

VOLUME 1: CHAPTER 4: SCOPE AND CONSULTATION

4.	SCOPE AND CONSULTATION	4-1
4.1	Introduction	4-1
4.2	Route and Alignment Stage Consultation	4-1
4.3	Screening	4-2
4.4	Scoping	4-2
4.5	Key Scoping Issues	4-2
4.6	Further Consultee Engagement	4-4
4.7	Gate Check	4-5
4.8	Issues Scoped into the EIA Report	4-7
4.9	Issues Scoped out of the EIA Report	4-7
4.10	Other Issues	4-10

Figures (Volume 2 of this EIA Report)

There are no figures associated with this Chapter

Appendices (Volume 4 of this EIA Report)

Appendix 4.1: Scoping Report – November 2024

Appendix 4.2: Scoping Opinion – February 2025

Appendix 4.3: Scoping Matrix

Appendix 4.4: Gate Check Report – June 2025

4. SCOPE AND CONSULTATION

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 The EIA Regulations require that an EIA should describe the likely significant effects of a proposed development on the environment. Scoping of potential likely significant effects having regard to the physical impacts of a proposed development provides a basis for ensuring that the assessment of environmental effects is appropriately limited to issues of genuine potential significance. This ensures a proportionate approach to EIA that is focused on likely significant effects to be considered and assessed. Consultation and engagement with stakeholders early in the process, with advice and input from key consultees being sought at the early stages of a project, helps greatly to inform decisions about the design and EIA work for a proposed development.
- 4.1.2 This Chapter describes the pre-application consultation, the Screening and Scoping process and further consultation that was undertaken to determine the scope of the EIA Report. This includes the consultations undertaken to inform the local community of the Proposed Development. This Chapter also includes a brief description of the environmental receptors of potential significance associated with the Proposed Development which are addressed in detail in the EIA Report, and those that are scoped out.

4.2 Route and Alignment Stage Consultation

- 4.2.1 SSEN Transmission has sought to maintain an open dialogue with local communities in the vicinity of the Proposed Development throughout the evolution of the project. This included carrying out consultation events during the routeing and alignment selection stages, engaging with community council, landowners, residents, community groups and businesses that may be affected by the Proposed Development. SSEN Transmission has held parallel communication with other stakeholders, including statutory consultees, to seek their views on the proposals at the routeing and alignment selection stages, which has led to key areas of design evolution and development.
- 4.2.2 The appraisal of route options was set out in a Consultation Document¹, published in February 2024, and presented at public consultation events held in the area local to the Proposed Development on the 20th and 21st February 2024. Comments received from all stakeholders (including members of the public) in response to the route stage consultation, were documented in a Report on Consultation², published in June 2024. The Report on Consultation also outlined the Applicant's responses provided at routeing stage consultation, along with confirmation of the action to be taken, where relevant. Decisions carried through to the alignment selection stage are described in **Chapter 2 - Routeing Process and Alternatives**.
- 4.2.3 Following confirmation of the proposed route, the appraisal of alignment options was set out in a Consultation Document³ published in October 2024 and presented at public consultation events held in the local area between the 7th - 10th October 2024. Comments received from all stakeholders (including members of the public) in response to the alignment stage consultation were documented in a Report on Consultation⁴, published in February 2025. The Report on Consultation also outlined the Applicant's responses provided at alignment stage consultation, along with confirmation of the action to be taken, where relevant. Further consultation events were held by the Applicant in the local area on the 3rd and 5th March 2025, to confirm the proposed alignment and address any questions from stakeholders in relation to that alignment.
- 4.2.4 Decisions taken into account through the design development are described in **Chapter 2 - Routeing Process and Alternatives**.

1 SSEN Transmission (February 2024) Glendye Wind Farm Overhead Line Grid Connection Consultation Document (Route Options)

2 SSEN Transmission (June 2024), Glendye Wind Farm Overhead Line Grid Connection: Report on Consultation (Route Options)

3 SSEN Transmission (October 2024) Glendye Wind Farm Overhead Line Grid Connection: Consultation Document: (Alignment Options)

4 SSEN Transmission (February 2025) Glendye Wind Farm Overhead Line Grid Connection: Report on Consultation (Alignment Options)

- 4.2.5 Both the route and alignment stage consultation processes, the consultation responses, SSEN Transmission's responses to the consultation feedback and the subsequent action that was taken where relevant, are further described in the Pre- Application Consultation (PAC) Report. This is included with the application as supporting information.

4.3 Screening

- 4.3.1 As outlined in **Chapter 1 – Introduction and Background**, the Screening Opinion provided by the Scottish Ministers in November 2024, confirmed that the Proposed Development constitutes 'EIA Development', and the application for consent under section 37 of the 1989 Act should be accompanied by an EIA Report (see **Appendix 1.2**).

4.4 Scoping

- 4.4.1 In November 2024, an EIA Scoping Report was submitted to Scottish Ministers by the Applicant to support a formal request under Regulation 12 of the EIA Regulations for a Scoping Opinion, to determine the information to be provided within the EIA Report (see **Appendix 4.1**).
- 4.4.2 A Scoping Opinion was provided by the Scottish Ministers on the 28th of February 2025 (see **Appendix 4.2**).
- 4.4.3 The responses contained within the Scoping Opinion were considered in detail during the EIA process. **Appendix 4.3** of this EIA Report includes a matrix detailing the key issues that were raised in the Scoping Opinion and how and where they are addressed in the EIA Report.

4.5 Key Scoping Issues

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

EIA Consultation and Scope

"Scottish Ministers expect the EIA report which will accompany the application for the Proposed Development to consider in full all consultation responses attached [to the Scoping Opinion]. Scottish Ministers are satisfied with the scope of the EIA set out within the topics of the scoping report".

- 4.5.2 A Scoping Matrix is included as **Appendix 4.3**, detailing the key issues raised in the Scoping Opinion and how and where they are addressed in the EIA Report.

Scoping Consultations

"It is recommended by Scottish Ministers that decisions on bird surveys – species, methodology, vantage points, viewsheds and duration – site specific and cumulative – should be made following discussion between the Company and NatureScot. It is also recommended the most up to date records should be sought from RSPB and the North East Raptor Study Group.

Scottish Ministers recommend attention be given to the further confidential response and advice issued by RSPB on 7 February 2024 for the requirement of species protection.

It is recommended by Scottish Ministers that attention should be given to the advice provided by Aberdeenshire Council regarding protected species".

- 4.5.3 The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) Scotland and NatureScot consultation responses received, together with potential effects on ornithology receptors, are discussed in **Chapter 8 – Ornithology**

and associated appendices. A data consultation exercise has been initiated with both the RSPB Scotland and the North East Raptor Study Group, however at the time of writing no data have been received.

Drinking Water and Scottish Water Assets

“Scottish Water provided information and advised the Proposed Development falls within the Inchgarth River Dee catchment which supplies Mannofield Water Treatment Works. They state that although there should be low risk, water quality mitigation will be required. They further advise of live infrastructure in the proximity of the Proposed Development. Scottish Ministers request that the company contacts Scottish Water...and makes further enquiries to confirm whether there are any Scottish Water assets which may be affected by the development, and includes details in the EIA report of any relevant mitigation measures to be provided.

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

- 4.5.4 A combination of desk studies and site survey work has been undertaken to ascertain the presence of Scottish Water assets and private water supplies as part of the assessment of impacts on the water environment. Further consultation with Scottish Water has also taken place for confirmative identification of private water supplies and relevant water infrastructure (see **Chapter 9 – Geology, Hydrology and Hydrogeology**).

Aquatic Ecology

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

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

- 4.5.5 Potential effects on fish species, aquatic ecology and ground water dependent terrestrial ecosystems (GWDTE's) are discussed within **Chapter 7 - Ecology**. Where appropriate, relevant mitigation measures would be incorporated into a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP), an outline of which is included in **Appendix 3.5**. The implementation and audit of these measures will be overseen by an Environmental Clerk of Works (EnCoW). SSEN Transmission's General Environmental Management Plans (GEMPs) (see **Appendix 3.3**) (specifically Working In, or near Watercourses) will be adhered to throughout construction. The requested checklist, containing all required information, has been provided to Marine Science Scotland at the time of submission of this application.

Peat Landslide Risk

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

- 4.5.6 A PLHRA has been carried out as part of the EIA Report and is included in **Appendix 9.1: Peat Landslide Hazard and Risk Assessment (PLHRA)** and referenced in **Chapter 9** of the EIA Report. This has been informed by a detailed peat depth probing exercise. A Peat Management Plan (see **Appendix 9.2**) and a Peatland Condition Assessment (see **Appendix 9.3**) has also been undertaken.

Visualisation Viewpoints

"Scottish Ministers recommend that viewpoints to be assessed within the landscape and visual impact assessment should be in consultation with Aberdeenshire Council".

- 4.5.7 Photomontage visualisations of the Proposed Development have been prepared to inform and support the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA), as discussed further in **Chapter 6 – Landscape and Visual**, with viewpoint location selection based on guidance, professional judgement and in light of comments received from both Aberdeenshire Council and NatureScot in their scoping responses.

Further Consultation

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

- 4.5.8 Further consultation has been carried out with relevant consultees on the noted topics, where required. Scottish Ministers have been kept informed of any further discussions with consultees during the Gate Check process (see **Section 4.7**).

Mitigation Measures

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

- 4.5.9 Proposed mitigation measures, where required, are set out within each technical chapter and collated within a tabulated Schedule of Mitigation, included in **Appendix 14.1 – Schedule of Mitigation**.

4.6 Further Consultee Engagement

- 4.6.1 Stakeholder consultation has been ongoing since the early stages of the Proposed Development and has continued throughout the scoping and EIA process. As described in **Section 4.2** of this Chapter, during the routeing and alignment selection stages of the Proposed Development, stakeholders were given the opportunity to provide feedback on the route, alignment and design solution options identified. All stakeholder responses received were summarised in the relevant Report on Consultation documents^{2,4}.

- 4.6.2 **Table 4.1** below provides a summary of some of the key meetings and engagement that has been undertaken by the Applicant with key stakeholders during the routeing, alignment and EIA stages of the Proposed Development.

Table 4.1: Summary of Further Consultee Engagement

Date	Consultation Type	Stakeholder Group in attendance
28 th March 2024	In person, Strachan	Feughside Community Council - community liaison meeting
15 th July 2024	Virtual via Microsoft Teams	Forestry and Land Scotland (FLS)
29 th August 2024	In person, Cairn o' Mount, walkover of one route option	Feughside Community Council, representatives from 'Save Our Mearns' and interested local residents
2 nd October 2024	Virtual via Microsoft Teams	FLS
8 th January 2025	Virtual via Microsoft Teams	National Gas
26 th November 2024-15 th January 2025	Via Email Correspondence	The James Hutton Institute – Glensaugh Research Farm

4.7 Gate Check

- 4.7.1 In accordance with the guidance for gate checking procedures *Good Practice Guidance for Applications under Section 36 and 37 of the Electricity Act 1989*⁵, a Gate Check Report was issued to the Energy Consents Unit (ECU) and key stakeholders in June 2025. The purpose of the Gate Check Report is to outline consultations with statutory and non-statutory consultees, engagement with the local community and how matters raised during the scoping process have been dealt with in the EIA Report. Key stakeholders are invited to comment on the Gate Check Report, to ensure they are satisfied with the approach taken within the EIA Report prior to submission of the section 37 application. A copy of the Gate Check Report is provided in **Appendix 4.4**.
- 4.7.2 Responses received from consultees to the Gate Check Report are summarised below in **Table 4.2** along with the actions to address the comments.

⁵ Energy Consents Unit (February 2022). Good Practice Guidance for Applications under Section 36 and 37 of the Electricity Act 1989 (online) Available at: <https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/advice-and-guidance/2022/02/good-practice-guidance-applications-under-sections-36-37-electricity-act-1989/documents/energy-consents-unit-good-practice-guidance-applications-under-section-36-37-electricity-act-1989-february-2022/energy-consents-unit-good-practice-guidance-applications-under-section-36-37-electricity-act-1989-february-2022/govscot%3Adocument/energy-consents-unit-good-practice-guidance-applications-under-section-36-37-electricity-act-1989-february-2022.pdf> (last accessed 08/10/2025).

Table 4.2: Summary of Gate Check Responses and Actions

Consultee	Summary of Response	Action Taken
NatureScot (21 st July 2025)	General agreement with scope and approach to EIA. Applicant to continue to pursue relevant raptor data from the North East Raptor Study Group.	As discussed in Chapter 8: Ornithology , repeated attempts have been made to obtain the relevant data. SSEN Transmission will continue to request this data from the North East Raptor Study Group.
Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) (24 th July 2025)	General agreement with scope and approach to EIA. Request for the Applicant to provide 14 months of Private Water Supply (PWS) monitoring, or to confirm there are no PWS within the relevant buffers as per SEPA's guidance.	Details of PWS monitoring surveys are provided in Chapter 9: Geology, Hydrology and Hydrogeology and Appendix 9.5: Private Water Supply Risk Assessment .
Aberdeenshire Council (8 th August 2025)	General agreement with scope and approach to EIA and the process of addressing earlier comments raised by Aberdeenshire Council. With regards to the socio-economic chapter, Aberdeenshire Council note that the applicant has considered an earlier version of the Aberdeenshire Community Wealth Building Charter for Energy Development. This document was agreed by full Council in June 2025.	This has been noted. Any further documentation has been given full consideration as discussed in Chapter 12: Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation .
Historic Environment Scotland (HES) (6 th August 2025)	Content overall with the details provided within the Gate Check Report, reflecting HES's involvement with the project to date. HES welcomed that the route taken forward at both route and alignment stages has sought to minimise impacts of setting of heritage assets within HES' remit. HES are content for Category-A buildings to be scoped out of assessment.	This has been noted.

4.8 Issues Scoped into the EIA Report

4.8.1 The following topics have been 'scoped in' to the EIA Report, as set out within the Scoping Report (see **Appendix 4.1**):

- Landscape and Visual;
- Ecology;
- Ornithology;
- Forestry;
- Cultural Heritage;
- Socio Economics, Tourism and Recreation;
- Geology, Hydrology and Hydrogeology; and
- Traffic and Transport.

4.9 Issues Scoped out of the EIA Report

4.9.1 It is considered that the following topics do not require detailed EIA work as they are deemed unlikely to give rise to significant effects. These topics were referred to in the Scoping Report (see **Appendix 4.1**), for 'scoping out' from further consideration within the EIA Report.

Land Use and Agriculture

4.9.2 Agricultural land within the vicinity of the Proposed Development comprises Class 6.3 in the west, and a mixture of Class 4.1, 5.2 and 5.3 in the east, according to the Macaulay System (now Hutton Institute) of Land Capability for Agriculture⁶. These land classifications typically indicate areas where rough grazing or pasture could occur, with a narrow range of crops possible in areas of Class 4.1. There are no areas classed as prime agricultural land (Class 1 to 3.1) crossed by the Proposed Development. Other common land uses within the vicinity of the Proposed Development include shooting on estate land, commercial forestry operations, peatland restoration schemes and electrical or energy infrastructure.

4.9.3 As set out in **Chapter 3 – The Proposed Development**, land use impacts associated with the Proposed Development are anticipated to be minimal. The construction work may result in some temporary loss of land or access restriction; however, it is considered that this can be adequately managed through wayleave agreements with the relevant landowners, and controlled as required through the Construction Environmental Management Plan (see **Appendix 3.5**), Construction Traffic Management Plan (see **Appendix 13.1**) and the Outdoor Access Plan (see **Appendix 12.1**). The permanent loss of land to pole locations would be negligible, as it would remain possible for grazing (the predominant agriculture type occurring within the Proposed Development) to continue around poles and under the OHL during their operational lifetime.

4.9.4 As construction effects would be minimal, and as it would remain possible for grazing to continue the operational lifetime of the Proposed Development, this topic has been scoped out of the EIA in its entirety. Dialogue would be maintained by the Applicant and the Principal Contractor with landowners throughout the construction period, to ensure any potential disruption as a result of the proposed construction works is minimised where possible.

4.9.5 No contaminated land was identified within the vicinity of the Proposed Development, therefore, no contaminated land assessment was undertaken as part of this EIA.

⁶ The James Hutton Institute (2020). Land Capability for Agriculture in Scotland (online) Available at: <https://www.hutton.ac.uk/land-capability-for-agriculture-lca/> (last accessed 08/10/2025).

Population and Human Health

- 4.9.6 The Proposed Development is located within a relatively remote and rural area. Settlement within the vicinity of the Proposed Development is concentrated to the east, whereby a number of scattered properties and farm buildings are present. The closest concentration of settlement to the Proposed Development is found at the villages of Drumlithie and Glenbervie, approximately 4.5 km and 4.4 km southwest respectively from the Proposed Development at its closest point. Another village, Auchenblae, is located approximately 3.2 km south at its closest point. Further afield, larger settlements comprise the village of Strachan, approximately 10 km to the northeast, and the town of Stonehaven, located approximately 7 km east of the Proposed Development.
- 4.9.7 The specific potential effects associated with construction and operation of the Proposed Development on population and human health that have been scoped out are set out below.
- Noise and vibration during the construction phase:
- 4.9.8 Construction noise and vibration would be short term and intermittent, with control of effects through the implementation of a noise management plan. This would be developed as part of the CEMP prepared by the Principal Contractor. As such and given the relative remoteness of much of the construction activity from areas of settlement, no detailed assessment of construction noise and vibration associated with plant noise or traffic is included within this EIA Report.
- Noise and vibration during the operational phase:
- 4.9.9 Given the nature of the Proposed Development, operational noise effects are expected to be very minimal. As such, and also considering its relative remoteness and distance from residential dwellings, no detailed assessment of operational noise is included within this EIA Report.
- Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMF):
- 4.9.10 EMFs arise from electric charges and current flow. The UK Health Protection Agency (HPA) is the government body responsible for policy and guidance of EMFs. Exposure guidelines for transmission lines have been developed by the International Commission on Non-Ionising Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) to ensure protection of human health in different situations, occupational exposure and public exposure, which have been adopted by the HPA for application in the UK. The Proposed Development will operate at 132 kV which generates a lower level of EMF than transmission lines of higher voltage. The Proposed Development will adhere to the relevant regulations and guidance relating to EMF and it was therefore concluded that no likely significant effect on human health associated with EMFs is predicted, with this topic scoped out of assessment in its entirety from this EIA.
- 4.9.11 Operational effects of additional electromagnetic interference (EMI) to medium and long wave amplitude modulation (AM) radio signals and TV signals:
- Electromagnetic interference to medium and long wave AM radio signals at properties within close proximity to OHLs can be known to occur. Corona discharge is unlikely to cause significant interference to very high frequency (VHF) reception (i.e. Frequency Modulation (FM) radio or digital radio and television which operate in the ultra-high frequency (UHF) range). Micro-gap discharge can affect digital television and radio reception but is not considered to be a source of long-term annoyance, as transmission equipment is built and maintained to high standards and any such discharge would be the subject of remedial action. Operational impacts to digital television, digital radio and FM radio reception from the Proposed Development was therefore scoped out of the assessment in its entirety from this EIA.
 - Potential effects from OHLs on TV signals can occur due to physical obstruction of the signal. The Proposed Development would not represent a significant obstruction, and it is not anticipated that any adverse effects on TV reception would be experienced. The operation of high voltage OHLs can generate electromagnetic fields over a wide range of frequencies, from power (50 Hz) to radio frequencies. It is anticipated that the Proposed Development would emit low-level radio frequency

interference (RFI) but that in practice little radio and television interference would arise, except when directly beneath the OHL. Therefore, this topic has been scoped out of the EIA in its entirety.

Air Quality and Climate Change

- 4.9.12 There is a potential for the Proposed Development to give rise to some localised and temporary construction related releases associated with dust and construction traffic exhaust emissions. However, the nature of construction activities means these would be localised, short term and intermittent. Emissions associated with the Proposed Development would be limited to temporary and short-term emissions of exhaust gases from vehicles and construction plant, and the potential for the release of carbon dioxide as a result of dewatering and exposing peat and peat soils during construction. Neither source is considered likely to be significant in terms of global warming potential (GWP)⁷.
- 4.9.13 The Proposed Development has been informed by a peat depth probing exercise, and measures to minimise impacts on peatlands are set out within an Outline Peat Management Plan, included within **Appendix 9.2**. A carbon calculator is also included in **Appendix 9.6**.
- 4.9.14 Any potential effects would further be minimised through the implementation of mitigation measures, in particular the project CEMP, which would be produced prior to commencement of construction by the Applicant and Principal Contractor. An Outline CEMP is provided in **Appendix 3.5: Outline CEMP**, along with relevant General Environmental Management Plans (GEMPs) listed in **Appendix 3.3: GEMPs**. Longer term, emissions would be limited to traffic exhaust emissions from intermittent maintenance vehicles, which is not considered likely to be significant in terms of GWP.
- 4.9.15 With regard to climate adaptation, consideration has been given to the potential implications of climate change on the Proposed Development design (e.g. design for increased flood risk and adverse weather); however, no potential for impacts have been identified.
- 4.9.16 The Proposed Development would contribute to connecting renewable electricity generation (namely, wind energy) capacity to the transmission network, in turn displacing emissions associated with fossil fuel-based electricity generation elsewhere. As such, this issue is scoped out of the EIA and no detailed assessment of air quality and climate change is included as part of this EIA Report.

Accidents and Disasters

- 4.9.17 Potentially significant effects which can arise in relation to accidents and disasters from developments of this type include severe weather events and structural damage to poles, as well as the potential for risks during the construction phase.
- 4.9.18 Given the nature of the Proposed Development, the potential for effects related to the vulnerability to accidents and disasters are considered likely to be limited to those associated with unplanned power outages, due to extreme weather or structural damage. Crisis management and continuity plans are in place across the SSE Group. These are tested regularly and are designed for the management of, and recovery from, significant energy infrastructure failure events. Where there are material changes in infrastructure (or the management of it) additional plans are developed.
- 4.9.19 Furthermore, the Principal Designer would need to fully assess risks and mitigate as appropriate during the construction stage, as part of the requirements of the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations (2015).

⁷ GWP is an index to measure how much infrared thermal radiation a greenhouse gas would absorb over a given time frame after it has been added to the atmosphere (or emitted to the atmosphere).

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

4.10 Other Issues

Aviation

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

Other Factors Identified in the EIA Regulations

- 4.10.2 The EIA Regulations⁸ introduced a number of factors to be considered within an EIA Report; specifically, those factors listed under Regulations 4(3) and 4(4), and Schedule 4. **Table 4.3** below describes how this EIA Report has addressed these factors.

Table 4.3: Assessment of Factors Identified in EIA Regulations 4(3), 4(4) and Schedule 4

Topic	Potential for Significant Effects
Population and Human Health	This Chapter explains that potential effects relating to population and human health from EMF, EMI, air quality, noise and / or vibration effects have been scoped out (see Section 4.9: Issues Scoped-out of the EIA Report). Potential effects on water supplies are considered in Chapter 9 - Geology Hydrology and Hydrogeology .
Biodiversity (in particular species and habitats protected under Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora)	The requirement to consider effects on biodiversity is addressed in Chapter 7 - Ecology, Chapter 8 – Ornithology, and Appendix 7.6- Outline Biodiversity Enhancement Management Plan .
Land and Soil (and natural resources availability)	The potential effects on geological receptors, peat and groundwater resources are considered in Chapter 9 - Geology Hydrology and Hydrogeology .
Water (and natural resource availability)	The potential effects on the water environment are considered in Chapter 9 - Geology Hydrology and Hydrogeology .
Air and Climate	This Chapter explains that potential effects on air and climate have been scoped out (see Section 4.9: Issues Scoped-out of the EIA Report).
Material Assets, Cultural Heritage	Chapter 10 - Cultural Heritage considers potential for effects on material assets and cultural heritage including archaeological assets and historic landscapes.
Landscape	Chapter 6 - Landscape and Visual considers the potential effects of the Proposed Development on landscape.
Major Accidents and Disasters	This Chapter explains that potential effects relating to the vulnerability of the Proposed Development to major accidents and disasters have been scoped out (see Section 4.9: Issues Scoped-out of the EIA Report).

⁸ The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017 (online) Available at <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2017/101/contents/made> (last accessed 08/10/2025)

Interaction Between Factors (cumulative effects)	The approach to cumulative effects is outlined within Chapter 5 – EIA Process and Methodology and is considered within each of the technical chapters (6 - 13) where appropriate. Cumulative effects are also summarised in Chapter 14: Summary of Effects .
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