



Scottish & Southern
Electricity Networks

TRANSMISSION

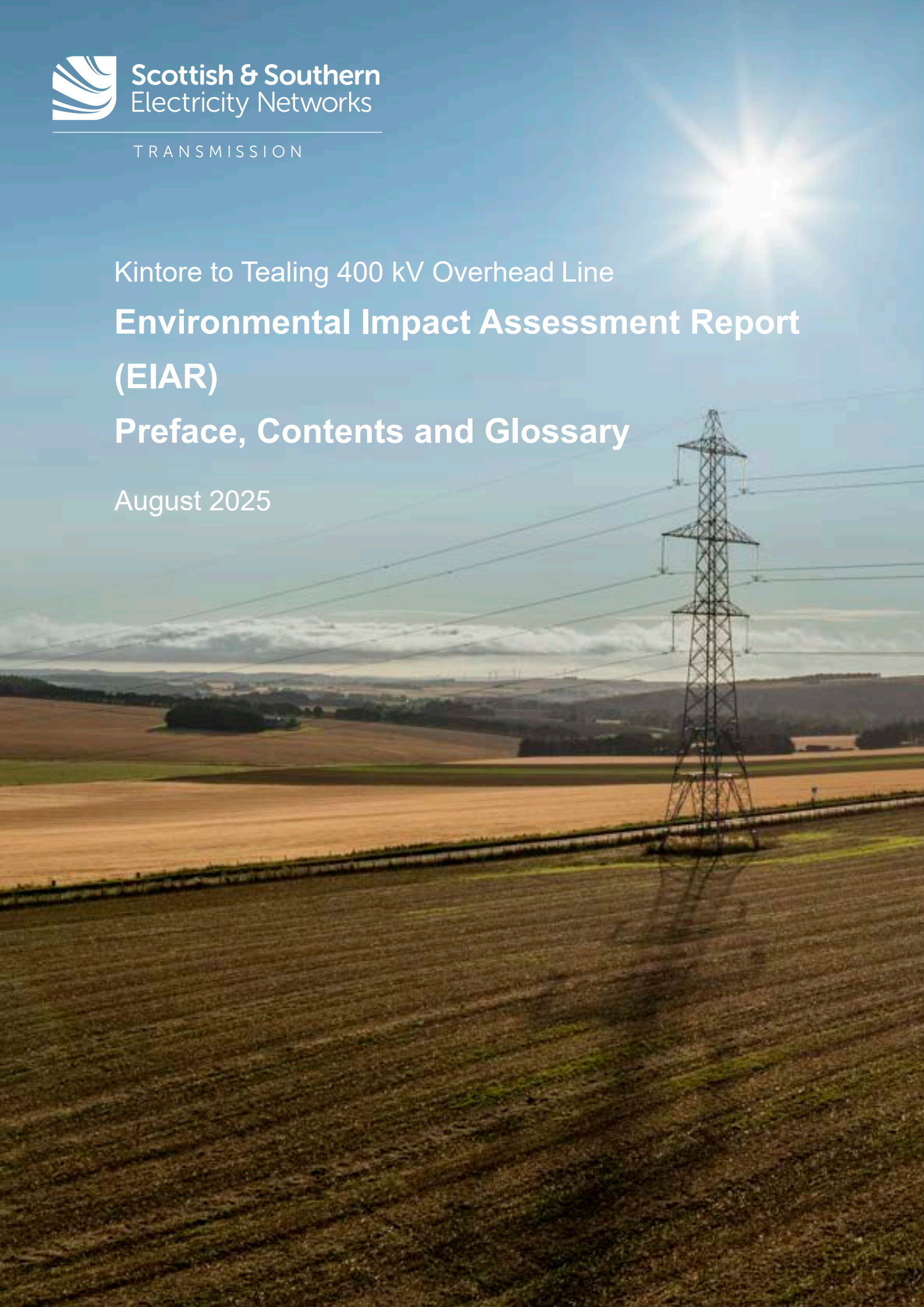
Kintore to Tealing 400 kV Overhead Line

Environmental Impact Assessment Report

(EIAR)

Preface, Contents and Glossary

August 2025



SSEN Transmission Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR)

**Prepared by LUC
On behalf of
SSEN Transmission
August 2025**



PREFACE

This Environmental Impact Assessment Report (hereafter referred to as 'EIAR') has been prepared by LUC on behalf of Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission plc (the Applicant) who, operating and known as Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks Transmission (SSEN Transmission), own, operate and develop the high voltage electricity transmission system in the north of Scotland and remote islands. The EIAR accompanies an application for Consent under Section 37 of the *Electricity Act 1989* (as amended) and Section 57(2) of the *Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997* to construct and operate approximately 105.2 kilometres (km) of new double circuit 400 kilovolts (kV) overhead transmission line (OHL) between Kintore and Tealing (hereafter referred to as the 'Proposed Development').

Given the length of the Proposed Development, for the purposes of this EIAR, the Proposed Development has been split into six defined geographic 'Sections' to more easily describe the Proposed Development and baseline environmental factors. These 'Sections', which were also adopted through the routeing and alignment selection stages of the project, are broadly defined as follows:

- Section A: Tealing to Forfar;
- Section B: Forfar to Brechin;
- Section C: Brechin to Laurencekirk;
- Section D: Laurencekirk to Hurlie substation;
- Section E: Hurlie substation to North of the River Dee; and
- Section F: North of the River Dee to Kintore Substation.

The EIAR comprises the following volumes:

- Volume 1: Main Report;
- Volume 2: Technical Chapters;
- Volume 3: Figures;
- Volume 4: Visualisations;
- Volume 5: Appendices; and
- Volume 6: Confidential Documents (Please note that Volume 6 is only available to statutory consultees and will not be available in the public domain).

In addition to the above, the application is accompanied by a Non-Technical Summary (NTS), Planning Statement, Socio-Economic Assessment, Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report and Electric and Magnetic Field (EMF) Study Report.

A copy of the NTS can be requested free of charge. A hard copy of the EIAR (Volumes 1-5 listed above) is available for £1000 or free of charge on a USB drive. An electronic version of the EIAR and reports supporting the application are available to download from the project website at <https://www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/projects/project-map/kintore-tealing-400kv-ohl-connection/>.

The EIAR and supporting documents are also available for public viewing online via the Energy Consents Unit (ECU) portal (www.energyconsents.scot).

Any public representations in response to the application may be submitted via the ECU website at www.energyconsents.scot/Register.aspx; by email to the Scottish Government, Energy Consents Unit mailbox at representations@gov.scot; or by post to: the Scottish Government, Energy Consents Unit, 4th Floor, 5 Atlantic Quay, 150 Broomielaw, Glasgow, G2 8LU, identifying the proposal and specifying the grounds for representation. The Applicant will advertise the submission of the Section 37 application in the local and national press (The Edinburgh Gazette) and on the dedicated project website. The advert will state the deadline for submitting representations to Scottish Ministers.

A hard copy of the EIAR and supporting documents will be available for public viewing during the application consultation period at the following addresses during normal opening hours:

Location	Opening Hours	Address
Angus Council, Angus House	Monday to Friday: 8am - 5pm	Orchardbank Business Park Orchardbank Forfar Angus DD8 1AN
Culter Library	Monday: 1pm-7pm Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday: 10am - 1pm & 2pm - 5pm Saturday: 10am - 1pm	189 North Deeside Road Peterculter Aberdeen AB14 0UJ
Fintry Library	Monday: 9am - 1pm & 2pm - 7pm Tuesday: 9am - 1pm & 2pm - 5.30pm Wednesday: 10am - 1pm & 2pm - 5.30pm Thursday: 9am - 1pm Friday: 9am - 1pm & 2pm - 5.30pm	1 Findcastle Street Dundee DD4 9EW
Inverurie Library	Tuesday: 8.45am - 5.15pm Wednesday: 8.45am - 5.15pm Thursday: 8.30am - 5.30pm Saturday: 10am - 2pm	Inverurie Town Hall Market Place Inverurie AB51 3SN
Mearns Community Library	Monday: 2pm - 6pm Wednesday: 10am - 3pm Thursday: 2pm - 6pm Saturday: 10am - 12pm	Mearns Community Campus Aberdeen Road Laurencekirk AB30 1ZJ
Stonehaven Library	Tuesday: 9am - 6pm Wednesday: 9am - 5pm Friday: 9am - 5pm Saturday: 10am - 2pm	Evan Street Stonehaven AB39 2ET
Westhill Library	Tuesday: 10am - 7pm Wednesday: 10am - 7pm Thursday: 10am - 6pm Saturday: 9am - 1pm	Westhill Primary School Westhill Drive Westhill AB32 6FY

Kintore to Tealing 400 kV Overhead Line

Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR)

August 2025

Contents

Volume 1: Main Text

- Chapter 1: Introduction and Background
- Chapter 2: Established Need for the Proposed Development
- Chapter 3: Project Description
- Chapter 4: Alternatives and the Routeing Process
- Chapter 5: EIA Process and Methodology
- Chapter 6: Scope and Consultation

Volume 2: Technical Chapters

- Chapter 7: Land Use and Prime Agricultural Land
- Chapter 8: Forestry
- Chapter 9: Landscape and Visual Amenity
- Chapter 10: Cultural Heritage
- Chapter 11: Ecology
- Chapter 12: Ornithology
- Chapter 13: Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Soils
- Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport
- Chapter 15: Noise and Vibration
- Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects
- Chapter 17: Schedule of Mitigation
- Chapter 18: Summary of Significant Effects

Volume 3: Figures

Chapter 1: Introduction and Background Figures

Figure 1.1: Overview of the Proposed Development

Chapter 2: Established Need for the Proposed Development Figures

There are no figures associated with this chapter.

Chapter 3: Project Description Figures

Figures 3.1.1 to 3.1.29: Proposed Development for which Section 37 Consent (*Electricity Act, 1989*) is sought

Figure 3.2: Overview of the Proposed Development and Local Authority Boundaries

Figures 3.3.1 to 3.3.29: Overview of the LOD Variations

Figures 3.4.1 to 3.4.3: Tower Design

Figure 3.5a-c: Indicative Cable Sealing End Compound Design

Figures 3.6.1 to 3.6.2: Typical Access Track Cross Sections (Indicative)

Figure 3.7: Typical Bellmouth Layout (Indicative)

Figures 3.8.1 to 3.8.19: Indicative Public Road Improvement Works

Figures 3.9.1 to 3.9.3: Passing Places Indicative Design

Figures 3.10.1 to 3.10.2: Typical Watercourse and Gas Main Crossings (Indicative)

Chapter 4: Alternatives and the Routeing Process Figures

Figure 4.1.1: Overview of Corridor Options

Figure 4.1.2: Corridor Options (Section 1)

Figure 4.1.3: Corridor Options (Section 2)

Figure 4.1.4: Preferred Corridor

Figure 4.2.1: Overview of Route Options - Sections A to F

Figures 4.2.2 to 4.2.7: Overview of Route Options - Section A to F

Figure 4.2.8: Preferred Route Prior to May 2023 Consultation

Figure 4.2.9: Preferred Route Following May 2023 Consultation

Figure 4.3.1: Overview of New Route Options - Sections D and E

Figure 4.3.2: New Route Options - Section D

Figure 4.3.3: New Route Options - Section E

Figure 4.3.4: New Route Option - Section F

Figure 4.3.5: Proposed Options Following March 2024 Consultation

Figure 4.4.1: Overview of Potential Alignment and Alternative Alignments - Sections A - F

Figures 4.4.2 to 4.4.7: Potential Alignment and Alternative Alignments - Section A to F

Figure 4.4.8: Design Development Locations

Figure 4.4.9: Proposed Alignment

Chapter 5: EIA Process and Methodology Figures

Figures 5.1.1 to 5.1.6: Cumulative Developments

Chapter 6: Scope and Consultation Figures

There are no figures associated with this chapter.

Chapter 7: Land Use and Prime Agricultural Land Figures

Figures 7.1.1 to 7.1.7: Land Capability for Agriculture

Figures 7.2.1 to 7.2.7: Recreational Assets

Chapter 8: Forestry Figures

Figures 8.1.1 to 8.1.15: Forestry Study Area

Figures 8.2.1 to 8.2.15: Baseline Age Class Structure

Figures 8.3.1 to 8.3.46: Baseline Species Composition

Figures 8.4.1 to 8.4.15: Proposed Development Felling Plan

Figures 8.5.1 to 8.5.15: Proposed Development Restocking Plan

Chapter 9: Landscape and Visual Amenity Figures

Figure 9.1: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Study Area

Figure 9.2a: Landscape Character Types Overview

Figures 9.2b.1 to 9.2b.6: Landscape Character Types

Figures 9.2c.1 to 9.2c.6: Landscape Character Types with Overhead Line Tower Height Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV)

Figure 9.3a: Overhead Line with Viewpoint Locations

Figures 9.3b.1 to 9.3b.6: Visual Receptor Area, Viewpoint Locations with Overhead Line Tower Height Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV)

Figures 9.4a.1 to 9.4a.6: Designated Landscapes

Figures 9.4b.1 to 9.4b.6: Designated Landscapes with Overhead Line Tower Height Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV)

Figures A9.3.1a to A9.3.1y: Residential Properties within 225m of Proposed Development

Chapter 10: Cultural Heritage Figures

Figures 10.1.1 to 10.1.27: Heritage Assets: Inner Study Area

Figures 10.2.1 to 10.2.11: Designated Heritage Assets: Outer Study Area (and those outwith the Outer Study Area included in the Assessment)

Chapter 11: Ecology Figures

Figures 11.1.1 to 11.1.23: The Proposed Development and Ecology Survey Area

Figures 11.2.1 to 11.2.5: Designated Sites within 10 km, 5 km and 2 km of the Proposed Development

Figures 11.3.1 to 11.3.38: Habitat Survey Results

Figures 11.4.1 to 11.4.23: National Vegetation Classification Survey Results

Figures 11.5.1 to 11.5.11: Areas of Guidance-Stated Potential Groundwater Dependency

Figures 11.6.1 to 11.6.23: Protected Species Survey Results

Figures 11.7.1 - 11.7.23: Bat Survey Results

See **Volume 6** for Confidential Figures 11.8.1 to 11.8.23: Confidential Protected Species Survey Results

Figures A11.5.1a to 11.5.1al: Baseline Habitats used in BNG Assessment

Chapter 12: Ornithology Figures

Figures 12.1.1 to 12.1.2: The Proposed Development and Ornithology Survey Area

Figures 12.2.1 to 12.2.2: Ornithological Designated Sites within 20 km and 5 km

Figures 12.3.1 to 12.3.8: Breeding Bird Surveys

Figures 12.4.1 to 12.4.5: Flight Activity Surveys

Figures 12.5.1 to 12.5.6: Winter Goose Foraging Surveys

See **Volume 6** for Confidential Figures A12.6.1 to A12.6.6: Confidential Breeding Schedule 1/Annex 1 species and black grouse

Figures A12.7.1 to A12.7.5: Bird Flight Diverter Placement

Chapter 13: Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Soils Figures

Figure 13.1: Hydrology Overview

Figures 13.2.1 to 13.2.26: Hydrology, Flood Risk and Buffers

Figures 13.3.1 to 13.3.15: Groundwater Abstractions, Water Supplies and GWDTE

Figure 13.4: Bedrock Geology

Figure 13.5: Superficial Geology

Figures 13.6.1 to 13.6.7: Soil Classification

Figures 13.7.1 to 13.7.7: Carbon and Peatland Classification (NatureScot, 2016)

Figures 13.8.1 to 13.8.26: Probe Depths

Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport Figures

Figure 14.1: Transport Assessment Survey Locations and Sections for Transport Assessment

Chapter 15: Noise and Vibration Figures

Figures 15.1.1 to 15.1.18: Noise Sensitive Receptors (NSRs)

Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects Figures

Figures 16.1.1 to 16.1.7: Cumulative Assessment

Chapter 17: Schedule of Mitigation

There are no figures associated with this chapter.

Chapter 18: Summary of Effects

There are no figures associated with this chapter.

Volume 4: Visualisations

Volume 4 a

Figure 9.05a-d VP1 Myreton of Claverhouse, southwest of Tealing

Figure 9.06a-h VP2 North of Balnuith

Figure 9.07a-c VP3 Cairns, Balkello Hill

Figure 9.08a-e VP4 A928 near Lumley Den

Figure 9.09a-f VP5 Milton of Ogilvie

Figure 9.10a-i VP6 Douglstown

Figure 9.11a-f VP7 Mains of Glamis

Figure 9.12a-d VP8 Balmashanner Hill

Figure 9.13a-f VP9 Padanaram

Figure 9.14a-d VP10 B957, near Kirriemuir

Figure 9.15a-f VP11 A90 near base of Carse Hill

Figure 9.16a-f VP 12 B957, near Cairnhill

Figure 9.17a-i VP13 Tannadice

Figure 9.18a-f VP14 Angus Hill Layby, B9134

Figure 9.19a-i VP15 Minor Road, east of Careston

Figure 9.20a-h VP16 Balhall Crescent

Figure 9.21a-f VP17 Western edge of Little Brechin

Figure 9.22a-d VP18 White Caterthun

Figure 9.23a-f VP19 Inchbare

Figure 9.24a-d VP20 Inveriscandye Road, southeastern edge of Edzell

Volume 4 b

Figure 9.25a-d VP21 Hill of Garvock

Figure 9.26a-d VP22 B9120, western edge of Laurencekirk

Figure 9.27a-d VP23 Minor road, west of Mains of Balnakettle

Figure 9.28a-f VP24 Minor road, northwest of Fordoun

Figure 9.29a-f VP25 Footpath off Hill View Road, Auchenblae

Figure 9.30a-i VP26 Glenbervie Road, west of Glenbervie

Figure 9.31a-i VP27 Minor road near Jacksbank

Figure 9.32a-c VP28 Nether Wyndings

Figure 9.33a-f VP29 Slug Road (A957), west of Roadside Cottage

Figure 9.34a-f VP30 Durris Bridge

Figure 9.35a-e VP31 Couper's Road

Figure 9.36a-d VP32 Drum Castle (also CH21) - from top of tower, approx 21m high

Figure 9.37a-f VP33 Little Eddieston

Figure 9.38a-d VP34 Meikle Tap

Figure 9.39a-f VP35 Footpath north of Echt

Figure 9.40a-f VP36 Barmekin Hill

Figure 9.41a-i VP37 Dunecht near the Primary School

Figure 9.42a-c VP38 North Leylodge

Volume 4 c

Figure A9.3.2a-b Dunian

Figure A9.3.3 Prieston Hill

Figure A9.3.4 Grieve's House

Figure A9.3.5a-b 5 Plans of Thornton

Figure A9.3.6 5 Jericho

Figure A9.3.7a-d Woodhead of Ballinshoe

Figure A9.3.8 Haughs Of Ballinshoe Farm

Figure A9.3.9 Cairnwell

Figure A9.3.10a-b Wolflaw

- Figure A9.3.11 Foreside of Cairn
- Figure A9.3.12 The Cairn
- Figure A9.3.13 Craigeassie Farm
- Figure A9.3.14 The Farmhouse
- Figure A9.3.15 Knowe Cottage
- Figure A9.3.16 Boggie
- Figure A9.3.17 Balmadity Farm House
- Figure A9.3.18 Dunswood
- Figure A9.3.19 Kirkside Of Lochty
- Figure A9.3.20 Lochty Houses / Culcairn
- Figure A9.3.21 Gungeon Cottage
- Figure A9.3.22 Mill of Cruick
- Figure A9.3.23 Nether Bellahill
- Figure A9.3.24 Mill Of Balrownie
- Figure A9.3.25 Westerly
- Figure A9.3.26 West Water House
- Figure A9.3.27 4 Westside Cottages
- Figure A9.3.28 Northgate
- Figure A9.3.29a-b Gawloch Farm
- Figure A9.3.30 Bungalow, Primerosehill
- Figure A9.3.31 Mains of Drumhendry Cottage
- Figure A9.3.32 Lady Jane Cottage
- Figure A9.3.33a-b Hairyholm
- Figure A9.3.34a-b Cowieshill Farmhouse
- Figure A9.3.35 Haughhead Cottages
- Figure A9.3.36 Redhall House
- Figure A9.3.37a-b Brownmuir House
- Figure A9.3.38 The Bungalow, Brownmuir Park
- Figure A9.3.39 The Neuk
- Figure A9.3.40 Kouloura House
- Figure A9.3.41 Knockbank
- Figure A9.3.42 Inches Cottage
- Figure A9.3.43 1 Jacksbank Cottages
- Figure A9.3.44a-b Nether Quithel Cottage
- Figure A9.3.45 2 Annamuick Cottages
- Figure A9.3.46a-d Mill of Mergie

Figure A9.3.47 Wainsgate
Figure A9.3.48 Milton
Figure A9.3.49 Wester Durris
Figure A9.3.50 Old West Lodge
Figure A9.3.51 Woodside
Figure A9.3.52 Lochwood Cottage
Figure A9.3.53 Woodbank House
Figure A9.3.54 Hill of Park
Figure A9.3.55 The Suffolk, Broomfield Steading
Figure A9.3.56a-b Monyburn Cottage
Figure A9.3.57 West Cullerlie Cottage
Figure A9.3.58 Little Finnercy Cottage
Figure A9.3.59a-b South Monecht Farm
Figure A9.3.60a-b South Monecht Cottage
Figure A9.3.61 Myriewell House
Figure A9.3.62 Cairntoul
Figure A9.3.63a-b Old Wester Echt Cottage
Figure A9.3.64 Old Wester Echt
Figure A9.3.65 New Wester Echt
Figure A9.3.66 Upper Corksie
Figure A9.3.67 Wester Letter Steading
Figure A9.3.68 Bogfold
Figure A9.3.69 Leylodge Schoolhouse
Figure A9.3.70a-b Southside Cottage Leylodge
Figure A9.3.71 South Leylodge Steading
Figure A9.3.72 North Leylodge Farm
Figure A9.3.73 Beeches, Leylodge
Figure A9.3.74 Hillcrest

Volume 4 d

Figure 10.3a-c CH01 Craig Hill, Fort and Broch (SM 3038)
Figure 10.4a-o CH02 Balkemback Cottages Stone Circle (SM 2868)
Figure 10.5a CH03 Carlunie Hill Cairn (SM 6449)
Figure 10.6a-c CH04 Arniefoul Cairn (SM 389)
Figure 10.7a-d CH05 Glamis Castle (LB 11701) / Glamis Castle GDL (GDL 189)
Figure 10.8a-d CH06 Glamis Castle (GDL 189)
Figure 10.9a-d CH07 St Orland's Stone (SM 90270)

- Figure 10.10a-b CH08 St Orland's Stone (SM 90270)
- Figure 10.11a-f CH09 Ballinshoe Castle (SM 162)
- Figure 10.12a-f CH10 Battledykes Cairn (SM 7234)
- Figure 10.13a-h CH11 Law of Baldoukie, Barrow (SM 6314)
- Figure 10.14a-f CH12 Finavon, Fort (SM 139)
- Figure 10.15a-i CH13 Law of Windsor, Cairn (SM 3375)
- Figure 10.16a-f CH14 Careston Castle (LB 4656)
- Figure 10.17a-d CH15 Stracathro House (LB 17803)
- Figure 10.18a-f CH16 Stracathro Roman Camp (SM 2829)
- Figure 10.19a-d CH17 Witch Hillock Burial Mound and Stone Setting (SM 4823)
- Figure 10.20a-b CH18 Balbegno Castle (LB 6754)
- Figure 10.21a-b CH19 Phesdo House (LB 9646)
- Figure 10.22a-c CH20 Glenbervie GDL (GDL 194)
- Volume 4 e**
- Figure 10.23a CH21 Glenbervie House (GDL 194)
- Figure 10.24a-i CH22 Droop Hill, Cairns (SM 4778)
- Figure 10.25a-d CH23 Cairn o' Mount Cairns (SM 4968)
- Figure 10.26a-f CH24 Raedykes, Roman Camp (SM 1016)
- Figure 10.27a-f CH25 Cairn-mon-earn Cairn (SM 4892)
- Figure 10.28a-f CH26 Park House GDL (GDL 309)
- Figure 10.29a-d CH27 Park House GDL (GDL 309)
- Figure 10.30a-h CH28 Park House GDL (GDL 309)
- Figure 10.31a-d CH29 Normandykes Roman Camp (SM 2478)
- Figure 10.32a-d CH30 Drum Castle (LB 3113) / Drum Castle GDL (GDL 141)
- Figure 10.33a-f CH31 Tillyorn Moated Homstead (SM 12161)
- Figure 10.34a-e CH32 East Finnercy, Cairn (SM 6076)
- Figure 10.35a-c CH33 Dunecht House GDL (GDL 153)
- Figure 10.36a-f CH34 Dunecht House (LB 3133) / Dunecht House GDL (GDL 153)
- Figure 10.37a-b CH35 Barmekin Hillfort (SM 57)
- Figure 10.38a-f CH36 New Wester Echt, Stone Circle (SM 6074)
- Figure 10.39a-d CH37 Upper Corskie Stone Circle and Pictish Symbols (SM 6075)
- Figure 10.40a CH38 Glack Cairn (SM 12120)
- Figure 10.41a CH39 South Fonet Stone Circle (SM 12353)
- Figure 10.42a-f CH40 South Leylodge Steading, Stone Circle (SM 12350)

Volume 5: Appendices

Chapter 1: Introduction and Background Appendices

There are no appendices associated with this chapter.

Chapter 2: Established Need for the Proposed Development Appendices

There are no appendices associated with this chapter.

Chapter 3: Project Description Appendices

Appendix 3.1: Tower Schedule

Appendix 3.2: General Environmental Management Plans (GEMPs) and Species Protection Plans (SPPs)

Appendix 3.3: Outline Site Restoration Plan

Appendix 3.4: Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP)

Appendix 3.5: Public Road Improvement Works (See Volume 6 for Confidential Annex 3.5.1)

Appendix 3.6: Outline Decommissioning Mitigation Strategy

Chapter 5: EIA Process and Methodology Appendices

Appendix 5.1: The EIA Team

Chapter 6: Scope and Consultation Appendices

Appendix 6.1: Scoping Report

Appendix 6.2: Scoping Opinion

Appendix 6.3: Consultation Matrix

Appendix 6.4: Gate Check 1 Report

Appendix 6.5: Peatland Carbon Emissions Assessment

Chapter 7: Land Use and Prime Agricultural Land Appendices

Appendix 7.1: Outline Outdoor Access Management Plan

Appendix 7.2: Aviation Impact Assessment

Chapter 8: Forestry Appendices

Appendix 8.1: Compensatory Planting Management Strategy

Appendix 8.2.1: Balkemback Farm

Appendix 8.2.2: Lady Jane's Plantation

Appendix 8.2.3: Inches, Burn of Guinea Wood, Burnhead Woodland

Appendix 8.2.4: Loch of Park

Appendix 8.2.5: Wester Letter Forest & (part of) Drum Hill

Appendix 8.2.6: Belliehill Wood

Appendix 8.2.7: Forestmuir Wood

Appendix 8.2.8: Ballinshoe Wood

Appendix 8.2.9: Tillybrigg, Tillyfoddie, Scaur, Culfosie, Barmekin, Myriewell

- Appendix 8.2.10: Durris Church Woodland
- Appendix 8.2.11: Small Woodlands Reports
- Appendix 8.2.12: Lochty Wood
- Appendix 8.2.13: Duns Wood
- Appendix 8.2.14: Quartains Woodland
- Appendix 8.2.15: Coldstream Plantation
- Appendix 8.2.16: Boggie Wood
- Appendix 8.2.17: King's Seat Wood
- Appendix 8.2.18: Drum Hill
- Appendix 8.2.19: Balrownie Wood
- Appendix 8.2.20: Den wood
- Appendix 8.2.21: Justinhaugh
- Appendix 8.2.22: Rickarton Estate
- Appendix 8.2.23: Kintore Garage Woods
- Appendix 8.2.24: Wood of Redhall
- Appendix 8.2.25: Inveriscandye Wood
- Appendix 8.2.26: South Kirkton Wood and Marketmuir Wood
- Appendix 8.2.27: North Kirkton Wood
- Appendix 8.2.28: Boggendinnie, Corskie Wood, & Kinnernie Burn Wood
- Appendix 8.2.29: Netherpark Quarry Woodland
- Appendix 8.2.30: Fetteresso
- Appendix 8.2.31: Capo Plantation
- Appendix 8.2.32: FLS Durris Forest (Main Block)
- Appendix 9.2.33: Free Church Wood
- Appendix 8.2.34: Inverury Forest
- Appendix 8.3: Native Broadleaved Woodland Management Strategy

Chapter 9: Landscape and Visual Amenity Appendices

- Appendix 9.1: Landscape Assessment
- Appendix 9.2: Visual Assessment
- Appendix 9.3: Residential Visual Amenity Assessment
- Appendix 9.4: Cumulative Landscape and Visual Assessment
- Appendix 9.5: LVIA and Visualisations Methodology
- Appendix 9.6: Outline Landscape Mitigation Design Guide

Chapter 10: Cultural Heritage Appendices

- Appendix 10.1: Baseline Characterisation Methodology

Appendix 10.2: Cultural Heritage Consultation Responses

Appendix 10.3: Cultural Heritage Viewpoint Information

Appendix 10.4: Cultural Heritage Baseline Conditions

Appendix 10.5: Cultural Heritage Assets within the Inner Study Area

Appendix 10.6: Inner Study Area: Predicted Effects

Appendix 10.7: Designated Heritage Assets in the Outer Study Area

Appendix 10.8: Listed Buildings in Conservation Areas and Townscapes

Appendix 10.9: Designated Heritage Assets outwith the Outer Study Area

Appendix 10.10: Detailed Assessment of Designated Heritage Assets in the Outer Study Area

Appendix 10.11: Detailed Assessment of Designated Heritage Assets outwith the Outer Study Area

Appendix 10.12: Stone Circles Mitigation Response

Chapter 11: Ecology Appendices

Appendix 11.1: Desk Study and Legal/Policy Context

Appendix 11.2: Habitat and Vegetation Survey Report

Appendix 11.3: Protected Species Survey Report

Appendix 11.4: Bat Survey Report

Appendix 11.5: Outline Biodiversity Enhancement Plan

See Volume 6 for Confidential Appendix 11.6: Confidential Protected Species Survey Report

Chapter 12: Ornithology Appendices

Appendix 12.1: Ornithology Technical Report

See Volume 6 for Confidential Appendix 12.2: Confidential Ornithology Report

Appendix 12.3: Shadow Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA)

Chapter 13: Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Soils Appendices

Appendix 13.1: Watercourse Crossing and Buffers Assessment

Appendix 13.2: Private Water Supply and Groundwater Abstraction Assessment

Appendix 13.3: Peat Depth Survey Report

Appendix 13.4: Outline Peat Management Plan (PMP)

Appendix 13.5: Groundwater Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystems (GWDTE) Assessment

Appendix 13.6: Peat Landslide Hazard and Risk Assessment (PLHRA)

Appendix 13.7: Contaminated Land Reports

Appendix 13.8: Flood Modelling Study Report

Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport Appendices

Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment

Chapter 15: Noise and Vibration Appendices

Appendix 15.1: Noise Sensitive Receptors (NSRs)

Appendix 15.2: Construction Activity

Appendix 15.3: Construction Noise Impact Assessment

Appendix 15.4: Operational Noise Impact Assessment

Volume 6: Confidential Documents

Please note that Volume 6 is only available to statutory consultees and will not be available in the public domain.

Chapter 3: Confidential Project Description Documents

Annex 3.5.1: Confidential Annex to Appendix 3.5: Public Road Improvement Works

Chapter 11: Confidential Ecology Documents

Figures 11.8.1: 11.8.23 Confidential Protected Species Survey Results

Appendix 11.6: Confidential Protected Species Survey Report

Chapter 12: Confidential Ornithology Documents

Figures A12.6.1 - A12.6.6: Confidential Breeding Schedule 1/Annex 1 species and black grouse

Appendix 12.2: Confidential Ornithology Report

GLOSSARY

Term	Definition
400 kV	400 kilovolt (400,000 volt) operating voltage electrical circuit.
AADT	Annual Average Daily Traffic. The average over a full year of the number of vehicles passing a point in the road network each day.
AC	Alternating Current. An electric current that periodically reverses its direction and changes its magnitude continuously with time (in contrast to DC) and the form in which electric power is delivered to residences and businesses.
ACAS	Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service (ACAS) has the role of locating, evaluating, safeguarding, and interpreting all archaeological sites within four council areas (Aberdeenshire Council, Moray Council, Angus Council and Aberdeen City Council). This information is held in the Historic Environment Record (HER, formerly known as the Sites and Monuments Record), which is publicly accessible online.
Access Strategy	Method for provision of access to facilitate construction activities, including the nature, indicative location and extent of temporary access tracks, permanent access tracks and road improvements.
ACoW	Archaeological Clerk of Works. Independent person(s) employed for the purpose of overseeing and managing archaeological matters on a development site and advising on the mitigation of impacts on the archaeological resource.
AGL	Above Ground Level. A height measurement with respect to the underlying ground surface.
Agreement to Grant a Servitude	Agreement negotiated between the Applicant and a landowner whereby they undertake to grant a Wayleave, to be followed by a Deed of Servitude upon construction of the OHL.
AIL	Abnormal Indivisible Load. Loads/vehicles which exceed the maximum vehicle weight, axle weight or dimensions which are set out in the <i>Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986</i> as amended.
AIS Substation	An Air Insulated Switchgear (AIS) Substation is constructed with switchgear which relies on open air components, which can require large clearance areas for operation and safety, which takes up a larger area of land than Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS).
ALARP	As Low As Reasonably Practicable. A risk management principle that aims to minimise risks to the lowest level that is reasonably practicable.
Alignment	A centre line of an OHL along with the location of key angle structures.
Alternative Alignment	A section of an Alignment where there are different ways to avoid or minimise interaction with localised constraints.
Ambient Noise Level	The all encompassing noise level measured in $L_{Aeq,T}$. The Ambient Noise Level incorporates background sounds as well as the industrial source noise under consideration.
Amenity	Can refer to the natural environment, cultural heritage, or landscape and visual quality. Also includes the impact of SSEN Transmission's works on communities, such as the effects of noise and disturbance from construction activities.
AMIOA	Associate Member of the Institute of Acoustics
AMP	Access Management Plan. A document which includes measures for the management of existing public access during the construction and operation of the Proposed Development.
Ancient Woodland	As defined by The Scottish Ancient Woodland Inventory (AWI). Ancient Woodland (categories 1a and 2a) is interpreted as semi-natural woodland from maps of 1750 (1a) or 1860 (2a) and continuously wooded to the present day. If planted with non-native species during the 20th century they are sometimes referred to as Plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites (PAWS).
Angle Tower	Support structure (tower) which allows a change in direction of the OHL.

Term	Definition
Annex I (as listed on the European Community (EC) Habitats Directive)	Annex I to the EC Habitats Directive lists the types of habitats and the animal and plant species whose conservation requires the designation of special areas of conservation. Some are defined as 'priority' habitats or species in danger of disappearing and for which there are specific rules.
AOD	Above Ordnance Datum. Refers to the height of a location measured above a specified vertical reference point known as the Ordnance Datum, typically based on mean sea level.
Applicant	Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission plc operating and known as Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks Transmission (SSEN Transmission), who own, operate and develop the high voltage electricity transmission system in the north of Scotland and remote islands.
Associated Works	Other works likely to be required to facilitate construction of the Proposed Development, or would occur as a result of its construction and operation, such as borrow pits and quarries to source stone for access tracks, temporary construction compounds, and modification of the existing electricity distribution network to accommodate crossings of the proposed OHL. These works do not form part of the Proposed Development and are not assessed in detail in the EIAR
ASTI	Accelerated Strategic Transmission Infrastructure. A new regulatory framework for Transmission Operators (including SSEN Transmission) to obtain regulatory approval of the economic case for delivery and funding of qualifying infrastructure projects required to deliver the UK Government's ambition to connect up to 50GW of offshore wind generation to the network by 2030.
ATC	Automatic Traffic Count (survey). Equipment which is laid across a road and measures traffic characteristics such as the number of vehicles passing over it, speed and classification.
ATI	Ancient Tree Inventory. A record of ancient, veteran and notable trees in the UK.
ATV	All Terrain Vehicle
Background Noise Level	The noise level in the absence of the industrial source noise under consideration, measured in L _{A90} .
BAI	Bat Activity Index
BAP	Biodiversity Action Plan
Baseline Conditions	The physical, chemical, biological and cultural setting in which the Proposed Development is to be located, and where local impacts (both beneficial and adverse) might be expected to occur.
BBS	Breeding Bird Survey. The BBS is the main scheme for monitoring the population changes of the UK's common and widespread breeding birds.
BCT	Bat Conservation Trust. A charity organisation specialising in the protection and conservation of bats and their habitats around the UK. They fund and conduct research on bats and publish best practice guidelines for bats and development.
Bellmouth	Widened areas of access tracks at the junction of the track with the public road to facilitate turning of heavy vehicles into and out of the track.
BEP	Biodiversity Enhancement Plan
BESS	Battery Energy Storage System
BFD	Bird Flight Diverter
BGN	Background noise (BGN) is the noise level in the absence of the industrial noise source under consideration.
BGS	British Geological Survey
BHSS	British Horse Society Scotland
The Birds Directive	The Birds Directive is the short name for Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the conservation of wild birds.

Term	Definition
	This Directive requires the classification of European sites known as Special Protection Areas for species on Annex I but also provides legal protection for all wild bird, their nests, eggs and habitats within the European community.
BNG	Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) is an approach to development that aims to leave the natural environment in a measurably better state than it was pre-development. It focuses on the change in the biodiversity value of a site, comparing the pre and post construction biodiversity values to ensure a positive impact overall.
BoCC	Birds of Conservation Concern (BoCC) is compiled by a coalition of the UK's leading bird conservation and monitoring organisations to review the status of regularly occurring birds in the UK. Bird species that breed or overwinter in the UK have been assessed against a set of objective criteria and placed on the Green, Amber or Red lists to indicate an increasing level of conservation concern
Broadleaved Woodland	Broadleaved woodland is characterised by trees which do not have needles. Their leaves are broad and vary in shape, and most of them are deciduous. Broadleaved woodlands have 10% or less conifer in the canopy.
BRP	Bat Roost Potential. A feature with the potential to support roosting bats, and which is assigned a grading of negligible, low, moderate, high or confirmed roost for a structure, or PRF-I or PRF-M for trees.
BSPP	Bird Species Protection Plan. A document outlining the protection and mitigation measures required to protect nesting and roosting bird species which may be present.
BST	British Summer Time
BTO	British Trust for Ornithology. UK bird conservation/monitoring organisation.
BU	Biodiversity Units
Business Case	The Business Case describes the technical and/or economic need or driver behind the transmission infrastructure project.
c. and ca.	The abbreviations for the Latin word circa, which means "about" or "around," are c. and ca., both followed by a full stop. These abbreviations are used specifically to indicate an approximate date, time, or measure, such as "c. 1982" or "ca. 1020".
CAR Regulations	Controlled Activity Regulations. The Water Environment (Controlled Activities) (Scotland) Regulations 2011 and their further amendments of 2013, 2017 and 2021 apply regulatory controls over activities which may affect Scotland's water environment.
CCA	Climate Change Assessment
CCMP	Construction Carbon Management Plan
CDM Regulations	The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015
CEA	Cumulative Effects Assessment
CEMP	Construction Environmental Management Plan. A document which defines specific methods for environmental survey, monitoring and management throughout construction of a project.
Centre Line	The linear connection between the central point of each support structure along the length of the overhead line.
CES	Consents and Environment Specification. It prescribes environmental management principles which Principal Contractors are required to meet under the terms of the Principal Contracts for construction of the Proposed Development.
CIEEM	Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management
CIFA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
CIHT	Chartered Institution of Highways and Transportation
CILT	Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport

Term	Definition
Circuit	Overhead line or underground cable consisting of multiple conductors, to carry electric current.
CIRIA	Construction Industry Research and Information Association
CIWEM	Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management
Class 1 and Class 2 Peatland	Class 1 – Nationally important carbon-rich soils, deep peat and priority peatland habitat. Areas likely to be of high conservation value. Class 2 – Nationally important carbon-rich soils, deep peat and priority peatland habitat. Areas of potentially high conservation value and restoration potential.
CLVIA	Cumulative Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
Commercial Forestry	Plantation woodlands typically dominated by conifer species and managed predominantly for timber extraction.
Communities	Those stakeholders (organisations and individuals including residents) with a particular remit or interest in the local area affected by the works.
Competent Authority	A 'competent authority' is the authority with the power or duty to determine whether or not a proposal can proceed. In the context of this Environmental Impact Assessment Report and under <i>the Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017</i> ("the EIA Regulations"), the Scottish Ministers are the competent authority and have the relevant powers and duties under the EIA Regulations.
Conductor	A metallic wire strung between each OHL support structure to carry electric current.
Coniferous Woodland	Woodland that has 10% or less broadleaved trees in the canopy.
Consultation	The dynamic process of dialogue between individuals or groups, based on a genuine exchange of views and, normally, with the objective of influencing decisions, policies or programmes of action.
Consultation Bodies	Defined as meaning the planning authority, NatureScot, the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) and Historic Environment Scotland (HES) as per The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017
Contaminated Land	Land contaminated by harmful substances including Unexploded Ordnance (UXO).
Copse(s)	Small and often detached group of trees that grow closely together.
Corridor	A linear area which allows a continuous connection between the defined connection points. The corridor may vary in width along its length; in unconstrained areas it may be many kilometres wide. A corridor should also take into account any pinch points along its length where subsequent design development for the OHL may be subject to fundamental restrictions which may limit the eventual viability of a project or gaining consent.
CNIA	Construction Noise Impact Assessment. The basic principle of any noise impact assessment is to assess the change in the acoustic environment that will be brought about by the proposed development. The assessment of construction noise complies with best practice (BS5228), Code of Practice for Noise and Vibration Control on Construction and Open Sites.
CNMP	Construction Noise Management Plan. A document which outlines noise management measures to mitigate adverse impacts associated with construction.
CRoW	Catalogue of Rights of Way (set out by Scotways)
CRTN	Calculation of Road Traffic Noise
CSE Compound / CSEC	Cable Sealing End Compound. The Cable Sealing End compound is required to facilitate transition from underground cable to overhead line (and vice versa).
CTMP	Construction Traffic Management Plan. A document which outlines traffic management measures to mitigate adverse impacts associated with construction related traffic.
CVIA	Construction Vibration Impact Assessment

Term	Definition
DAFOR	A standardised way of recording botanical data to denote coverage: D = Dominant (51-100%), A = Abundant (31-50%), F = Frequent (16-30%), O = Occasional (6-15%) and R = Rare (1-5%)
dB (decibel)	A unit of the noise level derived from the logarithm of the ratio between the value of a quantity and a reference value and the scale on which sound pressure level is expressed. Sound pressure level is defined as 20 times the logarithm of the ratio between the root-mean-square pressure of the sound field and a reference pressure (2x10 ⁻⁵ Pa).
dB(A)	A-weighted decibel. This is a measure of the overall level of sound across the audible spectrum with a frequency weighting (i.e. 'A' weighting) to compensate for the varying sensitivity of the human ear to sound at different frequencies.
DC	Direct current. An electric current that flows in one constant direction, unlike alternating current (AC) which reverses its direction.
Deed of Servitude	A legal document that establishes a servitude, a real right that attaches to land and allows one property to have certain rights over another property.
DfT	Department for Transport. UK Government Department for Transport.
DMRB	The Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) contains information about current design standards relating to the design, assessment and operation of motorway and all-purpose trunk roads in the United Kingdom.
Double circuit	A double circuit transmission line comprises of two independent circuits each made up of three sets of conductors (cables).
DRD	Design Requirements Document. A document that describes the basis of the system design and specifies the technical requirements for the transmission infrastructure project.
DSFB	District Salmon Fishery Board
DTM	Digital Terrain Model. A digital representation of the physical surface of the Earth, excluding surface features like buildings and trees.
DWPA	Drinking Water Protected Area. The water in ditches, streams, lochs and possibly groundwater in these areas is protected and likely to be taken to water treatment works, where it is treated and provided to the public as drinking water.
EclA	Ecological Impact Assessment. An Assessment of the likely significant ecological effects of a project.
EcoW	Ecological/Environmental Clerk of Works. An independent consultant responsible for ensuring the developer is compliant with all ecological legislation, policy and best practice during the construction phase.
ECU	Energy Consents Unit. The department of the Scottish Government responsible for processing applications for consent under the <i>Electricity Act 1989</i> on behalf of Scottish Ministers.
Effect	The change in condition of an environmental receptor (beneficial or adverse) arising as a result of a change brought about by the construction or operation of the Proposed Development.
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment. A formal process codified by EU directive 2011/92/EU, and subsequently amended by Directive 2014/52/EU. The national regulations are set out in <i>The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017</i> as amended. The EIA process is set out in regulation 4(1) of the regulations and includes the preparation of an EIA Report (EIAR) by the developer to systematically identify, predict, assess and report on the likely significant environmental impacts of a proposed project or development.
EIAR	Environmental Impact Assessment Report
ELF	Extremely Low Frequency. A type of EMF.
Embedded Mitigation	Measures to avoid or reduce environmental impacts which are developed as an inherent part of the design of a project (eg reducing the height of a tower) or from

Term	Definition
	adoption of specific design parameters (eg compliance with specific buffer distance from an environmental receptor).
EMF	Electric and Magnetic Fields. Overhead Lines are used to carry high voltage electricity across long distances and are a source of Electric and Magnetic Fields. Electric Fields are created by the presence of electric charges and are measured in volts per meter (V/m). Magnetic fields are created by charges (electrons) moving in a conductor, such as a wire.
EMP	Environmental Management Plan
Engagement	The establishment of effective relationships with individuals or groups.
EOMP	Ecological and Ornithological Management Plan
EPRI	Electrical Power Research Institute
EPS	European Protected Species. Animals and plants which are protected under the Habitats Regulations 1994 (as amended in Scotland). Animals are listed on Schedule 2 – European protected species of animals. Plants are listed on Schedule 4 – European protected species of plants.
EPZ	Equi-Potential Zone. A work zone in which the worker is protected from electric shock from differences in electric potential between objects in the work area.
ESA	Ecology Survey Area. The area within the red-line boundary, plus a 250m buffer where access was granted in which all ecology surveys were undertaken in line with good practice guidelines for all ecological features surveyed.
ESO	NESO replaced the Electricity System Operator (ESO) in October 2024 which was previously the National Grid for Great Britain. National Grid is the National Electricity System Operator for Great Britain. The NESO balances electricity supply and demand to ensure the electricity supply.
ESQC	The Electricity Safety, Quality and Continuity (ESQC) Regulations 2002 specify safety standards aimed at protecting the general public and consumers from danger. In addition, the Regulations specify power quality and supply continuity requirements to ensure an efficient and economic electricity supply service for consumers.
European Designated Site	An area of land subject to protection through European legislation, including Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protection Areas (SPA).
FA	Flight Activity Survey (in the context of ornithology).
FEH	Flood Estimation Handbook. A set of methods and associated data to enable recognised standard national methods for rainfall and flood estimation, and rainfall-runoff modelling.
FLS	Forestry and Land Scotland (FLS) is the Scottish Government agency responsible for managing Scotland's national forests and land.
FRA	Flood Risk Area. Area which are likely to flood from rivers, the sea and surface water.
Free-field Level	A sound field determined at a point away from reflective surfaces other than the ground with no significant contributions due to sound from other reflective surfaces. Generally as measured outside and away from buildings.
FSA	Forestry Study Area
FWPM	Freshwater Pearl Mussel
GAAC	General Aviation Awareness Council
GDL	Garden and Designed Landscape. As listed on the Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes held by Historic Environment Scotland (HES). These are considered by a panel of experts to be of national importance.
GEMP	General Environmental Management Plans. A series of standardised construction environmental management plans produced by SSEN Transmission.
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GI	Ground Investigation

Term	Definition
GIS	Geographical Information System. Software that is used to create, manage, analyse, and map all types of data.
GIS Substation	A Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS) Substation is constructed with switchgear with gaseous reliant components which allows operation and safety clearances to be reduced compared to an AIS substation.
GLVIA3	Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, 3rd Edition
GMT	Greenwich Mean Time
GPP	Guidance for Pollution Prevention. A set of guidelines based on relevant legislation to reflect current good practice in preventing the pollution of surface waters and groundwaters. These supersede Pollution Prevention Guidance Notes (PPGs), although some PPGs are still relevant.
Grantor	An individual or organisation owning or having a right in land.
GW	Gigawatt. A measure of power, 1 GW = 1,000,000,000 W
GWDTE	Groundwater Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystem. Wetlands which critically depend on groundwater flows. They are safeguarded by the Water Framework Directive (WFD) and are sensitive to hydrological and ecological changes.
ha	Hectare. A unit of measurement primarily used for land, measuring 10,000 square metres.
Habitat	Term most accurately meaning the place in which a species lives, but also used to describe plant communities or agglomerations of plant communities.
The Habitats Directive	The Habitats Directive is the short name for European Union Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora. The Directive led to the establishing of European sites and setting out how they should be protected, it also extends to other topics such as European protected species.
Heat Map	A graphical or map-based output from a digital analysis of physical, technical and/or environmental constraints. Uses different colours to illustrate the relative degree of constraints.
HEPS	Historic Environment Policy for Scotland
HER	Historic Environment Record. Sources of, and signposts to, information relating to landscapes, buildings, monuments, sites, places, areas and archaeological finds spanning more than 700,000 years. Based in mainly local authorities, they are used for planning and development control but also fulfil an educational role.
HES	Historic Environment Scotland. The lead public body established to investigate, care for and promote Scotland's historic environment.
HGV	Heavy Goods Vehicle. All goods vehicles > 3.5 tonnes gross maximum weight.
HND	Holistic Network Design. A single, integrated coordinated plan that sets out the onshore and offshore electricity transmission infrastructure required across GB, to deliver the UK Government's 2030 targets.
Holford Rules (as modified)	Principles used to inform the routing of OHL and siting of substations.
HRA	Habitats Regulations Appraisal. Appraisal to determine whether the Proposed Development is likely to have a significant effect on a European designated sites, to address the requirements of Regulation 63 of the <i>Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017</i> .
IBA	Important Bird Area. Areas are designated by Birdlife as places of international significance for the conservation of birds and other biodiversity. They are a non-statutory, international designation.
ICF	Institute of Chartered Foresters
ICNIRP	International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection
IEMA	The Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment.

Term	Definition
Impact	Physical constructions or activities that may change or disturb the surrounding environment (eg erection of an OHL tower may impact the landscape resource).
INNS	Invasive Non-Native Species
Inter Developments	<p>Reasonably foreseeable future developments. Inter Developments which are other SSEN Transmission developments as well as other third-party developments which fall into one of the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - project proposals of National Importance within 3 km of the Proposed Development; or - local development proposals within 2 km and where an EIA is required; <p>and where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - undetermined planning/consent applications or scoping requests have been submitted; or - consents have been granted but construction has not yet commenced at the time of preparation of this EIAR. <p>A full list of the Inter Developments can be found in Volume 2, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects</p>
Intra Developments	<p>Reasonably foreseeable future developments. Intra (Associated) Developments for the Kintore to Tealing 400 kV OHL are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the new Proposed 400 kV substation called Emmock, near Tealing; and - the new Proposed 400 kV substation called Hurlie, in Fetteresso Forest.
IET	Institution of Engineering and Technology
IOA	Institute of Acoustics
IROPI	Imperative Reasons of Overriding Public Interest. A term used in the context of a HRA. Should a plan or project adversely affect a European designated site, and having established there are no feasible alternative solutions, the 'competent authority' must be able to identify 'imperative reasons of overriding public interest' that justify the plan or project despite the environmental damage it will cause.
ISO	International Organisation for Standardisation
JNCC	Joint Nature Conservation Committee
Kilometres (km)	One thousand metres.
Kilovolt (kV)	One thousand volts.
LA	Local Authorities
$L_{Aeq,T}$	A-weighted equivalent continuous sound level. L_{Aeq} is defined as the notional steady sound level which, over a stated period of time (T), would contain the same amount of acoustical energy as the A-weighted fluctuating sound measured over that period.
L_{A10} & L_{A90}	Sound level just exceeded for 10% or 90% of the measurement period and calculated by statistical analysis. If a non-steady noise is to be described it is necessary to know both its level and the degree of fluctuation. The L_n indices are used for this purpose, and the term refers to the level exceeded for n% of the time of the measurement. Hence L_{A10} is the A-weighted level exceeded for 10% of the time and as such can be regarded as the 'average maximum level'. Similarly, L_{A90} is the 'average minimum level' and is often used to describe the background noise. It is common practice to use the L_{A10} index to describe traffic noise.
Land-take	The term 'land-take' refers to the physical area of land that is 'taken' by a proposed development and other facilities that necessarily go along with it such as access routes. Land-take is permanent and irreversible, and the land use changes from its original use to that of the development for the duration of its operation.
LBAP	Local Biodiversity Action Plan. A document which identified the habitats and species on which management work will be focussed. This is a local response to the UK's National Action Plans for threatened habitats and species, setting targets appropriate to the local authority area.

Term	Definition
LCA	Land Capability Classification. The LCA classification is used to rank land on the basis of its potential productivity and cropping flexibility
LCT	Landscape Character Type. A distinct, recognisable and consistent pattern of elements in a landscape that differentiate the area from another.
LDP	Local Development Plan. The planning system in Scotland is plan-led and all local authorities must have a Local Development Plan for their area. The Local Development Plan sets the framework for development management decisions on planning applications within the local authority area.
LEPO	Long-established Woodlands of Plantation Origin. A type of woodland included in the Ancient Woodland Inventory which signify areas which have been continuously wooded since 1750 or 1860, but are considered to have been planted. They may however have developed semi-natural characteristics which may be as rich as semi-natural ancient woodlands.
Level of Impact	The outcome of a comparative appraisal of the combination of effects within a specific topic along a specific corridor option after a consideration of the potential for mitigation, using professional judgement based on experience.
LGV	Light Goods Vehicle. All commercial vehicles < 3.5 tonnes gross maximum weight.
LI	Landscape Institute
LiDAR	Light Detection and Ranging. A remote sensing technology that uses pulsed laser light to measure distances and create precise 3D maps of an environment.
Listed Building	Building included on the list of buildings of special architectural or historic interest and afforded statutory protection under the <i>Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Act 1997</i> and other planning legislation. Classified in three categories A, B and C(s).
LLA	Local Landscape Areas are designated by local planning authorities for sites which are considered to be of regional/local importance for their scenic qualities. Local Development Plans (LDPs) typically show the location of LLAs and associated policy. Also sometimes referred to as Special Landscape Areas (SLA), for example by Aberdeenshire Council.
LNCS	Local Nature Conservation Site. A non-statutory designation given by local authorities to areas of locally important nature. LNCS are intended to safeguard biodiversity and geodiversity of at least local importance.
LNR	Local Nature Reserve. An area which is protected by the local authority because of its special natural interest and / or educational value. This designation may underpin national or international designations.
LOD	Limit of Deviation. An area which defines the practical limits within which micrositing of the OHL infrastructure and access tracks, can occur within the terms of the Section 37 Application for Consent. The purpose of Limit of Deviation is to allow flexibility within a Section 37 Application consent for the final micrositing of individual towers/poles or access tracks to respond to localised ground conditions, topography, engineering, and environmental constraints. There is a Horizontal (HLOD) and Vertical (VLOD) LOD for the Proposed Development, which is defined in Volume 1, Chapter 3: Project Description.
LPA	Local Planning Authority
LSE	Likely Significant Effect. In the context of an HRA, is the initial stage of an HRA screening process to determine if a plan or project could negatively impact a European protected site.
LUC	Land Use Consultants Ltd
LVIA	Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment. Often presented as a chapter within the EIAR to systematically identify, predict, assess and report on the likely significant landscape and visual impacts of a proposed development.
m	Metres

Term	Definition
MAGIC	Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside. A UK government-run website providing authoritative geographic information about the natural environment.
mAOD	Metres above ordnance datum.
Management Felling	Felling in commercial forests that has been undertaken before its current agreed phase to minimise woodland fragmentation, coupe isolation and to allow windfirm edges to be created following the removal of trees due to infrastructure felling.
MCA	Multi-Criteria Analysis. A method of remotely mapping habitats at large scale using a variety of datasets and data weightings to assign habitat types.
MD-SEDD	Marine Directorate – Science Evidence Data and Digital
Micrositing	The process of positioning individual structures (such as OHL towers) to avoid localised environmental or technical constraints.
Mitigation	Term used to indicate avoidance, remediation or alleviation of adverse environmental impacts (see also Embedded Mitigation definition).
Mixed Woodland	Mixed woodland is defined as having 10-90% of either broadleaved or conifer in the canopy.
MOD	Ministry of Defence
MP	Member of Parliament
Mph	Miles per hour. Measurement unit of speed on British roads.
MRTPI	Member of the Royal Town Planning Institute
MSP	Member of Scottish Parliament
National Nature Reserve	Areas of natural heritage that are nationally important.
Native Woodland	Woodland recorded on the Native Woodland Survey of Scotland (NWSS). The NWSS identified and mapped the location, extent, type and condition of all of Scotland's native woodlands. Launched in 2014, it was the first authoritative inventory of Scotland's native woods and created a baseline for future monitoring of change.
NATS	National Air Traffic Services
NatureScot	Scotland's nature conservation agency (formerly Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH)).
NBN	The National Biodiversity Network. A collaborative venture in the UK, which is committed to making biodiversity information available through the internet via the NBN Atlas - the data search website of the NBN.
NCI	Nature Conservation Importance. The sensitivity of species populations and habitats is assessed with reference to their importance in terms of biodiversity conservation value.
NCN	National Cycle Network. Designated National Cycle Routes within the UK.
Necessary Wayleave	A wayleave granted by The Scottish Ministers under Schedule 4 to the Electricity Act 1989 on behalf of a landowner if it is deemed expedient that such a wayleave should be granted, but only sought in circumstances where that landowner will not grant a Wayleave voluntarily.
NERSG	North East Scotland Raptor Study Group
NESBiP	North East Scotland Biodiversity Partnership
NESBReC	North-East Scotland Biological Records Centre
NESO	The National Energy System Operator (NESO) is an independent organisation which balances electricity supply and demand to ensure the electricity supply. NESO replaced the Electricity System Operator (ESO) in October 2024 which was previously the National Grid for Great Britain.
NETS SQSS	National Electricity Transmission System Security and Quality of Supply Standard

Term	Definition
NFE	The National Forest Estate. The NFE includes over a third of Scotland's woodland area. Forestry and Land Scotland (FLS) manages the National Forests and Land on behalf of Scottish Ministers.
NFI	The National Forestry Inventory is a woodland data map covering all forest and woodland areas over 0.5 hectare with a minimum of 20% canopy cover, or the potential to achieve it, and a minimum width of 20 metres.
NGET	National Grid Electricity Transmission
NHZ	Natural Heritage Zone. Biogeographical regions used by NatureScot to define populations and associated development effects.
NIDL	Non-Inventory Designed Landscape
NNR	National Nature Reserves. Areas of natural heritage where public access is encouraged and which usually host nationally or internationally important habitats and species.
NOA	Network Options Assessment. The National Grid's Network Options Assessment provides their recommendation for which network reinforcement projects should receive investment, and when.
NPF4	National Planning Framework 4. The national spatial strategy for Scotland which sets out spatial principles, regional priorities, national developments and national planning policy, published in February 2023.
NR	Noise Rating (NR) curves were developed by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) to determine the acceptable indoor environment for hearing preservation, speech communication and annoyance.
NRHE	The National Record of the Historic Environment. A comprehensive archive that contains records relating to Scotland's historic environment, including archaeological, architectural, and historic sites.
NRTF	National Road Traffic Forecast. Factors used to apply future year growth to traffic flows.
NSA	National Scenic Area. A national level designation applied to those landscapes considered to be of exceptional scenic value.
NSIP	Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects
NSR	Noise Sensitive Receptor. Any building where the presence of noise could significantly impact the occupants' well-being, activities, or health. These receptors typically include places such as residences, schools, hospitals, offices and other commercial properties.
NTS	Non-Technical Summary. A document providing a non-technical summary of the EIA Report setting out, in lay terms, the significant environmental effects of the Proposed Development.
NVC	National Vegetation Classification. A detailed botanical survey to identify and classify potential habitats of conservation concern.
NWSS	Native Woodland Survey of Scotland. A dataset launched in 2014 that identifies and maps the location, extent, type and condition of Scotland's native woodlands.
OAMP	Outdoor Access Management Plan
OAR	Options Assessment Report. A document which presents the information and analysis which has informed the identification of options and the selection of the preferred strategic connection option for the delivery of the project.
OC	Operational Corridor. The area either side of the OHL which needs to remain clear of trees for operational safety.
Offshore Integrated Link	Offshore cable connection between the onshore network and offshore network being developed as part of the Coordinated Offshore Network. This is being developed as a result of the Holistic Network Design (HND) publication in summer of 2022 produced by National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO) to facilitate greater co-ordination and efficiency for offshore windfarms. In the autumn of 2022 Ofgem

Term	Definition
	published their Asset Classification findings which in turn meant SSENT were tasked with delivering large parts of the Coordinated Offshore Network.
Ofgem	The Office of Gas and Electricity Markets. The energy regulator for Great Britain (England, Scotland and Wales).
OHL	Overhead line. An electric line installed above ground, usually supported by lattice steel towers.
OIA	Ornithological Impact Assessment. An Assessment of the likely Significant ornithological effects of a project.
OPGW	Optical Ground Wire. A type of cable that is used in OHLs combining the functions of grounding and communications.
OS	Ordnance Survey (OS). Great Britain's national mapping agency.
PAC	Pre Application Consultation
PAL	<p>Prime Agricultural Land. Land that is categorised as Class 1, 2 and 3.1 in the Land Capability for Agriculture (LCA) classification.</p> <p>The LCA classification is used to rank land on the basis of its potential productivity and cropping flexibility.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Class 1 land is capable of producing a wide range of crops with no or very minor physical limitations affecting agricultural use. - Class 2 land is capable of producing a wide range of crops, with minor physical limitations affecting agricultural use. - Class 3.1 is land capable of producing a moderate range of crops. <p>Classes 1 to 3.1 are considered PAL and are of a higher sensitivity to development than areas of land with lower agricultural classifications due to its relative scarcity as a resource.</p> <p>Classes 3.2 to 7 are not considered PAL.</p>
PAN	Planning Advice Note. Scottish Government's planning guidance documents.
Pathway to 2023 HND	Pathway to 2030 Holistic Network Design by the ESO
PCN	Potato Cyst Nematode
PiC	Properties in Care. A collection of monuments, which define significant aspects of Scotland's history, brought into care for their long-term preservation and public benefit through the <i>Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979</i> . They are managed by Historic Environment Scotland (HES) on behalf of Scottish Ministers.
PIEMA	Practitioner member of the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment
Perceptual effects	Non-physical effects that influence the appreciation, understanding and experience of landscape qualities such as scale, enclosure, diversity, form and pattern.
Physical effects	Effects as a result of physical alterations to the landscape fabric.
Planning Application	An application for planning permission under the <i>Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997</i> , as amended. It should be noted that consent under Section 37 of the <i>Electricity Act 1989</i> usually carries with it a direction from the Scottish Ministers under section 57 of the <i>Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997</i> that planning permission be deemed granted.
Planning Brief	A document that provides a high-level overview of the need and design basis for a transmission infrastructure project. Precedes the Business Case and Design Requirements Document.
Plantation Woodland	Woodland of any age that obviously originated from planting.
PLHRA	A Peat Landslide Hazard and Risk Assessment (PLHRA) is a study that evaluates the potential for peat-covered slopes to fail and assesses the consequences of a peat landslide event, often required for developments in peat-rich areas like Scotland.
PM ₁₀	Particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter less than 10 micrometres

Term	Definition
PM _{2.5}	Particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter less than 2.5 micrometres
PMP	A Peat Management Plan (PMP) is a document detailing how peatlands will be handled during construction projects to minimise environmental damage, particularly to carbon-rich soils and habitats.
Policy Woodland	Woodland and forestry (both broadleaved, coniferous or commercial) associated with designed landscapes and estates for ornamental, amenity or commercial purposes.
Potential Alignment	The Potential Alignment refers to the Alignment (see: Alignment) option which the Applicant identified (following appraisal) as having the best balance of technical and environmental constraints. The Potential Alignment was taken forward to consultation and the Applicant subsequently selected the Proposed Alignment (see: Proposed Alignment).
PPG	Pollution Prevention Guidelines. A set of guidelines based on relevant legislation to reflect current good practice in preventing the pollution of surface waters and groundwaters. Most but not all of these have been superseded by GPPs.
PPP	Pollution Prevention Plan
Preferred Option (Preferred Corridor or Preferred Route)	The Preferred Option at the Corridor (see: Corridor) stage and Routeing (see: Route) stage represent the options which the Applicant identified as the best balance of technical and environmental constraints from the initial appraisal. The Preferred Options were then subject to consultation with stakeholders, where local and previously unknown considerations were considered in confirming or altering the initial option preference and subsequently selecting a Proposed Option (see: Proposed Option).
PRI	Public Road Improvement
Proposed Alignment	Taking account of the findings of the appraisals and consultation feedback received on the Potential Alignment (see: Potential Alignment), the Proposed Alignment was selected and taken forward as the design for the Proposed Development (see: Proposed Development).
Proposed Option (Proposed Corridor or Proposed Route)	Following the consideration of consultation feedback on the Preferred Corridor and Preferred Route (see: Preferred Option), and once confirmed, the Proposed Options were taken forward to the next stage of project development.
Proposed Development	The Proposed Development is taken to be the description of: the location of the development; the physical characteristics of the OHL, based on the Proposed Alignment and Limit of Deviation (LOD), including an indicative support structure (tower) schedule, also specifying access arrangements and any associated construction activities and land-use requirements. The Proposed Development also comprises a description of the main characteristics of the operational development and an estimate of residues and emissions associated with both the construction and operational phases (as set out in Schedule 4 of the EIA regulations). The Proposed Development was subject to EIA in support of the Section 37 application.
Proposed Route	A route taken forward following stakeholder consultation to the alignment selection stage of the overhead line routeing process.
PRoW	Public Right of Way
Public Body	Defined in terms of Regulation 12(4)(b) of the EIA Regulations as meaning “ <i>any other public body which the Scottish Ministers consider is likely to have an interest in the proposed development by reason of that body’s specific environmental responsibilities or local and regional competencies</i> ”.
PWS	Private Water Supplies
RAG Rating	A Red, Amber, Green rating provided to allow for a comparison between different options being appraised.
Ramsar Site	Wetlands of international importance that have been designated to reflect their representative, rare or unique wetland types or for their importance in conserving biological diversity.
Recreational airfield	Small general aviation / recreational airfield which is not safeguarded in the same way as licensed or military airfields.

Term	Definition
Recreational fishery	Rivers in Scotland where fishing is undertaken are divided into individual stretches of river or fisheries and also fishing beats. Each fishing beat can be several kilometres in length and is usually determined by the land owners and / or fishing operators on either side of the river. This assessment refers to fisheries rather than individual fishing beats.
Red Line Boundary / RLB	Red-line boundary. Development boundary extent which should include all land necessary to carry out the Proposed Development.
Refined Route	A route approximately 500 m wide, within which an optimal alignment is identified in.
Residual Noise Level	The Ambient Noise Level in the absence of the industrial source noise under consideration, measured in $L_{Aeq,T}$.
Riparian Woodland	Riparian woodland is typically wet woodland that grows along river, burn and other waterbody banks.
RoC	Report on Consultation. A report issued by the Applicant which documents the consultation responses received at each stage received as part of the consultation process for the Proposed Development and to show how the next stage has been informed by this process.
Route	A linear area of approximately 1 km width (although this may be narrower/wider in specific locations in response to identified pinch points / constraints), which provides a continuous connection between defined connection points.
Routeing	The work undertaken which leads to the selection of a proposed route and then a proposed alignment, capable of being taken forward into the consenting process under Section 37 of the <i>Electricity Act 1989</i> .
RoW	Right of Way
RSA	Road Safety Audits
RSPB	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. A charity for the conservation of birds and other wildlife. They manage reserves, fundraise and conduct and / or support research.
RVAA	Residential Visual Amenity Assessment. An assessment which describes the extent to which changes in views experienced by residents at the closest residential properties to the proposed Kintore to Tealing 400 kV overhead line, will affect the 'living conditions' at those properties.
SAC	Special Area of Conservation. Designated under Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (known as The Habitats Directive), to ensure that rare, endangered or vulnerable habitats or species of community interest are either maintained at or restored to a favourable conservation status.
SBL	The Scottish Biodiversity List. A list of species and habitats of particular importance for the conservation of biodiversity in Scotland.
Schedule 1 Species	Birds listed on Schedule 1/A1/1A of the <i>Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981</i> , for which it is an offence to intentionally or recklessly disturb at, on or near an 'active' nest. The following are included in the schedules: Schedule 1 – birds protected by special penalties; Schedule 1A – birds that may not be intentionally or recklessly harassed at any time; and Schedule A1 – birds whose habitually used nests may not be intentionally or recklessly taken, damaged, destroyed or otherwise interfered with when not in use.
Scheduled Monument (SM)	A monument which has been scheduled by the Scottish Ministers as being of national importance under the terms of the <i>Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979</i> .
Scoping Opinion	An opinion adopted by the Scottish Ministers as to the scope and level of detail of information to be provided in the EIAR.
Section	Due to the length of the project, it has been necessary to split the route into 'sections' to more easily describe, identify and assess the Proposed Development. There are six sections (A to F).

Term	Definition
Section 37 Application	An application for development consent under section 37 of the <i>Electricity Act 1989</i> .
Semi-natural Woodland	Woodland that does not obviously originate from planting. The distribution of species will generally reflect the variations in the site and the soil. Planted trees must account for less than 30% of the canopy composition.
SEPA	Scottish Environment Protection Agency. Scotland's environment regulator and national flood forecasting, flood warning and strategic flood risk management authority.
SF	Scottish Forestry
Shadow HRA	A Shadow Habitats Regulations Assessment (Shadow HRA) is a document or process that provides information to the competent authority to inform their official Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) process. It helps assess the potential impact of a project on protected sites, like SSSI or SAC, and ensures that projects do not negatively affect their integrity.
SLA	Special Landscape Area. Areas are designated by local planning authorities for sites which are considered to be of regional/local importance for their scenic qualities. Local Development Plans (LDPs) typically show the location of SLAs and associated policy.
SLVIA	Seascape/landscape and visual assessment
SMR	Sites and Monuments Records
SNH	Scottish Natural Heritage, now NatureScot.
SOAEL	Significant observable adverse effect level
SPA	Special Protection Area. Designated under Directive 2009/147/EC on the Conservation of Wild Birds (the Birds Directive) to protect important bird habitats.
Span	The section of OHL between two structures.
Specific Noise Level	The noise level measured in $L_{Aeq,T}$ attributed to the industrial noise source under consideration alone.
SPEN	Scottish Power Energy Networks
SPP	Species Protection Plan. Developed by the Applicant to document general procedures, legislation and requirements for ensuring protection to a variety of species.
Spraint	Otters produce droppings known as 'spraints', which are left in prominent places along riverbanks, on rocks or under bridges to mark out their territories.
SSEN Transmission	Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission (SSEN Transmission) plc is a wholly owned subsidiary of the SSE plc group of companies. Operating and known as Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks Transmission (SSEN Transmission) it owns and maintains the electricity transmission network across the north of Scotland and remote islands. It holds a licence under the <i>Electricity Act 1989</i> to develop and maintain an efficient, co-ordinated and economical system of electricity transmission.
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest. Areas of national importance designated by NatureScot under the <i>Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004</i> . The aim of the SSSI network is to maintain an adequate representation of all natural and semi-natural habitats and native species across Britain.
Stakeholders	Organisations and individuals who can affect or are affected by SSEN Transmission works.
Study Area	A defined area for the consideration of environmental effects (including direct, indirect and cumulative) on each relevant factor listed under Regulation 4(3) of the EIA regulations. Specific study areas are defined as applicable in Volume 2, Technical Chapters.
Substation	A node on the network to allow safe control of the electricity network. This could include convergence of multiple circuits, transformation of voltage or other functions to maintain and operate the electricity network.

Term	Definition
Substation Site Area	Site area identified as necessary to deliver all the substation infrastructure requirements eg platform, access tracks, temporary construction area, drainage including SUDS, landscaping.
SuDS	Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems. A collection of water management practices that aim to align modern drainage systems with natural water processes and are part of a larger green infrastructure strategy, reducing surface water flooding, improving water quality, increasing water storage capacity, reducing pollution and enhancing biodiversity value of the environment.
Suspension Tower	Support structure (tower) used on straight sections of the OHL.
SWT	Scottish Wildlife Trust
Terminal Structure	A structure (tower or pole) required where the line terminates either at a substation or at the beginning and end of an underground cable section.
The National Grid	The electricity transmission network in Great Britain.
Tower Schedule	A list specifying details of proposed structures (or poles), containing information such as tower type, height, location and span length.
TPO	Tree Preservation Order. A legal order by a local planning authority to protect important trees, groups of trees, or woodlands from being cut down, uprooted, damaged, or destroyed without the authority's permission.
TRL	Transport Research Laboratory
UGC	Underground Cable. An electric cable installed below ground, protected by insulating layers and marked closer to the surface to prevent accidental damage through later earthworks.
UK BAP	The UK Biodiversity Action Plan. The Plan was published in 1994 after the Convention on Biological Diversity. It summarised the most threatened species and habitats in the UK and gave detailed plans for their recovery.
UKCP18	UK Climate Change Predictions (most recently 2018).
UKFS	UK Forestry Standard
UKHab	UK Habitat Survey. The UK Habitat Classification is a unified and comprehensive approach to classifying habitats, designed to provide a simple and robust approach to survey and monitoring.
UXO	Unexploded Ordnance. Military ammunition or explosive device that has failed to function as intended.
Vertical LOD	The maximum additional vertical distance by which a tower can be varied from the design height above ground level.
Volts	The international unit of electric potential and electromotive force.
VP (in the context of ornithology)	Vantage Point. A vantage point (VP) survey is an ornithological assessment method used to study the flight activity and distribution of birds, in the context of this Environmental Impact Assessment, to identify where the Proposed Development might affect birds flight paths or pose collision risks.
VP (in the context of LVIA)	Viewpoint. The Landscape and Visual Assessment (LVIA) and Cultural Heritage Assessment involved capturing photographs from carefully chosen, representative locations (from VPs - viewpoints) to assess the potential impact of a proposed development on landscape/views and cultural heritage assets.
VRA	Visual Receptor Area. For the purposes of the visual assessment (Volume 5, Appendix 9.2: Visual Assessment), visual receptors (eg residents, road users, recreational users etc) have been grouped into geographical areas across the study area which are referred to as 'visual receptor areas' (VRAs).
Watercourse Buffer	Permanent and temporary infrastructure (including construction areas) should be set back from water features by an appropriate buffer to protect the water environment. SEPA's recommended riparian corridor buffers are used in the assessment presented in Volume 2, Chapter 13: Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Soils.

Term	Definition
Wayleave	A voluntary agreement entered into between a landowner, upon whose land an OHL is to be constructed, and SSEN Transmission. SSEN Transmission may also make an application for a 'Necessary Wayleave' to Scottish Ministers where voluntary agreement cannot be reached.
WCA	<i>The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)</i> . Domestic legislation that gives rise to designated sites, regulates the management of invasive species and provides protections for species of national conservation importance.
WeBS	Wetland Bird Survey. The counting of the UK's wetland birds coordinated by BTO to provide input into monitoring data.
Wet Woodland	Wet woodlands occur on soils that are often or seasonally wet, either because of flooding, or because of the landform and soil type. They are found along streams and rivers; on floodplains and at the edges of lakes; in peaty hollows; and at the margins of fens, bogs and mires. These woodland types can occur as small pockets within larger, drier woodlands.
WHNCV	Woodland of High Nature Conservation Value
WLA	Wild Land Area, as classified by NatureScot.
Woodland	Woodland is defined as vegetation dominated by trees more than 5 m high when mature, forming a distinct, although sometimes open, canopy with cover of 20% or greater of the area.
Works	Constructing new transmission infrastructure such as substations, OHLs, underground cables; major refurbishment of these; the dismantling and removal of any parts of the system; and associated works, which may include formation of access tracks, bridge and road improvements, tree cutting, drainage etc.
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation. Planning document required by Planning Authorities which outlines the proposed archaeological works need to satisfy planning conditions and specifies the scope of work to understand the extent, character, and significance of archaeological remains within a planning application area.
WTW	Water Treatment Works
ZTV	Zone of Theoretical Visibility. The computer-generated theoretical visibility of an object in the landscape.