SSEN Transmission

Bingally 400 / 132 kV Substation

Environmental Appraisal

Volume 1

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Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks
TRANSMISSION

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15. CUMULATIVE EFFECTS

15.1 Introduction

15.1.1 This chapter considers the potential cumulative environmental effects as a result of the Proposed Development. The purpose of the assessment is to assess whether the combination of multiple effects upon a common receptor would result in an effect of greater significance than the individual effects alone (as reported in **Volume 1, Technical Chapters 7-14**).The developments outlined in **Table 15-1** below have the potential for cumulative effects given the likelihood that they would be constructed and operate concurrently with the Proposed Development.

Table 15-1 Developments considered in the Cumulative Appraisal

Planning Application Reference/Name	Description	Location	Status	Timeframe
ECU00005145 Bingally OHL (referred to as 'proposed Bingally OHL')	The installation of two new towers (including a temporary diversion requiring two temporary towers) to facilitate the tie-in of the existing Beauly-Denny overhead line into the proposed Bingally 400/132 kV substation.	Overlaps with the Site	Pre Application Complete	Start September 2027
ECU00001969 Fiodhag Wind Farm	Construction of wind farm comprising of 46 turbines (height to blade tip 149.9 m).	Overlaps with the Site	Decided, scoping opinion obtained. (EIA required).	Unknown
23/04100/FUL Fasnakyle Energy Storage	Erection and operation of a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and associated infrastructure.	4.5 km north of the Site	Under Consideration (EIA not required)	Unknown
23/01025/SCRE Kerrow Farm BESS	Erection and operation of a BESS, multiple containerised storage units, associated infrastructure, control building, switch room, lights and associated works.	4.9 km north of the Site	Decided (EIA not required)	Unknown
Bingally to Fasnakyle UGC / OHL connection	The installation of an UGC / OHL to connect the proposed Bingally substation to the existing Fasnakyle Substation.	Adjacent to the Site	Not in the planning system	Unknown
Tomchrasky Wind Farm OHL connection	The installation of an OHL connection from Tomchrasky Wind Farm to the proposed Bingally substation.	Adjacent to the Site	Not in the planning system	Unknown
ECU00004704 Chrathaich Wind Farm	Erection and operation of a wind farm for a period of 30 years, comprising of 14 wind turbines with a maximum blade tip height of 149.9m, access tracks, borrow pits, substation, control building, and ancillary infrastructure.	3.8 km east of the Site	EIAR submitted	Unknown
ECU00004569 (original application: ECU00004792) Erection of OHL	Erection of small two span spur and free standing pole for communications mast on the 33 kVA OHL by Benevean Dam, Tomich.	3.9 km northwest of the Site	Consented, EIA not required	Unknown
ECU00005214 Cnoc Farasd Wind Farm	A wind farm consisting of 9 turbines up to 220m tip height, battery storage and associated infrastructure.	10 km northeast of the Site	Scoping report submitted	Unknown

15.2 Appraisal

15.2.1A cumulative effects appraisal was undertaken for the Proposed Development, in combination with the developments detailed in **Table 15-1**. The appraisal is summarised in **Table 15-2** below.

Table 15-2 Cumulative appraisal

Topic	Potential Cumulative Effects	Mitigation Measures
Landscape Character and Visual	The LVIA cumulative effects are assessed in two scenarios (as outlined in **Volume 1, Chapter 7**): • Scenario 1: The cumulative baseline for this scenario includes schemes which have been consented and / or are under construction in addition to existing operational schemes; and • Scenario 2: The cumulative baseline for this scenario includes schemes at application stage in addition to existing operational schemes and those which have been consented and / or are under construction. The Proposed Development is anticipated to result in the following cumulative landscape effects on the following LCTs due to an increase in the perception of electrical and energy infrastructure: <u>Scenario 1:</u> • LCT 222 – Rocky Moorland Plateau – Inverness – Minor Adverse (not significant); • LCT 226 – Wooded Glen – Inverness – Neutral (not significant); • LCT 227 – Farmed Strath – Inverness - Minor Adverse (not significant). <u>Scenario 2:</u> • LCT 222 – Rocky Moorland Plateau – Inverness – Minor Adverse (not significant); • LCT 226 – Wooded Glen – Inverness – Minor Adverse (not significant); • LCT 227 – Farmed Strath – Inverness – No change. It is anticipated that visibility of the Proposed Development from the majority of identified representative viewpoints and visual receptors will be limited. The Proposed Development is anticipated to result in the following cumulative visual effects resulting from an increase in the perception of electrical and energy infrastructure: <u>Scenario 1:</u> • Viewpoint 3 – Minor Adverse (not significant); • Viewpoint 5 – No change; • Viewpoint 7 a/b – No change. <u>Scenario 2:</u> • Viewpoint 3 – Minor Adverse (not significant); • Viewpoint 5 – Moderate Adverse (significant); • Viewpoint 7 a/b – Moderate Adverse (significant).	Proposed mitigation measures include Scots pine woodland and wet woodland planting along the southwestern boundary of the Proposed Development in order to help mitigate views from viewpoints 3, 5 and 7.

Topic	Potential Cumulative Effects	Mitigation Measures
Ecology	Not Significant – the Proposed Development is not predicted to result in any significant ecological effects, thus on this basis alone there are unlikely to be significant cumulative ecological effects.	None required as no significant cumulative effects are anticipated.
Ornithology	Not Significant – the Proposed Development is not predicted to result in any significant ornithological effects, thus on this basis alone there are unlikely to be significant cumulative ornithological effects.	None required as no significant cumulative effects are anticipated.
Cultural Heritage	Not significant.	None required as no significant cumulative effects are anticipated.
Traffic and Transport	Direct, Temporary Minor Adverse (Not Significant).	Coordination between Cumulative Schemes.
Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Peat	Not significant.	None required as no significant cumulative effects are anticipated.
Noise and Vibration	Negligible (not significant).	None required as no significant cumulative effects are anticipated.
Climate Change	Not significant.	None required as no significant cumulative effects are anticipated.

15.3 Conclusion

15.3.1 The above section sets out the approach and scope of the assessment of cumulative effects in relation to the Proposed Development. This chapter concludes that a **Moderate Adverse** (Significant) cumulative effect is anticipated at Viewpoint 5 (Core Path IN05.03, Eve's Road, South) and Viewpoint 7 a / b (Core Path IN05.03, Corrimony to Tomich by River Enrick). This effect would be localised and would be reduced over time through recommended planting as part of the LHMP.

15.3.2 No other significant cumulative effects are likely to result from the Proposed Development and other nearby identified developments.

15.3.3 Mitigation measures have been proposed, where relevant, to avoid or reduce the potential for significant cumulative environmental effects where these are not controlled by the committed mitigation outlined for each of the technical impact assessments in the voluntary EA.