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Your ref: ECU00003395

Dear Lee

Skye Reinforcement Project Additional Information Submission

The following additional information is submitted for the above application.

Compensation Plan

A Compensation Plan is submitted in relation to the Kinloch and Kyleakin Hills Special Area of Conservation (SAC). The Plan provides appropriate information to demonstrate that the required compensation can be successfully delivered within the areas identified, providing information on compensatory measures, timescales and monitoring.

Compensation Strategy

A Compensation Strategy is submitted to set out how the Applicant intends to deliver the environmental compensation requirements for the Skye Reinforcement Project. It provides an overview to key statutory authorities and wider stakeholders of SSEN Transmission's commitments to delivering compensation for the Skye Reinforcement Project.

Peat Landslide and Hazard Risk Assessment

A revision to the Peat Landslide and Hazard Risk Assessment (PLHRA) (Volume 5 – Appendix V2-7.2: PLHRA of the Skye Reinforcement Project EIA Report (September 2022)) has been undertaken to address comments made by NatureScot and the Scottish Government (by their peat landslide advisors Ironside Farrar) during determination of the application.

The report presents the results of additional peat probing, peat characterisation and auguring, geomorphological mapping, and using this information a reappraisal of the peat landslide hazard associated with all elements of the Proposed Development.

Technical Note to NatureScot

A Technical Note to provide further information on points raised by NatureScot regarding the assessment of collision risk to common scoter (*Melanitta nigra*), a qualifying species of the West Inverness-shire Lochs Special Protection Area (SPA). NatureScot's comments were conveyed in a letter (dated 09 February 2023) to the Scottish Government in response to the Skye Reinforcement Project Section 37 application.

Update to Annex E of Shadow HRA for Kinloch and Kyleakin Hills SAC

Annex E of Volume 5 – Appendix V2-4.7: Kinloch and Kyleakin Hills SAC Shadow Habitats Regulation Appraisal (HRA) of the Skye Reinforcement Project EIA Report (September 2022) contained an error against Impact 7 for Western Acidic Oak Woodland. The 'Adverse Effect on the Integrity of the Site' was noted as 'Adverse'. This is incorrect and has been amended to 'Not Adverse' in the revised Matrix submitted so that it is consistent with the conclusions within the Shadow HRA (P.82 states '...it can be reasonably concluded that there would be no adverse in-combination impacts on the Site for any of the impacts considered above').

Yours sincerely



Lead Consents and Environment Manager