

Volume 5: Appendix 5.1 - The EIA Team

VOLUME 5, APPENDIX 5.1: THE EIA TEAM

1	THE EIA TEAM	2
1.1	EIA Quality	2
1.2	ISEP Quality Mark	2
1.3	EIA Teams and Competencies	2

1 THE EIA TEAM

1.1 EIA Quality

- 1.1.1 In accordance with *Regulation 5(5) of the Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017* (EIA Regulations), by appointing Land Use Consultants (LUC) to coordinate the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) for the Proposed Development, the Applicant has ensured that the EIAR has been prepared by competent experts. The EIAR has been compiled and approved by professional EIA practitioners at LUC, holding relevant undergraduate and post-graduate degrees, and membership of the Institute of Sustainability and Environmental Professionals (ISEP).

1.2 ISEP Quality Mark¹

- 1.2.1 The EIAR meets the requirements of the ISEP EIA Quality Mark scheme. This is a voluntary scheme operated by ISEP that allows organisations to make a commitment to excellence in EIA and to have this commitment independently reviewed on an annual basis.

1.3 EIA Teams and Competencies

- 1.3.1 In addition, the Applicant and LUC can confirm that each of the topic-based impact assessment chapters has been prepared by competent experts. Details of the relevant qualifications, any professional membership of the authors and any applicable code of practice followed in their assessment work, are provided in **Table 5.1.1: Competent Expert Information**. The following summary is provided of the specialist consultants appointed by the Applicant for this EIAR:

- EIA Co-ordination: LUC, supported by Collin Consulting and ATEAL Planning and Environment;
- Land Use: LUC and ATEAL Planning & Environment;
- Forestry: DGA Forestry. LUC & SSEN Transmission;
- Landscape and Visual: LUC;
- Cultural Heritage: CFA Archaeology;
- Ecology: LUC;
- Ornithology: LUC;
- Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Soils: Kaya Consulting and OWC Ltd;
- Traffic and Transport: Pell Frischmann; and
- Noise and Vibration: Wood Plc.

¹ The Institute of Sustainability and Environmental Professionals (ISEP) was formerly known as the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment IEMA, up to July 2025.

Table 5.1.1: Competent Expert Information

Organisation	Role	Chapter	Expertise	Qualifications
LUC	OHL Non-Technical Lead	Volume 1, Chapter 1: Introduction and Background Volume 2, Chapter 2: Established Need for Proposed Development Volume 1, Chapter 3: Project Description	The overhead line (OHL) Non-Technical Lead holds a BSc with honours in Environmental Science and is a member of ISEP and a Chartered Environmentalist. They have 25 years of experience in the delivery of planning permission and development consent for a range of infrastructure developments across the British Isles. They have led and managed on all stages of the environmental assessment process for the development of multi-disciplinary projects and has acted as an expert witness on a number of occasions for both public and private sector clients.	BSc CEnv MISEP
LUC	OHL Technical Lead	Volume 1, Chapter 4: Alternatives and the Routeing Process Volume 1, Chapter 5: EIA Process and Methodology Volume 1, Chapter 6: Scope and Consultation Volume 2, Chapter 7: Land Use and Prime Agricultural Land	The OHL Technical Lead has over 18 years of experience in delivering complex EIA and other multi-disciplinary infrastructure planning, design and construction projects across a range of sectors in the UK and Canada. They have proven experience in leading large and diverse multi-disciplinary teams to deliver priority projects for their clients. This includes transformational infrastructure projects in sectors such as energy transition, transit, highways, buildings, and water/wastewater. Through leading and collaborating with a variety of technical specialists, they have developed a holistic understanding of what is required to effectively bring together key inputs and deliver outcomes that appropriately articulate and balance these considerations and ultimately lead to successful approvals.	MSc PMP
Collin Consulting	OHL Technical Input	Volume 2, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects Volume 2, Chapter 17: Schedule of Mitigation Volume 2, Chapter 18: Summary of Effects	The OHL Technical Input holds an MSc in Environmental Management, is a Registered EIA Practitioner with the ISEP and a Chartered Environmentalist. They have over 30 years of experience in the environmental planning and assessment of a range of infrastructure developments including renewable energy and energy transmission EIAs. They have directed and provided technical advice and review on all stages of the environmental assessment process and its deliverables for the development of multi-disciplinary projects and has supported project teams at hearings and public local inquiries.	MSc CEnv PISEP
LUC	OHL Delivery Manager		The OHL Delivery Manager is an Associate within LUC's Environmental Planning team. They have 20 years of experience in environmental consulting across a broad range of environmental fields but focussing latterly within EIA. They have been involved in environmental design and EIA within the waste, flood protection and renewable energy sectors.	BSc MSc MCIWM MIENvSc
LUC	OHL Delivery Manager		The OHL Delivery Manager is an Associate Environmental Planner in LUC's Environmental Planning Team and is a chartered member of the Royal Town Planning Institute. They have 11 years' experience in a wide range of development types, in both public and consultancy roles. Recently, they have been leading the consenting process for various scales of renewable energy projects including EIA and national scale projects.	BSc MRTPI

Organisation	Role	Chapter	Expertise	Qualifications
LUC	OHL Delivery Manager		The OHL Delivery Manager is a Principal Environmental Planner with over three years of professional EIA experience. They also have a further four years of experience from a previous role as an ecology consultant. They have worked on a number of Section 36 and Section 37 projects across Scotland and have played a key role in coordinating the inputs of multi-disciplinary teams during the siting, design and assessment stages of complex EIA projects.	BSc MSc PISEP REnvP ACIEEM
ATEAL Planning and Environment Limited	OHL Technical Input		The OHL Technical Input is the founder and Director of Ateal Planning & Environment Ltd established in 2015, a Town Planning and Environmental consultancy specialising in consents and environmental assessments for major infrastructure projects in the UK. They are qualified in both Town Planning and EIA with over 25 years of experience in the public and private sectors. They are a Chartered Town Planner (MRTPI) and a Practitioner member of ISEP. The focus of their work is supporting major infrastructure projects through EIA and consenting processes and stakeholder engagement under the relevant consenting regimes. The nature, scale and complexity of such projects always presents unique challenges and they have a proven track record of delivering projects to programme and on budget.	MSc MA MRTPI PISEP
DGA Forestry	Forestry Chapter Author	Volume 2, Chapter 8: Forestry Volume 2, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects Volume 2, Chapter 17: Schedule of Mitigation Volume 2, Chapter 18: Summary of Effects	The Forestry Chapter Author is the Principal Consultant of DGA Forestry LLP, based in their Dumfries office, and has 45 years' experience in forest management and consultancy in both the private and public sectors. They graduated from the University of Edinburgh in 1975 with a BSc Ecological Science (Honours Forestry) and gained an MBA from Glasgow University in 1986. Since 2000 they have been involved in over 100 wind farm and other development projects within forestry plantations, ranging from advice to Landowners on the negotiation of wind farm option agreements and leases; contributions to numerous Environmental Statements and Reports; management of forestry operations during the construction phase; preparation, contribution and review of Habitat Management Plans; support at Public Inquiries; and specialist advice on specific topics. They worked with the Forestry Commission in Scotland from 1975 to 1987 prior to joining DGA Forestry.	BSc MBA MICFor,
DGA Forestry	Forestry Chapter Author		The Forestry Chapter Author is a partner and Senior Consultant based in DGA Forestry LLP's Dumfries office. Originally qualified as an architect, they worked in London for many years delivering complex major projects in social housing, high end residential, Master Planning and urban renewal. The project management, community engagement and designs skills utilised in such projects are transferable to the forestry management and consultancy projects carried out by DGA Forestry. They lead DGA's Geographical Information Systems (GIS) mapping and data acquisition and have extensive experience of the latest ArcGIS software and leading commercial CAD packages. They have now been involved in over 70 wind farm and development projects within forestry plantations, including GIS mapping; forest design planning; and contributions to numerous Environmental Statements and Reports. Having worked with DGA as a self employed consultant	BArch MSc DipArch

Organisation	Role	Chapter	Expertise	Qualifications
			over a number of years they joined DGA full time in 2012 to assist with the expanding project workload.	
LUC	Landscape and Visual Amenity Chapter Author	Volume 2, Chapter 9: Landscape and Visual Amenity Volume 2, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects Volume 2, Chapter 17: Schedule of Mitigation Volume 2, Chapter 18: Summary of Effects	The Landscape and Visual Chapter Author is Director of Landscape Planning and Chartered Member of the Landscape Institute with 20 years of experience in a range of landscape planning and assessment projects. They have been involved in a number of landscape-led grid connection routeing studies, carrying out route selection and corridor appraisal processes, based on an understanding of the landscape and visual environment. Their work on previous grid connection projects has also involved identifying and prioritising mitigation for existing overhead lines. They also have extensive experience in managing or directing LVIAs for a wide range of developments including grid connection, renewable energy developments and major infrastructure projects.	MA CMLI
LUC	Landscape and Visual Amenity Chapter Author		The Landscape and Visual Chapter Author is Principal Planner and Landscape Planner with over six years of experience. They have a wide range of experience working across landscape planning and environmental planning, with key skills in Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) for a range of energy developments including grid infrastructure developments. They are also experienced in feasibility studies and providing design advice, residential visual amenity assessments and supporting on evidence preparation for Public Inquiries. This has given them an understanding of the assessment process from screening and scoping stages through to post-planning submission.	BSc MSc MRTPI
LUC	Landscape and Visual Amenity Chapter Author		The Landscape and Visual Chapter Author is a Senior Landscape Architect and Chartered Member of the Landscape Institute with over five years of landscape planning experience. Their experience includes feasibility, design advice and LVIA work for a number of energy projects across Scotland, including wind farm, grid connection and solar development. As such, they have a good understanding of potential landscape and visual issues associated with different types of energy development, as well as experience in landscape mitigation design. They also have experience in field survey and undertaking landscape photography in accordance with current guidance and standards.	MA MLA CMLI
CFA Archaeology Ltd	Cultural Heritage Chapter Author	Volume 2, Chapter 10: Cultural Heritage Volume 2, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects Volume 2, Chapter 17: Schedule of Mitigation	The Cultural Heritage Chapter Author is a Senior Consultant Archaeologist with 25 years post-graduate experience in commercial archaeology and over 18 years' experience of producing EIAs for renewable energy developments, and for other industrial and commercial developments. They have been the lead archaeologist for many major overhead line upgrade projects, carrying out the baseline research, leading the large-scale field survey, and preparing the Cultural Heritage EIARs. They have provided detailed cultural heritage advice at all stages, including route selection, corridor appraisal and substation site selection.	BSc MSc MCIfA

Organisation	Role	Chapter	Expertise	Qualifications
CFA Archaeology Ltd	Cultural Heritage Chapter Author	Volume 2, Chapter 18: Summary of Effects	The Cultural Heritage Chapter Author is a Consultant Archaeologist with several years post-graduate experience in commercial archaeology. They have worked in the field on a range of smaller county-based and large-scale infrastructure developments across the UK, as well as regularly participating in field walkover surveys across Scotland. Experience supervising, excavating, as well as taking on a surveyor role during the A428 Highways England project. They have experience collating heritage data for desk-based assessments and contributing to project reports and Environmental Impact Assessments.	M.A. (Hons) PCIfA
CFA Archaeology Ltd	Cultural Heritage Chapter Author		The Cultural Heritage Chapter Author is a Graphics and Geomatics Officer with over 12 years' experience in commercial archaeology, and a further 8 years in a voluntary capacity working on various excavation sites. Their current position requires processing and cleaning of survey data, digitising primary records and production of illustrations for various report types, including survey preparation and drafts, Historic Building Recordings, Data Structure Reports, Desk-based Assessments and Environmental Impact Assessments. They are highly experienced in the production of figures for both renewable energy developments and OHL projects, and thoroughly competent in a variety of software packages including Trimble Business Centre, AutoCAD, ESRI's ArcMap, ArcGIS Pro, ArcGIS Online, Fieldmaps, Agisoft Metashape, Sketchfab, Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop and InDesign.	BSc (Hons) BTEC Dip ACIfA
LUC	Ecology Chapter Author	Volume 2, Chapter 11: Ecology Volume 2, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects Volume 2, Chapter 17: Schedule of Mitigation	The Ecology Chapter Author is a Senior Ecologist with 7 years' experience in ecological survey and assessment. They have conducted surveys and written several EIAs for a range of developments. They specialise in mammal surveys, assessments, and mitigation. They have worked on projects across the UK, including but not limited to road and rail improvement schemes, flood alleviation schemes, building refurbishment schemes and wind farm developments.	BSc MSc ACIEEM
LUC	Ecology Chapter Reviewer	Volume 2, Chapter 18: Summary of Effects	The Ecology Chapter Reviewer is an Associate Ecologist with 10 years' experience in ecological survey and assessment. During this time, they have worked on a wide variety of projects across Scotland including renewable energy projects, overhead lines, cable routes, major infrastructure, quarries and mines, residential developments and conservation projects. They are an experienced ecology field surveyor with a particular focus on habitats and plants, as well as a range of protected species. They have led the ecological input for a broad range of projects, and routinely manages Ecological Impact Assessment (EclA) projects, providing detailed ecological advice at all stages.	BA MSc ACIEEM
LUC	Ecology Chapter Reviewer		The Ecology Chapter Reviewer is a Board Director for Ecology at LUC. They have 20 years of experience in ecological impact assessments for a wide range of projects including overhead lines, wind farms, and many other development projects across the UK. They have also provided expert witness evidence at Public Local Inquiries.	Cenv MCIEEM MEECW

Organisation	Role	Chapter	Expertise	Qualifications
LUC	Biodiversity Net Gain Specialist		The Biodiversity Net Gain specialist is a Senior Ecologist specialising in Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG), with a PhD in Sustainability and extensive experience in developing strategic BNG frameworks for infrastructure projects. As part of LUC's ecology team, they apply data-driven approaches to optimise BNG outcomes, focusing on habitat connectivity, ecological enhancement, and compliance with environmental regulations. For the SSEN Transmission Tealing to Kintore 400 kV project, The Biodiversity Net Gain Specialist led a GIS-based BNG optioneering assessment for the overhead line and piloted SSEN Transmission's proprietary BNG calculation tool for two electricity substations, streamlining the process for accurate biodiversity assessments. Additionally, they contributed to the development of high-level ecological principles to ensure effective BNG unit delivery, emphasising ecological relevance in project design. Beyond infrastructure, they have applied BNG methodologies across southern England, including matrix-based assessments to prioritise land for BNG implementation. With expertise in Defra's BNG metric and English BNG policy, they routinely work with the statutory BNG metric, ensuring compliance with national guidelines while enhancing biodiversity at a landscape scale.	PhD
LUC	Ornithology Chapter Author	Volume 2, Chapter 12: Ornithology Volume 2, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects	The Ornithology Chapter Author is a Principal Ecologist and Director with 15 years' experience in ecological survey and assessment with a particular specialism in ornithology. They have worked in renewable projects, including wind farms, OHLs and hydro-schemes, as well as associated infrastructure and has provided EIA input as well as surveying.	BSc PhD ACIEEM
LUC	Ornithology Chapter Reviewer	Volume 2, Chapter 17: Schedule of Mitigation Volume 2, Chapter 18: Summary of Effects	The Ornithology Chapter Reviewer has 24 years of experience as a professional ornithologist and ecologist, working within the consultancy sector and as a project manager and conservation advisor. They have managed ornithological input at over 35 wind farm and overhead line developments and taken a lead role in ecological survey and assessment at over 20 projects in a range of sectors. They regularly undertake technical reporting, EclA and Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) and have advised clients via feasibility studies, constraints mapping, project design and mitigation strategies. They have also planned and carried out bird and protected species surveys in a range of habitats and they are an experienced data analyst, having undertaken bird collision risk modelling and population modelling for several wind farm and overhead line projects. The Ornithology Chapter Reviewer is a skilled project manager and excellent communicator allowing them to oversee projects at all stages and liaise effectively with clients, colleagues and stakeholders to ensure prompt delivery of projects They have also planned and managed conservation projects in the public and charitable sectors, focusing on species recovery and the provision of conservation advice to land managers.	BSc MSc MCIEEM

Organisation	Role	Chapter	Expertise	Qualifications
Kaya Consulting	Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Soils Chapter Author	Volume 2, Chapter 13: Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Soils Volume 2, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects Volume 2, Chapter 17: Schedule of Mitigation Volume 2, Chapter 18: Summary of Effects	The Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Soils Chapter Author has over 22 years' experience in hydrology, geomorphology and environmental impact assessment. They have extensive experience of undertaking EIA for onshore wind farms as well as for housing, mixed use and linear development projects such as OHLs and roads.	BSc MSc PhD MCIWEM C.WEM
Kaya Consulting	Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Soils Chapter Author		The Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Soils Chapter Author is an Environmental Consultant and Hydrologist with 4 years' experience working on EIA hydrology, hydrogeology and peat surveys and assessments on numerous sites across Scotland, with specialisation in groundwater assessments. They have experience working on a range of renewable projects including wind farms, solar farms, BESS and OHLs and their associated infrastructure. They have worked on extensive hydrological modelling and flood risk assessments/flood management across the UK and Ireland.	BSc MSc
OWC Ltd	Peat Specialist and Peat Appendices Author		The Peat Specialist is a chartered geologist with 27+ years experience of mapping and interpreting peatland terrains and peat instability features. They provided expert input into the peat assessment, including the Outline Peat Management Plan (PMP) and Peat Landslide Hazard and Risk Assessment (PLHRA)	PhD
Pell Frischmann	Traffic and Transport Chapter Author	Volume 2, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport Volume 2, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects Volume 2, Chapter 17: Schedule of Mitigation Volume 2, Chapter 18: Summary of Effects	The transport and access impact assessment has been undertaken by Pell Frischmann and overseen by the Sector Director for Energy who has over 27 years' experience in energy projects across the UK, Ireland and Northern Europe, including providing expert witness evidence at a number of Public Local Inquiries.	BEng MSc CEng FCIHT CMILT
Wood Plc	Noise and Vibration Chapter Author	Volume 2, Chapter 15: Noise and Vibration Volume 2, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects Volume 2, Chapter 17: Schedule of Mitigation	The Noise and Vibration Chapter Author is a Senior Noise Consultant with 8 years' experience and an Associate Member of the Institute of Acoustics (AMIOA). They are a specialist in the environmental noise impacts of electrical infrastructure projects including substation, overhead line, and renewables projects. Their experience includes conducting noise impact assessments, noise modelling and prediction for inclusion within the EIA process while implementing standards and guidance including ETSU-R97 and IOA Good Practice Guides, BS4142, BS5228. In addition, they have extensive experience in specialist noise and vibration measurements and surveying, including the specification of noise control measures.	BSc Diploma in Acoustics and Noise Control (IOA)

Organisation	Role	Chapter	Expertise	Qualifications
Wood Plc	Noise and Vibration Chapter Reviewer	Volume 2, Chapter 18: Summary of Effects	The Noise and Vibration Chapter Reviewer is a Senior Engineer with 4 years' experience in Noise and Vibration consultancy. They have conducted several environmental noise and vibration impact assessments associated with electrical infrastructure such as overhead lines and substations. Their experience includes noise surveying, modelling, and prediction for inputs to EIA chapters while conducting assessments according to standards and guidance such as BS 4142, BS 5228, BS 8233, and TGN(E)322.	MEng