

**Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission plc**  
**Beauly-Denny Overhead Line Diversion**  
**Environmental Appraisal**  
**Technical Appendices**

**Appendix 5.3 - Landscape Effects**

**July 2025**



## APPENDIX 5.3: LANDSCAPE EFFECTS

For the determination of Susceptibility and Value leading to overall Sensitivity, please see **Appendix 5.2: Landscape Character Sensitivity**.

**Table Error! No text of specified style in document.-1 Landscape Effects**

Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Sensitivity (Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity are set out in Appendix 5.2)	Baseline description	Description of Impact	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
<b>NATURESCOT LCT 229 Enclosed Farmland</b>	<b>High</b>	<p>The LCT consists of an area of sheltered north facing sloping farmed land located west of Inverness. Land-use is predominantly mixed-use agriculture separated by a high proportion of trees, woodlands, forestry and hedgerows. Landform and tree cover limits long distance views; signs of urbanisation are present with increase in new housing developments and the landscape is crossed by overhead lines.</p> <p>There are no landscape designations in the LCT. Designated heritage interest includes the private estate of Beaufort Castle Garden and Designed Landscape and scattered heritage assets, including a church and cemetery near Black Bridge. The Core Paths/ designated public path network is relatively sparse. A reasonable number of people pass through the LCT on the A833 and short sections of the A831/ A862 to access Black bridge cemetery, Kiltarlity and paths alongside the River Beauly.</p>	<p><u>Construction Phase</u></p> <p>Construction of the Proposed Development will be located on a small elevated part of this LCT near Fanellan, south of Ruttle Wood and Tòrr Mòr in proximity to the existing OHL. The landscape within this character area is principally characterised by sloping agricultural land with some urban influences. The proposals will introduce additional large scale vertical elements within an open elevated area of this LCT which is relatively exposed to the south. Construction activity will be dominant within the localised landscape surrounding Fanellan. The scale of change is therefore assessed as <b>Medium</b>. The proposals occur within a small section of the LCT at Fanellan, but due to the exposed south facing slopes, the influence on the wider setting will be noticeable. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as <b>Medium</b>. The construction stage is considered to be short term and the duration of change is therefore assessed as <b>Low</b>.</p> <p>The overall magnitude of change is therefore assessed as <b>Medium</b>.</p>	<p><u>Construction Phase</u></p> <p><b>Medium</b></p>	<p><u>During Construction</u></p> <p><b>Moderate adverse (significant)</b> to a very localised area of the LCT.</p>
<b>NATURESCOT LCT 227 Farmed Strath - Inverness</b>	<b>High</b>	<p>The LCT is characterised by mainly open valley floors and a central meandering river, the narrow valley is enclosed by the steep sided valley walls. The slopes are well wooded comprising of mixture of broadleaf woodlands, conifer forests, which further emphasises the different land-uses between the and valley floor. There are several towers/overhead lines which are aligned with the valley floor /sides, or cross the valley and ascend to the skyline, forming prominent man-made features. The rivers are popular for recreational pursuits, and the River Beauly is dammed for hydro-electricity generation.</p>	<p><u>Construction Phase</u></p> <p>Construction of the Proposed Development will be located on a small part of this LCT south of Ruttle Wood and the hill top of Tòrr Mòr. The landscape within this character area is principally characterised by the river valley and mature woodlands and conifer forests. The proposals will remove a small portion of mature vegetation south of Tòrr Mòr and will include additional large scale vertical infrastructure within an open and relatively exposed localised area of this LCT. However, the construction activity will influence a minor aspect of this LCT. The scale of change is therefore assessed as <b>Low</b>. The proposals extend across a small section of the LCT beyond Ruttle Wood. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as <b>Low</b>. The construction stage is considered to be short term and the duration of change is therefore assessed as <b>Low</b></p>	<p><u>Construction Phase</u></p> <p><b>Low</b></p>	<p><u>During Construction</u></p> <p>Minor adverse (not significant)</p>