Lorg Wind Farm Grid Connection

Environmental Impact Assessment Report

Appendix 7.3: Visual Assessment

November 25

Land & Planning

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1 VISUAL ASSESSMENT

1.1.1 For the purposes of this assessment, the construction phase is expected to last approximately twenty months, and the effects are therefore temporary. The duration of change at the Construction Phase is therefore recorded as **low**. The operational lifetime of the Proposed Development is anticipated to be of sufficiently long duration to be considered permanent. The duration of change at the Operation Phase is therefore recorded as **high**. Visual assessment is to be read in conjunction with viewpoint photography and wirelines provided within **Figure 7.4 Viewpoint Photography and Figure 7.5 Wirelines**, respectively.

Table 7.3.1: Visual Assessment

Identified Receptors and Viewpoint Information	Baseline description and visibility of Site	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect	Operation Year 1 magnitude and effect	Operation Year 15 magnitude and effect
Identified Receptor(s): Residents at Brockloch Tower **Illustrative Viewpoint(s)** **Ref:** Viewpoint VP1 Wireline VP1 **VP Grid Ref:** NX 54284 95840 **Location:** A713, by entrance to residential property Brockloch Tower.	The landscape at this point is predominantly characterised by the undulating landform associated with the valleys of Carsphairn Lane to the south and the Water of Deugh to the north and east, as it curves around Holm Hill. These valleys give rise to a varied topography with predominantly open moorland characterising the landscape towards Cairnsmore of Carsphairn to the north, before transitioning towards plantation woodland further westwards towards the rising land at Dodd Hill and Knockengorroch. Existing electricity pylons run parallel to the road corridor within this section of the landscape, introducing an industrial influence within the predominantly rural landscape.	Receptors are residents of dwellings at home. Residents at home are likely to have an appreciation for the landscape. The susceptibility of this receptor is recorded as **high**. The landscape at this point lies within the Dumfries and Galloway Regional Scenic Area and is intersected by the A713 road corridor, which forms a part of the National Tourist route that runs from Gretna to Ayr. The value of the view is therefore recorded as **high**. **Overall sensitivity: high**	Construction activity associated with the Proposed Development would be clearly visible. Associated plant travelling along the roadway and accessing the Proposed Development area would increase movement within the landscape and introduce increased industrial features within views. Whilst some screening is provided by existing vegetation to the north of Brockloch Tower, the wider landscape to the north-east remains relatively open, characterised by moorland affording greater visibility. The scale of change is therefore recorded as **medium**. Construction activity associated with the Proposed Development is likely to be limited to a degree from residential receptors at Brockloch Tower due to intervening vegetation, limiting the field of view and the siting of the dwelling set back from the road with views principally directly southwards across the wider valley to the south away from the road corridor. The geographical extent of the view is therefore recorded as **low**. **Overall magnitude: low** **Overall effect: moderate adverse (significant)**	At Operation Year 1, the Proposed Development would be barely perceptible from residents at Brockloch, with only glimpsed views of the proposed overhead line (OHL) visible, set back from the road corridor and contained for the most part by the existing landform and intermittent vegetation within the wider landscape to the north. The scale of change is therefore recorded as **negligible**. The Proposed Development would represent a minor/barely perceptible component within views towards the wider landscape to the north, filtered by the existing vegetation and landform. Where visible, the proposals would also be viewed within the context of the existing pylons and OHL that lie within the landscape at this location. The geographical extent of the change is therefore recorded as **negligible**. **Overall magnitude: negligible** **Overall effect: negligible (not significant)**	At Operation Year 15, there is likely to be no change, unless scrub plant associated with the proposed Holm Hill Substation development provides incidental screening. he proposed poles would have integrated into the landscape and softened to a degree as a result of weathering, as the assessment therefore remains as Year 1. **Overall magnitude: negligible** **Overall effect: negligible neutral (not significant)**
Identified Receptor(s): Road Users of Galloway Tourist Route (A713) **Illustrative Viewpoint(s)**	The landscape is predominantly rural in character, with elevated landform to the north and the open valley to the south directing views southwards towards the Genkens where the landscape opens up. The A713 road corridor forms a	Most road users of the A713 are likely to be travelling at high speeds and focused on the road ahead, with limited appreciation for views towards the wider landscape. However, this road is a part of the Galloway Tourist Route and so is also used by those seeking to enjoy the view. The susceptibility of this receptor is therefore recorded as **medium**.	Construction activity associated with the Proposed Development would be clearly visible. Associated plant travelling along the roadway and accessing the Proposed Development area would increase movement within the landscape and introduce increased industrial features within views. Whilst some screening is provided by existing vegetation to the north of the A713, this vegetation is intermittent with large gaps likely to afford greater visibility. The scale of change is therefore	At Operation Year 1, the Proposed Development would be barely perceptible within the landscape, with only glimpsed views of the proposed OHL visible, set back from the road corridor and contained for the most part by the existing landform. Where visible, the proposals would also be viewed within the context of the	At Operation Year 15, the Proposed Development would remain barely perceptible in the landscape as per Operation Year 1. Existing vegetation and planting within the wider landscape to the north would have also

Identified Receptors and Viewpoint Information	Baseline description and visibility of Site	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect	Operation Year 1 magnitude and effect	Operation Year 15 magnitude and effect
Ref: Viewpoint VP1 Wireline VP1 **VP Grid Ref:** NX 54284 95840 **Location:** A713, by entrance to residential property Brockloch Tower.	primary infrastructure route throughout this landscape forming part of the Dumfries and Galloway National Tourist Route extending from Gretna to Ayr. Existing electricity pylons run parallel to the road corridor within this section of the landscape, introducing an industrial influence within the predominantly rural landscape.	The landscape at this point lies within the Dumfries and Galloway Regional Scenic Area and is intersected by the A713 road corridor which is a part of the Dumfries and Galloway National Tourist route that runs from Gretna to Ayr. The value of the view is therefore recorded as **high**. **Overall sensitivity: high**	recorded as **high**. Road users are likely to experience a degree of visibility along the route of the A713 with gaps in vegetation along the northern edge of the road corridor allowing for greater visibility towards the proposals albeit for a short section of the route. The geographical extent of the view is therefore recorded as **medium**. The construction phase would be short term and the duration of change is therefore recorded as **low**. **Overall magnitude medium** **Table 4.4** within **Chapter 4: EIA Process and Methodology** denotes that for high sensitivity and medium magnitude effects of major adverse are anticipated, however this does not account for specific landscape and visual considerations. In line with **Appendix 7.1 Landscape and Visual Methodology,** it is noted that in some highly localised sections along this route effects of greater significance would be anticipated, resulting in noticeable changes within the immediate landscape. However, for the majority of the route only taller elements of the construction process would appear visible beyond the elevated landform and are not considered likely to substantially alter the views reducing likely effects. Using professional judgement, the overall effect has therefore been reduced to **moderate adverse (significant)** to account for the receptors along the route as a whole. **Overall effect: moderate adverse (significant)**	existing pylons and OHL that also lie within the landscape at this point. The scale of change is therefore recorded as **low**. At Operation Phase, construction activity would have stopped and the construction compound off the A713 would have been removed. Views towards features associated with the Proposed Development would therefore become less prominent within the landscape, with the OHL set further back from the road. Views at the Operation Phase would become more localised, with the OHL for the most part set against a backcloth of undulating landform and located within the background of views. The geographical extent of the change is therefore recorded as **low**. **Overall magnitude: low** **Table 4.4** within **Chapter 4: EIA Process and Methodology** denotes that for high sensitivity and low magnitude effects of moderate adverse are anticipated, however this does not account for specific landscape and visual considerations. In this instance professional judgement has been used due to the scale and nature of the likely impact the Proposed Development would have upon views from this receptor with the magnitude identified as (very) low. The overall effect is therefore not considered to be significant, and as such has been reduced to **minor adverse**. **Overall effect: minor adverse (not significant)**	matured to further help soften and contain views towards the OHL features. The scale of change therefore recorded as **negligible**. would Proposed Development would be seen only within glimpsed views from the road corridor. Existing planting within the wider landscape to the north would also have matured to further limit views. The geographical extent of the change is therefore recorded as **low**. **Overall magnitude: negligible** **Overall effect: negligible (not significant)**
Identified Receptor(s):	The landscape along the route of the core path is rural in character, with the	Receptors are users of Core Path Cairnsmore of Carsphairn by Green Well. Recreational users of Core Paths are likely to be traversing routes	Construction activity associated with the Proposed Development would appear visible along the route of the Core Path, notably at the point at which the route	At Operation Year 1, the Proposed Development would appear visible from the route of the right of way. It is	At Operation Year 15, the Proposed Development would remain visible within

Identified Receptors and Viewpoint Information	Baseline description and visibility of Site	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect	Operation Year 1 magnitude and effect	Operation Year 15 magnitude and effect
Users of Core Path Cairnsmore of Carsphairn by Green Well (CARS/487/2) **Illustrative Viewpoints:** **Refs:** Viewpoints VP2.1 & VP2.2 Wirelines VP2.1 & VP2.2 **Grid Ref (VP2):** NX 56176 95118 **Ref:** Viewpoints VP3.1 & VP3.2 Wireline VP3.2 **Grid Ref (VP3):** NX 56915 95688 **Ref:** Viewpoints VP4.1 & VP4.2 Wirelines VP4.1 & VP4.2 **Grid Ref (VP4):** NX 56621 95512 **Location:** Route of Core Path Cairnsmore of Carsphairn by Green Well	undulating landform associated with Cairnsmore of Carsphairn providing an expansive character with elevated summits and steep valleys visible throughout the wider landscape. The landscape is predominantly characterised by open moorland with intermittent woodland parcels and plantation woodland evident within views towards the wider landscape. Water courses, notably the Water of Deugh and Benloch Burn, lie at the base of valleys intersecting the landscape. Newly planted woodland is evident on the upper slopes of the valley and towards the Water of Deugh and Benloch Burn, which, once established would likely serve to contain wider views to the west and further direct views southward across the view. The undulating landform towards Cairnsmore of Carsphairn and within the wider landscape to the east of the core path ensure that views are principally directed towards the more open landscape towards Carsphairn and the valley at Carsphairn Lane to the south.	seeking enjoyment of the countryside and would therefore have an appreciation for the wider landscape. The susceptibility of this receptor is therefore recorded as **high**. The landscape at this point lies within the Dumfries and Galloway Regional Scenic Area. The landscape contains few detracting features, with views across the valley floor and towards the Water of Deugh offering views of the rural landscape. The value of the view is therefore recorded as **high**. **Overall sensitivity: high**	extends across the Water of Deugh towards Holm Hill with views from the base of the valley towards Benloch Burn likely to be afforded clear views towards construction activity associated with the proposals. Along the wider route however, views towards the Proposed Development are likely to be better contained by the undulating landform to the east. As the core path extends north views are associated with construction activity are likely to be filtered limited to only those where the route crosses the pathway to the south. The scale of change is therefore recorded as **medium**. Construction activity would introduce increased movement into the landscape and would be visible from the core path. It is noted however that clearer views of the construction activity are likely to be limited to those towards Benloch Burn towards the valley floor with the majority of views likely to be particularly obscured due to the undulating landform. The geographical extent of change is therefore recorded as **medium**. **Overall magnitude: medium** **Table 4.4** within **Chapter 4: EIA Process and Methodology** denotes that for high sensitivity and medium magnitude effects of major adverse are anticipated, however this does not account for specific landscape and visual considerations. In line with **Appendix 7.1 Landscape and Visual Methodology** it is noted that in some highly localised sections along this route, effects of greater significance would be anticipated resulting in noticeable changes within the immediate landscape where the Proposed Development crosses the path and the Water of Deugh. Where the Proposed Development extends to the east and west the surrounding landform would limit views towards the OHL and as such only a short section of the Proposed Development would be visually prominent along a localised section of the Core Path. Using professional judgement, the overall effect has therefore been reduced to **moderate adverse (significant)** to account for the receptors along the route as a whole. **Overall effect: moderate adverse (significant)**	noted however that where visible the Proposed Development would be viewed against a backcloth of existing landform. Additionally, it is noted that at Operation Year 1, the existing planting evident along both the route of the Water or Deugh and Benloch Burn would have begun to establish, further filtering views towards the Proposed Development as the core path extends northwards. The Proposed Development would be seen as a minor feature within the expansive landscape where visible. The scale of change is therefore recorded as **low**. Whilst views of the Proposed Development would be available along the route of the Core Path, the Proposal Development would appear barely perceptible within the landscape for the majority. highly localised views are likely to be available at the point at which the OHL crosses the core path and within glimpsed, southern facing views towards the base of Willieanna, however maturing vegetation and the backcloth of the existing vegetation are likely to ensure that these do not form prominent detracting features for the majority. The geographical extent of this receptor is therefore recorded as **low**. **Overall magnitude: (very) low** **Table 4.4** within **Chapter 4: EIA Process and Methodology** denotes that for high sensitivity and low magnitude effects of moderate adverse are anticipated, however this does not account for specific landscape and visual considerations. In this instance, professional judgement has been used due to the scale and nature of the likely impact the Proposed Development would have upon views from this receptor,	the landscape for a limited section of the Core Path as the OHL crosses the route and extends eastwards up the valley. To the west however it is considered that at Operation Year 15 the recently planted woodland to the western edge of the Water of Deugh would have sufficiently matured so as to provide a sufficient backcloth to views towards the OHL as it extends westwards towards Holm Hill, further integrating the proposals into the landscape. The scale of change is therefore recorded as **negligible**. The Proposed Development is likely to appear visible for a short section of the Core Path as the route crosses over the Water of Deugh and extends eastwards up the valley associated Benloch Burn. The OHL would therefore only appear prominent from highly localised section of the route with matured planting likely to filter and screen views further to the west. The geographical extent of change is therefore recorded as **negligible**. **Overall magnitude: negligible** **Overall effect: negligible (not significant)**

Identified Receptors and Viewpoint Information	Baseline description and visibility of Site	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect	Operation Year 1 magnitude and effect	Operation Year 15 magnitude and effect
				with the magnitude identified as (very) low. The overall effect is therefore not considered to be significant, and as such has been reduced to **minor adverse.** **Overall effect: minor adverse (not significant)**	
Identified Receptor(s): Recreational users accessing elevated summits **Illustrative Viewpoint(s)** **Closest VP:** VP3.1 & VP3.2 and VP4.1 & VP4.2 (refer to above VPs for information)	The landscape to the east of Dodd Hill and Knockengorroch is undulating in character with the landscape rising and falling across the open moorland, intersected by numerous rivers and smaller watercourses giving way to valleys. Summits at Cairnsmore of Carsphairn, Dunool, Willieanna and Craig of Knockgray all form key elevations and notable features. The landscape at this point is expansive and open with views southwards towards the elevated summits associated with the Rhins of Kells.	Receptors are hillwalkers accessing the elevated summits, generally seeking enjoyment of the countryside and having an appreciation for the wider landscape. The susceptibility of this receptor is therefore recorded as **high**. The landscape at this point lies within the Dumfries and Galloway Regional Scenic Area. The landscape contains few detracting features, with far reaching southern views across the wider landscape towards the Rhins of Kells to the south. The value of the view is therefore recorded as **high**. Overall sensitivity: **high**	Construction activity would be visible across the landscape with the Proposed Development located within the base of the valley towards the south of Quantans Hill and Willieanna. Plant and the movement of associated construction vehicles alongside the addition of temporary laydown areas across the landscape would likely be visible within views from summits, albeit partially obscured due to intervening vegetation, landform and the siting of the route towards the base of the valley. Views of construction activity are therefore likely to appear available only from the southernmost summits with further elevated views to the north, likely to only experience glimpsed views towards the Proposed Development. The scale of change is therefore recorded as **medium**. Views towards construction activities would be visible across the area, albeit limited to an extent by the undulating landform with clearer views of the Proposed Development only experienced from the less walked summits of Willieanna and Craig of Knockgray. The geographical extent of change is therefore recorded as **medium**. **Overall magnitude: medium** **Table 4.4** within **Chapter 4: EIA Process and Methodology** denotes that for high sensitivity and medium magnitude effects of major adverse are anticipated, however, this does not account for specific landscape and visual considerations. In line with **Appendix 7.1 Landscape and Visual Methodology** it is noted that some views from summits may experience visible changes as a result of the Proposed Development, however these are not considered likely to be prominent due to the expansive nature of the views and as such are not considered likely to result in major significance, occupying only a limited section of views from these locations. Using professional judgement, the overall effect has therefore been reduced to **moderate**	At Operation Year 1, the Proposed Development would be visible within views but, except, where crossing the alignment at Benloch Burn, seen as a minor feature set low within the valley and set against a backcloth of existing landform. At Operation Year 1, construction activity would have ceased and as such movement within the landscape would have reduced. Whilst it is noted that the Proposed Development would appear visible, it is considered that the siting of the development within the lower ground and the undulating character of the landscape would serve to ensure that Proposed Development is seen as a minor feature within the view with views predominantly directed across the wider landscape as a whole and towards the elevated summits of the Rhins of Kells to the south. The scale of change is therefore recorded as **low**. The Proposed Development would be visible across the landscape, albeit obscured by the undulating landform within views from elevated summits to the north. The proposals are however, likely to be seen as a minor feature within the expansive landscape at this point. The geographical extent of change is therefore recorded as **negligible**. **Overall magnitude: (very) low** **Table 4.4** within **Chapter 4: EIA Process and Methodology** denotes that for high sensitivity and low	At Operation Year 15, it is anticipated that the Proposed Development would have further integrated within landscape through the weathering of the proposed poles and the establishment of vegetation within the wider landscape. Whilst it is noted that the Proposed Development would likely remain visible across the view it is considered that views would appear glimpsed from summits to the north with views only available from the summits to the south, with the Proposed Development seen as a minor feature set against a backcloth of existing landform. The scale of change is therefore recorded as **negligible**. The Proposed Development would be visible within southern-facing views from elevated summits at Willieanna and Craig of Knockgray with elevated views from the wider landscape to the north, obscured by the undulating landscape. Whilst the Proposed Development would appear visible this would be limited to views only from southern summits with wider views

Identified Receptors and Viewpoint Information	Baseline description and visibility of Site	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect	Operation Year 1 magnitude and effect	Operation Year 15 magnitude and effect
			adverse (significant) to account for the likely visibility of the Proposed Development from receptors. **Overall effect: moderate adverse (significant)**	magnitude effects of moderate adverse are anticipated, however this does not account for specific landscape and visual considerations. In this instance professional judgement has been used due to the scale and nature of the likely impact the Proposed Development would have upon views from this receptor with the magnitude identified as **(very) low**. The overall effect is therefore not considered to be significant, and as such has been reduced to **minor adverse.** **Overall effect: minor adverse (not significant)**	from the north, obscured by the existing landform The geographical extent of change is therefore recorded as **negligible**. **Overall magnitude: negligible** **Overall effect: minor adverse (not significant)**
Identified Receptor(s): Users of Core Path Cairnsmore of Carsphairn by Craig of Knockgray (CARS/182/1) **Illustrative Viewpoint(s)** No viewpoint **Closest VP:** Viewpoints VP2.1 & VP2.2 Wirelines VP2.1 & VP2.2 (refer to above VP2 for information)	To the east of Carsphairn the landscape forms a wide valley falling away to the south as the Water of Deugh extends towards Kendoon Loch. Further north the landscape elevates gradually towards Quantans Hill and Knockwhirn with the open moorland in the area intercepted only by intermittent woodland parcels towards Knockgray and Marbrack. These settlements lie within the lower slopes, connected to the B729 by narrow access tracks. A series of burns extend throughout the landscape within this area, creating shallow valleys as the extend from the higher ground towards the Water of Deugh at the valley base.	Receptors are users of Users of Core Path Cairnsmore of Carsphairn by Craig of Knockgray (CARS/182/1). Recreational users of Core Paths are likely to be traversing routes seeking enjoyment of the countryside and would therefore have an appreciation for the wider landscape. The susceptibility of this receptor is therefore recorded as **high**. The landscape at this point lies within the Dumfries and Galloway Regional Scenic Area. The landscape contains few detracting features, with views to the north enclosed by the undulating landform but with wider views across the valley floor to the rising land associated with The Rhins of Kells to the south. The value of the view is therefore recorded as **high**. Overall sensitivity: **high**	Construction activity would be visible along the route of the Core Path, with the construction access running along the route of the core path from Knockgray northwards, increasing the degree of movement within the landscape with associated plant traversing this route. Within views towards the wider route development however, it is considered that these would appear well contained within the landscape, with the undulating landform and intermittent vegetation serving to filter views. It is noted that at the point at which the path crosses the route, views are likely to appear prominent as the route extends across the valley, with the open moorland affording clear views. The scale of change is therefore recorded as **medium**. Views of construction activity associated with the Proposed Development are likely to appear visible across the southern section of the Core Path between the proposals and Knockgray. Further north, however, as the route travels toward Cairnsmore of Carsphairn, the existing landform would serve to obscure views, with the route lying within the lower valley slopes. The geographical extent of change is therefore considered to be **medium**. **Overall magnitude: medium** **Table 4.4** within **Chapter 4: EIA Process and Methodology** denotes that for high sensitivity and medium magnitude effects of major adverse are anticipated, however, this does not account for specific	At Operation Year 1, it is considered that construction activity along the access track would have ceased and as such, views towards the Proposed Development would be limited to those from the short section of the path where views across the valley become more open and the proposed OHL crosses over the path. Whilst these features would appear noticeable within the views from the point at which the OHL crosses the route, features would be set low within the valley, limiting visibility from the majority of the core path, with views, where visible, set against a backcloth of the existing landform. The scale of change is therefore recorded as **low**. With regard to the geographical extent of change, it is considered that while the Proposed Development would appear visible at Operation Year 1 this would be limited to a short section of the core path, with intermittent vegetation and the undulating landform serving to screen views along the path to the north and south. The geographical extent of change is therefore recorded as **low**.	At Operation Year 15, it is considered that the proposed poles would have integrated into the landscape and softened to a degree as a result of weathering. Visibility is likely to remain similar as Year 1. **Overall magnitude: (very) low** **Overall effect: minor adverse (not significant)**

Identified Receptors and Viewpoint Information	Baseline description and visibility of Site	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect	Operation Year 1 magnitude and effect	Operation Year 15 magnitude and effect
			landscape and visual considerations. In line with **Appendix 7.1 Landscape and Visual Methodology** construction activity is likely to appear visible across the southern section of the route, with the wider OHL route obscured by the existing landform. Construction activity would be intermittent, limited to the movement of vehicles and plant along the route. Using professional judgement, the overall effect has therefore been reduced to **moderate adverse (significant)** to account for the likely visibility of construction activity associated with the Proposed Development from receptors. **Overall effect: moderate adverse (significant)**	**Overall magnitude: (very) low** **Table 4.4** within **Chapter 4: EIA Process and Methodology** denotes that for high sensitivity and low magnitude effects of moderate adverse are anticipated, however, this does not account for specific landscape and visual considerations. In this instance, professional judgement has been used due to the scale and nature of the likely impact the Proposed Development would have upon views from this receptor with the magnitude identified as **(very) low.** The overall effect is therefore not considered to be significant, and as such has been reduced to **minor adverse.** **Overall effect: minor adverse (not significant)**	
Identified Receptor(s): Residents at Marbrack Farm **Illustrative Viewpoint(s)** **Ref:** Viewpoint VP5 Wireline VP5 **Grid Ref:** NX 59752 93337 **Location:** Farm track at Marbrack Farm	The landscape at this point is characterised by the rising and falling landscape that lies to the east of Quantans Hill intersected by Polhay and Marbrack Burn as they travel southwards from the elevated ground to the north. Intermittent woodland parcels intersect views within the landscape, containing views towards the wider landscape and creating a more enclosed character.	Receptors are Residents at Marbrack Farm. Residents at home are considered to have an appreciation for the wider landscape. The susceptibility of these receptors is therefore recorded as **high**. The landscape at this point lies within the Dumfries and Galloway Regional Scenic Area. The landscape contains few detracting features, however views within this area are largely contained by the undulating landform and existing vegetation creating a more enclosed environment with limited views. The value of the view is therefore recorded as **medium**. **Overall sensitivity: high**	Construction activity associated with the Proposed Development would be visible along the construction access route that lies to the eastern side of Marbrack Farm. Plant and vehicle movement associated with the Construction Phase would introduce an additional degree of movement within the landscape, extending northwards towards the Proposed Development from the B729 to the south. Despite this, however, undulating landform and existing vegetation along the access track and within the wider landscape would serve to contain wider views towards the Proposed Development to the north. Receptors are therefore likely to only experience highly localised impacts as a result of construction vehicle movement. The scale of change is therefore recorded as **low**. Views of construction activity associated with the Proposed Development are likely to appear along a very short section of the access track with visibility to the north and south, largely obscured by the existing landform and vegetation. The geographical extent of change is therefore recorded as **negligible**. Construction activity associated with the Proposed Development would therefore only appear visible within a highly localised view, with the majority of the view experiencing little to no change are a result of the	At Operation Year 1, construction along the access track would have ceased. The Proposed Development would lie beyond the existing landform and vegetation that lie within the wider landscape to the north-east and west, and would be imperceptible within views. The scale of change is therefore recorded as **negligible**. With regard to the geographical extent of change, it is considered that the Proposed Development would not be perceptible from receptors at Marbrack Farm. The geographical extent of change is therefore recorded as **negligible**. **Overall magnitude: negligible** **Overall effect: negligible (not significant)**	At Operation Year 15, it is likely that impacts would remain similar to those at Operation Year 1. It is noted that at Year 15 the proposed poles would have integrated into the landscape and softened to a degree as a result of weathering. Visibility is likely to remain similar as Year 1. **Overall magnitude: negligible** **Overall effect: negligible (not significant)**

Identified Receptors and Viewpoint Information	Baseline description and visibility of Site	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect	Operation Year 1 magnitude and effect	Operation Year 15 magnitude and effect
			Proposed Development, with only intermittent construction activity likely to be perceived. Using professional judgement, the combined magnitude is therefore assessed as **negligible**. **Overall magnitude: negligible** **Overall effect: minor adverse (not significant)**		
Identified Receptor(s): Residents at Furmiston **Illustrative Viewpoint(s)** No viewpoint **Closest VP:** Viewpoint VP5 Wireline VP5 (refer to above VP5 for information)	The landscape within this area is predominantly characterised by rough moorland, sloping topography, and tributaries, including Furmiston Lane, as they run southwards towards the Water of Deugh that sits at the base of the valley beyond the B729 that lies to the south. To the north and east, the land rises towards the elevated summits at Furmiston Craig and Marscalloch Hill. To the east, the landscape is characterised by dense plantation woodland that extends northwards and eastwards towards Lorg Road and the Water of Ken which contain views towards the wider landscape.	Receptors are identified as residents at Furmiston. Residents at home are considered to have an appreciation for the wider landscape. The susceptibility of these receptors is therefore recorded as **high**. The landscape at this point lies within the Dumfries and Galloway Regional Scenic Area. The landscape contains few detracting features. Views within this are, however limited to a degree by the sloping topography and dense forestry within the wider landscape to the east. The value of the view is therefore recorded as **medium**. **Overall sensitivity: high**	Construction activity associated with the Proposed Development would be limited to the laying of a temporary access track to extend to the north of Furmiston. The associated movement of construction vehicles and plant along the proposed and existing access track would extend past this property towards the Proposed Development Area, where it lies beyond Furmiston Craig to the north. Plant and vehicle movement associated with the Construction Phase would introduce an additional degree of movement within the landscape extending northwards. The sloping topography and limited vegetation within the landscape along the route would serve to filter views to a degree; however it is considered that the laying of a temporary access track and vehicle movement would be clearly visible during the Construction Phase. The scale of change is therefore recorded as **medium**. Views of construction activity would be visible along the southern section of the access track, with further views of the temporary track infrastructure likely to appear visible to the north of residents before being obscured by the elevated landform at Furmiston Craig. The geographical extent of change is recorded as **medium**. **Overall magnitude: medium** **Table 4.4** within **Chapter 4: EIA Process and Methodology** denotes that for high sensitivity and medium magnitude effects of major adverse are anticipated, however, this does not account for specific landscape and visual considerations. In line with **Appendix 7.1 Landscape and Visual Methodology** it is noted that the installation of the temporary access track and construction vehicle movement would result in some noticeable changes to the landscape however due to the low-level nature of the change and the undulating landform obscuring the wider OHL route to the north, construction activity would be intermittent limited to movement of vehicles and plant along the route. Using professional judgement, the overall effect has therefore	At Operation Year 1, construction along the access track would have ceased. The Proposed Development would sit beyond the existing landform that lies to the north and vegetation to the east, becoming imperceptible. The scale of change is therefore recorded as **negligible**. With regard to the geographical extent of change it is considered the Proposed Development would not be perceptible from receptors at Furmiston. The geographical extent of change is therefore recorded as **negligible**. **Overall magnitude: negligible** **Overall effect: negligible (not significant)**	At Operation Year 15, it is likely that impacts would remain similar to those identified at Operation Year 1. Visibility is likely to remain similar as Year 1. **Overall magnitude: negligible** **Overall effect: negligible (not significant)**

Identified Receptors and Viewpoint Information	Baseline description and visibility of Site	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect	Operation Year 1 magnitude and effect	Operation Year 15 magnitude and effect
			been reduced to **moderate adverse (significant)** to account for the likely visibility of construction activity associated with the Proposed Development from receptors. **Overall effect: moderate adverse (significant)**		
Identified Receptor(s): Users of Lorg Road **Illustrative Viewpoint(s)** **Ref:** Viewpoints VP6, VP7.1 & VP7.2, VP8.1 & VP8.2 and VP9.1 & VP9.2 Wirelines VP6, VP7, VP8.1 & VP8.2 and VP9.1 & VP9.2 **Grid Ref VP6:** NX 63338 92342 **Grid Ref VP7.1 & 7.2:** NX 63344 93071 **Grid Ref VP8.1 & 8.2:** NX 64619 95890 **Grid Ref VP9.1 & 9.2:** NX 65780 97583 **Location:**	The landscape along the route of Lorg Road is rural in character with views directed along the valley floor and enclosed to the east and west by existing plantation woodland and sloping topography associated with the valley sides as they extend away from the Water of Ken that runs parallel to Lorg Road as it travels northwards up the valley. At the southern end of Lorg Road, towards the base of the valley, young plantation woodland and new woodland planting is visible within the landscape adjacent to the Water of Ken, which, once established would serve to further contain and direct views in a north south direction along the valley floor. Views towards the undulating topography within the wider landscape to the north and south would appear visible within middle distant views, charactered predominantly by open moorland with forestry evident on the lower sections of the valley slopes to the north.	Receptors are identified as users of Lorg Road. Lorg Road is a narrow rural road corridor and as such users are likely to be travelling at slower speeds. Users of this road corridor are likely to be principally residents or tourists with appreciation for the wider landscape. The susceptibility of this receptor is therefore recorded as **medium**. The landscape at this point does not lie within a regionally or locally designated landscape and contains few detracting features. Expansive views offer scenic quality. The value of the view is therefore recorded as **medium**. **Overall sensitivity: medium**	Construction activity associated with the Proposed Development would appear visible along for the majority of Lorg Road with the route and Site access track lying parallel to the road as it extends up the Water of Ken valley corridor. Plant and associated construction vehicles would be visible along the proposed access track to lie on the eastern edge of the valley slopes and would introduce an additional degree of movement within the landscape. Activity would however be limited to the road corridor itself and the eastern valley slopes, with western facing views across the valley floor likely to remain unimpeded by construction activity due to the dense plantation woodland that lines sections of the road corridor to the south and the sloping topography. The scale of change is therefore recorded as **medium**. With regard to the geographical extent of change, whilst it is noted that intervening built form, commercial forestry and the undulating landform would serve to limit views along the route to a degree the majority of the route would experience a degree of change within eastern facing views. The geographical extent of change is therefore recorded as **high**. **Overall magnitude: medium** **Overall effect: moderate adverse (significant)**	At Operation Year 1, existing planting along the route of the Water of Ken along the southern section of the road corridor would have begun to establish, serving to filter views towards the proposed OHL to a small degree. Further north, the Proposed Development would remain visible albeit set back from the route against a backcloth of existing forestry and landform for the majority of road corridor, with the exception of the point at which the route crosses the road south of Craigengillan, ensuring that whilst visible the proposed OHL is unlikely to appear visually prominent within views, appearing only within glimpsed views towards the eastern slopes. The scale of change is therefore recorded as **low**. The Proposed Development would be visible within views along the road corridor although appearing as a minor feature within the landscape, set back from the road corridor. The geographical extent of change is therefore recorded as **low**. **Overall magnitude: low** **Overall effect: minor adverse (not significant)**	At Operation Year 15, the existing planted vegetation along the Water of Ken would have matured limiting the availability of views towards the Proposed Development and further screening the proposals within the landscape along the southern section of the route corridor. At Year 15 is considered that the proposed poles would have better integrated into the landscape through a degree of weathering. The scale of change is therefore recorded as **negligible**. The Proposed Development would remain visible along the majority of the route but appear heavily filtered with views, for the most part set back against the existing vegetation structure and landform. However, with the OHL still to remain clearly visible for a short section of the route as it crosses the road to the south of Craigengillan. The geographical extent of change is therefore recorded as **low**. **Overall magnitude: low** **Overall effect: minor adverse (not significant)**

Identified Receptors and Viewpoint Information	Baseline description and visibility of Site	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect	Operation Year 1 magnitude and effect	Operation Year 15 magnitude and effect
Route of Lorg Road from Smitton's Bridge to Lorg					
Identified Receptor(s): Residents at Craigengillan **Illustrative Viewpoint(s)** **Ref:** Viewpoints VP7.1 & 7.2 **Grid Ref:** NX 63344 93071 Wireline VP7 NX 63877 94997 **Location:** Lorg Road, south of Craigengillan, within the Water of Ken Valley	The landscape to the south of Craigengillan remains predominantly rural in character with the sloping valley landscape towards the Water of Ken directing views along the base of the valley to the north and south. To the north of Smittons Bridge the landscape opens up to the south-east with the limited vegetation and forestry affording clearer views across the southeastern valley slopes, albeit containing views towards the wider landscape by way of the existing topography. To the north the landscape once again falls away towards the river corridor with plantation woodland characterising the valley slopes and creating an enclosed character at the valley base, directing views further northwards.	Receptors are identified as residents at Craigengillan. Residents at home are likely to have an appreciation for the wider landscape. The susceptibility of this receptor is therefore recorded as **high**. The landscape at this point does not lie within a regionally or locally designated landscape and contains few detracting features. Expansive views offer scenic quality. The value of the view is therefore recorded as **medium**. **Overall sensitivity: high**	Construction Activity associated with the Proposed Development would appear clearly visible within views from the north with the limited vegetation structure allowing for clear views across the valley floor. Associated plant would introduce new industrial features within the landscape detracting from the scenic quality of the wider landscape to the south. The scale of change is recorded as **medium.** Construction activity would be visible across the landscape with plant the route extending along the eastern valley side of the Water of Ken before crossing the river and continuing westwards towards Holm Hill. The geographical extent of change is therefore recorded as **high**. **Overall magnitude: medium** **Table 4.4** within **Chapter 4: EIA Process and Methodology** denotes that for high sensitivity and medium magnitude effects of major adverse are anticipated, however this does not account for specific landscape and visual considerations. In line with **Appendix 7.1 Landscape and Visual Methodology** it is noted that in some highly localised views, construction activity associated with the Proposed Development would appear as noticeable changes within the landscape and would result in effects of greater significance within views from residents at Craigengillan. Wider views to the north and south are however, considered likely to be partially obscured by the existing forestry that covers the valley slopes. Using professional judgement, the overall effect has therefore been reduced to **moderate-major adverse (significant)** to account for localised effects at construction. **Overall effect: moderate-major adverse (significant)**	At Operation Year 1, the Proposed Development would appear visible within southern facing views, albeit obscured to a degree by the existing backcloth of vegetation and landform within the Water of Ken Valley. Further to the east, the proposals are likely to be more visible within the wider valley, with the proposed poles visible on the eastern slope of the River Ken valley with intermittent backclothing from forestry to the north and south. The scale of change is recorded as **low**. Whilst visible, the proposals would form a minor feature within the landscape. At Operation Phase, construction activity would have stopped, reducing the degree of movement within the landscape. The Proposed Development would appear visible within localised views to the south as the route crosses the river corridor and to the east. Views, however are likely to be localised, filtered to a small degree by the existing vegetation that bounds the residential dwellings at Craigengillan and with the proposed poles to be set, for the most part, against a backcloth of existing vegetation and landform. The geographical extent of change at Operation is recorded as **medium**. **Overall magnitude: medium** **Table 4.4** within **Chapter 4: EIA Process and Methodology** denotes that for high sensitivity and medium magnitude effects of major adverse are anticipated, however, this does not account for specific landscape	At Operation Year 15, existing planting towards the Water of Ken would have matured to soften western facing views towards the Proposed Development, albeit with glimpsed views of features likely to remain visible against the skyline within a proportion of the view. The wider view would predominately remain as per Operation Year 1 however, despite some softening of features. **Overall magnitude: medium** **Overall effect: moderate adverse (significant)**

Identified Receptors and Viewpoint Information	Baseline description and visibility of Site	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect	Operation Year 1 magnitude and effect	Operation Year 15 magnitude and effect
				and visual considerations. In line with **Appendix 7.1 Landscape and Visual Methodology,** whilst it is noted that some highly localised views towards the Proposed Development would appear as noticeable changes within the landscape and would result in effects of greater significance within views from residents at Craigengillan, wider views to the north and south are considered likely to be partially obscured by the existing forestry that covers the valley slopes. In addition construction activity would have ceased, reducing movement within the landscape. Using professional judgement, the overall effect has therefore been reduced to **moderate adverse (significant)** to account for localised effects at operation. **Overall effect: moderate adverse (significant)**	
Identified Receptor(s): Residents at and visitors to River Ken Cottage B&B (Strahanna) **Illustrative Viewpoint(s)** **Ref:** Viewpoints VP8.1 & VP8.2 Wirelines VP8.1 & VP8.2 **Grid Ref:** NX 64619 95890 **Location:**	Towards Strahanna the landscape rises more steeply away from the road corridor with commercial forestry forming a prominent feature within views towards the wider landscape to the north and on the eastern valley slopes. Along the valley floor and upon the western slopes the landscape is principally characterised by scrubby wetland, with native woodland parcels intersecting views across the base of the valley before opening out into moorland further up the valley slopes to the west towards Glenhead Rig and Dodd Hill. The steep valley sides in this area, coupled with the	Receptors are identified as residents and visitors to the River Ken Cottage B&B at Strahanna. Residents at home are likely to have an appreciation of the wider landscape. With regard to visitors to the B&B at River Ken Cottage it is considered that visitors are likely to be doing so for tourism purposes seeking enjoyment of the countryside. The susceptibility of these receptors is therefore recorded as **high**. The landscape at this point does not lie within a regionally or locally designated landscape. Dense plantation forestry characterises the wider valley slopes creating an enclosed valley landscape. The value of the view is therefore recorded as **low**. **Overall sensitivity: high**	Construction activity associated with the Proposed Development would appear clearly visible within northern and eastern facing views. Construction plant would be visible, set back against the treeline and across the broadly flat landscape along the valley floor. Intermittent field boundary vegetation would likely serve to soften views further to the north however, construction plant would increase activity and movement in the landscape within views towards the proposals. The scale of change is therefore recorded as **high**. Construction activity within the view would be located toward the base of the valley, containing views towards the Site from the wider landscape beyond the ridgelines and wider landscape to the east and west. Views are therefore limited to those along the valley floor. The geographical extent of change is therefore recorded as **low**. The construction phase is short term and the duration of change is therefore recorded as **low**. **Overall magnitude: medium** **Table 4.4** within **Chapter 4: EIA Process and Methodology** denotes that for high sensitivity and medium magnitude effects of major adverse are	At Operation Year 1, the Proposed Development would be visible within the landscape, albeit set against the backcloth of the existing forestry plantation woodland that characterises the eastern valley slopes. The proposed poles and linear features associated with the Proposed Development would therefore not be viewed as prominent features within the landscape, with the steep valley sides and plantation woodland principally directing views northwards to the more open base of the valley. Existing poles are already visible within the landscape within views from the valley floor. The scale of change is therefore recorded as **low**. The Proposed Development would appear visible, however is likely to be seen as a minor feature within the landscape, visible only as glimpsed views, set back against the existing forestry and partially	At Operation Year 15, it is likely that impacts would remain similar to those at Operation Year 1. It is noted that at Year 15 the proposed poles would have integrated into the landscape and softened to a degree as a result of weathering. Visibility is likely to remain similar as Year 1. The geographical extent of change is therefore considered to be **low**. **Overall magnitude: (very) low** **Overall effect: minor adverse (not significant)**

Identified Receptors and Viewpoint Information	Baseline description and visibility of Site	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect	Operation Year 1 magnitude and effect	Operation Year 15 magnitude and effect
Bridge over the Water of Ken on Lorg Road at Stahanna	degree of vegetation cover associated with the native woodland and forestry that characterise the landscape at this point therefore serve to direct views northwards towards the more open valley floor and rising landform.		anticipated, however this does not account for specific landscape and visual considerations. In line with **Appendix 7.1 Landscape and Visual Methodology** it is noted that in some highly localised views, construction activity associated with the Proposed Development would appear as noticeable changes within the landscape and would result in effects of greater significance within views from residents and visitors to River Ken Cottage B&B. However, existing vegetation on the valley slope and surrounding the property is likely to obscure views towards the Proposed Development for the most part. Using professional judgement, the overall effect has therefore been reduced **to moderate-major adverse (significant)** to account for localised effects at construction. **Overall effect: moderate adverse (significant)**	screened by existing vegetation at the base of the valley. The geographical extent of change is therefore considered to be **low**. The operational stage comprises the life of the Proposed Development and is therefore assessed as long term. The duration of change is therefore recorded as **high**. **Overall magnitude: (very) low** **Table 4.4** within **Chapter 4: EIA Process and Methodology** denotes that for high sensitivity and low magnitude effects of moderate adverse are anticipated, however this does not account for specific landscape and visual considerations. In this instance professional judgement has been used due to the scale and nature of the likely impact the Proposed Development would have upon views from this receptor with the magnitude identified as (very) low. The overall effect is therefore not considered to be significant, and as such has been reduced to **minor adverse.** **Overall effect: minor adverse (not significant)**	
Residents at Auchrae and users of Heart of the Glen Shepherd's Hut at Polcheskie Brae **Illustrative Viewpoint(s)** **Ref:** Viewpoints VP8.1 & VP8.2 Wirelines VP8.1 & VP8.2	The landscape towards Auchrae is predominantly characterised by the enclosed valley landscape associated with the Water of Ken that lies along the base of the valley floor. Along the western valley slopes intermittent native deciduous woodland parcels dot the predominantly open moorland as the land rises away from the valley floor. To the east however commercial forestry characterises the majority of	Receptors are identified as residents and at Auchrae, and users of the Heart of the Glen Holidays Shepherd's Hut at Polcheskie Brae. Residents at home are likely to have an appreciation of the wider landscape. The susceptibility of these receptors is therefore recorded as **high**. The landscape at this point does not lie within a regionally or locally designated landscape. Dense plantation forestry characterised the wider valley slopes creating an enclosed valley landscape. The value of the view is therefore recorded as **low**. **Overall sensitivity: high**	Construction activity associated with the Proposed Development would appear visible within eastern facing views, albeit filtered to a degree by the existing vegetation structure. Plant and construction activity would introduce increased movement within the landscape at the base of the valley and would appear visible on the slightly elevated ground to the east of Auchrae and Polcheskie Brae at this point. The scale of change is therefore recorded as **high**. The Proposed Development would affect eastern and norther facing views from residents at Auchrae with southern facing views likely to be partially obscured by the existing vegetation structure and winding nature of the valley. The Proposed Development whilst clearly visible would impact views to the rear of properties at Auchrae, and Shepherd's Hut at Polcheskie Brae, however it is	At Operation Year 1, it is noted that the Proposed Development would likely appear visible, albeit set against a backcloth of the rising valley landscape to the east and the maturing commercial forestry vegetation that characterised the valley side at this point. The proposed poles and linear features are therefore unlikely to form prominent features within views, with the maturing vegetation to the east, further directing views towards the more open valley landscape to the west. The scale of change is therefore recorded as **low**. With	At Operation Year 15, it is considered the proposed poles would have further integrated into the landscape through a degree of weathering. In addition, it is noted that by this time the young forestry plantation would have matured to help further filter views towards the Proposed Development from residents. The scale of change is therefore recorded as **negligible**. The matured vegetation on

Identified Receptors and Viewpoint Information	Baseline description and visibility of Site	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect	Operation Year 1 magnitude and effect	Operation Year 15 magnitude and effect
Location: Information as per above	the valley slopes to the east of Lorg Road, with plantation at various stages of the cycle visible towards Polcheskie Craigs, notably the young plantation woodland to the north of Polcheskie Burn. The landscape at this point is slightly more open however still remaining largely enclosed by the existing vegetation and steep valley sides. Views therefore are principally directed westwards and northwards across the valley floor.		anticipated that the majority of views are be directed outwards to the more open landscape across the valley floor. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **medium**. **Overall magnitude: medium** **Table 4.4** within **Chapter 4: EIA Process and Methodology** denotes that for high sensitivity and medium magnitude, effects of major adverse are anticipated, however this does not account for specific landscape and visual considerations. In line with **Appendix 7.1 Landscape and Visual Methodology** it is noted that in some highly localised views, construction activity associated with the Proposed Development would appear as noticeable changes within the landscape and would result in effects of greater significance within views from residents at Auchrae and users of the Shepherd's Hut at Polcheskie Brae. The majority of views, however are likely to be directed away from the eastern slopes towards the more open and attractive valley landscape to the west. Using professional judgement, the overall effect has therefore been reduced to **moderate-major adverse (significant)** to account for localised effects at construction. **Overall effect: moderate-major adverse (significant)**	regard to the geographical extent of change, the Proposed Development would be seen as a minor addition to the view, set back beyond the maturing forestry vegetation and against a backcloth of existing forestry and elevated landform. Views of the Proposed Development would therefore only be available for a short stretch of the landscape and limited to views to the north and east. The geographical extent of change is therefore considered to be **low**. **Overall magnitude: (very) low** **Table 4.4** within **Chapter 4: EIA Process and Methodology** denotes that for high sensitivity and low magnitude, effects of moderate adverse are anticipated, however this does not account for specific landscape and visual considerations. In this instance professional judgement has been used due to the scale and nature of the likely impact the Proposed Development would have upon views from this receptor with the magnitude identified as (very) low. The overall effect is therefore not considered to be significant, and as such has been reduced to **minor adverse.** **Overall effect: minor adverse (not significant)**	the eastern slopes of the valley would serve to limit views towards the Proposed Development to ensure that only highly localised views of the Proposed Development are experienced. The geographical extent of change is therefore recorded as **negligible**. **Overall magnitude: negligible** **Overall effect: negligible (not significant)**
Identified Receptor(s): Residents at Corlae **Illustrative Viewpoint(s)** **Ref:** Viewpoints VP9.1 & VP9.2	Towards Corlae the landscape remains predominantly rural in character with the settlement principally located along Lorg Road. Commercial forestry forms a characteristic feature of this landscape with woodland plantations located on the lower valley slopes to the north and east towards Dodd	Receptors are identified as residents at Corlae. Residents are home are considered to have an appreciation of the landscape. The susceptibility of this receptor is therefore recorded as **high**. The view does not lie within a regionally or locally designated landscape. The view contains few detracting features, The value of the view is recorded as **medium**. **Overall sensitivity: high**	Construction activity associated with the Proposed Development is likely to appear visible within the landscape to the east, and a short section to the north of Corlae along the valley floor before running through an area of plantation woodland to the north-east of the settlement. Construction activity associated with the Proposed Development is likely to appear visible within the landscape, albeit partially filtered by intervening vegetation that surrounds the settlement and lies within the wider valley floor landscape. Plant associated with construction is likely to introduce increased movement within the landscape and would likely appear prominent	At Operation Year 1, the Proposed Development would be for the most part imperceptible within views from residents at Corlae with the proposed poles set back beyond the existing vegetation that lies to the east of Corlae and against a backcloth of the existing valley landform and plantation woodland that characterises the eastern valley slopes before entering an area of plantation to the north of the	At Operation Year 15, no notable changes to the view are considered likely. It is noted however that at Year 15 the proposed poles would have integrated into the landscape and softened to a degree as a result of weathering. Visibility is likely to remain similar as Year 1. As such the

Identified Receptors and Viewpoint Information	Baseline description and visibility of Site	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect	Operation Year 1 magnitude and effect	Operation Year 15 magnitude and effect
Wirelines VP9.1 & VP9.2 **Grid Ref:** NX 65780 97583 **Location:** Lorg Road south of the residential settlement at Corlae	Hill and Craigythorn. To the west of Corlae the valley floor opens up towards the Water of Ken, with intermittent vegetation and deciduous woodland and scrub intersecting the landscape. Views towards the wider landscape are limited by the steep valley slopes creating an enclosed landscape, with views principally directed westward and northwards along the valley floor.		within views from the Lorg Road on the open ground to the south of Corlae, before gradually becoming more contained to the north by existing vegetation. The scale of change is therefore recorded as **medium.** Construction activity, whilst visible, is likely to only appear prominent within views to the south where the landscape is more open. Construction is likely to remain visible as the route extends northwards to the east of Corlae, however, intervening vegetation within the wider landscape to the north and east of the settlement would serve to mitigate views to an extent, ensuring views are localised. The geographical extent of change is therefore recorded as **medium**. **Overall magnitude: medium** **Table 4.4** within **Chapter 4: EIA Process and Methodology** denotes that for high sensitivity and medium magnitude effects of major adverse are anticipated, however, this does not account for specific landscape and visual considerations. In line with **Appendix 7.1 Landscape and Visual Methodology** it is noted that in some highly localised views, construction activity associated with the Proposed Development would appear as noticeable changes within the landscape and would result in effects of greater significance within the immediate landscape. The majority of views, however are likely to be directed away from the eastern slopes towards the more open and attractive valley landscape to the west. Using professional judgement, the overall effect has therefore been reduced to **moderate-major adverse (significant)** to account for localised effects at construction. **Overall effect: moderate adverse (significant)**	settlement. Views towards the proposed OHL are likely to appear more visible within the more open landscape to the south, however these would be viewed against the backcloth of the existing plantation woodland and rising valley slopes and as such are not likely to appear visually prominent within views from receptors. The scale of change is therefore recorded as **low**. Within the majority of views, the Proposed Development would be barely perceptible with views only available within localised views at the point where the landscape opens up to the south of the settlement. The geographical extent of change is therefore recorded as **negligible**. **Overall magnitude: (very) low** **Table 4.4** within **Chapter 4: EIA Process and Methodology** denotes that for high sensitivity and low magnitude effects of moderate adverse are anticipated, however, this does not account for specific landscape and visual considerations. In this instance, professional judgement has been used due to the scale and nature of the likely impact the Proposed Development would have upon views from this receptor, with the magnitude identified as (very) low. The overall effect is therefore not considered to be significant, and as such has been reduced to **minor adverse.** **Overall effect: minor adverse (not significant)**	assessments are as follows. **Overall magnitude: (very) low** **Overall effect: minor adverse (not significant)**
Identified Receptor(s): Residents at Nether Holm	To the north of Nether Holm the landscape is characterised by the steeply rising landform associated with Ewe Hill and Alhang as the landscape elevates away	Receptors are identified as residents at Nether Holm. Residents at home are considered to have an appreciation of the landscape. The susceptibility of this receptor is therefore recorded as **high**.	Construction activity associated with the Proposed Development is likely to appear visible, albeit heavily filtered by the existing vegetation within the landscape to the east of the dwellings along the Water of Ken and associated with the commercial forestry at Craigythorn. Movement of plant associated with the Proposed	At Operation Year 1, it is noted that views towards the Proposed Development would appear barely perceptible within the landscape, obscured by the existing vegetation that aligns the Water of Ken and	At Operation Year 15, no notable changes to the view are considered likely. It is noted that at Year 15 the proposed poles would have integrated into the

Identified Receptors and Viewpoint Information	Baseline description and visibility of Site	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect	Operation Year 1 magnitude and effect	Operation Year 15 magnitude and effect
Illustrative Viewpoint(s) **Ref:** Viewpoint VP10 Wireline VP10**Grid Ref:** NX 66214 99395 **Location:** View from Lorg Road west of Coranbae Hill	from the valley floor towards Holm Burn. Commercial forestry characterises the lower valley slopes before opening out to rough moorland further to the north. To the east the landscape is characterised by the valley floor associated with the Water of Ken before the landscape once again rises away from the valley elevating towards the hill at Craigythorn and Altry Hill to the north-east. Plantation woodland once again characterises the lower valley sides at this point, creating a relatively enclosed landscape at the base of the valley before the landscape opens out to moorland once again towards Lorg Hill.	The view does not lie within a regionally or locally designated landscape. The view contains few detracting features. View is enclosed within the landscape with enclosed views within the narrower section of the valley The value of the view is recorded as **low**. **Overall sensitivity: high**	Development along Lorg Road is likely to appear visible, introducing increased movement within the landscape, however, this too would likely only appear as glimpsed views, filtered by the existing vegetation within the wider landscape to the east. The Proposed Development would extend through the area of commercial forestry at this point, as such, views would be for the most part contained. The scale of change is therefore recorded as **low**. Views towards construction activity associated with the Proposed Development would appear glimpsed within the landscape, with only heavily filtered views likely to appear available from residents at Nether Holm. The geographical extent of change is therefore recorded as **low**. **Overall magnitude: low** **Overall effect: moderate adverse (significant)**	commercial forestry at Craigythorn. Where visible, the proposed poles would, for the most part, be set against a backcloth of existing landform associated with the eastern valley slopes, with only the tops of a small number of poles breaking the skyline in the distance. The scale of change is therefore recorded as **negligible**. The Proposed Development would barely be visible within views from residents, limited to glimpsed and heavily filtered views set against a backcloth of existing landform. The geographical extent of change is therefore recorded as **negligible**. The operational stage comprises the life of the Proposed Development and is therefore assessed as long term. The duration of change is therefore recorded as **high**. **Overall magnitude: negligible** **Overall effect: negligible (not significant)**	landscape and softened to a degree as a result of weathering. Visibility is likely to remain similar as Year 1. **Overall magnitude: negligible** **Overall effect: negligible (not significant)**
Identified Receptor(s): Users of Core Path Lorg Trail (CARS/215/4) **Illustrative Viewpoint(s)** **Ref:** Viewpoint VP10 Wireline VP10 Viewpoint Information: As per above	The landscape along the Lorg Trail follows narrow valley that lies adjacent to the Water of Ken, with a number of smaller Burns adjoining this water course along its route, namely Lorg Burn and Altry Burn. The landscape at this point is of a predominantly rural character. Commercial forestry occupies a substantial proportion of the landscape, with the southern section of the trial extending northwards away from the southern slopes of Ewe Hill and at Craigythorn, before opening out into moorland and the wetland valley landscape at the base of the	Receptors are users of Core Path Lorg Trail. Recreational users are likely to be traversing routes seeking enjoyment of the countryside and would therefore have an appreciation for the wider landscape. The susceptibility of this receptor is therefore recorded as **high**. The view does not lie within a regionally or locally designated landscape. The view contains few detracting features. The value of the view is recorded as **medium**. **Overall sensitivity: high**	Construction activity associated with the Proposed Development is likely to appear visible within views as the proposed route extends northwards towards Lorg Hill to the north of Altry Burn. Construction activity and associated plant would introduce an increased degree of movement within the landscape within views to the east along the narrow valley associated with Altry Burn. While views of construction activity would be visible where the landscape opens up to the north of the plantation woodland associated with Craigythorn views are likely to be well contained within views from the wider landscape due to the intervening vegetation that characterises the road corridor and valley sides in addition to the undulating landform. The scale of change is therefore recorded as **medium**. Views towards construction activity associated with the Proposed Development would appear localised within the landscape, limited to a small section of Lorg Road where gaps in vegetation cover allow for clearer views east. Undulating landform and existing vegetation serve to contain views from the wider landscape however, it is noted that as the route	At Operation Year 1, it is noted that views towards the Proposed Development would appear visible albeit set in part, against a backcloth of the existing landform, and filtered by the intermittent intervening vegetation that characterises the valley sides. As the proposals extend up the valley slope towards Craigstewart it is likely that a number of the proposed poles would be visible against the skyline for a short section, before sloping back down beyond the ridgeline between Coranbae Hill to the south and Craigstewart to the north. The scale of change is therefore recorded as **low**. Whilst visible against the skyline within localised views from the existing right of way along Lorg Road to the east, the Proposed	At Operation Year 15, no notable changes to the view are considered likely. It is noted that at Year 15 the proposed poles would have integrated into the landscape and softened to a degree as a result of weathering. Visibility is likely to remain similar as Year 1. As such the assessments are as follows. **Overall magnitude: (very) low** **Overall effect: minor adverse (not significant)**

Identified Receptors and Viewpoint Information	Baseline description and visibility of Site	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect	Operation Year 1 magnitude and effect	Operation Year 15 magnitude and effect
	valley and then once again entering into dense forestry as the route travels northwards towards Polskeoch.		extends up the slope on the eastern valley side views may appear more prominent against the skyline. The geographical extent of change is therefore recorded as **medium**. **Overall magnitude: medium** **Table 4.4** within **Chapter 4: EIA Process and Methodology** denotes that for high sensitivity and medium magnitude effects of major adverse are anticipated, however, this does not account for specific landscape and visual considerations. In line with **Appendix 7.1 Landscape and Visual Methodology** it is noted that in some highly localised sections along this route, effects of greater significance would be anticipated, resulting in noticeable changes within the immediate landscape where the Proposed Development crosses the path and extends eastwards adjacent to Altry Burn. Where the Proposed Development extends further to the east and south however the surrounding landform and forestry would limit views towards the OHL and as such only a short section of the Proposed Development would be visually prominent along a localised section of the Core Path with some more glimpsed views likely to appear visible although heavily filtered as the route extends towards the elevated land at Altry Hill. Using professional judgement, the overall effect has therefore been reduced to moderate adverse (significant) to account for the receptors along the route as a whole. **Overall effect: moderate adverse (significant)**	Development would be for the most part screened or seen within filtered views from the wider landscape. Within southern facing views the proposals would be set against a backcloth of the existing plantation woodland at Craigythorn with only glimpsed views of the tops of poles likely to appear visible against the skyline where not screened by the existing landform. Views towards the Site is therefore considered to be highly localised within the landscape. The geographical extent of change is therefore recorded as **low**. **Overall magnitude: (very) low** **Table 4.4** within **Chapter 4**: **EIA Process and Methodology** denotes that for high sensitivity and low magnitude effects of moderate adverse are anticipated, however, this does not account for specific landscape and visual considerations. In this instance, professional judgement has been used due to the scale and nature of the likely impact the Proposed Development would have upon views from this receptor with the magnitude identified as (very) low. The overall effect is therefore not considered to be significant, and as such has been reduced to minor adverse. **Overall effect: *minor adverse (not significant)***	
Identified Receptor(s): Users of Core Path Corlae (CARS/188/1) **Illustrative Viewpoint(s)**	The Corlae core path lies within the dense commercial forestry at Craigythorn extending southwards along the eastern valley slope before intersecting with Shiel Burn and travelling eastwards to adjoin with the	Receptors are users of Core Path Corlae. Recreational users are likely to be traversing routes seeking enjoyment of the countryside and would therefore have an appreciation for the wider landscape. The susceptibility of this receptor is therefore recorded as **high**. The view does not lie within a regionally or locally designated landscape. The view contains few	Construction activity associated with the Proposed Development would appear visible within views from this route, with the proposed OHL alignment intersecting the western edge of the forestry before extending eastwards towards Altry Hill. Felling activity to accommodate the operational corridor in addition to associated construction plant would therefore appear highly visible for a proportion of the route as it extends to meet Lorg Road, opening up the dense woodland structure at this point. It is noted however, that this area is comprised of	At Operation Year 1, it is noted that views towards the Proposed Development would appear visible with the required vegetation removal associated with the operational corridor forming an open ride within the area of woodland and allowing for clearer views of the proposed OHL. The majority of the existing forestry area at Craigythorn, however, would	At Operation Year 15 no notable changes to the view are considered likely. It is noted that at Year 15 the proposed poles would have integrated into the landscape and softened to a degree as a result of weathering. Visibility is likely to remain similar as

Identified Receptors and Viewpoint Information	Baseline description and visibility of Site	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect	Operation Year 1 magnitude and effect	Operation Year 15 magnitude and effect
Ref: Viewpoint VP10 Wireline VP10 Viewpoint Information: As per above	southern upland way to the east towards Cairn Hill. The landscape here is predominantly characterised by the sloping moorland associated with the eastern valley slope of the Water of Ken, before opening out to rolling moorland at the summit of Cairn Hill.	detracting features. The value of the view is recorded as **medium**. **Overall sensitivity: high**	commercial forestry and as such is changeable in nature, with felling and restocking likely to take place at intervals within these spaces. The scale of change is therefore recorded as **medium**. With regard to the geographical extent of change, whilst construction activities would result in a visible degree of change for a proportion of this route the majority of the woodland structure in this area would remain as existing serving to filter and contain views towards the construction from the majority of the route as it extends westwards towards Cairn Hill. Views of the construction activity would therefore for appear localised, limited to the point at which the route crosses the core path. The geographical extent of change is therefore recorded as **low**. **Overall magnitude: low** **Overall effect: moderate adverse (significant)**	remain unchanged, save for standard commercial forestry workings, with only a short section of the route likely to result in views towards the Proposed Development. The scale of change is therefore recorded as **negligible**. Due to the existing forestry that aligns the majority of this core path, it is considered that views towards the proposals would be highly localised, limited to point at which the route crosses the operational corridor, with wider views towards the proposals likely to be heavily screened by the dense vegetation. The geographical extent of change is therefore recorded as **negligible**. **Overall magnitude: negligible** **Overall effect: negligible (not significant)**	Year 1. As such the assessments are as follows. **Overall magnitude: negligible** **Overall effect: negligible (not significant)**