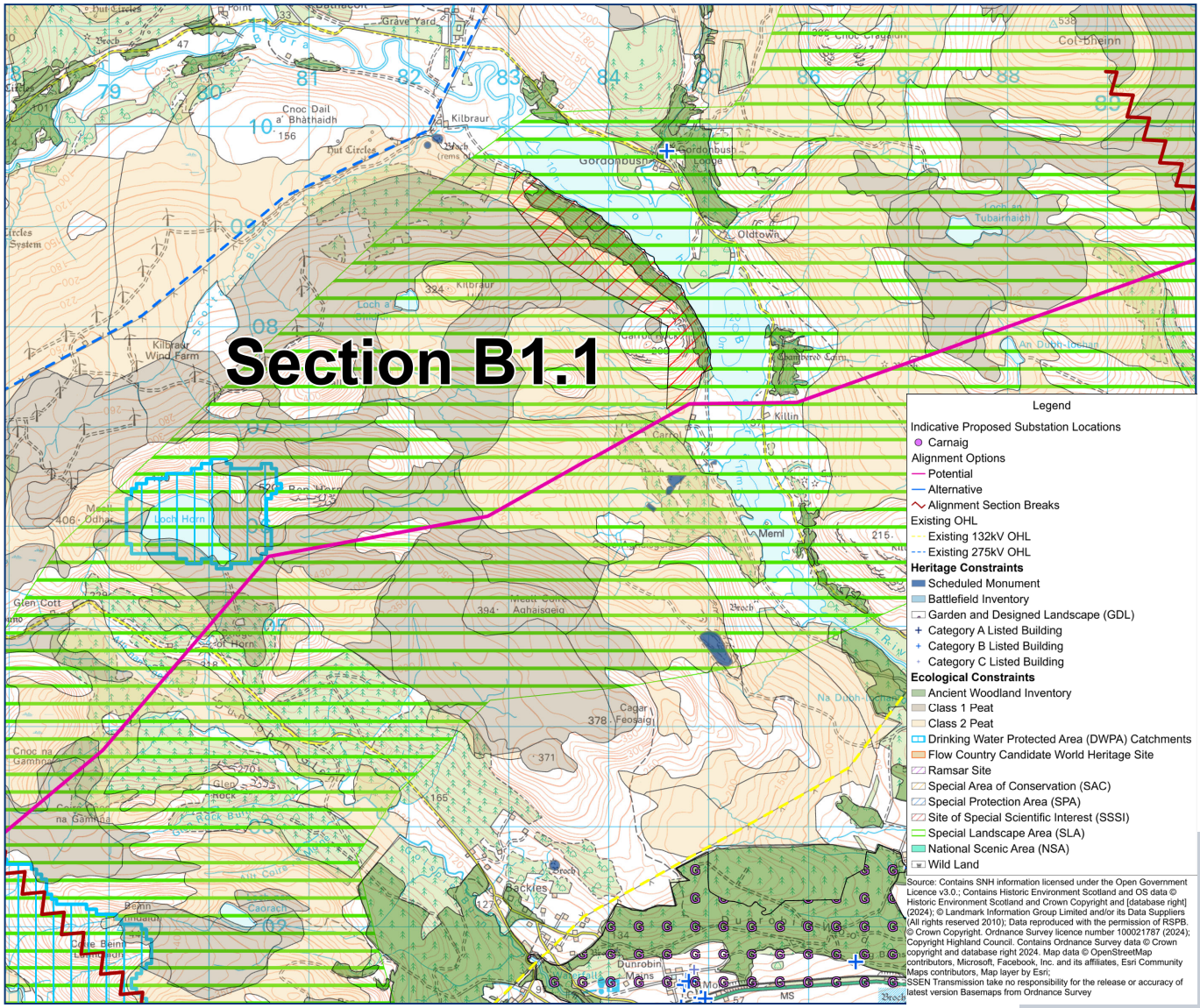
Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks

TRANSMISSION

Section B1.1

Section B: Brora to Loch Buidhe



Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks

TRANSMISSION

Section B1.1: Brora to Loch Buidhe

The key environmental, engineering and cost considerations which differentiate between the Potential and Alternative alignments include:

Environmental

- Adjacent to Grade 1a Ancient Woodland and Carrol Rock Site of Special Scientific Interest.
- Passes through areas of Class 1 and 2 Peatland.
- Passes through Loch Fleet, Loch Brora and Glen Loth Special Landscape Area.
- Passes over Loch Brora
- Inland from Brora and Dunrobin Castle Garden and Designed Landscape.
- Potential to affect setting of scheduled monuments.

Engineering

- One major crossing (Loch Brora)
- Traverses through elevations generally >200m AOD which are considered challenging for construction. Highest recorded elevation is 370 m AOD.
- Topography varies across the alignment with several towers in flatter areas of slope angles ranging from 1°–5° and all other towers on more challenging slopes of between 6°–14°. 1 tower is on a 20° slope.
- Majority of the alignment in this section is over 1km from existing (public) road network.
- One residential property (north of Loch Brora crossing) less than 170m (approx. 140m) from the alignment.

Conclusion

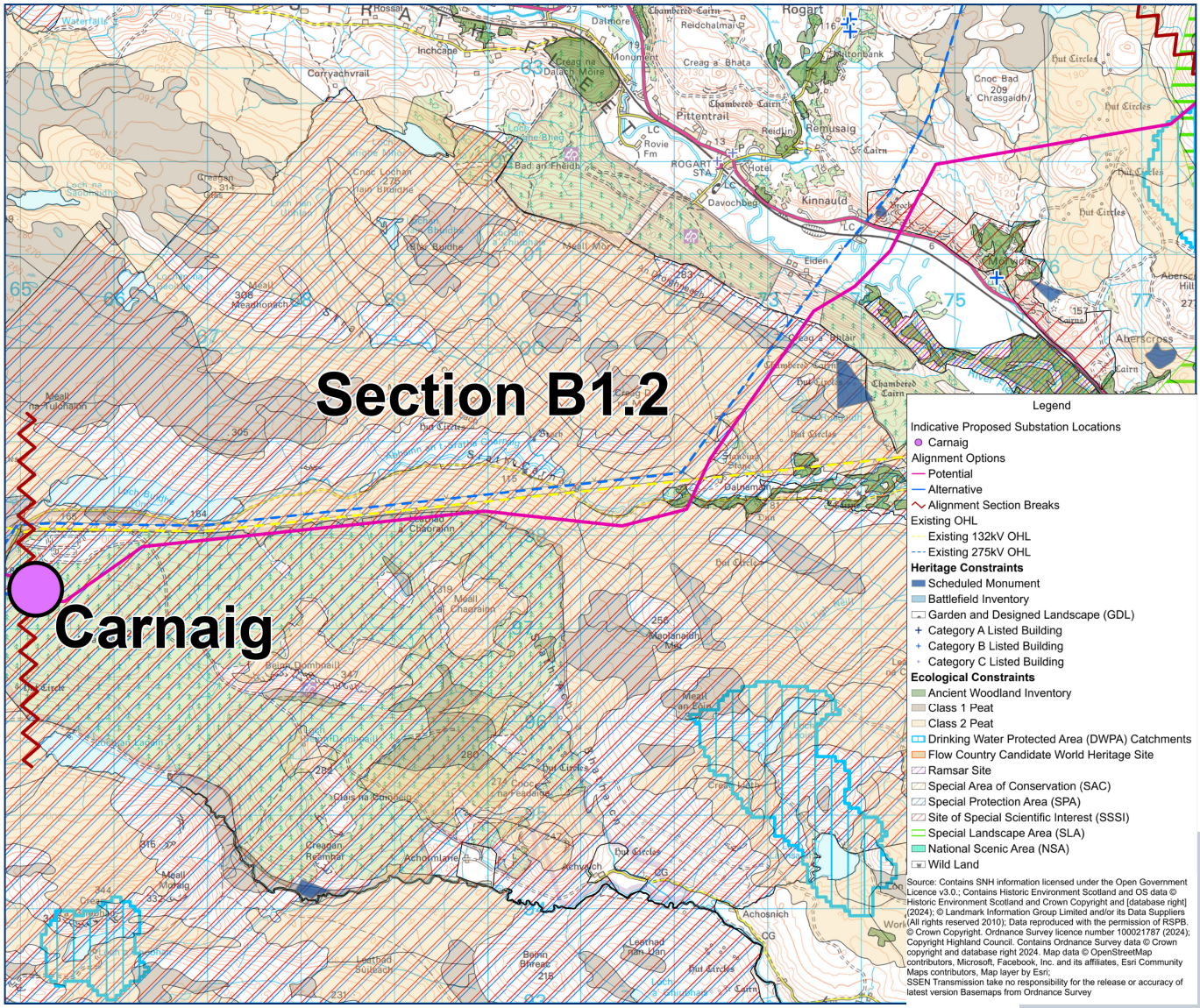
Owing to a combination of environmental and technical constraints, there is no Alternative Alignment option identified in this section. Potential Alignment B1.1 is the only option identified in this section.

Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks

TRANSMISSION

Section B1.2

Section B: Brora to Loch Buidhe



Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks

TRANSMISSION

Section B1.2: Brora to Loch Buidhe

The key environmental, engineering and cost considerations which differentiate between the Potential and Alternative alignments include:

Environmental

- Passes through Grade 1a Ancient Woodland, Class 1 and 2 Peatland, Strathfleet Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Strath Carnaig and Strath Fleet Moors SSSI and Special Protection Area.
- Adjacent to Loch Fleet, Loch Brora and Glen Loth Special Landscape Area.
- Potential to affect setting of scheduled monuments.

Engineering

- Three major infrastructure crossings (A839, railway and 132kV)
- Parts of the alignment in this section runs parallel to 275kV and part of the alignment runs parallel to the 132kV.
- Traverses through varying elevations ranging from 10m AOD to 250m AOD. 13 towers are sited at challenging elevations >200mA OD.
- Topography varies across the alignment with several towers in flatter areas of slope angles ranging from 0°–5° and all other towers on more challenging slopes of between 6°–19°. One tower is on a 24° slope.
- Majority of the alignment in this section over 1km from existing (public) road network.
- No residential property within 170m or 200m of the alignment.

Conclusion

Owing to a combination of environmental and technical constraints, there is no alternative alignment option identified in this section. Potential Alignment B1.2 is the only option identified in this section.