Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks

Fanellan Hub 400 kV Substation and Converter Station

Environmental Impact Assessment Report

Volume 4 | Technical Appendices

Appendix 8.4 – Visual Effects

February 2025

APPENDIX 8.4: VISUAL EFFECTS

For the determination of level of significance please refer to the Matrix in **Table 8** for determining the significance of effects in **Appendix 8.1 Landscape and Visual Methodology.**

Table 1 Visual Effects

Receptor + Representative Viewpoint Number (if applicable)	Location and approximate Distance from Proposed Development	Sensitivity	Existing View	Description of Impact on the view (magnitude)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
Receptor Type Residential: Residents off Fanellan Road (Fanellan Croft and Fanellan Cottages) Transport: Road users of Fanellan Road. Representative viewpoint VP 1	Location: View looking north-west from Fanellan Road at Fanellan Cottages Distance: 0 m to the south-east of the Proposed Development	Susceptibility Residents at home are likely to have an appreciation for the wider landscape with views both south-east across the valley to the distant hills, and potential near views of the proposed development. Overall, views across the landscape are of largely scenic agricultural farmland with existing large scale infrastructure detracting from the view, resulting in the view having a low ability to accommodate change. The susceptibility of this receptor is considered to be **High**. Road users will be principally focussed on the road ahead, however, due to the narrow road corridor, users are likely to be travelling at reduced speeds with some appreciation for the wider landscape. The susceptibility of this receptor is therefore considered to be **Medium**. Value The view is not identified as being nationally or locally significant but contains few detracting features. The value of the view is considered to be **Medium**. Sensitivity The Sensitivity of residential receptors is **High** The Sensitivity of users of Fanellan Road is Medium.	Existing View View is located off Fanellan road and faces north-west towards the Proposed Development. Within the view the landscape is predominantly rural in character. Pastoral farmland bound by intermittent hedgerow and stock fencing is visible within the fore and middle-ground of the view. Views towards the existing residential built form (Upper Fanellan Cottages) and Overhead Line (OHL) are available, set beyond the existing field boundary vegetation. Within the background of the view the dense mixed plantation and native woodland at Ruttle Wood is visible on the elevated ground towards Tòrr Mòr. The Proposed Development Site is visible from this location albeit partially obscured by the undulating landform and existing vegetation that lies within the landscape as it rises towards Ruttle Wood.	Proposed View During Construction The majority of the Site is clearly visible in the view in proximity to these receptors. Views of construction activity will appear either side of Fanellan Road, with earthworks set back from the road beyond the compounds (containing temporary 2 storey buildings) and laydown areas to the north of the Site. They will have a backdrop of Ruttle Wood, but construction activity will replace views of open agricultural land, resulting in prominent changes to the key characteristics of the view. The scale of change is therefore assessed as **High**. The construction activities will be visible within a large proportion of the view for the residential properties although more transient in nature for users of Fanellan Road. Even so, the geographical extent of change is assessed as **High**. The construction phase, however, is short term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Construction is considered to be **High**.	**Construction** High	**Construction** On a receptor of High sensitivity, a high magnitude of change would result in a **Major adverse (significant)** effect for residents**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a high magnitude of change would result in a **Major adverse (significant)** for users of Fanellan Road**.**
				Proposed View During Operation – Year 0 Operational effects will result primarily from the introduction of the Proposed Development set back beyond the associated landscape forms. The landscape forms will obscure low level views towards Fanellan 400kV Substation and Converter station. Immature landscape mitigation planting will not provide any screening and integration at year 0. This will result in prominent changes to the key characteristics of the view. The scale of change is assessed as **High**. The Proposed Development will be visible within a large proportion of the view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **High**. The operational phase is long term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **High**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Operation Year 0 is considered to be **High**.	**Operation – Year 0** High	**Operation – Year 0** On a receptor of High sensitivity, a high magnitude of change would result in a **Major adverse (significant)** effect for residents**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a high magnitude of change would result in a **Major adverse (significant)** for users of Fanellan Road**.**
				Proposed View During Operation – Year 15 Due to the growth of the landscape mitigation planting, the infrastructure elements and landscape forms will be seen in the context of the wider landscape. The growth of the landscape mitigation planting will help integrate the landscape forms visible beyond the deer fencing, whilst providing screening of much of the built form. However, there will still be a noticeable change in the middle distance and background view. This will result in prominent changes to the key characteristics of the view. The scale of change is assessed as **High**. The Proposed Development will remain visible within a large proportion of the view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **High**. The operational phase is long term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **High**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Operation Year 15 is considered to be **High**.	**Operation – Year 15** High	**Operation – Year 15** On a receptor of High sensitivity, a high magnitude of change would result in a **Major adverse (significant)** effect for residents**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a high magnitude of change would result in a **Moderate adverse (significant)** for users of Fanellan Road**.**

Receptor + Representative Viewpoint Number (if applicable)	Location and approximate Distance from Proposed Development	Sensitivity	Existing View	Description of Impact on the view (magnitude)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
Receptor Type Residential: Residents off the unnamed road at the junction of Fanellan Road near Butlers Cottage Transport – Minor roads to the east: Road users of the unnamed Road. Representative viewpoint None (Closest viewpoint is VP 1**)**	Location: View looking south–west from unnamed road at the junction of Fanellan Road near Butlers Cottage Distance: Around 0m to the north-east of the Proposed Development at the nearest point.	Susceptibility Residents at home are likely to have an appreciation for the wider landscape with views of close proximity agricultural fields and the more distant rising hills to the north, and potential near views of the proposed development. Overall, views across the landscape are of largely scenic agricultural farmland with existing large scale infrastructure detracting from a small portion of the view, resulting in the view having a low ability to accommodate change. The susceptibility of this receptor is recorded as **High**. Road users will be principally focussed on the road ahead, however, due to the narrow road corridor, users are likely to be travelling at reduced speeds with an appreciation for the wider landscape. The susceptibility of this receptor is recorded as **Medium**. Value The view is not identified as being nationally or locally significant. The view contains few detracting features. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity The Sensitivity of the residential receptors is **High** The Sensitivity of users of the unnamed Road is **Medium**.	Existing View Views from the area near the junction between the unnamed road and Fanellan Road near Butlers Cottage face south-west towards the Proposed Development. Within the view the landscape is predominantly rural in character. Pastoral farmland bound by an uneven hedgerow and stock fencing is visible beyond the road in middle-ground of the view. Views towards the existing OHL and towers are available, set beyond the existing field boundary vegetation within the open pastoral field. Within the background of the view the existing OHL and towers are visible above the dense mixed plantation adjacent to Fanellan Road, and the dense mixed plantation / native woodland at Ruttle Wood is visible on the elevated ground towards Tòrr Mòr. The Proposed Development Site is visible from this location filtered by the uneven roadside hedgerow boundary, whilst more distant views are obscured by the existing roadside vegetation adjacent to Fanellan Road.	Proposed View During Construction The construction activity of the Proposed Development is located in close proximity beyond the roadside hedgerow boundary vegetation. Earthworks and the movement of plant and materials will replace views of open agricultural land in the foreground. Construction traffic will also be visible across the view accessing the Site via the newly created road junction and the clearance of vegetation along Fanellan Road will be noticeable within the view. This will result in prominent changes to the key characteristics of the view. The scale of change is assessed as **High**. The construction activities will be visible within a large proportion of the view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **High**. The construction phase is short term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Construction is considered to be **High**.	**Construction** High	**Construction** On a receptor of High sensitivity, a high magnitude of change would result in a **Major adverse (significant)** effect for residents**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a high magnitude of change would result in a **Major adverse (significant)** for users of the unnamed Road**.**
				Proposed View During Operation – Year 0 Operational effects will result primarily from the introduction of the permanent raised access road and associated attenuation basins associated in close proximity. The majority of large scale built form associated with the Proposed Development will be seen in the background, heavily filtered by retained woodland planting adjacent to Fanellan Road. All of the uncharacteristic movement, noise and activity of the construction phase will be removed, and the Site will remain largely quiet and with limited activity. There will still, however, be noticeable changes to some of the key characteristics of the view due to the introduction of a new access track and permanent vegetation removal along Fanellan Road. The scale of change is therefore assessed as **Medium**. The Proposed Development will be visible within a moderate proportion of the view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **Medium**. The operational phase is long term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **High**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Operation Year 0 is considered to be **Medium**.	**Operation – Year 0** Medium	**Operation – Year 0** On a receptor of High sensitivity, a medium magnitude of change would result in a **Moderate adverse (significant)** effect for residents**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a high magnitude of change would result in a **Moderate adverse (significant)** for users of the unnamed Road**.**
				Proposed View During Operation – Year 15 Views of the Proposed Development will remain as per Year 0 due to lack of any mitigation screen planting around the bell-mouth junction/ access road. The scale of change therefore remains **medium**. The Proposed Development will remain visible within a moderate proportion of the view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **Medium**. The operational phase is long term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **High**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Operation Year 15 is considered to be **Medium**.	**Operation – Year 15** Medium	**Operation – Year 15** On a receptor of High sensitivity, a medium magnitude of change would result in a **Moderate adverse (significant)** effect for residents**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a low magnitude of change would result in a **Minor adverse (not significant)** for users of the unnamed Road**.**

Receptor + Representative Viewpoint Number (if applicable)	Location and approximate Distance from Proposed Development	Sensitivity	Existing View	Description of Impact on the view (magnitude)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
Receptor Type Residential: Residents along/ off Fanellan Road between Sunnybrae and Bredaig Transport – Minor roads to the east: Road users along Fanellan Road Representative viewpoint VP 2	Location: View looking north from near Sunnybrae and Bredaig Distance: 231m to the south of the Proposed Development	Susceptibility Residents at home are likely to have an appreciation for the wider landscape, with views of open agricultural land bordered by woodland and plantation, and potential middle-distant views of the proposed development. Overall, views across the landscape are of largely scenic agricultural farmland with existing large scale infrastructure detracting from a small portion of the background view, resulting in the view having a low ability to accommodate change. The susceptibility of this receptor is therefore recorded as **High**. Road users will be principally focussed on the road ahead, however, due to the narrow road corridor, users are likely to be travelling at reduced speeds with some appreciation for the wider landscape. The susceptibility of this receptor is therefore considered to be **Medium**. Value The view is not identified as being nationally or locally significant but contains few detracting features. The value of the view is considered to be **Medium**. Sensitivity The Sensitivity of residential receptors is High The Sensitivity of users of Fanellan Road is Medium.	**Existing View** View is located off Fanellan Road between the properties at Sunnybrae and Bredaig and faces north-east towards the Proposed Development. Within the view the landscape is predominantly rural in character. Pastoral farmland bound by stock proof fencing and mature roadside tree planting is visible in the foreground beyond Fanellan Road. Views towards the existing residential built form surrounded by mature plantation woodland to the north obscures a large portion of long-distance views. Ground levels rise within the middle ground obscuring low level views of field boundary vegetation and Ruttle Wood beyond the existing tower and OHL to the north-east. The Proposed Development Site is visible from this location beyond the middle ground property, woodland plantation and existing tower and OHL.	Proposed View During Construction The construction activity of the Proposed Development is located in the middle distance within the context of the existing towers and OHL. Views will be available over and above intervening vegetation and where gaps allow. Visible construction activity will include the traffic along Fanellan Road, movement of plant, materials and the creation of earthworks, substation platform and substation, beyond the middle-distance field boundary. Views of construction activities will increase the extent of infrastructure and replace views of the open agricultural land obscuring long distance views towards Ruttle Wood in the background. Whilst the foreground will remain unaltered, the construction activity and the gradual emergence of the substation in the middle distance will result in noticeable changes to the key characteristics of the view. The scale of change is assessed as **High**. The construction activities will be visible within a noticeable proportion of the view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **Medium**. The construction phase is short term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Construction is considered to be **High**.	**Construction** High	**Construction** On a receptor of High sensitivity, a high magnitude of change would result in a **Major adverse (significant)** effect for residents**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a high magnitude of change would result in a **Major adverse (significant)** effect for road users**.**
				Proposed View During Operation – Year 0 Operational effects will result primarily from the introduction of the Proposed Development beyond the retained field boundary vegetation in the middle distance. Beyond the middle-distance field boundary and foreground roadside vegetation, receptors will have framed views of the Proposed Development and its associated large scale landscape forms, although the movement, noise, and machinery of construction activity will no longer be present. Newly planted landscape planting on the landscape forms will not provide any screening or integration function by this stage, with the majority of the infrastructure associated with the Proposed Development will still be visible in the middle or background of oblique views. This will result in a noticeable change to part of the view with the additional infrastructure elements visible on the skyline. The scale of change is assessed as **Medium**. The Proposed Development will be visible within part of the view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **Medium**. The operational phase is long term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **High**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Operation Year 0 is considered to be **Medium**.	**Operation – Year 0** Medium	**Operation – Year 0** On a receptor of High sensitivity, a medium magnitude of change would result in a **Moderate adverse (significant)** effect for residents**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a medium magnitude of change would result in a **Moderate adverse (significant)** effect for road users**.**
				Proposed View During Operation – Year 15 Due to the growth of the landscape mitigation planting to the west of Fanellan 400kV Substation and Converter station, views will be further filtered and more visually integrated into the hillside. Visibility will be limited to glimpses through the maturing mitigation planting and existing roadside vegetation. The scale of change is assessed as **Low**. The Proposed Development will be visible within a small proportion of the view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. The operational phase is long term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **High**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Operation Year 15 is considered to be **Low**.	**Operation – Year 15** Low	**Operation – Year 15** On a receptor of High sensitivity, a low magnitude of change would result in a **Minor adverse (not significant)** effect for residents**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a low magnitude of change would result in a **Minor adverse (not significant)** effect for road users**.**

Receptor + Representative Viewpoint Number (if applicable)	Location and approximate Distance from Proposed Development	Sensitivity	Existing View	Description of Impact on the view (magnitude)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
Receptor Type Residential: Residents at Wester Balblair Transport – Minor roads to the north: Road users of the road that forms the main access to the village off the A831. Representative viewpoint **3**	Location: View from Wester Balblair looking south-west from the northern-western edge of Wester Balblair Distance: 1.9km to the north-east of the Proposed Development	Susceptibility Residents at home are likely to have an appreciation for the wider landscape with views of rolling agricultural landscape, and potential distant views of the proposed development. Overall, views across the landscape are of largely scenic agricultural farmland with existing large scale infrastructure detracting from the view, resulting in the view having a low ability to accommodate change. The susceptibility of this receptor is therefore recorded as **High**. People at work are likely to be focussed on inward facing activities rather than wider views and road users will be principally focussed on the road ahead, however, users are likely to be travelling at reduced speeds through this residential area, with an appreciation for the wider landscape. The susceptibility of these receptors is recorded as **Medium**. Value The A831 forms part of multiple tourist routes and recreational race events, all of which are recognised locally for their scenic landscape views. The view contains a number of detracting features associated with the existing pylons and Beauly substation within the background of the view. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity The Sensitivity for residential receptors is **High** The Sensitivity for commercial receptors and road users is	**Existing View** View is located off a local road that forms the main northern access route to the village of Wester Balblair. Within the view the landscape the village of Wester Balblair, historic area to the south east, and the surrounding rural pastoral farmland, which is heavily influenced by existing infrastructure including the substation and quarry. Rolling pastoral farmland bound by low stock-proof fencing is visible within the fore and middle-ground of the view. Views towards the existing residential built form, Beauly Substation and OHL are available within the middle ground. Ground levels rise in the background, affording views of the well wooded hills on the skyline. The view is heavily influenced by existing infrastructure, with the existing Beauly Substation visible beyond the initial field parcel, albeit views are filtered by field boundary and screening vegetation, even in winter. The existing OHL and towers are prominent within the view and pierce the skyline in multiple locations. The Proposed Development Site is visible in the background, albeit partially obscured by the intervening vegetation and large scale infrastructure.	Proposed View During Construction The construction activity of the Proposed Development will be visible in the background of the view heavily filtered by intervening vegetation and the large infrastructure elements associated with Beauly Substation within the foreground and middle ground. Views of construction activities will be limited to the removal of trees and tall construction plant protruding above and amongst vegetation along the skyline. This will result in changes to some of the key characteristics in the background of the view only. The scale of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. The construction activities will be visible within a small proportion of the background view only. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. The construction phase is short term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Construction is considered to be **Low**.	**Construction** Low	**Construction** On a receptor of high sensitivity, a low magnitude of change would result in a **Minor adverse (not-significant)** effect for residents**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a low magnitude of change would result in a **Minor adverse (not significant)** for road users**.**
				Proposed View During Operation – Year 0 Operational effects will result primarily from the introduction of the Proposed Development visible in elevated background views on the skyline. The limited loss of vegetation within Ruttle Wood may be discernible and open up more views in the background and on the skyline. However, existing vegetation, OHLs and Beauly Substation within the middle distance will help screen this and already distract from the background view. The scale of change is assessed as **Low**. The Proposed Development will be barely perceptible within a small proportion of the view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. The operational phase is long term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **High**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Operation Year 0 is considered to be **Low**.	**Operation – Year 0** Negligible	**Operation – Year 0** On a receptor of high sensitivity, a negligible magnitude of change would result in a **Minor adverse (not-significant)** effect for residents**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a negligible magnitude of change would result in a **Minor adverse (not significant)** effect for road users**.**
				Proposed View During Operation – Year 15 The landscape mitigation planting will not be readily noticeable from this area as it is focussed on the south and west side of the Proposed Development. The scale of change therefore remains **Low**. The Proposed Development will be barely perceptible within a small proportion of the view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. The operational phase is long term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **High**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Operation Year 15 is considered to be **Low**.	**Operation – Year 15** Negligible	**Operation – Year 15** On a receptor of high sensitivity, a negligible magnitude of change would result in a **Minor adverse (not significant)** effect for residents**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a negligible magnitude of change would result in a **Minor adverse (not significant)** effect for road users**.**

Receptor + Representative Viewpoint Number (if applicable)	Location and approximate Distance from Proposed Development	Sensitivity	Existing View	Description of Impact on the view (magnitude)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
		Medium.				
Receptor Type Residential: Residents at Ruisaurie Transport – Minor roads to the north: Road users of the route connecting Ruilick, Ruisaurie and Drumindorsair to the A831. Representative viewpoint	Location: View looking south-west from Ruisaurie and Ruilick Distance: 2.4km to the north-east of the Proposed Development.	Susceptibility Residents at home are likely to have an appreciation for the wider landscape with elevated views of rolling agricultural fields and the more distant rising hills to the south, and potential distant views of the proposed development. Overall, views across the landscape are of largely scenic agricultural farmland with existing large scale infrastructure detracting from the view, resulting in the view having a low ability to accommodate change. The susceptibility of this receptor is therefore recorded as **High**. Road users will be principally focussed on the road ahead, however, due to the narrow road corridor, users are likely to be travelling at reduced speeds with an appreciation for the wider landscape. The susceptibility of this receptor is recorded as **Medium**. Value The view is not identified as being nationally or locally significant. The view contains few detracting features, with far reaching views across wider landscape. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity The Sensitivity for residential receptors is **High**	**Existing View** View is located off a local road near Ruisaurie and faces south-west towards the Proposed Development. Within the elevated view the landscape is predominantly rural in character although with some noticeable urban detractors present such as overhead lines and towers. Rolling pastoral farmland bound by hedgerows and some stock fencing is visible within the fore and middle-ground of the view with individual scattered residential properties and agricultural sheds and farm buildings. Beauly Substation is visible in the middle-ground adjacent to Wester Balblair within a localised depression, whilst existing overhead lines and towers are present across the middle-ground converging at Beauly Substation. The well woodland undulating landscape continues within the background preventing any views of the existing towers from breaking the skyline. The elevated location of these receptors allows panoramic views across the landscape towards distant wilder hills and mountains. The Proposed Development Site is visible from this location albeit partially obscured by the undulating landform, the summit of Tòrr Mòr and existing vegetation that lies within the background landscape.	Proposed View During Construction The construction activity of the Proposed Development will be visible in an elevated position in the background of the view heavily filtered by intervening vegetation in the middle distance and the landform and vegetation around Ruttle Wood. Views of construction activities will be limited to the removal of a small portion of vegetation in Ruttle Wood and tall construction plant protruding above and amongst vegetation although remaining backdropped by the distant hills. This will result in small changes to the key characteristics of the view. The scale of change is assessed as **Low**. The construction activities will be visible within a small proportion of the background view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. The construction phase is short term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Construction is considered to be **Low**.	**Construction** Low	**Construction** On a receptor of high sensitivity, a low magnitude of change would result in a **Minor Adverse (not significant)** effect for residents**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a low magnitude of change would result in a **Minor Adverse (not significant)** effect for road users**.**
				Proposed View During Operation – Year 0 Operational effects will result primarily from the introduction of the Proposed Development in the background of the view, where the top of the Converter Station may be visible above Tòrr Mòr. The limited loss of vegetation within Ruttle Wood will be barely perceptible at this distance. This will result in very limited changes to the key characteristics of the background view, largely obscured by Tòrr Mòr and Ruttle Wood. The scale of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The Proposed Development will be visible within a very small portion of the background view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **Negligible**. The operational phase is long term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **High**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Operation Year 0 is considered to be **Negligible**.	**Operation – Year 0** Negligible	**Operation – Year 0** On a receptor of high sensitivity, a negligible magnitude of change would result in a **Negligible (not significant)** effect for residents**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a negligible magnitude of change would result in a **Negligible (not significant)** effect for road users**.**
				Proposed View During Operation – Year 15 Views will continue to be obscured by the existing vegetation and landform, and further screened by maturing landscape planting. As a result, Fanellan 400kV Substation and Converter station will be barely perceptible from this distance. The scale of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The Proposed Development will not be readily visible within the view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **Negligible**. The operational phase is long term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **High**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Operation Year 15 is considered to be **Negligible**.	**Operation – Year 15** Negligible	**Operation – Year 15** On a receptor of high sensitivity, a negligible magnitude of change would result in a **Negligible (not significant)** effect for residents**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a negligible magnitude of change would result in a **Negligible (not significant)** effect for road users**.**

Receptor + Representative Viewpoint Number (if applicable)	Location and approximate Distance from Proposed Development	Sensitivity	Existing View	Description of Impact on the view (magnitude)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
		The Sensitivity for road users is **Medium**.				
Receptor Type Residential: Residents at Tomnacross and Kiltarlity Recreational: Tourists visiting the area; Users of Core path IN20.07 Transport – Minor roads to the south: Road users of the connecting route between the A833 and Allarburn Drive Representative viewpoint **5**	Location: View looking north-west from Tomnacross primary School entrance (south of Kiltarlity) Distance: 2km south-east of the Proposed Development	Susceptibility Residents at home, tourists visiting the area, and users of Core Paths are likely to have an appreciation for the wider landscape with views of close proximity agricultural fields, Kiltarlity and the more distant rising hills to the north, and potential near views of the proposed development. Overall, views across the landscape are of a largely scenic agricultural farmland with existing large scale infrastructure detracting from the background view, which results in the view having a low ability to accommodate change. The susceptibility of this receptor is therefore recorded as **High**. Road users will be principally focussed on the road ahead, however, due to the narrow road corridor, users are likely to be travelling at reduced speeds with an appreciation for the wider landscape. The susceptibility of this receptor is recorded as **Medium**. Value The view is not identified as being nationally or locally significant. The view contains few detracting features, with middle-distant views towards Kiltarlity and far-reaching views across wider landscape. The value of the view is	**Existing View** This view is located at the entrance to Tomnacross primary school, south of Kiltarlity and faces north-west towards the Proposed Development. Within the view the landscape is predominantly rural in character with the southern edge of Kiltarlity noticeable below the treeline. Pastoral farmland bound by stock-proof fencing is visible within the fore and middle-ground of the view extending towards Kiltarlity, which is backed by mature woodland vegetation along a watercourse. Ground levels rise in the background towards Tòrr Mòr and the dense mixed plantation and native woodland at Ruttle Wood. Upper Fanellan Cottages and the existing OHL and towers are visible to the front of this, in the gaps between the established woodland vegetation. The existing towers punctuate the skyline. The wide, largely open view allows long-distance views towards distant hills and ridgelines forming a backdrop. The Proposed Development Site is visible from this location in the background within the context of Upper Fanellan Cottages and the existing OHL.	Proposed View During Construction The construction activity of the Proposed Development is located in the background on the rising slopes beyond Kiltarlity in the vicinity of the existing OHL and towers. Visible construction activity will include the movement of plant, materials and the creation of earthworks at Fanellan. Views of construction activities will replace views of the open agricultural land near the properties along Fanellan Road, obscuring a portion of views towards Ruttle Wood. Vegetation loss will be discernible, as will the emerging built form against the hill and ridgeline. This will result in noticeable changes to the key characteristics of the background view. The scale of change is assessed as **Medium**. The construction activities will be visible within a small proportion of the view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. The construction phase is short term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Construction is considered to be **Medium**.	**Construction** Medium	**Construction** On a receptor of high sensitivity, a medium magnitude of change would result in a **Moderate adverse (significant)** effect for residents and tourists**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a medium magnitude of change would result in a **Moderate adverse (significant)** effect for commercial receptors and road users.
				Proposed View During Operation – Year 0 Operational effects will result primarily from the introduction of the Proposed Development in the area of rising ground beyond Kiltarlity adjacent to Upper Fanellan Cottages. Although the movement and visual disruption of construction activity will have ceased, the previous views of Ruttle Wood and the summit of Tòrr Mòr will be screened by the Proposed Development. Fanellan 400kV Substation and Converter station will represent a new, large scale infrastructure element in the view that will replace the existing agricultural land use. The scale of change is assessed as **Medium**. The Proposed Development will be visible within a small proportion of the view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. The operational phase is long term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **High**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Operation Year 0 is considered to be **Medium**.	**Operation – Year 0** Medium	**Operation – Year 0** On a receptor of high sensitivity, a medium magnitude of change would result in a **Moderate adverse (significant)** effect for residents**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a medium magnitude of change would result in a **Moderate adverse (significant)** effect for road users.
				Proposed View During Operation – Year 15 The landscape mitigation planting on the landscape forms will be sufficiently established to help integrate the lower aspects of the Proposed Development into the view of the wider landscape; however, the top of the infrastructure will remain visible. The scale of change is assessed as **Low**. The construction activities will be visible within a small proportion of the view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. The operational phase is long term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **High**.	**Operation – Year 15** Low	**Operation – Year 15** On a receptor of high sensitivity, a low magnitude of change would result in a **Minor adverse (not significant)** effect for residents**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a low magnitude of change would result

Receptor + Representative Viewpoint Number (if applicable)	Location and approximate Distance from Proposed Development	Sensitivity	Existing View	Description of Impact on the view (magnitude)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
		recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity The Sensitivity for residential and recreational receptors is **High** The Sensitivity for commercial receptors and road users is **Medium**.		Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Operation Year 15 is considered to be **Low**.		in a **Minor adverse (not significant)** effect for road users.
Receptor Type Residential: Residents at Culburnie Transport – Minor roads to the south: Road users of the existing route between Culburnie and Fanellan Representative viewpoint **6**	Location: View looking north from the western edge of Culburnie and Culburnie Muir Distance: 0.7km south of the Proposed Development	Susceptibility Residents at home are likely to have an appreciation for the wider landscape with views of rising agricultural fields and the more distant hills to the north, and potential views of the proposed development. Overall, views across the landscape are of largely scenic agricultural farmland with existing large scale infrastructure detracting from a small portion of the view, resulting in the view having a low ability to accommodate change. The susceptibility of this receptor is therefore recorded as **High**. Road users will be principally focussed on the road ahead, however, due to the narrow road corridor, users are likely to be travelling at reduced speeds with an appreciation for the wider landscape. The susceptibility of this receptor is recorded as **Medium**. Value The view is not identified as being nationally or locally significant. The view contains few detracting features, albeit with views available towards existing pylons visible along the skyline. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**.	**Existing View** View is located off a local road between Culburnie and Fanellan and faces north towards the Proposed Development. Within the view the landscape is predominantly rural in character. Open grassland/pastoral land in the foreground slopes down to the mature broadleaved woodland in the middle ground. Rising ground enables views of the pastoral fields and individual scattered properties along Fanellan Road (the roof line of Upper Fanellan Cottage is visible above a localised ridgeline) beyond the middle-ground woodland. Ground levels continue to rise within the middle-ground obscuring low level views of Ruttle Wood and Tòrr Mòr. The background views comprise of the peaks of distant mountains. The existing overhead lines within the middle ground are a noticeable feature within the view and punctuate the skyline in multiple locations. The Proposed Development Site is clearly visible from this location beyond the properties along Fanellan Road.	Proposed View During Construction The construction activity of the Proposed Development is located in the middle distance on the rising slopes beyond the properties at Bredaig, Lonbuie and Fanellan in the vicinity of the existing OHL and towers. Visible construction activity will include the movement of plant, materials and the creation of earthworks at Fanellan, with tall infrastructure appearing above the skyline. Views of construction activities will replace views of the open agricultural land surrounding the properties along Fanellan Road, albeit within the context of the existing towers and OHL and will obscure a portion of views towards Ruttle Wood and the mountain ranges beyond. This will result in noticeable changes to the key characteristics of the middle distance and background view. The scale of change is assessed as **Medium**. The construction activities will be visible within a noticeable proportion of the view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **Medium**. The construction phase is short term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Construction is considered to be **Medium**.	**Construction** Medium	**Construction** On a receptor of high sensitivity, a medium magnitude of change would result in a **Major adverse (significant)** effect for residents**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a medium magnitude of change would result in a **Moderate adverse (significant)** effect for road users.
				Proposed View During Operation – Year 0 Operational effects will result primarily from the introduction of the Proposed Development in the area of rising ground beyond the properties at Bredaig, Lonbuie and Fanellan. The previous views of Ruttle Wood and the summit of Tòrr Mòr will become screened. The Proposed Development will introduce new large scale infrastructure elements into the view and will replace a portion of the rural agricultural landscape. The scale of change is assessed as **Medium**. The Proposed Development will be visible within a noticeable proportion of the view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **Medium**. The operational phase is long term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **High**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Operation Year 0 is considered to be **Medium**.	**Operation – Year 0** Medium	**Operation – Year 0** On a receptor of high sensitivity, a medium magnitude of change would result in a **Moderate adverse (significant)** effect for residents**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a medium magnitude of change would result in a **Moderate adverse (significant)** effect for road users.
				Proposed View During Operation – Year 15 The landscape mitigation planting on the landscape forms will be sufficiently established to help integrate the lower aspects of the Proposed Development into the view of the wider landscape, however the top of the infrastructure will remain visible. The scale of change is assessed as **Low**. The taller aspects of the Proposed Development will be visible within a small proportion of the view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. The operational phase is long term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **High**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Operation Year 15 is	**Operation – Year 15** Low	**Operation – Year 15** On a receptor of high sensitivity, a low magnitude of change would result in a **Minor adverse (not significant)** effect for residents**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a low magnitude of change would result

Receptor + Representative Viewpoint Number (if applicable)	Location and approximate Distance from Proposed Development	Sensitivity	Existing View	Description of Impact on the view (magnitude)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
		Sensitivity The Sensitivity for residential receptors is **High** The Sensitivity for road users is **Medium**.		considered to be **Low**.		in a **Minor adverse (not significant)** effect for road users
Receptor Type Residential: Residents of scattered dwellings associated with Crerag (Creraig). Transport – Minor roads to the south: Rural road users of the route connecting Creraig with Culburnie Representative viewpoint **7**	Location: View looking north-east from near Crerag (Creraig) Distance: 1.2km/ south-west of the Proposed Development	Susceptibility Residents at home are likely to have an appreciation for the wider landscape with views of rising agricultural fields and the more distant hills to the north, and potential views of the proposed development. Overall, views across the landscape are of largely scenic agricultural farmland with existing large scale infrastructure visible below the skyline and detracting from the view, resulting in the view having a low ability to accommodate change. The susceptibility of this receptor is therefore recorded as **High**. Road users will be principally focussed on the road ahead, however, due to the narrow road corridor, users are likely to be travelling at reduced speeds with an appreciation for the wider landscape. The susceptibility of this receptor is recorded as **Medium**. Value The view is not identified as being nationally or locally significant. The view contains few detracting features, with some existing pylons visible albeit against a backcloth of the existing landform	Existing View This elevated view is located off a local road between Crerag (Creraig) and Culburnie, facing north-east towards the Proposed Development. Within the view the landscape is predominantly rural in character. Rough grassland/pastoral land in the foreground slopes down to the mature broadleaved woodland in the middle ground. Urban influences are present in the form of a mobile home and a line of telegraph poles which runs parallel to the woodland. Beyond the woodland rising ground levels enable views of the pastoral fields and individual scattered properties along Fanellan Road (Sunnybrae, Bredaig and Fanellan), with Ruttle Wood and Tòrr Mòr beyond. The background views are comprised of the wooded peaks of more distant mountains. The existing 400kv overhead lines within the middle ground are a noticeable vertical feature within the view and slightly punctuate the skyline in some locations The Proposed Development Site is clearly visible from this location on the opposite hillside, beyond the	Proposed View During Construction The construction activity of the Proposed Development is located in the middle distance on the rising slopes beyond the properties at Bredaig and Fanellan in the vicinity of the existing OHL and towers. Visible construction activity will include the movement of plant, materials and the creation of earthworks at Fanellan and tall infrastructure amongst the background of wooded slopes and potentially intruding into the skyline. Views of construction activities and uncharacteristic movements will replace views of the open agricultural land near the properties along Fanellan Road, albeit within the context of the existing towers and OHL. Construction activity will obscure a portion of views towards Ruttle Wood and the mountain ranges beyond, whilst infilling a gap in the mature woodland vegetation with large scale infrastructure. This will result in noticeable changes to some of the key characteristics of the background view. The scale of change is assessed as **Medium**. The construction activities will be visible within a noticeable proportion of the view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **Medium**. The construction phase is short term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Construction is considered to be **Medium**.	**Construction** Medium	**Construction** On a receptor of high sensitivity, a medium magnitude of change would result in a **Major adverse (significant)** effect for residents**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a medium magnitude of change would result in a **Moderate adverse (significant)** effect for road users.
				Proposed View During Operation – Year 0 Operational effects will result primarily from the introduction of the substation infrastructure and Converter Station buildings, along with the associated landscape forms in the area of rising ground beyond the properties at Bredaig and Fanellan. The previous views of Ruttle Wood and the mountain ranges will remain partially screened by the Proposed Development. The Proposed Development will introduce new large scale infrastructure elements into the middle-distance of the view but it is unlikely to intrude into the skyline. The Proposed Development will replace a portion of the rural agricultural landscape within the view. The immature landscape mitigation planting will not provide any screening or integration at this point. The scale of change is assessed as **Medium**. The Proposed Development will be visible within a noticeable proportion of the view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **Medium**. The operational phase is long term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **High**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Operation Year 0 is considered to be **Medium**.	**Operation – Year 0** Medium	**Operation – Year 0** On a receptor of high sensitivity, a medium magnitude of change would result in a **Moderate adverse (significant)** effect for residents**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a medium magnitude of change would result in a **Moderate adverse (significant)** effect for road users.

Receptor + Representative Viewpoint Number (if applicable)	Location and approximate Distance from Proposed Development	Sensitivity	Existing View	Description of Impact on the view (magnitude)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
		to the north. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity The Sensitivity for residential receptors is **High** The Sensitivity for road users is **Medium**.	properties along Fanellan Road and within the context of the existing overhead line and buildings.	**Proposed View During Operation – Year 15** The landscape mitigation planting on the landscape forms will be sufficiently established to help integrate and screen the lower aspects of the Proposed Development into the view of the wider landscape, although the top of the Proposed Development will remain visible. The scale of change is assessed as **Low**. The taller aspects of the Proposed Development will be visible within a small proportion of the view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. The operational phase is long term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **High**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Operation Year 15 is considered to be **Low**.	**Operation – Year 15** Low	**Operation – Year 15** On a receptor of high sensitivity, a low magnitude of change would result in a **Minor adverse (not significant)** effect for residents. On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a low magnitude of change would result in a **Minor adverse (not significant)** effect for road users.
Receptor Type Residential: Residents at Beauly Transport – Major 'A' roads: users of the A862 Transport – Railways: Users of the Far North Line railway Representative viewpoint **8**	Location: View looking south-west from Beauly train Station car park Distance: 3.1km north-east of the Proposed Development	Susceptibility Residents at home are likely to have an appreciation for the wider landscape with views of agricultural fields, associated infrastructure with the more distant hills to the north-west, and potential views of the proposed development. Overall, views across the landscape are of largely scenic agricultural farmland with existing infrastructure visible intermittently in small portions of the view, resulting in the view having a low ability to accommodate change. The susceptibility of this receptor is therefore recorded as **High**. Transport users of the A862 which forms the primary route into and out of Beauly and is a known tourist route, and rail users traveling along the Far North Line are likely to be travelling at speed with a lesser appreciation for the wider landscape. The susceptibility of this receptor is recorded as **Medium**. Value The view is not identified as being nationally or locally significant. The view contains few detracting features. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity	**Existing View** The view is located at Beauly train station car park and faces south-west towards the Proposed Development. Within the view the landscape is predominantly rural in character. Wide open views are available over the flat arable and pastural farmland in the foreground, bound by stock proof fencing. Tree planting is limited to the roadside boundaries and along the River Beauly; this vegetation limits low-level views beyond the middle ground. Urban influences including telegraph poles, agricultural buildings, residential development at the eastern edge of Wester Balblair and the existing 400kv towers and overhead lines converging at Beauly Substation are present throughout the view. The mature vegetation in the middle distance obscures the majority of low level views behind it of Wester Balblair, Beauly Substation and associated towers and overhead line. The background views comprise of the peaks of distant mountains. The existing telegraph poles, towers and overhead lines within the fore and middle-ground are noticeable detracting features within the view and punctuate the skyline in multiple locations. The Proposed Development Site is visible from this location in the	Proposed View During Construction The construction activity of the Proposed Development will be visible in the background of the view, albeit heavily filtered by intervening vegetation and the farming infrastructure at the western edge of Beauly. Views of construction activities will be restricted to the limited removal of vegetation and tall construction plant protruding above and amongst vegetation along the skyline. This will result in some discernible changes to some of the key characteristics of the background view. The scale of change is assessed as **Low**. The construction activities will be visible within a small proportion of the background view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. The construction phase is short term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Construction is considered to be **Low**.	**Construction** Low	**Construction** On a receptor of high sensitivity, a low magnitude of change would result in a **Minor adverse (not significant)** effect for residents. On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a low magnitude of change would result in a **Minor adverse (not significant)** effect for transport users.
				Proposed View During Operation – Year 0 Operational effects will result primarily from the introduction of the taller Converter Station buildings in the background of the view. The vegetation and farming infrastructure at the western edge of Beauly within the middle distance will largely screen views towards the background and the Proposed Development. The loss of existing vegetation will be barely perceptible at this distance. The colour of the built form will be carefully chosen to blend with the natural colours of the landscape, thereby reducing its visual prominence in views. The scale of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The Proposed Development will be barely perceptible within a small proportion of the background view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **Negligible**. The operational phase is long term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **High**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Operation Year 0 is considered to be **Negligible**.	**Operation – Year 0** Negligible	**Operation – Year 0** On a receptor of high sensitivity, a negligible magnitude of change would result in a **Negligible (not significant)** effect for residents. On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a negligible magnitude of change would result in a **Negligible (not significant)** effect for transport users..
				Proposed View During Operation – Year 15 The Proposed Development will continue to be substantially obscured by the existing middle distance vegetation. The scale of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The Proposed Development will be barely perceptible within a small proportion of the background view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **Negligible**. The operational phase is long term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **High**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Operation Year 15 is considered to be **Negligible**.	**Operation – Year 15** Negligible	**Operation – Year 15** On a receptor of high sensitivity, a negligible magnitude of change would result in a **Negligible (not significant)** effect for residents. On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a negligible magnitude of change would result in a **Negligible (not significant)**

Receptor + Representative Viewpoint Number (if applicable)	Location and approximate Distance from Proposed Development	Sensitivity	Existing View	Description of Impact on the view (magnitude)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
		The Sensitivity for residential receptors is **High** The Sensitivity of the transport receptors is **Medium**.	background, although largely obscured by existing vegetation.			effect for transport users.
Receptor Type Residential: Residents at Torgormack, Drumindorsair and Broallan Transport – Minor roads to the north: Road users of the route between Torgormack and Drumindorsair Representative viewpoint **9**	Location: View looking south from Torgormack, Drumindorsair and Broallan Distance: 1.7km north of the Proposed Development.	Susceptibility Residents at home are likely to have an appreciation for the wider landscape with views of rolling agricultural and wooded landscape with limited infrastructure influences across the view. Overall, the view has a low ability to accommodate change. The susceptibility of this receptor is therefore recorded as **High**. Road users of this route are likely to be residents or tourists. Whilst users will be principally focussed on the road ahead, due to the narrow road corridor, users are likely to be travelling at reduced speeds with an appreciation for the wider landscape. The susceptibility of this receptor is recorded as **Medium**. Value The view is not identified as being nationally or locally significant. The view contains few detracting features and offers expansive views across the wider landscape. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity The Sensitivity for residential receptors is **High** The Sensitivity for road users is **Medium**.	**Existing View** This elevated view is located off a local road between Torgormack and Drumindorsair and faces south towards the Proposed Development. Within the elevated view the landscape is predominantly rural in character with occasional scattered development and individual properties. Rolling pastoral farmland bound by hedgerows and stock proof fencing is visible across the view. The wooded slopes of Tòrr Mòr and Ruttle Wood is noticeable in the middle-ground as a focal point, which slightly shortens views to the south-west, and obscuring part of the Site behind it. The existing 400kv towers and overhead line sits below the skyline and is viewed against a backdrop of other landscape features (including fields, woodland and hills). Tòrr Mòr and Ruttle Wood obscures a portion of views towards these infrastructure elements. The background view comprises of the farmed River Beauly valley with scattered settlement and the well wooded slopes of the surrounding mountains. The Proposed Development Site is located beyond the peak of Ruttle Wood and Tòrr Mòr.	Proposed View During Construction The construction activity of the Proposed Development will be visible in the middle distance. Views of construction activities will be limited to the removal of vegetation within Ruttle Wood and the movement of taller plant above the summit of Tòrr Mòr, with activity potentially just intruding into the skyline. There will therefore be some changes to some of the key characteristics of the view. The scale of change is assessed as **Low**. The construction activities will be visible within a small proportion of the background view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. The construction phase is short term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Construction is considered to be **Low**.	**Construction** Low	**Construction** On a receptor of high sensitivity, a low magnitude of change would result in a **Minor adverse (not significant)** effect for residents**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a low magnitude of change would result in a **Minor adverse (not significant)** effect for road users.
				Proposed View During Operation – Year 0 Operational effects will result primarily from the introduction of the Converter Station buildings in the middle distance of the view, although most will be screened by topography and existing vegetation of Ruttle Wood and Tòrr Mòr. The limited loss of vegetation within Ruttle Wood will not be readily noticeable at this distance, all resulting in very limited changes to the key characteristics of the background view. The scale of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The Proposed Development will be barely perceptible within a small proportion of the view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **Negligible**. The operational phase is long term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **High**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Operation Year 0 is considered to be **Negligible**.	**Operation – Year 0** Negligible	**Operation – Year 0** On a receptor of high sensitivity, a negligible magnitude of change would result in a **Negligible (not significant)** effect for residents**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a negligible magnitude of change would result in a **Negligible (not significant)** effect for road users.
				Proposed View During Operation – Year 15 Views will continue to be obscured by the existing vegetation and landform. As a result, the Proposed Development will be barely perceptible from this distance. The scale of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The Proposed Development will be barely perceptible within a small proportion of the view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **Negligible**. The operational phase is long term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **High**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Operation Year 15 is considered to be **Negligible**.	**Operation – Year 15** Negligible	**Operation – Year 15** On a receptor of high sensitivity, a negligible magnitude of change would result in a **Negligible (not significant)** effect for residents**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a negligible magnitude of change would result in a **Negligible (not significant)** effect for road users
Receptor Type Residential:	Location: View looking	Susceptibility Residents at home are likely to	**Existing View** The view is located at the junction	Proposed View During Construction The construction activity of the Proposed Development will be visible in the background. Views	**Construction** Medium	**Construction** On a receptor of high sensitivity, a

Receptor + Representative Viewpoint Number (if applicable)	Location and approximate Distance from Proposed Development	Sensitivity	Existing View	Description of Impact on the view (magnitude)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
Residents at Kilmorack Transport – Major 'A' Roads: users of the A831 Transport – Minor roads to the north: Users of the rural road corridor that crosses the River Beauly to the south at Black Bridge <u>Representative viewpoint</u> **10**	south-west from Kilmorack <u>Distance:</u> 0.5km north-east of the Proposed Development	have an appreciation for the wider landscape with views of the heavily vegetated rising slopes of Tòrr Mòr, the view is already influenced by large scale infrastructure and has a low ability to accommodate change. The susceptibility of this receptor is therefore recorded as **High**. The view represents visibility from the A831, which forms part of a recognised tourist route and rural road corridor and visibility from the Kilmorack churchyard (near Black Bridge). It is considered that road users will be travelling at speed with a lesser appreciation of the wider landscape. The susceptibility of this receptor is recorded as **Medium**. <u>Value</u> The view is not identified as being nationally or locally significant. The view contains a limited number of detracting features associated with the existing pylons visible against the skyline. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. <u>Sensitivity</u> The Sensitivity for residential receptors is **High** The Sensitivity for road users is **Medium**.	between the A831 and a local road that crosses the River Beauly to the south at Black Bridge. The view is looking south-west towards the Proposed Development. Within the view the landscape is predominantly rural and well wooded in character. Mature roadside vegetation partially filters views of Millcroft residential property and the associated open fields and hydroelectric dam beyond. Beyond this the layering of the vegetation along the River Beauly and Tòrr Mòr help to contain wider views. The existing 400kv towers and overhead line are noticeable in the gaps in vegetation and above the skyline. The Proposed Development Site is visible from this location adjacent to the existing 400kv overhead lines in the background of the view, beyond the mature vegetation on Tòrr Mòr.	of construction activities will be restricted to the limited removal of vegetation within Ruttle Wood and the movement of taller plant within the vicinity of the existing OHL visible along the skyline, but just below the summit of Tòrr Mòr. This will result in some noticeable changes to the key characteristics of the background view but to a small proportion of the view only. The scale of change is assessed as **Medium**. The construction activities will be visible within a noticeable proportion of the view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **Medium**. The construction phase is short term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Construction is considered to be **Medium**.		medium magnitude of change would result in a **Moderate adverse (significant)** effect for residents**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a medium magnitude of change would result in a **Moderate adverse (significant)** effect for road users.
				<u>**Proposed View During Operation – Year 0**</u> Operational effects will result primarily from the introduction of the taller Converter Station buildings. The removal of existing vegetation during construction will slightly open up views so the top of the Proposed Development will remain noticeable above retained vegetation and visible on the skyline adjacent to the exiting OHL. The immature landscape mitigation planting will not provide any screening or integration at this stage. The scale of change is assessed as **Low**. The Proposed Development will be visible within a small proportion of the background view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. The operational phase is long term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **High**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Operation Year 0 is considered to be **Low**.	<u>**Operation – Year 0**</u> Low	<u>**Operation – Year 0**</u> On a receptor of high sensitivity, a low magnitude of change would result in a **Minor adverse (not significant)** effect for residents**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a low magnitude of change would result in a **Minor adverse (not significant)** effect for road users.
				<u>**Proposed View During Operation – Year 15**</u> The top of the Proposed Development will remain visible above the existing vegetation on the skyline. Mitigation planting is located primarily to the front of the substation infrastructure and will therefore not provide much additional screening from this location. The scale of change therefore remains **Low**. The Proposed Development will be visible within a small proportion of the background view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. The operational phase is long term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **High**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Operation Year 15 is considered to remain **Low**.	<u>**Operation – Year 15**</u> Low	<u>**Operation – Year 15**</u> On a receptor of high sensitivity, a low magnitude of change would result in a **Minor adverse (not significant)** effect for residents**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a low magnitude of change would result in a **Minor adverse (not significant)** effect for road users.
<u>Receptor Type</u> Residential: Residents at Camault Muir and Glaichbea Transport – Minor roads to the south: Road users of Post	<u>Location:</u> View north-west from Camault Muir and Glaichbea <u>Distance:</u> 2.4km south-east of the	<u>Susceptibility</u> Residents at home are likely to have an appreciation for the wider landscape with views of an agricultural plateau and the rising hills to the north and limited infrastructure influences across the view. Overall, the view has a low ability to accommodate change. The susceptibility of this	<u>**Existing View**</u> The view is located off Post Office Brae and faces north-west towards the Proposed Development. Within the view the landscape is predominantly rural in character. Wide open views are available over pastural farmland bound by stock proof fencing in the foreground. Evergreen and	<u>Proposed View During Construction</u> The construction activity of the Proposed Development will be visible on the rising slopes towards the background of the view, beyond the properties along Fanellan Road. Visible construction activity will include the movement of plant, materials and the creation of earthworks, substation construction and associated infrastructure. Views of construction activities will replace views of the open agricultural land near the properties along Fanellan Road, albeit within the context of the existing towers and OHL. Construction activity will obscure part of Ruttle Wood and the mountain ranges beyond but are unlikely to breach the skyline. This will result in noticeable changes to some of the key characteristics but in the background of the view. The scale of change is therefore assessed as **Low**.	<u>**Construction**</u> Low	<u>**Construction**</u> On a receptor of high sensitivity, a low magnitude of change would result in a **Minor adverse (not significant)** effect for residents**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a low magnitude of change would result in a **Minor adverse (not significant)**

Receptor + Representative Viewpoint Number (if applicable)	Location and approximate Distance from Proposed Development	Sensitivity	Existing View	Description of Impact on the view (magnitude)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
Office Brae <u>Representative viewpoint</u> **11**	Proposed Development	receptor is therefore recorded as **High**. Road users of this route are likely to be residents or tourists. Whilst users will be principally focussed on the road ahead, due to the narrow road corridor, users are likely to be travelling at reduced speeds with an appreciation for the wider landscape. The susceptibility of this receptor is recorded as **Medium**. <u>Value</u> The view is not identified as being nationally or locally significant. The view contains few detracting features and affords expansive views across the wider landscape. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. <u>Sensitivity</u> **High** The Sensitivity for residential receptors is **High** The Sensitivity for road users is **Medium**.	deciduous tree planting along field boundaries and scattered individual properties in the middle-ground obscures some of the lower lying landscape beyond. Beyond the middle-ground, rising topography enables longer-distance views towards Fanellan Road, Tòrr Mòr and Ruttle Wood. The existing 400kv overhead line is a noticeable urban detractor sitting on the ridgeline beyond Fanellan Road, but largely below the skyline. The background views comprise of the peaks of distant mountains The Proposed Development Site is clearly visible from this location albeit within the context of the existing 400kv overhead line and partially screened by vegetation.	The construction activities will be visible within a small proportion of the view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. The construction phase is short term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Construction is considered to be **Low**.		effect for road users.
				<u>Proposed View During Operation – Year 0</u> Operational effects will result primarily from the introduction of the Fanellan 400kV Substation and Converter station buildings and the associated landscape forms beyond the properties along Fanellan Road. The previous unobstructed views of Ruttle Wood will remain screened by the Proposed Development. The Proposed Development will replace a portion of the rural agricultural landscape with a new large scale infrastructure element in the view, but it is unlikely to intrude into the skyline. The immature landscape mitigation planting will not provide any screening or integration by this stage, but the Proposed Development will remain at distance, in the background of the view. The scale of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. The Proposed Development will be visible within a noticeable proportion of the background view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. The operational phase is long term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **High**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Operation Year 0 is considered to be **Low**.	**<u>Operation – Year 0</u>** Low	**<u>Operation – Year 0</u>** On a receptor of high sensitivity, a low magnitude of change would result in a **Minor adverse (not significant)** effect for residents**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a low magnitude of change would result in a **Minor adverse (not significant)** effect for road users.
				<u>Proposed View During Operation – Year 15</u> The landscape mitigation planting on the landscape forms will be sufficiently established to help integrate and screen the lower aspects of the Proposed Development into the view of the wider landscape, although the top of the infrastructure will remain visible. Even so, the scale of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The tops of the built form elements of the Proposed Development will be visible within a proportion of the view, screened by planting which will be similar in character to other vegetated elements of the background view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **Negligible**. The operational phase is long term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **High**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Operation Year 15 is considered to be **Negligible**.	**<u>Operation – Year 15</u>** Negligible	**<u>Operation – Year 15</u>** On a receptor of high sensitivity, a negligible magnitude of change would result in a **Negligible (not significant)** effect for residents**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a negligible magnitude of change would result in a **Negligible (not significant)** effect for road users
<u>Receptor Type</u> Residential: Residents at Crask of Aigas Transport – Minor roads to the west: Road users of the exiting residential road corridor connecting Crask	<u>Location:</u> View looking north-east from Crask of Aigas <u>Distance:</u> 1.1km south-west of the Proposed Development	<u>Susceptibility</u> Residents at home are likely to have an appreciation for the wider landscape with views of rolling wooded hill landscape with limited infrastructure influences across the view. Overall, the view has a low ability to accommodate change. The susceptibility of this receptor is therefore recorded as **High**.	**<u>Existing View</u>** This elevated view is located on the local road connecting Crask of Aigas to the A831 and faces east towards the Proposed Development. Within the view the landscape is predominantly rural in character. Views from this elevated position are available over foreground properties and private rear garden vegetation	<u>Proposed View During Construction</u> Views of construction activities will be limited to the movement of tall construction plant protruding into the skyline above the vegetation in Ruttle Wood but will be barely perceptible. The limited loss of trees in Ruttle Wood will similarly not be readily noticeable. Any change will be seen in an elevated position in the background of the view heavily filtered by intervening topography and vegetation in Ruttle Wood. The scale of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. The construction activities will be visible within a small proportion of the background view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **Negligible**. The construction phase is short term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Construction is considered to be **Low**.	**<u>Construction</u>** Low	**<u>Construction</u>** On a receptor of high sensitivity, a low magnitude of change would result in a **Minor adverse (not significant)** effect for residents**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a low magnitude of change would result in a **Minor adverse (not significant)** effect for road users.

Receptor + Representative Viewpoint Number (if applicable)	Location and approximate Distance from Proposed Development	Sensitivity	Existing View	Description of Impact on the view (magnitude)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
of Aigas to the A831 to the east. Representative viewpoint **12**		Road users of this route are likely to be residents. Whilst users will be principally focussed on the road ahead, due to the narrow road corridor, users are likely to be travelling at reduced speeds with an appreciation for the wider landscape. The susceptibility of this receptor is recorded as **Medium**. Value The view is not identified as being nationally or locally significant. The view contains a number of detracting features associated with existing pylons within the landscape, in part visible along the skyline. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. Sensitivity The Sensitivity for residential receptors is **High** The Sensitivity for road users is **Medium**.	and the River Beauly towards the vegetated north facing slopes of Tòrr Mòr. The mature woodland planting within Ruttle Wood (on the slopes of Tòrr Mòr) obscures the majority of long distance views. The existing 400kv overhead line is noticeable above the intervening Ruttle Wood vegetation along the skyline. Where not blocked by hills in the middle distance, the background views are comprised of the peaks of slightly more distant hills. The Proposed Development Site is hidden behind the topography and vegetation of Ruttle Wood.	**Proposed View During Operation – Year 0** Operational effects will result primarily from the introduction of the Fanellan 400kV Substation and Converter station in the background of the view, but only glimpses of the top of buildings may be visible, and likely to be below the skyline. The loss of vegetation within Ruttle Wood will remain barely perceptible at this distance. This will result will be very limited changes to the key characteristics of the background view, almost completely obscured by Ruttle Wood. The scale of change is therefore assessed as **Negligible**. The Proposed Development will be visible within a very small proportion of the view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **Negligible**. The operational phase is long term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **High**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Operation Year 0 is considered to be **Negligible**.	**Operation – Year 0** Negligible	**Operation – Year 0** On a receptor of high sensitivity, a negligible magnitude of change would result in a **Negligible (not significant)** effect for residents**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a negligible magnitude of change would result in a **Negligible (not significant)** effect for road users.
				Proposed View During Operation – Year 15 Views will continue to be obscured by the intervening topography and existing vegetation. As a result, Fanellan 400kV Substation and Converter station will remain barely perceptible from this distance. The scale of change will remain **Negligible**. The Proposed Development will be visible within a very small proportion of the view. The geographical extent of change therefore remains **Negligible**. The operational phase is long term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **High**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Operation Year 15 is considered to remain **Negligible**.	**Operation – Year 15** Negligible	**Operation – Year 15** On a receptor of high sensitivity, a negligible magnitude of change would result in a **Negligible (not significant)** effect for residents**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a negligible magnitude of change would result in a **Negligible (not significant)** effect for road users.
Receptor Type Residential: Residents at Farley and Torgormack Transport – Minor roads to the north: Road users of the connecting route between Farley	Location: View looking south/ south-east from Farley Distance: 2.1km north/ north-west of the Proposed Development	Susceptibility Residents at home are likely to have an appreciation for the wider landscape with views of rolling agricultural and wooded landscape with limited infrastructure influences across the view. Overall, the view has a low ability to accommodate change. The susceptibility of this receptor is therefore recorded as	**Existing View** This elevated view is located on the local road connecting Farley and Torgormack, facing south/south-east towards the Proposed Development. The elevated position enables wide open views across the landscape towards distant hills and peaks. Within the view the landscape is predominantly rural in character.	Proposed View During Construction The construction activity of the Proposed Development will be visible in the middle distance, although views will be limited to the removal of some vegetation within Ruttle Wood and the movement of tall plant above the canopy. Activity is unlikely to impinge into the skyline and therefore any changes to the key characteristics of the view will be barely discernible. The scale of change is assessed as **Negligible**. The construction activities will be visible within a small proportion of the background view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **Negligible**. The construction phase is short term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Construction is considered to be **Negligible**.	**Construction** Negligible	**Construction** On a receptor of high sensitivity, a negligible magnitude of change would result in a **Negligible (not significant)** effect for residents**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a negligible magnitude of change would result in a **Negligible (not significant)** effect for road users.

Receptor + Representative Viewpoint Number (if applicable)	Location and approximate Distance from Proposed Development	Sensitivity	Existing View	Description of Impact on the view (magnitude)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
and Torgormack. <u>Representative viewpoint</u> **13**		**High**. Road users of this route are likely to be residents. Whilst users will be principally focussed on the road ahead due to the narrow road corridor, users are likely to be travelling at reduced speeds with an appreciation for the wider landscape. The susceptibility of this receptor is recorded as **Medium**. <u>Value</u> The view is not identified as being nationally or locally significant. The view contains a number of detracting features associated with existing pylons within the landscape, in part visible along the skyline. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. <u>Sensitivity</u> The Sensitivity for residential receptors is **High** The Sensitivity for road users is **Medium**.	Pastural farmland is visible in the foreground bordered by mature woodland vegetation on the lower slopes. The middle-ground continues to be well vegetated with mature planting along the River Beauly corridor, before the ground rises towards Tòrr Mòr and Ruttle Wood. The existing 400kv overhead line is discernible within the middle distance amongst wider landscape features. The background views are comprised of agricultural land, scattered settlements and the peaks of distant hills and mountains. The Proposed Development Site is located beyond the peak of Tòrr Mòr and Ruttle Wood.	**<u>Proposed View During Operation – Year 0</u>** The tops of the existing towers are only just discernible above the woodland of Ruttle Wood and summit of Tòrr Mòr. As the built form of Fanellan 400kV Substation and Converter station will be substantially lower than the towers, then it is unlikely that any of the Proposed Development will be visible from this location at operation. The loss of any vegetation within Ruttle Wood will remain barely perceptible at this distance. This will result in very limited or no discernible changes to the key characteristics of the view. The scale of change is therefore assessed as **Negligible**. The Proposed Development and vegetation loss will not be noticeable in the view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **Negligible**. The operational phase is long term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **High**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Operation Year 0 is considered to be **Negligible**.	**<u>Operation – Year 0</u>** Negligible	**<u>Operation – Year 0</u>** On a receptor of high sensitivity, a negligible magnitude of change would result in a **Negligible (not significant)** effect for residents**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a negligible magnitude of change would result in a **Negligible (not significant)** effect for road users.
				<u>Proposed View During Operation – Year 15</u> Views will continue to be obscured by the existing topography and vegetation within Ruttle Wood and Tòrr Mòr. As a result, Fanellan 400kV Substation and Converter station will remain obscured, whilst the permanent loss of any vegetation within Ruttle Wood will remain barely perceptible at this distance. The scale of change remains **Negligible**. The Proposed Development and vegetation loss will not be noticeable in the view. The geographical extent of change therefore remains **Negligible**. The operational phase is long term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **High**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Operation Year 15 is considered to be **Negligible**.	**<u>Operation – Year 15</u>** Negligible	**<u>Operation – Year 15</u>** On a receptor of high sensitivity, a negligible magnitude of change would result in a **Negligible (not significant)** effect for residents**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a negligible magnitude of change would result in a **Negligible (not significant)** effect for road users.
<u>Receptor Type</u> Recreational: Festival goers at Belladrum Tartan Heart Festival <u>Specific viewpoint</u> **14**	<u>Location:</u> View looking north / north-east from Belladrum Festival Campsite <u>Distance:</u> 2.4km south / south-west of the Proposed Development	<u>Susceptibility</u> Festival goers to the Belladrum Tartan Heart Festival are likely to have a likely to have some appreciation for the wider landscape, however receptors will be engaged in activity associated with the festival itself and as such this appreciation will be limited. The susceptibility of this receptor is therefore recorded as **Medium**. <u>Value</u> The view is not identified as being nationally or locally significant. The view contains few detracting features with a broadly open and rural landscape interspersed with	**<u>Existing View</u>** This is a low-lying view situated within the grounds of the Belladrum Tartan Heart Festival site, facing east towards the rising landscape and the Proposed Development. The open parkland landscape in the foreground allows for wide ranging views albeit filtered to a degree but the boundary vegetation, intermittent woodland parcels and woodland belts that lie within the wider landscape. Views towards the elevated landscape and distant hills and peaks within the wider landscape to the south and east are available above the treeline. The landscape within the view is	<u>Proposed View During Construction</u> The construction activity of the Proposed Development will be visible in a small portion of the background in the vicinity of the existing OHL beyond Fanellan Road. Views will be limited to some clearance of vegetation and earthworks to the front of Ruttle Wood and the movement of tall plant against Tòrr Mòr and the mountainous backdrop. Activity will only be visible amongst existing landscape features below the skyline and therefore any changes to the key characteristics of the view will be perceptible. The scale of change is assessed as **Low**. The construction activities will be visible within a small proportion of the background view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. The construction phase is short term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Construction is considered to be **Low**.	**<u>Construction</u>** Low	On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a negligible magnitude of change would result in a **Minor Adverse (not significant)** effect for visitors**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a negligible magnitude of change would result in a **Minor Adverse (not significant)** effect for visitors.
				<u>Proposed View During Operation – Year 0</u> The tops of the existing towers are only just discernible in the background amongst existing landscape features beyond Fanellan Road, near Ruttle Wood and Tòrr Mòr. As the built form of Fanellan 400kV Substation and Converter station will be substantially lower than the towers, visible beyond the landscape forms. The loss of any vegetation within Ruttle Wood and	**<u>Operation – Year 0</u>** Negligible	On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a negligible magnitude of change would result in a **Minor Adverse (not significant)** effect for visitors**.**

Receptor + Representative Viewpoint Number (if applicable)	Location and approximate Distance from Proposed Development	Sensitivity	Existing View	Description of Impact on the view (magnitude)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
		woodland belts, open fields and a mountainous backdrop. The value of the view is recorded as **Medium**. <u>Sensitivity</u> The Sensitivity for festival goers is **Medium**.	predominantly rural in character. The existing 400kv overhead line is visible within the background of the view below the skyline. .	the introduction of new landscape features will remain barely perceptible at this distance. This will result in very limited or no discernible changes to the key characteristics of the view. The scale of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. The Proposed Development and vegetation loss will not be noticeable in the view. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as **Low**. The operational phase is long term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **High**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Operation Year 0 is considered to be **Low**.		On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a negligible magnitude of change would result in a **Minor Adverse (not significant)** effect for visitors.
				<u>Proposed View During Operation – Year 15</u> Views will continue to be viewed in a small portion of the background view, visible below the skyline, further integrated and obscured by the mature mitigation planting. As a result, Fanellan 400kV Substation and Converter station will be largely obscured. The scale of change is **Negligible**. The Proposed Development and vegetation loss will not be noticeable in the view. The geographical extent of change therefore remains **Negligible**. The operational phase is long term, and the duration of change is therefore assessed as **High**. Overall, the magnitude of change on receptors at this location at Operation Year 15 is considered to be **Negligible**.	**<u>Operation – Year 15</u>** Negligible	On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a negligible magnitude of change would result in a **Negligible (not significant)** effect for visitors**.** On a receptor of medium sensitivity, a negligible magnitude of change would result in a **Negligible (not significant)** effect for visitors.