction Construction activity, including substantial felling all around the property to accommodate the OC, management felling, and temporary access tracks, would open up views of the tower construction adjacent, which includes a substantial angle tower. The use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would further deteriorate the views. The magnitude of change is assessed as **High**. The geographical extent would be high, and the duration would be short-term.	During Construction **High** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **High**	During Construction **Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Major Adverse** (significant)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
	N/A Receptor group can be found on **Pages 8 & 9** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	nationally or regionally significant and contains the key detracting feature of the existing 275 kV OHL. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **High**	View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be a substantial, noticeable feature in near views, albeit the activity and movement of construction activity would have ceased. The replanting to the OC would not have matured by this time so would not add any additional screening to views. The Proposed Development would be clearly visible to the south and west. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as **High**. The geographical extent would be high, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* In summer months, the Proposed Development would remain noticeable due to its proximity and lack of intervening deciduous vegetation to provide additional screening in summer. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining **High**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. View During Operational Phase Year 15 (Summer) Management felling planting of commercial forestry back to the edge of the OC is likely to have re-established in this time. The replanted forestry would partially screen the angle tower, and considerably re-enclose the views from the property to the south. Even so, upper portions of the towers would be likely to remain visible. The overall effect is anticipated to reduce to **Medium.** The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term.	Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **High** Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Medium**	Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant)
THC-R-57	**Residents off the B9007, The Mount, Ferness (north)** (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 5) Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor group can be found on **Pages 8, 9 & 11** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of the enclosed woodland undulating landscape with some far-distance views towards upland moorlands. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High**. Value The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant and contains no detracting features apart from an existing 275 kV OHL glimpsed in views. Views across forested uplands will be valued. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium to High**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Individual detached properties are located at the north end of Ferness and eastwards, off the B9007 and adjacent to The Airdrie Plantation to the northeast and New Inn Wood to the southwest. Views are well contained and limited to the near to mid ground by surrounding coniferous forestry, as well as the deciduous vegetation alongside watercourses flowing north from the uplands to the south. Properties are slightly elevated with views across more open ground towards the site of the Proposed Development but enclosed by surrounding woodland. The distinctive hill form of Cairn Duhie is visible to the southwest and the only detracting features in otherwise attractive, tranquil views are the existing 275 kV OHL, B9007 and telegraph poles and wires. View During Construction Construction activity on the exposed slopes of Cairn Duhie in the mid-distance to the south would be noticeable due to the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing. Activity would be visible above the treeline on the skyline, albeit only in a small portion of views. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be a perceptible, feature in the mid-distance to the south for individual detached properties, although across only a small portion of the view. The Proposed Development is likely to appear intermittently where landform and surrounding forestry allow, within the skyline of views above intervening tree lines. Towers are likely to appear as new features above the tree line and would be viewed in combination with the existing 275 kV OHL, albeit only a small portion of the towers would be visible. Given the distance of view and limited visibility to the Proposed Development, the magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* In summer months, the Proposed Development would remain intermittently perceptible above intervening tree lines in the mid-distance through the remote upland landscape for individual residential receptors, although deciduous vegetation alongside nearby watercourses would provide a small degree of additional screening. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Low**	During Construction **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant)
RECREATIONAL AND AMENITY RECEPTORS					
THC-REC-1	**Users of Dochgarroch Locks, Caledonian Canal** Representative viewpoint VP14 Caledonian	Susceptibility The attention of users of the locks will typically be focused on the immediate landscape. Susceptibility to visual change is considered to be **Medium**. Value	Existing View The locks are located between the A82 and the River Ness to the southwest of Inverness in a well wooded river corridor. The moorings stretch for some 1400 m along the canal, with the locks and main business premises and facilities located towards the southern end of the moorings. Views for users of the locks are low lying, busy with movement of people and boats, and in some parts with traffic on the A82 adjacent. Views are focussed along the canal corridor and generally well contained by surrounding woodland and topography. Narrow open views beyond the canal are obtained at intervals, particularly around the Locks, with glimpses of hills further south, as well as west to those associated with The Aird, although filtered by intervening vegetation. A 132 kV OHL and a 275 kV OHL cross in close proximity to the northern extent of the moorings (c800 m and 1100 m respectively), but the curve of the canal / river in front of the	During Construction **Low to Medium**	During Construction **Moderate Adverse** (non-significant)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
	Canal (**Visualisation 7.14: Viewpoint 14: Caledonian Canal**) Receptor can be found on **Page 4** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	The Dochgarroch Locks are regionally important, being on a recognised recreational route adjacent to Loch Ness and the Caledonian Canal. Set within an attractive river and canal corridor, value will be placed on the experience of passing through the landscape. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium to High**. <u>Sensitivity</u> **Medium to High**	OHL means that views of the OHL from most of the moorings are screened. Visibility gradually increases northwards, such that the tops of the existing OHL as they span the waterways becomes visible at the northern end of the moorings. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity across the Caledonian Canal would be increasingly visible with proximity, such that users for the northern end of the moorings would have clear visibility of activity and movement from tower installation and access tracks. Whilst the Locks and waterway are generally busy and active, the height of the construction works on the skyline – due to the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing - would be particularly uncharacteristic. Where there is glimpsed visibility northwest to The Aird, particularly from the main car park and buildings of Dochgarroch Locks, removal of trees for the OC and management felling is unlikely to be visible. Visibility is only slightly increased in winter due to the amount of deciduous vegetation alongside the A82, canal and river. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low to Medium**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be short-term. Effects are identified as **Moderate Adverse** but **non-significant** as views would be transient, short term, and busy with the distracting movement and activity of people and boats. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> *Winter* Users of the locks and moorings would have narrow views along the well contained canal to the northeast towards the Proposed Development, which would potentially be seen beyond intervening boats on the canal and woodland on either side. In winter months there may be filtered visibility to the top of towers to the east. The upper portion of one taller tower would be noticeable above intervening trees on the southern side of the canal. Glimpses of the Proposed Development as it crosses up The Aird may also be visible, particularly from the main car park and buildings of Dochgarroch Locks. No towers are expected to be seen in their entirety from the locks or moorings, although the northern extent of the moorings would have much clearer views of the Proposed Development crossing the waterway. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low to Medium**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term. Effects are identified as **Moderate Adverse** but **non-significant** as views would be predominantly interrupted and the uncharacteristic activity, movement, and disruption of construction would have ceased. *Summer* Deciduous woodland through the canal corridor would increase screening to the lower portions of individual towers and towards the Proposed Development as it crosses up The Aird. Glimpsed views of the Proposed Development would remain visible above intervening tree lines in the near to mid-distance, although from the main Locks, building, and southern extent of the moorings, the Proposed Development would not be readily discernible. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be negligible to low, and the duration would be long-term.	<u>Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter)</u> **Low to Medium** <u>Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer)</u> **Low**	<u>Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter)</u> **Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer)</u> **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
THC-REC-2	**Users of the North Coast 500** (NC500) **tourist route, A862** Representative viewpoints VP4 Beauly **(Visualisation 7.4: Viewpoint 4: Beauly & Visualisation THC-4: Viewpoint 4: Beauly);** **VP8 Easter Moniack** **(Visualisation 7.8: Viewpoint 8: Easter Moniack & Visualisation THC-8: Viewpoint 8: Easter Moniack);** **VP10 A832, Newton Visualisation 7.10: Viewpoint 10: A832, Newton & Visualisation THC-10: Viewpoint 10: A832, Newton); and** **VP54 A862, Kirkhill** **(Visualisation 7.54: Viewpoint 54: A862, Kirkhill & Visualisation THC-20: Viewpoint 54: A862, Kirkhill)** Receptor can be found on **Pages 1, 2 & 3** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Users of the A862 would include tourists with a focus on the landscape, as well as local residents, commuters, and commercial drivers for whom the landscape is peripheral to their journey. However, the attention of recreational users of the NC500 route will typically be tourists, with views focused on the landscape. The route is extensive and covers a wide range of landscapes, with many sections being on roads set to the national speed limit. Even so, susceptibility of this recognised tourist route is recorded as **Medium to High**. Value The A862 is an important route in Scotland and the NC500 route is a nationally recognised recreational route for car drivers and cyclists, noted in tourist literature. Within the Study Area, this section of the NC500 is within a rural, attractive, well wooded landscape in which value will be placed on the experience of passing through the landscape. The value of the view is therefore recorded as **High**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View The NC500 route is a circular route of just over 500 miles around the north of Scotland. Within the Study Area, the route follows the A862 from Inverness to Muir of Ord (via Wester Balblair, Beauly, Windhill and Ardnagrask) then splits on the A832 and A862 to the north of Muir of Ord. Views for users of NC500 on the A862 from Inverness to Beauly are low lying and broadly well contained to the south by surrounding woodland and coniferous forestry, but open and panoramic northwards across the Beauly Firth. On the approach to Beauly westwards along the A862, there is a broader sense of containment as a result of landform and vegetation cover along the route, with views to the north limited by woodland and the towns of Beauly and Kirkhill. The outlook to the south opens out between Drumchardine and the River Beauly towards forested hills associated with The Aird. This forms the background of attractive views along the route, particularly on passing to the north of Easter Moniack and Balchraggan, although there is a constant awareness of existing OHLs. Further north towards Windhill, open views are afforded eastwards towards the Beauly Firth and then westwards towards the wilder landscape of Glen Orrin. View During Construction Construction activity, felling and temporary access tracks would all be readily perceived by road users on the A862 tourist route between the River Beauly at Lovat Bridge (Wester Balblair) in the west and Drumchardine to the east. The Proposed Development would cross the NC500 route in two places around Meikle Phoineas and be located alongside it for a short stretch at Easter Moniack. This would exacerbate impacts associated with the introduction of towers and an OHL during the construction period in an area already containing OHL infrastructure. Areas of felling over The Aird are likely to be readily perceived. For users on this localised stretch of the route, the magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be a noticeable change in a localised area although the duration would be short-term. For all other sections of the route, the magnitude of change would rapidly decrease from Medium to **No Change**. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* Cyclists and vehicle users of this national tourist route would have intermittent, near, distant and open views to the Proposed Development in relation to their direction of travel along the A862. More distant glimpsed views would be afforded along the route within the Study Area from the north, although to the east, views would be largely screened until west of Drumchardine. Between the River Beauly and Drumchardine, the Proposed Development crosses the A862 twice and towers are likely to appear prominently in the skyline of transient views in close proximity to the road, including the introduction of two angle towers in fields to the south. The Proposed Development would be seen in conjunction with the existing retained OHL, which depending on direction of travel would result in a degree of wirescaping in the skyline, with an OHL present on either side of the road to the north of Balchraggan and Easter Moniack. However, the removal of existing towers within the view – associated with removal of the existing Beauly to Knocknagael 132 kV OHL would slightly offset the impact of the introduction of new taller towers. Areas of felling are likely to be perceived over The Aird. Existing retained vegetation along the A862 at Easter Moniack would help deflect transient views of road users away from the towers, even in winter. For users on this localised stretch of the route, the magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be a medium change in a localised area although the duration would be long-term. For all other sections of the route, the magnitude of change would rapidly decrease from Medium to **No Change**. *Summer* Roadside vegetation would offer a small degree of additional screening in summer months, but the Proposed Development would still be a prominent detracting feature in the view and appear in the skyline between Beauly and Drumchardine. For users on this localised stretch of the route, the magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be a medium change in a localised area although the duration would be long-term. For all other sections of the route, the magnitude of change would rapidly decrease from Medium to **No Change**. View During Operational Phase Year 15 (Summer) Management felling planting of commercial forestry back to the edge of the OC, as well as forest edge fringe planting (refer to **Appendix 7.6: Forestry Landscape Mitigation Principles**) within the OC over The Aird, is likely to have re-established in this time. Replanted forestry over The Aird would provide additional screening of the lower portion of towers and fringe planting would soften the appearance of the straight-line tract of forestry within the OC by softening the artificially straight edges and making its appearance more organic and natural in the landscape, albeit highly transient in views. The Proposed Development would remain openly visible and prominent for users of NC500 over a short, localised stretch. The overall effect is therefore unlikely to change as a result and is anticipated to remain as **Medium** for users on this localised stretch of the route. The geographical extent would be a medium change in a localised area and the duration would be long-term. For all other sections of the route, the magnitude of change would rapidly decrease from Medium to **No Change**.	During Construction **Medium** (localised) **No Change** (wider route) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Medium** (localised) **No Change** (wider route) Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer) **Medium** (localised) **No Change** (wider route) Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer) **Medium** (localised) **No Change** (wider route)	During Construction **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant, localised) **Neutral** (wider route) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant, localised) **Neutral** (wider route) Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant, localised) **Neutral** (wider route) Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant, localised) **Neutral** (wider route)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
THC-REC-3	**Users of Core Paths IN20.03 'Belladrum Kennels to Belladrum by Black Wood', IN20.04 Belladrum Kennels to 'Belladrum by Phoineas Hill' & IN20.02 'Belladrum Kennels to Belladrum Farm'; Visitors to the Tartan Hearts festival, Belladrum.** Representative viewpoint V58 Belladrum (**Visualisation 7.58: Viewpoint 58: Belladrum & Visualisation THC-22: Viewpoint 58: Belladrum**) Receptor group can be found on **Pages 2 & 3** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility The attention of recreational users of these Core Paths will typically be focused on the landscape. Visitors to the Tartan Heart festival at Belladrum will be focussed on the immediate surroundings although the setting of views will be important to enjoyment of the experience. Susceptibility to visual change overall will be **Medium to High**. Value Core Paths are regionally important recreational routes. The Core Paths are mostly set within forestry and woodland and will be valued for their naturalness, tranquillity and views whilst travelling through the landscape. The Tartan Heart festival at Belladrum includes descriptions of its scenic setting in the highlands. The value of views is therefore recorded as **Medium to High**. Sensitivity **Medium to High**	Existing View Users of these Core Paths experience relatively well contained views within a well wooded landscape to the south of the River Beauly. There are occasional views northwest afforded from local high points from Core Paths, the Tartan Heart festival grounds at Belladrum, and access roads within Belladrum, with glimpsed views between gaps in vegetation framed by surrounding woodland and forestry. There would be some awareness of moving traffic on the A833 in places; existing OHL towers may also be perceptible at a distance to the northwest and the foothills of the Central Highlands can be seen in the background. View During Construction Users of these Core Paths and visitors to the Tartan Heart festival at Belladrum may gain glimpsed, distant views of construction activity, including the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, through gaps in vegetation and occasionally above the intervening tree line. The construction activity would be largely backdropped by the surrounding landscape and would not generally appear in the skyline of transient views where the focus is on the immediate surroundings. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible to Low**. The geographical extent would be a negligible to low change in a very localised area and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* Users of these Core Paths and visitors to the Tartan Heart festival at Belladrum may gain glimpsed, distant views of the Proposed Development through gaps in vegetation and above the intervening tree line. The Proposed Development would be backdropped by the surrounding landscape and would be unlikely to appear in the skyline of transient views where the focus is on the immediate surroundings. Removal of the existing Beauly to Knocknagael 132 kV OHL would slightly reduce concentration of OHLs to the north where views are afforded. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be a negligible change in a very localised area and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* Summer foliage would slightly contain views further for Core Path users and visitors to the Tartan Heart festival at Belladrum, but would not represent a noticeable change in terms of distant views to the Proposed Development where gaps in vegetation allows. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be a negligible change in a very localised area and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Negligible to low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Negligible** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Negligible**	During Construction **Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Negligible to Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Negligible to Minor Adverse** (non-significant)
THC-REC-4	**Users of Core Path IN03.01 'Riverside loop', Beauly** Representative viewpoint VP4 Beauly (**Visualisation 7.4: Viewpoint 4: Beauly & Visualisation THC-4: Viewpoint 4: Beauly**) Receptor can be found on **Pages 1 & 3** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility The attention of recreational users of Core Paths will typically be focused on the landscape. Susceptibility to visual change will be **Medium to High**. Value Core Paths are regionally important recreational routes. This short Core Path within the Highlands is set within woodland alongside the River Beauly and will be valued for its relative tranquillity and naturalness adjacent to the town, albeit in proximity to the railway station. The value of the view is therefore recorded as **Medium to High**.	Existing View Users of the Core Path experience contained views between Beauly and the River Beauly. Hills to the south and vegetation of Long Wood largely limit more distant views and therefore form the background of views over the immediate tree line along the riverbanks. Existing towers of a 132 kV OHL are visible to the southwest and southeast where there is less screening by woodland or topography available, although their access into Beauly Substation is not readily discernible. Open views north and northwest are afforded across the flat floodplain towards Beauly and the rising wooded slopes of Cnoc Croit na Maoile beyond. View During Construction Users of the Core Path would see mid-distance views of construction activity above the intervening tree line, with the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing and some loss of tree cover in the woodland canopy being discernible. The construction of the tallest towers would be discernible above the rising landform and woodland to the south. The removal of towers associated with the existing Beauly to Knocknagael 132 kV OHL would not be readily noticeable. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible to Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* Users of the Core Path would have mid-distance views towards the Proposed Development which would be just visible above the intervening tree line. The loss of towers associated with the 132 kV OHL would not be readily noticeable. The magnitude of change is assessed **Negligible to Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* Summer views would remain similar to winter views, with the Proposed Development remaining just visible above intervening tree	During Construction **Negligible to Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Negligible to Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Negligible to Low**	During Construction **Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase – Year of Opening (winter) **Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase – Year of Opening (summer) **Minor Adverse** (non-significant)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
		Sensitivity **Medium to High**	lines. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible to Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term.		
THC-REC-5	**Users of Core Paths IN03.03 'War Memorial to Black Bridge by Balblair Wood'** & **IN03.04 'Lovat Bridge to Black Bridge'** Representative viewpoint VP 1 River Beauly (**Visualisation 7.1: Viewpoint 1: River Beauly & Visualisation THC-1: Viewpoint 1: River Beauly**) Receptor group can be found on **Pages 1, 2** & **3** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility The attention of recreational users of Core Paths will typically be focused on the landscape. Susceptibility to visual change will be **Medium to High**. Value Core Paths are regionally important recreational routes. The Core Paths are mostly set within woodland and will be valued for their remoteness, tranquillity and views whilst travelling through the landscape although the existing OHL is a detracting feature. The value of the view is therefore recorded as **Medium to High**. Sensitivity **Medium to High**	Existing View Users of Core Paths experience contained views within the well wooded setting of the River Beauly corridor to the south of the A862 and west of the A833. Intermittent views to the immediate landscape are afforded between gaps in vegetation and from the edge of arable fields, as well as far-distance views along the river. There is some appreciation of the nearby A roads while surrounding distant hills form the background of far-distance views. The existing OHLs are detracting features connecting with Beauly Substation to the west, and Core Paths pass directly underneath the existing Beauly to Denny 400 kV and 275 kV OHLs. More open views are typically framed by surrounding woodland and tree belts although the paths mostly go through dense woodland which contains views out. View During Construction Construction activity, including felling, installation of temporary access tracks and the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would all be highly noticeable for footpath users, particularly where any path diversions / temporary suspensions are required to install towers across the Core Paths. Felling over The Aird may be distantly perceived. Increased movement, activity, and height would disrupt the relative tranquillity of the area and the rural outlook of views to the north / northwest. The magnitude of change is assessed as **High**. The geographical extent would be high, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* Users of the Core Paths would have direct views of the Proposed Development and in close proximity, both through adjacent arable fields and whilst travelling directly beneath. This in combination with the existing OHL, would exacerbate impacts associated with the existing OHL infrastructure and result in an increase in local wirescaping. The appearance of additional towers and OHL would further detract from local views for users. The removal of the existing 132 kV towers and OHL would, however, slightly offset the impact of the introduction of new taller towers. The Proposed Development, including one angle tower, would appear prominently in the skyline where views are afforded beyond local woodland from the footpaths. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium to High**. The geographical extent would be high, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* Summer foliage would further contain views for Core Path users, but the Proposed Development would remain a noticeable detracting element when in closest proximity and vegetation allows. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **High** Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter) **Medium to High** Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer) **Medium**	During Construction **Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer) **Moderate Adverse** (significant)
THC-REC-6	**Users of Core Paths IN20.11 'Home Farm to Hughton by Lonbuie'** & **IN20.05 'East Lodge to West Lodge, Beaufort Castle', within Beaufort Castle GDL** Representative viewpoints VP2 Creraig (Crerag) (**Visualisation 7.2: Viewpoint 2: Creraig (Crerag) & Visualisation THC-2: Viewpoint 2: Creraig (Crerag)); and** **VP6 Kiltarlity** **(Visualisation 7.6:**	Susceptibility The attention of recreational users of Core Paths will typically be focused on the landscape. Susceptibility to visual change will be **Medium to High**. Value Core Paths and GDLs are regionally important recreational routes. The Core Paths are mostly set within forestry and woodland and valued for their remoteness, tranquillity and views whilst travelling through the landscape with few detracting features. These routes are located within the Highlands – a key tourist destination. The value of views is therefore recorded as **Medium to High**.	Existing View Users of Core Paths experience relatively well contained views within a well wooded landscape to the south and west of the River Beauly. There are occasional low-lying views north afforded between gaps in vegetation, particularly in sections of path to the north of Culburnie and Kiltarlity, and within the open areas of Beaufort Castle grounds (whose gardens and grounds are historic and designated a GDL). Views are framed by surrounding woodland and forestry, with the foothills of the Central Highlands in the background of views to the northwest. There is some awareness of an existing OHL on mid slopes to the northwest of Culburnie. View During Construction Felling and temporary access tracks would be particularly perceptible between the River Beauly and Culburnie to the north and where it crosses above the Beaufort Castle grounds. Increased movement associated with construction, especially the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would also temporarily disrupt the relative tranquillity of the area and the rural outlook of views, particularly to the northwest. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be low to medium, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* Users of the Core Paths would view the Proposed Development through gaps in vegetation and above the intervening tree line in the mid-distance. A more open but brief view may be afforded on a section of path to the north of Culburnie. The Proposed Development would be backdropped by the surrounding undulating landscape and would be unlikely to appear in the skyline of transient views where the focus is predominantly on the immediate surroundings. Visitors to Beaufort Castle gardens and grounds would experience near-distance changes to the view where the Proposed Development crosses above it, changing the baseline character at this location. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be low to medium, and the duration would be long-	During Construction **Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Low to Medium**	During Construction **Moderate Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Moderate Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Moderate Adverse** (non-significant)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
	Viewpoint 6: Kiltarlity & Visualisation THC-6: Viewpoint 6: Kiltarlity) Receptor group can be found on **Page 2** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	<u>Sensitivity</u> **Medium to High**	term. *Summer* Summer foliage would further contain views for Core Path users, but the Proposed Development would remain a noticeable detracting element where vegetation allows views out, and for visitors to Beaufort Castle gardens and grounds in close proximity to the OHL. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low to Medium**. The geographical extent would be low to medium, and the duration would be long-term. Effects are identified as reducing to **Moderate Adverse** and **non-significant** as views would be further screened in summer months by surrounding deciduous trees and vegetation.		
THC-REC-7	**Users of Core Path IN21.07 'West Lodge to Lower Achnagairn', Easter Moniack** <u>Representative viewpoint</u> N/A Receptor can be found on **Page 3** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	<u>Susceptibility</u> The attention of recreational users of Core Paths will typically be focused on the landscape. Susceptibility to visual change will be **Medium to High**. <u>Value</u> Core Paths are regionally important recreational routes. The Core Path follows local lanes, set on the edge of woodland but detracted by existing OHL infrastructure. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium to High**. <u>Sensitivity</u> **Medium to High**	<u>Existing View</u> Users of the Core Path experience well contained views along tree lined lanes between Easter Moniack and Achnagairn. There is an intermittent filtered appreciation of the immediate landscape beyond the path to the west but views east are generally well screened by intervening woodland belts. The existing OHL is visible at the northern extent of the path, particularly where it passes directly beneath the OHL, and the busy A862 and associated traffic further reduce the feeling of tranquillity and detract from views. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, felling and temporary access tracks through fields to the south would be clearly noticeable particularly for path users to the south of the A862. The activity of construction works would be uncharacteristic in the view, although movement and activity from traffic is already noticeable. Even so, activity would be clearly visible in both near and mid-distance views. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium to High**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> *Winter* Users of the Core Path would afford mid-distance views of the Proposed Development between trees in the northern section, and direct, near-distance views in the southern section where the Core Path travels beneath the Proposed Development. One angle tower adjacent to the A862 would be particularly prominent as the path crosses the A862. The change in view would not be a substantial change in character given the presence of the A862, existing OHL and some screening from vegetation, even in winter, but it would contribute to a localised wirescaping effect that would be particularly prominent for a short stretch. The removal of the existing Beauly to Knocknagael 132 kV OHL within the view would slightly offset the increase in wirescaping and the introduction of new taller towers. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* Summer foliage would further contain views for Core Path users, but the Proposed Development would remain a noticeable change, particularly around the A862 crossing. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining **Medium**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> **Medium to High** <u>Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter)</u> **Medium** <u>Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer)</u> **Medium**	<u>During Construction</u> **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant) <u>Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter)</u> **Moderate Adverse** (significant) <u>Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer)</u> **Moderate Adverse** (significant)
THC-REC-8	**Users of Core Path IN23.04 'Drumchardine Craggach loop'** <u>Representative viewpoint</u> VP11 Drumchardine (**Visualisation 7.11: Viewpoint 11: Drumchardine & Visualisation THC-11: Viewpoint 11: Drumchardine**) Receptor can be	<u>Susceptibility</u> The attention of recreational users of Core Paths will typically be focused on the landscape. Susceptibility to visual change will be **Medium to High**. <u>Value</u> Core Paths are regionally important recreational routes. The Core Path is mostly set within forestry and will be valued for its naturalness, tranquillity and views whilst travelling through the landscape with few detracting features, although OHLs are a detracting feature to the north. The value	<u>Existing View</u> Users of the Core Path experience relatively well contained views to the south of Drumchardine. Surrounding open views are afforded from the straight northern section of the local access road between Drumchardine (Taigh Mor / New House on Craggach Road) and Easter Craggach Farm, where the flat, open landscape allows far-distance views across fields towards Easter Moniack and the rising forested slopes of Tor Clunes and Creag na Nighinn. The remainder of views from the Core Path are set within dense forestry with no views into the surrounding landscape. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, felling and temporary access tracks through fields to the west would be noticeable from the open northern section of the Core Path. Whilst OHL infrastructure is already present to the north, the activity, height and movement of construction works including the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be out of character with the rural farmland and forested slopes. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low to Medium**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be short-term. Effects are identified as **Moderate Adverse** but **non-significant** as views are transient and short term, with construction activity only seen briefly, and otherwise contained in views from the path by forestry.	<u>During Construction</u> **Low to Medium** <u>Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter)</u> **Low**	<u>During Construction</u> **Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter)</u> **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
	found on **Page 3** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	of the view is therefore recorded as **Medium to High**. Sensitivity **Medium to High**	View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* Users of the Core Path would clearly see the Proposed Development to the southwest across the intervening fields and above more distant trees. Towers to the west in proximity to the A862 may appear in the skyline but the Proposed Development would predominantly be backdropped by rising landform and forestry. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* Summer foliage would further contain views for Core Path users, but the northern section would remain more open, with clearer views towards the Proposed Development. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term.	Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Low**	Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant)
THC-REC-9	**Users of Core Path IN23.02 'Newtonhill to Blackfold'** Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor group can be found on **Pages 3 & 4** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility The attention of recreational users of Core Paths will typically be focused on the landscape. Susceptibility to visual change will be **Medium to High**. Value Core Paths are regionally important recreational routes. The Core Path is mostly set within forestry and will be valued for its remoteness, tranquillity and views whilst travelling with few detracting features. The value of the view is therefore recorded as **Medium to High**. Sensitivity **Medium to High**	Existing View Users of the Core Path experience well contained views within the dense forestry across The Aird to the south of Altnacardich, whilst utilising local access and fire tracks. Occasionally breaks in the forestry allow for slightly more open views but forestry frames and contains views within the near to mid-distance. There are no detracting features through the forested landscape, with scattered settlement and quiet access tracks. View During Construction Construction activity, substantial areas of felling to accommodate the OC and temporary access tracks would be highly noticeable and exacerbate impacts associated with the installation of new towers and an OHL during the construction period. The magnitude of change is assessed as **High**. The geographical extent would be high, but the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* Users of the Core Path would experience brief but open near to mid-distance views of the Proposed Development across The Aird, with some towers visible in their entirety. One angle tower would appear prominently to the west. Whilst only a relatively short section of the path between Newtonhill and Blackfold would potentially be directly impacted (where it passes beneath the Proposed Development), the magnitude of change would be significant. This is due to the loss of forestry cover and the introduction of large-scale infrastructure in close proximity to the footpath, as well as it being visible at distance across the undulating landscape. As a result, the overall transient visual experience in this relatively remote forested landscape would be adversely impacted for users. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium to High**. The geographical extent would be high, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* Summer views would not alter views substantially as much of the forestry is coniferous (evergreen). The Proposed Development would remain visible in the near to mid-distance in a distinct 'corridor' and above intervening trees. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium to High**. The geographical extent would be high, and the duration would be long-term. View During Operational Phase Year 15 (Summer) Management felling planting back to the edge of the OC is likely to have re-established in this time across The Aird. The replanted forestry would partially screen the lower portions of individual towers in close proximity to the footpath and soften the appearance of the Proposed Development, which would remain visible above intervening tree lines and more openly through the OC. The magnitude of change as is anticipated to reduce to **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **High** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Medium to High** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Medium to High** Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Medium**	During Construction **Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Moderate Adverse** (significant)
THC-REC-10	**Visitors to Dochfour House and Gardens, within Dochfour GDL** Representative viewpoint VP55 A82, Dochgarroch (**Visualisation 7.55:**	Susceptibility Recreational receptors will typically focus on the local as well as the surrounding landscape, with views being an important contributor to the experience. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **Medium to High.** Value Views are not specifically identified as nationally or	Existing View Users experience views of a formal designed landscape (a designated GDL) with a good sense of enclosure as a result of woodland cover surrounding the gardens. Due to the orientation and elevation of Dochfour House, views are directed east / southeast across the Caledonian Canal & Loch Dochfour. Far-distance views to the southeast this are contained by Darroch Wood although far-distance views along the river corridor to the southwest and northeast are available towards more distant hills. The character of near-distant views is formal, attractive, and scenic. View During Construction Construction activity would not be readily perceived beyond existing forestry to the north and northwest, and only in far-distance oblique views north-eastwards towards Scaniport. Visibility would be limited to a very small portion of the view at distance, although this would be out of character with the formal managed gardens. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible to Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be short-term.	During Construction **Negligible to Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Negligible to Low**	During Construction **Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter) **Minor Adverse** (non-significant)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
	Viewpoint 55: A82, Dochgarroch & Visualisation THC-21: Viewpoint 55: A82 Dochgarroch) Receptor can be found on **Page 4** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	regionally significant, but the landscape is of high scenic quality and character with cultural heritage designations including a designated GDL and listed buildings (including Grade A). The value is therefore recorded as **Medium to High**. Sensitivity **Medium to High**	View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be barely perceptible within views experienced by users of the house and gardens as a result of intervening woodland, topography and appreciable distance. Views are only likely from more open areas of the gardens of upper storeys and seen above intervening tree lines in the mid-distance. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible to Low**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* During the summer months the surrounding woodland and garden vegetation would further serve to contain views of the Proposed Development. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term.	Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Negligible**	Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Negligible to Minor Adverse** (non-significant)
THC-REC-11	**Users of the Caledonian Canal (including the Great Glen Canoe Trail), Core Path IN19.10 Caledonian Canal Towpaths & Dochgarroch Locks** Representative viewpoint VP14 Caledonian Canal (**Visualisation 7.14: Viewpoint 14: Caledonian Canal & Visualisation THC-14: Viewpoint 14: Caledonian Canal**) Receptor group can be found on **Pages 3 & 4** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Recreational receptors will typically focus on the surrounding landscape, with views being a key contributor to the experience. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **Medium to High.** Value The views are from published national trails and landmarks, and the landscape is of high scenic quality. The value is therefore recorded as **High**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Users experience predominantly contained, rural and tranquil views due to woodland cover along both sides of the Caledonian Canal. There are some far-distance views directed to the southwest and include elevations associated with the South Cluanie Ridge. Occasionally views open out where gaps in canal-side vegetation allows. Two existing OHLs cross the canal to the south of Racecourse Wood. View During Construction Construction activity, felling to accommodate the OC, and temporary access tracks through adjacent fields would be noticeable from certain points along the canal, particularly as users travel towards and beneath the Proposed Development and over a stretch of around 2.5 km from the crossing point. Felling over The Aird to the west may also be briefly perceived from open sections of the canal including the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing. The meanders of the River Ness and canal, as well as bankside vegetation helps to contain most views, restricting visibility to the tower installations. With proximity to the Proposed Development, visibility increases, with clear views of construction at the crossing point. The magnitude of change is assessed as **High** in proximity to the construction works (over approximately 1 km), and **Medium** for the remainder of the paths (approximately 1.5 km). The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would traverse the Caledonian Canal in a southeasterly direction and be visible from the canal over a distance of approximately 2.5 km. There would be near-distance views of the Proposed Development where it crosses the canal, with towers impinging on the skyline of close views. More distant views would see the tops of towers in the skyline above intervening trees, along with existing OHLs, but bank side vegetation and topography would help to contain more distant views. Towers over The Aird may be visible within cleared areas of forestry to the west from more open sections of the canal. No towers would be visible in their entirety from Dochgarroch Locks (a particularly busy section of the canal) but they would be seen above intervening tree lines. The removal of existing towers and OHL associated with the Beauly to Knocknagael 132 kV OHL to the north would slightly offset the impact of the Proposed Development and wirescaping effect. Due to the proximity of the towers to users of the canal and towpaths and the presence of substantially taller towers compared to the existing line (including one adjacent to the east of the canal at 96.57 m tall), the magnitude of change is therefore assessed as **Medium to High** for users in close proximity to the Proposed Development (over approximately 1 km), and **Low to Medium** for the remainder of the paths. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* During the summer months the surrounding deciduous vegetation would help to slightly further contain views of the Proposed Development. Activity associated with the canal and lochs is also likely to increase in summer through tourism, creating additional activity, movement and disruption in the foreground of views. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as **Medium** for users in close proximity to the Proposed Development (over approximately 1 km), and **Low** for the remainder of the paths. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. View During Operational Phase Year 15 (Summer) Management felling planting back to the edge of the OC and forest edge fringe planting (refer to **Appendix 7.6: Forestry Landscape Mitigation Principles**) through the OC over The Aird is likely to have re-established in this time. Replanted forestry over The Aird would provide additional screening of the lower portion of towers and fringe planting would soften the appearance of the straight-line tract of forestry within the OC by softening the artificially straight edges and making its appearance more organic and natural in the landscape,	During Construction **High** (users adjacent) **Medium** (rest of path) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Medium to High** (users adjacent) **Low to Medium** (rest of path) Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer) **Medium** (users adjacent) **Low** (rest of path) Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer) **Medium** (users adjacent) **Low** (rest of path)	During Construction **Major Adverse** (significant, users adjacent) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant, rest of path) Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter) **Major Adverse** (significant, users adjacent) **Moderate Adverse** (significant, rest of path) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant, users adjacent) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant, rest of path) Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant, users adjacent) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
			albeit highly transient in brief views, only from more open sections of the canal and in the background of the view. The magnitude of change as is anticipated to remain as **Medium** for users in close proximity to the Proposed Development (over approximately 1 km), and **Low** for the remainder of the paths. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term.		significant, rest of path)
THC-REC-12	**Users of the Caledonia Way and Core Paths IN19.67 'Torbreck Road to Cullaird', IN12.07 'Cullaird to Drumashie Plantation' & IN12.02 'Kindrummond to Cullaird'** Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor group can be found on **Page 4** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Recreational receptors will typically focus on the surrounding landscape, with views being a key contributor to the experience. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **Medium to High.** Value The view is not specifically identified as nationally or regionally significant, but the landscape is of high scenic quality. The value is therefore recorded as **Medium to High**. Sensitivity **Medium to High**	Existing View Recreational receptors predominantly experience intermittent views through a well wooded and undulating landscape. Occasional and intermittent far-distance views are available from the Caledonia Way which traverses the lower elevations of the landscape, following local roads before joining the B862 at Scaniport. From here views to the west are backclothed by Carn a'Bhodaich (on the western side of Loch Ness) and eastern views are backclothed by an area of moorland known as Drumashie Moor, and the woodland of Drumashie Plantation. The Core Paths traverse the mid and upper elevations of Drumashie Plantation and far-distance views of the surrounding landscape are available where there are breaks in the woodland. However, woodland and roadside trees and hedgerows mostly contain transient views to the immediate path / roadway. View During Construction Construction activity, felling in the northern extent of Drumashie Plantation to accommodate the OC and temporary access tracks through adjacent fields would be noticeable, particularly around Cullaird and where the Core Paths / Caledonia Way crosses beneath the Proposed Development. Whilst OHL infrastructure and traffic are characteristic in the area, the movement and activity associated with the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be less so. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would cross the Caledonia Way just after it joins the B862, crossing the lower elevations of Drummossie Moor, cutting through the northern end of the Drumashie Plantation and rising onto higher ground at Essich to the east. Views of the Proposed Development would be prominent where occasional panoramic views of the landscape are available on the upper elevations of Drumossie Moor. However, views are mostly well contained by woodland and as a result the Proposed Development would only appear briefly and intermittently for users of Core Paths and the Caledonia Way. Awareness of towers and length of the OHL would be limited to those towers appearing above tree lines or on higher ground at Essich to the east. The Proposed Development would introduce a noticeable man-made structure into a landscape with limited detracting features, with the alignment, including one angle tower in proximity to Cullaird, particularly prominent for Core Path users adjacent. Removal of the existing Beauly to Knocknagael 132 kV OHL to the north would be just noticeable and marginally offset the impact of the Proposed Development, but the magnitude of change remains **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* Summer views would provide marginally more screening from deciduous trees, but the Proposed Development would remain visible for users in close proximity and from more elevated or open views. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low to Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Medium** Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter) **Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Low to Medium**	During Construction **Moderate Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter) **Moderate Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant)
THC-REC-13	**Users of King's Golf Club** Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor can be found on **Page 3** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Visual receptors are engaged in outdoor sport which is partially enhanced by an appreciation of the surrounding landscape. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **Medium.** Value The views from this area are not identified in any guidebook or noted as regionally or locally significant. The surrounding landscape is however of high scenic quality. The value is therefore recorded as **Medium**.	Existing View Users experience predominantly contained views southwards as a result of the A82 embankment and surrounding woodland cover around Torvean and the River Ness. Intermittent far-distance views are available above the tree line with the upper elevations of Craig Dunain (Dunain Hill) in the background to the southwest. View During Construction Construction activity would not be readily perceptible in the mid-distance, being largely screened by intervening trees and topography. The use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing across The Aird may be just discernible at distance but would occupy a very small portion of the view. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be barely perceptible within views experienced by golf course users due to intervening woodland cover, built form and topography. The Proposed Development may be intermittently visible from more open, higher ground within the golf course in the far-distance as it traverses the extensively forested elevations of Craig Leach and The Aird (beyond Craig Dunain). The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Negligible** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Negligible** Operational Phase - Year of Opening	During Construction **Negligible Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter) **Negligible Adverse** (non-significant)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
		Sensitivity **Medium**	*Summer* Much of the vegetation across Craig Dunain and The Aird is coniferous (evergreen) and therefore contributes to consistent visual containment throughout the year. Although, during the summer months, vegetation within the golf course would further serve to screen views of the Proposed Development. The magnitude of change therefore remains **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term.	(Summer) **Negligible**	Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer) **Negligible Adverse** (non-significant)
THC-REC-14	**Users of Daviot Steading (formerly Clava Mains) wedding venue** Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor can be found on **Page 6** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility The attention of users of the wedding venue will typically be temporary, focused on their immediate surroundings, both indoors and out, although a wedding venue within the highlands would be expected to have a scenic immediate setting. Susceptibility to visual change is considered to be **Medium to High**. Value The wedding venue is set within well wooded pastoral fields and bound by tree lined minor roads. Whilst not located within a designated landscape, and views are not specifically noted in literature or references, value will be placed on the experience of the outdoor space and the view, albeit temporarily used. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **Medium to High**	Existing View The wedding venue is located off the B851 to the east of the A9 and north of Daviot, broadly contained by surrounding woodland and forestry. Immediate views for users of the wedding venue are across a flat plateau above the River Nairn and focussed on the immediate surrounds of buildings and cornfields. Mid-distant views west and east are broadly contained by Daviot Wood and Meall Mor, as well as mature roadside trees beyond. There are glimpsed, far-distance views filtered views south, although these are more filtered in summer due to surrounding deciduous trees. An existing 275 kV OHL is visible on the skyline in mid-distant views to the north. View During Construction Construction activity, felling and temporary access tracks through fields to the north and west would be clearly noticeable in views, albeit filtered to a degree by surrounding vegetation. The height, movement, and activity of construction works, including cranes for tower installation and the potential use of helicopters for cable stringing, would be particularly uncharacteristic and distracting in views, albeit very short-term. Vegetation clearance adjacent to the A9 may also increase perception of traffic and traffic movements. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium to High**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* Users of the wedding venue are likely to afford near-distant, partially filtered views north and west towards the Proposed Development, which would be clearly seen above intervening field boundary vegetation, particularly from exterior spaces (albeit less used by guests in winter). The Proposed Development would be seen in conjunction with the existing OHL which would create a degree of wirescaping in the skyline and reduce the sense of remoteness and scenic quality. The 64 m tower immediately adjacent to the B851 would be particularly noticeable, along with the adjacent tower in open fields. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium to High**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* Views in summer would be slightly softened and filtered by surrounding near-distant trees and vegetation, although the nearest towers would still be clearly visible for users of the venue, particularly from outdoor spaces. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. View During Operational Phase Year 15 (Summer) Management felling planting of commercial forestry back to the edge of the OC is likely to have re-established in this time. The replanted forestry would help to screen a short section of the A9 opened up due to management felling. The Proposed Development would remain clearly visible, particularly across the more open landscape to the north. The magnitude of change is assessed to remain as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Medium to High** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Medium to High** Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer) **Medium** Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer) **Medium**	During Construction **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer) **Moderate Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer) **Moderate Adverse** (significant)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
THC-REC-15	**Users Core Paths IN11.02 'Daviot Wood circuits', IN19.40 'Castleton to Daviot Wood by Bogbain Moor'** & **IN19.39 'General Wades Military Road to Daviot Wood', Daviot Woods** Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor group can be found on **Page 6** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Recreational receptors will typically focus on the surrounding landscape, with views being a key contributor to the experience. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **Medium to High.** Value The view is not identified as regionally or locally significant, but the landscape is of high scenic quality. The value is therefore recorded as **Medium to High**. Sensitivity **Medium to High**	Existing View Recreational receptors experience predominantly enclosed views as a result of extensive forestry associated with Drummossie Muir (particularly Daviot Wood and Dundavie woodland). At upper elevations in the southeast there may be some brief panoramic views of the surrounding landscape. The existing OHL would be intermittently visible above the treeline and when in close proximity. View During Construction Construction activity, substantial areas of felling and temporary access tracks would be intermittently noticeable for users of the Core Paths during the construction period, particularly where they are in close proximity. However, these are commercial forestry areas where felling is a characteristic of the area. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* Recreational users would experience intermittent and near-distance views of the Proposed Development as it crosses Drummossie Muir. In areas where far-distance views of the surrounding area are available; the Proposed Development may be visible above the tree line and encompass mid-distance views. However, views would be backclothed by Carn Dubh and the Monadhliath Mountains to the south, and by the built form of Inverness to the north. Whilst the Proposed Development would be seen in conjunction with the existing OHL, with which it would run parallel, it would introduce an additional, larger man-made feature into a remote environment, detracting from the natural and wild qualities of the landscape. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* Due to coniferous woodland cover there would be no discernible change to views during the summer months. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. View During Operational Phase Year 15 (Summer) Management felling planting of commercial forestry back to the edge of the OC is likely to have re-established in this time. Around Drummossie Muir, this regrowth of forestry may help contain views for path users slightly longer, although the towers and OC would remain readily visible where paths cross beneath or are adjacent. The overall effect is unlikely to change as a result and is anticipated to remain as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Medium** Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer) **Medium** Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer) **Medium**	During Construction **Moderate Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter) **Moderate Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase –Year of Opening (Summer) **Moderate Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase –Year 15 (Summer) **Moderate Adverse** (significant)
THC-REC-16	**Users of the Highland Tourist Route, A939** Representative viewpoints VP17 B9091, Nairn (**Visualisation 7.17: Viewpoint 17: B9091, Nairn); and** **VP18 Urchany (Visualisation 7.18: Viewpoint 18: Urchany &** **Visualisation THC-18: Viewpoint 18: Urchany**) Receptor can be found on **Pages 5, 6, 8, 9** & **12** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors &**	Susceptibility Recreational receptors will typically focus on the surrounding landscape, with views being a key contributor to the experience. The route is extensive and covers a wide range of landscapes, with many sections being on roads set to the national speed limit. Even so, the susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **Medium to High.** Value This journey is part of Scotland's network of National Tourist Routes, which are designed to guide visitors through some of the most scenic parts of the country. The Highland Tourist Route is an important scenic drive and a recognised recreational route. The value is therefore recorded as **High**.	Existing View The Highland Tourist Route is an alternative route from Aberdeen to Inverness across a length of 187 kilometres (116 miles) and provides a scenic journey through landmark towns and countryside. South of Nairn, the route follows the A939 towards Nairn. Just before reaching Nairn, the tourist route turns left onto the B9101, takes the B9090 via Cawdor and then the B9091 to Croy. At Croy, the route picks up the B9006, which leads on to the A9. The route turns north on the A9 for the short distance to the A96, where it ends. Users experience a combination of attractive open and enclosed views of the surrounding landscape due to varied topography and woodland. The attention of recreational receptors is often directed towards the distant Cairngorms which backcloth distant views to the south, but the whole route is designed to be scenic and taken at lower speeds than the main road between Inverness and Aberdeen. View During Construction Construction activity, felling and access tracks are likely to be visible very locally and briefly from the A939 in proximity to Ferness and more particularly where the Proposed Development directly crosses the A939. However, due to the speed of travel, views would be only momentarily opened up and are otherwise largely enclosed by woodland. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low to **Medium** in areas close to the Proposed Development. The geographical extent would be small to medium, and the duration would be short-term. For all other sections, the magnitude of change would be **No Change**. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be largely absent from the majority of views experienced by those traveling along the Highland Tourist Route, with only a distant and intermittent appreciation likely between Inverness and Redburn where the Proposed Development is on higher ground to the south. This limited visibility is a result of appreciable distance as well as intervening topography and vegetation. Where views of the Proposed Development are available, notably in proximity to Ferness, it would be viewed in conjunction with the existing OHL located parallel to the Proposed Development as it crosses the A939. The Proposed Development would become a dominant feature within the skyline of brief views from the road. In the context of the whole route, the Proposed	During Construction **Medium** (localised section) **No Change** (wider route) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Medium** (localised section) **No Change** (wider route) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Medium** (localised	During Construction **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant, localised section) **Neutral** (wider route) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant, localised section) **Neutral** (wider route) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant,

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
	Viewpoint Locations	Sensitivity **High**	Development would not change the scenic quality of views for users, however at the local level the magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. For all other sections, the magnitude of change would be **No Change**. *Summer* Whilst in summer months, the view for road users would be slightly more contained by areas of deciduous woodland and deciduous roadside and field boundary vegetation, there would not be any discernible changes to localised views during the summer months in proximity to Ferness as much of the vegetation is coniferous (evergreen). The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining **Medium** in areas close to the Proposed Development. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. For all other sections, the magnitude of change would be **No Change**.	section) **No Change** (wider route)	localised section) **Neutral** (wider route)
THC-REC-17	**Users of National Cycle Route 7** Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor can be found on **Pages 6** & **7** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Recreational receptors will typically focus on the surrounding landscape, with views being a key contributor to the experience. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High.** Value National Cycle Routes are nationally recognised and important networks. They are well-mapped, signposted, and widely used by both locals and tourists. The value is therefore recorded as **High**. **Sensitivity** **High**	Existing View National Cycle Route (NCR) 7 runs north-south through the Study Area from Clava Cairns / Clava Lodge to Loch Moy following existing access tracks and the B9152. Users experience open views of a rural landscape with areas of commercial forestry, moorland and natural woodlands. Views are predominantly directed through lower lying valleys as the cycle route traverses between Beinn a Bheurlaich and Beinn Bhreac to the south and the lower slopes of Meall Mor alongside the River Nairn to the northeast, although some views of distant hills are afforded along the valleys. Rising topography and forestry generally limit far-distance views beyond the valley sides. Wind turbines and OHL are occasional intermittent features in the landscape. View During Construction Construction activity, felling and temporary access tracks / upgrade works would be noticeable to the south of Castleton, particularly in the vicinity of the River Nairn and on the slopes of Meall Mor. This would result in localised visual impacts for users of the cycle route. The use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing during the construction period would be visible in transient, intermittent views on the approaches to this section – most notably from Castleton in the north and from Auchnahillin in the south – over a length of approximately 7 km. Far-distance views would generally be contained by topography and vegetation. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium** for those on the localised section of route, and **No Change** for the rest of the route. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would not be visible across much of the route to the north of Castleton and south of Auchnahillin as a result of intervening topography and forestry, although it would be intermittently visible over a length of approximately 7 km along the cycle route. The Proposed Development crosses the cycle route in proximity to the existing 275 kV OHL, introducing additional vertical infrastructure into a rural landscape, but it would be viewed within the context of the existing OHL. The Proposed Development – when seen in the mid-distance - would be partially backclothed by surrounding hills, although it would become skylined when in close proximity. The OC around Meall Mor to Creagan Glas may be seen as an artificially straight line in the landscape from sections of NCR 7, accentuating its presence locally. The visual experience for users would not change substantially in the context of the entire route but locally, the magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium,** but **No Change** for the rest of the route. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* Localised areas of deciduous woodland would offer some increased screening of the Proposed Development for cycle route users, but the Proposed Development would remain locally prominent to the south of Castleton. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium** locally and **No Change** for the rest of the route. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. View During Operational Phase Year 15 (Summer) Management felling planting back to the edge of the OC as well as forest edge fringe planting (refer to **Appendix 7.6: Forestry Landscape Mitigation Principles**) within the OC at Meall Mor, is likely to have re-established in this time. Replanted forestry is likely to provide some additional screening of the lower portion of towers, although the Proposed Development would remain openly visible locally and above the tree line from a long length of the route. Fringe planting within the OC around Meall Mor to Creagan Glas would slightly soften the appearance of the artificially straight tract of open forestry by making the edges more organic and natural looking in the landscape. Even so, the overall effect is unlikely to change as a result and is anticipated to remain as **Medium** for the localised section of route, and **No Change** for the rest of the route. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Medium** (localised section) **No Change** (wider route) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Medium** (localised section) **No Change** (wider route) Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer) **Medium** (localised section) **No Change** (wider route) Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer) **Medium** (localised section) **No Change** (wider route)	During Construction **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant, localised section) **Neutral** (wider route) Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant, localised section) **Neutral** (wider route) Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant, localised section) **Neutral** (wider route) Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant, localised section) **Neutral** (wider route)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
THC-REC-18	**Users of National Cycle Route 1 'Inverness to Nairn' section** Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor can be found on **Pages 5** & **6** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Recreational receptors will typically focus on the surrounding landscape, with views being a key contributor to the experience. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High.** Value National Cycle Routes are nationally recognised and important networks. They are well-mapped, signposted, and widely used by both locals and tourists. The value is therefore recorded as **High**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View This section of National Cycle Route (NCR) 1 runs west-east across the northern section of the Study Area, from Inverness to Nairn. It joins NCR 7 at Clava Cairns / Clava Lodge and runs just beyond 1 km north of the centreline of the Proposed Development through the Assich Forest and Cawdor Wood to The Ord. Recreational receptors experience both open and enclosed sequential views of the surrounding landscape along this section of the route, with some more open views in the western section along valleys, interspersed with more enclosed, intimate areas of landscape to the east, where views are more enclosed or intermittent. Views are directed westwards along the well wooded valley of the River Nairn but more enclosed to the east by rising landforms of Saddle Hill and Beinn nan Creagan and large plantation forestry and mixed woodlands such as Assich Forest and Cawdor Wood. Views across lower elevations (to the north and west) encompass an extensively wooded or built landscape including Culloden and Westhill to the west and Culloden Forest to the north. Some existing OHLs are present in the landscape, but they are generally quite well contained. View During Construction Construction activity would not be readily perceived, and only in the mid-distance to the south and for a localised portion of the route, along approximately 5.5 km, although not in the direction of travel (i.e. views to construction activity are oblique to the southeast). The use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing and some vegetation removal of trees may be discernible, albeit in transient views. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low** for the localised section of route, and **No Change** for the rest of the route. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* Views of the Proposed Development would be limited by intervening coniferous woodland and landform, but likely to be noticeable from the route to the south between Culloden and Cantray over a length of approximately 5.5 km. The Proposed Development would be noticeable in the mid-distance on the lower slopes of Meall Mor and to the east of Saddle Hill, where it is likely to become skylined due to undulations in the landform. It would then become screened or backclothed beyond Assich Forest. The Proposed Development would be viewed beyond the existing OHL on slightly higher ground, making it more prominent but remaining mostly backclothed by rising landform beyond. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low** for the localised section of route, and **No Change** for the rest of the route. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* Deciduous vegetation alongside the cycle path may provide some additional or intermittent screening in summer but as much of the vegetation is coniferous forest (and therefore evergreen) there would be limited change in the extent of views in summer. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as **Low** for the localised section of route, and **No Change** for the rest of the route. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Low** (localised section) **No Change** (wider route) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Low** (localised section) **No Change** (wider route) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Low** (localised section) **No Change** (wider route)	During Construction **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant, localised section) **Neutral** (wider route) Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant, localised section) **Neutral** (wider route) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant, localised section) **Neutral** (wider route)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
THC-REC-19	**Users and visitors to Inverness Airport** Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor can be found on **Page 5** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility The attention of users of the Airport would typically be focused on their immediate surroundings. Susceptibility to visual change is considered to be **Low to Medium**. Value Inverness Airport is not within a highly valued landscape and views are not the primary focus for users, although some value will be placed on views to hills to the south. The value of the view is recorded as **Low**. Sensitivity **Low to Medium**	Existing View Inverness Airport is located to the northeast of Inverness and bound to the north by the Moray Firth. It is located on a large area of flat, open land. Distant views south are partially limited by intervening infrastructure and large blocks of woodland although topography rises in elevation to the south which allows glimpses of distant hills. Views for users of the Airport are focussed on the immediate surrounding landscape which includes moving traffic on the A96, the railway line and existing OHLs in the background. View During Construction Construction activity would not be readily perceived in the far-distance to the south apart from potentially the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* Users of the Airport are unlikely to have any appreciation of the Proposed Development in the far-distance to the south, even where there are views from upper storeys of taller buildings. If the tops of towers are visible, they would barely be perceptible. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* Any potential views to the Proposed Development in the far-distance would not readily change in summer months. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Negligible** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Negligible** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Negligible**	During Construction **Negligible Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Negligible Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Negligible Adverse** (non-significant)
THC-REC-20	**Visitors to / within Cawdor Castle Gardens** Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor can be found on **Page 8** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Recreational receptors will typically focus on the surrounding landscape, with views being a key contributor to the experience. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **Medium to High.** Value Views do not encompass any landscape designation, but they do include a heritage designation which illustrates preserved historic character that contributes to current day scenic quality. The value is recorded as **Medium to High**. Sensitivity **Medium to High**	Existing View Receptors experience views of formal, designed gardens surrounding the Grade A Castle and enclosed by 300 hectares of woodland – the Cawdor Big Wood – a renowned broadleaf ancient woodland. The heritage-designated gardens and designed landscape (GDL) grounds are surrounded by further coniferous and broadleaved woodland to the west, south and southeast, including the 750 acres of Cawdor Wood, such that views are generally contained within the immediate gardens and grounds. View During Construction The use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing may be discernible from the southern boundary of the designed gardens and grounds, but most views would remain contained within the immediate gardens and grounds of the Castle. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* Recreational receptors visiting Cawdor Castle, gardens and woodland would not experience views of the Proposed Development due to dense intervening woodland surrounding the property and appreciable distance. There may, however, be glimpsed views of the tops of towers from the southern boundary of the GDL grounds, where bare branches allow. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* The presence of deciduous trees on the southern boundary are likely to screen all views out from the grounds in summer, such that the magnitude of change is assessed as **No change**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Negligible** Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter) **Negligible** Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer) **No change**	During Construction **Negligible to Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Negligible to Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer) **Neutral**
THC-REC-21	**Users of Heritage Trail within SLA 'Drynachan, Lochindorb and Dava Moors'** Representative viewpoint N/A	Susceptibility Recreational receptors will typically focus on the surrounding landscape, with views being a key contributor to the experience. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **Medium to High.** Value Views encompass a landscape	Existing View The heritage trail is located closest to the site of the Proposed Development at the trail's eastern extent at Dulsie. The trail then travels south-west along the River Findhorn valley to the edge of the Study Area near the A9 at Loch Moy. Users are located within the Eastern Highlands in a narrow and enclosed glen with views contained by the valley sides of the River Findhorn and extensive forestry cover. The landscape is predominantly rural with very few detracting features or development apart from telegraph poles and wires. Views are mostly directed east and west through local valleys with only brief views north afforded through the forested valley towards the site of the Proposed Development and its eastern extent. Views northwards from the western section of the trail are curtailed by the landform of the moors. View During Construction Even at its closest point at the eastern extent of the trail, the Proposed Development is located at an appreciable distance (approx.	During Construction **Negligible** (localised section at Dulsie) **No Change** (wider route) Operational Phase - Year of Opening	During Construction **Negligible to Minor Adverse** (non-significant, localised section at Dulsie) **Neu**tral (wider route)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
	Receptor group can be found on **Page 9** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	that is regionally designated as a Special Landscape Area - 'Drynachan, Lochindorb and Dava Moors'. The value is therefore recorded as **Medium to High**. Sensitivity **Medium to High**	3.5 km), to the north of the trail and beyond Dulsie and Lodge Wood on either side of the River Findhorn valley. Views of the wider landscape are contained by the steep surrounding valley sides and forestry and the only potential view towards the construction activity would be from the eastern extent of the trail near Dulsie. Here, a narrow and slightly elevated view may be afforded towards the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing. Even so, where the towers cross the valley and traverse the lower slopes of Dulsie Wood and Cairn Duhie there is intervening coniferous woodland and landform. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible** for the eastern extent at Dulsie, and **No Change** for the rest of the route. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* Any construction activity would have ceased and given the distance, intervening landform and vegetation it is unlikely that the Proposed Development would be discernible. The tops of occasional towers where they cross the lower slopes of Dulsie Wood and Cairn Duhie may be just discernible, but it would occupy a very small portion of the view and be barely distinguishable. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible** for the eastern extent at Dulsie, and **No Change** for the rest of the route. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* The presence of some deciduous vegetation is likely to limit all views northwards towards the Proposed Development. The magnitude of change is assessed as **No Change**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term.	(Winter) **Negligible** (localised section at Dulsie) **No Change** (wider route) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **No change** (whole route)	Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Negligible to Minor Adverse** (non-significant, localised section at Dulsie) **Neu**tral (wider route) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Neutral** (non-significant, localised section at Dulsie) **Neu**tral (wider route)
THC-REC-22	**Users of Achagour Fishery** Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor can be found on **Page 8** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Visual receptors are engaged in outdoor sport which somewhat depends on an appreciation of the surrounding landscape and setting. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **Medium to High.** Value The view is not identified as nationally, regionally or locally significant. The surrounding landscape is however of scenic quality. The value is therefore recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **Medium to High**	Existing View Receptors are located within a very gently undulating landscape with fishing ponds and low-lying grassland. Views of the surrounding landscape beyond approx. 1 km, are generally contained in all directions by woodland cover including Dulsie Wood and Newlands of Fleenas Wood, with short distant views available across the immediately surrounding fishing ponds and grassland. However, there are far-distance views to hilltops rising above the tree line which provides a scenic setting for the fishing ponds. An existing 275 kV OHL traverses the pond area, being skylined and a dominating feature in many views, reducing the sense of tranquillity and remoteness. View During Construction Construction activity and potentially some management felling to the southeast, would be clearly visible across the more open areas of the fishery, beyond the existing 275 kV OHL. Although the presence of vegetation around the ponds would provide some visual filtering, the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would introduce uncharacteristic movement and detracting features when viewed in close proximity. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium to High**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* Views of the Proposed Development would be available to the south across a wide portion of the view, beyond the existing 275 kV OHL. The tops of more distant towers, including an angle tower, would also be likely to be visible above the tree line, intensifying the infrastructure elements in views. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium to High**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* Given the presence of open views across the fishing ponds, the existing OHL line, and towards the Proposed Development, the presence of wider deciduous vegetation would not screen the nearest and most prominent towers. There would therefore be no changes to views during the summer months. The magnitude of change would remain **Medium to High**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Medium to High** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Medium to High** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Medium to High**	During Construction **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Moderate to Major Adverse** (significant)
THC-REC-23	**Users of Long-Distance Paths and Heritage Trails: 'Dava Way', Highland Tourist Route 'Old Military Road', and 'Via Regia', within SLA 'Drynachan,**	Susceptibility Recreational receptors of national routes will typically focus on the surrounding landscape, with views being a key contributor to the experience. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as	Existing View Users experience a landscape of rolling moorland with limited tree cover. The paths, trails and road traverse the Dava Moor with eastern views backclothed by numerous hills including Carn na Glaisneach and Carn Bad na Caorach. Open sequential views are directed westwards across Anaboard Burn and backclothed by numerous hills, including Carn na h-Ath-aoil. Views north are obstructed by rolling upland landform and intervening low peaks, including Carn na Glaisneach; Carn Biorach and Knock of Braemoray. Except for the A939 itself, there are limited detracting features. View During Construction Given the distance and intervening landform, it is unlikely that construction activity would be perceivable from these routes. Any	During Construction **Negligible** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter)	During Construction **Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
	Lochindorb and Dava Moors' Representative viewpoint VP19 Via Regia Heritage Path, Cairngorms National Park (**Visualisation 7.19: Viewpoint 19: Via Regia Heritage Path, Cairngorms National Park**) Receptor group can be found on **Pages 11** & **12** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	**High.** Value Views encompass a landscape that is regionally designated as a Special Landscape Area - 'Drynachan, Lochindorb and Dava Moors' to the north. National trails and tourist routes are also higher value. The value is therefore recorded as **Medium to High**. Sensitivity **High**	visibility of the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be at distance, occupy only a very small portion of the view and be short-term and transient. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible.** The geographical extent would be Low, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would not be discernible in views experienced by trail / road users. This is a result of appreciable distance and intervening topography including Knock of Braemoray and Sliabh Bainneach. The magnitude of change is assessed as **No change**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* There would be no changes to views during the summer months due to limited tree cover. The magnitude of change remains **No change**. The geographical extent would be negligible, and the duration would be long-term.	**No change** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **No change**	(Winter) **Neutral** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Neutral**
THC-REC-24	**Users of Long-Distance Paths: The Great Glen Way** Representative viewpoint VP16 **(Visualisation 7.16: Viewpoint 16: Culloden Battlefield & Visualisation THC16: Viewpoint 16: Culloden Battlefield**) Receptor can be found on **Pages 3** & **4** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Recreational receptors of national long-distance routes will typically focus on the surrounding landscape, with views being a key contributor to the experience. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High.** Value Views do not encompass a landscape designation, but they do include varied Scottish scenery. National trails and tourist routes are also higher value. The value is therefore recorded as **Medium to High**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View This 79-mile-long route crosses through the Study Area near Loch Ness and the Caledonian Canal. The route crosses The Aird from the south near Loch Ladie, to the west of Balchraggan, travelling north along Blackfold, before diverging at Altourie to travel slightly more northwards across the hills of the Aird on higher ground towards Dunain Hill. It passes to the west of Dunain Hill and existing OHLs before descending back down into Inverness at Drummond. Users of the trail experience far-reaching views from the edge of The Aird, particularly towards Blackfold, although views across the top of The Aird itself and further south around Altourie are often limited by undulations in topography or vegetation cover. The two existing OHLs across The Aird are located on slightly lower ground to the north, such that they do not become visible from the south until in quite close proximity, with suburbs of Inverness opening up beyond. View During Construction The Great Glen Way passes directly beneath the Proposed Development to the east of Croc na Moine, and therefore construction works on the closet towers, including quite extensive management felling, would be clearly noticeable for travellers along this stretch of the route, along with any management of the path whilst works are being undertaken. Construction activity including the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would result in uncharacteristic movement, height and activity across a large portion of the view, and across quite a length of path, although primarily from the north of the Proposed Development to Dunain, and intermittently further north to Leachkin. Whilst views would be transient, they would not be high speed. When travelling north, the works would be visible for around 2 km. Whilst travelling south, they would be visible over a longer stretch, becoming increasingly visible from Leachkin, over a stretch of around 3.5 km, with clearer visibility over the last 2 km. There would be no further visibility of the Proposed Development beyond this section of the route. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as **High** for a stretch of around 4 km, reducing to **No Change** for the rest of the route. The geographical extent for the section of up to 4 km of route is high, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be clearly discernible across views experienced by trail users from both the south (for around 2 km) and particularly the north (for around 4 km), with the proportion of view and prominence of towers increasing with proximity to them. Whilst the characteristic activity associated with the construction works would have ceased, replanting back to the OC would not have begun to mature, and the Proposed Development would cross large portions of the view, albeit seen to the north in conjunction with existing OHLs. The OC may also be viewed as an artificially straight line through the forestry. The magnitude of change for this stretch of the Great Glen Way is assessed as remaining **High,** reducing to **No Change** for the rest of the route. The geographical extent would be high for this section of the route, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **High** (localised section) **No Change** (wider route) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **High** (localised section) **No Change** (wider route) Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer) **High** (localised section) **No Change** (wider route) Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer)	During Construction **Major Adverse** (significant, localised section) **Neutral** (wider route) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Major Adverse** (significant, localised section) **Neutral** (wider route) Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer) **Major Adverse** (significant, localised section) **Neutral** (wider route) Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
			Summer There would be some additional screening from deciduous vegetation in summer months; however, due to the amount of coniferous planting, views would be largely similar to those experienced in winter. As a result, the magnitude of change for this stretch of the Great Glen Way remains **High,** reducing to **No Change** for the rest of the route. The geographical extent would be high for this section of the route, and the duration would be long-term. View During Operational Phase Year 15 (Summer) Management felling planting back to the edge of the OC and fringe planting (refer to **Appendix 7.6: Forestry Landscape Mitigation Principles**) within the OC, is likely to have re-established in this time. The replanted forestry would partially screen the lower portions of some individual towers and help contain views locally, whilst the fringe planting would soften the artificially straight edges of the OC by making its appearance more organic and natural in the landscape. Whilst the Proposed Development would remain highly visible, particularly across the open landscape where limited trees are present, the magnitude of change is anticipated to reduce slightly to **Medium to High,** reducing to **No Change** for the rest of the route. The geographical extent would be high for this section of the route, and the duration would be long-term.	**Medium to High** (localised section) **No Change** (wider route)	**Major Adverse** (significant, localised section) **Neutral** (wider route)
THC-REC-25	**Visitors to Culloden battlefield open space and visitor centre, within the Battle of Culloden Battlefield** Representative viewpoint VP16 Culloden Battlefield (**Visualisation 7.16: Viewpoint 16: Culloden Battlefield & Visualisation THC-16: Viewpoint 16: Culloden Battlefield**) Receptor can be found on **Pages 5** & **6** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Recreational receptors will typically focus on the surrounding landscape, with views from the battlefield and visitor centre being a key contributor to the experience. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as **High.** Value The battlefield is nationally recognised and highly valued by visitors. The value is therefore recorded as **High**. Sensitivity **High**	Existing View Recreational receptors experience open views south across Drummossie Muir towards rising landform associated with Meall Mor, Bhuidhe Mnor, Beinn Bhuidhe Bheag and Saddle Hill, with the Assich Forest further east. Views from the battlefield and visitor centre roof are open and expansive to the south, with the well wooded immediate valley sides and open moorland on the opposite rising hills beyond. An existing OHL can be seen in the far-distance on higher ground to the south, largely backclothed by hills beyond. View During Construction Construction activity would be noticeable beyond the existing OHL on the mid slopes of rising topography associated with Meall Mor, Beinn Bhuidhe Mhor and Beinn Bhuidhe Bheag in the far-distance to the south, progressively being installed along the opposite hillside. The use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be particularly noticeable due to their height and movement. Even so, the construction works would occupy a relatively small proportion of the overall view. Management felling would be noticeable on Meall Mor. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low to Medium**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be short-term. Effects are identified as **Moderate Adverse** but **non-significant** as the construction activity would only be perceptible in the far-distance beyond the existing OHL, and over a relatively small portion of views. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be noticeable over a length of approximately 4 km, located on slightly higher ground beyond the existing OHL and with taller towers than the existing OHL. It would therefore be more noticeable, although still largely backclothed by rising landform. Towers located beyond the summit of Saddle Hill are likely to be substantially screened, and whilst substantial portions of the Proposed Development would remain backclothed by rising hills behind, a number of towers are likely to be skylined further east before the Proposed Development drops onto lower slopes behind Assich Forest. Given the length of visible infrastructure within open views, the magnitude of change is assessed as **Low to Medium**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term. Effects are identified as **Moderate Adverse** but **non-significant** as the Proposed Development would mostly be backdropped by landform and seen beyond the existing OHL. The uncharacteristic activity, movement, and disruption of construction would also have ceased. *Summer* Limited foreground screening vegetation, and the presence of coniferous (evergreen) woodland on more distant slopes is unlikely to change the extent of visibility of the Proposed Development in summer. The magnitude of change remains **Low to Medium**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term. Effects are identified as remaining **Moderate Adverse** and **non-significant** asvisibility of the Proposed Development would remain similar to winter views, being mostly backdropped by landform and seen beyond the existing OHL. View During Operational Phase Year 15 (Summer) Management felling planting back to the edge of the OC as well as forest edge fringe planting (refer to **Appendix 7.6: Forestry Landscape Mitigation Principles**) within the OC at Meall Mor, is likely to have re-established in this time. Replanted forestry is likely to provide some additional screening of the lower portion of towers, although the Proposed Development would remain openly visible locally and above the tree line from a long length of the route. Fringe planting within the OC around Meall Mor to Creagan Glas would	During Construction **Low to Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Low to Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Low to Medium** Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Low to Medium**	During Construction **Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Moderate Adverse** (non-significant)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
			slightly soften the appearance of the artificially straight tract of open forestry by making the edges more organic and natural looking in the landscape. The magnitude of change is anticipated to remain **Low to Medium**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term. Effects are identified as remaining **Moderate Adverse** and **non-significant** as replanted forestry would only provide a small degree of additional screening.		
THC-REC-26	**Visitors to Ardclach Church and grounds and Ardclach Bell Tower** Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor can be found on **Pages 8** & **9** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility The attention of visitors to the bell tower, Church and its grounds will be focused on their immediate surroundings and on the landscape. Although used only temporarily, the susceptibility to visual change is considered to be **Medium to High**. Value Value will be placed on the quiet, peaceful setting of the Belltower, and the Church and its grounds for visitors. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **Medium to High**.	Existing View Ardclach Church is located on the northern banks of the River Findhorn to the south of Ardclach Bell Tower. Ardclach Bell Tower is located on higher ground to the west of Ardclach. Views for visitors to the graveyard (still in use) and disused church are low lying, near distant and focussed on the immediate surrounds, which are well contained on all sides by mature woodland vegetation on the banks of the river. Views for visitors to Ardclach Bell Tower are more elevated and far-distant, although slightly further from the Proposed Development than the church. Views west and south across the river are heavily filtered but the tops of towers of an existing 275 kV OHL are noticeable in the near-distance just beyond the River Findhorn above the tree line, reducing the sense of tranquillity and enclosure. View During Construction Lower-level Construction activity on the other side of the River Findhorn would not be perceived beyond the woodland. However, some management felling of trees beyond the existing 275 kV OHL may be noticeable, and the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be particularly distracting on the skyline through their movement and height. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* Visitors to the Belltower, church and its grounds are unlikely to see beyond or through the intervening woodland on the banks of the River Findhorn even in winter months because much of the woodland is coniferous and on the rising banks of the river with the towers set back on a plateau. The tower bases would therefore remain screened by topography as well as by evergreen trees, and even where slight increased visibility may be available through deciduous tree canopies, or from the more elevated Belltower, this would not readily alter the overall visibility or prominence of the lower levels of the towers. However, there would be prominent views of the tops of towers to the southwest, above the tree line, where the Proposed Development would be seen beyond the existing 275 kV OHL. This would potentially include two angle towers, whose more substantial forms would be particularly noticeable. Tower CB6-3 is off-parallel and would therefore contribute to a degree of wirescaping in this portion of the view. Views from the more elevated Bell Tower may be slightly more extensive. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* Views would not readily change in summer months, although tower bases and lower portions would be slightly more screened by the canopies of deciduous trees. This would not readily alter the overall visibility or prominence of the towers, including the angle towers, which would remain clearly visible above intervening tree canopies. The magnitude of change is assessed as remaining **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. View During Operational Phase Year 15 (Summer) Management felling planting of commercial forestry back to the edge of the OC is likely to have re-established in this time. The replanted forestry would provide some additional blackclothing of towers from Ardclach Bell Tower and close the extent of open ground around the Proposed Development. It would also provide some strengthening of screening of the lower portions of some individual towers from the Church and its grounds. However, the tops of the Proposed Development would remain highly visible above the tree line. The magnitude of change is anticipated to remain **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Medium** Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer) **Medium**	During Construction **Moderate Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Moderate Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer) **Moderate Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer) **Moderate Adverse** (significant)
TRANSPORT RECEPTORS					
THC-T-1	**Users of the A831** Representative viewpoint VP 1 River Beauly (**Visualisation 7.1:**	Susceptibility Users of the A831 would include residents, commuters and commercial drivers for whom the landscape is peripheral to their journey. The A831 is a	Existing View Users of the A831 in proximity to Kilmorack and the River Beauly experience relatively well enclosed views to the west of Beauly Substation. The River Beauly is not openly apparent due to woodland alongside the river enclosing views south while mid to far-distance views north are occasionally afforded towards Torr Breac. Views are directed east–west along the road and the hill form of Tòrr Mòr frames and screens views towards the Proposed Development to the south and southwest. There are a number of detractors including existing OHLs, Beauly Substation, and Balblair Quarry at the eastern end.	During Construction **Low**	During Construction **Minor Adverse** (non-significant)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
	Viewpoint 1: River Beauly & Visualisation THC-1: Viewpoint 1: River Beauly) Receptor can be found on **Page 1** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	relatively high-speed road, slightly reducing the susceptibility of receptors. Susceptibility to visual change is considered to be **Medium**. Value The A831 forms part of multiple tourist routes and recreational race events, all of which are recognised locally for their scenic landscape views. However, views contain a number of detracting features associated with existing OHL as well as Beauly Substation and Balblair Quarry to the south. The value of the view is therefore recorded as **Medium to High**. Sensitivity **Medium**	View During Construction Construction activity would not be readily perceived beyond the River Beauly due to the woodland of Ruttle Wood and landform of Tòrr Mòr. A brief view south from a section of slightly elevated road above the river would be afforded towards the Proposed Development for users of the A831 between the existing Beauly Substation and Kilmorack. The tops of towers would be visible above the intervening tree line in the mid-distance, and tree removal works may also be visible. Views of construction activity, however, would be brief and represent a small change that would not be readily noticed. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* Whilst much of the Proposed Development would be screened from the A831, transient, glimpsed views between Beauly Substation and Kilmorack would remain. The tops of towers would be visible above the intervening tree line in the mid-distance and viewed against the existing OHL infrastructure and Beauly Substation. Although similar in character to existing features, the towers would introduce additional detracting and industrialising elements into the view. However, views would be relatively brief and transient and represent a negligible change that would be barely perceptible. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* The majority of views to the south from the A831 would not change in summer due to the presence of coniferous woodland within Ruttle Wood and across Tòrr Mòr. Additionally, deciduous woodland around Beauly Substation and Balblair Quarry, and within Balblair Wood, would help to further screen some of the lower portions of the towers at the eastern extent of the road. Even so, the magnitude of change is assessed as remaining **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term.	Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Low**	Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Minor Adverse** (non-significant)
THC-T-2	**Minor roads between Culburnie & Easter Moniack to south of River Beauly** Representative viewpoints VP2 Creraig (Crerag) (**Visualisation 7.2: Viewpoint 2: Creraig (Crerag) & Visualisation THC-2: Viewpoint 2: Creraig (Crerag));** **VP5 Ardnagrask** **(Visualisation 7.5: Viewpoint 5: Ardnagrask & Visualisation THC-5: Viewpoint 5: Ardnagrask);** **VP6 Kiltarlity** **(Visualisation 7.6: Viewpoint 6: Kiltarlity & Visualisation THC-6: Viewpoint 6: Kiltarlity);** **VP7 Balchraggan**	Susceptibility The roads are not busy through-routes, and users are likely to include a high proportion of residents travelling to and from their homes or places of work. Speeds are likely to be low to moderate. Susceptibility to visual change is considered to be **Medium**. Value Minor roads are not identified to be nationally or regionally significant routes, but the area is well used by tourists and holiday makers experiencing the landscape. Views have few detracting features. The value of the view is therefore recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **Medium**	Existing View Users of local roads to the south of the River Beauly experience relatively well enclosed views from a variety of elevations, with more elevated views north being afforded from Crerag, Culburnie and Easter Moniack in particular. Views are broadly contained by hills to the south and west and often limited to near or mid-distance views by large areas of woodland and forestry, including Reelig Glen, containing some of Britain's tallest trees. The existing OHLs between the River Beauly and Inchmore are the only notable detractors. Views briefly open up on lower topography to the north of Balchraggan and Easter Moniack through arable farmland. View During Construction Whilst the Proposed Development would be only intermittently visible for users of local roads for the most part – due to the undulating topography and frequency of roadside trees, hedges, woodland and forestry – construction activity including felling, the introduction of temporary access tracks and the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would all be noticeable from certain local roads in proximity to the Proposed Development. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would remain only intermittently visible for users of local roads for the most part, but towers are likely to be fully visible in some more open locations and at other locations, in proximity to woodland and forestry, only visible above tree lines. To the east of the River Beauly, it would be viewed in close proximity to the existing OHL, where the removal of the existing Beauly to Knocknagael 132 kV OHL would be noticeable and slightly offset the introduction of new towers. Even so, a degree of wirescaping would be experienced to the north of Balchraggan and Easter Moniack. While the Proposed Development would be a noticeable feature in the landscape, it would not fundamentally change baseline views experienced by local road users due to the presence of existing OHL infrastructure. Nevertheless, these features would remain detracting, prominent features within views. The magnitude of change is considered to remain **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* While summer foliage would offer a slight additional degree of screening, views for local road users of the Proposed Development would not fundamentally change in summer months. Towers would remain either openly visible across arable farmland or viewed above the tree line. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. View During Operational Phase Year 15 (Summer) Management felling planting of commercial forestry back to the edge of the OC is likely to have re-established in this time. The	During Construction **Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Medium** Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer) **Medium**	During Construction **Moderate Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Moderate Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer) **Moderate Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer) **Moderate Adverse** (significant)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
	(Visualisation 7.7: Viewpoint 7: Balchraggan & Visualisation THC-7: Viewpoint 7: Balchraggan); VP8 Easter Moniack (Visualisation 7.8: Viewpoint 8: Easter Moniack & Visualisation THC-8: Viewpoint 8: Easter Moniack); VP9 Knockbain (Visualisation 7.9: Viewpoint 9: Knockbain & Visualisation THC-9: Viewpoint 9: Knockbain); VP11 Drumchardine (Visualisation 7.11: Viewpoint 11: Drumchardine & Visualisation THC-11: Viewpoint 11: Drumchardine); Viewpoint 3: Ruisaurie (Visualisation 7.3: Viewpoint 3: Ruisaurie & Visualisation THC-3: Viewpoint 3: Ruisaurie); and VP12 Pine Chalets, Newtonhill (Visualisation 7.12: Viewpoint 12: Pine Chalets, Newtonhill & Visualisation THC-12: Viewpoint 12: Pine Chalets, Newtonhill) Receptor group can be found on **Page 3** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**		replanted forestry may partially screen the lower portions of some individual towers, but the Proposed Development would remain highly visible from local roads in close proximity. The overall effect is unlikely to change as a result and is anticipated to remain as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term.		

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
THC-T-3	**Minor unnamed roads over The Aird** Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor can be found on **Pages 3** & **4** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility There are few roads across The Aird, and they are not busy through-routes. The majority of users are likely to be residents travelling to and from their homes or places of work, but they are also used by tourists and are of lower speed. Susceptibility to visual change is considered to be **Medium**. Value Minor roads are not identified to be nationally, regionally, or locally significant routes but views have few detracting features and may be used by tourists experiencing the landscape. The value of the view is therefore recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **Medium**	Existing View Users of minor roads over The Aird experience elevated open views over the hill summits to the southwest and across Loch Ness from the southern slopes, and towards Inverness from the northern slopes. Much of The Aird is forested, and on travelling through the large-scale forestry views are intermittent between gaps in the blocks of forest. While there is a sense of enclosure within the forestry there are occasional, open, panoramic and elevated views over the hill summits to the southwest and towards the Beauly Firth and Inverness from the northern slopes. There are also views eastwards on the mid to lower slopes to the west of the A82 across the valley of the River Ness. There are few detracting features in the view although existing OHLs are perceptible crossing the River Ness and to the north and northeast (including where they cross Inchberry Hill and the lower slopes of The Aird at Kirkton Muir and Englishton Muir). View During Construction Construction activity, including substantial areas of felling, creation of temporary access tracks and the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would all be noticeable both in proximity to the Proposed Development as well as from a greater distance due to the elevated nature of The Aird, creating uncharacteristic movement and height within views. Even so, lower-level activity would remain screened from the wider area due to topography and tree cover. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would be clearly visible where it passes over the minor road connecting to the A82, where towers would be in close proximity. Gaps in forestry, and more open ground around dwellings enable clear, near-distance views towards the Proposed Development, although the presence of coniferous (evergreen) trees would enable screening of lower portions of the towers even in winter. The height of surrounding hill summits (such as An Leacainn and Mam a' Chatha) enable towers to be back clothed in most views, although they would remain skylined when in close proximity. The removal of trees in a largely straight tract through forestry would also draw the eye due to its artificially straight edges. The OHL would be visible as it crosses the River Ness to the east within intermittent panoramic, elevated views from the road, although backdropped by the surrounding landscape. The context of the wider visual experience for road users across The Aird would not change substantially due to the brief nature of the view to the Proposed Development. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* Views towards the Proposed Development would remain largely unchanged in summer, although screening of the lower portions of towers may be slightly increased due to seasonal vegetation. The magnitude of change is assessed as remaining **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. View During Operational Phase Year 15 (Summer) Management felling planting of commercial forestry back to the edge of the OC, as well as forest edge fringe planting (refer to **Appendix 7.6: Forestry Landscape Mitigation Principles**) within the OC itself, is likely to have re-established in this time. The replanted forestry would further screen the lower portions of some individual towers where they would be in close proximity to road users, with the fringe planting softening the artificially straight edges to make it appear more natural in the landscape. However, the Proposed Development would remain readily visible where it is in close proximity to receptors. The overall effect is unlikely to change as a result and is anticipated to remain as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Medium** Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Medium**	During Construction **Moderate Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Moderate Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer) **Moderate Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer) **Moderate Adverse** (significant)
THC-T-4	**Users of the A82** Representative viewpoints VP13 A82 Inverness (**Visualisation 7.13: Viewpoint 13: A82 Inverness & Visualisation THC-13: Viewpoint 13: A82, Inverness); and**	Susceptibility Users of the busy A82 would include residents, commuters and commercial drivers for whom the landscape is peripheral to their journey. Susceptibility to visual change is considered to be **Low to Medium**. Value The A82 is not specifically identified as a nationally or	Existing View Users of the A82 between Inverness and Lochend experience changeable, attractive views through the River Ness valley, with steep valley sides to the south containing views and more open, low-lying floodplains to the north utilised by arable farmland allowing for broader views from the road. Pockets of woodland through the valley and mature roadside vegetation create a varied visual experience from the intimate, enclosed wooded valley landscape with far-distance views across and River Ness and Loch Ness itself, with hills to the east and west of the river forming the background of more distant views. Detracting features are limited to the existing OHLs crossing the River Ness and Caledonian Canal just north of Dochgarroch, and traffic on the A82 itself. View During Construction Construction activity, substantial areas of felling on The Aird and temporary access tracks would all be noticeable in proximity to the Proposed Development, especially from the north. The use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would also be readily noticeable. Whilst mature roadside vegetation and retained woodland across The Aird would provide some screening largely until in close proximity to the works, far-distance views through roadside vegetation to the east are	During Construction **Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Medium**	During Construction **Moderate Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Moderate Adverse** (significant)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
	VP55 A82, Dochgarroch (Visualisation 7.55: Viewpoint 55: A82, Dochgarroch & Visualisation THC-21: Viewpoint 55: A82 Dochgarroch) Receptor can be found on **Pages 3** & **4** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	regionally significant route although it is an important route alongside Loch Ness. Views are relatively well contained through an attractive landscape but containing detracting features including the existing OHLs between Beauly and Drumchardine. The value of the view is therefore recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **Medium**	afforded across more open ground. Works to remove the existing Beauly to Knocknagael 132 kV OHL would also be readily noticeable, particularly removal of towers T47 – T50 in closest proximity to the A82. Views would be transient and intermittent, with visibility and prominence of construction works increasing sequentially with proximity, and particularly from the north where roadside vegetation provides less screening. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be low to medium, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* Users of the A82 would be aware of the Proposed Development where it crosses the road north of Dochgarroch, and traversing the lower to mid slopes of The Aird to the west. There would be a brief, transient appreciation of a felled clear zone within the forestry on The Aird which would potentially create a slight 'notch' in the skyline and appear as an artificially straight tract across the hillside, albeit only briefly within a transient view, and more noticeable when travelling from the north, where more open views are afforded. Towers would mostly be backdropped by forestry, but some would appear in the skyline of views through and above the tree line to the west, as well as where they cross the road, and to the east as the Proposed Development approaches and crosses the River Ness. From the south, the Proposed Development to the west would be largely screened from view, even in winter, although crossing of the River Ness and ascending the slopes of Drummossie Muir would be more visible in glimpsed, intermittent views eastwards. The removal of the existing Beauly to Knocknagael 132 kV OHL towers from within the view would slightly offset the impact of wirescaping and the introduction of new taller towers when travelling southwards from Inverness. Even so, the magnitude of change is assessed as remaining **Medium**. The geographical extent would be low to medium, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* Roadside vegetation would offer a small degree of additional screening in summer months, particularly from the south but the Proposed Development would still be a prominent detracting feature in transient, intermittent views and appear in the skyline for road users where it crosses the A82. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be low to medium, and the duration would be long-term. View During Operational Phase Year 15 (Summer) Management felling planting of commercial forestry back to the edge of the OC, as well as forest edge fringe planting (refer to **Appendix 7.6: Forestry Landscape Mitigation Principles**) within the OC itself, is likely to have re-established in this time. The replanted forestry on The Aird may partially screen the lower portions of some individual towers, whilst the fringe planting would help to soften the artificially straight edges to make it appear more natural in the landscape, but the Proposed Development would remain highly visible. The overall effect is unlikely to change as a result and is anticipated to remain as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be low to medium, and the duration would be long-term.	Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Medium** Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Medium**	Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer) **Moderate Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer) **Moderate Adverse** (significant)
THC-T-5	**Users of B862 General Wade's Military Road** Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor can be found on **Page 4** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility The road is not a busy through-route, and users are likely to include a high proportion of more sensitive receptors including residents travelling at moderate speed to and from their homes and tourism visitors. Susceptibility to visual change is considered to be **Medium**. Value The minor road is not identified to be a nationally or regionally significant route although it has some historic significance. Views have few detracting features and may be used by tourists experiencing the landscape. The value of the view is therefore recorded as **Medium**.	Existing View Users of the B862 between Inverness and Aldourie are located to the east of the River Ness and Loch Dochfour on higher ground. They experience contained, narrow views with the road set within blocks of woodland and mature roadside vegetation. Occasional views east across arable farmland and the rising landform of Drumashie Moor / Drummossie Muir beyond are afforded where vegetation allows. Views west are heavily filtered by Darroch Wood between Aldourie and Ballindarroch, and by roadside vegetation between Ballindarroch and the A8082 in Inverness. There is little awareness of the river along this stretch due to the river's low-lying nature and vegetation. There are not anticipated to be significant views further south of Aldourie due to intervening topography and vegetation. View During Construction Construction activity and roadside felling would be briefly noticeable in proximity to the Proposed Development but would remain screened from the north by existing retained woodland in Cullaird Wood and from the south by roadside vegetation and trees around Laggan House and surrounding properties. Intermittent visibility through deciduous roadside trees would allow glimpsed, transient views across arable fields towards construction activity including the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing. Even so, the magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* Users of the B862 would be intermittently aware of the Proposed Development in the near to mid-distance, predominantly as it traverses arable farmland to the east of Scaniport and from Cuillard Wood on rising landform. Towers are likely to briefly appear in the skyline of transient views and between trunks of roadside trees across more open ground around Scaniport. The removal of the existing Beauly to Knocknagael 132 kV OHL towers within the view further north would slightly offset the impact of wirescaping and the introduction of new taller towers into the landscape. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be	During Construction **Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Low**	During Construction **Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Minor Adverse** (non-significant)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
		Sensitivity **Medium**	low, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* Roadside vegetation would offer a small degree of additional screening in summer months, but the Proposed Development would remain briefly apparent for road users. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term.		
THC-T-6	**Users of Essich Road & the B861 south of Inverness** Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor group can be found on **Page 4** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility The roads are not busy through-routes, and users are likely to include a high proportion of more sensitive receptors including residents travelling to and from their homes, as well as tourists. Susceptibility to visual change is considered to be **Medium**. Value The minor roads are not identified to be nationally or regionally significant routes although elevated views have few detracting features and may be used by tourists experiencing the landscape. The value of the view is therefore recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **Medium**	Existing View Users of Essich Road & the B861 to the south of Inverness experience broad, open and elevated views on rising moorland topography towards Drummossie to the east and far-distance panoramic views north towards Inverness and the Beauly Firth. The existing OHL and towers are prominent detracting features when in relatively close proximity to them in an otherwise picturesque landscape with the hills on the western side of Loch Ness visible in the background to the southwest. The lack of tree cover on higher ground allows for some panoramic views for road users. Wooden poles alongside the road are detracting features, but the existing OHL crosses Essich Road lower down the valley so are not skylined in more elevated views to the south. View During Construction Users of Essich Road and the B861 would be openly aware of construction activity includingthe use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing in the near to mid-distance within broad elevated views. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* Users of Essich Road & the B861 would remain openly aware of the Proposed Development in the near to mid-distance within broad elevated views. From the south, beyond Essich Park and Achvraid Farm, the open, elevated landscape with views north towards Inverness and the Beauly Firth, would become disrupted by the presence of the Proposed Development across the view. Existing OHLs do not interrupt the view, so the removal of the existing Beauly to Knocknagael 132 kV OHL would not be noticeable. From the north, there would be a degree of wirescaping where the existing and proposed OHLs would be viewed together alongside the concentration of terminal towers at Knocknagael Substation. There would be additional towers in the skyline of views both in close proximity and viewed in the mid-distance for road users and across a wide field of view in an upland landscape. The removal of the existing Beauly to Knocknagael 132 kV OHL would be noticeable from Essich Road to the north and slightly offset the impact of the introduction of new, taller towers further south. Even so, the magnitude of change is assessed as remaining **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* Where there are deciduous trees, their canopies would help to break up the Proposed Development on the skyline, but due to the open, elevated landscape and good proportion of coniferous (evergreen) trees, there would overall be very little change to the views in summer months. The magnitude of change would therefore remain **Medium**. The geographical extent would be medium, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Medium**	During Construction **Moderate Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Moderate Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Moderate Adverse** (significant)
THC-T-7	**Users of the A9** Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor can be found on **Pages 6** & **7** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility Users of the A9 would include a large number of tourists with a focus on the landscape as well as residents, commuters and commercial drivers for whom the landscape is peripheral to their journey. This is a road set to the national speed limit which slightly reduces the susceptibility of receptors Susceptibility to visual change is considered to be **Low to Medium**. Value The A9 is a major road in Scotland linking Edinburgh with	Existing View Users of the A9 between Bogbain and Daviot experience relatively elevated and open views particularly along the carriageway, but also where occasional gaps in roadside vegetation and pockets of nearby forestry allow. To the south of Daviot, mature roadside vegetation and topography restricts views from the road northwards. There are numerous vertical detracting features through the attractive landscape, with existing OHL and telecom towers visible in the near to mid-distance. View During Construction Construction activity and felling through Drummossie Muir and Daviot Wood would be noticeable in proximity to the Proposed Development in the near to mid-distance, with low-level construction activity clearly visible. The use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would result in uncharacteristic height and movement through the open landscape of Drummossie Muir and be particularly visible and distracting, especially when in closer proximity. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Medium**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* Users of the A9 would view the Proposed Development in combination with the existing OHL, resulting in a slight wirescaping effect as they approach the OHLs or view them to the east and west beyond the road corridor. Towers would appear in the skyline of near to	During Construction **Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Low to Medium** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Low**	During Construction **Moderate Adverse** (significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer)

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
		Inverness and John O'Groats. Views vary along the road but include broad, open vistas through an attractive landscape, albeit at higher speed. The value of the view is therefore recorded as **Medium to High**. Sensitivity **Medium**	mid-distance, transient views, which would not substantially detract from the experience of those travelling quickly through the otherwise attractive landscape. In sequential views from the south, users would be unlikely to see the Proposed Development from Daviot Church / cemetery, but moving northwards towards the crest of the hill, the Proposed Development would become increasingly visible from approx. 1 km away, albeit primarily within the confines of the road corridor. As the road straightens, and after the junction with the B851 to Croy, the Proposed Development would also be visible to the east of the road corridor where views would not be obstructed by roadside vegetation. From the north, the straighter alignment of the A9 would allow glimpsed views of the Proposed Development from around 2 km away, albeit primarily within the confines of the road corridor. Views eastwards would also be afforded before entering Daviot Wood. In close proximity to where the Proposed Development crosses the A9 in parallel with the existing 275lv OHL, it would become much more dominating and skylined, with views through trees afforded both east and west. The felled trees for the OC would allow clear views down the alignments as vehicles pass, albeit very briefly and at speed. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low to Medium.** The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* Deciduous vegetation is fairly limited through this section of the A9, but even so, it would provide some additional screening of views in summer months from the road corridor. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term.		**Minor Adverse** (non-significant)
THC-T-8	**Minor roads between Castletown (Castleton) and Ardclach, including the B851** Representative viewpoints VP17 B9091, Nairn (**Visualisation 7.17: Viewpoint 17: B9091, Nairn & Visualisation THC-17: Viewpoint 17: B9091, Nairn);** and **VP18 Urchany (Visualisation 7.18: Viewpoint 18: Urchany & Visualisation THC-18: Viewpoint 18: Urchany**) Receptor group can be found on **Pages 6, 7, 8** & **9** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Susceptibility The roads are not busy through-routes, and users are likely to include a high proportion of more sensitive receptors including residents travelling to and from their homes and tourism visitors at slower speeds. Susceptibility to visual change is considered to be **Medium**. Value Minor roads are identified to be a part of the national cycling network and views have few detracting features and used by tourists experiencing the landscape. The value of the view is therefore recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity **Medium**	Existing View Users of minor roads between Castletown (Castleton) and Ardclach experience typically well contained views through forestry on the mid to lower hill slopes and within local valleys where views are limited by topography and vegetation. Intermittent and transient views are either focussed on the arable farmland to the north or onto rising topography of hills to the south beyond large tracts of commercial forestry through which the roads travel. The only detracting feature through the attractive landscape is the existing OHL with towers visible in the skyline and above the tree line in the near to mid-distance. View During Construction The construction activity, including felling and the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be particularly noticeable in proximity to the works, although the taller elements would also be noticeable in more open views and glimpsed views through trees, as well as some occasional visibility above the skyline where the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be distracting in views. Even so, the magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* The Proposed Development would typically be visible intermittently for minor road users between Castletown and Ardclach, appearing in between gaps in forestry and above local landform and tree lines. In places there would be brief near distant, open views onto towers in close proximity where they would predominantly appear in the skyline of views. The Proposed Development would also be noticeable traversing the mid slopes of hills to the south where they would be back clothed by surrounding hills or impinge into the skyline of views. Minor roads rarely cross directly beneath the Proposed Development but do come close on occasion; as a result, views are typically experienced looking south, up the rising topography with towers in the skyline. This, in combination with the existing OHL would result in a certain degree of wirescaping in the view, although maintaining tower alignments in parallel reduces their bulk at distance. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* Much of the woodland and forestry is coniferous (evergreen). Where deciduous vegetation is present (such as small pockets along the B851, Mains of Clunas and the edges of Dulsie Wood), slightly increased screening would be present, limiting some transient views further, but would not readily change the overall visibility compared to winter months. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term. View During Operational Phase Year 15 (Summer) Management felling planting of commercial forestry back to the edge of the OC is likely to have re-established in this time. The replanted forestry may partially screen the lower portions of some individual towers, but the Proposed Development would remain visible above tree lines and when crossing beneath it. The overall effect is unlikely to change as a result and the magnitude of change is anticipated to remain **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term.	During Construction **Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Low** Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer) **Low**	During Construction **Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer) **Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer) **Minor Adverse** (non-significant)
THC-T-9	**Users of the B9007**	Susceptibility Users of the B9007 would	Existing View The B9007 passes through the River Findhorn valley and through extensive forestry, to the west of Cairn Duhie and to the south of	During Construction **Low to Medium**	During Construction

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
	Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor can be found on **Page 9** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	include tourists with a focus on the landscape, as well as residents, commuters, and commercial drivers accessing the A939. The road is of moderate speed. Susceptibility to visual change is therefore considered to be **Medium**. Value Minor roads are identified to be a part of the national cycling network and views have few detracting features and used by tourists experiencing the landscape. The value of the view is therefore recorded as **Medium.** Sensitivity **Medium**	Ferness. Views are generally enclosed by vegetation on both sides of the road as it parallels the River Findhorn valley. Brief, infrequent panoramic views are occasionally afforded through gaps in roadside vegetation, with views across the surrounding picturesque landscape, including the rising landform of Cairn Duhie to the east. The sense of enclosure reduces further south as the road enters the Dava moors, onto a much more open, upland moorland landscape. The existing OHL is briefly visible through an area of mixed woodland and forestry, where towers are intermittently visible above the tree line but don't form a prominent feature in the skyline for too long. 'Notches' in hillside vegetation for wayleaves are noticeable but infrastructure itself less so. View During Construction Construction activity and large areas of felling – including management felling beyond the OC adjacent to the B9007 – would be noticeable where the road is not enclosed by forestry and vegetation, and where it passes in proximity to the Proposed Development south of Ferness. Movement associated with construction activities including felling and the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be more noticeable and distracting and impinge into the skyline, albeit limited to gaps in vegetation or whilst in close proximity to the Proposed Development. Most views would remain screened by vegetation or topography, although the loss of woodland (management felling) would allow clearer views of construction activity. Even so, views of construction activity would be transient and glimpsed, and seen from moving vehicles travelling at moderate speeds. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low to Medium**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* Users of the B9007 would have a transient and brief awareness of the Proposed Development in proximity to it, and it would be viewed in conjunction with the existing OHL. The additional overhead conductors and towers when crossing the B9007 would create a slight wirescaping in the views immediately adjacent. The Proposed Development would not be openly visible from most of the B9007 due to its location within areas of mixed deciduous and coniferous woodland where the trees help screen the OHL. Roadside vegetation also helps to break up the views when in proximity to the Proposed Development, although it would be seen in glimpsed views intermittently through gaps in vegetation. The visual experience for users of the B9007 would not substantially change as a result, although replanting of management felled areas back to the OC would not have matured by this time, so a short section of more open vista around the Proposed Development would be discernible. Even so, views of the Proposed Development would be transient and glimpsed, and seen from moving vehicles travelling at moderate speeds. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* Deciduous vegetation is scattered throughout the section and would create slightly enhanced screening of towers for users of the route on the approach to the Proposed Development in summer. Even so, the Proposed Development would remain visible for a short section of route, and in more open views eastwards from the Sawmill (north of Drumore and Achnabechan) to Ferness. As such, views in summer months would not substantially differ from winter. The magnitude of change is assessed as remaining **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term. View During Operational Phase Year 15 (Summer) Management felling planting of commercial forestry back to the edge of the OC is likely to have re-established in this time. This would help to enclose views north and westwards from the B9007 when traveling north out of Lodge Wood and Drumore. The replanted forestry would also slightly strengthen the screening of the lower portions of some individual towers when viewed from the B9007. However, the Proposed Development would remain visible from a short stretch of road where it crosses the B9007 and travels eastwards across more open ground. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Negligible to Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term.	Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Low** Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer) **Negligible to Low**	**Minor to Moderate Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer) **Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer) **Negligible to Minor Adverse** (non-significant)
THC-T-10	**Users of the Highland Mainline Railway** Representative viewpoint N/A Receptor can be	Susceptibility Users of the Highland Mainline Railway are moderately susceptible to changes in the landscape due to transient views of the surrounding landscape, but speeds are generally quite high. Susceptibility to visual change is considered to be **Low to Medium**.	Existing View Users of the Highland Mainline Railway experience scenic views of the Scottish Highlands, including the Cairngorms National Park, as it travels north from Perth to Inverness. Views of the surrounding landscape are predominantly open and far-distant. However, views from Moy (approx. 8 km south of the Proposed Development) and Smithton (approx. 4 km to the north of the Proposed Development) are more enclosed by vegetation. Detracting features are limited to existing overhead power lines which cross the railway near Mains of Daltulich and the Nairn (Culloden) Viaduct (approx. 150 m and 3 km north of the site of the Proposed Development, respectively). View During Construction Construction activity and felling would be briefly noticeable in proximity to the Proposed Development. From the south, views are largely contained by vegetation around Easter Craggie to the west and the wooded slopes of Creag Liath and Meall Mor to the east, although a large tract of management felling to the north of Easter Craggie would open up views westwards during construction for	During Construction **Low** Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Low**	During Construction **Minor Adverse** (non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter) **Minor Adverse**

Receptor Reference	Receptor (approximate residential receptor numbers) + Representative: Viewpoint Photograph (if applicable)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility to change + value of the view)	Description of view	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
	found on **Pages 5, 6 & 7** of **Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations**	Value The route overlooks Special Landscape Areas, and the overall scenic value is considered to be high, although views from the railway line aren't specifically celebrated in literature. The value of the view is therefore recorded as **Medium to High**. Sensitivity **Medium**	around 0.5 km from the south. Construction activity in proximity to the railway line would also be noticeable, as they skirt around the toe of Meall Mor. From the north there may be glimpsed views of tower installation and the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing from elevated sections of track across the Nairn (Culloden) Viaduct and on the approach to Castletown (Castleton). Views would be typically near-distance but highly transient and glimpsed, whilst travelling at higher speeds. The magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be short-term. View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening) *Winter* Users would experience views of the Proposed Development over a distance of approx. 1.5 km, where surrounding woodland is limited and therefore allows for open views, or where it is adjacent. The Proposed Development would cross the railway in a northeastern direction and be intermittently visible to the west where it extends across the lower elevations of the valley of the River Nairn. Western views of the Proposed Development would, however, be partially screened by surrounding topography as well as vegetation associated with the River Nairn. Views to the northeast would be contained by the elevated topography of Meall Mor and associated extensive vegetation cover. The Proposed Development would be seen in conjunction with the existing OHL located just to its north, introducing a degree of wirescaping when in close proximity. Even so, due to the brief, transient nature of views, and the higher speeds of travel, the magnitude of change is assessed as **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term. *Summer* The presence of deciduous vegetation around Easter Craggie and the River Nairn would provide some additional screening of views westwards when travelling north from Craggie, but the amount of coniferous forestry across Meall Mor, Daviot Wood, and north in the Culloden Forest, would not change in summer, resulting in limited change overall in summer. The magnitude of change remains **Low**. The geographical extent would be low, and the duration would be long-term.	Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Low**	(non-significant) Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer) **Minor Adverse** (non-significant)