



By email only to: keith.smith@sse.com

Date: 29 April 2024

Our Reference: ECU00005074

Dear Keith,

ELECTRICITY ACT 1989

THE ELECTRICITY WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2017

On 4 March 2024 the Scottish Ministers received a request under regulation 8(1) of the Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017 (“the EIA Regulations”) from Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission Plc (“the Applicant”) for an EIA screening opinion for the construction and operation of one new permanent steel lattice tower and one temporary steel lattice tower on the existing Beaully to Denny overhead line, and approximately 105m of overhead line to tie into the Beaully to Denny overhead line to the proposed Cambushinnie 400kV substation. (“the proposed Development”) within Perth and Kinross Council planning authority area.

Under regulation 9 of the EIA Regulations, the Scottish Ministers are required to adopt a screening opinion for the proposed Development. This letter contains such a screening opinion.

Information Requirements

The EIA Regulations set out (at 8(2)) the information that must accompany any request for a screening opinion. The Applicant submitted a comprehensive description of the infrastructure to be installed and the works to be undertaken; a description of the location, surrounding area and of the area of land on which the proposed Development is proposed, and of environmental sensitivities of such areas; as well as a description of the aspects of the environment likely to be affected. A description of proposed mitigation measures were included in the screening report and taken into account by the Applicant’s own conclusions regarding the potential for significant environmental effects. A plan was submitted outlining the route plan for the proposed Development, and environmental designations and constraints.

The proposed Development will comprise:

- The construction and operation of one new permanent steel lattice tower and one temporary steel lattice tower on the existing Beauly to Denny overhead line, and approximately 105 m of overhead line to tie in the Beauly to Denny overhead line to the new proposed Cambushinnie 400kV substation.
- Ancillary development including temporary and permanent access tracks, temporary laydown areas and construction compound(s). Ground clearance including vegetation clearance.

Consultation

Regulation 8(5) of the EIA Regulations sets out that the Scottish Ministers must consult the planning authority as to the planning authority's views on whether the proposed Development is EIA development, unless the planning authority's views have already been conveyed to the Scottish Ministers. The Scottish Ministers consulted Perth and Kinross Council, as the relevant planning authority, on 5 March 2024. The planning authority responded on 21 March 2024, stating its view that the proposed Development does constitute EIA development.

The planning authority advised in its consultation response that, having taking account of the characteristics of the potential impact of the development, in terms of extent, scale, magnitude, complexity, probability, duration, frequency and reversibility, it is likely that the development would not have a significant effect on the environment. A detailed study through an **Environmental Impact Assessment Report EIAR is therefore not required.**

Scottish Ministers' Screening Opinion

EIA development is defined in the EIA Regulations, in respect of an application for consent under the Electricity Act 1989, as Schedule 1 development or Schedule 2 development likely to have significant effects on the environment by virtue of factors such as its nature, size or location.

The proposed Development falls under Schedule 2 development.

In adopting a screening opinion as to whether the proposed Development is EIA development, the Scottish Ministers must in all cases take into account such of the selection criteria in Schedule 3 of the EIA Regulations as are relevant to the proposed Development, and the available results of any relevant assessment.

The Scottish Ministers have taken into account the selection criteria, all of the information submitted in respect of the request for a screening opinion, and the views of Perth and Kinross Council and adopt the opinion that **the proposed Development does not constitute EIA development and any forthcoming application for consent (under section 37 of the Electricity Act 1989) does not require to be accompanied by a full Environmental Impact Assessment report.**

The planning authority's consultation response to the screening consultation is attached to this letter. In accordance with Regulation 7(2), this screening opinion is accompanied by the following written statement with reference to the selection criteria within Schedule 3 of the EIA Regulations as are relevant to the proposed Development. In accordance with the EIA Regulations, a copy of the screening opinion has been issued to the planning authority.

Written Statement

Characteristics of the Proposed Development

The proposed Development is described above. Having considered the information provided in the screening request, Scottish Ministers do not consider that there are likely to be significant effects with regards to the production waste, pollution and nuisances, risk of accidents or risk to human health.

It is not considered that the proposed Development would be out of scale with the existing environment. There is cumulative development with the proposed 400KV Cambushinnie substation, an additional proposed 132Kv underground cable to connect the proposed Cambushinnie substation at Braco West, one consented battery storage project 650m north of the proposed Development and one proposed 800m north of the proposed development.

The proposed development is required to facilitate the proposed new Cambushinnie substation. Perth and Kinross Council have under town and country planning regulations screened the proposed Cambushinnie substation and consider that EIA is not required.

Location of the Proposed Development

The proposed Development area is within an existing OHL wayleave and comprises agricultural grassland. The proposed Development sits on a moderately productive 2B Aquifer and a Groundwater Drinking Water Protected Area. The Applicant identified that Dry Modified Bog has developed within the wayleave for the existing overhead power line, on former coniferous plantation woodland, however due to its location and low ecological impact it is not considered that impacts are likely.

There are areas of ancient woodland approximately 1.43km southeast and the Ochil Hills Local Landscape Area is approximately 4.4km to the southeast, and the Braco Garden and Designed Landscape approximately 2.6km to the northeast. The Applicant states that high level walkover surveys undertaken have found the Proposed Development exhibited generally unsuitable habitats to support and/or maintain protected species. There is potential for the Proposed Development to impact on two Core Paths which are used by the public for recreational purposes.

There are a number of scheduled monuments, listed buildings, a battlefield, a conservation area and the Crocket Burn Sites and Monuments Record Entry in the wider area. It is not considered by the Applicant that these sites are in close proximity to the proposed Development or will have significant effects on historic or cultural heritage. The Planning Authority considers that the site and surrounding areas may have some archaeology potential and assets that may be affected.

Characteristics of the Potential Impact

Scottish Ministers do not consider that proposed Development will extend over a large area or be unusual. The impact will be permanent and mitigation measures have provided by the applicant. The proposed Development is an amendment to an existing line therefore it is not considered that there would be a large change in environmental conditions.

The proposed Development is required to facilitate the proposed Cambushinnie 400KV substation. Whilst there is the potential for cumulative development, Scottish Ministers note that Perth and Kinross Council do not consider under The Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017 that the substation requires EIA.

The Scottish Ministers therefore conclude that the effects of the proposed Development are not likely to be significant and that an Environmental Impact Assessment report shall not be required.

Proposed Mitigation Measures to Avoid or Prevent Significant Adverse Effects:

- General Environmental management plans;
- Species protection plans;
- Construction environment management plan; and
- Site waste management plans

This screening opinion does not constitute pre-application advice and is provided without prejudice to the assessment of any future application under Section 37 of the Electricity Act 1989.

Yours sincerely

Ian Black

Energy Consents Unit
(A member of the staff of the Scottish Ministers)



Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017

Regulation 8 SCREENING OPINION

This Screening Opinion considers whether the proposal is EIA Development as by having regard to the descriptions of development, and applicable thresholds and criteria, within either Schedule 1 or Schedule 2.

Part I – Particulars of Screening Request/Planning Application

Applicant's Name & Address	Agent/Applicant's Name & Address
Scottish Hydro Electric PLC 10 Henderson Road Inverness	Ian Black The Scottish Government [REDACTED]

Date Request/Application received	Application Ref. (if applicable)
06.03.2024	24/00373/SCRN

Part 2 – Information Provided by the Developer in the Screening Request Under Regulation 8(1)

Site Location	Description of Proposal
Land at 1.7 Km North West Of Tamano Farm Braco Dunblane FK15 9LP	Construction and operation of one new permanent steel lattice tower and one temporary steel lattice tower on the existing Braco to Dunblane overhead
Description of the Aspects of the Environment Likely to be Significantly Affected by the Proposed Development [8(2)(c)]	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. archaeology, b. surface flood risk, c. landscape and visual impact d. transport e. core paths
Description of Likely Significant Affects by the Proposed Development [8(2)(d)]
<p>Archaeology Hydrology and hydrogeology Landscape and Visual Impact Increased traffic Core Paths</p>
Description of Features or Proposed Measures to Avoid or Prevent Significant Adverse Effects on the Environment
<p>Submission of supporting evidence covering the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Archaeology survey • Noise figures from operation / construction of facility • Flood Risk and Drainage Impact Assessment • Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment • Transport Statement including Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP)

Part 3 – Particulars of Screening Decision

Perth and Kinross Council hereby give notice, in accordance with the provisions of The Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017 (hereafter referred to as the 'EIA Regulations') that the development referred to in Part I above is **not likely** to have significant effects on the environment. The Council's reasons for reaching this conclusion are set out below.

1. **Does the development fall within a description of development as defined in Schedule 1?**

YES		NO	X

2. Does the development fall within Schedule 2, AND if it does, are the stated threshold and criteria of this schedule also met?

The relevant extract from the table in Schedule 2 is set out below and highlights the thresholds and criteria for:

3 Energy Industry	
(a) Industrial installations for the production of electricity, steam and hot water (unless in schedule 1)	The area of the development exceeds 0.5 hectare, and occupies an area of approximately 44.3 hectares

This proposal qualifies as a Schedule 2 Development under the above regulations, as the proposal is for Industrial installations for the production of electricity, steam and hot water

3. Does the development fall within a sensitive area?

In terms of the EIA Regulations “sensitive area” means any of the following:

- (a) Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI);
- (b) Land subject to Nature Conservation Orders;
- (c) European Sites [Special Area of Conservation (SAC); an area classified under the Wild Birds Directive – Special Protection Areas (SPAs); OR a site housing a priority habitat or priority species being consulted upon (through the Habitats Directive)];
- (d) World Heritage Sites;
- (e) Scheduled Ancient Monuments;
- (f) National Scenic Areas;
- (g) National Parks; and
- (h) Marine Protected Areas.

Circular 1/2017 advises that the more environmentally sensitive the location, the more likely it is that the effects of a Schedule 2 development will be significant and will require EIA. For the purposes of reaching a screening determination special consideration will apply to these areas. In certain cases other statutory and non-statutory designations, which do not meet the definition of ‘sensitive areas’, but are nonetheless environmentally sensitive, may also be relevant in determining whether EIA is needed. These can include local landscape or biodiversity designations.

There are no “sensitive areas” as defined by the EIA regulations within

the site itself, or the immediate surrounding area.

4. Is the development likely to have a significant effect(s) on the environment?

Circular 1/2017 advises that the basic question to be asked is 'Would this particular development be likely to have significant effects on the environment?' by virtue of considering factors such as its nature, size or location, taking account of the selection criteria set out in Schedule 3 to the EIA Regulations; the information supplied by the developer; and the available results of any relevant assessment.

The selection criteria in Schedule 3 of the Regulations (Annex A of Circular 1/2017). The three categories of criteria are listed:

1. Characteristics of development
2. Location of development
3. Characteristics of the potential impact

The Scottish Government and The European Commission have prepared checklists to assist this process by providing a systematic approach to screening. Such checklists also provide a clear record of the basis for which the opinion was reached and as a point of reference for scoping opinions or queries.

I have taken cognisance of these checklists in the assessment of the characteristics and location of the development, and the potential impacts upon the environment are identified in Appendix 1 below. The potential significance of each environmental effect found has been used to decide whether the interaction between the development and location are likely to be significant.

It is the opinion of the planning authority, having taking account of the characteristics of the potential impact of the development, in terms of extent, scale, magnitude, complexity, probability, duration, frequency and reversibility, it is likely that the development would have a significant effect on the environment. A detailed study through an **Environmental Impact Assessment Report EIAR is therefore not required.**

This screening opinion does not constitute pre-application planning advice and any views or opinions expressed are made without prejudice to the Council's determination of any subsequent planning application. Therefore, this opinion should not be taken as implying that the planning authority considers this to be an acceptable development in this location. Pre-application advice can be obtained through the Council's fee paying pre-application service which can be found on the Council's website.

Sean Panton, Team Leader (Major Applications and Enforcement)

**Planning & Development
Perth and Kinross Council**

Dated: 20.03.2024

APPENDIX 1: EIA SCREENING CHECKLIST

APPLICATION REFERENCE: 24/00373/SCRN

SITE LOCATION: Land 1.7 Km North West Of Tamano Farm Braco Dunblane FK15 9LP
Cromlix

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL: Construction and operation of one new permanent steel lattice tower and one temporary steel lattice tower on the existing Beauly to Denny overhead line, and approximately 105 m of overhead line to tie in the Beauly to Denny overhead line to the new proposed Cambushinnie 400kV substation

DECISION: EIA NOT REQUIRED
DATE: 20 March 2024

	Yes/ No	Briefly describe	Is effect likely to be significant? Significance should be considered in terms of the extent, transboundary nature, magnitude and complexity, probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of any impact (s).
1. Characteristics of the Development	The characteristics of development must be considered having regard, in particular, to:		
(a) Scale of the development			
Will the development be out of scale with the existing environment?	Yes	The project will introduce infrastructure into the landscape.	Impact on landscape likely to be significant if not appropriately sited, designed or effectively screened. some screening in place now but additional landscaping will take time to establish. A LVIA should be submitted to address any impacts on views and landscape.
Will it lead to further consequential development or works (e.g. new roads, extraction of aggregate, generation or transmission of power)?	No		
(b) Cumulation with other development			
Are there potential cumulative impacts with other existing development or for proposed development in the planning system?	No		
Should the application for this development be regarded as an integral part of a more substantial project? If so, can related developments which are subject to separate applications proceed independently?	No		
(c) Use of natural resources			

	Yes/ No	Briefly describe	Is effect likely to be significant? Significance should be considered in terms of the extent, transboundary nature, magnitude and complexity, probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of any impact (s).
Will construction or operation of the development use natural resources i.e.		Development will result in use of land Classed as improved grassland	Extent of land take is considered to be small scale
• land (especially undeveloped or agricultural land)?	Yes		
• water or fisheries?	No		
• minerals or aggregates?	Yes	During construction period only	Not considered to be significant
• agriculture, forests and timber?	Yes	Site is located on an area of improved grassland	Extent of land take is considered to be small scale and directly related to use of land.
• energy including electricity and fuels?	Yes	During construction period and operation for storage	Once operational the site will use energy, but not considered to be of significant level. Construction period will also involve construction traffic but for temporary period only which can be mitigated. Not considered to be significant.
• any other resources?	No		
(d) Production of waste			
Will the development produce wastes during construction or operation or decommissioning?	Yes	During construction and operation period.	Not considered to be significant
• spoil, overburden or mine wastes?	Yes	During construction stage only. Waste associated with construction process.	Unlikely to have a significant impact at this location provided it is adequately controlled.
• municipal waste (household and/or commercial)?	No		
• hazardous or toxic wastes (including radioactive)?	No		
• other industrial process wastes?	No		
• surplus product?	No		
• sewage sludge or other sludges from effluent treatment?	No		
• construction or demolition wastes?	Yes	During construction only	Unlikely to be significant
• redundant machinery or equipment?	Possibly	Dependant on decommissioning	Duration of impact limited to construction and decommissioning activity
• contaminated soils or other material	No		
• agricultural wastes?	No		
• any other solid wastes?	No		
• liquid or solid wastes in suspension?	No		
(e) Pollution and nuisances			
Will the development cause noise and vibration or release of leachates, light, heat energy or electromagnetic radiation during construction or operation or decommissioning?	Yes	Construction phase could provide a source of noise, vibration and light.	Potential to be significant given proximity to residential receptors but could be controlled by conditions.

	Yes/ No	Briefly describe	Is effect likely to be significant? Significance should be considered in terms of the extent, transboundary nature, magnitude and complexity, probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of any impact (s).
	No		
Emissions from:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> combustion of fossil fuels from stationary or mobile sources? 	Yes	From vehicle movements associated with proposals at construction phase.	Not considered to be significant. Construction effect will be temporary.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> production processes? 	No		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> materials handling including storage or transport? 	Yes	During construction and operation stage. Export and import of materials	Duration of impact limited to construction and decommissioning activity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> construction activities including plant & equipment? 	Yes	Construction plant.	Duration of impact limited to construction and decommissioning activity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> dust or odours from handling of materials including construction materials, sewage & waste? 	No		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> incineration of waste? 	No		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> burning of waste in open air (e.g. slash material, construction debris)? 	No		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> any other sources? 	No		
Is there a potential risk from:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> leachates? 	Unlikely		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Escape of wastes or other products/by-products that may constitute a contaminant in the environment? 	Unlikely		
Will the development cause noise and vibration or release of light, heat energy or electromagnetic radiation? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> from operation of equipment e.g. engines, ventilation plant, crushers? 	No		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> from industrial or similar processes? 	No		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> from blasting or piling? 	No		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> from construction or operational traffic? 	Yes	Noise and vibration during construction and operation.	Could have an impact on residential amenity/neighbouring land use depending on hours associated with construction traffic and facility maintenance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> from lighting or cooling systems? 	Yes	Potential for lighting required during construction and operation phase for security purposes including CCTV.	Could have an impact on residential amenity/neighbouring land use depending on hours associated with construction traffic and facility maintenance

	Yes/ No	Briefly describe	Is effect likely to be significant? Significance should be considered in terms of the extent, transboundary nature, magnitude and complexity, probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of any impact (s).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> from sources of electromagnetic radiation (effects on nearby sensitive equipment as well as people)? 	No		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> from any other sources? 	No		
(f) Risk of accidents, having regard in particular to substances technologies used			
Will there be a risk of accidents during construction or operation of the development which could have effects on people or the environment?	No		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> from explosions, spillages, fires etc from storage, handling, use or production of hazardous or toxic substances? 	No		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> from events beyond the limits of normal environmental protection e.g. failure of pollution control systems? 	No		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> from any other causes? 	No		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> could the development be affected by natural disasters causing environmental damage (e.g. floods, earthquakes, landslip, etc)? 	No		
Will the development involve use, storage, transport, handling or production of substances or materials which could be harmful to people or the environment (flora, fauna, water supplies)?			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> use of hazardous or toxic substances? 	No		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> potential changes in occurrence of disease or effect on disease carriers (e.g. insect or water borne diseases)? 	No		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> effect on welfare of people (e.g. change of living conditions) 	No		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> effects on vulnerable groups (e.g. the elderly)? 	No		
(g) Risks to human health			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> arising from effects due to water contamination or air pollution etc. 	No		
(h) Other characteristics: potential physical changes (topography, land use, changes in waterbodies etc) from construction, operation or decommissioning of the development			

	Yes/ No	Briefly describe	Is effect likely to be significant? Significance should be considered in terms of the extent, transboundary nature, magnitude and complexity, probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of any impact (s).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> permanent or temporary change in land use, landcover or topography including increases in intensity of land use? 	Yes	Permanent loss of land. Land take for built development and infrastructure.	Unlikely to be significant given the extent of grassland lost
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> clearance of existing land, vegetation & buildings? 	Yes	Permanent loss of land. Land take for built development and infrastructure.	Unlikely to be significant given the extent of grassland lost
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> peat land disturbance and/ or degradation leading to: carbon release, damage to habitats, affecting land stability or hydrology? ff 	No		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> creation of new land uses? 	Yes	Permanent loss of improved grassland.	Scale of development unlikely to be significant given extent of agricultural land.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> pre-construction investigations e.g. boreholes, soil testing? 	Potentially		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> construction, demolition, reclamation or excavation works? 	Yes	Construction works will be undertaken.	Unlikely to be significant
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> temporary sites or housing for construction workers? 	Yes	Construction works will be undertaken.	Minor impact
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> above ground buildings, structures? 	Yes	Development will result in above ground structures within countryside location.	Effect on the environment relate mainly to landscape and visual impacts. Unlikely to be significant.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> underground works including mining or tunnelling? 	No		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> dredging? 	No		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> coastal structures (seawalls, piers)? 	No		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> offshore structures? 	No		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> production and manufacturing processes? 	No		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> facilities for storage of goods or materials? 	Yes	During construction period and operation period.	Unlikely to be significant
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> facilities for treatment or disposal of solid wastes or liquid effluents? 	Yes	During construction period	Unlikely to be significant
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> facilities for long term housing of operational workers? 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> new road, rail, air or sea traffic or infrastructure during construction or operation or decommissioning? 	No		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> new road, rail, air, waterborne or other transport infrastructure including new or altered routes and stations, ports, airports etc? 	No		

	Yes/ No	Briefly describe	Is effect likely to be significant? Significance should be considered in terms of the extent, transboundary nature, magnitude and complexity, probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of any impact (s).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> closure or diversion of existing transport routes or infrastructure leading to changes in traffic movements? 	Yes	There might be a requirement for traffic control measures when installing infrastructure.	Not considered to have significant impact.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> transport of personnel or materials for construction, operation or decommissioning? 	Yes	Construction and operation workers will be required to travel to site.	Not considered to be significant as for temporary period only
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> new or diverted transmission lines or pipelines? 	Yes	Infrastructure will require grid connection	May be significant depending on connection point and method used.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> any works requiring an authorisation under the Water Environment (Controlled Activities) (Scotland) Regulations 2005. impounding, damming, culverting, realignment or other changes to the hydrology of watercourses or aquifers? abstraction or transfers of water from ground or surface waters? 	No		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> changes in waterbodies or the land surface affecting drainage or run-off? 	Yes	Creation of hard surfaces reduces permeability of land	Mitigation measures may be required to prevent run off to water courses.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> long-term/ongoing activity during restoration or decommissioning which could have an impact on the environment? 	No		Panels will be ground mounted with no specific or significant foundations will be required to be removed.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> influx of people to an area either temporarily or permanently? 	Yes	Associated with construction and decommissioning	Minimal
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> introduction of alien species? loss of native species or genetic diversity? 	No	I	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> any other changes? 	No		
2. Location of the Development	The environmental sensitivity of geographical areas likely to be affected by development must be considered having regard, in particular, to:		
(a) Existing land use			
Are there existing land uses on or around the location which could be affected by the development, e.g. undeveloped land, Greenfield land, homes, other private property, industry, commerce, tourism and recreation, public open space, community facilities, agriculture, forestry, tourism, water catchments, functional floodplains, mining or quarrying?	Yes	Undeveloped land, woodland, residential properties Increase of hardstanding	Minimal impact

	Yes/ No	Briefly describe	Is effect likely to be significant? Significance should be considered in terms of the extent, transboundary nature, magnitude and complexity, probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of any impact (s).
Are there any areas on or around the location which is occupied by sensitive land uses e.g. hospitals, schools, places of worship, community facilities, which could be affected?	No		
Is the development located in a previously undeveloped area where there will be loss of greenfield land?	Yes	Located on grassland	Potential significant visual impact and loss of agricultural land
(b) Relative abundance, quality and regenerative capacity of natural resources in the area			
Are there any areas on or around the location which contain important, high quality or scarce resources which could be affected by the development?	No		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> groundwater resources 	Unkn own		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> surface waters 	Yes		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> forestry 	No		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> agriculture 	Yes	Improved grassland	Associated with use of land – not considered to be significant
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> fisheries 	No		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> tourism 	Yes	.The site is not crossed by any core paths or bounded by any.	Minor impact. No direct impact other than visual impact and or landscape character changes.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> minerals 	No		
(c) Absorption capacity of the natural environment			
Are there any areas on or around the location which are protected under international or national or local legislation for their ecological, landscape and visual, cultural or other value, which could be affected by the development? Particular attention should be paid to wetlands, watercourses or other waterbodies, the coastal zone, mountains, forests or woodlands, nature reserves and parks.	Yes poten tially	The site and surrounding area may have some archaeology potential and there are archaeological assets that may be affected.	Archaeological investigation may be required.
Are there any groundwater source protection zones or areas that contribute to the recharge of groundwater resources?	Unkn own		
Are there protected species in/around the location, for example European Protected Species, which could be affected?	No		

	Yes/ No	Briefly describe	Is effect likely to be significant? Significance should be considered in terms of the extent, transboundary nature, magnitude and complexity, probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of any impact (s).
Are there any routes or facilities on or around the location which are used by the public for access to recreation or other facilities, which could be affected?	Yes	Site immediately adjacent to core paths, and core paths within the site .	Minor impact.
Are there any areas or features of historical, cultural or archaeological significance on or around the location which could be affected?	Yes	The site and surrounding area may have some archaeology potential and there are archaeological assets that may be affected.	Archaeological investigation may be required.
Are there any areas on or around the location which are already subject to pollution or environmental damage e.g. where existing legal environmental standards are exceeded, which could be affected?	No		
Is the development in a location where it is likely to be highly visible to many people?	Yes	Height of structure means it will likely be visible, particularly from higher	Potentially significant – should be addressed in submission
Is the development in a densely populated area and/or likely to impact on a large number of people?	No		
Is the location of the development susceptible to earthquakes, subsidence, landslides, erosion, flooding or extreme or adverse climatic conditions which could cause the development to present environmental problems?	No		
3. Characteristics of the potential impact	Establishing the potential significant effects of development must be considered in relation to criteria set out under Sections 1 and 2 above, and having regard in particular to:		
(a) the extent of the impact (geographical area and size of the affected population); Potential impact as it could be visible or audible from adjacent settlement, particularly during construction. (b) the transfrontier nature of the impact; Extent of land take considered to be small. Any impacts are likely to be reversible. (c) the magnitude and complexity of the impact; Extent of land take considered to be small. Any impacts are generally reversible. (d) the probability of the impact; Potential impact as development borders existing settlement and could be visible or audible from adjacent settlement. (e) the duration, frequency and reversibility of the impact. The impacts of the development are reversible, but the development may have cumulative impacts in terms of landscape character, particularly given the size of land area impacted.			