

**Beauly to Blackhillock to New Deer to
Peterhead 400 kV Project
Environmental Impact Assessment Report
Volume 5 | Appendices**

**Appendix 7.4.3 – Visual Effects: Aberdeenshire
Council**



APPENDIX 7.4.3 – VISUAL EFFECTS: ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL

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Appendix Tables

Table 1.1: Visual Effects: Aberdeenshire Council

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- 1.1.1 **Table 1.1** below should be read in conjunction with **Volume 2, Chapter 7: Landscape and Visual Assessment**.
- 1.1.2 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: Visualisation 7.34 to 7.53; 7.56; and 7.57**.
- 1.1.3 **NOTE:** Consideration of year 15 effects is only given where there is a significant proportion of additional forestry management felling¹ or forest edge fringe planting² 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 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. 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.

Table 1.1: Visual Effects – Aberdeenshire 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					
AB-R-1a	Residents between Coachford and the River Deveron / B9022 (up to 500 m from the Proposed Development) (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 28) <u>Representative viewpoint</u> VP36 B9022, Deveron Valley: gives the context of views from within the Deveron Valley (Visualisation 7.36: Viewpoint 36: B9022, Deveron Valley) Receptor group can be found on Pages 18 & 20 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a farmed, rural, undulating, wooded landscape with potential far-distance views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> The view for some receptors to the east of The Bin are set within the Deveron Valley Special Landscape Area (SLA) (Aberdeenshire Council) and therefore identified as regionally significant. There are few detracting features within views. The value of the view is recorded as Medium-High. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>Existing View</u> Residents are located between Coachford and the River Deveron / B9022 and are set within a mixed, wooded farmland on the lower to mid slopes of surrounding hills (approx. 120-200 m AOD) including Meikle Balloch Hill to the north, Ord Hill and Cairn Hill adjacent to the A96, and The Bin and Ordiquhill to the south. Receptors are all located to the north of the A96. Some receptors are afforded broad, elevated views south beyond the immediate surrounding arable fields, blocks of woodland and the A96 in the mid-distance, but views are typically interrupted by intervening farm buildings and curtilage vegetation. Views north are near to mid-distant with the background formed by rising local topography or forestry which restricts far-distance views. The River Deveron valley is visible to the east from residential receptors along the B9022 (Haddoch and Haddoch Cottages) creating attractive, rural views that fall within the Deveron Valley SLA. Detracting features are rare but the A96, and an existing 275 kV OHL can be seen in the mid to far-distance to the south as well as wind turbines on Ord Hill and Cairn Hill. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, including use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing; felling of managed commercial forestry and native broadleaf woodland within and beyond the OC and for temporary access tracks, would be noticeable on the skyline above existing vegetation and where there are more open views. Felling associated with The Balloch, North Riggins Wood, Foggy Moss woodland, Brownhill Plantation, and Cumrie Plantation would all be noticeable locally. Residential receptors in closer proximity and less restricted by buildings and boundary vegetation (including Loanhead, Cairnwhelp, West Riggins, Riggins and Banks) would have particularly intrusive views to construction works, including of lower-level construction activity. Residential receptors on the B9022 (Haddoch and Haddoch Cottages) would have near-distant views within an attractive setting. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium to High. The geographical extent is medium to high, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be a prominent feature in the foreground, appearing in the skyline across a wide proportion of rural views for most receptors. Some receptors would have views screened, interrupted, or heavily filtered by intervening farm buildings, woodland or curtilage vegetation, although towers would still be evident above intervening trees. The Proposed Development would intrude into the views of receptors in closest proximity and with more open views (including receptors at Loanhead, Cairnwhelp, West Riggins, Riggins and Banks), who would see towers across a wide proportion of the slightly elevated views, detracting from the rural and tranquil views. Some towers would be seen in conjunction with wind turbines on Ord Hill and Cairn Hill, including angle towers which would appear more prominently, particularly on Cairn Hill, where one would be seen from Newton above intervening farm buildings. Although one angle tower would be in close proximity to receptors at Banks, it is likely to be seen above intervening farm buildings and trees on the property boundary to the north, such that much of the tower would be screened. Receptors to the south of the Proposed Development would typically see towers against a backdrop of the rising topography of Meikle Balloch Hill and forestry associated with The Balloch, while receptors to the north of the Proposed Development would see more towers against the skyline, substantially interrupting and detracting from attractive rural views. The Proposed Development would also substantially interrupt views through the Deveron Valley SLA for receptors on the B9022 (Haddoch and Haddoch Cottages). The Proposed Development would result in a permanent OC through blocks of existing forestry associated with Brownhill Plantation and Cumrie Plantation, slightly increasing the prominence of towers. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium to High. The geographical extent is medium to high, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> In summer months, deciduous woodland associated with some of the residential properties would provide a small degree of additional screening but the Proposed Development would remain openly visible across farmland for most residents, including across the skyline. The overall magnitude is unlikely to change as a result and is therefore anticipated to remain as Medium to High. The geographical extent is medium to high, and the duration is long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Medium to High <u>Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Medium to High <u>Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Medium to High	<u>During Construction</u> Major Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Major Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Major Adverse (significant)
AB-R-1b	Residents northeast of The Bin (approx. 500 m – 1 km from the Proposed Development)	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a farmed, rural, undulating, wooded	<u>Existing View</u> Residents are located to the north side of The Bin, between Garromuir Wood and Ordiquhill within a mixed, wooded farmland on the lower slopes of The Bin and Ordiquhill. Receptors are located within well wooded deciduous and coniferous farmland, with vegetation helping contain views to near to mid-distance. There are few detracting features save for telegraph poles / wires. <u>View During Construction</u>	<u>During Construction</u> Medium	<u>During Construction</u> 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
	(approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 5) <u>Representative viewpoint</u> N/A Receptor group can be found on Pages 18 & 20 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	landscape with potential far-distance views north. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> One receptor to the east is located within the Deveron Valley Special Landscape Area (SLA) (Aberdeenshire Council) and therefore identified as regionally significant. There are few detracting features within views. The value of the view is recorded as Medium-High. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	Lower-level construction activity would be largely screened from all receptors, even in winter, due to the intervening vegetation, but use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be noticeable on the skyline above existing vegetation. Felling of managed commercial forestry and native broadleaf woodland through Brownhill Plantation would also be noticeable by receptors at Binhall, who have more open views across farmland. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be a prominent feature in the mid-ground, appearing in the skyline between deciduous trees or coniferous woodland blocks, although sections would remain screened from views, interrupted, or heavily filtered by intervening farm buildings, woodland or curtilage vegetation. The Proposed Development would be most visible for receptors at Binhall who have more open views across farmland, and where management felling across Brownhill Plantation would open up views of the towers, potentially to their full extent, and across a moderate portion of the view. Receptors at Redfold, north of Redfold, Roadburn, and at Cumrie, would have views slightly more interrupted by intervening vegetation, but towers would remain visible between deciduous vegetation. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> In summer months, deciduous woodland associated with curtilage vegetation, Burn of Cairnie, Burn of Hogston, and Garromuir Plantation would provide additional screening, although the Proposed Development would remain visible across more farmland or between woodland blocks, and occasionally on the skyline, and particularly so for receptors at Binhall. The magnitude is assessed as remaining Medium for receptors at Binhall, but reducing to Low to Medium for all others. The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is long-term. Effects are identified as Moderate Adverse but non-significant in summer (with the exception of receptors at Binhall) as deciduous foliage would further screen already interrupted views.	<u>Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Medium <u>Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Medium (Binhall) Low to Medium (remaining receptors)	<u>Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Moderate to Major Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Moderate to Major Adverse (significant, Binhall) Moderate Adverse (non-significant, remaining receptors)
AB-R-2	Residents between Hill of Greenwood and Cumrie Plantation (approx. 500 m - 1 km from the Proposed Development) (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 15) <u>Representative viewpoint</u> VP35 Haughs: is a more distant view but helps to give some context (Visualisation 7.35 Viewpoint 35 Haughs) Receptor group can be found on Pages 18 & 20 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a farmed, rural, undulating, wooded landscape with potential far-distance but heavily filtered views south. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> The view for one receptor to the east of The Bin is set within the Deveron Valley SLA and therefore identified as regionally and locally significant. There are few detracting features in views. The value of the view is recorded as Medium-High. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>Existing View</u> Residents are located between the Hill of Greenwood to the north of Coachford, to Cumrie Plantation, to the west of the B9022 and the River Deveron. They are set within mixed, wooded farmland on the mid slopes of Meikle Balloch Hill, The Bin and Ordiquhill (at approx. 120-250 m AOD). Receptors are backdropped by the undulating, gently sloping rising landform associated with the LCT 27 'Farmed Moorland Edge – Aberdeenshire' with views south being broad and elevated across arable fields and blocks of woodland. The A96 in the mid-distance is a detracting feature, but views are typically interrupted by intervening farm buildings, curtilage vegetation and forestry associated with The Balloch, Brownhill Plantation and Cumrie Plantation. Receptors at Whitehill are located within the Deveron Valley SLA and are afforded elevated views east, while views south are obstructed. Wind turbines, an existing 275 kV OHL and the A96 are visible in the near to mid-distance of many views. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, including use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing; felling of managed commercial forestry and native broadleaf woodland within and beyond the OC and for temporary access tracks, particularly across The Balloch, and through North Riggins Wood, Cumrie Plantation, and Foggy Moss woodland, would be noticeable on the skyline above existing field and property boundary vegetation. Views south are typically restricted by buildings and boundary vegetation (including from Glenhead, North Riggins and Whitehill) or would be entirely screened through the forested landscape. Receptors at Auchanachie Cottages would be aware within oblique views of construction activity in the mid-distance but views would be obstructed by vegetation alongside a local watercourse, and by Brownhill Plantation. Although receptors are in relatively close proximity, views are typically restricted and likely to result in narrower, oblique, glimpsed or intermittent views. Receptors are also typically on more elevated ground such that most of the Proposed Development would be backdropped by surrounding topography. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as Medium. The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be noticeable within the near to mid-distance, although surrounding vegetation through the wooded farmland and intervening farm buildings would help limit views to narrow or oblique views. Towers would occasionally be evident above intervening trees and buildings, appearing against the skyline to the south and seen in conjunction with wind turbines on Ord Hill and Cairn Hill. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as Medium. The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Medium <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 to Major Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer)</u> 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
			<i>Summer</i> In summer months, surrounding deciduous woodland and vegetation associated with the curtilage of farmsteads would provide a small degree of additional screening in summer months. However, the tops of towers would likely remain visible in the skyline above intervening vegetation and buildings in the near to mid distance. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining Medium . The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is long-term.		
AB-R-3	Residents south of Coachford and the A96 (approx. 500 m-1 km from the Proposed Development) (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 12) <u>Representative viewpoint</u> VP34 Ardonald: is a more distant view but helps to give context of views along the A96 corridor with Meikle Balloch Hill in the background. (Visualisation 7.34: Viewpoint 34: Ardonald) Receptor group can be found on Pages 18 & 20 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a farmed, rural, undulating, open landscape. Existing views contain the A96 in the foreground. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant and contains the detracting A96 within the foreground of views. Views onto the distinctive, well wooded Meikle Balloch Hill to the north will be valued. The value of the view is recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>Existing View</u> Residents are located to the south of Coachford and the A96 and are set within undulating, open farmland set on lower landform to the south of Meikle Balloch Hill. Views from receptors overlooking the A96 are backdropped by a mix of expansive undulating, gently sloping rising landform associated with the LCT 27 'Farmed Moorland Edge – Aberdeenshire' and mixed woodland and forestry associated with The Balloch. Wind turbines can be seen on Ord Hill and Cairn Hill beyond the A96 and moving traffic, resulting in a limited sense of remoteness or tranquillity. Views north are focussed beyond the A96 on to the rising, well wooded landform of Meikle Balloch Hill which dominates the background. Views are typically interrupted or filtered by farm buildings and curtilage vegetation. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, including use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing; localised felling of small areas of managed commercial forestry associated with The Balloch and temporary access tracks, would be noticeable on the slopes of Meikle Balloch Hill to the north, beyond the A96. Views north are obstructed by intervening farm buildings and curtilage vegetation, resulting in intermittent views to the Proposed Development which would be seen in the context of moving traffic in the foreground, wind turbines and an existing 275 kV OHL to the west, which would result in a magnitude of change being assessed as Medium. The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be clearly noticeable within the mid-distance of views to the north, beyond the A96. Proposed towers would be seen in their entirety against the skyline where they cross Cairn Hill, while other sections of the Proposed Development would be backclothed by the wooded Meikle Balloch Hill and The Balloch. Intervening farm buildings, curtilage vegetation, moving traffic and existing wind turbines in the skyline all limit the impact of the Proposed Development on local views. Even so, the proximity of receptors would result in a magnitude of change being assessed as Medium. The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> Summer foliage of curtilage vegetation and roadside planting would provide a degree of additional screening to the Proposed Development in summer months. Towers would remain prominent on the slopes of Meikle Balloch Hill, detracting from rural views, with some towers remaining in the skyline, but for all receptors except perhaps those south of Hollowdyke (near Botary Mains bus stop) to the north of the A96, the magnitude of change is assessed as reducing to Low to Medium. The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is long-term. Effects are identified as Moderate Adverse but non-significant in summer as deciduous foliage would further screen already interrupted views.	<u>During Construction</u> Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Medium <u>Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Medium (Botary Mains) Low to Medium (all remaining receptors)	<u>During Construction</u> Moderate to Major Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Moderate to Major Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Moderate to Major Adverse (significant) (Botary Mains) Moderate Adverse (non-significant) (all remaining receptors)
AB-R-4a	Residents between the River Deveron and Hill of Comisty (up to approx. 1 km from the Proposed Development) (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 27) <u>Representative viewpoint</u> N/A	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a farmed, rural, undulating, wooded landscape with potential far-distance views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> The view for receptors to the west of the A97 are set within the Deveron Valley SLA and therefore identified as regionally and locally significant. There are few	<u>Existing View</u> Residents are located to the east of the River Deveron up to the Hill of Comisty on either side of the A97 corridor. There is a sense of enclosure within the undulating farmland brought about from local topography, field trees and blocks of coniferous woodland, apart from receptors on the mid slopes of Hill of Comisty (including Netherton Comisty and Nether Comisty Cottages) who have an elevated, open outlook towards the River Deveron valley to the west. Receptors to the west of the A97 are afforded views within the Deveron Valley SLA and are set within attractive undulating and open farmland interspersed with mixed woodland areas associated with the LCT 32 'Farmed and Wooded River Valleys'. Views are typically limited to the mid-distance by intervening topography and larger areas of woodland and forestry associated with the Hill of Mungo, Longmoor Wood, Cruchie Wood to the west and Comisty Hill and Gallows Hill to the east. Views are typically interrupted by intervening farm buildings and curtilage vegetation although some residential receptors in properties on local mid slopes afford broad views across the immediate landscape. An existing 400 kV OHL is perceptible in the mid-distance to the north from receptors east of the A97 in an otherwise undisturbed, but predominantly farmed landscape. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, including use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing; and felling of native broadleaf woodland within and beyond the OC, would all be highly noticeable on the skyline, with near to mid-distant views between and above existing field and property boundary vegetation. Construction of temporary access tracks would be noticeable	<u>During Construction</u> Medium to High <u>Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Medium to High <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u>	<u>During Construction</u> Major Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Major Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u>

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 20 & 21 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	detracting features. The value of the view is recorded as Medium-High. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	through fields and felling associated with Longmoor Wood and Cruchie Wood would disturb views for nearby receptors (including those at Loanend, Croft of Bridges, Hallhill, Hallhill Cottages, Croft of Cruchie, Easter Cruchie and Buglehole). Views within the farmed landscape are typically restricted by farm outbuildings and boundary vegetation (including Lower Auchmill, Conieclough, Corse of Kinnoir, Loanend, Broomfield, Croft of Cruchie, Cruchie, Easter Cruchie and Nether Comisty) but construction activity would remain highly visible for most receptors, particularly those with a more open outlook (including those near Longmoor Wood, Burn of Peatfold, Hallhill and Nether Comisty Cottages). The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium to High. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be a prominent feature in the fore to mid-distance of attractive views through undualting, wooded farmland. Proposed towers would be openly visible in their entirety in the near to mid-distance against the skyline and felling associated with Longmoor Wood and Cruchie Wood would be noticeable for nearby residential receptors and result in increased visibility to towers within the Deveron Valley SLA. One angle tower would appear in close proximity for receptors adjacent to Longmoor Wood, while receptors east of Burn of Peatfold and Hallhill would be subject to a substantial change in the foreground of their views. Receptors to the east of the A97, in particular Nether Comisty Cottages, are afforded more elevated views so the Proposed Development would be seen in combination with the existing 400 kV OHL and over a relatively wide portion of the view as they cross downhill into the River Deveron valley to the west. Towers associated with a diamond crossing would create a cluster of vertical infrastructure within views east from receptors around Netherton Comisty and Nether Comisty Cottages. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium to High. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> Summer foliage of field and road boundary trees and hedgerows, curtilage vegetation and deciduous woodland would offer a small degree of additional visual screening for some receptors, but new towers would remain openly visible in their entirety in the near distance and appear in the skyline above the tree lines and background landform. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining Medium to High. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year 15 Summer)</u> Management felling planting of commercial forestry and deciduous woodland within Longmoor Wood and Cruchie Wood back to the edge of the OC is likely to have re-established in this time. Woodland planting would provide limited additional screening for residents, particularly of lower portions of towers, and whilst it would contribute overall to woodland canopy in background views, the Proposed Development would remain visible in the skyline and above tree lines. The overall magnitude is unlikely to change as a result and is therefore anticipated to remain as Medium to High for the majority of receptors. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term.	Medium to High <u>Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer)</u> Medium to High	Major Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer)</u> Major Adverse (significant)
AB-R-4b	Residents between Kinnoir Wood and Newton Auchaber (approx. 500 m - 2 km from the Proposed Development) (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 38) <u>Representative viewpoint</u> VP38 Kinnoir (Visualisation 7.38: Viewpoint 38: Kinnoir)	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a farmed, rural, undulating, wooded landscape with potential far-distance views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> Views of receptors to the west of the A97 are set within the Deveron Valley SLA and therefore identified as regionally and locally significant. There are few detracting features exept the A97 and an existing 400 kV OHL. The value of the view is recorded as	<u>Existing View</u> Residents of individual, scattered properties are located to the east of the River Deveron and Kinnoir Wood in the west, to Newton Auchaber in the east, to the southwest of Largue. Views are generally contained to the mid-distance by the undulating local topography, field trees and blocks of coniferous woodland, although the large areas of farmland allow occasional far-distance views towards more distant hills. Receptors to the west of the A97 are afforded views within the Deveron Valley SLA and are set within attractive undulating and open farmland interspersed with mixed woodland areas associated with the LCT 32 'Farmed and Wooded River Valleys'. There are few detracting features, although traffic on the A97 is clearly discernible for receptors in close proximity, and an existing 400 kV OHL is perceptible in the mid-distance to the north from receptors east of the A97, in an otherwise undisturbed, but predominantly farmed landscape. <u>View During Construction</u> Whilst local undulations in topography would largely screen lower-level construction activity, the construction of taller elements, including use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be clearly noticeable on the skyline above mid-distance hills and across a moderate potion of views looking north. Some views would remain interrupted by intervening deciduous or coniferous woodland, including Kinnoir Wood, Lodge wood and small copses across the landscape, screening large portions of construction activity, but the uncharacteristic activity, movement, and disruption of construction, particularly within the SLA, would be particularly disrupting in views. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low to Medium. The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is short-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Low to Medium <u>Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Low to Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Low to Medium	<u>During Construction</u> Moderate Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Moderate Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> 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
	Receptor group can be found on Pages 20, 21 & 23 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	Medium-High. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be a distinctive feature in the mid-distance of attractive views through undulating farmland. It would be visible on the skyline above intervening hills, although much of the lower portions of towers would be screened by intervening vegetation or topography. Occasionally, some towers would be openly visible in their entirety in the mid-distance. Receptors would see the Proposed Development in combination with the existing 400 kV OHL (including a diamond crossing) but over a relatively small portion of the view atnd at a little distance. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low to Medium . The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is long-term. Effects are identified as Moderate Adverse but non-significant as the Proposed Development would be partially screened by intervening vegetation or topography, seen at a little distance, and the uncharacteristic activity, movement, and disruption of construction would have ceased. OHL infrastructure is also an existing feature of views. <i>Summer</i> Summer foliage of field and road boundary trees and hedgerows, curtilage vegetation and deciduous woodland would offer a small degree of additional visual screening for some receptors, but the Proposed Development would remain openly visible in the mid-distance above local hills, on the skyline across a small to moderate portion of the view. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining Low to Medium . The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is long-term. Effects are identified as remaining Moderate Adverse but non-significant as summer foliage would provide some additional screening.		
AB-R-5	Residents between Cobairdy and Frendraught (up to approx. 500 m from the Proposed Development) (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 6) <u>Representative viewpoint</u> N/A Receptor group can be found on Pages 20 & 23 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a farmed, rural, undulating, wooded landscape with potential far-distance views south. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High . <u>Value</u> The view for Cobairdy House is set within the Deveron Valley SLA, otherwise views are not identified as nationally or regionally significant but contain few detracting features apart from the A97 and existing 400 kV OHL immediately north. The value of the view is recorded as Medium to High . <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>Existing View</u> Residents are located between Cobairdy and Frendraught and are set within open farmland interspersed with small areas of mixed woodland associated with the LCT 19 'Farmed Rolling Ridges and Hills' on the lower to mid slopes of White Hill, Cruchie Wood and Gallows Hill. Views are limited to the mid-distance by intervening topography and smaller areas of forestry associated with the Burn of Cobairdy and Gallows Hill to the South, and Newmill of Pitfancy and Bogcoup to the north. An existing 400 kV OHL is a detracting feature in the skyline, openly visible in the near to mid-distance to the north. Cobairdy, to the west of the A97, affords views within the Deveron Valley SLA but is well contained by woodland. Receptors at Colyne, on the mid slopes of Gallows Hill, are well contained by curtilage vegetation and are likely to only afford filtered views north, but the majority of receptors have the potential for broad open views north and south. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, including use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing; and felling of native broadleaf woodland within and beyond the OC, would all be highly noticeable and in close proximity to the south of receptors, appearing on the skyline within near-distant views. Construction works would be noticeable for receptors at Cobairdy and Colyne although somewhat filtered by intervening curtilage vegetation. Temporary access tracks would be noticeable through fields and within the OC and felling of managed commercial forestry associated with Cruchie Wood, within and beyond the OC, would open up views west for receptors at Buglehole. All receptors would see construction in the context of the existing 400 kV OHL to the north and are subsequently likely to have detracting views on all sides. The magnitude of change is assessed as High . The geographical extent is high, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be a prominent feature in the foreground of attractive views through undulating, wooded farmland for receptors with existing open views, and would be seen through or above intervening curtilage vegetation for receptors at Cobairdy and Colyne. Towers would be openly visible in their entirety in the near distance and against the skyline, and felling associated with Cruchie Wood would be particularly noticeable for receptors at Buglehole, resulting in increased visibility to towers. The Proposed Development would be seen in conjunction with the existing 400 kV OHL to the north, resulting in a wirescaping effect in the skyline of views, and resulting in the 'boxing in' on two sides of receptors at Cobairdy, north of Cruchie Wood, Buglehole and Knightsmill. Towers associated with a diamond crossing would create a cluster of vertical infrastructure within views north from Colyne and Colyne Cottages. The magnitude of change is assessed as High . The geographical extent is high, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> Curtilage vegetation may provide a degree of additional screening in summer months for residential receptors at Cobairdy and Colyne, but otherwise the Proposed Development would remain a highly noticeable feature within the foreground of views and in the skyline. The magnitude of change is assessed as High . The geographical extent is high, and the duration is long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> High <u>Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter)</u> High <u>Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer)</u> High <u>Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer)</u> High	<u>During Construction</u> Major Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Major Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Major Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase - Year 15 (Summer)</u> 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
			<u>View During Operational Phase (Year 15 Summer)</u> Management felling planting of commercial forestry within Cruchie Wood back to the edge of the OC is likely to have re-established in this time. Woodland planting would provide limited additional screening for residents, particularly from Buglehole, and whilst it would contribute overall to woodland canopy in the background, the Proposed Development would remain visible in the foreground of many views, on the skyline, and above tree lines. The overall effect is unlikely to change as a result and is therefore anticipated to remain as High. The geographical extent is high, and the duration is long-term.		
AB-R-6	Residents between the Hill of Frendraught, Drumblair and the A947 at Darra (up to approx. 500 m from the Proposed Development) (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 56) <u>Representative viewpoint</u> VP41 Kirkton of Auchterless is a more distant view but gives some context of the local landscape and likely view. (Visualisation 7.41: Viewpoint 41: Kirkton of Auchterless) Receptor group can be found on Pages 22, 23, 24 & 25 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a farmed, rural, undulating landscape with rolling ridges, interspersed with small woodland areas. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant but contains few detracting features. The value of the view is recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>Existing View</u> Residents are located between the Hill of Frendraught, Drumblair and the A947 at Darra, to the south of Turriff, and include residential receptors at Hillhead of Frendraught, Placemill Farm, Drumblair, Haremos, Reidswell, South Feith Hill, Floors Farm, Braefoot, Craigietoch, Silverwells, Gask, and Darra. Receptors are set within open, rolling farmland interspersed with small sparse areas of coniferous forestry on the mid to lower slopes of surrounding hills that include the Hill of Frendraught, Drumblair, Feith Hill and Birkenhills. Views are long, broad and open across arable fields with a background of rolling, undulating landform and sparse woodland. Towards Drumblair House, the B9001 is a detracting feature and views from farmsteads are often interrupted by intervening farm buildings and curtilage vegetation. The A947 is a detracting feature to the east, as are wind turbines on the Hill of Carlinraig. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, including use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, and felling of commercial forestry and native broadleaf woodland within and beyond the OC, would all be highly noticeable and in close proximity to receptors, appearing on the skyline within near-distant views. Temporary access tracks would also be noticeable through fields for receptors in close proximity. Felling of managed commercial forestry within and beyond the OC (such as within woodland around Frendraught, Drumblair Wood and Feith Hill [Hill of Denmoss], the disused quarry, Braefoot, and around the Burn of Gask) would open up views, and be particularly noticeable for receptors at Haremos, Reidswell, Croft of Feith Hill and Darra. For some receptors, construction works may only be noticeable through or above intervening curtilage vegetation and farm buildings, but many receptors would be afforded open near-distant views. Construction activity would be highly visible for many, including ground-level works, and the magnitude of change is therefore assessed as High. The geographical extent is high, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be a highly noticeable feature within the near-distance for the majority of receptors, although for some receptors in and around Drumblair it would occupy a smaller portion of the view due to intervening farm buildings, curtilage vegetation and nearby woodland. To the east of Drumblair up to the A947, the Proposed Development would be more openly perceived across a wider portion of elevated views from the mid slopes of local hills and against a background of rolling hills. Towers would be seen as a new feature in the skyline, and often in their entirety. The Proposed Development would result in tree clearance for an OC through Drumblair Wood, woodland on the Hill of Denmoss, woodland around the disused quarry, Balquholly and the woodland around the Burn of Gask, which would result in increased visibility of towers for nearby receptors particularly those at Haremos, Reidswell, Croft of Feith Hill and Darra. Angle towers would be particularly prominent for nearby receptors at Reidswell, Croft of Feith Hill, North Pirglassie, Uppermill, Silverwells and Upper Oldmill. Due to the introduction of the Proposed Development within the foreground of many attractive rural views, the magnitude of change is assessed as High. The geographical extent is high, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> Curtilage vegetation may provide a degree of additional screening in summer months for some farmsteads, but otherwise the Proposed Development would remain a highly noticeable feature within the foreground of views and in the skyline. The magnitude of change is assessed as remaining High. The geographical extent is high, and the duration is long-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year 15 Summer)</u> Management felling planting of commercial forestry within woodland back to the edge of the OC is likely to have re-established in this time. Woodland planting would provide additional screening for residents of Reidswell, Haremos, Mid Feith Hill, Croft of Feith Hill and Darra in particular, and reduce the impact of the Proposed Development, although towers would still be visible above tree lines and remain prominent through the landscape. For remaining receptors, the view would remain unchanged. The overall effect is anticipated to reduce slightly for some receptors to Medium to High, but remaining High for most. The geographical extent is high, and the duration is long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> High <u>Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter)</u> High <u>Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer)</u> High <u>Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer)</u> Medium to High (Reidswell, Haremos, Mid Feith Hill, Croft of Feith Hill and Darra) High (for remaining receptors)	<u>During Construction</u> Major Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Major Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Major Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer)</u> Major Adverse (significant) (Receptors at Reidswell, Haremos, Mid Feith Hill, Croft of Feith Hill and Darra) Major Adverse (significant) (for remaining 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
AB-R-7	Residents between the Burn of Frendraught and the A947 at Darra (approx. 500 m - 1 km from the Proposed Development) (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 68) <u>Representative viewpoint</u> VP41 Kirkton of Auchterless is a more distant view but gives some context of the local landscape and likely view. (Visualisation 7.41: Viewpoint 41: Kirkton of Auchterless) Receptor group can be found on Pages 22, 23, 24 & 25 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a farmed, rural, undulating landscape with rolling ridges, interspersed with small woodland areas with potential near to mid-distant views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant. Views of rolling farmland would be valued but contains a few detracting features including wind turbines in the north, the B9001 and the A947 to the east. The value of the view is recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>Existing View</u> Residents are located up to 1 km south of the Proposed Development between the Burn of Frendraught and the A947 at Darra, to the south of Turriff and are set within a landscape of open, rolling farmland interspersed with small sparse areas of coniferous forestry associated with the LCT 19 'Farmed Rolling Ridges and Hills'. Topography and intermittent vegetation cover allow for broad, distant and open views across adjacent arable fields to distant hills, although some views north are interrupted by intervening farm buildings and curtilage vegetation. Vegetation across Feith Hill, Hill of Carlinraig, Balquholly Wood, Hospital Wood and Birkenhills form the background of views to the north, with the Hill of Denmoss and Lenshaw visible in the distance to the south. Vegetation along the local burns, including the Burn of Frendraught, Den of Woodhead and Burn of Gask, also limit local views. Views are rural and attractive but contain a few detracting features for some receptors that include wind turbines to the north, the B9001 and the A947 to the east. An existing 400 kV OHL is also visible in views south for receptors to the west around Frendraught. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, including use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing; felling of commercial forestry and native broadleaf woodland within and beyond the OC in small areas of forestry, would all be noticeable in the near to mid-distance and appear on the skyline within views north through rolling farmland. For some residential receptors, construction works would be seen through or above intervening curtilage vegetation and farm buildings, but many residential receptors would be afforded open mid-distant views. Temporary access tracks would be noticeable through fields and within the OC, whilst felling of managed commercial forestry associated with Drumblair Wood, woodland around Feith Hill, woodland around the disused quarry, Balquholly and the woodland around the Burn of Gask within and beyond the OC, would be clearly visible in views. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium to High. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be a noticeable feature within the near to mid-distance and new towers would be openly visible in their entirety in the mid-distance against the skyline, although sometimes seen in conjunction with wind turbines (on the Hill of Denmoss, Feith Hill, Hill of Carlinraig and Hill of Boggieshalloch to the north of Darra). For some receptors, the Proposed Development would appear only above intervening forestry, burnside vegetation, curtilage vegetation, or intervening farm buildings, while others are afforded a more open view. Towers would partially be backclothed by rising landform, forestry and vegetation to the north but would be in quite close proximity, and across a potentially broad view for many receptors. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as Medium to High. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> Curtilage vegetation may provide a degree of additional screening in summer months for some receptors, but otherwise the Proposed Development would remain a highly noticeable feature within the near to mid-distance of views and within the skyline of views. The magnitude of change is assessed as remaining Medium to High. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Medium to High <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Medium to High <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Medium to High	<u>During Construction</u> Major Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Major Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Major Adverse (significant)
AB-R-8	Residents between the A947 (Mill of Colp) to the south of Turriff and the B9030 (Crichie) (up to approx. 500 m from the Proposed Development) (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 124) <u>Specific viewpoint</u> VP47 Culsh Monument	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a farmed, rural, gently undulating landscape with low rolling ridges, interspersed with sparse woodland areas with potential near to mid-distant views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant. It contains a number of detracting features including turbines to the north and highways, including the B9170, A981, B9029, B9106, and	<u>Existing View</u> Residents of scattered detached properties are located between Mill of Colp, to the east of the A497, and Crichie, at the B9030. Receptors are set within open farmland to the south of Turriff and Cuminstown in the west, and to the south of Maud and Stuartfield in the east. The gently undulating, rolling landform of low hills and ridges, with broad shallow valleys and sparse woodland cover is characteristic of LCT 20 'Undulating Agricultural Heartland' and allows for broad open views through a relatively low-lying landscape. This landscape has an open and expansive character with distant views available from local high points to low hills in the background to the west. Residents are often associated with large farmsteads containing intervening buildings and curtilage vegetation interrupting views from the main residence, but there are also many private, smaller residences, particularly between New Deer and Maud off the B9029, A981 and within Bulwark, with open, uninterrupted views. Whilst the landscape is not particularly distinctive and lacking many landmarks, there are few detracting features apart from local roads. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, including use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be clearly noticeable on the skyline above existing vegetation and where properties afford more open views. For some receptors, construction works would only be noticeable through or above intervening curtilage vegetation and farm buildings, but many residential receptors would be afforded open near-distant views. Felling would only be noticeable locally at road crossings; within a block of woodland at Jock's Hill for residents around East Bruntbrae and West Bruntbrae to the southwest of Stuartfield; and woodland loss at Bulwark Moss to the west of Bulwark would be visible for nearby residents such as at Wright's Croft, Backhill Croft, and Barry. Receptors in closer proximity and less restricted by buildings and boundary vegetation would have particularly intrusive views of	<u>During Construction</u> Medium to High <u>Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Medium to High <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Medium to High	<u>During Construction</u> Major Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Major Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> 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
	(Visualisation 7.47: Viewpoint 47 Culsh Monument; <u>Representative viewpoint</u> VP44 Balquhindachy (Visualisation 7.44: Viewpoint 44: Balquhindachy) Receptor group can be found on Pages 24, 26 & 27 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	the B9030. Broad open rural views will be valued. The value of the view is recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	construction activity through open arable fields, including ground-level construction works and potential awareness of temporary access track construction and use. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium to High. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be a prominent feature within the foreground to mid-distance of views and would be openly visible for most receptors, except where views are interrupted by intervening farm buildings or curtilage vegetation. Many receptors would view the Proposed Development with a backdrop or foreground of woodland or hills, including Wood of Hatton, Greeness, Wood of Delgaty, Boghead, Waggle Hill, and Northburnhill to the south and west of Cuminstown; and woodland across Bruntbrae, Jock's Hill, Hill of Dens and Wind Hill to the west and south west of Stuartfield; with woodland surrounding Brucklay Castle, to the northwest of Maud, in the background of views. The Proposed Development would result in an OC and clearance within woodland surrounding West Bruntbae and within Bulwark Moss, resulting in slightly increased visibility of towers for receptors around Barry, Bulwark Croft, West Brunbae, East Bruntbrae, and Little Kirkhill. More prominent, larger angle towers occur at regular intervals, and of note are those on local rises in landform and in close proximity to residents (including Little Colp, Mill of Colp, a property to the west of Newton of Greenness, a property to the south of Castlehill, North Mains of Culsh, Bog of Artamford, East Gowkhill, and properties to the north and south of Wright's Croft and Kirkhill Pendicle). Some new towers would be openly visible in their entirety in the foreground and against the skyline in many instances and across a moderate to large portion of views. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as Medium to High. The geographical extent is medium to high, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> Curtilage vegetation may provide a degree of additional screening in summer months for some farmsteads, but otherwise the Proposed Development would remain a highly noticeable feature within the near to mid-distance of views and partially or intermittently in the skyline. The magnitude of change is assessed as remaining Medium to High. The geographical extent is medium to high, and the duration is long-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year 15 Summer)</u> Management felling planting of commercial forestry within woodland back to the edge of the OC is likely to have re-established in this time. Planting within woodland at Bulwark Moss would provide additional screening for residents around Barry, Bulwark Croft, Wright's Croft, and Backhill Croft, whilst planting across Jock's Hill would provide additional screening for residents around West Brunbae, East Bruntbrae and Little Kirkhill in particular to screen primarily lower portions of a few towers at these locations, although towers would still be visible above tree lines and remain prominent through the wider landscape. The overall effect is anticipated to reduce slightly (particularly for receptors around Bulwark and Jock's Hill) but for most receptors it is anticipated to remain as Medium to High. The geographical extent is medium to high, and the duration is long-term.	<u>Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer)</u> Medium to High	<u>Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer)</u> Major Adverse (significant)
AB-R-9	Residents between the B9170 / Wood of Colp east of Darra, and the B9106 south of Maud (approx. 500 m – 1 km to the south of the Proposed Development) (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 69) <u>Representative viewpoints</u> VP44 Balquhindachy (Visualisation 7.44: Viewpoint 44: Balquhindachy); and	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a farmed, rural, gently undulating landscape with low rolling ridges, interspersed with sparse woodland areas with potential mid-distant views. Views for receptors are often well contained by curtilage vegetation, limiting views to the surrounding farmland, but some retain open views. The susceptibility of the receptor is therefore recorded as High. <u>Value</u> The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant and there are some detracting	<u>Existing View</u> Residents of scattered detached properties are located to the south of the Proposed Development between the B9170 (east of Darra) / Wood of Colp / Delgaty Forest to the west, and the B9106 (south of Maud) to the east. Receptors include residents of farmsteads (such as Upper Balquhindachy, Duncan Farms, Little Idoch, Northburnhill, North Commonly and Backhill of Clackriach) as well as residential receptors in non-agricultural properties. Receptors are set within open farmland to the south of Cuminstown and in between New Deer and Maud. The gently undulating, rolling landform of low hills and ridges, with broad shallow valleys and sparse woodland cover, is characteristic of LCT 20 'Undulating Agricultural Heartland' and allows broad open views through a relatively low-lying landscape. This landscape has an open and expansive character with distant views available from local high points to low hills in the background to the west. Residents are associated with small to large farmsteads and private residences, with Hatton Castle located to the south of Balquhindachy, between Wood of Delgaty and Greeness. Views for residents are often well contained by intervening buildings and curtilage vegetation interrupting views. Whilst the landscape is not particularly distinctive, there are few detracting features apart from local roads. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, including use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be clearly noticeable in the mid-distance on the skyline above existing vegetation or farm buildings, as well as ground-level construction activity where receptors are afforded more open views. Felling is unlikely to be noticeable, being confined to local road crossings but there would be some awareness of temporary access tracks through nearby arable fields in open, mid-distant views. Receptors less restricted by buildings and boundary vegetation would have views to construction activity through open arable fields and above intervening tree lines or roadside hedgerows. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is short-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Medium <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 to Major Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> 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
	VP48 4981.New Deer (Visualisation 7.48: Viewpoint 48: A981, New Deer) <u>Specific Viewpoint</u> VP47 Culsh Monument (Visualisation 7.47: Viewpoint 47: Culsh Monument) Receptor group can be found on Pages 24, 25, 26 & 27 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	features including wind turbines to the north and southeast of New Deer, the A981, and local roads of the B9170, B9029, B9106, and the B9030. Broad open rural views will be valued. The value of the view is recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be a highly noticeable feature, where intervening curtilage vegetation and farm buildings do not obstruct mid-distant views. Where there are open views, towers would be visible in their entirety in the mid-distance against the skyline, although some towers would be seen against a backdrop of gently undulating landform and belts of field and roadside vegetation or intermittent blocks of woodland. The majority of views are obstructed in some way, by curtilage vegetation or farm buildings and there are many single storey properties where residents would be limited to ground floor views only. More prominent, larger angle towers occur at regular intervals, and of note are those on local rises in landform and in closer proximity to residents (including residents south of Cuminestown, such as at Cromarty, Northburnhill, Mains of Greens; and residents west of Drymuir, such as Mains of Drum). Some towers would be seen in conjunction with wind turbines to the east of New Deer. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> Summer foliage of field and road boundary trees and hedgerows would offer a small degree of additional visual screening for some residents, but due to the relative lack of deciduous vegetation in views looking towards the Proposed Development through the open farmland, summer visibility would be similar to winter views. Curtilage vegetation would also result in some increased screening during summer months for many receptors, particularly for ground-floor views, although the Proposed Development would remain openly visible for some receptors. The magnitude of change is therefore not anticipated to change and would remain as Medium. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year 15 Summer)</u> Small areas of management felling planting back to the edge of the OC are likely to have re-established in this time but would not change perception and views of the Proposed Development for these receptors. The magnitude of change is assessed to remain as Medium. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term.		
AB-R-10	Residents between Drymuir (east of the B9106) up to the B9030 at Hogshillock / south of Crichtie, to the south of the Proposed Development (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 22) <u>Representative viewpoint</u> N/A Receptor group can be found on Page 27 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a farmed, rural, gently undulating landscape with low rolling ridges, interspersed with sparse woodland areas with potential near to mid-distant views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant and contains some detracting features including an existing OHL to the south and occasional wind turbines. Broad open rural views will be valued. The value of the view is recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>Existing View</u> Residents are located between Drymuir, east of the B9106 up to the B9030 at Hogshillock / south of Crichtie. Receptors are settled within open farmland in a gently undulating, sparsely wooded and rolling landscape with broad shallow valleys that allow for broad, distant views. Many receptors have views partially interrupted by intervening buildings and curtilage vegetation, but most include open views across farmland. An existing OHL is openly visible in close proximity to the south, along with occasional wind turbines, otherwise there are few detracting features. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, including use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be clearly noticeable on the skyline above curtilage and field boundary vegetation and between intervening farm buildings. Some localised felling to accommodate the OC would be perceived but it would be confined to local road crossings and small areas of woodland (one east of Drymuir, and one across Jock's Hill). There would also be some awareness of temporary access tracks through nearby arable fields. Receptors – even those with some intervening buildings and boundary vegetation - would have some views to construction activity through open arable fields and above intervening tree lines, built form, or roadside hedgerows due to the relative proximity of the works. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium to High but High for receptors around Upper Smithy Croft due to proximity. The geographical extent is medium to high, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be a prominent feature within the mid-distance to the north. Receptors would be aware of having an OHL within two aspects of their view - the Proposed Development to the north, and the existing 400 kV OHL to the south, approx. 500 m to 1 km apart - resulting in a feeling of being slightly 'boxed in' by OHLs in and potentially resulting in a 'wirescaping' effect where both can be seen at the same time. This 'boxing in' would be particularly prominent for receptors around Newton of Kiddshill and Meikle Kirkhill, which also have wind turbines just north of Newton of Kiddshill, and around Upper Smithy Croft which would become 'boxed in' on three sides. Towers are likely to be visible in their entirety in the near to mid-distance against the skyline, although some towers would be seen against a backdrop of gently undulating landform and belts of field and roadside vegetation or intermittent blocks of woodland. Many views are obstructed in some way, by curtilage vegetation or farm buildings and there are many single storey properties where residents would be limited to ground floor views only. However, due to the proximity of the Proposed Development and having OHLs within a double aspect of some views, the magnitude of change is assessed as Medium to High but High for receptors around Upper Smithy Croft. The geographical extent is medium to high, and the duration is short-term.	<u>During Construction</u> High (Upper Smithy Croft and North Auchtylair only) Medium to High (rest of receptors) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> High (Upper Smithy Croft only) Medium to High (rest of receptors) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> High (Upper Smithy Croft only) Medium to High (rest of receptors)	<u>During Construction</u> Major Adverse (significant) (Upper Smithy Croft only) Major Adverse (significant) (rest of receptors) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Major Adverse (significant) (Upper Smithy Croft only) Major Adverse (significant) (rest of receptors) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Major Adverse (significant) (Upper Smithy Croft only) Major Adverse (significant) (rest of 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
			<i>Summer</i> Summer foliage of curtilage vegetation, field and road boundary trees and hedgerows would offer some additional visual screening but many would retain open views and a degree of ‘wirescaping’. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining Medium to High but High for receptors around Upper Smithy Croft. The geographical extent is medium to high, and the duration is long-term.		
AB-R-11	Residents to the east of the B9030 at Crichtie, to the Hill of Ludquharn (west of Nether Kinmundy) (up to approx. 500 m from the Proposed Development) (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 48) <u>Representative viewpoint</u> VP51 Skelmuir is a more distant view from the south but gives some context of the local landscape and visual amenity. (Visualisation 7.51: Viewpoint: 51 Skelmuir) Receptor group can be found on Pages 27 & 29 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a farmed, rural landscape with soft rolling hills, interspersed with occasional woodland cover. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant and contains detracting features including an existing OHL and the A952. Views within rolling farmland will be valued. The value of the view is recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>Existing View</u> Residents are located between the B9030 at Crichtie (to the south of Stuartfield) up to the Hill of Ludquharn, to the west of Nether Kinmundy, with the A952 corridor running north-south through the receptor group. Receptors are settled within open farmland, typically along local roads, within the soft rolling hills landscape with occasional small areas of woodland. Larger areas of forestry occur to the south, and together with the rolling landform, partially contain and form the background of broader views. Receptors are typically situated on the lower to mid slopes of the gently rolling landform, affording slightly more elevated views that are often interrupted by intervening farm buildings and curtilage vegetation. Receptors include those to the north of Kinnadie Hill and on the A952 at Clola. Detracting features within the relatively tranquil, although not distinctive, landscape include the A952, occasional wind turbines, and an existing 400 kV OHL, which runs east–west through the receptor group, and appears prominently in the near-distance and within the skyline of views. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, including use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be clearly noticeable in the foreground and on the skyline within uninterrupted views, as well as above existing vegetation. Whilst much of the lower-level activity would be screened by intervening curtilage vegetation and farm buildings, some receptors would afford a more open, near-distant view, such as receptors at the three properties north of Kinnadie Hill and receptors in the row of eight semi-detached properties on the A952 in Clola. Felling would only be noticeable locally at road crossings, but there would be an awareness of temporary access tracks through adjoining fields. Receptors in closer proximity and less restricted by buildings and boundary vegetation would have particularly intrusive views to construction activity across the open fields. The magnitude of change is assessed as High. The geographical extent is medium to high, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be a highly prominent feature in the near-distance, and would be openly visible for most receptors against a background of low rolling hills and intermittent woodland. Some towers would be visible in their entirety, intruding into the skyline within pleasant rural views. Towers would include prominent angle towers, notably for receptors at Turfhill of Auchtylair to the south of Stuartfield, and receptors at North Auchtylair who would be entirely ‘boxed in’ by OHL, with the Proposed Development to west, north, and east (including three angle towers), and the existing 400 kV OHL to the south. The Proposed Development runs mostly parallel to, and would be seen in combination with, the existing 400 kV OHL, except around North Auchtylair. Despite the presence of the existing OHL, proposed towers would be taller, resulting in a degree of ‘wirescaping’, particularly around North Auchtylair where the OHLs are not running in parallel. Receptors to the north of the Proposed Development and west of the A952 would have views of the Proposed Development set against the background of Skelmuir Hill, whilst receptors further east would see it against Backhill Leanbo woodland, Hill of Aldie and the Moss of Kinmundy woods. These surrounding hills provide a backcloth to the lower level portions of the towers, but the majority would remain skylined across a large portion of the view. The magnitude of change is assessed as High. The geographical extent is medium to high, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> Summer foliage of curtilage vegetation, field and road boundary trees and hedgerows would offer additional visual screening for many receptors looking towards the Proposed Development, but towers would remain openly visible across more open views, and across the skyline of all. The magnitude of change is therefore anticipated to remain High. The geographical extent is medium to high, and the duration is long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> High <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> High <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> High	<u>During Construction</u> Major Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Major Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Major Adverse (significant)
AB-R-12	Mains of Kinmundy (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 18)	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are likely to have an appreciation of a low-lying, farmed, rural landscape with gently undulating landform and sparse woodland cover allowing for mid to far-distance views. The	<u>Existing View</u> Receptors are a small number of residential receptors located around Mains of Kinmundy, to the south of Longside. Receptors include those at South Braeside of Ludquharn, Auchtydore, Mains of Kinmundy, Mains of Ludquharn, The Row, Inverveddie, and Netherton). Receptors are located within low-lying farmland with gently undulating landform and large, open, geometric fields characteristic of LCT 17 ‘Coastal Agricultural Plain – Aberdeenshire’, which, together with a relative lack of vegetation, allows for broad open views. Views north, however, are typically intervened by curtilage vegetation to create more intermittent and filtered views across the landscape, although receptors at The Row appear to have the most open views. Detracting features within views include intervening farm buildings	<u>During Construction</u> High	<u>During Construction</u> 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
	<u>Representative viewpoint</u> VP53 Nether Kinmundy is a more distant view from the south but gives some context of the local landscape and visual amenity. (Visualisation 7.53: Viewpoint 53 Nether Kinmundy) Receptor group can be found on Pages 28 & 29 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> Views are not identified as nationally or regionally significant and contain detracting features such as a prominent existing OHL. Views within rolling farmland will be valued. The value of the view is recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	and the existing 400 kV OHL to the south, the towers of which can be seen in their entirety and prominently in the skyline. Traffic on the A950 to the north is also discernible. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, including use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be clearly noticeable in their entirety across open farmland, and impinging into the skyline above curtilage and field boundary vegetation and between intervening farm buildings in the foreground of views. There would be an awareness of temporary access tracks through nearby fields, and a small area of felling to the northeast of Hill of Ludquharn would also be clearly noticeable. Receptors slightly less restricted by buildings and boundary vegetation would have open views to construction activity across surrounding fields, with activity visible across a large portion of the view. The magnitude of change is assessed as High. The geographical extent is high, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be a prominent feature within the foreground of views, and across an extensive portion of the view. The Proposed Development would be seen in conjunction with the existing OHL, resulting in a new ‘wirescaping’ effect. Receptors at South Braeside of Ludquharn would become ‘boxed in’ between the Proposed Development and the existing OHL, with an angle tower clearly prominent to the west. Angle towers would also be prominent for most receptors within this group. Towers would be visible in their entirety, impinging into the skyline, with only small portions of the lower sections of towers backdropped by gently undulating landform or belts of field and roadside vegetation. Whilst the majority of views are partially obstructed in some way, such as by curtilage vegetation or farm buildings, as well as receptors located within single storey properties which would limit views to ground floor views only, the Proposed Development would be clearly visible above any intervening features. The magnitude of change is assessed as High. The geographical extent is high, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> Curtilage deciduous vegetation would provide a small degree of additional screening for some receptors but the Proposed Development would remain openly visible across a large portion of the view, and in the skyline of views, particularly where it passes over the Hill of Ludquharn to the west. Receptors at South Braeside of Ludquharn would remain ‘boxed in’. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining High. The geographical extent is high, and the duration is long-term.	<u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> High <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> High	<u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Major Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Major Adverse (significant)
AB-R-13	Residents between the B9030 at Crichtie and Clochan, and the Burn of Faichfield between the A950 and Toddlehills (approx. 500 m – 1 km from the Proposed Development) (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 83) <u>Representative viewpoints</u> VP51 Skelmuir (Visualisation 7.51: Viewpoint 51: Skelmuir); VP52 Longside is a more distant view from the north but gives some context of the	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a low-lying, farmed, rural landscape with gently undulating landform with sparse woodland cover with potential near to mid-distant views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> Views are not identified as nationally or regionally significant and they contain some detracting features including existing OHLs, occasional wind turbines, the B9030, and the A952. The value of the view is recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>Existing View</u> Residents are located between the B9030 at Crichtie and Clochan, and the Burn of Faichfield between the A950 and north of Toddlehills. Receptors are settled within low-lying farmland with gently undulating landform and large, open, geometric fields characteristic of LCT 17 ‘Coastal Agricultural Plain – Aberdeenshire’, which together with a relative lack of vegetation, allows for broad open views. A cluster of properties in Clola afford views into the surrounding countryside across the A952. However, many receptors have views interrupted by intervening buildings and curtilage vegetation. Detracting features in views include intervening farm buildings, the B9030, A950, A952, and the existing 400 kV OHL, the towers of which can be seen in their entirety and across the skyline in the mid-distance. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, including use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be noticeable in the mid-distance in its entirety or above existing vegetation on the skyline. To the west of Hill of Ludquharn in particular, construction activities would be seen in conjunction with the existing 400 kV OHL, while to the east although the two lines are further apart, they would still be seen in combination with each other. Construction works would be frequently viewed through or above intervening curtilage vegetation and farm buildings, but some receptors would be afforded a more open view, such as from Clola, Mains of Ludquharn and from the north of Toddlehills. Very limited areas of felling would be just noticeable to the northwest at Jock’s Hill, north of Kinnadie, and to the east of the Hill of Ludquharn. There would also be limited awareness of temporary access tracks through fields in the mid-distance. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be a prominent feature within the mid-distance and would be openly visible from many receptors in their entirety, intruding into the skyline, except where curtilage vegetation or intervening farm buildings interrupt views. The Proposed Development would run mostly parallel to, and would be seen in combination with, the existing 400 kV OHL up to the Hill of Ludquharn from the west. Taller towers would be noticeable and result in a ‘wirescaping’ effect, particularly where the alignment	<u>During Construction</u> Medium <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 to Major Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> 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
	local landscape and likely view (Visualisation 7.52: Viewpoint 52: Longside); and VP53 Nether Kinmundy (Visualisation 7.53: Viewpoint 53: Nether Kinmundy) Receptor group can be found on Pages 27, 28 & 29 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations		changes direction and multiple lines of towers could be seen together. To the east of Hill of Ludquharn, the Proposed Development would be seen as new infrastructure through low, rolling farmland although it would still be seen in combination with the existing OHL, although further apart. The presence of numerous angle towers would add further infrastructure into views. While there are existing views to a nearby OHL, the Proposed Development would be seen across a wide proportion of the view, albeit it a little distance and frequently interrupted by vegetation or farm buildings. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> Summer foliage of field boundary vegetation, roadside trees and hedgerows and curtilage vegetation would offer a small degree of additional visual screening, but the Proposed Development would remain openly visible and on the skyline for many receptors. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining Medium. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term.		
AB-R-14	Residents between The Balloch and the River Deveron (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 50) <u>Representative viewpoints</u> VP35 Haughs (Visualisation 7.35: Viewpoint 35: Haughs); and VP36 B9022, Deveron Valley (Visualisation 7.36: Viewpoint 36: B9022, Deveron Valley) Receptor group can be found on Pages 18 & 20 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a farmed, rural, undulating, wooded landscape with potential far-distance views south. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> The view for some receptors to the east of Ruthven are set within the Deveron Valley SLA (Aberdeenshire Council) and therefore identified as regionally and locally significant. There are few detracting features and views to The Balloch, North Riggins, the Bin and Brownhill Plantation will be valued. The value of the view is recorded as Medium to High. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>Existing View</u> Residents are located between The Balloch and the River Deveron, to the west of the B9022, within well wooded, undulating farmland. Views are elevated (approx. 100-175 m AOD) with receptors located on the mid to lower slopes of Meikle Balloch Hill, Brown Hill and Whitehill. Views south are mostly screened or interrupted by intervening landform and vegetation, including woodland within The Balloch, North Riggins, Brownhill Plantation, The Bin, and Dykehead in the near to mid-distance. Views are also typically interrupted by intervening farm buildings and curtilage vegetation. Receptors on higher landform are afforded mid to far-distance views south, with the background formed by The Bin, The Bin Forest and hills around Ardonald. The River Deveron is not readily visible within attractive, rural views that fall within the Deveron Valley SLA to the east of Ruthven but there are no notable detracting features apart from wind turbines on Cairn Hill and Old Hill. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, including use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be noticeable in the mid to far-distance above field and property boundary vegetation and farm buildings, particularly for receptors in more elevated properties to the north, who would have far-distance views of construction across a small to moderate portion of their view, albeit often interrupted by buildings or boundary vegetation. Felling on the southern side of Brownhill Plantation may be just noticeable for receptors in a row of single storey properties and a detached two storey property in Ruthven, but would not be as noticeable as construction of towers across more open fields. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low to Medium. The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be perceptible within the background of mid to far-distance views south for receptors whose views are not interrupted by intervening buildings, topography or forestry, and across a moderate portion of the view. The Proposed Development would be backdropped by forestry and landform while those receptors closer and on lower landform, such as in Ruthven, would see towers both on the skyline and backdropped by Brownhill Plantation and The Bin. Some towers may also be seen in conjunction with wind turbines on Ord Hill and Cairn Hill. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as Low to Medium. The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is 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, partially screened by intervening vegetation, seen in combination with existing wind turbines, and viewed at distance. The uncharacteristic activity, movement, and disruption of construction would also have ceased. <i>Summer</i> Curtilage and intervening field vegetation may provide a degree of additional screening in summer months for some receptors, but the Proposed Development would remain noticeable within mid to far-distance views and partially or intermittently in the skyline. The magnitude of change is assessed as remaining Low to Medium. The geographical extent is low, and the duration is 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.	<u>During Construction</u> Low to Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Low to Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Low to Medium	<u>During Construction</u> Moderate Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Moderate Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> 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
AB-R-15	Residents in Ardonald to the south of the A96 (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 19) <u>Representative viewpoint</u> VP34 Ardonald (Visualisation 7.34: Viewpoint 34: Ardonald) Receptor group can be found on Pages 18 & 20 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a farmed, rural, undulating, open landscape interspersed with wooded areas with potential mid to far-distance views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant and contains detracting features including existing OHLs and the A96 within the foreground to mid-distance of views. The value of the view is recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>Existing View</u> Residents are located around Ardonald to the south of the A96 and Burn of Cairnie and are set within undulating, open farmland to the north of Black Hill and Hill of Milleath. Views north are attractive, across a rural and gently undulating landscape, although it contains detracting elements including telegraph poles and wires, wind turbines on Ord Hill and Cairn Hill, an existing nearby 275 kV OHL and traffic on the A96, reducing the perceived tranquillity. The background of views are formed by landform and larger areas of forestry, particularly on Meikle Balloch Hill to the north of the A96. Receptors have views generally obstructed by intervening curtilage vegetation and farm buildings and some receptors – at Meikleton of Ardonald and Redfold - are well contained within forestry. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, including use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be noticeable in the mid-distance above field and property boundary vegetation and farm buildings on the lower slopes of, and partially backdropped by, Meikle Balloch Hill and forestry associated with The Balloch. Small areas of felling on Ord Hill may be noticeable, as well as temporary access tracks through open fields. Construction activity to the northeast is screened by the Hill of Greenwood and local topography, whilst some lower-level construction activity would also be screened by intervening topography, buildings and boundary vegetation. Construction across Ord Hill and Cairn Hill would be particularly prominent and skylined. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium. The geographical extent is low, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be noticeable within the background of views on the lower to mid slopes of Meikle Balloch Hill to the north of the A96. Part of the Proposed Development would be backclothed by the rising topography of Meikle Balloch Hill and mixed woodland or forestry associated with The Balloch, but towers would become skylined further east and around Hill of Greenwood to the north. Receptors to the west of the Burn of Ardonald would view the Proposed Development beyond the existing 275 kV OHL in the near to mid-distance, with the Proposed Development skylined beyond. The Proposed Development would also be seen in conjunction with wind turbines on Ord Hill and Cairn Hill, which would also be partially skylined. Views, however, are obstructed by intervening curtilage vegetation and farm buildings, with the Proposed Development visible at distance across a small to moderate portion of the view. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as Medium. The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> Deciduous foliage of curtilage vegetation and field and road boundary trees and hedgerows would offer additional visual screening for properties looking north and northeast towards the Proposed Development. Whilst it would remain noticeable within the background of views and skylined in sections, particularly to the northeast, deciduous foliage would provide additional screenign adn softening of background views. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as reducing to Low to Medium. The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Low to 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)
AB-R-16	Cairnie (Cairney) (east and west of the A96) (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group =57) <u>Representative viewpoint</u> VP34 Ardonald (Visualisation 7.34: Viewpoint 34: Ardonald) Receptor group can be found on Pages 18, 20 & 21 of Figure 7.6:	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a farmed, rural, undulating, wooded landscape with potential mid to far-distance views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant and contains the detracting prominent feature of the A96 within the foreground of views. Views across wooded farmland will be valued by residents. The	<u>Existing View</u> Residents are located within the village of Cairnie (also written Cairney) and within individual, scattered properties immediately north and south of the village, along the A96 corridor. They are set within undulating farmland on slightly lower ground on the northwestern lower slopes of The Bin, within LCT 17 'Farmed Moorland Edge – Aberdeenshire'. Receptors are generally well contained, with views from the village and receptors along the A96 contained by the rising landforms of The Bin to the east and southeast, Torry Hillock, Hill of Milleath, Black Hill and Green Hill to the south and southwest; Ord Hill and Cairn Hill to the west; and The Balloch to the north and northwest, many of which are extensively wooded. Many properties also contain curtilage vegetation, which, along with vegetated watercourses such as Burn of Cairnie to the south and east, further encloses views. Receptors to the north of Cairnie on higher ground have more elevated views south, but are backdropped by Garromuir Wood which restricts views north. Moving traffic on the A96 can be seen in the foreground, with wind turbines on Cairn Hill to the northwest, and across Black Hill / Hill of Milleath to the southwest, are detracting features in an otherwise reasonably attractive, rural, farmed landscape. <u>View During Construction</u> Low-level construction activities, including access tracks and the movement of vehicles and workers, would not be seen from receptors within or around Cairnie. Installation of taller elements, particularly use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be perceptible above intervening landform and vegetation, primarily for those receptors at the very western end of Bin Avenue, around Lower Sinsharnie adjacent to the A96, and receptors south of the A96. Intervening deciduous vegetation would help interrupt views, which would be predominantly oblique, but views through bare branches towards	<u>During Construction</u> Negligible to Low <u>Operational Phase - Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Negligible (receptors at the very western end of Bin Avenue; around Lower Sinsharnie adjacent to the A96; and receptors south of A96) No Change (all other receptors in and around Cairnie)	<u>During Construction</u> Minor to Mdoerate Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Minor Adverse (non-significant, receptors at the very western end of Bin Avenue; around Lower Sinsharnie adjacent to the A96; and receptors south of A96)

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
	Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	value of the view is recorded as Medium . <u>Sensitivity</u> High	upper-level construction would be perceptible for some. The magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible to Low . The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would not be visible from receptors in Cairnie due to intervening landform associated with Cairn Hill and curtilage vegetation and farm buildings. There would be limited visibility of taller elements between leafless branches for receptors on the western edge of Bin Avenue, around Lower Sinsharnie adjacent to the A96, and receptors to the south of the A96, where the Proposed Development would occupy a very small portion of the view, interrupted by intervening deciduous vegetation. For receptors with some visibility, the magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible and No Change for all other receptors. The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> Summer foliage of curtilage vegetation and field and road boundary trees and hedgerows would offer additional visual screening for residential receptors looking north to northwest towards the Proposed Development. Receptors at the western end of Bin Avenue would become screened, with only receptors south of the A96 likely to have any remaining visibility. For receptors to the south of the A96, the magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible , but No Change for all other receptors. The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is long-term.	<u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Negligible (receptors south of A96 only) No Change (all other receptors in and around Cairnie)	Neutral (all other receptors in and around Cairnie) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Minor Adverse (non-significant, receptors south of A96 only) Neutral (all other receptors in and around Cairnie)
AB-R-17	Residents between the River Deveron and Avochie to the west and the A947 at Turriff to the east (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 150) <u>Representative viewpoints</u> VP36 B9022, Deveron Valley (Visualisation 7.36: Viewpoint 36: B9022, Deveron Valley) VP57 Inverkeithny (Visualisation 7.57: Viewpoint 57: Inverkeithny) Receptor group can be found on Pages 20, 22, 23 & 24 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a farmed, rural, undulating landscape with rolling ridges, interspersed with small woodland areas with potential mid-distant views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High . <u>Value</u> The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant, and contains some detracting features including existing OHLs to the west, wind turbines, the B9024 and the A947 to the east. The value of the view is recorded as Medium . <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>Existing View</u> Residents are located between Avochie at the River Deveron up to the A947 to the south of Turriff, as well as residents within the small settlements of Conland, Forgue, Fortrie, Southend and Gask. Scattered individual detached properties, including farmsteads, are set within open, wooded farmland, some affording more elevated views either side of local valleys on the lower to mid slopes of local hills (including Fourman Hill, Mill of Forgue, Hill of Haggs, Hill of Carlincraig and Hill of Cleftbog). Views south are often screened or interrupted by intervening landform and large areas of forestry such as the Wood of Avochie and Cobairdy Wood, as well as intervening curtilage vegetation and farm buildings. To the east of Fortrie, forestry becomes sparser and the landform softens, allowing for more expansive views although low ridgelines still limit more distant views and often form the background. There are few detracting features within attractive, rural views although an existing OHL can briefly be seen to the southeast of Fourman Hill, the B9024 and the A947 to the east, and small to medium sized wind turbines are a regular feature. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, particularly use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be perceptible above intervening landform and vegetation in the mid to far-distance of views south. Views are mostly restricted by buildings and curtilage vegetation resulting in an intermittent appreciation of construction activity, with much of the lower-level activity screened from view. However, receptors with more open views would have views towards lower-level activity, but generally across a small portion of the view. Large areas of coniferous forestry between Avochie and Fortrie and gently undulating landform to the east of Fortrie further limits views. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low to Medium . The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is short-term. Effects are identified as Moderate Adverse but non-significant as much of the construction activity would be screened, or visible across a relatively small portion of the view, and at distance. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be a noticeable feature to the south, appearing in the mid to far-distance of views for receptors where views are not interrupted by intervening landform, woodland or curtilage vegetation. The Proposed Development is likely to appear across a small to moderate portion of views, traversing arable fields and undulating farmland. Proposed towers would be backclothed by rolling hills and woodland to the west and are more likely to appear in the skyline to the east as landform softens. Towards Turriff, between Forgue and Gask, the landscape is less well wooded and more expansive views to the Proposed Development would be afforded from some receptors, although many are interrupted or filtered by farm buildings and curtilage vegetation. The Proposed Development is likely to appear in the background of views to the south as a new detracting element within attractive and relatively unspoilt views. Even so, views would be at some distance and across a generally small portion of the view. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low to Medium . The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is long-term. Effects are identified as Moderate Adverse but non-significant as much of the Proposed Development would be screened from view, or visible across a relatively small portion of the view only. It would be largely backclothed by hills and vegetation and seen at distance. <i>Summer</i>	<u>During Construction</u> Low to Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Low to Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Low to Medium	<u>During Construction</u> Moderate Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Moderate Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> 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 foliage in field boundary or curtilage vegetation would offer some additional visual screening for residential receptors looking south towards the Proposed Development. Similar to the winter months, the Proposed Development would be noticeable and appear in the mid distance of views, with towers visible against the rolling hills and in some cases against the skyline where Proposed Development on higher topography. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining Low to Medium . The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is long-term. Effects are identified as remaining Moderate Adverse and non-significant as many receptors would have views further filtered by deciduous vegetation being in leaf and providing some additional screening in summer months.		
AB-R-18	Residents between Hill of Denmoss, Largue and the A947 at Birkenhills (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 85) <u>Representative viewpoints</u> VP41: Kirkton of Auchterless a slightly closer view but gives some context of the local landscape and likely view. (Visualisation 7.41: Viewpoint 41: Kirkton of Auchterless) VP57: Inverkeithny (Visualisation 7.41: Viewpoint 41: Kirkton of Auchterless; Visualisation 7.57: Viewpoint 57: Inverkeithny) Receptor group can be found on Pages 22, 23, 24 & 25 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a farmed, rural, undulating landscape with rolling ridges, interspersed with small woodland areas with potential mid-distant views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant and contains the detracting features of existing OHLs to the southwest, wind turbines, and the A947 to the east. The value of the view is recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>Existing View</u> Residents are located between Largue by the B9001 in the west, and the A947 at Birkenhills, to the south of Turriff and west of Hatton Castle. Receptors are located within undulating, open farmland on lower landform of the Hill of Denmoss, Kirk Hill, and the Hill of Lenshie in the west, and the Hill of Carlinraig and Birkenhill to the east. There is an awareness of an existing 400 kV OHL to the south, particularly for receptors to the west, including Largue, Aucharnie, Balgaveny, and Hassiewells; while views north are intermittently limited by landform. Receptors to the east typically have expansive views over gently rolling topography and rolling ridges within open farmland to the north. Views are often screened, interrupted or partially filtered by intervening farm buildings and roadside and curtilage vegetation, and lines of telegraph poles are often seen. Occasional blocks of coniferous plantation and vegetation along the Burn of Gask screen views north from some receptors. Views are rural and attractive but contain some detracting features that include wind turbines on local rises in landform, appearing in the skyline, an existing 400 kV OHL to the south, the B9001, and the A947 to the east. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, including use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be noticeable in the mid-distance and appear on the skyline of views north through rolling farmland. For most receptors, construction works would only be noticeable through or above intervening curtilage vegetation, farm buildings and field boundary vegetation and only intermittently between local rises in landform, across a small portion of the view. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low to Medium. The geographical extent is low, and the duration is short-term. Effects are identified as Moderate Adverse but non-significant as much of the construction activity would be screened, or visible across a small portion of the view only, and viewed at a little distance. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be noticeable in a small portion of views, with upper elements of the Proposed Development visible only. It would appear in the mid to far-distance for receptors with more open views north, where topography allows. Many receptors would not perceive the Proposed Development due to intervening vegetation, landform and farm buildings. The Proposed Development would be intermittently visible crossing arable fields and rolling topography to the north in the mid-distance and occasionally in the skyline above intervening landform where the Proposed Development is on higher landform, but would predominantly be screened for most receptors. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as Low. The geographical extent is low, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> Summer foliage of field and curtilage vegetation would offer slight additional visual screening for receptors looking north towards the Proposed Development, but it would remain partially noticeable in the mid-distance of views for some receptors, typically over a small proportion of the view. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as Low. The geographical extent is low, and the duration is long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Low to Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Low <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Low	<u>During Construction</u> Moderate Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant)
AB-R-19	Turriff (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 2507)	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home in the town of Turriff and are likely to have an appreciation of surrounding urban settlement with generally near to mid-distant views into arable farmland on undulating landform	<u>Existing View</u> Receptors are residents within the town of Turriff, which is located to the east of the River Deveron and north of the Burn of Turriff and their associated shallow valleys, with rising landform to the south. Receptors are mostly afforded views within the urban town environment, and only those on the southern edges (including at Bridgend / Little Turriff, along the B9024 and A947), and to the southeast (including at St Congans Circle, St Congans Den, Collyburn View, and receptors on an unnamed road south of Collyburn View) have views south towards broad rolling hills and rising topography. Views look onto open farmland with occasional small blocks of woodland and culminate on low ridgelines in the mid-distance. Detracting features are those primarily associated with an urban environment including buildings, lighting, telegraph poles and wires, signage, as well as the A947, B9025 and occasional wind turbines.	<u>During Construction</u> Low	<u>During Construction</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
	<u>Representative viewpoint</u> VP43 Turriff (Visualisation 7.43: Viewpoint 43: Turriff) Receptor group can be found on Pages 22 & 24 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	to the south. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant and contains detracting features associated with an urban environment including buildings, the A947 and B9025. The value of the view is recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, including use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be perceptible in the mid to far-distance of views south as the Proposed Development crosses the A947 and the shallow valley of the Burn of Turriff. Landform restricts most views to the southeast and southwest and therefore only a relatively short section of construction would be perceived to the south of Turriff. Small areas of felling may be noticeable at the Burn of Turriff and adjacent to the A947, but would not alter the general characteristics of the landscapes. Views are mostly restricted by landform, buildings and boundary vegetation resulting in an intermittent, narrow appreciation of construction in the mid distance and therefore the magnitude of change is assessed as Low. The geographical extent is low, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would not be visible for the majority of receptors, but it would be perceptible in the mid-distance from receptors on the southern edges that afford views into the local valley of the Burn of Turriff and rising farmland to the south. Towers would be visible between intervening buildings, landform and small blocks of woodland and would appear on the skyline for some receptors across a small proportion of mid-distant views. Management felling within Wood of Darra may slightly increase the perception of towers on higher ground the southwest. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as Low. The geographical extent is low, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> Summer foliage of field, road and curtilage vegetation would offer a small degree of additional visual screening, but the Proposed Development would remain perceptible within the mid to background of views for receptors on the southern periphery of the town. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining Low. The geographical extent is low, and the duration is long-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year 15 Summer)</u> Management felling planting back to the edge of the OC through the Wood of Darra is likely to have re-established in this time. Woodland planting would likely soften the appearance of lower portions of individual towers on higher ground through Wood of Darra but the Proposed Development would remain perceptible within the mid to background of views for receptors on the southern periphery of the town. The overall effect is anticipated to remain Low. The geographical extent is low, and the duration is long-term.	<u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Low <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Low <u>Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer)</u> Low	<u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer)</u> Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant)
AB-R-20	Residents between Turriff and Cuminestown, including Cuminestown (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 293) <u>Representative viewpoint</u> VP45 Cuminestown (Visualisation 7.45: Viewpoint 45: Cuminestown) Receptor group can be found on Page 24 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a farmed, rural, gently undulating landscape with low rolling ridges, interspersed with sparse woodland areas with potential mid-distant views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant. It contains a few detracting features including occasional wind turbines, the B9170 and B9027. Broad open rural views will be valued. The value of the view is recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>Existing View</u> Residents are located within undulating farmland between Turriff and up to and including the settlement of Cuminestown, many being located alongside the B9170. The landscape is one of open farmland on gently undulating landform of low hills and ridges, with broad shallow valleys interspersed with pockets of woodland cover, (including the Wood of Delgaty (coniferous) and deciduous woodland further to its west), that screens long views south for some receptors, particularly those to the east of Turriff. Some receptors are afforded relatively open mid-distant views south across the local valley of Idoch Water, where landform and regular belts of conifers and pockets of woodland on higher ground break up and interrupt views. Views south from the low-lying village of Cuminestown are mostly limited by intervening rising landform, surrounding buildings, curtilage and roadside vegetation. Receptors on Thornhill Road that leads south out of Cuminestown are afforded slightly more elevated views south, with their outlook orientated towards Castlehill to the west, although interrupted by roadside and field vegetation. There are few detracting features beyond Cuminestown, where more urban features become apparent such as lines of telegraph poles, local roads and housing. Occasional wind turbines break the skyline to the north. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, including use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be noticeable on the skyline above and between intervening vegetation and buildings in the mid-distance. Receptors on the southern edges of Cuminestown and on rising ground to the west (such as receptors at Castle of Auchry, Lambtech and Upper Lambtech) would view construction activity from higher ground across open farmland across a small to moderate portion of the view, albeit with some degree of intervening curtilage or tree lines. The few receptors within Wood of Delgaty and to its west would be largely screened from construction activity by the woodland and topography, but construction of the taller elements, including use of cranes or potentially helicopters, would be more noticeable due to their height and movement. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low to Medium for receptors to the east of Wood of Dalgety, and Low for receptors to the west of it. The geographical extent is low, and the duration is short-term. Effects for receptors to the east of Wood of Dalgety are identified as Moderate Adverse but non-significant as construction activity would be partially interrupted, amd seen across a relatively small portion of the view, and at a little distance.	<u>During Construction</u> Low to Medium (east of Wood of Dalgety) Low (west of Wood of Dalgety) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Low to Medium (east of Wood of Dalgety) Negligible to Low (west of Wood of Dalgety) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Low to Medium (east of Wood of Dalgety)	<u>During Construction</u> Moderate Adverse (non-significant) (east of Wood of Dalgety) Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant, west of Wood of Dalgety) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Moderate Adverse (non-significant) (east of Wood of Dalgety) Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant, west of Wood of Dalgety)

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
			<u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be clearly noticeable within the mid-distance of views south from receptors to the east of Wood of Dalgety, particularly those to the west and south of Cuminstown. The Proposed Development would be seen between the undulating topography and blocks of conifers and woodland in the mid-distance against the skyline and above intervening tree lines. Receptors on the southern periphery of Cuminstown, particularly on Thornhill Road, would have oblique views towards the Proposed Development, where it would be seen against the skyline in the mid-distant background as it crosses higher ground on either side of a local valley associated with the Teucher Stank. Receptors on rising ground to the west of Cuminstown would have clear visibility of the Proposed Development across a small to moderate portion of the view. Many receptors have views filtered or interrupted by curtilage vegetation, local undulations in topography, or wider blocks of woodland. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as Low to Medium for receptors to the east of Wood of Dalgety, and Negligible to Low for receptors to the west of it. The geographical extent is low, and the duration is long-term. Effects for receptors to the east of Wood of Dalgety are identified as Moderate Adverse but non-significant as the Proposed Development would be partially screened, viewed across a relatively small portion of the view, and at a little distance. <i>Summer</i> Summer foliage of field and road boundary trees and hedgerows, as well as curtilage vegetation would offer some additional visual screening for receptors, particularly those to the west of Wood of Delgaty around Woodside and The Hillocks, where deciduous blocks of woodland are present. For receptors further east, particularly those on higher ground with more open vistas, the Proposed Development would remain noticeable in the mid-distance, in the skyline. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed to remaining Low to Medium for receptors to the east of Wood of Dalgety, but reducing to Negligible for receptors to the west of it. The geographical extent is low, and the duration is long-term. Effects for receptors to the east of Wood of Dalgety are identified as remaining Moderate Adverse and non-significant as, whilst deciduous foliage would offer a little additional screening in summer months, views for these receptors are generally more open and remain similar to winter views.	Negligible (west of Wood of Dalgety)	<u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Moderate Adverse (non-significant) (east of Wood of Dalgety) Minor Adverse (non-significant, west of Wood of Dalgety)
AB-R-21	Residents between Cuminstown and Maud (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 79) <u>Representative viewpoint</u> N/A Receptor group can be found on Pages 24 & 26 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a farmed, rural, gently undulating landscape with low rolling ridges, interspersed with occasional woodland areas with mid-distant views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant and contains occasional detracting features. Rural views into surrounding undulating farmland will be valued. The value of the view is recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>Existing View</u> Residents are located between Cuminstown to the west, and Maud to the east. Receptors are settled within open, gently undulating farmland of low hills and ridges, with broad shallow valleys interspersed with occasional woodland cover are characteristic of LCT 20 ‘Undulating Agricultural Heartland’. Receptors have views that are often interrupted by intervening landform, farm buildings or curtilage vegetation, whilst receptors in Brucklay have views well contained by woodland associated with the Brucklay Castle estate. Receptors south and west of Bruckley have slightly more open views, allowing visibility of the Hill of Culsh and Culsh Monument in the mid-distance. Telegraph poles are a regular feature and the A981 goes through Buckley, otherwise there are few detracting features. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, including the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be noticeable across the view in the mid-distance, against the skyline, although lower-level activity (including at ground-level) would be largely screened from view. A greater extent of activity would be visible where receptors are less obstructed by curtilage vegetation and farm buildings. Views from within the Bruckley estate are well screened, but receptors to the south and west would see construction activity backdropped by the Hill of Culsh and the Culsh Monument. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low to Medium. The geographical extent is low, and the duration is short-term. Effects are identified as Moderate Adverse but non-significant as the construction activity would be partially screened, largely backclothed by hills or vegetation, and visible across a small portion of the view, and at a little distance. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be a noticeable feature within the mid-distance of views from receptors with a more open outlook or where not interrupted by intervening landform, curtilage vegetation, farm buildings or woodland. Receptors in Brucklay, for example, would have less visibility of the Proposed Development due to surrounding woodland screening or interrupting views. Towers would typically be visible in the skyline above landform and tree lines to the south in the mid-distance. In some locations the Proposed Development would be seen against a backdrop of landform and vegetation, including the Hill of Culsh and the Culsh monument to the north of New Deer. Whilst the Proposed Development would potentially be seen across quite a wide angle of view, it would be seen at some distance, and generally on slightly lower ground. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low to Medium. The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Low to Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Low to Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Low to Medium	<u>During Construction</u> Moderate Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Moderate Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> 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
			Effects are identified as Moderate Adverse but non-significant as the Proposed Development would be partially screened, largely backclothed by hills or vegetation, and viewed at a little distance. <i>Summer</i> Summer foliage of field boundary, curtilage and roadside vegetation would offer slight additional visual screening for receptors although the Proposed Development would remain noticeable in the skyline above landform and tree lines in the mid-distance to the south. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining as Low to Medium . The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is long-term. Effects are identified as remaining Moderate Adverse and non-significant as deciduous foliage would offer a little additional screening in summer months, but parts of the Proposed Development would remain visible.		
AB-R-22	Maud (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 434) <u>Representative viewpoint</u> VP49 B9029, Maud (Visualisation 7.49: Viewpoint 49: B9029, Maud) Receptor group can be found on Page 26 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home in the village of Maud and views are predominantly within an urban settlement. Properties on the periphery of the village only will have an appreciation of rural farmland in shallow valleys with broad rolling hills and potential mid-distant views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High . <u>Value</u> The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant and contains detracting features associated with an urban settlement. Rural views into surrounding undulating farmland will be valued from the periphery. The value of the view is recorded as Medium . <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>Existing View</u> Residents in the village of Maud mostly have views associated and contained within an urban setting. Residential receptors on the periphery of the village, on the B9029, B9106 and on Bank Road, have mid to far-distance views into the adjacent landscape to the south and southwest, across open, gently rolling fields with limited vegetation cover. The foreground of views incorporates local roads, properties, telegraph poles, and curtilage vegetation, with occasional wind turbines also visible to the south. The B9029 and B9106 are also detracting features in an otherwise attractive landscape. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, including the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be clearly noticeable in the mid-distance to the west and south for receptors on the periphery of Maud, on the B9029, B9106, in Den View and on Bank Road. Views are typically filtered or obstructed by boundary vegetation and further vegetation alongside the Formartine and Buchan Way, but it would still be clearly visible on the skyline in the mid-distance and across a wide portion of the view. Lower-level construction activity would generally be screened by intervening vegetation, but activity and movement would be noticeable where there are views south or southwest across open fields. Visible construction activity would be seen in the context of views that look across a landscape characterised by telegraph poles, OHLs and wind turbines on the skyline. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low to Medium (western and southern periphery) and Negligible for all others. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase- Year of Opening</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be clearly perceptible in the mid-distance and background of views for receptors on the periphery of Maud with a mix of direct and oblique views, but views are typically filtered or obstructed by intervening field or curtilage vegetation. The Proposed Development would not be visible for the majority of receptors within the village, being screened by intervening built form, but for receptors on the edges of the village, including the B9029, B9106, in Den View and on Bank Road, the Proposed Development would be clearly visible against the skyline, creating a degree of wirescaping across the gently rolling farmland to the west and south. Whilst lower portions of towers would be screened, upper portions would impinge into the skyline of views over a small to moderate proportion of the view, adding additional artifical vertical structuers across the skyline. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low to Medium (western and southern periphery) and Negligible for all others. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> The Proposed Development would remain perceptible within the mid-distance and background of views for receptors on the edges of the village. Summer foliage of field and curtilage vegetation would offer additional visual screening for receptors looking south and west, slightly softening views of towers, although it would remain visible in the skyline through the open farmland for some. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining Low to Medium (western and southern periphery) and Negligible for all others. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term. For receptors on the western and southern periphery of Maud, effects are identified as Moderate Adverse but non-significant as deciduous foliage in summer would offer some additional screening in summer months, particularly in the fore to mid-ground of views. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year 15 Summer)</u> Small areas of management felling planting back to the edge of the OC is likely to have re-established in this time but would not change perception and views of the Proposed Development for these receptors. The magnitude of change is assessed to remain as Low to Medium (western and southern periphery) and Negligible for all others. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Low to Medium (western and southern periphery) Negligible (all others) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Low to Medium (western and southern periphery) Negligible (all others) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Low to Medium (western and southern periphery) Negligible (all others) <u>Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer)</u> Low to Medium (western and southern periphery) Negligible (all others)	<u>During Construction</u> Moderate Adverse (significant, western and southern periphery) Minor Adverse (non-significant, all others) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Moderate Adverse (significant, western and southern periphery) Minor Adverse (non-significant, all others) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Moderate Adverse (non-significant, western and southern periphery) Minor Adverse (non-significant, all others) <u>Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer)</u> Moderate Adverse (non-significant, western and southern periphery) Minor Adverse (non-significant, all others)

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
			For receptors on the western and southern periphery of Maud, effects are identified as remaining Moderate Adverse and non-significant as additional planting would not be readily discernible.		
AB-R-23	Residents between the A947 and New Deer (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 189) <u>Representative viewpoint</u> N/A Receptor group can be found on Pages 24, 25, 26 & 27 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a farmed, rural landscape with broad rolling hills and occasional large areas of woodland to the west and more open farmland to the east of Delgaty Forest with mid to far-distant views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> Views are not nationally or regionally significant, although views from properties associated the well wooded heritage designation of Hatton Castle Garden and Designed Landscape will be valued. There are some detracting features including OHLs and wind turbines. The value of the view is recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>Existing View</u> Residents are located between the A947 at Birkenhills to the south of Turriff, to the southeast of New Deer. Receptors are settled within open, gently undulating farmland of low hills and ridges, with broad shallow valleys interspersed with large areas of woodland and forestry, which is mostly associated with Delgaty Forest, Greeness, Hatton Castle, and across Waggle Hill. Views north for residential receptors to the west of Howe of Teuchar are screened by landform and woodland within the Hatton Castle estate and Delgaty Forest. To the east of Delgaty Forest the landform is more gentle and allows for broader views into open farmland approaching New Deer, although often interrupted by field boundary vegetation, intervening farm buildings or curtilage vegetation. Existing wind turbines, OHLs, and busy roads (including the A947 to the west, and A948 and B9170 to the east) are detracting features across the landscape in the near to mid-distance. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, including use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be particularly noticeable for receptors between Howe of Teuchar and New Deer, with towers visible in the mid-distance in the skyline above and between intervening buildings and curtilage vegetation. For many receptors within farmsteads, construction works would only be noticeable through or above intervening curtilage vegetation and farm buildings, but many open, mid-distant views would be afforded through the relatively flat and open farmland. Receptors between Howe of Teuchar and New Deer would be more screened by landform and vegetation, such that only the very upper portions of tower construction and use of cranes or potentially helicopters would be noticeable. The magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible to Low for receptors west of Howe of Teuchar and at Waggle Hill, and Low for all remaining receptors. The geographical extent is low, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be noticeable within the mid distance to the north, primarily for residential receptors between Howe of Teuchar and New Deer, through the open, gently undulating farmland and where intervening curtilage vegetation and farm buildings do not obstruct the view. Towers would be visible in the mid-distance and against the skyline, although the majority of views are obstructed in some way, by curtilage vegetation, local variations in landform, or farm buildings, and there are many single storey properties where residential receptors would have views limited to ground floor views only. More prominent, larger angle towers occur at regular intervals but would only be slightly more prominent given the relative distance. Due to the distance of view and intermittent nature, the magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible to Low for receptors west of Howe of Teuchar and at Waggle Hill, and Low for all remaining receptors. The geographical extent is low, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> Summer foliage of field boundary and roadside trees and hedgerows and curtilage vegetation would offer slight additional visual screening for properties between Howe of Teuchar and New Deer, although it would remain noticeable in the skyline in the mid-distance of views for many receptors. For receptors to the west of Waggle Hill, deciduous vegetation associated with Hatton Castle estate in particular, would offer additional screening in summer. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as Negligible for receptors west of Howe of Teuchar and at Waggle Hil, and Low for all remaining receptors. The geographical extent is low, and the duration is long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Negligible to Low (west of Howe of Teuchar and at Waggle Hill) Low (all remaining receptors) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Negligible to Low (west of Howe of Teuchar and at Waggle Hill) Low (all remaining receptors) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Negligible (west of Howe of Teuchar and at Waggle Hill) Low (all remaining receptors)	<u>During Construction</u> Minor to Moderate Adverse (west of Howe of Teuchar and at Waggle Hill) Minor to Moderate Adverse (all remaining receptors) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant, west of Howe of Teuchar and at Waggle Hill) Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant, all remaining receptors) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Minor Adverse (non-significant, west of Howe of Teuchar and at Waggle Hill) Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant, all remaining receptors)
AB-R-24	New Deer (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 341) <u>Representative viewpoints</u> VP47 Culsh Monument	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home in the low-lying village of New Deer and are likely to have an appreciation of surrounding open, arable farmland from with potential mid to far-distant views from gently rising ground. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant	<u>Existing View</u> Receptors are residents of New Deer village, located alongside the Burn of Auchreddie. The western end of the village is on lower-lying ground as it crosses the burn, which limits some far-distance views for receptors in this area. Residents of New Deer typically front onto the main streets within the village, but are afforded far-distance views from backs of properties across adjacent open farmland within a gently undulating landform of low hills and ridges. Rows of properties on High Street / Main Street are largely orientated east – west, while those on the A981 (Fordyce Terrace), the A948, and east of Main Street are orientated more north – south. Broad, shallow valleys with sparse woodland cover allow for some open, mid to far-distance views to the north and east, although views for many receptors are screened by intervening curtilage vegetation, roadside vegetation, and buildings. Receptors towards the western end of the village on lower-lying ground are also screened from wider views by local topography. The Culsh monument is a distinctive feature in the landscape to the north, although it is largely screened from within New Deer itself. Detracting features include wood poles, occasional wind turbines, settlement infrastructure, and the A981 and A948.	<u>During Construction</u> Low to medium (north and east) Negligible (south and west) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Low to medium (north and east)	<u>During Construction</u> Moderate Adverse (non-significant, north and east) Minor Adverse (non-significant, south and west)

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 7.47: Viewpoint 47: Culsh Monument); and VP48 4981.New Deer (Visualisation 7.48: Viewpoint 48: A981, New Deer) Receptor group can be found on Pages 26 & 27 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	and contains detracting features including the A981, A948, telegraph poles, occasional wind turbines, and infrastructure associated with village. The value of the view is recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, including use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be noticeable on the skyline in the mid-distance to the north and east for receptors on High Street / Main Street and for those to the east on the A981 and A948. Receptors at the western end of the village (including the southern end of Main Street, The Crescent, Fordyce Road, Church Crescent, The Brae, Glandstone Terrace, and Kirkbrae Terrace), would have less – or no - visibility due to intervening buildings, topography, roadside, and curtilage vegetation. Given the appreciable distance, felling and lower level activity such as access track construction, are unlikely to be perceived. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low to Medium but Negligible for those to the west and southwest of the village. The geographical extent is low, and the duration is short-term. For receptors on the north, east and southeast of New Deer, effects are identified as Moderate Adverse but non-significant as construction activity would be mostly backdropped by vegetation, screened, or partially interrupted. Construction activity would typically occupy a small portion of the view. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be perceptible within the mid-distance in the background of views to the north and east for receptors on High Street / Main Street and to the eastern end of the village on the A981 Fordyce Terrace, Pine Road and the A948. The Proposed Development wraps around New Deer beyond the Culsh Monument to the north and the A981 to the east, with the northern section located on slightly higher ground. Towers would impinge into the skyline for some receptors over a small portion of the view, with towers further east backclothed by vegetation and hills over a moderate portion of the view. Limited vegetation cover in the wider landscape allows for some open views towards the Proposed Development, albeit viewed through or above foreground boundary treatment fencing and planting. For receptors to the southeast of the village (such as on the A981 Fordyce Terrace, Pine Road and the A948), views are quite narrow, and generally focussed directly east or southeast, resulting in predominantly oblique views towards the Proposed Development only, across a small to moderate portion of the view. Visibility from the southwest end of the village would be highly limited. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low to Medium but Negligible for those to the southwest of the village. The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is long-term. For receptors on the north, east and southeast of New Deer, effects are identified as Moderate Adverse but non-significant as the Proposed Development would be partially screened, largely backclothed by vegetation, and viewed often obliquely and at a little distance. <i>Summer</i> Summer foliage of field boundary, curtilage and roadside vegetation would offer additional visual screening for many receptions, especially those in closer proximity. The Proposed Development would remain perceptible in skyline and in the mid-distance to the north and east through the open arable farmland, but the reasonable amount of deciduous vegetation would help soften views. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low to medium and Negligible for those to the southwest of the village. The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is long-term. For receptors on the north, east and southeast of New Deer, effects are identified as remaining Moderate Adverse and non-significant as deciduous foliage would offer additional screening in summer months, softening views of the Proposed Development.	Negligible (south and west) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Low to medium (north and east) Negligible (south and west)	<u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Moderate Adverse (non-significant, north and east) Minor Adverse (non-significant, south and west) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Moderate Adverse (non-significant, north and east) Minor Adverse (non-significant, south and west)
AB-R-25	Residents between the A948 south of New Deer, and Nether Kinmundy (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group =130)	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a farmed landscape with low rolling hills and open, mid-distant views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> Views are not identified as nationally or regionally significant and contain some detracting features including an existing OHL, the A948, B9030, and A952.	<u>Existing View</u> Residents are located between the south of New Deer to the west, and Nether Kinmundy to the east, within open farmland with a gently undulating landform of low hills and ridges. The expansive character of the landscape with broad, shallow, local valleys, sparse woodland cover and large, geometric fields patterns, allow for open, mid-distant views north that typically culminate on local rises in topography or belts of field or watercourse vegetation. Receptors have near to mid-distant views onto the existing OHL to the north, which appears prominently in the skyline. Many receptors have views interrupted by intervening farm buildings and curtilage vegetation. Detracting features include the existing 400 kV OHL, the A948, B9030, and A952, telegraph poles, and occasional wind turbines. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, including use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be noticeable in the mid-distance for a moderate stretch in its entirety, or above existing vegetation and on the skyline. Construction activities would be seen beyond and in the context of the existing 400 kV OHL and would generally be noticeable between or above intervening curtilage vegetation and farm buildings. Some receptors would be afforded a more open view, particularly from highly elevations. Towards Nether Kinmundy to the east, two large blocks of woodland would help to screen or obstruct views of lower-level construction activity. Small areas of felling and access tracks are unlikely to be perceived. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium. The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is short-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Medium	<u>During Construction</u> Moderate to Major Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> 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
	<u>Representative viewpoints</u> VP51 Skelmuir (Visualisation 7.51: Viewpoint 51: Skelmuir); and VP53 Nether Kinmundy (Visualisation 7.53: Viewpoint 53: Nether Kinmundy) Receptor group can be found on Pages 27 & 29 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	The value of the view is recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be noticeable within the mid-distance to the north where it would be seen beyond and in close proximity to, and largely parallelling, the existing 400 kV OHL, crossing open farmland. Where the alignment changes direction (such as around North Auchtylair and Hill of Ludquharn), multiple towers would be seen together and the Proposed Development would appear in the skyline of views above the existing 400 kV OHL, resulting in a degree of ‘wirescaping’ through rural views. The lower portion of towers would frequently be seen against a backdrop of rolling landform and field or roadside vegetation but the Proposed Development would also be seen both in the skyline and over a moderate proportion of the view. The Proposed Development would be seen in conjunction with the existing 400 kV OHL, resulting in some degree of ‘wirescaping’, albeit many views are interrupted by intervening curtilage vegetation and farm buildings. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as Medium. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> Summer foliage of field boundary, curtilage and roadside vegetation would offer slight additional visual screening for receptors looking north towards the Proposed Development. However, towers would remain apparent in the skyline within mid-distant views north through the open, low-lying farmland and the magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining Medium. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term.	<u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Medium	<u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Moderate to Major Adverse (significant)
AB-R-26	Residents between Maud and the A952 at Millbreck (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 56) <u>Representative viewpoint</u> VP50 Stuartfield is slightly further afield but can be referred to for an illustration of potential local views: (Visualisation 7.50: Viewpoint 50: Stuartfield) Receptor group can be found on Pages 26 & 27 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a low-lying, farmed, rural landscape with gently undulating landform and sparse woodland cover, with potential for near to mid-distant views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant and contain some detracting features including existing OHLs and the B9030 and A952. The value of the view is recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>Existing View</u> Residents are located between Maud and the A952 at Millbreck within rural farmland with soft rolling hills with occasional woodland. Mid-distant views south and west are afforded although many views are screened, interrupted or partially filtered by intervening topography, curtilage vegetation, woodland or field boundary vegetation. Receptors around Millbreck to the east have a slightly more open and elevated view south, while Mains of Crichtie and Crichtie House to the south of Stuartfield are well contained by deciduous woodland. Detracting features include wood poles and wires, wind turbines, an existing 400 kV OHL to the south, and the B9030 and A952. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, including use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be noticeable in the mid-distance and in the skyline. For receptors further east, works would be seen immediately to the foreground of the existing OHL. Construction works would frequently be viewed through or above intervening curtilage vegetation and farm buildings although some receptors with more open views would have a clearer view towards construction activity. Even so, ground level activity such as access track construction, would not be discernible. Felling works are also unlikely to be perceived due to their limited extent, although more extensive felling across Jock’s Hill would be just discernible for receptors to the southwest and west of Stuartfield where they are not screened by Hill of Dens. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low to Medium. The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is short-term. Effects are identified as Moderate Adverse but non-significant as low-level construction activity would be mostly screened by vegetation or topography, along with some of the upper-level construction activity. Where visible, it would be viewed across a relatively small portion of the view. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> Occasionally receptors would have views screened by intervening farm buildings or curtilage vegetation, such as receptors at Mains of Crichtie and Crichtie House to the south of Stuartfield, but for most, the Proposed Development would be a perceptible feature within the mid-distance to the south for receptors scattered through the landscape between Maud and Millbreck. Further east it would be seen to the fore of the existing OHL. Whilst most receptors would see the Proposed Development backclothed by fields and hills, a number of receptors further east (between the B9030 south of Stuartfield and A952 in Millbreck) would also have clearer views of the Proposed Development where it becomes skylined, visible across a small to moderate portion of the view in the mid-distance above intervening tree lines. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as Low to Medium. The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is long-term. Effects are identified as Moderate Adverse but non-significant as the upper portions of the Proposed Development would be visible but at a little distance, and frequently interrupted by vegetation or topography. It would occupy a relatively small portion of the view only. <i>Summer</i>	<u>During Construction</u> Low to Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Low to Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Low to Medium	<u>During Construction</u> Moderate Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Moderate Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> 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 foliage of field and road boundary trees and hedgerows and curtilage vegetation would offer some additional visual screening, but for receptors with more open outlooks, particularly to the east where the Proposed Development is skylined, it would remain a distinctive feature across a portion of the view. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining Low to Medium . The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is long-term. Effects are identified as remaining Moderate Adverse but non-significant as the upper portions of the Proposed Development would remain visible above intervening trees.		
AB-R-27	Residents between Longside and Nether Kinmundy (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 53) <u>Representative viewpoints</u> VP52 Longside (Visualisation 7.52: Viewpoint 52: Longside); and VP53 Nether Kinmundy (Visualisation 7.53: Viewpoint 53: Nether Kinmundy) Receptor group can be found on Pages 28 & 29 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a low-lying, farmed, rural landscape with gently undulating landform with sparse woodland cover with potential mid-distant views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> Views are not identified as nationally or regionally significant and contain detracting features including existing OHLs, Longside Airfield, and the A950. The value of the view is recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>Existing View</u> Residents are located between Longside and Nether Kinmundy, including a small cluster of receptors within Flushing, and Toddlehills. Receptors are settled within low-lying farmland with very gently undulating landform that allows for limited open or expansive views across the surrounding landscape. Some receptors are afforded slightly far-distance views through farmland, such as receptors to the south of Longside (such as at Drums and North Linshart), receptors adjacent to the Burn of Faichfield, and receptors west of Toddlehills (such as Lyn-Lea Cottage, Gushetneuk and Knockleith). Some receptors have views well contained by surrounding farm building, built form, or curtilage vegetation, such as many within Toddlehills, whilst receptors to the north of the A950, such as those within Flushing and Thunderton, have views southwards screened by deciduous woodland and tree belts associated with the A950 corridor. A few receptors in Toddlehills are afforded views northwest through intervening field vegetation, whilst receptors with views south have an awareness of an existing OHL. Existing detracting features include the existing OHL which can be seen in the skyline to the south, and the A950. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, including use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be clearly noticeable in the mid-distance and in the skyline, including above intervening vegetation. For receptors with foreground vegetation, such as those to within Flushing and Thunderton, construction works would be predominantly screened, although movement of activity would be discernible through leafless trees. Construction works would be mostly seen through or above intervening curtilage vegetation or farm buildings, restricting the extent of construction activity visible in the view. The limited felling in the area, along with construction of the access tracks, are unlikely to be perceived given the relative distance and presence of some intervening screening. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low to Medium. The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is short-term. Effects are identified as Moderate Adverse but non-significant as lower-level construction activity would not be openly perceived and mid-distant views towards higher-level construction activity would be typically interrupted. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be perceptible within the mid-distance for a number of receptors, above or through intervening field vegetation. Many receptors would have a heavily filtered or interrupted view due to intervening farm buildings and curtilage vegetation. Even so, the Proposed Development would be clearly visible in the mid-distance against the skyline across a moderate portion of the view. The lower portions of towers would be seen against a backdrop of landform and vegetation, and the Proposed Development would, for many receptors, be seen in conjunction with the existing OHL, intensifying the presence of infrastructure in rural views. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as Low to Medium. The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is long-term. Effects are identified as Moderate Adverse but non-significant as views would be predominantly interrupted, the Proposed Development would be seen together with the existing OHL and the uncharacteristic activity, movement, and disruption of construction would have ceased. <i>Summer</i> Summer foliage of field boundary and roadside trees and hedgerows, as well as curtilage vegetation would offer additional visual screening, particularly for those alongside the A950 corridor, although the Proposed Development would remain perceptible in the skyline in the mid-distance against the gently undulating landform. The magnitude of change is considered to reduce to Low to Medium. The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is long-term. Effects are identified as remaining Moderate Adverse and non-significant as summer foliage would further screen already slightly interrupted views, but views of the Proposed Development on the skyline would still remain.	<u>During Construction</u> Low to Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Low to Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Low to Medium	<u>During Construction</u> Moderate Adverse (non-Significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Moderate Adverse (non-Significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> 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
AB-R-28a	B9115, Hillend to Huntly (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 53) <u>Representative viewpoint</u> VP34 Ardonald (Visualisation 7.34: Viewpoint 34: Ardonald) Receptor group can be found on Pages 18, 20 & 21 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a farmed, rural undulating and well wooded landscape with potential mid to far-distance, filtered views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> The view for some receptors to the south of The Bin are set within the Deveron Valley SLA (Aberdeenshire Council) and therefore identified as regionally and locally significant. There are occasional detracting features including an existing 275 kV OHL and wind turbines. Even so, the value of the view is recorded as Medium to High. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>Existing View</u> Residents are located across a wide area, from the B9115 and Burn of Davidston in the west, to the A96 at Ord Hill and The Bin. Receptors are scattered through an undulating, well wooded landscape, located on the lower to mid slopes of the Hill of Shenwall, Hill of Janetstown, Brownhill and Blackhill and at the eastern extent, to the south of The Bin and Wood of Milleath, alongside the A96 and in the valley of the River Deveron. Views are generally well contained by local topography, belts of mixed woodland and large areas of forestry, which interrupt and heavily filter views north. Where views are afforded from mid slopes, they are attractive, remote with few detracting features and undulating hills to the north are visible in the background. An existing OHL is perceived to the west of Huntly, wind turbines can be seen on Blackhill and the A96 is a prominent feature in proximity to the River Deveron. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activities would only be distantly perceived in the background of views from individual properties on the mid slopes of local hills within a very small portion of the view. Use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be more noticeable due to their height and movement, but they would be partially obstructed by intervening landform and forestry. The magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible. The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be a barely perceptible feature in the mid to far-distance to the northwest and northeast for those few receptors with a more open, elevated outlook on the mid slope of local hills, typically obstructed by intervening curtilage vegetation and buildings. The Proposed Development would only be seen above tree lines and local topography, appearing against a backdrop of distant hills and forestry to the north and seen against existing OHLs in the background of views. The magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible. The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> In summer months, intervening mixed woodland and local vegetation would provide further screening and the Proposed Development would remain barely perceptible for receptors. The magnitude of change is assessed as remaining Negligible. The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Negligible <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Negligible <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Negligible	<u>During Construction</u> Minor Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Minor Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Minor Adverse (non-significant)
AB-R-28b	Ordiequhill (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 18) <u>Representative viewpoint</u> N/A Receptor group can be found on Pages 20 & 21 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home with an appreciation of the surrounding rural landscape with hills and forestry. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> The view for receptors are set within the Deveron Valley SLA (Aberdeenshire Council) and therefore identified as regionally and locally significant. Views contain few detracting features due to containment by forestry. The value of the view is recorded as Medium to High. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>Existing View</u> Residents are located around the hill of Ordiequhill within the Bin Forest have views well-contained by forestry and local topography, limiting views to predominantly near-distance, with only occasional views to the mid-distance across more open farmland. Far-distance views are typically southwards along the B9022 corridor towards Huntly and the A96, with distant hills beyond. Views north are limited by forestry and local topography. There are few detracting features in views due to containment by forestry. <u>View During Construction</u> The vast majority of construction activity would be screened from view due to intervening coniferous forestry and local topography, although the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be perceptible above the treeline where there are more open views across farmland, such as receptors at Upper Robieston, on the more open approach to Huntly. The magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible. The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would not be visible beyond intervening vegetation and topography. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as No Change. The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> In summer months, the Proposed Development would be further screened by intervening woodland along with intervening street and garden trees. Therefore, the magnitude of change is assessed as remaining No Change. The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Negligible <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> No Change <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> No Change	<u>During Construction</u> Minor Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Neutral <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Neutral
AB-R-29	Huntly (approximate number of residential properties	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home, both within Huntly and within its immediate surroundings. Receptors will have	<u>Existing View</u> Residents within Huntly and along the A920 and A96 corridors are located on flatter, lower lying ground to the southeast of the Bin, at the confluence of the River Deveron and River Bogie. They are set within undulating farmland with views generally contained to near to mid-distance only by the surrounding hills and woodland, particularly to the north, associated with Hill of Milleath, Dunbennan Hill, The Bin, Ordiequhill, Backwood Hill, Hill of Mungo, and Hill of Greenfold, all with associated woodland and forestry, including The Bin Forest	<u>During Construction</u> Negligible (periphery) No Change (Huntly)	<u>During Construction</u> Minor Adverse (non-significant, periphery) Neutral (Huntly)

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
	in receptor group = 2540) <u>Representative viewpoint</u> VP39 A96, Huntly (Visualisation 7.39: Viewpoint 39: A96, Huntly) Receptor group can be found on Pages 18 & 21 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	an appreciation of the surrounding rural landscape with distant hills and forestry. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> The view for receptors located within the town of Huntly are set within the Deveron Valley SLA (Aberdeenshire Council) and therefore identified as regionally and locally significant. Views contain some detracting features associated with urban infrastructure, but wider views are generally unspoilt. The adjacent rural landscape will be valued. The value of the view is recorded as Medium to High. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	and Kinnoir Wood. Views contain urban features such as telegraph poles, busy A-roads, housing, and associated infrastructure. Views within Huntly itself are generally contained by surrounding properties and vegetation. Receptors on the rising southern slopes or eastern slopes begin to have far-distance views north and east. <u>View During Construction</u> Taller elements of construction activity, including the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be just perceptible in the far-distance within narrow views through hills to the east, and along the River Deveron valley northeast, but generally confined to receptors on the periphery of Huntly only. The majority of receptors would not see construction of the Proposed Development. The magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible for receptors on the periphery, and No Change for the rest of the receptors within Huntly. The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be a barely perceptible feature in the far-distance to the north, and only from receptors on the northern periphery of Huntly and likely only from the first floor. The Proposed Development would potentially be perceived above intervening forestry, between The Bin and Kinnoir Wood through the River Deveron valley, but it would form a very small portion of the view. The majority of receptors would not be able to see the Proposed Development from Huntly. The magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible for receptors on the periphery, and No Change for the rest of the receptors within Huntly. The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> In summer months, the Proposed Development would be further screened by intervening woodland along with intervening street and garden trees, but the potential for some distant perception of the Proposed Development would remain. Therefore the magnitude of change is assessed as remaining Negligible for receptors on the periphery, and No Change for the rest of the receptors within Huntly. The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is long-term.	<u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Negligible (periphery) No Change (Huntly) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Negligible (periphery) No Change (Huntly)	<u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Minor Adverse (non-significant, periphery) Neutral (Huntly) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Minor Adverse (non-significant, periphery) Neutral (Huntly)
AB-R-30	Residents between Battlehill, Huntly and the A947, Birkinhills (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 337) <u>Representative viewpoints</u> VP38 Kinnoir (Visualisation 7.38: Viewpoint 38: Kinnoir); VP39 A96, Huntly (Visualisation 7.39: Viewpoint 39: A96, Huntly); and VP42 Seggat (Visualisation 7.42: Viewpoint 42: Seggat) Receptor group can be found on Pages 21, 23 & 25 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a farmed, rural, undulating landscape with rolling ridges, interspersed with small woodland areas with potential mid to far-distant views north. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant and contains some detracting features in a rural setting. The value of the view is recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>Existing View</u> Residents are located between Battle Hill, Huntly in the west, to the A947 north of Inverythan. Receptors include those at Battlehill, Ythanwells, Logie Newton, Auchterless, and Dykeside, and are set within open, rolling farmland interspersed with small sparse areas of coniferous forestry associated with the LCT 19 'Farmed Rolling Ridges and Hills'. Topography and intermittent vegetation cover allow for broad, distant and open views across adjacent arable fields. Vegetation associated with Stoneyfield, Meadowhead, Kirkhill, Brownhill and Denwood provide intermittent screening. Views are rural and attractive but contain detracting features that include wind turbines, transmission masts, and existing OHLs including a 275 kV OHL to the south and 275 kV OHL and 400 kV OHLs towards the A947 to the east. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, including the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be perceptible in the mid to far-distance from receptors on local rises in landform and where views are not obstructed by farm buildings and curtilage vegetation. Construction activity would potentially be seen across a small to moderate portion of some views but largely backdropped by undulating farmland and woodland. Many receptors would not have any view due to intervening landform and vegetation however, receptors across more open ground would have mid to far-distance views of principally upper-level activity. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low to Medium. The geographical extent is low, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be a perceptible feature in the mid to far-distance to the north within sparsely wooded, open and gently undulating farmland. However, views to the Proposed Development are mid to far-distant and often interrupted by intervening farm buildings, topography, and curtilage vegetation, visible across a small to moderate portion of the view, and generally backclothed by vegetation and hills. The Proposed Development would be seen as a small element within a broad, rolling rural landscape, and the magnitude of change is assessed as Low. The geographical extent is low, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> In summer months, intervening sparse woodland, deciduous field boundary trees and curtilage vegetation would provide slight additional screening, but the Proposed Development would remain visible in the mid to far-distance. The magnitude of change is assessed as remaining Low. The geographical extent is low, and the duration is long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Low to Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Low <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Low	<u>During Construction</u> Moderate Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Minor to 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
	Receptors & Viewpoint Locations				
AB-R-31	Residents between Bogniebrae and Turriff (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 231) <u>Representative viewpoints</u> VP40 B9025, Foreglen is a more distant view but it gives some context of the local landscape and type of view to the southwest of Turriff (Visualisation 7.40: Viewpoint 40: B9025, Foreglen); and VP57 Inverkeithny (Visualisation 7.57: Viewpoint 57: Inverkeithny) Receptor group can be found on Pages 22 & 24 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a farmed, rural, undulating, open landscape mixed with wooded river valleys with potential mid to far-distance views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> Views for receptors are set within the Deveron Valley SLA (Aberdeenshire Council) and therefore identified as regionally and locally significant. There are few detracting features. The value of the view is recorded as Medium to High. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>Existing View</u> Residents are located through the broader River Deveron valley and within the Deveron Valley SLA and include receptors within Bogniebrae, Yonder Bognie, Inverkeithny, Auchininna, Laithers and properties on the western periphery of Turriff. Receptors are set within expansive, attractive, undulating and open farmland interspersed with mixed woodland areas associated with the LCT 32 ‘Farmed and Wooded River Valleys’. Views are typically limited to the mid-distance by intervening topography and larger areas of forestry associated with Cobairdy Wood, Bogcoup, Boghead Hill, South Balnoon, Feith Hill Woodlands, Drach Law and Hill of Ard to the south. Views are typically interrupted by intervening farm buildings and curtilage vegetation although some receptors on mid slopes are afforded broad views across the immediate landscape. There are no views south from the town of Inverkeithny and detracting features are limited to the A97, local roads, telegraph poles and individual wind turbines seen on local rises in landform. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity would be perceptible in the far-distance for receptors on local rises in landform and where not obstructed by farm buildings or curtilage vegetation. Construction would potentially be seen across a moderate portion of the view for some receptors but would be generally backdropped by undulating farmland and woodland and at distance. Many receptors would not have a view due to intervening landform and vegetation, except perhaps the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, which would be visible at distance on the skyline of views due to their height. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low. The geographical extent is low, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be a barely perceptible feature in the far-distance to the south and only for those receptors on slightly higher landform and where not obstructed by intervening farm buildings or curtilage vegetation. The Proposed Development would be distantly perceived and typically above intervening treelines within a small portion of the view and backclothed by hills and vegetation. Whilst it may impinge into the skyline, the Proposed Development would not significantly change the baseline characteristics of the view. The magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible to Low. The geographical extent is low, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> In summer months, intervening field and curtilage vegetation and intermittent small areas of deciduous woodland would provide slight additional screening, but the Proposed Development would remain distantly perceivable above intervening treelines for some residents in the far-distance. The magnitude of change is assessed as remaining Negligible to Low. The geographical extent is low, and the duration is long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Low <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Negligible to Low <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Negligible to Low	<u>During Construction</u> Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant)
AB-R-32	Residents between the A947 south of Birkenhills, and the A9478 at Auchnagatt (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 315) <u>Representative viewpoint</u> N/A	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a farmed, rural landscape with broad rolling hills and occasional areas of woodland to the west and more open farmland to the east with potential mid to far-distance views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> Views are not nationally or regionally significant and there are detracting features including wind	<u>Existing View</u> Residential receptors are set within an extensively farmed, undulating and ordinary landscape of hills and ridges with broad valleys. Residential receptors are quite evenly dispersed with predominantly open and far-reaching views, as a result of sparse woodland cover and location on local hillsides (including Steinman Hill; Hill of Lendrum; Deer’s Hill; hills around North muir, Kanven, and Upper Barrack; Whin Hill; and Hill of Cauldhame) overlooking the broader valleys. Many views, however, are limited by field boundary and roadside vegetation while views from farmsteads are often obstructed by farm buildings. Many receptors are also partially screened by curtilage vegetation, and occasionally by local undulations in topography. There is an awareness of existing OHLs, occasional wind turbines, and telegraph poles and wires, as well as busy roads, including the A947 to the west, and the B9170 and A948 to the east. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, including use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be perceptible in the mid to far-distance to the northwest, north, and / or northeast, typically between intervening buildings and curtilage vegetation. Open views would also be afforded through sections of open landscape, with construction seen over a small to moderate proportion of the view, albeit at distance and generally not prominent. Many receptors would view construction of the Proposed Development beyond the existing OHL. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low. The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is short-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Low <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Low <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Low	<u>During Construction</u> Minor to 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
	Receptor group can be found on Pages 24, 25, 26 & 27 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	turbines and existing OHL. The value of the view is recorded as Medium . <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be noticeable within the mid to far-distance to the north through the open, gently undulating farmland and where intervening curtilage vegetation and farm buildings do not obstruct the view. Some towers would be visible in the mid-distance and slightly against the skyline, although most would be partially or entirely backdropped by undulating farmland and woodland beyond. The majority of views are obstructed in some way, by curtilage vegetation or farm buildings and there are many single storey properties limited to ground floor views only. Residential receptors in Auchnagatt would potentially see the tips of towers above intervening low ridges in the background of views north and beyond the existing OHL. Due to appreciable distance and intermittent nature of views, the magnitude of change is assessed as Low . The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> In summer months, intervening deciduous field and curtilage vegetation would provide slight additional screening, but the Proposed Development would remain perceivable across open ground for some residents in the mid to far-distance. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining Low . The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is long-term.		<u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant)
AB-R-33	Residents between the B9105 north of Turriff, and Stuartfield (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 415) <u>Representative viewpoints</u> VP46 New Byth (Visualisation 7.46: Viewpoint 46: New Byth); and VP50 Stuartfield (Visualisation 7.50: Viewpoint 50: Stuartfield) Receptor group can be found on Pages 24, 26 & 27 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a farmed, rural, gently undulating landscape with low rolling ridges, interspersed with occasional woodland areas with potential mid to far-distance views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High . <u>Value</u> The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant but there are few detracting features apart from the A950. Rural views into surrounding undulating farmland will be valued. The value of the view is recorded as Medium . <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>Existing View</u> Residents are located between the north of Turriff and north of Stuartfield. Receptors are settled within open, gently undulating farmland of low hills and ridges, with broad shallow valleys interspersed with occasional woodland cover, characteristic of LCT 20 ‘Undulating Agricultural Heartland’. This landscape allows for broad views, particularly for receptors on local rises in landform, although many views are interrupted by intervening landform, farm buildings or curtilage vegetation. Detracting features are limited but include telegraph wires on wood poles, occasional wind turbines, and the A950. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, including the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be noticeable in the mid to far-distance and background of views above existing vegetation, where receptors are afforded more open views from local rises in landform and where not obstructed by curtilage vegetation or farm buildings. Receptors located on higher ground, such as Wester Badentyre on Hill of Barnyards; Everton of Auchry; East Whitestones and West Whitestones, would have greater visibility of construction activity, and across a wider portion of the view, but much of it would be backclothed by surrounding fields, vegetation and hills. Given the appreciable distance of the construction activity within the view, the magnitude of change is assessed as Low . The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> Due to intervening landform, vegetation, built form and appreciable distance, views of the Proposed Development would be screened across a portion of the view, although a wider extent would be visible for those more elevated or less restricted by intervening curtilage vegetation and farm buildings. Long distance views are limited but where they are available, the Proposed Development would appear to be ‘settled’ within and backdropped by rolling farmland, and impinging into the skyline for short sections across a small portion of the view. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as Low . The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> In summer months, intervening deciduous field and curtilage vegetation would provide additional screening, but the Proposed Development would remain perceptible above intervening landform and treelines for some receptors in the mid to far-distance and background of views. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining Low . The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Low <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Low <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Low	<u>During Construction</u> Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant)
AB-R-34	Stuartfield (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 458)	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home with views contained within the village. However, receptors on the outskirts are likely to have an appreciation of surrounding farmland and woodland. The	<u>Existing View</u> Residents are located within and on the outskirts of Stuartfield and are set within low lying farmland at a confluence of small local watercourses with low hills on all sides. Woodland associated with Crichtie Wood and Mains of Crichtie screens most views south from the village, while surrounding topography further contains far-distance views. Receptors on the periphery of the village and within the immediately adjacent farmland are afforded mid-distant views south, as they are less interrupted by intervening built form. A few receptors on the edges of Knock Street to the east and Windhill Street to the west are also afforded mid-distant views south although receptors further north have views south screened by intervening built form. Detracting features include those typical to urban settlements such as telegraph poles, busy roads and housing.	<u>During Construction</u> Negligible (receptors on the southern edges only) No Change (all other receptors)	<u>During Construction</u> Minor Adverse (non-significant, receptors on the southern edges only) Neutral (all other 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
	<u>Representative viewpoint</u> VP50 Stuartfield (Visualisation 7.50: Viewpoint 50: Stuartfield) Receptor group can be found on Pages 26 & 27 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant and contains detracting features associated with urban settlement including telegraph pole lines and buildings. Rural views into surrounding undulating farmland will be valued from the periphery of the town. The value of the view is recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, including the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would only be noticeable in the mid to far-distance for receptors on the periphery of the village, and generally only as far north as Knock Street and Windmill Street, within generally narrow views south through intervening vegetation and landform. The remainder of receptors within the village would have construction activity screened by intervening houses, landform and forestry on the outskirts of the village. Given the appreciable distance and very small portion of the view impacted, the magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible for receptors on the southern edges of Stuartfield, and No Change for all other receptors. The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> Due to a combination of intervening landform, vegetation, built form and appreciable distance, the Proposed Development would not be perceptible for the majority of receptors within Stuartfield. Landform and woodland combine to contain views south, such that only those receptors on the south, southeast, and southwest periphery of the village would experience any mid to far-distance, glimpsed views towards the Proposed Development, and even then through intervening roadside and field vegetation, topography, and curtilage vegetation. Due to appreciable distance, and the Proposed Development being visible in a very small portion of the view only, the magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible for receptors on the southern edges of Stuartfield, and No Change for all other receptors. The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> In summer months, intervening deciduous field and curtilage vegetation would provide slight additional screening, but the Proposed Development would remain distantly perceivable from some receptors on the periphery of the town above intervening landform and treelines in the background. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed to remain as Negligible for receptors on the southern edges of Stuartfield, and No Change for all other receptors. The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is long-term.	<u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Negligible (receptors on the southern edges only) No Change (all other receptors) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Negligible (receptors on the southern edges only) No Change (all other receptors)	<u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Minor Adverse (non-significant, receptors on the southern edges only) Neutral (all other receptors) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Minor Adverse (non-significant, receptors on the southern edges only) Neutral (all other receptors)
AB-R-35	Old Deer and Mintlaw (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 1606) <u>Representative viewpoint</u> N/A Receptor group can be found on Page 26 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents within the villages of Old Deer and Mintlaw, and their immediate surroundings. Residents of dwellings at home are likely to have an appreciation of the farmed landscape beyond the villages with potential mid to far-distance views south. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> Views are not identified as nationally or regionally significant, and they contain detracting features associated with an urban setting as well as wind turbines. Views from the edge of villages into a rural landscape will be valued. The value of the view is recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>Existing View</u> Residential receptors within the villages of Old Deer and Mintlaw are surrounded by a well treed landscape associated with Aden Country Park and the wider Forest of Deer to the northwest. Views south are contained by a combination of intervening topography, built form and woodland, with rising landform to the west of Old Deer and south of both villages towards Stuartfield and beyond the valley of South Ugie Water. Views from the southern periphery of Mintlaw are also contained by linear vegetation that extends along Nether Aden Road, to the south of the village. Receptors south of Old Deer and Aden Country Park afford more far-reaching views that typically culminate in low hills to the north of Stuartfield. Detracting features include urban influences associated with the settlements of Mintlaw and Old Deer, wind turbines, and the A952, A059, B9029, and B9030. <u>View During Construction</u> Whilst lower-level activity would be screened from view, construction activity associated with the taller tower elements, including the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be perceptible to the east and west of Stuartfield. Receptors within Mintlaw would be large screened by intervening built form, but receptors on its southern, western, and eastern peripheries would have some views towards construction activity. Whilst construction activity would be screened for many receptors by intervening vegetation, built form, or topography, upper-level construction activity would be perceptible across a small portion of the view for some receptors. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low. The geographical extent is low, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> Due to a combination of intervening landform, vegetation, built form and appreciable distance, the Proposed Development would be screened from many receptors, particularly within the centre and northern area of Mintlaw village. Landform and vegetation to the south and west of the villages and beyond South Ugie Water help to contain views and obstruct views of the landscape beyond. There would, however, be distant visibility of upper portions of towers for some receptors on the edges of Mintlaw, within Old Deer, and for some receptors immediately surrounding the villages. The Proposed Development would be generally backclothed in views by vegetation and low hills beyond, limiting skylining. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low. The geographical extent is low, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i>	<u>During Construction</u> Low <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Low <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Negligible to Low	<u>During Construction</u> Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Minor to 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
			Surrounding deciduous woodland, road and field boundary trees and hedgerows, and curtilage vegetation would further serve to screen views to the south and reduce the extent of infrastructure in views. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as reducing to Negligible to Low . The geographical extent is low, and the duration is long-term.		
AB-R-36	East of Stuartfield, Longside, Rora, Torterston (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 758) <u>Representative viewpoint</u> VP52 Longside (Visualisation 7.52: Viewpoint 52: Longside) Receptor group can be found on Pages 26, 27, 28 & 29 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of the farmed landscape beyond the main settlements with potential mid-distant views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> Views are not identified as nationally or regionally significant and contain some detracting features including urban infrastructure associated with Longside, telegraph poles, the A950 and A952, and occasional wind turbines. Rural views into surrounding undulating farmland would be valued. The value of the view is recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>Existing View</u> Residential receptors are set within a predominantly flat, low-lying landscape and are scattered throughout the farmland, with the main concentration in the settlement of Longside, with smaller concentrations of receptors around Rora and Torterston. Receptors are located in the broad valleys of the River Ugie and the South Ugie Water, with wider rolling landform limiting more distant views to the south. Views experienced by residential receptors at Longside are close range and predominantly contained by intervening built form, apart from receptors on the western and southern periphery of the village, where views are mid-distant, encompassing a large-scale farmed landscape of limited notable features and with an existing OHL apparent in the skyline to the south. Receptors around Rora and Torterston also experience open, mid and far-distant views south, although some views are interrupted or contained by small woodland blocks, with larger blocks of woodland associated with Moss of Cruden further south, providing the backcloth of views to the southwest. Detracting features include urban infrastructure associated with Longside, as well as telegraph poles, the A950, the A952, occasional wind turbines, and existing OHLs to the south and southeast, visible in the mid to far-distance of some views. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity would be clearly perceptible in the mid to far-distance to the south or southwest, through the relatively flat landscape, 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, albeit temporary. Views for many receptors are interrupted by intervening farm buildings, roadside vegetation, and curtilage vegetation, whilst receptors on the periphery only of Longside (mostly associated with single storey properties), are afforded an outlook beyond the village and would see construction to the west and south in the background of mid-distant views. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low to Medium. The geographical extent is low, and the duration is short-term. Effects are identified as Moderate Adverse but non-significant as lower-level construction activity would be largely screened, with longer-distance views towards tower construction seen in the context of existing moving wind turbines, such that additional movement would not be wholly uncharacteristic. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> Due to a combination of intervening landform, vegetation, built form and distance, the Proposed Development would not be readily perceptible for many receptors through the valley of the River Ugie to the north, or for receptors to the east of Longside as many receptors would view the Proposed Development obliquely only. However, the Proposed Development would be a perceptible feature in the mid to far-distance to the south for those receptors with an unobstructed outlook and from local high points in landform. It would be seen across a moderate portion of the view for receptors to the west of Longside, with some sections of it skylined, but it would be seen at distance, and much of it backclothed by vegetation or hills. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low. The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> In summer months, deciduous roadside and curtilage vegetation would provide some additional foreground or mid-distance screening, reducing the extent of the Proposed Development perceptible through farmland to the south, although visibility would remain similar across open farmland to skylined towers. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining Low. The geographical extent is low, and the duration is long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Low to Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Low <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Low	<u>During Construction</u> Moderate Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant)
AB-R-37	A952 at Ardallie to Inverugie (northwest of Peterhead) (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 317) <u>Representative</u>	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a farmed, rural, gently undulating landscape with low rolling ridges, interspersed with occasional woodland areas with potential mid to far-distance views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High.	<u>Existing View</u> Residential receptors are located between the A952 at Ardallie (northwest of Hatton) to the A90 at Inverugie, to the northwest of Peterhead and east of Longside Airfield. Receptors are scattered across the farmed landscape and quite regularly dispersed through the low-lying and relatively open farmland with opportunities for broad views. Large blocks of woodland associated with Moss of Cruden, as well as localised hills (such as Kinknockie Hill and Hill of Aldie), screen views north for receptors to the west (between Ardallie and to the east of Aldie / the Laeca Burn) whilst views from receptors not limited by surrounding farm buildings, topography, or curtilage vegetation, are potentially expansive. Existing OHLs are prominent in the skyline with some receptors seeing multiple lines extending from Peterhead Substation. Some receptors in Hillhead of Cocklaw area (to the west of Peterhead) afford broad, distant views west from a local rise in landform, but as the landform falls away slightly to the north, receptors in Blackhill and Inverugie, either side of the A950 corridor, have more distant views west limited by the lower-lying and intervening low ridges. Detracting features include Longside Airfield, A952, A950, A90, wind turbines and several OHLs, particularly to the south of Peterhead.	<u>During Construction</u> Low <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Low	<u>During Construction</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
	<u>viewpoint</u> VP52 Longside (Visualisation 7.52: Viewpoint 52: Longside) Receptor group can be found on Pages 27, 28 & 29 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Value</u> The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant and contains detracting features including the A950, A952 and multiple OHLs. Rural views into surrounding undulating farmland will be valued. The value of the view is recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity would be perceptible for receptors to the west of Moss of Cruden and between Aldie and Inverugie, but principally only for those receptors without intervening farm buildings, built form, or curtilage vegetation and typically on local rises in landform. Construction activity, including the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be distantly perceived in the background of views to the west from Hillhead of Cocklaw, while receptors south and southwest of Hillhead of Cocklaw would perceive construction beyond multiple foreground and mid-distant OHLs extending from Peterhead Substation. Receptors on and around the A950 including Blackhills are unlikely to see construction apart from higher level activity such as cranes and helicopter movements. Similarly, many receptors to the west of Moss of Cruden are screened by intervening vegetation or topography (including receptors in Ardallie), but those on higher ground, such as to the north of Ardallie, have far-distance views available and would perceive higher level construction activity in the mid to far-distance, although across a small portion of the view. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low. The geographical extent is low, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development is likely to be distantly perceived within broad views for receptors on higher ground to the west of Moss of Cruden and between Moss of Cruden and Inverugie. Many receptors to the southwest of Peterhead and Hillhead of Cocklaw would view the Proposed Development in combination with existing OHLs, potentially creating a degree of ‘wirescaping’ in views. Views from the majority of receptors are interrupted by woodland, immediate curtilage vegetation, buildings, or local topography. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as Low. The geographical extent is low, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> In summer months, deciduous vegetation mostly associated with property and field boundaries would provide some additional screening, although the Proposed Development would continue to be distantly perceptible through farmland to the north and west for receptors with more open views and on higher ground. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining Low. The geographical extent is low, and the duration is long-term.	<u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Low	<u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Minor to Moderate Adverse(non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Minor to Moderate Adverse(non-significant)
AB-R-38	East of the A948 south of Auchnagatt, to the A952 at Ardallie (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 129) <u>Representative viewpoint</u> N/A Receptor group can be found on Page 27 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a farmed, rural, gently undulating landscape with low rolling ridges, interspersed with occasional woodland areas with potential mid to far-distance views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant and contains detracting features including the A948, A952 and existing OHL. Rural views into surrounding undulating farmland will be valued. The value of the view is recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>Existing View</u> Residential receptors between the A948 and Formartine and Buchan Way to the west, and the A952 to the east at Ardallie. Receptors are set within an undulating, farmed landscape with sparse woodland cover apart from one area around North Craighead, but views are frequently interrupted by intervening farm buildings and curtilage vegetation. Receptors located on local rises in landform are afforded more distant and expansive views north, such as receptors around Auquhadlie, Arnage (including Loanhead of Arnage), Blackpots, Milton of Coldwells, Whiteburn Cottage, East Whiteburn, and Mosshead. Detracting features include telecommunications masts (such as on Hill of Dudwick to the south, and Cairn Cassie to the west), wind turbines, the A948, A952, and existing OHLs in the mid to far-distance of views. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity would be perceptible beyond the existing OHL in the mid to far-distance to the north for those receptors with a more open outlook, and less obstructed by intervening farm buildings, curtilage vegetation or landform. 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, albeit temporary, although lower-level activity would be screened from view. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low. The geographical extent is negligible to low, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be a perceptible feature in the distance to the north for those receptors located on local rises in landform with a more open outlook. The Proposed Development would be seen beyond the existing OHL, running in parallel for much of the section, and increasing the concentration of manmade infrastructure through low-lying farmland in the distance. Towers are likely to appear partially in the skyline in the background of views, but they would not disrupt the overall character of the view given the appreciable distance and existing OHL. Views from receptors within lower-lying land or on south-facing slopes of larger hills, would be largely screened, with no discernible view of the Proposed Development, such as from Mains of Elrick, Drakemyre, and Humblecairn. Given the distance of views, the magnitude of change is assessed as Low. The geographical extent is negligible to low, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> In summer months, deciduous vegetation mostly associated with property and field boundaries, as well as woodland around North Craighead, would provide some additional screening in the fore to mid-ground of views, although the Proposed Development would	<u>During Construction</u> Low <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Low <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Negligible to Low	<u>During Construction</u> Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Minor to 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
			continue to be distantly perceptible through farmland to the north for receptors on higher ground with north-facing slopes. Even so, the magnitude of change is assessed as reducing to Negligible to Low . The geographical extent is negligible to low, and the duration is long-term.		
AB-R-39	East of Knock, Aberchirder, and to the A947 at Castleton, north of Turriff (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 500) <u>Representative viewpoints</u> VP40 B9025, Foreglen (Visualisation 7.40: Viewpoint 40: B9025, Foreglen) Receptor group can be found on Pages 20, 22 & 24 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a rural, undulating landscape with near to far-distant views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> Some views are within the Deveron Valley SLA and therefore valued regionally. The remainder are not identified as nationally or regionally significant. Views across a farmed wooded landscape to the south contain few detracting features and will be valued by residents. The value of the view is recorded as Medium to High. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>Existing View</u> Residential receptors are set within a predominantly farmed, undulating landscape with moderate woodland cover, particularly around Aberchirder, and through the valley of the River Deveron. Residential receptors include those within Marnoch and Aberchirder, although the majority are within scattered properties across the landscape, where views are often interrupted by intervening farm buildings, curtilage vegetation, and gentle undulations in topography. Views south are often limited by undulating topography and areas of woodland, although more distant views are afforded for receptors on the mid slopes of local hills. There are few detracting features except occasional wind turbines on local hills (including at Culvie Hill, Black Law, Burnside of Whitefield, and around Wrae Hill); the A95 and B9022 to the west at Knock; the B9023 and A97 at Aberchirder; and the B9025, B9121 and A947 at Turriff. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, particularly the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, is likely to be distantly perceptible beyond the River Deveron for receptors with an open view and on the mid slopes of local hills, but it would occupy a very small portion of the view. The magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible. The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would not be perceptible for most receptors, but would be distantly perceptible for receptors with more open and elevated views south and where the Proposed Development crosses slightly higher ground to the south of Fourman Hill. Towers would generally be backclothed by hills and vegetation and are unlikely to be seen in the skyline but may be discernible above distant tree lines. Due to the distance of view, and very small portion of the view changed, the overall magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible for the small number of receptors with more elevated, open views. The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> In summer months, the Proposed Development would remain distantly perceivable from some receptors above intervening treelines or on higher ground in the far-distance to the south. The magnitude of change remains Negligible for the small number of receptors with more elevated, open views. The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Negligible <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Negligible <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Negligible	<u>During Construction</u> Minor Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Minor Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Minor Adverse (non-significant)
AB-R-40	Plaidy, Milltown of Craigston, Crudie, New Byth, New Pitsligo (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = >1000) <u>Representative viewpoint</u> VP46 New Byth (Visualisation 7.46: Viewpoint 46: New Byth) Receptor group can be found on Pages 22, 24 & 26 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a rural, undulating landscape with near to far-distant views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> Views are not identified as nationally or regionally significant. Detracting features include wind turbines, B roads, the A98, A950, and A981. Views across a farmed wooded landscape to the south will be valued by residents. The value of the view is recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>Existing View</u> Residential receptors are dispersed evenly throughout the intensively farmed, gently undulating landscape with intermittent woodland cover, broadly between Turriff and Strichen. Receptors include residents in the villages of New Byth and New Pitsligo. The open, rolling farmland allows for broad views south, particularly from receptors on the mid to upper slopes of local rises in topography. Some distant views south are afforded from New Byth but are more restricted from New Pitsligo by intervening landform. Views from receptors are frequently interrupted by intervening farm buildings, field and roadside vegetation, and curtilage vegetation. Detracting features include wind turbines, numerous B roads, the A98, A950, and A981. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, including the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be distantly perceptible where there are more open views across farmland, but it would not alter the broad character of views, and construction would only be briefly perceived, likely backclothed by landform and woodland, and across a very small portion of the view. The magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible. The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> Due to an appreciable distance, intervening vegetation and topography, the majority of receptors would have no perception of the Proposed Development. It would be distantly perceptible from those receptors with more open, unobstructed views generally on slightly higher ground, but towers would generally be backclothed by hills and vegetation and are unlikely to be seen in the skyline. The Proposed Development would occupy a very small portion of the view, and would not be readily distinguishable in the wider, distant landscape. The overall magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible. The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Negligible <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Negligible <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Negligible	<u>During Construction</u> Minor Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Minor Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> 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
	Receptors & Viewpoint Locations		<i>Summer</i> In summer months, the Proposed Development would remain distantly perceptible from some receptors in the far-distance to the south but deciduous vegetation would further strengthen existing screening for many receptors. Even so, the magnitude of change is considered to remain Negligible . The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is long-term.		
AB-R-41	Strichen to Peterhead (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 2740) <u>Representative viewpoint</u> N/A Receptor group can be found on Pages 26 & 28 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a rural, undulating landscape with near to far-distant views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> Views are not identified as nationally or regionally significant and they contain some detracting features including OHLs and occasional wind turbines. Views across a farmed wooded landscape to the south will be valued by residents. The value of the view is recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>Existing View</u> Residential receptors are set within a farmed, gently undulating landscape with intermittent woodland cover, broadly between the south of Strichen and north of Peterhead, and includes the villages of Fetterangus and St Fergus. Receptors within Strichen, Fetterangus, and St Fergus all have far-distance views south restricted by intervening topography and woodland and, principally, by intervening buildings within the settlements. For receptors dispersed evenly throughout the intensively farmed landscape between villages, the open, rolling farmland allows for broad views south, particularly from the mid or upper slopes of local rises in topography. Views are often interrupted by intervening farm buildings, curtilage vegetation, and roadside vegetation, as well as by large blocks of woodland and forestry including the Forest of Deer and Bruxfin Wood (Rora Moss) and woodland at Longhill, and at Gallowhills and around St Fergus. Detracting features include wind turbines, the A952, B9093, A90 and existing OHLs to the north and east. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity would mostly be imperceptible apart from the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, which are likely to be distantly perceived from receptors who have an open view, and typically from the mid to upper slopes of local rises in landform. There would be no anticipated views of construction activity from the villages of Strichen, Fetterangus or St Fergus due to intervening vegetation and buildings. The baseline character of broad views would not change, and construction would only be briefly perceived and likely backclothed by landform and woodland. The magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible. The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> Due to an appreciable distance, intervening vegetation, built form, and topography, the majority of receptors would not perceive the Proposed Development. It is likely to be distantly perceptible only from those receptors with more open, unobstructed views. The Proposed Development would generally be backclothed by hills and vegetation, except where it crosses slightly higher ground, so the majority would be unlikely to impinge into the skyline. Even so, it may be distantly discernible above tree lines in the background of some views, but across a very small portion of the view only. Due to the distance of view, and its very small extent, the overall magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible. The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> In summer months, the Proposed Development would remain distantly perceivable from some receptors above intervening treelines or on higher ground in the far-distance to the south, but would remain imperceptible for many. The magnitude of change remains Negligible. The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Negligible <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Negligible <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Negligible	<u>During Construction</u> Minor Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Minor Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Minor Adverse (non-significant)
AB-R-42	Western edge of Peterhead (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 1962. Properties with potential views = 50) <u>Representative viewpoint</u> N/A Receptor group can be found on Pages 28 & 29 of Figure 7.6: Visual	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have limited appreciation of the wider rural landscape apart from those receptors on the periphery of the town with potential mid to far-distance views, but contained within short-distance, suburban views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> The view is not specifically identified as nationally or regionally significant but views for those on the outskirts into adjacent rural landscape will be valued, whilst some urban views	<u>Existing View</u> Residential receptors are within the settlement of Peterhead at the eastern extent of the Study Area. Receptors within the central and eastern portions of Peterhead experience predominantly urban views and associated detracting features of roads and built form. Receptors to the east have views out across the coastline but none have far-distance views west. As such, only receptors on the western edge of Peterhead are considered. Receptors on the western edge of Peterhead are located on gently rising topography, with intermittent small areas of woodland across the landscape that restrict far-distance views to the west. Detracting features include the A950, A982, and A90, as well as an existing OHL that runs north-south across the western extent of Peterhead. <u>View During Construction</u> There would be no discernible view of construction activity beyond rising landform and woodland to the west for receptors on the western edge of Peterhead, apart from potential fleeting glimpses of use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing. Even where these are visible, these would not change the baseline characteristics of the view. The magnitude of change is assessed as No Change. The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> Due to appreciable distance, intervening vegetation and topography, the Proposed Development would not be perceptible within views experienced by receptors on the western edge of Peterhead. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as No Change. The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> No Change <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> No Change <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> No Change	<u>During Construction</u> Neutral <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Neutral <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> 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
	Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	are historic with a good sense of place. There are detracting features in the urban setting, including existing OHL and the A90. The value of the view is recorded as Medium . <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<i>Summer</i> Deciduous vegetation would further strengthen screening, ensuring that the magnitude of change remains as No Change . The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is long-term.		
AB-R-43	Blindburn (East of the A948) to Stirling (Boddam) (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 160) <u>Representative viewpoint</u> N/A Receptor group can be found on Pages 27 & 29 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a rural, undulating landscape with near to far-distant views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High . <u>Value</u> Views are not identified as nationally or regionally significant. Views across a farmed wooded landscape to the north will be valued. There are some detracting features including the A948, A952, A90, existing OHLs, telecommunications masts, and wind turbines. The value of the view is recorded as Medium . <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>Existing View</u> Residential receptors are set within a gently undulating landscape with intermittent, generally sparse woodland cover, broadly between the A948 at Blindburn in the west, to Stirling on the outskirts of Boddam to the east. The open, rolling farmland allows for broad views north and south, but views to the north are generally limited by intervening built form, vegetation and low hills across the more gentle landscape. Receptors on the mid to upper slopes of local low hills are afforded some more distant views. Receptors dispersed evenly throughout the intensively farmed landscape frequently have views interrupted by intervening farm buildings and curtilage vegetation, whilst some larger blocks of woodland to the north (including Hill of Aldie and Moss of Augharney) provide screening of far-distance views. Detracting features are scattered throughout the view and include the busy main roads of the A948 and A952 to the west, the A90 to the south, existing OHLs, telecommunications masts, and wind turbines. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity would mostly be imperceptible in the far-distance to the north apart from the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, which would be distantly perceived from receptors with more open views and on the mid to upper slopes of local hills. Construction would be predominantly backclothed by distant landform and woodland and occupy a very small portion of the view. The magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible . The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> Due to the appreciable distance, intervening vegetation, built form, and topography, there is not anticipated to be any appreciable view of the Proposed Development at all. For those receptors with more open, unobstructed views located on higher ground, any visibility of the Proposed Development would not be readily distinguishable at distance, and intervening detracting features would further obscure and detract from the tops of any towers that would be just distinguishable. The baseline characteristics would remain unchanged. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as No Change . The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> In summer months, field and curtilage vegetation is likely to further limit any distant perception of the Proposed Development. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as No Change . The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Negligible <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> No Change <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> No Change	<u>During Construction</u> Minor Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Neutral <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Neutral
AB-R-44	Scattered Residents between the A947 north of Fyvie to the A952 at Hill of Auchleuchries (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 350) <u>Representative viewpoint</u> N/A	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a rural, undulating landscape with near to far-distant views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High . <u>Value</u> Views are not identified as nationally or regionally significant and contain occasional detracting features including OHL and wind turbines. Views across a farmed wooded landscape to the north	<u>Existing View</u> Residential receptors are set within an arable, gently undulating landscape with intermittent, generally sparse, woodland cover, broadly between the A947 north of Fyvie to the A952 at Hill of Auchleuchries. It includes Fyvie castle to the north of Fyvie. Vegetation alongside the River Ythan limits views for residential receptors to the south of the river, and woodland associated with Fyvie Castle limits views north from Fyvie, resulting in no views of the Proposed Development from the villages of Fyvie or Woodhead at the western end of the receptor group, or south of the River Ythan (including receptors at Methlick and Ythanbank) due to intervening topography and woodland. Views north are limited for the majority of receptors, with receptors on the mid to upper slopes of local low hills typically affording more distant views. Even where there are more open views north across the intensively farmed landscape (such as around Drumwhindle, Hill of Dudwick, and Hill of Auchleuchries, to the east), views are often interrupted by intervening farm buildings and curtilage vegetation. Detracting features are limited to occasional wind turbines, a distant OHL to the north, and the A947 to the west and the A948 to the east. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity would mostly be imperceptible in the far-distance to the north apart from the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, which are likely to be distantly perceived from receptors with a more open view, typically for receptors on the mid to upper slopes of local hills, and potentially from upper storey windows of Fyvie Castle.	<u>During Construction</u> Negligible <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Negligible	<u>During Construction</u> Minor Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Minor Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> 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 25 & 27 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	will be valued by residents. The value of the view is recorded as Medium . <u>Sensitivity</u> High	Construction would only be distantly perceived and backclothed by distant landform and woodland. The magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible . The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> Due to an appreciable distance, intervening vegetation and topography, the majority of receptors would not perceive the Proposed Development. It is likely to be distantly perceptible, however, from those receptors with more open, unobstructed views located on higher ground, or from upper storey windows of Fyvie Castle. Due to the distance of view, and very small portion of the view changed, the overall magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible . The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> In summer months, field and curtilage vegetation is likely to further limit any distant perception of the Proposed Development. The magnitude of change is considered to be No Change . The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is long-term.	<u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> No Change	
AB-R-45	Scattered Residents between the A97 south of Huntly to the A947 at Fyvie (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 290) <u>Representative viewpoint</u> VP39 Huntly (Visualisation 7.39: Viewpoint 39: Huntly) Receptor group can be found on Pages 21, 23 & 25 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a rural, undulating landscape with near to distant views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High . <u>Value</u> Views are not identified as nationally or regionally significant and there are detracting features including the A97, A96, A947, wind turbines and existing OHL. Views across a farmed wooded landscape to the north will be valued. The value of the view is recorded as Medium . <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>Existing View</u> Residential receptors are set within an undulating farmed landscape with intermittent, generally sparse woodland cover, broadly between the A97 south of Huntly to the A947 at Fyvie. Views north for the majority of receptors are limited to near to mid-distance, with occasional far-distance views for receptors on the mid to higher slopes of local hills, typically channelled between hills and vegetation. Receptors within Rothienorman have views north limited by intervening topography and vegetation associated with Strathbogie, such that no views of the Proposed Development are anticipated. Detracting features include existing OHLs, wind turbines, and the A97, A96 and A947. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity would be predominantly screened in views to the north apart from the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, which would be only distantly perceived from receptors with more open views north, such as those on the mid to upper slope of local hills. Construction would only be perceived across a very small portion of the view, at distance, and backclothed by distant landform and woodland. The magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible . The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> Due to an appreciable distance, intervening vegetation and topography, the majority of receptors would not perceive the Proposed Development. It would be distantly perceptible only from those receptors with more open, unobstructed views and where the Proposed Development crosses slightly higher ground but it would not change the baseline characteristics of the view. 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 is negligible, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> In summer months, field and curtilage vegetation is likely to further limit any distant perception of the Proposed Development, but more open views will remain. Even so, the magnitude of change is assessed as reducing to No Change . The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Negligible <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Negligible <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> No Change	<u>During Construction</u> Minor Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Minor Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Neutral
AB-R-46	Residents between Bogcoup, east of the A97, to the A947 just south of Turriff (approx. 500 m - 1 km from the Proposed Development) (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 41) <u>Representative</u>	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a farmed, rural, undulating landscape with rolling ridges, interspersed with small woodland areas with potential near to mid-distant views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High . <u>Value</u> The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant. Views of rolling farmland will be	<u>Existing View</u> Residents are located up to 1 km north of the Proposed Development from Gariochsburn to the west of Bogcoup and east of the the A97; to Boggiesshalloch on the A947 to the south of Turriff. Receptors are set within a landscape of open, rolling farmland interspersed with small sparse areas of coniferous forestry associated with LCT 19 'Farmed Rolling Ridges and Hills'. Topography and intermittent vegetation cover allow for broad, distant and open views across the undulating landform. Views south are partially interrupted by intervening farm buildings and curtilage vegetation, as well as vegetation following local burns, including the Burn of Frendraught, Den of Woodhead and Burn of Gask, limit local views. The landforms of Feith Hill, Hill of Carlincraig, Balquholly Wood, Hospital Wood and Birkenhills form the background of views to the north while to the south, the Hill of Denmoss and Lenshaw can be seen in the background. Views are rural and attractive but contain some detracting features including wind turbines to the north, the A97 and B9001 to the west, and the A947 to the east. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, including use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing; limited felling of commercial forestry and native broadleaf woodland within and beyond the OC, would all be noticeable in the near to mid-distance and appear on the skyline within views south through rolling farmland. For many receptors, construction works would be seen	<u>During Construction</u> Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Medium	<u>During Construction</u> Moderate to Major Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Moderate to Major Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u>

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
	<u>viewpoint</u> N/A Receptor group can be found on Pages 22 & 24 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	valued but they contain detracting features including wind turbines, an OHL, A97, B9001, and the A947. The value of the view is recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	through or above intervening curtilage vegetation and farm buildings but some would experience more open views of the construction activity, both direct and oblique. Temporary access tracks would be noticeable through fields and within the OC and felling of managed commercial forestry associated with Drumblair Wood, woodland around Feith Hill, woodland around the disused quarry, Balquholly and the woodland around the Burn of Gask within and beyond the OC, would be noticeable in some mid-distance views. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be a noticeable feature within the near to mid-distance and proposed towers would be openly visible in their entirety in the mid-distance against the skyline for some, although sometimes seen in conjunction with wind turbines (on the Hill of Denmoss, Feith Hill, Hill of CarlinCraig and Hill of Boggieshalloch to the north of Darra). For most receptors, the Proposed Development would appear above intervening forestry, burnside vegetation, curtilage vegetation, or intervening farm buildings. Towers would partially be backclothed by rising landform, forestry and vegetation to the south. Given the intermittent or obstructed nature of views for most receptors in the mid-distance, the magnitude of change is assessed as Medium. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> Curtilage and intervening field or burnside vegetation would provide a degree of additional screening in summer months for many receptors but the Proposed Development would remain noticeable within the mid-distance, including within the skyline of views. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining Medium. The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is long-term.	<u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Medium	Moderate to Major Adverse (significant)
AB-R-47	Residents between Turriff and the B9030, Stuartfield (approx. 500 m – 1 km from the Proposed Development) (approximate number of residential properties in receptor group = 115) <u>Representative viewpoints</u> VP43 Turriff (Visualisation 7.43: Viewpoint 43: Turriff); and VP49 B9029, Maud (Visualisation 7.49: Viewpoint 49: B9029, Maud) Receptor group can be found on Pages 24, 26 & 27 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Receptors are residents of dwellings at home and are likely to have an appreciation of a farmed, rural, gently undulating landscape with low rolling ridges, interspersed with sparse woodland areas with potential mid-distant views. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant. It contains some detracting features including occasional wind turbines, an OHL to the south, the A981, and local roads of the B9170, B9029, B9106, and the B9030. Broad open rural views will be valued. The value of the view is recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>Existing View</u> Residents are located between Turriff and the B9030 south of Stuartfield. Receptors are well distributed through the open farmland to the east of Turriff, south of Cuminstown and in between New Deer and Maud. The gently undulating, rolling landform of low hills and ridges, with broad shallow valleys and sparse woodland cover of LCT 20 ‘Undulating Agricultural Heartland’, allows for distant views through the open and expansive character with distant views available from local high points to low hills in the background to the west. However, many receptors have views interrupted by intervening buildings and curtilage vegetation, limiting views to the surrounding farmland. Detracting features across the relatively ordinary landscape include occasional wind turbines to the north and southeast of New Deer, an OHL to the south, the A981, and local roads of the B9170, B9029, B9106, and the B9030. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, including use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be clearly noticeable across views, and on the skyline above existing vegetation. Whilst views of construction works would be filtered by intervening curtilage vegetation and farm buildings for some receptors, open, mid-distant views are still afforded for many. Small areas of felling would be noticeable, along with awareness of temporary access tracks through nearby arable fields but the tree loss would not change the character of the view. Receptors less restricted by buildings and boundary vegetation would have clear views to construction activity through open fields, as well as above or between intervening buildings, tree lines or roadside hedgerows. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be a highly noticeable feature, where intervening curtilage vegetation and farm buildings do not obstruct mid-distant views. Some towers would be visible in their entirety in the mid-distance against the skyline, whilst the lower portions of some would be screened, or backdropped by the gently undulating landform and belts of field and roadside vegetation or intermittent blocks of woodland. The majority of views are obstructed in some way, by curtilage vegetation or farm buildings and there are many single storey properties limited to ground floor views. Receptors towards the west of New Deer and Maud would view the Proposed Development against the backdrop of Wood of Hatton, Boghead, Waggle Hill and Northburnhill. More prominent, larger angle towers occur at regular intervals, and would be more noticeable in the mid-distance, particularly for those receptors in closest proximity. Towers would occasionally be seen in conjunction with wind turbines and telephone poles and wires but otherwise would appear as a new vertical feature in views, and across a wide portion of the view for many receptors. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> Summer foliage of field and road boundary trees and hedgerows would provide additional visual screening for many receptors through	<u>During Construction</u> Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer)</u> Medium	<u>During Construction</u> Moderate to Major Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Moderate to Major Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Moderate to Major Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer)</u> 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
			the open farmland in mid-distant views. Curtilage vegetation would also result in increased screening of foreground views during summer months for many receptors although the Proposed Development would remain openly visible for some. Even so, the magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining Medium. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year 15 Summer)</u> Small areas of management felling planting back to the edge of the OC on the A981 and the south of Maud is likely to have re-established in this time but would not change perception and views of the Proposed Development for these receptors. The magnitude of change is assessed as remaining Medium. The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is long-term.		
RECREATIONAL AND AMENITY RECEPTORS					
AB-REC-1	Users of The Bin Forest and undesignated footpaths <u>Specific viewpoint</u> VP56 The Bin (Visualisation 7.56: Viewpoint 56: The Bin) Receptor group can be found on Pages 18, 20 & 21 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> The attention of recreational users within The Bin Forest is typically focussed on the immediate surrounding landscape, although wider views would contribute to the experience, albeit frequently contained by trees. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as Medium. <u>Value</u> Views are within the regionally designated Deveron Valley SLA, therefore the value is recorded as Medium to High. <u>Sensitivity</u> Medium	<u>Existing View</u> Users of footpaths within The Bin Forest experience contained, tranquil views as a result of the surrounding dense coniferous forestry on The Bin. The wooded landscape to the north is experienced only within elevated glimpsed views at the more open upper elevations of The Bin and between gaps in vegetation along hiking routes within the northern extents of the forest. <u>View During Construction</u> Users of footpaths would only see construction activity, including the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, in the mid to far-distance within occasional glimpsed views through gaps in vegetation from within The Bin Forest or from the more open summit of The Bin. The construction activity would be largely backdropped by the surrounding landscape although the construction of towers to the northwest across higher ground associated with Hill of Greenwood and The Balloch, would be skylined, particularly the use of any cranes or potentially helicopters. Lower-level activity would be largely screened from view, with visibility of tower construction available across a short section of transient, glimpsed views, and within views where the focus is on the broader surrounding landscape. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low. The geographical extent is a low to moderate change in a localised area and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> Users of footpaths would have glimpsed, heavily filtered views north for the most part between gaps in forestry or from the more open, elevated top section of The Bin, where the Proposed Development would be perceptible within transient contained views only. Glimpses of the Proposed Development would be experienced from the more open summit of The Bin over a length of approx. 200 m, as well as along the top of the eastern slopes of The Bin and from viewing platforms. The Proposed Development would be most visible as it passes behind Garromuir Wood and travels northwest on to Cairn Hill, Ord Hill and Hill of Greenwood, with it becoming skylined as it crosses the hills. The appearance of the Proposed Development in the landscape would detract from the local views for users of The Bin but much of it would be backdropped by the surrounding landscape or screened by vegetation. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as Low. The geographical extent is a low to moderate change in a localised area within panoramic views, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> Summer views would remain similar to Winter views, with coniferous evergreen forestry on The Bin continuing to screen immediate views for footpath users. Where views are afforded, there would similarly be no noticeable change in terms of the extent of the Proposed Development visible within brief elevated views. The magnitude of change is assessed as remaining Low. The geographical extent is a low to moderate change in a localised area and the duration is long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Low <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Low <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Low	<u>During Construction</u> Minor Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Minor Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Minor Adverse (non-significant)
AB-REC-2	Users of Core Paths to the north of Huntly and visitors to Huntly Castle, Huntly Golf Club, and Huntly Castle Caravan Park <u>Representative viewpoint</u> VP39 A96, Huntly (Visualisation 7.39:	<u>Susceptibility</u> Recreational receptors will be focussed on the surrounding landscape, with views being a contributor to the experience. Those engaged in outdoor sport also have some appreciation of the surrounding landscape. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as Medium to High.	<u>Existing View</u> Recreational receptors within the Deveron Valley SLA to the north of Huntly and within the Huntly Castle estate experience primarily short range and enclosed views due to surrounding woodland, with views north further screened by topography and vegetation associated with local field boundaries, the River Deveron, Kinnoir Wood and The Bin Forest. Even so, users experience a limited sense of remoteness due to the presence of frequent local roads, the A96, infrastructure and activity associated with the nearby settlement of Huntly, and within the golf course and caravan park. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity of the upper portions of towers, including use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be perceptible to the north as the Proposed Development crosses out from behind Kinnoir Wood (Hill of Mungo and Hill of Greenfold) across Cruchie Wood and on towards Bogcoup. Most activity would be screened by intervening topography and vegetation and where perceptible, would only be visible across a very small portion of the view. The magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible. The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is short-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Negligible <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Negligible	<u>During Construction</u> Negligible to Minor Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> 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
	Viewpoint 39: A96, Huntly) Receptor group can be found on Page 21 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Value</u> Views encompass a landscape that is regionally designated – the Deveron Valley SLA . The value is therefore recorded as Medium to High. <u>Sensitivity</u> Medium to High	<u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be largely backclothed by fields, woodland and hills, although some towers would be skylined to the northeast as it crosses higher ground. Even so, it would only be intermittently visible for recreational receptors due to intervening topography and vegetation, and views would be interrupted by detracting foreground features such as lighting columns and signage, such that the baseline characteristics would not be readily altered. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> Deciduous vegetation surrounding the golf course, caravan park, castle, and across local hills, would all contribute to screening of the Proposed Development during the summer months such that any far-distance views are anticipated to be largely imperceptible. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as No Change. The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is long-term.	<u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> No Change	<u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Neutral
AB-REC-3	Users of the River Deveron at Coniecleugh & Avochie <u>Representative viewpoint</u> VP36 B9022, Deveron Valley (Visualisation 7.36: Viewpoint 36: B9022, Deveron Valley) Receptor can be found on Pages 20 & 21 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Recreational receptors will be focussed on the surrounding landscape, with views through the river valley being a key contributor to the experience. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as Medium to High. <u>Value</u> Views encompass a landscape that is regionally designated – the Deveron Valley SLA. The value is therefore recorded as Medium to High. <u>Sensitivity</u> Medium to High	<u>Existing View</u> This section of the River Deveron, from where there could be an appreciation of the Proposed Development, lies to the north of Huntly and Kinnoir Wood at Padaff Pot Weirs (west of Hill of Mungo) and northwards to the junction of the B9022 with the Aberdeen to Inverness railway bridge crossing (between Arn Hill and Wood of Avochie), a length of approx. 3.5 km. Recreational receptors, including those fishing and canoeing on the river, would typically experience transient, intermittent views along the river and into the surrounding landscape of the Deveron Valley SLA, with bankside vegetation breaking up views. Views are broadly contained by the Bin Forest and The Bin to the west and Fourman Hill and Kinnoir Wood to the east, with regular blocks of woodland forestry through lower lying farmland. The railway is perceptible across more open ground to the north of Kinnoir Wood, and this openness allows for much longer, mid to far-distance views south to distant hills along the river corridor. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity would be noticeable on either side of the river, with visibility increasing with proximity to the works. Some recreational views would be static (such as for fishermen) whilst others would be transient (such as for canoeists). Transient views would have increasing visibility of the construction works with proximity to them, although construction of taller elements, including the use of cranes for tower installation and the potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be particularly noticeable on the skyline across the open valley floor, and for most of the 3.5 km stretch of this part of the River Deveron. The uncharacteristic movement and activity of construction works would disrupt views, particularly those south towards scenic distant hills. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium to High. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be clearly visible within both transient and static views from the River Deveron, above bankside vegetation and over a length of approx. 3.5 km of the river corridor. Where the Proposed Development crosses the River Deveron it would be particularly noticeable, and out of scale with the landscape. Whilst lower portions would be backclothed, a moderate portion would be skylined in views, with a greater amount skylined in transient views as users move closer to the crossing point. Whilst bankside vegetation provides some disruption of views from the southern section of the river, most views remain open, such that the Proposed Development would change the character of the river corridor locally. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as Medium to High. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer,</i> Localised sections of bankside vegetation may offer additional screening of the Proposed Development for users of the River Deveron, but it would remain locally prominent between Kinnoir Wood and the railway / B9022. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining Medium to High. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Medium to High <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Medium to High <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Medium to High	<u>During Construction</u> Moderate to Major adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Moderate to Major adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Moderate to Major adverse (significant)
AB-REC-4	Users of footpaths within and around Kinnoir Wood (publicly accessible Forestry Commission managed woodland)	<u>Susceptibility</u> Recreational receptors will typically focus on the immediate landscape, although surrounding wider views would contribute to the experience. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as Medium.	<u>Existing View</u> Users of trails within Kinnoir Wood and on the Hill of Mungo, Hill of Greenford and Hill of Mosstown experience largely contained, intimate views as a result of the surrounding dense coniferous forestry associated with Kinnoir Wood. Occasional breaks in forestry allow for views into the surrounding landscape, although only glimpsed views from the upper elevations of the hills allow for elevated, distant views north across the designated landscape of the Deveron Valley SLA. These views encompass a rural landscape of good scenic quality with few visible man-made structures apart from an existing OHL on the lower slopes of Fourman Hil and the adjacent golf course.	<u>During Construction</u> Low to Medium	<u>During Construction</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
	<u>Representative viewpoint</u> VP38 Kinnoir (Visualisation 7.38: Viewpoint 38: Kinnoir) Receptor can be found on Page 21 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Value</u> Views encompass a landscape that is regionally designated - the Deveron Valley SLA. The value is therefore recorded as Medium to High. <u>Sensitivity</u> Medium	<u>View During Construction</u> Users of footpaths would only see construction activity in the mid to far-distance within glimpsed views through gaps in forestry. Visibility is greatest towards the northern end of Kinnoir Wood, around the Hill of Mungo, where views are less interrupted by landform. The higher elevations of Hill of Greenwood also afford some far-distance views north towards construction activity through gaps in vegetation, but Hill of Mungo provides additional screening, particularly of lower-level construction activity. The construction activity would be largely backdropped by the surrounding landscape although the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would impinge into the skyline, particularly from lower elevations. Felling within Longmoor Wood to the northeast would also be perceptible, particularly from the Hill of Mungo. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low to Medium. The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> Users of footpaths would have sections of open visibility between blocks of forestry, particularly from the Hill of Mungo, with slightly more distant and filtered views from Hill of Greenford and Hill of Mosstown. The Proposed Development would therefore be perceptible within transient views overlooking the designated landscape of the Deveron Valley SLA, and over a moderate portion of the view. Even so, many views would remain unchanged due to the forested nature of the landscape through which the footpaths run. Where more open views are afforded, the Proposed Development would add additional OHL infrastructure into the view, detracting from the quality of the local landscape, although most of it would be backdropped by the surrounding landscape. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as Low to Medium. The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> Summer views would remain very similar to winter views due to the extent of coniferous (evergreen) forestry associated with Kinnoir Wood. Where more open views are afforded, there would also be no noticeable change in terms of the extent of the Proposed Development visible due to coniferous woodland in the surrounding landscape. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining Low to Medium. The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is long-term.	<u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Low to Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Low to Medium	<u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant)
AB-REC-5	Visitors to Foreglen Garden and Designed Landscape <u>Representative viewpoint</u> VP40 B9025, Foreglen (Visualisation 7.40: Viewpoint 40: B9025, Foreglen) Receptor can be found on Page 22 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Recreational receptors will typically focus on the immediate local landscape, although the surrounding landscape would be an important contributor to the experience. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as Medium to High. <u>Value</u> Views are within the regionally designated Deveron Valley SLA. The landscape is of high scenic quality and character with cultural heritage designations including listed buildings (including Grade A). The value is therefore recorded as Medium to High. <u>Sensitivity</u> Medium to High	<u>Existing View</u> Recreational receptors experience relatively enclosed, short to mid-distant views across both open farmland (of irregular small-scale fields) allowing views towards mid-distant hills, to more enclosed, intimate views within mixed deciduous woodlands and enclosed river corridors, as well as formal designed gardens surrounding the Grade A listed Foreglen House, also enclosed by woodland. Far-distance views to the south are generally restricted by Meadowheads Wood, Crow Wood, and Hugh’s Wood, but some distant awareness is afforded to rising topography to the south of the River Deveron and Turriff from more open areas of the grounds and between gaps in woodland alongside the B9025. Detracting features include the local road network and B9025, as well as wind turbines to the south and southeast on mid-distant hills. <u>View During Construction</u> The installation of the towers would be discernible at a distance, generally from the western extents through the B9025 corridor but most views would remain contained by the extensive woodland and local topography, even in winter. Where visible, only construction of the towers themselves through the use of cranes and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be discernible – all lower-level activity, as well as any tree felling, would be screened. The magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible. The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> Visitors to Foreglen House gardens would not experience views to the Proposed Development due to extensive surrounding woodland and appreciable distance. It would, however, be perceptible within distant views experienced through the western extents along the B9025 corridor, beyond Meadowheads and Crow Wood, where gaps in woodland and roadside vegetation afford some far-distance views. The tops of towers would be distinguishable on the skyline, seen beyond the existing wind turbines, but would occupy a small portion of more distant views. The baseline characteristics of the local landscape would not be altered for visitors. The magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible. The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> The presence of extensive areas of woodland and roadside vegetation would further limit distant views south towards the Proposed Development, although it would remain distinguishable in the more open views south from the B9025 corridor. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining Negligible. The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Negligible <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Negligible <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Negligible	<u>During Construction</u> Negligible to Minor Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Negligible to Minor Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> 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
AB-REC-6	Users of Core Path 314.03 ‘Haughs & Deveron Riverside Circular’ on the southern edge of Turriff <u>Representative viewpoint</u> VP43 Turriff (Visualisation 7.43: Viewpoint 43: Turriff) Receptor can be found on Page 24 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Recreational receptors will typically focus on the surrounding landscape to the south of Turriff, with views being a contributor to the experience. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as Medium to High. <u>Value</u> Views partially overlook the regionally designated Deveron Valley SLA, but contain detracting features associated with an urban fringe setting. The value is therefore recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> Medium to High	<u>Existing View</u> Users of the Core Path experience relatively well contained views from the low-lying path to the south of Turriff. The Core Path runs alongside the Burn of Turriff and around Turriff sports and show grounds. There is appreciation of the rural farmed landscape and rising landform to the south of the A947 and B9024, but the Burn of Turriff is well vegetated, as are the edges of the sports fields (within the SLA) and show ground (outside the SLA), and rising ground beyond. <u>View During Construction</u> Users of the Core Path would have glimpsed views of tower installation on higher ground in the mid-distance to the southeast, beyond the B9024 and A947. Most views would remain contained by vegetation alongside the Burn of Turriff, but the use of cranes and potential use of helicopters in particular would be noticeable features on the skyline between vegetation, albeit across a very small portion of the view. The magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible. The geographical extent is a negligible change in a localised area and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> Users of short sections of the Core Path would have glimpsed, mid-distant views of the Proposed Development, which would only be visible in gaps between intervening vegetation. The tops of towers would impinge into the skyline, but foreground trees and urban fringe elements would remain taller vertical features within the view. A short section of the Proposed Development only would be discernible, to the southeast, as it crosses the A947 and onto higher ground around Mill of Colp. The magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible. The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> The extent of deciduous vegetation along the Burn of Turriff and around Turriff sports and show grounds would provide additional screening of the Proposed Development in Summer, such that the majority of views would have no visibility of it. However, there would remain some limited visibility, such as across more open sections of the showground and sports fields, where the Proposed Development would be just discernible between any gaps in vegetation. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining Negligible. The geographical extent is a negligible change in a localised area and the duration is long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Negligible <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Negligible <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Negligible	<u>During Construction</u> Negligible to Minor Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Negligible to Minor Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Negligible to Minor Adverse (non-significant)
AB-REC-7	Users of NCN 1 and Core Path NCN Route 1D ‘Montcroffer Croft to Maud’ <u>Representative viewpoints</u> VP43 Turriff (Visualisation 7.43: Viewpoint 43: Turriff); VP45 Cuminestown; (Visualisation 7.45: Viewpoint 45: Cuminestown); and VP49 B9029, Maud (Visualisation 7.49: Viewpoint 49: B9029, Maud). Receptor can be found on Pages 22, 24 & 26 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> 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. <u>Value</u> 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. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>Existing View</u> The section of National Cycle Route (NCR) 1 considered here runs west to east between Turriff and Maud. It then turns south and joins the Formartine and Buchan Way Great Trail until Auchnagatt (considered under AB-REC-10). Recreational receptors experience both open and enclosed sequential views of the surrounding landscape along this section of the route, with more open views from local roads interrupted by roadside trees and vegetation, blocks of woodland, and housing. Views encompass pleasant rolling arable farmland with small blocks of woodland and few detracting features save for occasional wind turbines and infrastructure associated with settlements. An existing 400 kV OHL is distantly visible in some views south from sections to the east of Cuminestown of the route on higher ground. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity would be perceived in the near to mid-distance to the south between Turriff and Maud. Installation of the towers through the use of cranes and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing and some vegetation removal of trees would be discernible along the route, albeit in transient and sequential views. Where the Proposed Development is in closest proximity to NCN 1 (at Mill of Culp, southeast of Turriff, and at Loanhead of Fedderate, to the northwest of Maud), there would be visibility of lower-level construction activity, including the creation / upgrading of access tracks. Whilst construction activity would not occupy a large portion of the view, it would be clearly visible in transient views along the route, particularly where in closest proximity at Turriff and Maud. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium. The geographical extent is medium to high, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> Views of the Proposed Development would be limited by intervening rolling topography and field boundary vegetation, but would be clearly noticeable within sequential views south from the route between Turriff and Maud over a length of approx. 20 km and more closely visible noticeable where in closest proximity southeast of Turriff and northwest of Maud. The Proposed Development would be noticeable through the rolling open farmland where it would be skylined, albeit interrupted by roadside vegetation, blocks of woodland, and housing, and in predominantly oblique views south. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium. The geographical extent is medium to high, and the duration is long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Medium <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 to Major Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> 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
			<i>Summer</i> Deciduous vegetation through the rolling farmland on field boundaries, woodland blocks, roadside vegetation and curtilage vegetation would provide additional screening in summer but due to the open nature of the farmland and sections of the route with limited screening vegetation, there would be limited change in the extent of views in summer. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining Medium. The geographical extent is medium to high, and the duration is long-term.		
AB-REC-8	Visitors to Culsh Monument and Viewpoint, New Deer Cemetery, and users of Core Path 211.02P ‘New Deer: Culsh Monument Link - Proposed Link’ <u>Specific viewpoint</u> VP47 Culsh Monument (Visualisation 7.47: Viewpoint 47: Culsh Monument) Receptors can be found on Page 26 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Recreational receptors will typically focus on the surrounding landscape, with views being a key contributor to the viewpoint experience. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as High. <u>Value</u> The Culsh Monument is a designated viewing point, recognised on national maps as a scenic, panoramic, viewpoint location. The Culsh Monument is also a recognised heritage feature. The value is recorded as High. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>Existing View</u> Visitors to the Culsh Monument and Viewpoint experience panoramic views, although the Viewpoint is focussed to the east. All are located alongside a local road to the north of New Deer. The Culsh Monument and Viewpoint are on a local high point (approx.150 m AOD) and offer broad views across the agricultural landscape, particularly eastwards towards Maud. Views from within New Deer Cemetery are slightly less elevated and partially obstructed by vegetation around the monument and a stone boundary wall, but far-distance views south are afforded, as well as east and west. There are few detracting features although more distant features include wind turbines, an OHL to the south, the A981 to the east, and infrastructure around New Deer. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, including localised felling at the A981 and around Milton of Culsh, temporary access tracks / upgrade works, and use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be clearly noticeable to the north where activity would be on slightly higher ground, as well as to the east on lower ground through gently undulating agricultural farmland. Whilst some construction activity would be backclothed by hills and fields (particularly to the east), the use of any cranes or potential use of helicopters would impinge into the skyline across a moderate portion of the view. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium. The geographical extent is medium to high, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be visible within a moderate to large portion of mid-distant views, approx. 1 - 2 km to the east of the monument on lower ground. Whilst the majority of the Proposed Development would be backclothed by surrounding fields and hills (particularly to the east), the tops of some towers would be skylined within the panoramic view, particularly to the north. The Proposed Development would introduce a notable man-made vertical element into the rural landscape, including one angle tower in proximity to Loanhead of Fedderate to the northeast, which would be clearly visible in the skyline. The Proposed Development to the north and northeast would be skylined and subsequently more noticeable and distracting in the view, whereas wind turbines punctuate the skyline to the east, where the Proposed Development would remain largely below the horizon line. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium. The geographical extent is medium to medium to high, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> There would be no change to views in summer months due to the lack of deciduous vegetation through the open farmland to the east. The elevated nature of the Viewpoint, monument and (to a degree) the Cemetery, results in panoramic views north and east across the lower-lying farmland, and whilst vegetation in summer would provide some additional screening of lower sections of towers and / or strengthening the backclothing of towers, some would remain on the skyline, particularly to the north. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium. The geographical extent is medium to high, and the duration is long-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year 15 Summer)</u> Small areas of management felling planting back to the edge of the OC on the A981 and the south of Maud is likely to have re-established in this time but would not change perception and views of the Proposed Development from the monument. The magnitude of change is assessed to remain as Medium. The geographical extent is medium to high, and the duration is long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer)</u> Medium	<u>During Construction</u> Moderate to Major adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Moderate to Major adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Moderate to Major adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer)</u> Moderate to Major adverse (significant)
AB-REC-9	Users of Core Paths 211.01 ‘New Deer: Kirk Walk & Culsh Circular’ and 211.01P ‘New Deer: Kirk Walk & Culsh Circular extension - Proposed Link’ to the north of New Deer	<u>Susceptibility</u> Recreational receptors will typically focus on the surrounding landscape, with views being an important contributor to the experience. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as Medium to High.	<u>Existing View</u> Users of Core Paths to the north of New Deer experience broad and slightly elevated views (approx. 100 - 125 m AOD) directed predominantly east across a gently undulating farmed landscape. Views to the west are interrupted by intervening topography, with views becoming longer to the northeast and southeast as the topography drops away. Far-distance views are partially interrupted by vegetation around New Deer Showground, and the presence of the A981, B9028, wind turbines, telegraph poles and wires, and an existing OHL in the distance to the south, form distinctive features in the landscape. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, including localised felling on the A981, would be noticeable to the northeast and southeast through the gently undulating agricultural farmland. The creation of temporary access tracks or upgrade works, and lower-level construction activity would be less noticeable due to intervening field boundary vegetation and pockets of deciduous vegetation. The contraction of the	<u>During Construction</u> Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Medium	<u>During Construction</u> Moderate adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> 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
	<u>Specific Viewpoint</u> VP47 Culsh Monument (Visualisation 7.47: Viewpoint 47: Culsh Monument); and <u>Representative viewpoint</u> VP48 4981 New Deer (Visualisation 7.48: Viewpoint 48: A981, New Deer) Receptors can be found on Page 26 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Value</u> The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant and the landscape is of ordinary scenic quality. The value is therefore recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> Medium to High	upper portions of towers, including use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be clearly noticeable on the skyline in the mid-distance, across a moderate portion of the transient views. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be visible within a moderate portion of mid-distant views, to the northeast, east, and southeast. It would be a prominent feature, being skylined within relatively broad views. It would introduce a notable man-made vertical structure into the rural landscape, albeit with other detracting features in the view, including telephone wires and wood poles. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> Localised areas of deciduous vegetation on field and property boundaries and surrounding New Deer showground would offer some increased screening of the Proposed Development but it would remain prominent in the skyline in the mid-distance of views, and openly across farmland. The magnitude of change is assessed as remaining Medium. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year 15 Summer)</u> Small areas of management felling planting back to the edge of the OC on the A981 and the south of Maud is likely to have re-established in this time but would not change perception and views of the Proposed Development from the monument. The magnitude of change is assessed to remain as Medium. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term.	<u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer)</u> Medium	<u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Moderate adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer)</u> Moderate adverse (significant)
AB-REC-10	Formartine and Buchan Way Great Trail (Long Distance Path) and Core Path 209.01 ‘Maud: Clackriach Path’ <u>Representative viewpoint</u> VP49 B9029, Maud (Visualisation 7.49: Viewpoint 49: B9029, Maud) Receptor can be found on Pages 26 & 27 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Recreational receptors will typically focus on the surrounding landscape, with views being an important contributor to the experience. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as Medium to High. <u>Value</u> The view is a nationally recognised long-distance path, and one of the Scottish Great Trails, although the landscape is of ordinary scenic quality. These long-distance routes are well-mapped, signposted, and widely used by both locals and tourists. The value is therefore recorded as High. <u>Sensitivity</u> High	<u>Existing View</u> The section of the Formartine and Buchan Way Great Trail considered here travels south from Strichen in the north via Maud to the north of Auchnagatt. Recreational receptors experience both open and enclosed sequential views of the surrounding landscape, with views encompassing rolling arable farmland with small blocks of woodland and few detracting features. Some sections of the route offer some sense of remoteness and enclosure, particularly in localised wooded cuttings, whilst other sections offer more open far-distant views. Existing OHLs, wood poles and wind turbines are detracting features within the wider landscape. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity would be perceived intermittently in the mid to far-distance of transient views between Strichen and Maud, with much of the activity screened from view. Use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be more noticeable on the distant skyline due to their height and movement being uncharacteristic features in the landscape. With proximity to the construction activity, it would become more perceptible in the near to mid-distance of transient views between Maud and Auchnagatt and would be particularly noticeable where construction activity is located in closest proximity to the route, at Drymuir, to the south of Maud. A small amount of felling in woodland to the west of Bulwark Croft may be discernible from the section of the route near Drymuir, but otherwise would not be perceptible. Sections of the route are well enclosed by vegetation, limiting visibility of construction activity. Activity would be discernible in transient and sequential views, with visibility increasing with proximity to the Proposed Development. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium for the section of route between Maud and Auchnagatt, but Low for the more northern section between Strichen and Maud. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> Due to intervening topography, vegetation and appreciable distance along most of the Formartine and Buchan Way Trail, the Proposed Development is anticipated to be most visible from approximately 7 km length of trail between the villages of Maud and Auchnagatt, and to a lesser extent further north between Maud and Strichen (9 km length of trail). The Proposed Development crosses the trail to the east of the B9106, south of Maud, where it would be locally highly prominent for users. Along this section of the route, the Proposed Development would be a notable vertical feature in the low-lying and gently undulating landscape and would appear in the skyline of views. It would, however, be viewed within the context of existing vertical features, including wind turbines and telephone poles. The more northern section between Maud and Strichen has views more screened by intervening topography, as well as by vegetation, reducing the prominence of the Proposed Development in sequential views. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as Medium for the section of route between Maud and Auchnagatt, but Low for the more northern section between Strichen and Maud. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Medium (Maud to Auchnagatt) Low (Strichen to Maud) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Medium (Maud to Auchnagatt) Low (Strichen to Maud) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Medium (Maud to Auchnagatt) Low (Strichen to Maud) <u>Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer)</u> Medium (Maud to Auchnagatt)	<u>During Construction</u> Moderate to Major Adverse (significant, Maud to Auchnagatt) Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant, Strichen to Maud) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Moderate to Major Adverse (significant, Maud to Auchnagatt) Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant, Strichen to Maud) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Moderate to Major Adverse (significant, Maud to Auchnagatt) Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant, Strichen to Maud)

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
			<i>Summer</i> Deciduous vegetation through the rolling farmland on field boundaries, alongside local roads, and alongside the Formartine and Buchan Way, would provide some additional or intermittent screening in summer, but due to the open nature of the farmland there would be limited change in the extent of views in summer, with some views retaining clear visibility. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining Medium for the section of route between Maud and Auchnagatt, and Low for the more northern section between Strichen and Maud. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year 15 Summer)</u> Small areas of management felling planting back to the edge of the OC to the south of Maud is likely to have re-established in this time but would not change perception and views of the Proposed Development for these receptors. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining Medium for the section of route between Maud and Auchnagatt, and Low for the more northern section between Strichen and Maud. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term.	Low (Strichen to Maud)	<u>Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer)</u> Moderate to Major Adverse (significant, Maud to Auchnagatt) Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant, Strichen to Maud)
AB-REC-11	Users of Core Paths 205.04 ‘White Cow Wood’ & 205.03 ‘Forest of Deer: Race Course Wood’ Users of undesignated paths and trails at White Cow Wood and Forest of Deer Visitors to the Pitfour Observatory. <u>Representative viewpoint</u> N/A Receptors can be found on Page 26 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Recreational receptors will typically focus on the local landscape within the Forest of Deer, although views of the surrounding landscape are a contributor to the experience. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as Medium. <u>Value</u> Core Paths are a national requirement, but identified locally. The landscape is generally ordinary with some detracting features. The value is recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> Medium	<u>Existing View</u> Recreational receptors, including hikers, bikers and runners, use the Forest of Deer and White Cow Wood for recreational purposes, set within a wider rolling landscape of farmland and woodland cover. Receptors using the Core Paths and informal trails in the woods experience relatively elevated (approx. 100 - 140 m AOD) views that vary from being heavily contained within woodland to more open between gaps of felled areas of woodland. Where open views are available, far-distance views south are afforded across the agricultural landscape. <u>View During Construction</u> The presence of forestry in the foreground and mid-distance of views, as well as intervening landform, would screen much of the construction activity from view. The use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be at a distance of over 5 km, and occupy only a very small portion of transient views. The magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible. The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be barely perceptible within views south due to intervening vegetation and topography. Whilst the tops of some towers may be distantly perceptible, they would not alter the baseline characteristics of the view. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is short-term. <i>Summer</i> Given the amount of coniferous (evergreen) plantation forestry in views south, there would be little appreciable change between summer and winter views. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining Negligible. The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is short-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Negligible <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Negligible <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Negligible	<u>During Construction</u> Negligible Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Negligible Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Negligible Adverse (non-significant)
AB-REC-12	Users of Core Path 208.01 ‘Longside: Harvest Hill’, Longside <u>Representative viewpoint</u> VP52 Longside (Visualisation 7.52: Viewpoint 52: Longside) Receptor can be found on Page 28 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Recreational receptors will have a focus on the surrounding landscape, which contributes to the experience. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as Medium to High. <u>Value</u> Core Paths are a national requirement but identified locally. The landscape is of ordinary scenic quality with some detracting features. The value is therefore recorded as Medium.	<u>Existing View</u> Users of Core Path 208.01 to the west of Longside experience open panoramic views south across a gently undulating farmed landscape with an appreciation of the village, including the houses on the edge of Longside immediately to the northeast. The Core Path runs through medium to large scale rectilinear fields bound by hedgerows, although surrounding hills generally restrict visibility to near to mid-distant views only. The surrounding farmland is occasionally broken up by small blocks of deciduous woodland, curtilage vegetation around farmhouses, or by vegetation along local watercourses, including South Ugie Water and its tributaries to the north and west, and Burn of Ludquharn to the east. An existing OHL to the south and wind turbines across the landscape are detracting features in the skyline across mid-distant views. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, particularly the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be clearly noticeable to the south across the gently undulating agricultural farmland. Whilst lower-level activity (including temporary access tracks / upgrade works) would likely be screened by vegetation or localised topography, a very small area of felling works may be discernible. Construction of the towers themselves would be prominently visible across the mid-distance. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium. The geographical extent is medium to high, and the duration is short-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Medium	<u>During Construction</u> Moderate adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Moderate adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> 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
		<u>Sensitivity</u> Medium to High	<u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be clearly visible across a moderate portion of mid-distant views, approx. 1.5 to 2.5 km to the south. It would be skylined across the broad views, albeit lower in height than nearby wind turbines. It would also be seen in conjunction with the existing OHL behind it, intensifying the amount of infrastructure in the skyline of views. One angle tower is likely to be prominently visible immediately north of Nether Kimmundy. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium . The geographical extent is medium to high, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> The open nature of many views, lack of deciduous vegetation through the open farmland to the south, and visibility of the Proposed Development on the skyline, would result in summer views not significantly changing from winter views. The Proposed Development would remain a prominent feature across the mid-distance of views. The magnitude of change is assessed as remaining Medium . The geographical extent is medium to high, and the duration is long-term.		
AB-REC-13	Visitors to Glendronach Distillery, on the Whiskey Trail <u>Representative viewpoint</u> N/A Receptor can be found on Pages 22 & 23 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> The attention of visitors to the distillery will typically be temporary and focused on their immediate surroundings, although a scenic setting would slightly contribute to the experience. Susceptibility to visual change is considered to be Low to Medium . <u>Value</u> Views are not located within a designated landscape, nor nationally or regionally recognised, although distilleries hold some cultural significance. The value of the view is recorded as Medium . <u>Sensitivity</u> Low to Medium	<u>Existing View</u> Glendronach Distillery is located on the Glendronach Burn adjacent to the B9001 and B9024, and set within a local valley with tree lined minor roads. Whilst much of the distillery site is located on the edge of the Deveron Valley SLA, views to the south for visitors to the distillery are across un-designated farmland and broadly contained within a local, relatively well wooded valley. Views are contained by the landform either side of the valley, limiting views east and west, and containing all views to near or mid-distance. Many mid-distance views are also screened by intervening buildings and curtilage vegetation around the distillery site. Existing wood poles and wires and an existing OHL are detracting features on the skyline to the south. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity would be perceptible to the south between intervening buildings and curtilage vegetation. Whilst lower-level activity would be screened, the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be visible on the skyline above or between intervening trees, topography and buildings. Intervening topography would limit the extent of construction works discernible in views to the south. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low . The geographical extent is low, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> Visitors to the distillery are likely to only afford intermittent or obstructed views of the Proposed Development in the mid-distance to the south, through the local Glen Dronach valley. Upper portions of towers would be seen between intervening buildings and vegetation, with an angle tower between the Whin Burn and the local hill west of Hill of Denmoss also visible. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low . The geographical extent is low, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> Deciduous vegetation along the Glendronach burn, Drumblair, roadside and curtilage, would all provide further screening in summer months, although some towers would remain perceptible in the mid-distance, but across a very small portion of the view. The magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible to Low . The geographical extent is low, and the duration is long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Low <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Low <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Negligible to Low	<u>During Construction</u> Minor Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Minor Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Negligible to Minor Adverse (non-significant)
AB-REC-14	Users of Turiff Sports Centre, football club, cricket pitch and Tuffiff Golf Course <u>Representative viewpoint</u> N/A Receptors can be found on Page 22 of Figure 7.6: Visual	<u>Susceptibility</u> Visual receptors at Turiff Sports Centre and associated grounds are engaged in outdoor sport which does not depend on an appreciation of the surrounding landscape. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as Low to Medium . <u>Value</u> Views partially overlook the designated Deveron Valley SLA, albeit within an urban fringe setting and no facilities provided	<u>Existing View</u> Users of the outdoor sports facilities experience relatively well contained views to the south of Turriff. The sports facilities are located alongside the Burn of Turriff with users looking across sports fields and the golf course. Turriff Sports Centre and Turriff Golf Course lie within the Deveron Valley SLA, however their views are mostly screened by boundary vegetation. There is an intermittent appreciation of the rural farmed landscape and rising landform to the south of the A947 and B9024 but mostly from the cricket pitch. The adjacent Burn of Turriff is well vegetated, as are the edges of the sports fields and football club (within the SLA), and the cricket club (outside the SLA). <u>View During Construction</u> Users of the sports facilities would have glimpsed views of tower installation on higher ground in the mid-distance to the southeast, beyond the B9024 and A947. Most views would remain contained by vegetation alongside the Burn of Turriff and boundaries of the sports facilities, but the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be particularly noticeable features on the skyline due to their height and movement, albeit across a very small portion of the view. The magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible . The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is short-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Negligible <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Negligible	<u>During Construction</u> Negligible Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> 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
	Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	to aid the enjoyment of views. The value is therefore recorded as Medium . <u>Sensitivity</u> Low to Medium	<u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> Users of the cricket pitch facilities, outside the SLA, are likely to have mid-distant views towards the Proposed Development, although only the tops of a few towers would be visible above intervening vegetation. The tops of towers would impinge into the skyline, but foreground trees and urban fringe elements would be taller vertical features within views. The Proposed Development would be visible across a very small portion of the view only. The magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible . The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> The extent of deciduous vegetation along the Burn of Turriff and around the golf course, football pitches and cricket grounds, would provide additional screening of the Proposed Development in Summer, such that the majority of users would have no visibility of it. However, some limited visibility would remain across more open sections, such as the cricket grounds, where the Proposed Development would be discernible in the mid-distance. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining Negligible . The geographical extent is a negligible change in a localised area and the duration is long-term.	<u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Negligible	<u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Negligible Adverse (non-significant)
AB-REC-15	Visitors to Delgatie Castle and Delgatie Castle Fishery <u>Representative viewpoint</u> N/A Receptor can be found on Page 24 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Recreational receptors at Delgatie Castle and Fishery will typically focus on the immediate landscape, although the surrounding landscape will contribute to the experience. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as Medium to High . <u>Value</u> Views are not identified as nationally or regionally significant but the Castle is a heritage designation which contributes to local character. The value is therefore recorded as Medium . <u>Sensitivity</u> Medium to High	<u>Existing View</u> Delgatie Castle and fishery are located on the edge of Wood of Delgaty, to the east of Turriff. They are well contained by landform and the large area of woodland (Wood of Delgaty) adjoining to the east. Visitors to the castle and fishery typically experience enclosed, intermittent views south to the farmed landscape between tree planting, with narrow, glimpsed views south from the edge of the fishery and castle grounds. Visitors to the castle would experience far-distance views south from the upper floors of the main house but views would be very short-term and transient. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction would not be readily perceived from the external castle grounds or fishery due to intervening woodland to the east (the Wood of Delgaty) and south (across Hill of Ardin), and topography to the west and south. There would be glimpsed views from the edge of the grounds and fishery and from the upper floor of the main house between intervening vegetation to the south where the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be perceived within narrow views. The magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible . The geographical extent is a negligible change in a localised area and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be perceptible within narrow, filtered transient views to the south experienced by visitors to the grounds, the fishery, and from the upper floor of the main house, where the tops of towers would be visible in the background beyond intervening vegetation and landform. The Proposed Development would occupy a very small portion of the view only, and would be principally screened from view. The magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible . The geographical extent is a negligible change in a localised area and the duration is short-term. <i>Summer</i> Deciduous vegetation within the castle grounds, surrounding the fishery, and within field boundary vegetation to the south would provide further screening in summer months although towers would remain just perceptible in the background of views across a very small portion of the view. The magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible . The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Negligible <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Negligible <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Negligible	<u>During Construction</u> Negligible to Minor Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Negligible to Minor Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Negligible to Minor Adverse (non-significant)
AB-REC-16	Visitors to Hatton Castle GDL <u>Representative viewpoint</u> VP44 Balquhindachy (Visualisation 7.44: Viewpoint 44: Balquhindachy)	<u>Susceptibility</u> Recreational receptors will typically focus on the immediate landscape, although the surrounding landscape will contribute to the experience. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as Medium to High . <u>Value</u> Views are not identified as nationally or regionally significant	<u>Existing View</u> Visitors to Hatton Castle Garden and Designed Landscape (GDL) experience views of formal, designed gardens surrounding the Category A Castle and enclosed by woodland that predominantly screens views to the north and west. The GDL is surrounded by a mix of broadleaf and coniferous woodland including the Wood of Hatton to the east and Wood of Colp to the north, while the A947 borders to the west. Views to the wider landscape are only afforded on the periphery of the GDL, on the edge of woodland and from access roads on the northern and western boundaries. <u>View During Construction</u> The installation of the towers would be discernible from the northern and western boundaries of the GDL, particularly the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing which would be visible above the tree lines on the skyline, but most views would remain contained within the GDL extents by surrounding dense woodland. The magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible to Low . The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is short-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Negligible to Low <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Negligible to Low	<u>During Construction</u> Minor Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> 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
	Receptor can be found on Pages 24 & 25 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	but the immediate surrounding landscape is of relatively high scenic quality, encompassing a heritage designation that contributes to current day scenic quality. The value is recorded as Medium . <u>Sensitivity</u> Medium to High	<u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> Recreational receptors visiting Hatton Castle GDL would not experience views of the Proposed Development due to dense intervening woodland surrounding the gardens. There would potentially, however, be glimpsed views of the Proposed Development through farmland to the north and west from the northern and western boundaries of the GDL where bare branches allow, or from the access roads. The magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible to Low . The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> The presence of deciduous trees on the northern and western boundaries are likely to further screen views out from the GDL in summer, but there would potentially remain some visibility from the periphery and access roads. The magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible . The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is long-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year 15 Summer)</u> Small areas of management felling planting back to the edge of the OC is likely to have re-established in this time but would not change perception and views of the Proposed Development from the GDL. The magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible . The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is long-term.	<u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Negligible <u>Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer)</u> Negligible	<u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Negligible to Minor Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer)</u> Negligible to Minor Adverse (non-significant)
AB-REC-17	Visitors to Fyvie Castle and Fyvie Castle Garden and Designed Landscape <u>Representative viewpoint</u> N/A Receptors can be found on Page 25 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Recreational receptors will typically focus on the immediate landscape, although the surrounding views may contribute to the experience. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as Medium to High . <u>Value</u> Views are not identified as nationally or regionally significant but the immediate surrounding landscape is of relatively high scenic quality, encompassing a heritage designation that contributes to current day scenic quality. The value is recorded as Medium . <u>Sensitivity</u> Medium to High	<u>Existing View</u> Visitors to Fyvie Castle and Fyvie Castle GDL experience views of formal, designed gardens surrounding the Category A Castle and enclosed by woodland that predominantly screens wider ground-level views. The GDL is surrounded by a mix of broadleaf and coniferous woodland and the A947 borders it to the west. Views to the wider landscape are only afforded on the periphery of the GDL, on the edge of woodland and from access roads on the northern and western boundaries. <u>View During Construction</u> The installation of the towers and construction activity to the north and west would not be readily perceptible due to intervening surrounding dense woodland, landform and appreciable distance of over 6 km. The use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be slightly more discernible due to their height and movement, but primarily from upper storey windows of the castle, in transient views. The magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible . The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> Recreational receptors visiting Fyvie Castle, gardens and woodland would not experience views of the Proposed Development due to dense intervening woodland, landform and appreciable distance. Whilst far-distance views from upper storey windows of the Castle would be afforded, the Proposed Development would not be readily distinguishable within the wider landscape. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as No Change . The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> The presence of deciduous trees on the northern and western boundaries would further strengthen screening of distant views to the north and west. The magnitude of change is assessed as No Change . The geographical extent is negligible, and the duration is long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Negligible <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> No Change <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> No Change	<u>During Construction</u> Negligible to Minor Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Neutral <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Neutral
AB-REC-18	Users of Grampian Air Rifle Club Range and Waulkmill Fishery <u>Representative viewpoint</u> N/A Receptors can be found on Page 26 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Visual receptors are engaged in outdoor sport which do not depend on an appreciation of the surrounding landscape for enjoyment, although users of the fishery would be slightly more aware of surroundings. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as Low to Medium . <u>Value</u> Views are not identified as nationally or regionally important	<u>Existing View</u> Recreational receptors are located within a local shallow valley of the Water of Fedderate and views south are mostly contained by woodland surrounding the fishing ponds. There is, however, some appreciation of the surrounding gently undulating farmed landscape within filtered views, although this would not be the focus of people's attention. <u>View During Construction</u> The installation of towers by use of cranes and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be discernible to the south in mid-distant views, particularly from the northern extent of the range and fishery where more open views are afforded. Most views, however, would be contained by woodland surrounding the ponds, which would also screen all lower-level construction activity. However, installation of the towers and conductors would be visible across a small portion of the view. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low . The geographical extent is low, and the duration is short-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Low <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Low	<u>During Construction</u> Minor Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> 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
		although there are few detracting features. The value is recorded as Medium . <u>Sensitivity</u> Low to Medium	<u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be perceptible in views from the northern extents of the range and fishery where more open views south across grassland or lakes are afforded. Views of the Proposed Development are mostly screened, but where they are afforded, it would be seen in the mid-distance with the tops of visible above intervening vegetation and landform, albeit across a small portion of the view. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low . The geographical extent is low, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> Deciduous vegetation surrounding the ponds and within the local valley would further screen views to the south. However, the Proposed Development would remain perceptible above intervening landform and vegetation in the mid-distance of some more open views. The magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible to Low . The geographical extent is low, and the duration is long-term.	<u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Negligible to Low	<u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Negligible to Minor Adverse (non-significant)
AB-REC-19	Users of New Deer Football Club, New Deer Bowling Club and New Deer Showground <u>Representative viewpoint</u> VP48 A981, New Deer (Visualisation 7.48: Viewpoint 48: A981, New Deer) Receptors can be found on Page 26 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Visual receptors at sports facilities are engaged in outdoor activity which does not depend on an appreciation of the surrounding landscape for enjoyment. The susceptibility of the receptor is recorded as Low to Medium . <u>Value</u> The view is not identified as nationally or regionally significant and the landscape is of ordinary scenic quality. The value is therefore recorded as Medium . <u>Sensitivity</u> Low to Medium	<u>Existing View</u> Recreational receptors at New Deer Football Club and New Deer Bowling Club experience fairly contained views due to a narrow belt of trees surrounding the facilities, allowing filtered views north and east. Users of the New Deer Showground also experience contained views but have slightly more appreciation of the landscape to the north and east through gaps in the boundary planting. There would be an appreciation of the A981 to the south and the village of New Deer, with its associated urban influences. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity would be clearly perceptible in the mid-distance, particularly from the New Deer Showground, as views from the sports facilities would be partially screened by intervening boundary vegetation. The use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing to the north and east would be particularly visible on the skyline across a moderate portion of the view, and particularly so for users of New Deer Showground. Whilst much of the lower-level construction activity would be screened by boundary vegetation, there would potentially be glimpsed views of working machinery from the Showground, along with installation of the towers themselves. Views, however, would be transient whilst users are engaged in the specific activities. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium . The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be visible within filtered views to the north and east through lower or thinner belts of boundary planting for users of the Football Club and Bowling Club. Users of the New Deer Showground would have more appreciation of towers being visible above intervening vegetation across a moderate portion of near to mid-distance views to the north and east. Views would be transient whilst users are engaged in the specific activities. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium . The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> During the summer months, boundary vegetation would further serve to screen views of the Proposed Development to the north and east, although towers would remain clearly visible above the intervening vegetation. Particularly for users of the Showground. The magnitude of change therefore remains Medium . The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Medium	<u>During Construction</u> Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant)
AB-REC-20	Visitors to Longside Cemetery <u>Representative viewpoint</u> VP52 Longside (Visualisation 7.52: Viewpoint 52: Longside) Receptor can be found on Page 28 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity	<u>Susceptibility</u> Visitors to the cemetery will typically be focused on their immediate surroundings within the cemetery, although views to the wider landscape contribute to the experience. Susceptibility to visual change is therefore recorded as Medium . <u>Value</u> The view is not identified as nationally or significant and the landscape is of ordinary scenic quality. The value is therefore recorded as Medium .	<u>Existing View</u> Visitors to Longside Cemetery to the south of Longside experience fairly open and panoramic views south across a gently undulating farmed landscape. Visitors to the cemetery have some awareness of the village of Longside to the northeast, and a small area of woodland immediately south partially screens a small portion of views. The cemetery is contained by a low-rise stone wall and railings, allowing clear visibility across the surrounding landscape, although views are generally limited to the mid-distance by topography. The surrounding landscape contains limited tree cover through the surrounding farmland, although hedgerows and occasional woodland blocks, as well as curtilage vegetation provide taller elements. Large farmsteads, an existing OHL to the south and wind turbines, particularly to the west, are all prominent features, with the OHL and wind turbines appearing across the skyline in mid-distant views. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, particularly the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be clearly noticeable to the south in open views across the farmland. Whilst lower-level activity (including temporary access tracks / upgrade works) would likely be screened by vegetation or localised topography, a very small area of felling works directly south may be discernible. Construction of the towers themselves would be prominently visible across mid-distant views, particularly the use of cranes or potential use of helicopters, which would add additional height and movement into the skyline. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium . The geographical extent is medium to high, and the duration is short-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Medium	<u>During Construction</u> Moderate Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> 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
	Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Sensitivity</u> Medium	<u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be clearly visible across a moderate portion of mid-distant views, approx. 1.5 km to the south. It would be skylined across the broad views, albeit lower in height than nearby wind turbines. It would be seen in conjunction with the existing OHL behind it, as well as wind turbines, intensifying the amount of infrastructure in the skyline of views. A small area of existing woodland around Chapel Well to the southeast partially filters a small portion of the view, but the Proposed Development would remain clearly visible. One angle tower is also likely to be prominently visible immediately north of Nether Kinmundy. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium . The geographical extent is medium to high, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> A small area of deciduous vegetation around Chapel Well to the southeast would provide slightly more screening in summer months, but the Proposed Development would remain prominent in mid-distant views across a moderate portion of the view. The magnitude of change is assessed as remaining Medium . The geographical extent is medium to high, and the duration is long-term.	<u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Medium	<u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Moderate Adverse (significant)
TRANSPORT RECEPTORS					
AB-T-1	Users of the A96 <u>Representative viewpoints</u> VP34 Ardonald (Visualisation 7.34: Viewpoint 34: Ardonald); and VP39 A96, Huntly (Visualisation 7.39: Viewpoint 39: A96, Huntly) Receptor can be found on Pages 18, 20 & 21 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Users of the A96 would include locals, commuters and commercial drivers for whom the landscape is peripheral to their journey. The A96 is a slightly faster-speed road which slightly reduces the susceptibility of receptors. Even so, susceptibility to visual change is considered to be Medium. <u>Value</u> The A96 is a major road in Scotland linking Inverness with Aberdeen. Views through the Aberdeenshire section vary along the road but include relatively well contained vistas through an attractive landscape, but one which contains detracting features such as OHLs and wind turbines. The value of the view is therefore recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> Medium	<u>Existing View</u> This section of the A96 runs southeast from Coachford to Huntly, and from Huntly to Glens of Foudland. Users of the A96 in proximity to Coachford experience attractive and relatively open views northeast between Meikle Balloch Hill and The Bin. Views either side are broadly enclosed by the surrounding topography with Meikle Balloch Hill forming a distinctive hill to the north of the A96 and the more rounded summit of The Bin and extensive forestry associated with The Bin Forest containing views either side of the A96 and defining the background to the southeast. The areas of forestry on either side of the A96 at The Bin create a more intimate, enclosed character, contrasting with more open stretches between The Bin and Meikle Balloch Hill, and briefly further east between Westerton and Huntly. Detracting features include prominent wind turbines adjacent to the A96 on Ord Hill and Cairn Hill to the north, and in the wider landscape to the west and south; telecommunications masts (including ones on Ord Hill and Hill of Greenwood) and numerous OHLs, including a 275 kV OHL that crosses the A96 just to the west of Coachford. The undulating topography and numerous local hill summits generally contain views to near to mid-distance, although travelling north out of The Bin Forest, the A96 is on slightly higher ground, allowing mid-distance views across an attractive, broader landscape where wind turbines and OHLs are more backclothed and less prominent on the skyline. Travelling south out of The Bin Forest, views are focussed southeast with glimpses of more distant hills, but views north become contained by the built form of Huntly. South of Huntly, view are generally more open, although still largely contained to the mid-distance by local hill summits and topography. Wind turbines and OHLs remain detracting features in the landscape. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, including small areas of felling on the lower slopes of Meikle Balloch Hill and temporary access tracks, would all be noticeable where they are in closest proximity to users of the A96 between Coachford and Cairnie. Use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would also be readily noticeable in the skyline of views along a much wider stretch of road when looking towards higher ground to the north. Forestry and landform would partially backcloth or interrupt views apart from when in closest proximity to the works. Views would be transient, oblique, and intermittent, with visibility and prominence of construction works increasing sequentially with proximity. South of Huntly, only the presence of cranes, and potentially helicopters, are likely to be visible south of Hillhead crossroads (south of Thomastown) but in very transient, short-term views due to speed of vehicles. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low to Medium for the section of the A96 between Coachford and The Bin; Negligible to Low for the section of the A96 between The Bin and Hillhead crossroads; and Negligible for the section of the A96 between Hillhead crossroads and Glens of Foudland. The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> Users of the A96 would be most aware of the Proposed Development from the northern section of the road, where the Proposed Development crosses the lower, undulating slopes of Meikle Balloch Hill and across Hill of Greenwood, where three OHLs would be clearly prominent. There may be some brief, transient appreciation of small areas of felling within forestry on the edges of larger areas of forestry on Meikle Balloch Hill and Hill of Greenwood but tree loss would not be readily discernible due to adjacent retained woodland. Towers would be partially backdropped by forestry and rising landform, but some would appear in the skyline of views across Hill of Greenwood and to the east of Meikle Balloch Hill in particular. When approaching from the west there would be a very brief wirescaping effect in combination with the existing OHL as it crosses the A96. It would also be seen in conjunction with wind turbines around Coachford. Views of the Proposed Development are limited beyond Bridge of Gilatherbush at Cairnie, as the A96	<u>During Construction</u> Low to Medium (Coachford to The Bin) Negligible to Low (The Bin to Hillhead crossroads) Negligible (Hillhead crossroads to Glens of Foudland) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Low to Medium (Coachford to The Bin) Negligible to Low (The Bin to Hillhead crossroads) No Change (Hillhead crossroads to Glens of Foudland) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Low to Medium (Coachford to The Bin) Negligible to Low (The Bin to Hillhead crossroads)	<u>During Construction</u> Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant, Coachford to The Bin) Negligible to Minor Adverse (non-significant, The Bin to Hillhead crossroads) Negligible (non-significant, Hillhead crossroads to Glens of Foudland) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant, Coachford to The Bin) Negligible to Minor Adverse (non-significant, The Bin to Hillhead crossroads) Neutral (Hillhead crossroads to Glens of Foudland) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> 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
			travels south of The Bin and into The Bin Forest to the east. To the east of The Bin, the Proposed Development would become largely screened until east of Huntly, when the tops of towers would become visible across the more open ground, albeit towers would be largely backclothed by surrounding hills. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low to Medium for the section of the A96 between Coachford and The Bin; Negligible to Low for the section of the A96 between The Bin and Hillhead crossroads; and No Change for the section of the A96 between Hillhead crossroads and Glens of Foudland. The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> Screening would predominantly come from surrounding topography and coniferous woodland, with stretches of the A96 roadside being relatively open. There would therefore be little change in screening in summer months due to the limited deciduous vegetation. The Proposed Development would still be a prominent detracting feature in transient, intermittent views north from the A96, with visibility decreasing with distance away from Coachford and Meikle Balloch Hill. The magnitude of change is assessed as remaining Low to Medium for the section of the A96 between Coachford and The Bin; Negligible to Low for the section of the A96 between The Bin and Hillhead crossroads; and No Change for the section of the A96 between Hillhead crossroads and Glens of Foudland. The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is long-term.	No Change (Hillhead crossroads to Glens of Foudland)	significant, Coachford to The Bin) Negligible to Minor Adverse (non-significant, The Bin to Hillhead crossroads) Neutral (Hillhead crossroads to Glens of Foudland)
AB-T-2	Local roads between Coachford and Cobairdy <u>Representative viewpoints</u> VP34 Ardonald (Visualisation 7.34: Viewpoint 34: Ardonald); and VP38 Kinnoir (Visualisation 7.38: Viewpoint 38: Kinnoir) Receptor group can be found on Pages 18, 20 & 21 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> 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. Susceptibility to visual change is considered to be Medium. <u>Value</u> Minor roads are not identified to be nationally or regionally significant routes and there are detracting features in the landscape, but the area is used by tourists and holiday makers experiencing the landscape. A large section of the landscape is within the Deveron Valley SLA, and therefore regionally recognised. The value of the view is therefore recorded as Medium to High. <u>Sensitivity</u> Medium	<u>Existing View</u> Users of local roads between Coachford and Cobairdy experience a variety of views, from enclosed and intimate to more open and expansive, and from a variety of elevations through an undulating attractive landscape. There are slightly more elevated, open views to the east of Meikle Balloch Hill, and more contained views associated with The Bin Forest and through local valleys such as the River Deveron and Burn of Cairnie. Views are broadly contained by Meikle Balloch Hill to the northwest and The Bin to the south and are often limited to near or mid-distance views by large areas of woodland and forestry across the landscape. There are few notable detractors apart from the A96, wind turbines near Coachford (Cairn Hill and Ord Hill), an existing 275 kV OHL to the west, and infrastructure associated with the Aberdeen to Inverness railway line. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity would be intermittently visible for most users, due to the undulating topography and frequency of roadside trees, hedges, woodland and forestry containing views. Construction activity, small areas of felling and temporary access tracks would all be noticeable from local roads in closest proximity to the works, whilst the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing and tree removal would be more widely noticeable in glimpsed, transient views. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> 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 between blocks of woodland and forestry, and where in closer proximity to the Proposed Development. From more enclosed locations, in proximity to woodland and forestry, the Proposed Development would be visible between gaps in vegetation or leafless branches, or above tree lines and on the skyline where users are in closer proximity. The Proposed Development would introduce an additional detracting, prominent feature through an otherwise relatively unspoilt (though ordinary) landscape. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> While summer foliage would offer a degree of additional screening, views for local road users of the Proposed Development would not fundamentally change in summer months due to amount of coniferous (evergreen) planting in the landscape, and retention of more open vistas across farmland. Towers would remain either openly visible across undulating farmland or viewed above the tree line. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining Medium. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Medium	<u>During Construction</u> Moderate Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Moderate Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Moderate Adverse (significant)
AB-T-3	Users of the B9022 <u>Representative viewpoint</u> VP36 B9022, Deveron Valley	<u>Susceptibility</u> The B9022 is a fairly busy through-route connecting the A95 in the north, to the A96 at Huntly in the south. Users are likely to include tourists, as well as residents, commuters and commercial drivers. Susceptibility	<u>Existing View</u> Users of the B9022 experience a variety of views across the landscape, but the Aberdeenshire section of the route is located entirely within a landscape of recognised scenic value, being within the Deveron Valley SLA. Travelling northwards from the A96 at Huntly, users experience more open views of the surrounding near to mid-distant landscape but views quickly become enclosed through The Bin Forest. Travelling north and out of The Bin Forest, views open out across farmland and the River Deveron valley, although views remain enclosed by surrounding topography to the east and west, directing views north along the river valley until the junction of the B9118, where the B9022 leaves the River Deveron and crosses onto higher ground northwards, within Moray. The landscape is largely	<u>During Construction</u> Medium (2.5 km central section) Low (1 km northern section) No Change (3.5 km southern section)	<u>During Construction</u> Moderate Adverse (significant, 2.5 km central section) Minor Adverse (non-significant, 1 km northern section)

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 7.36: Viewpoint 36: B9022, Deveron Valley) Receptor can be found on Pages 20 & 21 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	to visual change is considered to be Medium. <u>Value</u> 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. The B9022 runs through a regionally designated landscape – the Deveron Valley SLA. The value of the view is therefore recorded as Medium to High. <u>Sensitivity</u> Medium	one of forestry cover and farmland with few detracting features except occasional wind turbines and OHLs. The railway line and river are distinctive features along the valley floor. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity would be predominantly screened from within, and to the south of, the Bin Forest due to topography and tree cover. The use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing may be visible on the skyline above intervening trees and hills, but they would occupy a very small and temporary portion of transient views. North of The Bin Forest,, construction activity would become clearly visible between The Bin Forest and the Aberdeen to Inverness railway line over a length of approx. 2.5 km. Construction activity, including small areas of felling and ground-level works such as temporary access tracks, would all be clearly noticeable from the road when in closest proximity to the works. This section of the road is visually more open, across farmland and river meadows, allowing clear visibility of machinery, people, and activity. Installation of towers, tree removal and stringing of the conductors would impinge into the skyline of views and be very prominent but within short, transient views. North of the B9022 / railway line crossing, and up to the Moray boundary at the River Isla crossing, visibility of construction activity reduces, although construction of towers to the southwest around Whitehill would be discernible on the skyline. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium for the 2.5 km stretch between The Bin and the railway crossing, Low for the 1 km stretch north of the railway crossing, and No Change for the 3.5 km stretch south of The Bin. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would primarily be visible through the valley of the River Deveron between The Bin Forest and the Aberdeen to Inverness railway line crossing, with a very short section of the tops of towers to the southwest also visible further north. The B9022 is relatively open through the section between The Bin Forest and the railway crossing, and as the Proposed Development crosses the B9022, river and railway, it would appear prominently on either side of the road and within the skyline to the east and west. Due to proximity, it would be seen over a large portion of the view, but in the context of the entire B9022 corridor, it would be seen in transient views only, and once past the crossing point, it would not be a focus of views. Its prominence would increase with proximity, but there would be no visible further south, and only limited visibility further north. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium for the 2.5 km stretch between The Bin and the railway crossing, Low for the 1 km stretch north of the railway crossing, and No Change for the 3.5 km stretch south of The Bin. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> The B9022 is relatively open through the central section and therefore there is insufficient intervening roadside vegetation to offer any additional screening in summer months. The Proposed Development would still be a prominent detracting feature in transient views from the road and appear in the skyline to the east and west. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining Medium for the 2.5 km stretch between The Bin and the railway crossing, Low for the 1 km stretch north of the railway crossing, and No Change for the 3.5 km stretch south of The Bin. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term.	<u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Medium (2.5 km central section) Low (1 km northern section) No Change (3.5 km southern section) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Medium (2.5 km central section) Low (1 km northern section) No Change (3.5 km southern section)	Neutral (3.5 km southern section) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Moderate Adverse (significant, 2.5 km central section) Minor Adverse (non-significant, 1 km northern section) Neutral (3.5 km southern section) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Moderate Adverse (significant, 2.5 km central section) Minor Adverse (non-significant, 1 km northern section) Neutral (3.5 km southern section)
AB-T-4	Users of the A97 <u>Representative viewpoint</u> VP38 Kinnoir is not on the A97 but can be referred to for an illustration of potential local views: (Visualisation 7.38: Viewpoint 38: Kinnoir) Receptor can be found on Pages 22 & 23 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Users of the A97 would include locals, commuters and commercial drivers for whom the landscape is peripheral to their journey. This is a slightly faster-speed road which slightly reduces the susceptibility of its users. Even so, susceptibility to visual change is considered to be Medium. <u>Value</u> The A97 is an important road in Scotland, linking Banff on the north coast, with the A96 at Huntly. It is located within a landscape that is regionally recognised – The Deveron Valley SLA. The value of the view is	<u>Existing View</u> Users of the A97 between Aberchirder and Huntly experience attractive and relatively open near to mid-distant views through the Deveron Valley SLA, although the A97 only borders the SLA between Cruchie and Huntly. Views are broadly contained by White Hill and Fourman Hill covered by Cobairdy Wood, and Hill of Mungo and Hill of Greenfold, covered by Kinnoir Wood, to the west of the A97, and by undulating landform to the east. The A97 is set within the broader valley of the River Deveron, although the river itself is not visible from the southern section of the A97 due to its location behind Fourman Hill. Areas of woodland and forestry on either side of the A97 and undulating topography create a varied visual experience, although the landscape is predominantly farmland with many local hill summits rising out of the river corridor. Detracting features are limited, the most notable within the SLA being the existing 400 kV OHL that crosses the A97 at the Bridge of Pitfancy and is prominent on the lower slopes of Fourman Hill to the west. Wind turbines and further existing OHLs become more prominent at the southern end of the A97 to the south and east, outside the SLA. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, small areas of felling through Longmoor Wood and Cruchie Wood, and construction of temporary access tracks, would all be noticeable on either side of the A97. Use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would also be readily noticeable in the skyline of near to mid-distant transient views when approaching from the north and south. Forestry and landform would interrupt the transient views apart from when in close proximity to the works, where the prominence of construction activity would increase sequentially. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium for up to 5 km in the central section between Costlyburn (east of Kinnoir Wood) and Boginbrae, Low for the southern 3 km and northern 3.5 km section, and No Change north of Auchingoul (south of Bridge of Marnoch). The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is short-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Medium (5 km central section) Low (3 km southern section and 3.5 km northern section) No Change (north of Auchingoul) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Medium (5 km central section) Low (3 km southern section and 3.5 km northern section)	<u>During Construction</u> Moderate Adverse (significant, 5 km central section) Minor Adverse (non-significant, 3 km southern section and 3.5 km northern section) Neutral (north of Auchingoul) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Moderate Adverse (significant, 5 km central section)

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
		therefore recorded as Medium to High . <u>Sensitivity</u> Medium	<u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> Users of the A97 would be aware of the Proposed Development on either side of the road between Kinnoir Wood to the south and the lower slopes of Fourman Hill around Boginbrae to the north, with intermittent, sequential visibility over a length of 5 km, with lessening prominence to the north and south over around 3 to 3.5 km respectively. From the central section of the road, there would be a brief, transient appreciation of small areas of tree loss within Longmoor Wood and Cruchie Wood to accommodate the OC but this would not be particularly noticeable against the overall perception of the Proposed Development. The Proposed Development would appear prominently through the farmed landscape, and seen in combination with the existing OHL, creating a brief wirescaping effect where they both cross the A97. Towers would partially be backdropped by forestry and the rising landform of Fourman Hill and The Bin Forest to the west but some would appear in the skyline of views. Roadside vegetation, woodland blocks, and topography would create a sequential experience when viewing the Proposed Development, with it increasing in prominence with proximity to it. Views would therefore be transient and at quite high speeds. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium for up to 5 km in the central section between Costlyburn and Boginbrae, Low for the southern 3 km and northern 3.5 km section, and No Change north of Auchingoul (south of Bridge of Marnoch). The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> The A97 is relatively open in near and mid-distance views and woodland blocks through the landscape are typically coniferous (evergreen) plantations, limiting change in summer. Whilst some deciduous roadside vegetation or small pockets of deciduous woodland would provide additional screening or breaking up of sequential views in summer months, the Proposed Development would remain a prominent detracting feature in transient, intermittent views, increasing in prominence with proximity to it. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining Medium for up to 5 km in the central section between Costlyburn and Boginbrae, Low for the southern 3 km and northern 3.5 km section, and No Change north of Auchingoul (south of Bridge of Marnoch). The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is long-term.	No Change (north of Auchingoul) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Medium (5 km central section) Low (3 km southern section and 3.5 km northern section) No Change (north of Auchingoul)	Minor Adverse (non-significant, 3 km southern section and 3.5 km northern section) Neutral (north of Auchingoul) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Moderate Adverse (significant, 5 km central section) Minor Adverse (non-significant, 3 km southern section and 3.5 km northern section) Neutral (north of Auchingoul)
AB-T-5	Local roads between Cruchie and Cuminestown <u>Representative viewpoints</u> VP40 B9025, Foreglen (Visualisation 7.40: Viewpoint 40: B9025, Foreglen); VP41 Kirkton of Auchterless (Visualisation 7.41: Viewpoint 41: Kirkton of Auchterless); VP42 Seggat (Visualisation 7.41: Viewpoint 41: Kirkton of Auchterless); VP43 Turriff (Visualisation 7.43: Viewpoint 43: Turriff); VP44 Balquhindachy (Visualisation 7.44: Viewpoint 44: Balquhindachy); and VP57 Inverkeithny	<u>Susceptibility</u> 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. Susceptibility to visual change is considered to be Medium . <u>Value</u> Minor roads are not identified to be nationally or regionally significant routes but the area may be used by tourists and holiday makers experiencing the landscape. Views have some detracting features within a landscape of ordinary scenic quality. The value of the view is therefore recorded as Low to Medium . <u>Sensitivity</u> Medium	<u>Existing View</u> Users of local roads between Cruchie in the west and Cuminestown to the east experience a variety of views across this wide geographical area, from more enclosed and intimate (such as around Idoch water) to more open panoramic views from a higher elevations, but all typically cross through a gently undulating and mostly farmed landscape. Pockets of woodland and local hills across the landscape contribute to the varied visual experience, but many open, far-distance views are afforded. There are various detracting features, which typically stand out in the open landscape, and include OHLs, wind turbines, telecommunications masts, frequent telegraph poles, and the A947 and A97. <u>View During Construction</u> Whilst the construction works would only be intermittently visible due to the undulating topography and occasional screening due to blocks of woodland and roadside vegetation, construction activity, including small areas of felling and creation of temporary access tracks, would all be noticeable from certain local roads, particularly where in proximity to the works. The use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be more widely visible on the skyline of views. Views would be transient, occasionally sequential on longer routes, and construction activity would be more visible or prominent where roads have open views across farmland or when in close proximity. Views of construction activity for some road users would be screened by intervening topography, vegetation or built form. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low to Medium . The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be intermittently visible for users of local roads depending on the direction of travel, intervening landform and vegetation, and proximity, but the full extent of towers would be visible across more open sections of the landscape. In proximity to woodland and forestry, the Proposed Development would be much more screened, although the tops of towers would be visible above tree lines. The Proposed Development would introduce an additional detracting feature through the farmed landscape, which at times would be prominent, but within transient views only. For many users, views of the Proposed Development would be screened due to direction of travel, or intervening topography, vegetation or built form. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low to Medium . The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> While summer foliage would offer a slight additional degree of screening, views of the Proposed Development for local road users would not fundamentally change in summer months through the relatively open, farmed landscape. The Proposed Development	<u>During Construction</u> Low to Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Low to Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Low to Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer)</u> Low to Medium	<u>During Construction</u> Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year 15 (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
	(Visualisation 7.57: Viewpoint 57: Inverkeithny) Receptor group can be found on Page 23 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations		would remain either openly visible across undulating farmland or viewed above the tree line of local blocks of woodland in transient views, whilst in many views, the Proposed Development would remain screened due to direction of travel, topography, vegetation or built form. The magnitude of change is assessed as remaining Low to Medium. The geographical extent is medium and the duration is long-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year 15 Summer)</u> Small areas of management felling planting back to the edge of the OC is likely to have re-established in this time and would be transiently noticed by local road users but would not change perception and views of the Proposed Development. The magnitude of change is assessed as remaining Low to Medium. The geographical extent is medium and the duration is long-term.		
AB-T-6	Users of the B9001 <u>Representative viewpoint</u> N/A Receptor can be found on Page 23 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> The B9001 is a fairly busy through-route connecting the A97 in the northwest with the A920 to the south of Rothienorman. Users are likely to include tourists as well as residents, commuters, and commercial drivers. Susceptibility to visual change is considered to be Medium. <u>Value</u> Minor roads are not identified to be nationally or regionally significant routes, although the B9001 may be used by tourists and holiday makers experiencing the landscape. Views contain detracting features including OHLs and wind turbines. The value of the view is therefore recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> Medium	<u>Existing View</u> The B9001 connects the A97 at Bogniebrae to the northwest with the A920 to the southeast, south of Rothienorman. Users of the B9001 experience a variety of views along the route, including enclosed views, but many views are through more open farmland, with a rolling topography and intermittent blocks of woodland. The landscape is predominantly farmed, with blocks woodland and coniferous plantation, although large areas of woodland becomes more sparse to the southeast. There are various detracting features across the landscape, including telephone poles, OHLs, and wind turbines. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity would be most visible between the Glendronach Distillery at Glendronach Burn in the north and Largue in the south, over a length of approx. 3 km. Construction activity, including small areas of felling through Drumblair Wood and construction of temporary access tracks, would all be noticeable from the road where it is in proximity to the works. Use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be more widely visible along the route, but views would be transient and sequential, with visibility of construction activity increasing with proximity to them. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium for the 3 km stretch between Glendronach Distillery and Largue, reducing to Low from Glendronach Distillery to the A97 junction (approx. 3.5 km) and from Largue to Nether Lenshie (approx. 4 km). The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> Users would experience intermittent and transient views of the Proposed Development, with visibility contained to the south of Largue and north of Glendronach Distillery by the local rolling topography, roadside vegetation and woodland. Views to the north of Glendronach Distillery and south of Largue would be limited by topography. The Proposed Development crosses the road immediately south of Drumblair and road users would see towers either in their entirety across open farmland, or above intervening vegetation in sequential views for approx. 3 km. The Proposed Development would be a prominent feature within the landscape particularly where it crosses elevated topography at Bogcoup (north of Frendraught House) to the west and Drumblair Wood and Hill of Denmoss to the east. The Proposed Development would detract from the rural landscape and add additional infrastructure into views, albeit transient, sequential views where the Proposed Development would appear increasingly less prominent with distance. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as Medium for the 3 km stretch between Glendronach Distillery and Largue, reducing to Low from Glendronach Distillery to the A97 junction (approx. 3.5 km) and from Largue to Nether Lenshie (approx. 4 km). The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> While deciduous vegetation associated with the Glendronach Burn, Burn of Templeland, and roadside vegetation would offer a degree of additional screening in summer months, much of the woodland is coniferous, with stretches of the B9001 through open farmland, such that the Proposed Development would remain a prominent detracting feature in transient views in summer. The Proposed Development would appear in the skyline, although increasingly backclothed with distance. The magnitude of change is assessed as remaining Medium for the 3 km stretch between Glendronach Distillery and Largue, reducing to Low from Glendronach Distillery to the A97 junction (approx. 3.5 km) and from Largue to Nether Lenshie (approx. 4 km). The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Medium (3 km central section) Low (northern approx. 3.5 km section and southern approx. 4 km section) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Medium (3 km central section) Low (northern approx. 3.5 km section and southern approx. 4 km section) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Medium (3 km central section) Low (northern approx. 3.5 km section and southern approx. 4 km section)	<u>During Construction</u> Moderate Adverse (significant, 3 km central section) Minor Adverse (non-significant, northern approx. 3.5 km section and southern approx. 4 km section) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Moderate Adverse (significant, 3 km central section) Minor Adverse (non-significant, northern approx. 3.5 km section and southern approx. 4 km section) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Moderate Adverse (significant, 3 km central section) Minor Adverse (non-significant, northern approx. 3.5 km section and southern approx. 4 km section)
AB-T-7	Users of the A947 <u>Representative viewpoint</u> N/A	<u>Susceptibility</u> Users of the A947 would include residents, commuters and commercial drivers for whom the landscape is peripheral to their journey. This is a slightly faster-	<u>Existing View</u> Users of the A947 between Turriff and Fyvie experience relatively attractive and contained views through the local valleys of the Burn of Turriff and River Ythan. Views are broadly contained by rolling landform either side of the road and intermittent blocks of woodland including Wood of Darra to the west, Crow Wood and Wood of Broadford (part of Wood of Hatton and Delgaty Forest) to the east near Turriff; and Braes of Slack o’Causeway / Foss Braes and woodland associated with Fyvie Castle. Areas of woodland on either side of the A947 and undulating topography create a varied visual experience within sequential views and the route feels relatively settled with	<u>During Construction</u> Medium (3 km central section only) Low (1.5 km north and 4 km south)	<u>During Construction</u> Moderate Adverse (significant, 3 km central section only) Minor Adverse (non-significant, 1.5 km

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 can be found on Pages 24 & 25 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	speed road which slightly reduces the susceptibility of its users. Susceptibility to visual change is considered to be Medium. <u>Value</u> The A947 is an important road in Scotland, linking Banff on the north coast, to Aberdeen, via Turriff. It travels through a generally ordinary, undesignated landscape containing detracting features such as OHLs and wind turbines. The route is likely to be used and valued by tourists. The value of the view is therefore recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> Medium	regular houses, farmsteads and road junctions through the farmed valley. There are regular historical landmarks around the route, as well as detracting features including an existing OHL that crosses the A947 to the north of Fyvie, and wind turbines. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, including felling through the Wood of Darra and construction of temporary access tracks and upgrades, would all be noticeable on either side of the A947 to the south of Turriff, but over a relatively short (3 km) length of the A947 between Boggieshalloch (south of Turriff) and Woodtown, to the west of Hatton Castle. Localised landform (including road cutting) and woodland would help to screen views from further south, particularly the lower-level construction works. Use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be more readily noticeable in the skyline across a greater distance when approaching from both the north and south, but would generally remain within near to mid-distant views. Woodland and landform would interrupt the transient views apart from when closest to the works, the prominence of which would increase sequentially with proximity. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium between Boggieshalloch (Turriff) and Woodtown (3 km) reducing to Low further north (1.5 km) and south (4 km). The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> Users of the A947 would be aware of the Proposed Development on either side of the road between Turriff to the north and the southern extents of Hatton Castle at Woodtown, with potential intermittent, sequential visibility over a length of approx. 3 km through the rolling, wooded landscape. There would be a brief, transient appreciation of an area of tree loss within the Wood of Darra to accommodate the OC but this would not change the overall perception of the Proposed Development, which would appear prominently through the farmed, local valley of the Burn of Turriff. Towers would be partially backdropped by woodland and rising topography either side of the A947 but would appear above the tree lines and landform in the skyline of sequential views with proximity. The Proposed Development would not be readily seen south of Woodtown and Hatton Castle due to landform and woodland, although the tops of some towers would be intermittently visible southwards from Acrestrype (approx. 4 km), albeit across a very small portion of the view. Views of the Proposed Development would also become rapidly screened north of Boggieshalloch by the built from of Turriff. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low to Medium between Boggieshalloch (Turriff) and Woodtown (3 km) reducing to Low further north (1.5 km) and south (4 km). The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> The A947 is relatively contained with intermittent blocks of deciduous woodland and vegetation along the Burn of Turriff and A947 corridor, which would serve to provide some additional screening in summer months. However, the Proposed Development would remain a prominent detracting feature between trees, with towers seen above intervening landform and vegetation within transient, sequential views from the north and south. Prominence of the Proposed Development would increase with proximity. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining Low to Medium between Boggieshalloch (Turriff) and Woodtown (3 km) reducing to Low further north (1.5 km) and south (4 km). The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is long-term.	<u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Low to Medium (3 km central section only) Low (1.5 km north and 4 km south) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Low to Medium (3 km central section only) Low (1.5 km north and 4 km south)	north and 4 km south) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant, 3 km central section only) Minor Adverse (non-significant, 1.5 km north and 4 km south) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant, 3 km central section only) Minor Adverse (non-significant, 1.5 km north and 4 km south)
AB-T-8	Local roads between Cuminstown and Nether Kinmundy (Netherton) <u>Representative viewpoints</u> VP45 Cuminstown; (Visualisation 7.45: Viewpoint 45: Cuminstown); VP46 New Byth (Visualisation 7.46: Viewpoint 46: New Byth); VP45 Cuminstown	<u>Susceptibility</u> 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. Susceptibility to visual change is considered to be Medium. <u>Value</u> Minor roads are not identified to be nationally or regionally significant routes but they may be used by tourists and holiday makers experiencing the landscape. Views are across a pleasant but ordinary landscape containing numerous detracting features. The value of the view is	<u>Existing View</u> Users of local roads between Cuminstown and Nether Kinmundy (Netherton) to the east experience a variety of views, from more enclosed and intimate, to open and panoramic across the gently undulating farmed landscape. The gentle landform and relative lack of large woodland blocks, along with a regular network of local roads and access tracks allow for frequent open and broad views through the farmed, settled landscape, although views are often contained to the mid-distance. Detracting features frequently stand out on the skyline of the open countryside, and include existing OHLs, frequent telegraph poles, wind turbines, and larger roads. The A981, A948, A952 and B roads connect the local towns of Cuminstown, New Deer, Maud, Mintlaw, Stuartfield and Longside and all contribute to feeling of a well settled, farmed landscape. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, including small areas of felling and construction of temporary access tracks or upgrades, would be noticeable from local roads in proximity to the Proposed Development, whilst the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be visible from a wider section of the minor road network due to their height and movement on the skyline. With distance, the construction works, particularly lower-level activity, would become more screened by intervening hills, built form, or vegetation (including field boundary and roadside vegetation such as managed hedgerows). Direction of travel would also influence visibility. Where in closer proximity to the works and across more open views, the magnitude of change is assessed as Medium. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is short-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Medium	<u>During Construction</u> Moderate Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Moderate Adverse (significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> 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 7.45: Viewpoint 45: Cuminstown); VP49 B9029, Maud (Visualisation 7.49: Viewpoint 49: B9029, Maud); VP50 Stuartfield (Visualisation 7.50: Viewpoint 50: Stuartfield); VP51 Skelmuir (Visualisation 7.51: Viewpoint 51: Skelmuir); VP52 Longside (Visualisation 7.52: Viewpoint 52: Longside); and VP53 Nether Kinmundy (Visualisation 7.53: Viewpoint 53: Nether Kinmundy) Receptor group can be found on Pages 24, 26, 27 & 29 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	therefore recorded as Low to Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> Medium	<u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be intermittently visible across the minor road network, with prominence increasing with proximity. The Proposed Development would be seen primarily within near to mid-distant views, and would be more noticeable where it crosses higher ground, increasing its visibility locally. It would be backclothed in many views, although would become clearly skylined for users in closer proximity. The Proposed Development largely parallels an existing 400 kV OHL between Crichtie and Netherton, which would introduce a degree of wirescaping, particularly where the Proposed Development diverges at North Auchtylair and Newton of Ludquhorn with the presence of angle towers. The Proposed Development would add an additional detracting, prominent feature through the farmed and settled landscape. Where in closer proximity to the works and across more open views, the magnitude of change is assessed as Medium. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> While summer foliage of roadside trees, hedgerows, and occasional woodland would offer additional screening from many roads, there would remain clear visibility of the Proposed Development through areas of more open farmland, particularly where in close proximity. The Proposed Development would remain either openly visible across the undulating farmland or viewed intermittently through vegetation within transient views. Where in closer proximity to the works and across more open views the magnitude of change is considered to remain Medium. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year 15 Summer)</u> Small areas of management felling planting back to the edge of the OC is likely to have re-established in this time and would be transiently noticed by local road users but would not change perception and views of the Proposed Development. The magnitude of change is assessed as remaining Medium. The geographical extent is medium and the duration is long-term.	<u>Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer)</u> Medium	<u>Operational Phase – Year 15 (Summer)</u> Moderate Adverse (significant)
AB-T-9	Users of the A981 (New Deer to A950) <u>Representative viewpoint</u> VP48 A961, New Deer (Visualisation 7.48: Viewpoint 48: A981, New Deer) Receptor can be found on Pages 26 & 27 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Users of the A981 would include local residents, commuters and commercial drivers for whom the landscape is more peripheral to their journey. This is a moderate to faster-speed road, which slightly reduces the susceptibility of its users. Even so, susceptibility to visual change is considered to be Medium. <u>Value</u> The A981 is an important road, linking Fraserburgh on the north coast, to New Deer. It travels through a generally ordinary, undesignated landscape containing detracting features such as OHLs and wind turbines. The route is likely to be used and	<u>Existing View</u> Users of the A981 between New Deer to the south and the junction with the A950 to the north experience attractive and varied views, including views enclosed by vegetation, to open views across farmland. Within the northern section (from the A950 junction), views east are contained by woodland associated with Bruckley Castle ruins, whilst the southern section of the A981 from near New Deer contains an area of woodland around New Deer Showground which helps break up views, although there are more open views across a gently undulating, farmed landscape between New Deer and west of Bruckley. This creates a varied visual experience within sequential views, although the farmland is relatively well settled. Culsh Monument can be seen to the west, particularly from the more open section south of Brucklay. There are few detracting features around this short (c5 km) stretch of the A981. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity, including lower-level construction works such as temporary access tracks or upgrades, as well as a short length of felling to the east of Bog of Artamford, would be particularly noticeable between the B9029 / B9028 junction (New Deer Showground) and Shevado Cottage / Pundlercroft, where construction works would occur either side of the A981. Use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, however, would be visible across the whole section of road between New Deer and the junction with the A950, although landform, vegetation, and built form would help limit visibility of construction activity beyond the A950 junction to the north. Installation of the towers (via crane), and stringing of the conductors (potentially via helicopter) would also be readily noticeable in the skyline of near to mid-distant intermittent views when approaching from north or south. Woodland and trees would partially interrupt the transient, sequential views, and the prominence and extent of construction works would increase sequentially with proximity. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium for a short 1.5 km	<u>During Construction</u> Medium (approx. 1.5 km - B9029 to Shevado Cottage section) Low (approx. 4 km - remaining sections north and south) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Medium (approx. 1.5 km - B9029 to Shevado Cottage section) Low (approx. 4 km - remaining sections north and south)	<u>During Construction</u> Moderate Adverse (significant) (approx. 1.5 km section) Minor Adverse (non-significant) (approx. 4 km - remaining sections) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Moderate Adverse (significant) (approx. 1.5 km section) Minor Adverse (non-significant) (approx. 4 km - remaining sections)

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
		valued by tourists. The value of the view is therefore recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> Medium	stretch from the B9029 / B9028 junction to Shevado Cottage / Pundlercroft junction, and Low for the remaining lengths. The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> Users of the A981 would be openly aware of the Proposed Development on either side of the road, mostly between the B9029 (New Deer Showground) and the southern extents of woodland associated with Bruckley Castle ruins, with intermittent, sequential visibility of the Proposed Development further south to New Deer, and north to the junction with the A950 – a total length of around 5.5 km through the gently undulating, farmed landscape. Views would be transient and sequential, with the Proposed Development appearing prominently and across the skyline when in closer proximity, with prominence reducing with distance. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium for a short 1.5 km stretch from the B9029 / B9028 junction to Shevado Cottage / Pundlercroft junction, and Low for the remaining lengths. The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> Roadside vegetation, small blocks of shelterbelt vegetation, and woodland associated with New Deer Showground and Brucklay Castle ruins, would serve to provide additional screening in summer months. However, the Proposed Development would remain a prominent detracting feature through more open sections of the road in close proximity, with towers seen in the skyline within transient, sequential views. The magnitude of change is assessed as remaining Medium for a short 1.5 km stretch from the B9029 / B9028 junction to Shevado Cottage / Pundlercroft junction, but reducing to Negligible to Low for the remaining lengths. The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is long-term.	<u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Medium (approx. 1.5 km - B9029 to Shevado Cottage section) Negligible to Low (approx. 4 km - remaining sections north and south)	<u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Moderate Adverse (significant) (approx. 1.5 km section) Negligible to Minor Adverse (non-significant) (approx. 4 km - remaining sections)
AB-T-10	Users of the B9106 <u>Representative viewpoint</u> N/A Receptor can be found on Pages 26 & 27 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> The B9106 is a fairly busy through-route connecting Maud with the A950 to the northeast and the A948 to the southwest. Users are likely to include tourists as well as residents travelling to and from their homes or places of work. It is a moderate speed road. Susceptibility to visual change is considered to be Medium. <u>Value</u> Minor roads are not identified to be nationally or regionally significant routes but the area may be used by tourists and holiday makers experiencing the landscape. Views have detracting features including OHLs and occasional wind turbines. The value of the view is recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> Medium	<u>Existing View</u> The B9106 connects Maud to the A948 to the southwest (c3.5 km) and the A950 to the northeast (c2.5 km), both sections running through gently undulating farmland with a relative lack of woodland through the landscape, apart from a belt of deciduous vegetation that follows the Formartine and Buchan Way to the east of the road. This allows for more open views from the B9106 into the mid-distance, which includes a well settled landscape of houses, farmsteads, and minor roads set within farmland. Detracting features include telephone poles, an existing 400 kV OHL crossing the A948 to the south, occasional wind turbines, and infrastructure associated with the village of Maud. The open, broad views are occasionally broken by larger blocks of woodland and lower hills to the east. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction of the Proposed Development would be visible primarily between Maud and the A948 over a length of approx. 3.5 km. Construction of lower-level works, including temporary access tracks, would be particularly noticeable around Drymuir, with works adjacent to the B9106. Use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be more widely visible due to their height and movement on the skyline of views. Visibility of construction works would be transient and sequential, and increasing with proximity to the works. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium for the Maud to A948 section (approx. 3.5 km), and Low for the Maud to A950 section (approx. 2.5 km). The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> Road users would experience open views of the Proposed Development through the section of the B9106 between Maud and the A948, as a result of gently rolling open farmland and a relative lack of intervening vegetation. Views to the east would be partially screened by vegetation belts following the Formartine and Buchan Way and around Bruckley Castle ruins, but towers would be visible above the tree line. Views west would be more open and a relatively long length of the Proposed Development is likely to be perceived. The Proposed Development crosses the road at Drymuir, in between the A948 and Maud, and road users would view towers in their entirety across a reasonable stretch of the route, including angle towers in mid-distant views to the west (at East Gowkhill) and the east (at Bulwark Moss / Gilkhorn). The Proposed Development would detract from the rural qualities of the road, and although the surrounding landscape is of ordinary scenic quality, the presence of an existing 400 kV OHL to the south in conjunction with the Proposed Development would increase the amount of infrastructure visible from the B91906. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as Medium for the Maud to A948 section (approx. 3.5 km), and Low for the Maud to A950 section (approx. 2.5 km). The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is short-term. <i>Summer</i> While deciduous vegetation associated with the Formartine to Buchan Way and some roadside vegetation would offer a slight additional degree of screening in summer months, views from the B9106 are predominantly open, across farmland. The Proposed	<u>During Construction</u> Medium (approx. 3.5 km Maud to A948 section) Low (approx. 2.5 km Maud to A950 section) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Medium (approx. 3.5 km Maud to A948 section) Low (approx. 2.5 km Maud to A950 section) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Medium (approx. 3.5 km Maud to A948 section) Low (approx. 2.5 km Maud to A950 section)	<u>During Construction</u> Moderate Adverse (significant) (approx. 3.5 km Maud to A948 section) Minor Adverse (non-significant, approx. 2.5 km Maud to A950 section) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Moderate Adverse (significant) (approx. 3.5 km Maud to A948 section) Minor Adverse (approx. 2.5 km Maud to A950 section) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Moderate Adverse (significant) (approx. 3.5 km Maud to A948 section) Minor Adverse (approx. 2.5 km Maud to A950 section)

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
			Development would therefore remain a prominent detracting feature in transient views from the road, through the open farmland and appear in the skyline to the east and west. The magnitude of change is assessed as remaining Medium for the Maud to A948 section (approx. 3.5 km), and Low for the Maud to A950 section (approx. 2.5 km). The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term.		
AB-T-11	Users of the B9030 <u>Representative viewpoint</u> VP50 Stuartfield is not on the B9030 but can be referred to for an illustration of potential nearby views: (Visualisation 7.50: Viewpoint 50: Stuartfield) Receptor can be found on Page 27 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> The B9030 is a fairly busy through-route connecting Stuartfield to the A948 at Auchnagatt to the south, and the A950 at Old Deer to the north. Users are likely to include tourists as well as residents travelling to and from their homes or places of work. Susceptibility to visual change is considered to be Medium. <u>Value</u> Minor roads are not identified to be nationally or regionally significant routes but the area may be used by tourists and holiday makers experiencing the landscape. Views contain occasional detracting features such as OHLs. The value of the view is therefore recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> Medium	<u>Existing View</u> The B9030 connects Stuartfield to the A948 at Auchnagatt in the south and the A950 at Old Deer to the north, through gently rolling farmland, Users experience open views along the route due to a relative lack of woodland through the landscape, although woodland associated with Aden Country Park, as well as rising hills to the west at Biffie, creates a more enclosed character around Old Deer. Local topography and vegetation also limits far-distance views around Upper Crichtie, between Jock’s Hill and Mains of Crichtie. The B9030 crosses relatively low-lying farmland, with views contained to near or mid-distant. Detracting features include telephone poles, an existing 400 kV crossing the B9030 near West Crichtie, and occasional wind turbines. The existing OHL is seen prominently in the skyline within near to mid-distant views. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction of the Proposed Development would be principally visible between Stuartfield and just north of Auchnagatt at Annochie, over a length of approx. 5 km. Construction of lower-level works, including temporary access tracks or upgrades, would be particularly noticeable around Upper Crichtie, due to works being adjacent to the B9030. Small areas of felling may also be noticeable to the east (between the B9030 and A952) and to the west (at Jock’s Hill) in mid-distant views but the use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would be more widely visible due to their height and movement on the skyline. Visibility of construction works would be transient and sequential, and increasing with proximity to the works. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium for the approx. 5 km section between Annochie and Stuartfield, and Low for the remaining section south to the A948 (approx. 0.5 km) and north of Stuartfield (approx. 3 km). The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> Road users would view towers in their entirety where they are adjacent to the road, including an angle tower adjacent, and two others visible, including one on Jock’s Hill. Upper portions of towers and conductors would be seen across a greater extent of the route, for around 5 km above intervening roadside and field boundary vegetation. To the east, the Proposed Development would be seen running in parallel with the existing 400 kV OHL for a short stretch, although it diverges around North Auchtylair, which would create a sight wirescaping effect. To the west of the B9030 the Proposed Development would be seen mostly as a new feature, independent of the existing 400 kv OHL, although visible concurrently across a wide portion of the landscape. The Proposed Development would detract from the rural qualities of the road, particularly to the west of the B9030, although the surrounding landscape is of ordinary scenic quality with existing detracting features. Views of the Proposed Development would be transient and sequential, increasing in prominence with proximity to it. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as Medium for the approx. 5 km section between Annochie and Stuartfield, and Low for the remaining section south to the A948 (approx. 0.5 km) and north of Stuartfield (approx. 3 km). The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term. <i>Summer</i> While summer foliage of roadside trees, hedgerows and occasional woodland through the surrounding arable farmland would offer a slight additional degree of screening, views of the Proposed Development would not fundamentally change in summer months through the relatively open, farmed and gently rolling landscape. The magnitude of change is therefore assessed as remaining Medium for the approx. 5 km section between Annochie and Stuartfield, and Low for the remaining section south to the A948 (approx. 0.5 km) and north of Stuartfield (approx. 3 km). The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Medium (approx. 5 km Annochie to Stuartfield section) Low (remaining approx. 3.5 km) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Medium (approx. 5 km Annochie to Stuartfield section) Low (remaining approx. 3.5 km) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Medium (approx. 5 km Annochie to Stuartfield section) Low (remaining approx. 3.5 km)	<u>During Construction</u> Moderate Adverse (significant, approx. 5 km Annochie to Stuartfield section) Minor Adverse (remaining approx. 3.5 km) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Moderate Adverse (significant, approx. 5 km Annochie to Stuartfield section) Minor Adverse (non-significant, remaining approx. 3.5 km) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Moderate Adverse (significant, approx. 5 km Annochie to Stuartfield section) Minor Adverse (non-significant, remaining approx. 3.5 km)
AB-T-12	Users of the A952 <u>Representative viewpoint</u> N/A Receptor can be found on Pages 26 & 27 of Figure 7.6: Visual	<u>Susceptibility</u> Users of the A952 would include local residents, commuters and commercial drivers for whom the landscape is largely peripheral to their journey. This is a slightly faster- speed road which reduces the susceptibility of users somewhat, but even so,	<u>Existing View</u> Users of the A952 between Mintlaw to the north and Ardallie to the south experience predominantly open views through gently rolling agricultural plains and a pleasant, though ordinary landscape. The farmland is well settled, with housing, minor road network, and the small settlements of Millbreck, Clola and Ardallie to the south of Mintlaw. An existing 400 kV OHL can be seen prominently in the skyline on either side of the A952 to the south of Clola. The background of views is typically formed by gentle, low-lying hills, farmland, and occasional blocks of coniferous woodland. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction of lower-level works, including temporary access tracks or upgrades, would be openly noticeable between Mintlaw and Ardallie over a length of approx. 9 km. The gently rolling landform and occasional blocks of woodland are likely to screen views beyond these areas to the north and south. Use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing would	<u>During Construction</u> Medium (approx. 1.5 km central Clola to Wester Pettymarcus section) Low to Medium (approx. 3 km section between Millbreck to Nether Kinknockie section)	<u>During Construction</u> Moderate Adverse (significant) (approx 1.5 km central Clola to Wester Pettymarcus section) Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant) (approx. 3 km section between

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
	Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	susceptibility to visual change is considered to be Medium. <u>Value</u> The A952 is an important road connecting the A90 in the north near Rathen with the A90 in the south near Ellon. The central section (Mintlaw to Ardallie) travels through a landscape of ordinary scenic value that contains occasional detracting features. The route is likely to be used and valued by tourists. The value of the view is therefore recorded as Medium. <u>Sensitivity</u> Medium	be more readily noticeable from a longer section of the route, due to their height and movement on the skyline. The prominence of construction works would increase sequentially with proximity. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium for the approx. 1.5 km section between Clola and Wester Pettymarcus; Low to Medium for the approx. 3 km section between Clola and Millbreck in the north and Wester Pettymarcus and Nether Kinknockie to the south; and Low between Millbreck and Mintlaw (approx. 2.5 km) in the north and Nether Kinknockie and Ardallie to the south (approx. 2 km). The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> Users of the A952 would be openly aware of the Proposed Development, mostly between Mintlaw and Ardallie. It would be seen in close proximity where it crosses the A952 south of Clola, and whilst it would be interrupted by localised landform and vegetation, the Proposed Development would increase in prominence with proximity to it. The Proposed Development would also be seen in conjunction with the existing 400 kV OHL, creating a degree of wirescaping where they are not quite in parallel (such as around North Auchtylair). The Proposed Development would appear prominently in the skyline, more so with closer proximity, with the proposed towers noticeably taller than those associated with the existing OHL. Views would be transient and sequential along this relatively high-speed road. The magnitude of change is assessed as Medium for the approx. 1.5 km section between Clola and Wester Pettymarcus; Low to Medium for the approx. 3 km section between Clola and Millbreck in the north and Wester Pettymarcus and Nether Kinknockie to the south; and Low between Millbreck and Mintlaw (approx. 2.5 km) in the north and Nether Kinknockie and Ardallie to the south (approx. 2 km). The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term <i>Summer</i> The A952 is relatively open with only occasional blocks of deciduous woodland in the wider landscape, Whilst this, along with roadside vegetation and field boundaries, would provide a small degree of additional screening in summer months, the Proposed Development would remain clearly visible, and increasingly prominent with proximity to it. The magnitude of change is assessed as remaining Medium for the approx. 1.5 km section between Clola and Wester Pettymarcus; Low to Medium for the approx. 3 km section between Clola and Millbreck in the north and Wester Pettymarcus and Nether Kinknockie to the south; and Low between Millbreck and Mintlaw (approx. 2.5 km) in the north and Nether Kinknockie and Ardallie to the south (approx. 2 km). The geographical extent is medium, and the duration is long-term.	Low (remaining approx .4.5 km between Mintlaw and Ardallie) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Medium (approx. 1.5 km central Clola to Wester Pettymarcus section) Low to Medium (approx. 3 km section between Millbreck to Nether Kinknockie section) Low (remaining approx .4.5 km between Mintlaw and Ardallie) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Medium (approx. 1.5 km central Clola to Wester Pettymarcus section) Low to Medium (approx. 3 km section between Millbreck to Nether Kinknockie section) Low (remaining approx .4.5 km between Mintlaw and Ardallie)	Millbreck to Nether Kinknockie section) Minor Adverse (non-significant, remaining approx. 4.5 km between Mintlaw and Ardallie) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Moderate Adverse (significant) (approx 1.5 km central Clola to Wester Pettymarcus section) Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant) (approx. 3 km section between Millbreck to Nether Kinknockie section) Minor Adverse (non-significant, remaining approx. 4.5 km between Mintlaw and Ardallie) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Moderate Adverse (significant) (approx 1.5 km central Clola to Wester Pettymarcus section) Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant) (approx. 3 km section between Millbreck to Nether Kinknockie section) Minor Adverse (non-significant) (remaining approx. 4.5 km between Mintlaw and Ardallie)

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
AB-T-13	Users of the Aberdeen to Inverness railway line <u>Representative viewpoint</u> N/A Receptor can be found on Pages 20 & 21 of Figure 7.6: Visual Amenity Receptors & Viewpoint Locations	<u>Susceptibility</u> Users of the Aberdeen to Inverness Railway Line 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. <u>Value</u> The route overlooks SLAs and the overall scenic value is considered to be high, although views from the railway line are not specifically celebrated in literature. The value of the view is therefore recorded as Medium to High. <u>Sensitivity</u> Medium	<u>Existing View</u> Users of the Aberdeen to Inverness Railway experience scenic views of Aberdeenshire, Moray and the Scottish Highlands, as it travels through a varied landscape. Users within the Aberdeenshire section experience scenic views through the River Deveron valley, designated as The Deveron SLA to the north of Huntly. Views are transient, and include open, mid to far-distant views, and views more contained by low, local hill summits and vegetation, with The Bin a noticeable landmark feature to the west beyond The Bin Forest. There are few detracting features within scenic views for railway users through this section, save for occasional wind turbines and more distant OHLs. <u>View During Construction</u> Construction activity would be principally visible between Tillytarmont and Whitehill Plantation in the north (to the north of The Bin) and Kinnoir Wood to the south over a length of approx. 7 km. Construction activity, small areas of felling and temporary access tracks would all be briefly but clearly noticeable from the railway where in closest proximity to the construction works at Lower Auchmill, where they would be adjacent to the railway line within open farmland. The installation of towers, tree removal, and ground-level works such as access tracks, would be briefly noticeable within this stretch, although with distance, only higher-level construction activity, including use of cranes for tower installation and potential use of helicopters for conductor stringing, would be noticeable. Views would be typically near-distance but highly transient and glimpsed, whilst travelling at higher speeds and the broader experience of views for rail users would not significantly change. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low to Medium for the 7 km stretch between Tillytarmont / Whitehill Plantation and Kinnoir Wood only. The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is short-term. <u>View During Operational Phase (Year of Opening)</u> <i>Winter</i> The Proposed Development would be clearly visible in views through the River Deveron valley between Tillytarmont / Whitehill Plantation to the north, and Kinnoir Wood to the south, but decreasing with distance. The railway is broadly contained through this section by landform and forestry, with The Bin and The Bin Forest containing views to the west, and the Hill of Mungo, Kinnoir Wood and Fourman Hill containing views to east. As the Proposed Development crosses the railway it would appear briefly but prominently on either side of the railway and within the skyline to the east and west. However, due to surrounding topography and forestry it would not be seen over a long extent at any point and in the context of the entire railway corridor would be seen only briefly. It would not change the overall experience of the landscape for railway users. The magnitude of change is assessed as Low to Medium. The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is short-term. <i>Summer</i> The railway is relatively open through this section and therefore there is insufficient intervening railside vegetation to offer any substantial screening in summer months. The Proposed Development would still be a prominent detracting feature in transient views from the railway and appear in the skyline to the east and west, albeit briefly. The magnitude of change is assessed as remaining Low to Medium. The geographical extent is low to medium, and the duration is long-term.	<u>During Construction</u> Low to Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Low to Medium <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Low to Medium	<u>During Construction</u> Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Winter)</u> Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant) <u>Operational Phase – Year of Opening (Summer)</u> Minor to Moderate Adverse (non-significant)