

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

Report

LT383 Alyth to Tealing Overhead Line (OHL)

400kV Upgrade

November 2024



VOLUME 4: APPENDIX 7.5 – MARINE DIRECTORATE – SCIENCE EVIDENCE DATA AND DIGITAL (MD-SEDD) – EIA CHECKLIST

MD-SEDD Standard EIA Report Requirements	Provided in application YES/NO	If YES – please signpost to relevant chapter of the EIA Report	If not provided or provided different to MD-SEDD advice, please set out reasons
<p>1. A map outlining the proposed development area and the proposed location of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the towers/poles, permanent and temporary access tracks, including watercourse crossings; buildings including substations; and all watercourses; and contour lines. 	Yes	Figure 1.1: Location Plan (Volume 3)	
<p>2. A description and results of the site characterisation surveys for fish (including fully quantitative electrofishing surveys) and water quality including the location of the electrofishing and fish habitat survey sites and water quality sampling sites on the map outlining the proposed turbines and associated infrastructure</p> <p>This should be carried out where a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) is present and where salmon are a qualifying feature, and in exceptional cases when required in the scoping advice for other reasons. In other cases, developers can assume that fish populations are present.</p>	No		<p>The Proposed Development crosses the River Tay SAC at two locations: the Dean Water and the River Isla near Meigle. There are no towers within the SAC, but several are adjacent to the SAC boundary. Given the works involved and the surrounding habitats, further aquatic surveys were not required. The EIA concluded that there is not likely to be any significant impact on any watercourses as a result of construction, either from the very limited culvert works, very localised vegetation clearance near watercourses, or any other works. There is consequently considered to be Negligible effect on lampreys (or any other fish species) from barriers to fish movement, habitat loss, pollution or direct mortality during construction, which is Not significant in all cases.</p>
<p>3. An outline of the potential impacts on fish populations and water quality within and downstream of the proposed development area;</p>	Yes	Chapter 7: Ecology (Volume 2)	

MD-SEDD Standard EIA Report Requirements	Provided in application YES/NO	If YES – please signpost to relevant chapter of the EIA Report	If not provided or provided different to MD-SEDD advice, please set out reasons
4. Any potential cumulative impacts on the water quality and fish populations associated with adjacent (operational and consented) developments including wind farms, hydro schemes, aquaculture and mining;	Yes	No cumulative effects identified, as described in Tables 7.7 and 7.8 of Chapter 7: Ecology (Volume 2).	
5. Any proposed site specific mitigation measures as outlined in MD-SEDD generic scoping guidelines and the joint publication “Good Practice during Wind Farm Construction” (https://www.nature.scot/guidance-good-practice-during-wind-farm-construction).	Yes	Section 7.6 of Chapter 7: Ecology (Volume 2) describes mitigation by design and standard mitigation to be implemented. Summary of ecological mitigation measures given in Table 7.6.	
6. Full details of proposed monitoring programmes using guidelines issued by MD-SEDD and accompanied by a map outlining the proposed sampling and control sites in addition to the location of all turbines and associated infrastructure. At least 12 months of baseline pre- construction data should be included. The monitoring programme can be secured using suitable wording in a condition.	No		Not necessary for this project with no significant impacts on watercourses.
7. A decommissioning and restoration plan outlining proposed mitigation/monitoring for water quality and fish populations. This can be secured using suitable wording in a condition	No		No decommissioning required.

Developers should specifically discuss and assess potential impacts and appropriate mitigation measures associated with the following:	Provided in application YES/NO	If YES- please signpost to relevant chapter of the EIA Report	If not provided or provided different to MD-SEDD advice, please set out reasons
1. Any designated area (e.g. SAC), for which fish is a qualifying feature within and/or downstream of the proposed development area;	Yes	Chapter 7: Ecology (Volume 2)	
2. The presence of a large density of watercourses;	Yes, however no large density watercourses.		
3. The presence of large areas of deep peat deposits;	No		
4. Known acidification problems and/or other existing pressures on fish populations in the area; and	No		
5. Proposed felling operations.	Yes	Chapter 7: Ecology (Volume 2)	