

## APPENDIX 9.1: CULTURAL HERITAGE INDIRECT EFFECTS

**Table 1: Potential Indirect Visual Impacts on Statutory Designated Sites**

No.	Site Name	Distance to OHL (m)	Potential Indirect, Visual Impact	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Impact	Significance
1	Cnoc OIasdail, Hut Circles & Field Systems	880	This group of domestic settlements and associated field systems occupy a gentle south-west facing slope on the flank of Cnoc OIasdail. Primary vistas from this site are to the south down Strath Tirry to other contemporary hut circle settlements and to the sun. Vistas to the north-east are limited by topography and would be of low significance, with no contemporary settlement or significant natural features between this site and the Proposed Development. The alteration to setting as a result of the Proposed Development is likely to be low, and thus indirect impacts on this SM are likely to be minor.	Medium	Low	Minor
2	Cnoc A' Bhreac-Leathaid, Shielings And Cairnfield 700 m NNE Of	745	Although left as unplanted ground within the forestry, most of the recorded features of this site are no longer visible. The site consists of multi-period domestic features such as hut circles and associated field systems and later shielings, occupying a gentle north facing slope to the south of the Dalnessie access road. It would have had a clear visual relationship with other contemporary settlements, now SMs 5081 (Site 3) and 5081 to the north-east, although its siting in the landscape is more dependent on features of topography, water sources, drainage and soil types. The Proposed Development, approaching from the north, would be visible in a narrow arc to the north-west and west in the present landscape of felled ground to the west and natural reserve to the north, but screened as it passes at its closest point, to the south-west, by the rising ground of Cnoc a' Bhreac-leathaid. The magnitude of impact from the Proposed Development is likely to be medium, resulting in a minor significance of impact.	Low	Medium	Minor
3	Loch Beag Na Furalachd, Cairn And Shielings 1175 m ESE Of SW End	1,070	This area of settlement, adjacent to Site 4, occupies a gentle south-facing slope running down to the Feith Osdail. A Post-mediaeval settlement is recorded here although only fragmentary walling is now visible. Other features represent domestic settlement and land use in the prehistoric period. The site will have had a clear visual relationship with other contemporary settlements, including SM 5300 (Site 2) to the south-west and SM 5401 (Site 4) to the south-east and possibly more distant settlements to the west at Shinness. However, the setting of this site	Medium	Low	Minor

No.	Site Name	Distance to OHL (m)	Potential Indirect, Visual Impact	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Impact	Significance
			will have been dependent on features of topography, water sources, drainage and soil types, with distant vistas of little significance. The Proposed Development passes to the west, at a minimum distance of 1.3 km, not crossing between this and any nearby SMs but crossing the potential vistas to the west. At present, vistas from this site to the west are blocked by unfelled forestry blocks and the long term plan is for these to be replaced by native and successional woodland with riparian planting along the watercourse. The immediate surrounds of the site will be replanted with conifers. In the interim period the Proposed Development will be visible to the west. Impacts from the Proposed Development on this SM are likely to be low, resulting in a minor significance of impact.			
4	Loch Beag Na Fuaralachd, Prehistoric Settlement 950 m Sw Of Sw End of	1,250	This area of settlement, adjacent to Site 3, occupies a gentle south-facing slope running down to the Feith Osdail. A Post-mediaeval settlement is recorded here although only fragmentary walling is now visible. Other features represent domestic settlement and land use in the prehistoric period. The site will have had a clear visual relationship with other contemporary settlements, including SM 5300 (Site 2) to the south-west and SM5081 (Site 3) to the south-east and possibly more distant settlements to the west at Shinness. However, the setting of this site will have been dependent on features of topography, water sources, drainage and soil types, with distant vistas of little significance. The Proposed Development passes to the west, at a minimum distance of 1.7 km, not crossing between this and any nearby SMs but crossing the potential vistas to the west. At present, vistas from this site to the west are blocked by unfelled forestry blocks and the long term plan is for these to be replaced by native and successional woodland with riparian planting along the watercourse. The immediate surrounds of the site will be replanted with conifers. In the interim period the Proposed Development would be visible to the west. Impacts from the Proposed Development on this SM are likely to be low, resulting in a minor significance of impact.	Medium	Low	Minor
5	Loch Beag Na Fuaralachd, Shielings 1000 m Sw Of Sw End of	1,700	Described as an area of shielings, this site contains two hut circles as well as the possible remains of a post-medieval house and a bothy and is therefore likely to be contemporary with the nearby SMs 5081 (Site 3) and 5401 (Site 4). It occupies a gentle south-west facing slope above the Feith Osdail, a setting dependent on	Medium	Low	Minor

No.	Site Name	Distance to OHL (m)	Potential Indirect, Visual Impact	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Impact	Significance
			features of topography, water sources, drainage and soil types, with distant vistas of little significance. At present, vistas from this site to the west are blocked by unfelled forestry blocks and the long term plan is for these to be replaced by native and successional woodland, with riparian planting along the watercourse, and the immediate surrounds of the site will be replanted with productive conifer. In the interim period, the Proposed Development would be visible to the west but would not cross any vistas to contemporary SMs. The Proposed Development is likely to give rise to a low magnitude of impact on this SM, resulting in a minor significance of impact.			
6	Altbreck, Broch 1650 m ESE of Dalchork Bridge	1,200	This prominent defensive Iron Age site is located on the summit of a small rise at the south-east end of a ridge, with extensive panoramic views. It would have been deliberately sited for visibility in the landscape and likely for intervisibility with contemporary defensive sites, establishing a framework for land ownership and control in the Iron Age. The nearest surviving contemporary defensive sites are Sallachy Broch, 4 km to the west south-west and Dalness, 2 km to the north-west. It is unlikely that Altbreck and Sallachy were intervisible given the intervening high ground of Cnoc a'Chatha, but probable that there was intervisibility between Altbreck and Dalness. Visibility from contemporary domestic settlements and to potential routes of communication up Strath Tirrie and Loch Shin would also have been important factors; however, the main consideration in the siting of the broch is likely to have been control of the through route from Strath Tirrie to the upper reaches of Strath Brora, with Dalness Broch controlling the Tirrie end of the route. The Proposed Development would pass to the west, at a minimum distance of 1.2 km, but crossing the line of potential sight between Altbreck and Dalness brochs. At present, Altbreck broch stands in open ground. There would be a period when more of the Proposed Development would be visible to the west before planned replanting of conifers restricts the degree of visibility. During this phase the Proposed Development would be visible, in a limited and insignificant manner against a mixed background of croftland and modern coniferous plantings. The Development would be well below the horizon and only one pole would stand out against the background of Loch Shin. There is now no intervisibility between Altbreck and Dalness Brochs, although this was probably the case when both	High	Low – Imperceptible	Minor - Negligible

No.	Site Name	Distance to OHL (m)	Potential Indirect, Visual Impact	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Impact	Significance
			structures stood to full height. Cognizance is also taken of the changes made by afforestation, development of croft land, raising of the water level of Loch Shin, housing, and roads, all visible from the monument which reduce the significance of the Proposed Development's effect on the SM. The residual indirect effect of the Proposed Development on this site is thus likely to be Low, diminishing to Imperceptible over time, resulting in a non-significant impact.			
7	Altbreck, Homestead 1800 m Ese Of Dalchork Bridge	1,260	This site, of uncertain identification, lies lower than Altbreck broch, on the south-east slope of the ridge. As a possible prehistoric defensive site, its location would have been selected with vistas as an important factor, but these vistas are by no means as panoramic as those of the broch (Site 6). At present, the site is located in open ground but the Proposed Development, passing to the west at a distance of 1.4km, would be unlikely to be visible in the period between felling and replanting. The Proposed Development is likely to give rise to a low magnitude of impact on this SM, resulting in a minor significance of impact.	Medium	Low	Minor
8	Allt a'Chraigs Bridge	14	This Listed Building is a bridge carrying the present public road over a watercourse; the Allt a'Chraigs. It was constructed in 1820 and built for the practical purpose of opening a transport route to the north coast. Although the stone bridge is aesthetically pleasing and in harmony with the undeveloped landscape, these factors were not considerations to its original builders, concerned mainly with lines of communication. The addition of modern lines of communication such as the Proposed Development would not detract from the setting of this feature. This bridge, situated in open ground, would likely experience a medium level of indirect, visual impact as the Proposed Development would pass between the bridge and vistas of the mountains to the west. This would likely result in a minor magnitude of impact.	Low	Medium	Minor
9	Crask, bridge over Chraigs Burn	480 (72 to underground cable)	This Listed Building is a bridge carrying the present public road over a watercourse; the Chraigs Burn. It was constructed in 1820 and built for the practical purpose of opening a transport route to the north coast. Although the stone bridge is aesthetically pleasing and in harmony with the undeveloped landscape, these factors were not considerations to its original builders, concerned mainly with lines of communication. The addition of modern lines of	Low	Low	Negligible

No.	Site Name	Distance to OHL (m)	Potential Indirect, Visual Impact	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Impact	Significance
			communication such as the Proposed Development would not detract from the setting of this feature. This bridge, situated in open ground, would likely experience a low level of indirect, visual impact from the Proposed Development, as the Development will be underground as it passes the bridge resulting in a negligible significance of impact.			
10	Rhian Bridge Over Abhainn Sgeamhaidh Burn	1,440	This Listed Building is a bridge carrying the present public road over a watercourse; the Abhainn Sgeamhaidh Burn. It was constructed in 1820 and built for the practical purpose of opening a transport route to the north coast. Although the stone bridge is aesthetically pleasing and in harmony with the undeveloped landscape, these factors were not considerations to its original builders, concerned mainly with lines of communication. The addition of modern lines of communication such as the Proposed Development would not detract from the setting of this feature. An additional reduction of visual impact is afforded by residual blocks of coniferous planting. The Proposed Development is likely to give rise to a low magnitude of impact on this listed building, resulting in a negligible significance of impact.	Low	Low	Negligible
11	Feith Osdail, Bridge Over Feith Osdail Burn	365	This Listed Building is a bridge carrying the present public road over a watercourse; the Feith Osdail Burn. It was constructed in 1820 and built for the practical purpose of opening a transport route to the north coast. Although the stone bridge is aesthetically pleasing and in harmony with the undeveloped landscape, these factors were not considerations to its original builders, concerned mainly with lines of communication. The addition of modern lines of communication such as the Proposed Development would not detract from the setting of this feature. An additional reduction of visual impact is afforded by residual blocks of coniferous planting. The Proposed Development is likely to give rise to a low magnitude of impact on this listed building, resulting in a negligible significance of impact.	Low	Low	Negligible