

VOLUME 4: APPENDIX V1-6.5: VISUAL ASSESSMENT TABLES

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- 1.1.1 **Table 1** presents the assessment of people at building-based receptors. The building-based receptors are generally grouped geographically and it should be noted that the changes to the views would not necessarily be experienced by all of the properties in the group. The changes described relate to people at those properties where principal views are in the direction of the Proposed Alignment: some properties main focus of view will be away from the Proposed Alignment.
- 1.1.2 As there is an Alternative Alignment being proposed, the groups presented in **Table 1** include those which may be affected by the Alternative Alignment (i.e. those within the Alternative Alignment study area) but will not be affected by the Proposed Alignment (i.e. those outwith the Proposed Alignment study area). This is simply to allow comparison between the alignments by keeping the groupings of building based receptors the same. Where building-based receptor groups are outwith the Proposed Alignment study area, these are in grey text in **Table 1**.
- 1.1.3 **Table 2** covers people on route-based receptors and **Table 3** addresses people at outdoor receptors.
- 1.1.4 The locations of building based receptors are shown on **Volume 2: Figures V1-6.4a – 6.4f** and the locations of route based and outdoor based receptors are shown on **Volume 2: Figure V1-6.5**.
- 1.1.5 Receptors which are predicted to experience significant effects are highlighted in grey. All effects are adverse unless otherwise stated.

Table 1: Building-based Receptors

Ref.	Location/Type/Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
B1	Properties on Minor Road to Strathy Point (North Section) Residents. (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4a)	There are approximately six houses in this group. The majority have southerly views principal views while two look in an easterly direction out to sea and along the coastline. Views south are mainly over semi improved grassland and scattered dwellings east of the minor road, and over rough grassland west of the road, with a simple horizon formed by low moorland hills. There are some wood pole mounted overhead lines along the minor road.	High Dwellings where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are no detracting features present.	This group lies outwith the study area and would not be affected by the Proposed Alignment.	None
B2	Properties on Minor Road to Strathy Point (South Section) Residents. (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4a)	There are approximately 14 houses in this group. Most of these have principal views in a south easterly direction although one faces north west and three look over Strathy Bay to the east. Views south are mainly over semi improved grassland and scattered dwellings east of the minor road with a simple low moorland horizon. Some properties have views of the distant Bens Giam. There are some wood pole mounted overhead lines along the minor road and telecommunications mast in the distance.	Medium Dwellings where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are some distracting features present (wood pole mounted overhead lines, telecommunications mast)	Construction: Medium The northerly of these receptors would be unaffected by construction activity. The remainder would generally have views of works associated with a low numbers of towers with people in the more elevated properties seeing higher number of towers than those which are lower lying. The activity would be seen at least partially breaching the skyline at a distance in excess of 3km. Works associated with the dismantling of the existing OHL and the construction associated with the improvement of existing access tracks would be unlikely to be noticeable from this receptor.	Moderate Significant
				Operation: Medium Five of the most northerly receptors would be unaffected by the Proposed Alignment. The remainder would generally see low numbers of towers with people in the more elevated properties seeing higher number of towers. The closest visible towers would seen at least partially breaching the skyline at a distance in excess of 3 km.	Moderate Significant

Ref.	Location/Type/Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
B3	Strathy Bay Pods Residents and Visitors to holiday accommodation (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4a)	The house and the pods are orientated approximately north-west to south-east with the pods overlooking Strathy Bay towards the dramatic folded cliffs east of Melvich Bay with a patchwork of rectilinear fields at the top of the cliffs. Strathy Cemetery is a focus in the view with scattered dwellings set among enclosed fields with pockets of deciduous woodland further inland. Above this settled croft land is rising moorland which forms a very gently undulating skyline. The house looks south-east over rough grasslands and scattered properties.	High Dwelling and holiday accommodation where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are no detracting features present.	Construction: Low Construction operations would not impinge on the views towards Strathy Bay. Works associated with the dismantling of the existing OHL and the construction associated with the improvement of existing access tracks would be unlikely to be noticeable from this receptor. Activity would be seen in sidelong views looking inland and would result in a perceptible change to the existing view.	Minor Not significant
				Operation: Low The Proposed Alignment would not impinge on the views towards Strathy Bay. It would be seen in sidelong views looking inland and would result in a perceptible change to the existing view.	Minor Not significant

Ref.	Location/Type/Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
B4	Properties at Strathy along the A836 West of the River Strathy Residents and visitors to Strathy Inn (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4a)	There are approximately 22 properties in this group, including 1-12 Stevenson Terrace and individual properties. They have varying orientations, but the majority have principal views in a southerly or easterly direction. Those looking south have a rising foreground of rough grassland which curtails more distant views. Looking south-east, they have views into the strath with scattered houses sitting along the minor road which marks a change in landcover from grassland to moorland. Those properties which have a predominantly easterly aspect have views over grassland and sand dunes near the mouth of the River Strathy.	Medium Dwellings and Inn where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are some detracting features present (A836)	Construction: Low One of these receptors would be unaffected by the construction operations due to the screening effects of mature woodland. The properties which look predominantly eastwards would not be affected by construction works. The remaining receptors would generally have views of work associated with low numbers of towers at a distance in excess of 3 km. Works associated with the dismantling of the existing OHL and the construction associated with the improvement of existing access tracks would be unlikely to be noticeable from this receptor.	Minor Not significant
				Operation: Low One of these receptors would be unaffected by the Proposed Alignment due to the screening effects of mature woodland. The (approximately) 13 properties which look predominantly eastwards would not be affected by the Proposed Alignment. The remaining receptors would generally have views of low numbers of towers. The closest visible towers would be seen at least partially breaching the skyline at a distance in excess of 3 km.	Minor Not significant
B5	The Old Post Office Employees and customers (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4a)	This building sits immediately south of the A836 and has views over the road in a north-easterly direction over rough grassland towards the bay. There are no views to the south-west due to the sloping ground to the rear of the property.	Medium Dwelling where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are some detracting features present (A836)	Construction: None No visibility	None
				Operation: None No visibility	
B6	Strathy Village Hall People using the hall	The hall is orientated approximately south-west to north-east. There are ground floor and first floor windows looking towards the NE. There are upper windows on the NW, SW and SE façades. The main view looks	Medium Building with public access where a changed aspect is a	Construction: Low Construction works would be perceptible in views looking to the south-east where the main views are to the north-east. Works associated with low numbers of towers would be visible or partially visible at distances in excess of 2 km.	Minor Not significant

Ref.	Location/Type/Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
	(see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4a)	over the A836 road towards rough grassland with riparian woodland along the banks of the River Strathy and scattered dwellings on the eastern side of the strath. There are wood pole mounted overhead lines visible above the skyline.	less important element of the view.	Works associated with the dismantling of the existing OHL and the construction associated with the improvement of existing access tracks would be unlikely to be noticeable from this receptor.	
				Operation: Low The Proposed Alignment would be perceptible in views looking to the south-east where the main views are to the north-east. Low numbers of towers would be visible or partially visible at distances in excess of 2km.	Minor Not significant
B7	Properties at Strathy east of the River Strathy and north of the A836 Residents (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4a)	There are approximately 11 receptors in this group and the majority have principal views to the south-west. Two at the north of the group look out over Strathy Bay while three in the east look south or south-east. The views south eastwards are over the fertile lands near the mouth of the River Strathy with scattered settlement and tree cover. The strath is contained by rising moorland slopes and the turbines at Strathy North and Strathy Wood Wind Farms would be clearly visible in the distance.	Medium Dwellings where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and where some detracting features are present (Strathy North and Strathy Wood Wind Farms, A836).	Construction: Medium The majority of these receptors would either have no view or would see construction works in side long views (i.e. the works would not impinge on views over the strath and would be seen in the context of turbines at Strathy North and Strathy Wood Wind Farms). For properties with a south easterly aspect, construction operations associated with a low to medium number of towers would be visible. Works associated with the dismantling of the existing OHL and the construction associated with the improvement of existing access tracks would be unlikely to be noticeable from this receptor.	Minor – Moderate Not significant
				Operation: Medium Most of these receptors would either have no view or would see the Proposed Alignment in side long views (i.e. the towers would not impinge on views over the strath and they would be seen in the context of wind turbines). For properties with a south easterly aspect, a low to medium number of towers, or parts of towers, would be visible in the context of the moving turbines at Strathy North and Strathy Wood Wind Farms.	Minor – Moderate Not significant

Ref.	Location/Type/Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
B8	New House at Strathy Residents (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4a)	This individual house is situated in a locally elevated position and has a principal view in a north westerly direction looking over the A836 towards the dispersed settlement at East Strathy which sits in a mosaic of improved and semi improved grassland and moorland. There are windows on the ground and upper floor which face south-east, but views are blocked, or partially blocked by a large agricultural building to the rear of the house. There are also windows on the ground and upper floors which look south-west along the strath.	Medium Dwelling where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and where some detracting features are present (wood pole mounted overhead lines, A836).	Construction: Low This receptor would have views of construction work associated with low – medium numbers of towers from the side window which looks down the strath. Views from the principal windows would be unaffected. The towers in the strath would be seen at distances in excess of 2 km. Works associated with the dismantling of the existing OHL and the construction associated with the improvement of existing access tracks would be unlikely to be noticeable from this receptor.	Minor – Moderate Not significant
				Operation: Low This receptor would have views of low – medium numbers of towers from the side window which looks down the strath. Views from the principal windows would be unaffected. The towers in the Strath would be seen at distances in excess of 2km	Minor – Moderate Not significant
B9	Properties at Strathy east of the River Strathy and south of the A836 Residents (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4a)	There are approximately 11 receptors in this group and the principal view for the majority is in a north westerly direction. There are two which look towards the south and these have views along the strath towards the moving turbines at Strathy North and Strathy Wood Wind Farms. Those orientated north-west look over the strath to the moorland slopes beyond. Their view is simple in composition and punctuated by scattered buildings within the strath. Strathy Wood forest and Strathy North and Strathy Wood Wind Farms would be visible from some of these receptors.	Medium Dwellings where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and where some detracting features are present (Strathy North Wind Farm, forest plantation).	Construction: Negligible The two receptors with southerly aspects would have views of construction activity associated with low numbers of towers at distances in excess of 2 km. Those with a north-westerly aspect would only have side long views from their garden grounds and they are unlikely to have views from rear windows as the landform rises immediately to the east. Works associated with the dismantling of the existing OHL and the construction associated with the improvement of existing access tracks would be unlikely to be noticeable from this receptor.	Minor Not significant
				Operation: Negligible The two receptors with southerly aspects would have views of low numbers of towers at distances in excess of 2 km. Those with a north-westerly aspect would only have side long views from their garden grounds and they are unlikely to	Minor Not significant

Ref.	Location/Type/Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
				have views from rear windows as the landform rises immediately to the east.	
B10	Properties at Baligill Residents (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4a)	There are approximately 11 houses in this group although one is derelict. These properties are generally orientated approximately west – east with principal views generally to the west and south. Views in a southerly direction are over rough grassland and moorland south of the A836 with wood pole mounted overhead lines visible close to the road and the turbines at Strathy North and Strathy Wood Wind Farms are prominent in the distance.	Medium Dwellings where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and where some detracting features are present (wood pole mounted overhead lines, wind turbines and A836)	Construction: Medium The visibility of construction operations would vary within this receptor group with people at those properties on higher ground in the centre of the group seeing more than those at the northerly houses and those at lower lying locations. Construction work would be seen in the context of the distant moving turbines at Strathy North and Strathy Wood Wind Farms. Works associated with the dismantling of the existing OHL would be unlikely to be noticeable from this receptor which may see a limited amount of activity associated with the construction associated with the improvement of existing access tracks	Moderate Significant
				Operation: Medium The number of towers visible would range from low to high with the highest numbers of turbines being visible from those properties on higher ground north of Strathroy. The towers would be seen traversing higher moorland with some towers skylining. They would be seen in the context of the distant moving turbines at Strathy North and Strathy Wood Wind Farms.	Moderate Significant
B11	Properties in north-east Portskerra Residents (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4b)	There are approximately six houses in this group which all have a predominantly north-east facing aspect looking out over Port Skerra and the Pentland Firth towards Orkney and Dunnet Head.	High Dwellings where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are no detracting features present.	Construction: Negligible Three of these properties have theoretical visibility of construction operations associated with a very low number of towers. Given their aspect, it is unlikely that the Proposed Alignment would be perceptible.	Negligible Not significant
				Operation: Negligible Three of these properties have theoretical visibility of a very low number of towers. Given their aspect, it is unlikely that the Proposed Alignment would be perceptible.	Negligible Not significant

Ref.	Location/Type/Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
B12	Berrigoe, Portskerra Residents (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4b)	This property is multi aspect and has views and looks north-east over improved grassland to the row of cottages above Portskerra. Views east are along the coastline to Dounreay and Dunnet Head. Views south take in agricultural fields and scattered settlement in Portskerra.	High Dwelling where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are no detracting features present.	Construction: None No theoretical visibility.	None
				Operation: None No theoretical visibility.	None
B13	Properties in north west Portskerra Residents (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4b)	There are approximately 14 houses in this receptor group. The principal view for these is either to the north east or south east. They look downslope over agricultural fields to the coastline and along the coast to Dounreay and Dunnet Head.	High Dwellings where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are no detracting features present.	Construction: Negligible Only one of the receptors in this group has theoretical visibility of the construction operations. Given the aspect of this property, it is unlikely that the construction works would be perceptible.	Negligible Not significant
				Operation: Negligible Only one of the receptors in this group has theoretical visibility of the Proposed Alignment. Given the aspect of this property, it is unlikely that the Proposed Alignment would be perceptible.	Negligible Not significant
B14	Properties to the rear of Mill House, Portskerra Residents (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4b)	The two buildings in this group look towards the south-east and north west. Views in both directions are short range due to the screening effects of topography and/or vegetation.	Medium Dwellings where the changed aspect is a less important element in the view	Construction: None No theoretical visibility.	None
				Operation: None No theoretical visibility.	None
B15	Properties in north central Portskerra Residents (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4b)	This small group of four receptors either have multi aspect or principal views to the south-east over agricultural fields towards Melvich Bay.	High Dwellings where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are no detracting features present.	Construction: None No theoretical visibility.	None
				Operation: None No theoretical visibility.	None

Ref.	Location/Type/Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
B16	Properties in north west central Portskerra Residents (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4b)	The seven houses in this group are predominantly south-east facing although two have principal views to the east. They look towards other houses in the settlement and out over Melvich Bay and towards Orkney.	High Dwellings where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are no detracting features present.	Construction: Negligible This group has theoretical visibility of works associated with very low numbers of towers, three properties are unlikely to notice this due either to their aspect or to the screening effects of adjacent buildings. The remaining four receptors which look to the south-east are unlikely to perceive construction activity due to the screening effect of neighbouring rooftops.	Negligible Not significant
				Operation: Negligible This group has theoretical visibility of very low numbers of towers, three properties are unlikely to notice the Proposed Alignment due either to their aspect or to the screening effects of adjacent buildings. The remaining four receptors which look to the south-east are unlikely to perceive the Proposed Alignment due to the screening effect of neighbouring rooftops and the presence of other vertical features in the foreground.	Negligible Not significant
B17	Properties near Melvich Primary School Residents, staff and pupils at the school (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4b)	These 28 receptors are generally orientated north-east to south-west although there are receptors in Mackay Terrace orientated north-west to south-east whose views south eastwards are obstructed or partially obstructed by adjacent buildings. View to the north-east are over rooftops to the sea with Orkney and Dunnet Head visible in the distance.	Medium Dwellings and publicly accessible building where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are some detracting features present (adjacent buildings, wood pole mounted overhead lines and street lighting).	Construction: None No theoretical visibility.	None
				Operation: None No theoretical visibility.	None

Ref.	Location/Type/Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
B18	Properties at east Portskerra Residents (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4b)	These seven houses are orientated approximately north – south with their southerly views obstructed by adjacent dwellings and outbuildings. They have sidelong views eastwards over Melvich Bay.	Medium Dwellings where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are some detracting features present (adjacent buildings and street lighting).	Construction: None No theoretical visibility.	None
				Operation: None No theoretical visibility.	None
B19	Properties at central Portskerra Residents (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4b)	These seven buildings are orientated approximately south-east although one also has views in an easterly direction over Melvich Bay. Their views towards the south are generally obstructed by adjacent houses.	Medium Dwellings where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are some detracting features present (adjacent buildings and street lighting).	Construction: None No theoretical visibility.	None
				Operation: None No theoretical visibility.	None
B20	Sunny Ridge Residents (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4b)	This property is orientated approximately west – east. There is an outbuilding to the rear of the property which curtails views to the east and south-east.	Dwelling where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are some detracting features present (adjacent buildings and street lighting).	Construction: Negligible While there is theoretical visibility of construction operations associated with very low numbers of towers, these are unlikely to be perceptible due the screening effect of the large outbuilding.	Negligible Not significant
				Operation: Negligible While there is theoretical visibility of very low numbers of towers, these are unlikely to be perceptible due the screening effect of the large outbuilding.	Negligible Not significant

Ref.	Location/Type/Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
B21	Properties at south central Portskerra Residents (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4b)	These 27 properties have varying orientations but are characterised by having their wider views largely obstructed by adjoining buildings and or vegetation. Where there are views out, these tend to be slot views framed by vegetation or buildings and look out in the direction of the bay.	Dwellings where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are some detracting features present (adjacent buildings and street lighting).	Construction: Negligible While there is theoretical visibility of construction operations associated with very low numbers of towers, these are unlikely to be perceptible due to the screening effects of adjacent buildings and/or vegetation.	Negligible Not significant
				Operation: Negligible While there is theoretical visibility of very low numbers of towers, these are unlikely to be perceptible due to the screening effects of adjacent buildings and/or vegetation. .	Negligible Not significant
B22	Properties in south Portskerra Residents, employees and visitors to Post Office (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4b)	Properties within this group of ten are largely orientated approximately north – south and they in turn obstruct each other's views in a southerly direction. Views south eastwards are over grassland towards the moorland hills east of the strath.	Medium Dwellings and publicly accessible buildings where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are some detracting features present (adjacent buildings and street lighting).	Construction: Negligible While there is theoretical visibility of very low numbers of towers, these are unlikely to be perceptible due to the screening effects of neighbouring houses.	Negligible Not significant
				Operation: Negligible While there is theoretical visibility of very low numbers of towers, these are unlikely to be perceptible due to the screening effects of neighbouring houses.	Negligible Not significant
B23	Properties on A836 west of Portskerra Residents (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4b)	These two receptors are situated in an elevated position and have slightly different orientations (principal views to the north-east and east) but both have views to the south and south-east. They look over rough grassland towards Melvich Bay to the east and southwards over the A836 and rough grassland to moorland with wood pole mounted overhead lines breaching the skyline.	Medium Dwellings where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are some detracting features present (A836 and wood pole mounted overhead lines).	Construction: Negligible Only the easternmost property would see works associated with a very low number of towers and as the principal view is to the east, it is unlikely that the this would be perceptible. Works associated with access tracks are unlikely to be visible due to the screening effects of landform south of the A836.	Negligible Not significant
				Operation: Negligible Only the easternmost property has theoretical visibility of a very low number of towers and as the principal view is to the east, it is unlikely that the Proposed Alignment will be perceptible.	Negligible Not significant

Ref.	Location/Type/Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
B24	Properties at South Portskerra Residents, employees and visitors to the hotel (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4b)	These three receptors are orientated approximately north-west to south-east with principal views over agricultural fields to Melvich Bay.	High Dwellings and hotel where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are no detracting features present.	Construction: Negligible There is theoretical visibility of works associated with a very low numbers of towers. This would be seen only in side long views and is unlikely to be perceptible.	Negligible Not significant
				Operation: Negligible This group has theoretical visibility of very low numbers of towers. They would be seen only in side long views and are unlikely to be perceptible.	Negligible Not significant
B25	Melvich Park Cottage and Coastline Café Residents and visitors to café (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4b)	These two buildings are orientated approximately north-west to south-east, and their views are over grassland towards neighbouring properties to moorland hills where a telecommunications mast is visible.	Medium Dwellings where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are some detracting features present (A836, wood pole mounted overhead lines and telecommunications mast).	Construction: Negligible These buildings have theoretical visibility of works associated with very low numbers of towers. Operations would be seen in the context of wood pole mounted overhead lines and a telecommunications mast and are unlikely to be perceptible. Construction associated with the improvement of existing access tracks is unlikely to be seen.	Negligible Not significant
				Operation: Negligible This group has theoretical visibility of very low numbers of towers. They would be seen in the context of wood pole mounted overhead lines and a telecommunications mast and are unlikely to be perceptible.	Negligible Not significant
B26	Properties south of the Coastline Café Residents (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4b)	These approximately 12 properties are generally orientated approximately north – south and overlook the A836 to rough grassland and Melvich Bay beyond. There is street lighting and wood pole mounted overhead lines	Medium Dwellings where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are some detracting features present (A836, wood pole mounted overhead lines and street lighting).	Construction: None No theoretical visibility.	None
				Operation: None No theoretical visibility.	None

Ref.	Location/Type/Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
B27	Property east of Melvich Terrace Residents (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4b)	This property is orientated north-west to south east with principal windows and conservatory on the SE elevation. It looks out over the garden ground to neighbouring properties which lie beyond some deciduous and coniferous trees. There are wood pole mounted overhead lines to the south of this receptor.	Medium Dwelling where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are some detracting features present (A836, wood pole mounted overhead lines and street lighting).	Construction: None No theoretical visibility.	None
				Operation: None No theoretical visibility.	None
B28	Properties at central Melvich Residents (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4b)	These five properties either side of the A836 have slightly varying elevations and orientations but their common view is downslope over agricultural fields towards Melvich Bay.	Medium Dwellings where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are some detracting features present (A836 and street lighting).	Construction: None No theoretical visibility.	None
				Operation: None No theoretical visibility.	None
B29	Properties at south Melvich Residents (see Volume 2: Figure V16.4b)	These 17 properties are generally orientated approximately north-east to south-west. Their elevations are varied with some sitting above the A836 looking over the road while others are on the downslope of the hillside below to A836. They all have views over agricultural fields towards the distinctive sand dunes at Melvich Bay,	Medium Dwellings where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are some detracting features present (A836 and street lighting).	Construction: Negligible The northern houses in this group have no theoretical visibility. Those in the south of the group have theoretical visibility of construction works associated with very low numbers of towers. Works associated with the cable sealing end (CSE) compound and underground cable at Connagill are also theoretically visible but at around 5km distant. This receptor may have views of a limited amount of activity associated with the construction of new and improved access tracks. Given the focus of view towards the bay, it is unlikely that this will be perceptible.	Negligible Not significant
				Operation: Negligible	Negligible

Ref.	Location/Type/Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
				The northern houses in this group have no theoretical visibility of the Proposed Alignment. Those in the south of the group have theoretical visibility of very low numbers of towers and the CSE compound at approximately 5 km distant. Given the focus of view towards the bay, it is unlikely that the Proposed Alignment would be perceptible.	Not significant
B30	Halladale Inn Residents, staff and customers at the Inn (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4b)	Principal views are to the south-east although there are windows looking north westwards and a decked area with glimpsed views towards Melvich Bay and the mouth of the Halladale River to the north east. Southerly views take in agricultural grazings, Loch Beag and Loch Mòr with wood pole mounted overhead lines and roadside lighting along the A836. Plant at the gravel workings is visible with commercial forest plantations and a wind turbine to the south-east.	Medium Publicly accessible building where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are some detracting features present (A836 and street lighting).	Construction: Minor Works associated with a low to medium numbers of towers, the CSE compound and the underground cables are theoretically visible from this receptor in distant views up Strath Halladale but are unlikely to be perceptible from the rear windows or the decked area. Views of construction works from within the building would be limited to oblique and distant views of works associated with steel lattice towers on the slopes south of Kirkton.	Minor Not significant
				Construction: Minor Low to medium numbers of towers and the CSE compound are theoretically visible from this receptor but are unlikely to be perceptible from anywhere other than from south-east facing windows (oblique views) and from outside the Inn. The towers would be seen in the distance as they descend the slopes south of Kirkton and the CSE compound is theoretically visible at around 5 km distant.	Minor Not significant
B31	Bighouse Lodge Strathview The Barracks Residents, employees and visitors to holiday accommodation	These properties have views southwards along the Halladale River which meanders through the strath with rough grassland on the side slopes and improved grassland above. This gives way in turn to moorland vegetation on higher slopes with scattered dwellings and forest plantations visible. There are steel lattice towers visible in the distance and the structures at Melvich and Kirkton gravel pit are prominent.	Medium Dwellings/holiday accommodation where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are some detracting features present (structures at	Construction: Negligible Construction works associated with low numbers of towers would be visible but at distances of more than 3 km. Given the distance involved and the focus of the view along the river, it is unlikely that the construction works would be particularly noticeable.	Minor Not significant
				Operation: Negligible Low numbers of towers would be visible but at distances of more than 3 km. At this distance, it is considered that the	Minor Not significant

Ref.	Location/Type/Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
	(see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4b)		gravel pit and steel lattice towers).	presence of towers in the view which is focussed along the river would be unlikely to be particularly noticeable.	
B32	The Netstore Fishery Cottage Residents, employees and visitors to holiday accommodation (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4b)	One of these houses looks to the north while the other look westwards. Their focus of view is the Halladale River and the sand dunes at the rear of Melvich Bay.	High Dwellings / holiday accommodation where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are few detracting features present (structures at the sand and gravel quarry)	Construction: None Although there is theoretical visibility of construction works there would be no visibility due to the location and orientation of these dwellings.	None
				Operation: None Although there is theoretical visibility of the Proposed Alignment, there would be no visibility due to the location and orientation of these dwellings.	None
B33	Properties east of Bighouse Lodge Residents (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4b)	These two properties have views from an elevated position in a south westerly direction. The look over Melvich Bay and the mouth of the Halladale River to agricultural fields on the west side of the strath. A telecommunications mast is visible to the south-west.	High Dwellings where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are no detracting features present.	Construction: Medium Construction works associated with medium to high number of towers would be visible together with some limited views of activity associated with the dismantling of the existing OHL and the new and improved access tracks. This activity would take place on the hillside beyond the telecommunications mast and high level activity would breach the skyline. Works associated with those towers which would traverse the strath would be visible from this elevated receptor group.	Moderate significant
				Operation: Medium A medium to high number of towers would be visible on the hillside to the west of the telecommunications mast with some towers breaching the skyline. The OHL would traverse the strath would be visible from this elevated receptor group.	Moderate significant
B34	Lochend, Melvich Residents	This property is orientated approximately north – south with windows on both facades. The view north looks towards Melvich Bay and the sea. Views in a southerly direction are partially obscured	Medium Dwelling where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there	Construction: Low Works associated with low numbers of towers are theoretically visible from this receptor and the construction associated with the improvement of existing access tracks. Activity would be seen in the context of outbuildings and	Minor Not significant

Ref.	Location/Type/Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
	(see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4c)	by outbuildings. The view in this direction includes wood pole mounted overhead lines with gorse scrub in the foreground towards the moorland covered low hills either side of the strath.	are some detracting features present (wood pole mounted overhead lines, outbuildings).	other structures including wood pole mounted overhead lines. Operation: Low Low numbers of towers are theoretically visible from this receptor and they would appear breaching the skyline as the line descends the hillside west of the Strath. More distant towers would be visible crossing Strath Halladale. The Proposed Alignment would be seen in the context of outbuildings and other structures including wood pole mounted overhead lines.	 Minor Not significant
B35	Bridge House, Melvich Residents (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4c)	This house is low lying and largely enclosed by a combination of topography and vegetation. Principal views are to the east. The views to the south are largely screened.	High Dwellings where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are no detracting features present.	Construction: Negligible There may be glimpsed views of construction works associated with a small number of towers south of Kirkton. The principal views would be unaffected.	Negligible Not significant
				Operation: Negligible There may be glimpsed views of a small number of towers south of Kirkton. The principal views would be unaffected.	Negligible Not significant
B36	Properties at Strath Halladale north Residents (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4c)	The principal views for these two properties are to the south looking over improved grassland, gorse, semi improved and rough grassland on the lower lying land with a mosaic of heather moorland and rough grassland at higher elevation. In views north there are wood pole mounted overhead lines, gravel workings, blocks of forest plantation, agricultural outbuildings and a telecommunications mast on Cnoc a' Choire Mhòir.	Medium Dwellings where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are some detracting features present (steel lattice towers, wood pole mounted overhead lines and wind turbine).	Construction: High Works associated with a medium to high number of towers and some activity associated with improvements to existing tracks are theoretically visible from this receptor group. Operations would be seen on the western side slopes of the strath with high level works breaching the skyline at distances of 1.5 km and greater. The construction works would introduce additional activity into a view where activity is currently limited to farm and vehicular traffic on the A897.	Moderate - Major significant
				Operation: High A medium to high number of towers would be visible from this receptor group. They would be seen on the western side slopes of the strath with some breaching the skyline at distances of 1.5 km and greater. The Proposed Alignment would add tall man-made structures into a part of the view	Moderate - Major significant

Ref.	Location/Type/Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
				where no such elements exist, aside for the telecommunications mast at Cnoc a' Choire Mhòir. (Refer to Volume 3a - Figures V1-VL3a – 3c: A897 near Golval and Volume 3b - Figures V1-VL3a – 3e: A897 near Golval)	
B37	Properties at Kirkton Residents (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4c)	The three houses in this receptor group have varying orientations with Kirkton Cottage being largely surrounded by garden vegetation and woodland to the west. The other two properties have open views over and along the strath. The substation at Connagill is visible together with wood pole and steel lattice mounted overhead lines.	Medium Dwellings where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are some detracting features present (steel lattice towers, wood pole mounted overhead lines, substation).	Construction: High This road would be used by construction traffic to access parts of the Proposed Alignment site and higher numbers of vehicle traffic would be visible. Works associated with a small to medium number of towers and some activity associated with improvements to existing tracks would be visible from the southernmost two buildings in this group. Works would be seen on the slopes to the south of the cemetery with high level operations breaching the skyline. Operations on the strath floor would be visible where construction would take place at the river crossing and for the connection into the substation.	Moderate - Major significant
				Operation: Moderate A small to medium number of towers would be seen at distances of between 1 km and 2.5 km. Several of the towers would be seen breaching the skyline where the route descends the hillside to cross the strath. The Proposed Alignment would add further electricity infrastructure to the view and there would be some overlapping and crossing wires and supports.	Moderate significant
B38	Tigh na Breac, Strath Halladale Residents (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4c)	This isolated property is orientated approximately south-west to north-east with principal ground floor windows/French doors on the SW façade overlooking Loch Earacha towards semi-improved grassland which gives way to a mosaic of moorland and grassland with coniferous forest visible on the more distant horizon. Upper	High Dwelling where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are no detracting features present.	Construction: High This house has theoretical visibility of construction operations of a high number of towers and some activity associated with improvements to existing tracks. The closest activity would be across the strath at distances of less than 1 km with more distant towers being seen ascending the hillside to the north-west. There is also theoretical visibility of construction works associated with the CSE compound and the underground	Major Significant

Ref.	Location/Type/Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
		windows are skylights. There are windows at ground and first floor level on the SW and NE gables with the latter looking along the strath where wood pole mounted overhead lines lie approximately parallel to the A897.		<p>cable at Connagill at just over 1 km distant. Construction operations would be clearly visible from the SW facing windows. There would be a very noticeable change to the view.</p> <p>Operation: High</p> <p>There is theoretical visibility of a high number of towers at distances of less than 1 km. The CSE compound is also theoretically visible at just over 1 km distant. The Proposed Alignment would be clearly visible from the SW facing windows. There would be a very noticeable change to the view.</p> <p>(Refer to Volume 3a, Figures VL4a-4c: A897 at Loch Earcha and Volume 3b, Figures VL4a-4e: A897 at Loch Earcha)</p>	Major Significant
B39	Properties at Strath Halladale central Residents (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4d)	These nine properties are orientated approximately west-east with principal views generally to the west to rising ground with a mosaic of heather moorland and rough grassland above the strath. For some of these properties, there are clear views or filtered views over the strath floor with semi-improved grassland close to the road, scrub woodland on the river banks and grazings west of the river with scattered settlement at the break of slope. Where there are views north and east, these often include steel lattice towers running approximately parallel to the road on high ground. At lower elevation there is deciduous scrub woodland and gorse with moorland cover on the upper slopes and rocky outcrops. For some of these properties there are also views of a wind turbine and wood pole mounted overhead lines.	Medium Dwellings where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are some detracting features present (steel lattice towers, wood pole mounted overhead lines and wind turbine).	<p>Construction: Negligible</p> <p>These properties have theoretical visibility of construction operations associated with a very small number of towers at more than 1 km distant. Taking into account their orientation, it is considered that construction operations would be barely perceptible.</p> <p>Operation: Negligible</p> <p>A very small number of towers are theoretically visible at more than 1 km distant. Taking into consideration their orientation, it is considered that construction operations would be barely perceptible.</p>	<p>Negligible Not Significant</p> <p>Negligible Not Significant</p>

Ref.	Location/Type/Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
B40	Properties at Upper Bighouse Residents (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4d)	These three properties are orientated approximately west – east with principal views looking eastwards. There are views up and down the strath as well as across it. The foreground of the views are relatively large scale rectilinear improved grasslands enclosed by post and wire fences. Along the banks of the river are stands of deciduous woodland which largely conceal the A897. Scattered dwellings are visible with rising moorland to the east and some blocks of deciduous woodland and commercial forest. Steel lattice towers are visible, often breaking the skyline. There is also a single turbine, backclothed by rising landform. Views westwards are curtailed by rising ground with heather and rough grassland cover landcover.	Medium Dwellings where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are some detracting features present (steel lattice towers and wind turbine).	Construction: Negligible These properties have theoretical visibility of construction operations associated with a very small number of towers at more than 2 km distant. Taking into consideration the main directions of view, it is considered that construction operations would be barely perceptible.	Negligible Not Significant
				Operation: Negligible There is theoretical visibility of a small number of towers – those to the north east, within the strath. Given the main angles of view from these properties, it is considered that the change to their views would be barely perceptible.	Negligible Not Significant
B41	Mission House Visitors to the hall (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4e)	This is a single storey building with low and high level windows looking westwards. The view is filtered by roadside deciduous scrub woodland with glimpses of the moorland slopes west of the river.	High Publicly accessible building where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are no detracting features present.	Construction: None Although there is theoretical visibility, dense scrub woodland either side of the A897 blocks views to the north-west.	None
				Operation: None Although there is theoretical visibility, dense scrub woodland either side of the A897 blocks views to the north-west.	None
B42	Properties at Trantlemore Residents (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4e)	These two properties are orientated approximately north-west to south-east. Their principal views are to the south-east with windows on the ground and first floors. The view is characterised by the presence of substantial areas of deciduous woodland	Medium Dwellings where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are some detracting	Construction: Negligible These properties have theoretical visibility of construction operations associated with a very small number of towers at more than 4 km distant. Taking into consideration the main directions of view (where construction operations would be concealed by rising landform and forest plantation), it is	Negligible Not Significant

Ref.	Location/Type/Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
		along the river around to the east of the A897 with scattered dwellings visible. The low hillside beyond is mainly covered by moorland vegetation but there are areas of scrub woodland. Notable vertical features in the view are the steel lattice towers which breach the skyline, with some benefitting from a landform back drop. Views to the north west are uphill to a simple landform with moorland and semi improved grassland.	features present (steel lattice towers).	considered that construction operations would barely perceptible. Operation: Negligible There is theoretical visibility of a small number of towers – those to the north east, within the strath. Given the main angles of view from these properties, it is considered that the change to their views would be barely perceptible.	 Negligible Not Significant
B43	33 Chilsey Residents (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4e)	This property is single storey and is orientated approximately south-west to north-east. There are windows looking north-east and SW. Views north-eastwards are over the semi-improved grassland on the strath floor towards the A897 with stands of mainly deciduous woodland. Scattered dwellings are visible below the low hillside which has a simple pattern of moorland vegetation and scrub woodland in places. Steel lattice towers are visible, some on the skyline with others partially back clothed by the hills slope.	Medium Dwelling where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are some detracting features present (steel lattice towers).	Construction: None Although there is theoretical visibility of construction works there would be no visibility due to the screening effects of garden vegetation and outbuildings.	None
				Operation: None Although there is theoretical visibility of construction works there would be no visibility due to the screening effects of garden vegetation and outbuildings.	None
B44	51 Dalhalvaig Residents (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4e)	This property is orientated approximately west - east. Views northwards are screened by outbuildings. From the rear of the house there are views over the strath to the rising ground to the west with scattered dwellings visible at the break of slope. View eastwards are across the A897 road to neighbouring properties and semi improved grassland on the lower slopes. Higher up, the vegetation is largely rough grassland	Medium Dwelling where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are some detracting features present (steel lattice towers).	Construction: None Although there is theoretical visibility of construction works there would be no visibility due to the screening effects of outbuildings.	None
				Operation: None Although there is theoretical visibility of construction works there would be no visibility due to the screening effects of outbuildings.	None

Ref.	Location/Type/Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
		and heather with some deciduous scrub woodland. A line of steel lattice towers can be seen running approximately parallel to the road with several of these on the skyline.			
B45	Strath Halladale South – west of the A897 Residents (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4e)	These three properties are orientated approximately north - south. The northern two properties look north (secondary views) and south (principal views) along the strath while the southernmost house only has views southwards. There are deciduous scrub trees partially filtering views towards the rising moorland slopes to the northwest. Steel lattice towers are visible on the hillside to the northeast. They also have views south down the strath.	Medium Dwellings where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are some detracting features present (steel lattice towers).	Construction: Negligible There is theoretical visibility from this receptor group, but views of construction activity would be heavily filtered by deciduous trees alongside the A897 and would not be likely to be perceptible.	Negligible Not significant
				Operation: Negligible There is theoretical visibility from this receptor group but views of the Proposed Alignment would be heavily filtered by deciduous trees alongside the A897 and would not be likely to be perceptible.	Negligible Not significant
B46	Strath Halladale south – east of the A897 Residents (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4e)	These four properties are all orientated approximately west - east. They range between bungalows to 1 ½ storey properties and all have their views westwards filtered to a greater or lesser extent by deciduous or coniferous trees. The views are of simple composition over the strath to agricultural grazings which give way to moorland vegetation at higher elevation.	High Dwellings where the changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are no detracting features present.	Construction: Negligible There is theoretical visibility from this receptor group, but views of construction activity would be heavily filtered by deciduous trees alongside the A897 and would not be likely to be perceptible.	Negligible Not significant
				Operation: Negligible There is theoretical visibility from this receptor group but views of construction activity would be heavily filtered by deciduous trees alongside the A897 and would not be likely to be perceptible.	Negligible Not significant

Ref.	Location/Type/Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
B47	Bowside Lodge Visitors to the accommodation (temporary residents on holiday) <i>Note this property is currently undergoing renovation.</i> (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4f)	The orientation of this property is west – east with principal windows on the ground and first floors on these facades (assumed for west elevation). Views are curtailed by mainly coniferous trees in the grounds but there are some views westwards to the forested hillside and views along the driveway to the track and rising ground to the east. Views southwards from outside the property within the garden ground would include the upper parts of turbines at Strathy Wood wind farm.	Medium Dwelling where a changed aspect is a less important element in the views due to the presence of detracting features (upper portions of wind turbines seen above the garden boundary vegetation when seen from the garden and vehicle movements seen passing the entrance to the property from the east facing windows.	Construction: Low Construction traffic and work associated with the construction of a low number of towers and the dismantling of the existing OHL would be seen in framed views along the driveway; change to the existing view from the house itself would be limited to high level construction works associated with the three steel lattice towers to the south of the property which would be seen above the garden boundary vegetation.	Minor Not significant
				Operation: Low A low number of towers would be seen when looking along the driveway. Changes to the view from the house itself would be limited to visibility of the upper portions of steel lattice towers to the south of the property. These would be seen above garden boundary vegetation in the context of wind turbines in the distance.	Minor Not significant
B48	The Bothy Visitors to the accommodation (temporary residents on holiday) <i>Note this property is currently undergoing renovation.</i> (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4f)	This property is orientated north - south with principal windows on the south façade looking over the garden grounds with the upper slopes of the distant hills to the south and the upper portions of wind turbines at Strathy Wood seen above the garden boundary vegetation. There are secondary windows on the western and eastern sides which look over the garden area with views west curtailed by vegetation; views east are also limited by garden vegetation although there is a narrow slot view along the access track to the hill slope to the east. Bedroom windows face north and views are limited to the garden ground due	Medium Dwelling where a changed aspect is a less important element in the views due to the presence of detracting features (upper portions of wind turbines seen above the garden boundary vegetation when seen from the garden.	Construction: Low Construction traffic and work associated with a low number of towers would be seen only in framed views along the driveway. Change to the existing view from the house itself would be limited to high level construction works associated with the three steel lattice towers to the south of the property and dismantling of the existing OHL which would be seen above the garden boundary vegetation.	Minor Not significant
				Operation: Low A low number of towers would be seen when looking along the driveway. Changes to the view from the house itself would be limited to visibility of the upper portions of steel lattice towers to the south of the property. These would be seen above garden boundary vegetation in the context of wind turbines in the distance.	Minor Not significant

Ref.	Location/Type/Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
		to the presence of mature trees along the northern boundary.			
B49	Bowside Cottage (Gamekeepers Cottage) Visitors to the accommodation (temporary residents on holiday) <i>Note this property is currently undergoing renovation.</i> (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4f)	The orientation of this property is north – south with windows on the southern façade and a skylight on the northern side of the property. There is a north facing window in an outbuilding to the north of the cottage. Views south and south-west are along the access track over moorland vegetation and towards the operational Strathy North Wind Farm, the turbines of which are visible above the forest canopy. The turbines at Strathy Wood would also be visible interrupting the view towards Ben Grian Mòr and Ben Grian Beg: the view south would be of a man modified landscape dominated by wind turbines and commercial forest.	Medium Dwelling where a changed aspect is a less important element in the views due to the presence of detracting features wind turbines at Strathy North and Strathy Wood wind farms, commercial forest and tracks.	Construction: Medium Construction traffic and work associated with three towers would be seen in the context of the existing towers associated with Strathy Wood Wind Farm (which have been assumed as part of the baseline) and the turbines at Strathy North Wind Farm. Operations would be visible at close range from the south facing windows. Construction operations associated with the towers to the north of the property would not be visible from within the house.	Moderate Significant
				Operation: Medium Three towers would be seen at close range from the south facing windows of the property. They would be seen in the context of moving turbines at Strathy North, Strathy Wood and Strathy South Wind Farms and the steel lattice towers of the Strathy Wood Wind Farm grid connection. Towers to the north of the property would not be visible from within the house.	Moderate Significant
B50	Dallangwell Employees Note: Formerly a keeper's cottage, this building was in use as site accommodation at the time of survey. It has been assumed for the purposes of the assessment that	There are views eastwards from some parts of this property over moorland towards Beinn Ruadh. Forest felling and haulage activity can be seen looking down across the Strath. Turbines at Strathy Wood wind farm would be visible looking to the south	Low Workplace where a changed aspect is less important and where some detracting features are present (portacabins, machinery, laydown areas, Strathy substation, forest harvesting activity).	Construction: Low Construction traffic and work associated with a low number of towers would be seen in oblique views looking north and north-east. Works would be seen in the context of the steel lattice towers of the Strathy Wood grid connection.	Minor Not significant
				Operation: Low A low number of towers would be seen in oblique views looking north and north-east. These would be seen as an extension to the Strathy Wood grid connection.	Minor Not significant

Ref.	Location/Type/Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
	it will revert to residential accommodation after 2027. (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.4f)				

Table 2: Route-based Receptors

Ref.	Location / Type / Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
R1a	A836 / NCR1 west-bound Road users including cyclists and people travelling the North Coast (NC) 500 (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.5)	<p>Views are initially over rough grassland and moorland vegetation. The sea is visible to the north with views south being limited by rising topography with wood pole mounted overhead lines visible approximately parallel to the road.</p> <p>The view ahead then takes in the semi-improved grassland on the lower slopes of Strath Halladale with the telecommunications mast at Cnoc a' Choire Mhòir being a prominent man made vertical feature on the skyline. Seaward views are blocked by gently sloping ground on the coastal fringe. Scattered dwellings at Melvich become more visible on the approach to the settlement and the summits of Ben Hope and Ben Loyal are visible in the distance.</p> <p>Views are then curtailed by roadside cuttings and vegetation, opening out only briefly at the bridge over the Halladale River where there are views north and south along the strath. Ascending the hill through Melvich, views inland are again curtailed by rising ground</p> <p>After the junction to Portskerra, the view is dominated by grassland and moorland vegetation with wood pole mounted overhead lines visible to the south of the road. The route then descends towards Strathy with views opening up to the south over agricultural grasslands on the valley floor towards Strathy Forest and Strathy North Wind Farm.</p> <p>After crossing the River Strathy, road users would be heading away from the Proposed Alignment</p>	Medium - recreational route/road where a changed aspect is an important element in the view but there are some detracting features present (wood pole mounted overhead lines, telecommunications masts, quarries and ancillary structures).	Construction: Medium Visibility of construction operations would be intermittent and generally limited to sidelong views as the construction corridor of the Proposed Alignment would run approximately parallel to the road. There would be visibility of ground based operations associated with the improvement and/or formation of access tracks in addition to ground and high level works associated with the construction of the OHL and installation of conductors as well as works associated with the dismantling of the section of existing OHL east of Achridigil Burn. Construction operations would be more noticeable on the approach to Halladale Bridge where works would be seen ahead of road users with activity taking place on the hillside on the west of the strath with high level works breaching the skyline and ground level works associated with some towers also being visible. The magnitude of change applies to the route overall.	Moderate Significant
				Operation: Medium The Proposed Alignment is theoretically visible from approximately 40% of its length. Visibility is intermittent with three incidences of visibility between 2.5 km and 5 km distant and eight incidences within 2.5 km. Initially only low numbers of towers would be visible with numbers increasing, most notably on the descent towards Halladale Bridge when road users would see towers descending the hillside in views along the road corridor. On crossing the Halladale River visibility becomes intermittent and towers would be seen only in sidelong views looking inland. Through Melvich, most views in the direction of the Proposed Alignment would be obscured by roadside buildings and/or rising ground to the west of the road. There would be no visibility between Melvich and the junction to	Moderate Significant

Ref.	Location / Type / Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
		and the existing visual amenity is therefore not described.		Portskerra. West of the junction, visibility of towers is limited to small numbers and only in sidelong views. On passing Strathy Bay, road users would be heading away from the Proposed Alignment and would have no view.	
R1b	A836 / NCR 1 east-bound Road users including cyclists and people travelling the NC500 (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.5)	<p>West of Strathy, views are over rough grassland and moorland vegetation with outcropping boulders and glimpses of the sea to the north. There are wood pole mounted overhead lines to the south and glimpses of the turbines at Strathy North Wind Farm.</p> <p>Approaching Strathy, the cliffs on the eastern side of the bay come into view and settlement becomes noticeable. There are views inland down the strath with more productive land uses on the strath floor.</p> <p>East of Strathy, the view returns to being similar to the first section of this route although views to the coast are more frequent. Rising slopes south of the road limit the extent of visibility in this direction and there are wood pole mounted overhead lines running approximately parallel to the road.</p> <p>Approaching Melvich, settlement becomes visible with the beach at Melvich Bay and the cliffs to the east forming focal features of the view.</p> <p>The route then descends into the strath and views are over agricultural grazings with some lochans and sand and gravel workings west of the river. The horizon is formed by the low hills either side of the strath.</p> <p>After crossing the Halladale River, road users would be heading away from the Proposed Alignment and the existing visual amenity is therefore not described.</p>	Medium – recreation route/road where a changed aspect is an important element in the view but there are some detracting features present (wood pole mounted overhead lines, telecommunications masts, quarries and ancillary structures).	Construction: Medium There is continuous theoretical visibility of construction works associated with towers and access tracks from just east of Armadale Bay with continuous visibility on the approach to Strathy. East of Strathy, visibility is intermittent and towers would only be seen in sidelong views looking inland. Immediately west of Melvich, there is no theoretical visibility and then intermittent sidelong visibility until crossing the Halladale River when road users would be heading away from the Proposed Alignment. At Melvich, there is theoretical visibility of construction works associated with the CSE compound and underground cable but as it is at around 5 km distant and not in the focus of the view from vehicles, it is unlikely to be perceptible.	Moderate Significant
				Operation: Medium The Proposed Alignment is theoretically visible from just over one third of its length. Visibility is intermittent with four incidences of visibility between 2.5 km and 5 km distant and eight incidences within 2.5 km. Initially only low numbers of towers would be visible intermittently with tower visibility increasing to medium numbers on the approach to Strathy. As the route of the Proposed Alignment runs approximately parallel to the road, views would generally be oblique. The exceptions to this is are through Strathy and Melvich where towers would be visible ahead of road users. At Melvich, the CSE compound is theoretically visible but at approximately 5 km distant. It is unlikely to be noticeable. At Strathy, steel lattice towers would be seen breaching the skyline on the eastern side of	Moderate Significant

Ref.	Location / Type / Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
				the strath; at Melvich, they would be seen descending the hillside on the western side of the strath and crossing the strath with some skylining of towers.	
R2a	A897 north-bound Road users (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.5)	<p>There are views to west over the agricultural fields and of low hills, moorland and Halladale River system to low moorland hills. Areas of scrub woodland are intermittent along the route and scattered dwellings lie either side and on the western side of the strath.</p> <p>Around Craigtown where the river is further away from the road, views open out over larger fields on the strath floor with dispersed dwellings along the minor road on the western side of the strath. Steel lattice towers of the existing OHL are visible skylining above the hillside east of the road.</p> <p>Beyond Cuilfearen Croft, the river meanders to run closer to the road and there are wood pole mounted overhead lines to the west of the road which are visible above scrub woodland on the river banks with moorland vegetation and rock outcroppings visible on the hill slope west of the river.</p> <p>Approaching Connagill, the foreground is dominated by the rough grassland of the strath floor. Wood pole mounted overhead lines are visible at low level with steel lattice towers skylining to the north-east. The existing substation is briefly visible in sidelong views with steel lattice towers seen above the horizon.</p> <p>Beyond this point, views widen out over the strath and forest plantations are visible to the west. Approaching Halladale Bridge, settlement comes into view together with sand and gravel workings.</p>	Medium - road where a changed aspect is an important element in the view but there are some detracting features present (wood poles, steel lattice towers, substation).	<p>Construction: Medium</p> <p>Visibility of construction operations is unlikely to be particularly noticeable until just south of Connagill substation. High level works associated with a low number of towers would be seen only intermittently due to the screening effects of roadside scrub. There is also theoretical visibility of construction work associated with the CSE and underground cable from just north of Calgarry Beg.</p> <p>Works associated with the river crossing and tie in point at the substation would be very visible for a short period of time. Beyond Connagill, construction works of a higher number of towers would be visible but in sidelong views.</p>	Moderate Significant
				<p>Operation: Medium</p> <p>The Proposed Alignment is theoretically visible intermittently from just over two thirds of the length of this route receptor.</p> <p>Actual visibility would be considerably less due to the presence of roadside scrub vegetation which would screen and filter views from some stretches of this route. Only very low numbers of towers would be visible as road users approach Connagill substation and pass under the line of the Proposed Alignment. The river crossing and CSE compound would be seen at close range and subsequently the Proposed Alignment would be visible in oblique views as the alignment would be approximately parallel to the route.</p>	Moderate Significant

Ref.	Location / Type / Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
R2b	A897 south-bound Road users (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.5)	Views from the northern portion of this route are along the strath with the river forming a prominent feature as it meanders through improved, semi improved and rough grassland. The strath is enclosed by adjacent hill slopes with wood pole mounted overhead lines visible to the west and crossing the strath floor. Steel lattice towers are visible to the east. Connagill substation is a prominent man made feature of the view. Beyond the existing substation, the Proposed Alignment would be behind the road users and the existing visual amenity is therefore not described.	Medium - road where a changed aspect is an important element in the view but there are some detracting features present (wood poles, steel lattice towers, substation)	Construction: Medium Construction works associated with a medium to high number of towers would be visible over the northern part of this route. Works associated with the CSE compound and underground cables are theoretically visible from just north of Loch Earacha. Works would be seen in oblique views. Most notable construction works would be those associated with the river crossing and tie into the existing substation. South of Connagill, road travellers would be heading away from the construction works.	Moderate Significant
				Operation: Medium The Proposed Alignment would be theoretically visible from just over a one third of its length. Visibility would be continuous from the junction with the A836 until Connagill with the Proposed Alignment being less than 2.5 km distant. There is theoretical visibility of a medium to high number of towers. Those on the western side of the strath would be seen in sidelong views . They would be seen descending the hillside, then crossing the strath in views ahead with many of the towers having their upper portions seen above the skyline. Approaching Connagill substation, the Proposed Alignment would be prominent in views with towers skylining as they traverse the strath to tie into the substation. They would be seen at close range and would detract from views south along the Halladale River and strath and would introduce further electricity infrastructure into a view where the existing substation is prominent and existing steel lattice towers are notable features on the skyline. The CSE compound would also be visible at close range. On passing the substation, road users would be heading away from the Proposed Alignment and would have no view.	Moderate Significant

Ref.	Location / Type / Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
R3a	Minor Road to Kirkton northbound Road users (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.5)	On leaving the cemetery, views ahead take in the strath floor and agricultural grasslands on the lower slopes of the low hills to the east. Moorland vegetation is at higher elevation. The road meanders through agricultural fields with gorse scrub curtailing views in places. Approaching Kirkton Farm, there is a house to the west of the road and grassland gives way to rough grassland/moorland with gorse. The road passes through the farmyard where views westwards are curtailed by trees in the grounds of Kirkton Cottage. Views ahead then open up to the hillside to the west and the sand and gravel workings come into view. There is a development plot to the west of the road and derelict buildings to the north. Views east are across improved grasslands to the moorland slopes east of the strath. The road then passes the sand and gravel quarry to the east of the road and Loch Mòr comes into view before the road meets the A836.	Medium - road where a changed aspect is an important element in the view but there are some detracting features present (sand and gravel workings, derelict buildings)	Construction: Low There would be some visibility of construction works associated with a low to medium number of towers, mostly limited to high level works. This would be seen to the west of the road looking uphill.	Minor Not significant
				Operation: Low The Proposed Alignment is theoretically visible from just over 40% of its length. Visibility is continuous with the Proposed Alignment being less than 2.5 km distant. Low to medium numbers of towers are theoretically visible and would generally be seen in oblique views uphill as the Proposed Alignment runs approximately parallel to the road. Actual visibility would be less due to the presence of roadside scrub woodland and gorse.	Minor Not significant
R3b	Minor road to Kirkton south-bound Road users (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.5)	On leaving the A836, the route passes Loch Mòr with scrub woodland on its western shore and rising moorland above. The route passes the sand and gravel workings which lie to the east and derelict buildings to the west. Views then open out to look south along the strath floor. Approaching Kirkton Farm there are small blocks of woodland and views are then further curtailed as the road passes through the farmyard. Beyond the farm, views again open out over the strath floor and to the flanking hillsides. The substation at Connagill is visible on the eastern side of the strath.	Medium – road where a changed aspect is an important element in the view but there are some detracting features present. (derelict buildings, sand and gravel workings, substation).	Construction: Medium The road would be used by construction traffic. High level works associated with a small number of towers would be visible uphill from the northern part of this route. Progressing along the road, further construction activity would be seen in views south with high level works seen above the skyline. These works would include those associated with towers on the strath floor and the tie into the substation at Connagill. Works associated with the CSE compound are theoretically visible intermittently along the route at distances of just over 2 km.	Moderate Significant
				Operation: Medium	Moderate Significant

Ref.	Location / Type / Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
				<p>The Proposed Alignment is theoretically visible from the entire route with the CSE compound intermittently visible at more than 2 km distant.</p> <p>Initially, towers on the slope to the west of the road would be seen skylining. Progressing south along the road, these would disappear from view due to intervening topography and vegetation before reappearing on passing Kirkton Farm. Towers would then be seen descending the hillside to cross the strath floor to tie into Connagill substation.</p>	
R4a	Scottish Hill Track 344 – Strath Halladale (Trantlebeg) to Strathy south-bound Cyclists, Walkers, and Forest workers. (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.5)	<p>The route leaves the A836 and heads south through semi improved grassland with scattered dwellings mainly to the east of the road. Wood pole mounted overhead lines are visible and the dominant landcover is moorland vegetation with the coniferous plantation at Strathy Wood being visible in the distance.</p> <p>Views are then generally limited to the strath floor by flanking rising moorland slopes to the east and forested slopes to the west. Views are heavily influenced by the presence of wood pole mounted OHLs close to the track with the turbines at Strathy North prominent above the forest canopy. The turbines at Strathy Wood would also be prominent in the view.</p> <p>The relationship with the river becomes closer as the route passes Bowside where the steep, lower slopes of Beinn Ruadh abut the eastern side of the track.</p> <p>The wind turbines at Strathy North distract from the natural focus of the view south to Ben Griam Mòr and Ben Griam Beg, and Strathy Wood wind farm would add further turbines to this array, lying in front of these hills.</p>	Medium – recreation route where a changed aspect is an important element in the view but there are some detracting features present (existing OHL, forest access tracks, forest plantations, Strathy North and Strathy Wood wind farms).	Construction: Medium <p>The construction works would initially be seen in views southwards with high level works skylining. Traffic, plant and materials would be very prominent and in relatively close proximity to the track. Construction operations would continue to be in views along the route as people head south and would become more prominent with proximity to the line and associated temporary tracks and working areas. As people approach the point where the OHL deviates to head south, high level works would dominate the view; ground level operations would be partially screened briefly where slopes east of the road afford some localised screening. Operations would be seen in the context of the moving turbines at Strathy North and those at Strathy Wood and Strathy South. Approaching Bowside Lodge, works would take place either side of the track. After this point, the Proposed Alignment would be behind the track users.</p>	Moderate Significant
				Operation: Medium <p>The Proposed Alignment would initially be seen in views southwards with towers skylining until they pass behind the low hills at Cnoc a' Bhodaich and Cnoc an Ruffer. They would continue to be in views along the route as people head south and they would become more prominent with proximity to the line. As people approach the point where the OHL</p>	Moderate - Significant

Ref.	Location / Type / Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
		South of Bowside, the Proposed Alignment would be behind people on the track.		deviates to head south, the steel lattice towers would dominate the view, disappearing only briefly where slopes east of the road afford some localised screening. They would be seen in the context of the moving turbines at Strathy North and those at Strathy Wood and Strathy South. Approaching Bowside Lodge, the towers would straddle the track before tying in to the Strathy Wood Wind Farm Grid Connection. After this point, the Proposed Alignment would be behind the users of the track. The Proposed Alignment would be visible for just over 40% of the route.	
R4b	Scottish Hill Track 344 – Strath Halladale (Trantlebeg) to Strathy north-bound Cyclists, Walkers, Forest workers (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.5)	Views are initially restricted by flanking forest plantations, opening out just west of the former Braerathy Lodge (site of the Strathy Wood Wind Farm substation) where there are views of the River Strathy. Crossing the bailie bridge, the focus of the view is north, along the meandering river with pockets of birch scrub and self-seeded conifers. The turbines at Strathy North wind farm are prominent above the forest and there are distant views towards low moorland covered hills. The turbines at Strathy Wood would also be prominent. Passing Dallangwell, the existing wood pole mounted overhead lines become visible but are not prominent until they are seen skylining north of Bowside. Beyond Bowside, the wood pole mounted overhead lines lie closer to the road and are seen with a backcloth of coniferous forest west of the river. Landcover east of the river is moorland vegetation. North of the forest plantation, the composition of the view is simple with rough grassland either side of the track and moorland covered slopes to the west. The wood poles remain noticeable features and are seen above the skyline in places. Nearing the junction	Medium - recreational route where a changed aspect is an important element in the view but there are some detracting features present (existing OHL, forest access tracks, forest plantations, Strathy North and Strathy Wood wind farms).	Construction: Medium Construction operations would come into view on rounding the bend south of Strathy Forest. High level works would be seen breaching the horizon to the north but at more than 3 km distant. Operations would be seen in the context of the Strathy Wood Wind Farm Grid Connection. Construction activity would become more prominent as track users head north and high level works would be seen above the skyline. Approaching Bowside Lodge, ground level and high level works associated with the construction of the OHL and the dismantling of the existing wood pole mounted OHL would be seen at relatively close proximity and straddling the track. Passing under the alignment, construction activity would be seen on the eastern side of the track. Once road users pass by the point at which the alignment diverts to head north east, the ground and high level construction works would be seen for a short time in side long views before being screened by intervening slopes.	Moderate Significant
				Operation: Medium The towers would come into view on rounding the bend south of Strathy Forest. They would be seen breaching the horizon to the north but at more than 3 km distant. They would be seen in the context of the Strathy Wood Grid	Moderate – Significant

Ref.	Location / Type / Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
		with the A836, landcover changes to semi improved grassland with gorse on lower lying areas with moorland at higher elevation. Scattered settlement is visible along the road and the cliffs west of Strathy Bay are seen in the distance.		Connection. They would become more prominent as track users head north and would be seen above the skyline. Approaching Bowside Lodge, the towers would be seen straddling the track with substantial parts of the towers being seen above the horizon formed by Strathy Forest. Passing under the line, the towers would be seen on the eastern side of the track: they would replace the wood pole mounted overhead line west of the track but would be substantially larger. Once road users pass by the point at which the alignment diverts to head north east, the Proposed Alignment would be seen for a short time in side long views before it is screened by intervening slopes.	
R5	Forest/ Estate Access Tracks at Dallagwell Forest and Wind Farm / Substation workers (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.5)	There are views from the bailie bridge looking north and south along the forest edge, with wind turbines being prominent moving, man-made elements in views south and steel lattice towers and overhead lines in views east.	Low Route where a changed aspect is less important and where some detracting features are present (portacabins, machinery, laydown areas, Strathy North substation, forest harvesting activity, wind turbines, steel lattice towers and overhead lines).	Construction: Low Visibility of construction operations would vary along the lengths of the tracks and would be dependent on the direction of travel. A low – medium number of tower construction operations would be visible looking to the north and north-east. Generally, operations would be seen in sequential rather than simultaneous views as users of the tracks move along them. Construction operations would be perceptible but would not detract from the existing views east and south.	Minor Adverse Not significant
				Operation: Low Visibility of the Proposed Alignment would vary along the length of the track and would be dependent on the direction of travel. A low – medium number of towers would be visible looking north and north-east. These would generally be seen in sequential rather than simultaneous views as users of the tracks move along them. The Proposed Alignment would be perceptible but would not detract from the existing views east and south.	Minor Adverse Not significant

Ref.	Location / Type / Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
R6a	Core Path SU19.03 northbound Walkers (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.5)	Lattice tower mounted overhead lines are visible above the skyline to the east of the path on the southern half of this route. The wood pole mounted OHL is visible to the north on the approach to Connagill. The path then passes below the wood pole mounted OHL with poles and conductors visible to the west of the path. Halladale River is visible intermittently within a rolling landscape of rough moorland and farmland closer to the river itself. Bands of woodland straddle the strath with forest plantations visible at higher level.	Medium - recreational route where a changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are some detracting features (wood pole mounted OHL).	Construction: High This route would be improved and used by construction traffic. Construction operations associated with a low number of towers would initially be seen at distance. On passing through Am Bealach, construction works would be seen at increasingly closer range as users of the path approach the location of the river crossing where ground level and high level works would be very close to the route. Works associated with the CSE compound and underground cable would also be visible along parts of the route close to Connagill substation. Beyond this point, construction works would be visible to the west of the path.	Major Significant
				Operation: Moderate - High Over the southern section of the route only very low numbers of towers would be visible, with some skylining across the strath, until users of the route pass through Am Bealach when medium to high numbers of towers would be visible for a short distance. Some of these would be seen at very close range as the core path approaches and passes below the OHL. The CSE compound is also theoretically visible on the approach to Connagill. Thereafter, low to medium numbers of towers would be seen running approximately parallel to the path. Towers would be seen by users of this route for almost the entire length.	Moderate – Major Significant
R6b	Core Path SU19.03 southbound Walkers	Heading south from Kirkton, the Halladale River is close by on the lefthand side with wood pole mounted overhead lines on the righthand side. Approaching Connagill, the existing OHL is visible ahead until the route passes below and people on the track head away from the OHL. Land is grazed	Medium - recreational route where a changed aspect is an important element in the view.	Construction: Medium - high This route would be improved and used by construction traffic. Construction works would be seen to the west of the route and in views ahead. Both ground level and high level works would be visible with the latter skylining. On the approach to the location of the OHL crossing the river, construction works	Moderate - Major Significant

Ref.	Location / Type / Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
	(see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.5)	on either side of the river, with rough moorland on slopes beyond.		would become more prominent and at close range, including those associated with the CSE compound and underground cable. Beyond the river crossing, people on the path would be heading away from the Proposed Alignment and their view would not be affected.	
				Operation: Medium Heading south, there would be views of towers to the right and ahead. These would be seen at relatively close range and would be seen skylining. Towers at the river crossing would be backclothed for part of the route, then skylined as path users approach and pass below the OHL. The CSE compound is theoretically visible as the route approaches Connagill. After this point, the Proposed Alignment would be behind path users. Towers would be seen from under half of the route.	Moderate Significant

Table 3: Outdoor-based Receptors

Ref.	Location/Type/Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
Rec 1	Strathy Cemetery / Strathy Bay Car Park Visitors to the cemetery and bay (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.5)	The view from the cemetery entrance which is at a higher elevation than the car park is described here. The view northwards is over the cemetery towards Strathy Bay and Strathy Point. Looking east, the view is along the minor road with adjacent wood pole overhead lines and grassland either side of the road. Views to the south are over agricultural grasslands at lower level with moorland vegetation on upper slopes. Scattered habitation is visible, sometimes breaching the skyline. Views west are towards the houses to the east of the river with the A836 clearly visible as it ascends towards the junction with the minor road to Strathy Point.	High – outdoor location where a changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are no detracting features present.	Construction: Low Construction operations associated with a low to medium number of towers would be visible in views to the south. Generally, only high level works would be visible with a limited amount of ground level construction visible at distances in excess of 3 km. Views towards the cemetery and the coast would be unaffected.	Minor Not significant
				Operation: Low Looking southwards, a low to medium number of towers would be visible with some of these breaching the skyline. They would be seen at distances in excess of 3 km and would occupy a relatively small proportion of the view from this location. Views towards the cemetery and the coast would be unaffected. Refer to Volume 3a - Figure VL1a – 1c: Strathy Cemetery and Volume 3b - Figure VL1a – 1e: Strathy Cemetery .	Minor Not significant
Rec 2	Strathy War Memorial Visitors to the memorial (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.5)	The memorial sits above Strathy village hall on a small knoll close to the A836. To the north, views are over the A836 and agricultural grasslands towards the coast. Looking east the road and scattered settlement lying within improved and semi-improved grassland are visible with moorland vegetation at higher level. Existing wood pole mounted overhead lines are visible to the south with steel lattice towers seen above the horizon to the far south-east. Trees in the grounds of an adjacent dwelling partially screen views in a south westerly direction.	Medium - location where a changed aspect is an important element in the view but there are some detracting features present (A836, minor road and scattered dwellings and buildings).	Construction: Low There is theoretical visibility of construction work associated with a low to medium number of towers looking to the south-east. Ground level and high level works would be seen at more than 3 km distant. Views over the mouth of the river and the bay would be unaffected.	Minor Not significant
				Operation: Low A low to medium number of towers would be visible with some of these breaching the horizon in south easterly views. They would be seen at more than 3 km distant. Views over	Minor Not significant

Ref.	Location/Type/Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
				the mouth of the river and the bay would be unaffected.	
Rec 3	Melvich and Portskerra War Memorial Visitors to the memorial (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.5)	The memorial is situated on a position above and to the south of the A836. It has a panoramic view over the surrounding landscape with Melvich Bay visible to the north. Looking east, the settlement of Melvich is visible within a lightly wooded setting. Moorland hills are visible in the distance with the telecommunications mast on Cnoc a' Choire Mhòir being a notable man-made feature on the skyline. Looking south, the view is over moorland vegetation and gorse with wood pole mounted overhead lines. Views westwards views look over agricultural grasslands and the A836.	Medium – outdoor location where a changed aspect is an important element in the view but there are some detracting features present (A836, scattered dwellings and buildings, telecommunications mast).	Construction: Negligible High level construction operations associated with a very small number of towers would be visible from this location at a distance of more than 2 km. Views towards the bay and coastline would be unaffected.	Negligible Not significant.
				Operation: Negligible The upper portions of a very low number of towers would be visible at a distance of more than 2 km above the moorland vegetation in views to the south-west. They would occupy a relatively small proportion of the view and would not affect views to the bay and along the coast.	Negligible Not significant.
Rec 4	Portskerra Car Park Visitors to the car park/slipway (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.5)	Views north take in the slipway and skerries which enclose the bay. Looking east, views are along the coastline and the cliffs on the eastern side of Strathy Bay, with rough grassland forming the foreground to the view. Southerly views are short range, curtailed by rising ground with grassland cover and post and wire field boundaries. Views west are along the access track towards the adjacent house which overlooks the car park.	High – outdoor location where a changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are no detracting features present.	Construction: None No theoretical visibility	None
				Operation: None No theoretical visibility	None
Rec 5	Portskerra Drownings	The main foci of the view from this location is eastwards over Melvich Bay to the eastern headland, and southwards to the pier and sandy beach beyond. Views west are short range and limited by the rising rough grassland beyond the car park.	High - location where a changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are no	Construction: None No theoretical visibility	None
				Operation: None No theoretical visibility	None

Ref.	Location/Type/Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
	Memorial and car park Visitors to memorial and bay (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.5)		detracting features present.		
Rec 6	Melvich Bay car park Visitors to the bay (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.5)	There are views northwards over grassy dunes and out to sea. Looking east, the view takes in the meandering Halladale River which is crossed by a timber bridge to Bighouse. There is a strong horizontal emphasis to of the view in this direction. Views south take in the scattered settlement at Portskerra backclothed by rising ground and a simple pattern of narrow croft strips descending towards the river.	High - outdoor location where a changed aspect is an important element in the view and there are no detracting features present.	Construction: Negligible Magnitude Very little construction activity would be visible from the car park when looking to the south. The focus of the view is to the north-east and the changes to the view would be barely perceptible.	Negligible Not significant
				Operation: Negligible Magnitude A very low number of towers would be visible or partly visible from the car park when looking southwards. The focus of the view is northwards towards the bay and eastwards to Bighouse and the river, the change to the view would be barely perceptible.	Negligible Not significant
Rec 7	North Coast Touring Park Users of campsite (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.5)	There is no particular focus to the views from the touring park – there is a small extent of sea visible to the north. Views east are over low lying moorland and rough grassland with some improved and semi improved grassland on lower slopes. Looking southwards, the view takes in street lighting along the roadside with scattered distant settlement and plant at the Kirkton gravel workings. There are patches of coniferous woodland with gorse along roadsides and scrub woodland and rough grassland elsewhere. Looking west, the views take in scattered dwellings close to the road with a backcloth of rising moorland and grassland.	Low – outdoor location where there are numerous detracting features present (buildings and structures within the park, scattered dwellings, roads and street lighting, wind turbine, gravel workings and forest plantation).	Construction: Low Construction operations associated a small to medium number of towers would be visible and would form a perceptible but not detracting feature within the view, resulting in a small deterioration to the existing view. The CSE compound and underground cable works are theoretically visible but at around 5 km distant are unlikely to the perceptible.	Minor Not significant
				Operation: Low A small to medium number of towers would be visible and would form a perceptible but not detracting feature within the view, resulting in a	Minor Not significant

Ref.	Location/Type/Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
				small deterioration to the existing view. The CSE compound and underground cable are theoretically visible but at around 5 km distant are unlikely to be perceptible.	
Rec 8	Kirkton Cemetery Visitors to cemetery (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.5)	Views from the cemetery look north and south along the strath, east across the strath and west uphill over moorland slopes. Existing wood pole mounted overhead lines are visible crossing the strath and the Connagill substation is clearly visible just over 2 km to the south east. The existing steel lattice tower overhead line on the east side of the strath is also visible	Medium – outdoor location where a changed aspect is an important element in the view but there are some detracting features present (steel lattice towers, wood pole OHL and substation).	Construction: Medium The road to the cemetery would be used by construction vehicles. Construction operations of a medium number of towers would be visible at distances ranging from approximately 600 m to just over 2 km where construction activity associated with the river crossing and connection into the substation at Connagill would be seen in the context of the substation buildings and structure. High level activity would be seen breaching the skyline in views to the south.	Moderate Significant
				Operation: Medium A medium number of towers would be visible at distances in excess of approximately 600 m. Many of the towers would be seen breaching the skyline and the connection into the existing Connagill substation would be clearly visible at just over 2 km distant.	Moderate Significant
Rec 9	Strath Halladale War Memorial Visitors to the memorial (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.5)	The memorial is located to the east of the A897 behind roadside birch woodland scrub which screens views in a westerly direction. Views north are curtailed by vegetation in the grounds of neighbouring properties. The existing OHL is visible to the north east, east and south east from the memorial and its approach.	Medium - outdoor location where a changed aspect is an important element in the view but there are some detracting features present (steel lattice towers and OHLs).	Construction: Negligible Although there is theoretical visibility, views towards construction works would be heavily filtered by deciduous woodland and would be unlikely to be perceptible.	Negligible Not Significant
				Operation: Negligible No theoretical visibility	Negligible Not Significant

Ref.	Location/Type/Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
Rec 10	River Strathy Fly fishers and ghillies. (see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.5)	Fly fishers and ghillies attention would be focussed on the river and immediate environs which comprise moorland and rough grassland interspersed with pockets of deciduous scrub and patches of self seeded conifers.	Medium - outdoor location where a changed aspect is an important element in the view but there are some detracting features present (forest access track, forest plantations, Strathy North and Strathy Wood wind farms).	Construction: Low Depending on which beat of the River is being fished, construction operations would vary from not being visible at all to there being theoretical visibility of works associated with a low to medium number of towers. Where there is theoretical visibility of construction activity, this would not be experienced in simultaneous views: e.g. people fishing some of the beats in would see construction of parts of the Proposed Alignment in successive views (i.e. where they would have to turn their head to look over a 180 degree arc of view). The focus of the view for users of this outdoor location would be on the river itself and as such, the construction works would be perceptible but would not detract from the existing views.	Minor Adverse Not significant
				Operation: Low The number of towers visible would depend on which beat of the river is being fished. From locations with theoretical visibility parts of the Proposed Alignment the towers would generally be seen in successive rather than simultaneous views. Given that the focus of users of the River Strathy fly fishing beats would be on the river itself, it is considered that the Proposed Alignment would be perceptible but would not detract from the existing views.	Minor Adverse Not significant
Rec 11	Halladale River Fly fishers and ghillies.	Fly fishers and ghillies attention would be focussed on the river and immediate environs which comprise agricultural grass lands interspersed with pockets of deciduous scrub and coniferous trees.	Medium - outdoor location where a changed aspect is an important	Construction: Low Depending on which beat of the river is being fished, construction operations would vary from not being visible at all to there being	Minor Adverse Not significant

Ref.	Location/Type/Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
	(see Volume 2: Figure V1-6.5)		element in the view but there are some detracting features present (existing OHL east of the strath).	<p>theoretical visibility of works associated with some of the towers. Assuming that the majority of anglers cast upstream, the Proposed Alignment would only affect anglers fishing beat 4 as the other beats are south of where the OHL would cross the river.</p> <p>Where there is theoretical visibility of construction activity for some of the towers and the CSE compound and underground cable construction, this would be experienced in simultaneous and successive views: e.g. people fishing some of the beats would see construction of the easternmost parts of the Proposed Alignment in simultaneous views looking south along the river and looking west in successive views (i.e. where they would have to turn their head to look over a 180 degree arc of view). The focus of the view for users of this outdoor location would be on the river itself and as such, the construction works would be perceptible but would not detract from the existing views.</p>	

Ref.	Location/Type/Context	Nature of Main View	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Effect and Significance
				<p>Operation: Low</p> <p>Depending on which beat of the river is being fished, visibility of the Proposed Alignment would vary from not being visible at all to there being theoretical visibility of some of the towers and the CSE compound. Assuming that the majority of anglers cast upstream, the Proposed Alignment would only affect anglers fishing beat 4 as the other beats are south of where the OHL would cross the river.</p> <p>Where there is theoretical visibility of some of the towers and the CSE compound this would be experienced in simultaneous and successive views: e.g. people fishing see the easternmost parts of the Proposed Alignment in simultaneous views looking south along the river and looking west in successive views (i.e. where they would have to turn their head to look over a 180 degree arc of view). The focus of the view for users of this outdoor location would be on the river itself and as such, the construction works would be perceptible but would not detract from the existing views.</p>	<p>Minor Adverse</p> <p>Not significant</p>