TECHNICAL APPENDIX 7.6: CUMULATIVE LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT TABLES

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1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 Cumulative effects are those that occur as a result of the construction of more than one development of similar type within the landscape. In terms of landscape character, cumulative landscape effects may result where a number of wind energy developments combine, increasing the prevalence of wind turbines within a landscape to an extent where they may become a defining characteristic.

1.1.2 The cumulative landscape assessment considers the potential cumulative effect resulting from the addition of the Proposed Development to the baseline wind development scenario (refer to Figure 7.7.2: Cumulative Sites included within the Assessment, and Table 7.7.3 of Chapter 7: Landscape and Visual Amenity). For the purposes of the assessment, it is assumed at all cumulative baseline sites would be constructed and operational.

1.1.3 Only those designated landscapes or Landscape Character Types (LCTs) / Landscape Character Areas (LCAs) that have been identified as likely to experience a Minor landscape effect or greater as a result of the Proposed Development alone (see Technical Appendices 7.3 and 7.4) have been included in the cumulative assessment, as it is considered that a Negligible effect could not contribute to a significant cumulative effect. The following landscapes are therefore included in the assessment.

Landscape Character Types (LCTs) and Landscape Character Areas (LCAs)

Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) National LCTs

- LCT 85 - Isolated Mountain Plateau (Creag Meagaidh area only);
- LCT 221 - Rolling Uplands Inverness;
- LCT 238 – Rugged Massif – Lochaber;
- LCT 236 – Smooth Moorland Ridges; and
- LCT 231 – Upland Glen - Inverness.

Cairngorm National Park (CNP) LCAs

- Ardverikie Hills LCA;
- The Monadhliath – South Monadhliath LCA;
- Ardverikie – Glen Shirra LCA;
- Spey Headwaters – Spey Dam LCA; and
- Spey Headwaters – Upper Glen of the Spey LCA.

Designated and Protected Landscapes

- Cairngorm National Park (CNP);
- Wild Land Area (WLA) 19. Braeroy – Glenshirra - Creag Meagaidh;
- WLA 20. Monadhliath;
- Ben Alder, Laggan and Glen Banchor Special Landscape Area (SLA); and
- Loch Ness and Duntelchaig SLA.

1.1.4 The above areas have been assessed in accordance with the Cumulative Landscape Methodology outlined in Chapter 7 of the EIA Report. The cumulative assessment of landscape character areas is presented first as this feeds into the assessment of designated and protected landscapes. The assessment is supported by a range of Cumulative Wirelines, included as Figures 7.9.1.1 – 7.19.1.1 and Cumulative ZTVs, included as Figures 7.8.1 – 7.8.11.

1.1.5 This Technical Appendix should be read in conjunction with the baseline landscape descriptions and assessment of landscape effects included in in section 7.5 of Chapter 7: Landscape and Visual Amenity, and Technical Appendices 7.3: Assessment of Landscape Character Types, and 7.4 Assessment of Designated and Protected Landscapes.

1.2 SNH National Landscape Character Types (LCTs) (not including CNP area)

Table 1.2.1: LCT 85: Isolated Mountain Plateau (Creag Meagaidh part only)

Cumulative Capacity Value	Low	
Cumulative Baseline Scenario	**Existing and Proposed Wind Farms theoretically visible**	**Description of Cumulative Baseline Scenario**
	Operational / Under Construction: • Beinneun and Extension; • Bhlaraidh; • Corriegarth; • Dunmaglass; • Millennium Group; and • Stronelairg *Consented:* • Aberarder; • Dell; and • Millennium South *Application / Appeal:* • Glenshero	No cumulative baseline sites directly affect this LCT. All of the sites theoretically experience affect a similar area, on the elevated ridgeline which forms the northern edge of the LCT and the summit of Creag Meagaidh. The cumulative baseline sites appear widespread, stretching into the distance of the northern landscape context experienced from this area, but there is no wind turbine influence within the deep corries or southern ridges, slopes and summit areas. The greatest influence is from Glenshero which appears close and prominent in the northern landscape with Stronelairg and Dell also appearing very noticeable beyond. To the north-east, Beinneun (and extension), Millennium Group and Millennium South form a noticeable group on the hills and skyline. Turbines of Corriegarth, Dunmaglass and Aberarder are more distant and have less influence on the immediate character of the LCT.
Sensitivity to Additional Change	High	
Nature of Change	The Proposed Development would not affect any parts of the LCT not already affected by wind turbine development. The Proposed Development would appear in the northern context. Both eastern and western clusters would almost always be seen as part of a grouping with Glenshero, Stronelairg and Dell. Although it is likely that the Proposed Development would lead to a perceptible increase in wind turbines seen within this northern context, given the level of effect which would already occur in relation to the parts of the LCT affected, this is considered unlikely to alter any characteristics or values of LCT. This is particularly the case when taking into account that the majority of the LCT would not be affected.	
Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Negligible	
Cumulative Landscape Effect	**Negligible** (not significant)	

Table 1.2.2: LCT 221 - Rolling Uplands Inverness (OWESG LCA LN6)

Cumulative Capacity Value	Medium to High	
Cumulative Baseline Scenario	**Existing and Proposed Wind Farms theoretically visible**	**Description of Cumulative Baseline Scenario**
	Operational: • Beinneun and Extension; • Bhlaraidh • Corriegarth; • Corrimony (minimal); • Dunmaglass; • Farr; • Glen Kyllachy; • Millennium Group; and • Stronelairg. *Consented:* • Aberarder; • Dell; and • Millennium South. *Application / Appeal:* • Glenshero.	Within the detailed study area, this LCT is directly affected by Corriegarth, Dunmaglass, Stronelairg, Aberarder, Dell and Glenshero. Beyond the detailed study area, Glen Kyllachy and Farr are also within the LCT. Different groupings of wind farms affect the LCT in different areas. Stronelairg, Dell and Glenshero have greatest influence in the southern part of the LCT where they are located, having intervisibility with only occasional elevated areas in the northern part. Dunmaglass and Aberarder directly affect and more widely influence the north-east of the LCT within the detailed study area, with intermittent intervisibility further south. Corriegarth is located between these groupings and therefore mostly affects the central area. Farr and Glen Kyllachy are intervisible with elevated parts of the north-east (within the detailed study area) whilst Millennium, Beinneun, Bhlaraidh, and to some extent Corrimony are evident across the western hills from higher ground, usually toward the west of the LCT. Wind turbines are therefore experienced as a feature throughout this landscape, at varying distances and prominence, other than within a few low lying glen areas.
Sensitivity to Additional Change	Medium	
Nature of Change	The Proposed Development would form part of a grouping with Stronelairg, Dell and Glenshero within this LCT and would therefore directly affect it. It would increase the area directly affected by wind turbines but would normally be perceived as a landscape feature in combination with these other sites. There would be a small increase in intervisibility with wind turbines associated with this grouping, particularly across northern areas of higher ground. However, very few areas would be newly affected when taking into account the visual influence of other baseline cumulative sites. Overall, the increase in turbines within this LCT is likely to be noticeable close to the site, particularly to the east of the eastern cluster. However, this would have limited effect on landscape characteristics due to the effects of the other nearby baseline sites which are already be very prominent in this area. Beyond the immediate confines of the Proposed Development, to the north-east, there would be small areas where some intervisibility would occur without any of the adjacent baseline sites. Other baseline sites usually affect these areas and wind turbines are therefore already a characteristic to some degree. However, there would be some effect where a greater part of the context may be seen to be developed. The Proposed Development would reflect the existing pattern of wind development throughout this LCT by being located within the shallow 'bowl' landform which reduces prominence beyond the immediate vicinity. Overall, its addition to the cumulative baseline is considered unlikely to lead to a noticeably increased influence of wind turbines within the LCT.	
Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Low	

Cumulative Landscape Effect	**Minor** (not significant)

Table 1.2.3: LCT 238 – Rugged Massif – Lochaber

Cumulative Capacity Value	Low	
Cumulative Baseline Scenario	**Existing and Proposed Wind Farms theoretically visible**	**Description of Cumulative Baseline Scenario**
	Operational: • Beinneun and Extension; • Bhlaraidh; • Corriegarth; • Corrimony; • Dunmaglass; • Millennium Group; and • Stronelairg. Consented: • Aberarder (minimal); • Dell; and • Millennium South. Application / Appeal: • Glenshero	None of the baseline sites have direct effect on this LCT. The majority of indirect effect occurs on small areas of summits and high north and west facing slopes towards the eastern side of the LCT. The greatest influence on this LCT is Glenshero to the north-east which is prominent from elevated areas and facing slopes, both as turbines on the skyline and on south facing slopes. This results in it having more influence on landscape character than Stronelairg and Dell behind it which appear as blades beyond the ridge and therefore have a greater sense of being in a different landscape. However, the combined effect of all these sites gives a strong sense of a wind farm developed landscape to the north. Beinneun, Millennium and Bhlaraidh appear as clusters of turbines seen in the north-western landscape context from some areas but are more distant with a greater sense of separation from this LCT.
Sensitivity to Additional Change	High	
Nature of Change	The Proposed Development would be seen in the northern context in combination with turbines of Stronelairg, Dell and Glenshero. In some instances western cluster turbines may be seen to extend the context of wind turbines in the northern landscape further to the west and there would be a few very small areas where a few tips would be newly visible. In general however, given the influence of Glenshero on this LCT, the increase in wind turbines in this part of the landscape context is likely to be perceptible from a few places such as mountain summits, but virtually imperceptible from the majority of areas affected as both eastern and western clusters of the Proposed Development turbines would be seen behind a collection of other, more prominent wind turbines.	
Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Low	
Cumulative Landscape Effect	**Minor** (not significant)	

Table 1.2.4: LCT 236 – Smooth Moorland Ridges (OWESG LCA LN4)

Cumulative Capacity Value	Low - Medium	
Cumulative Baseline Scenario	**Existing and Proposed Wind Farms Theoretically Visible**	**Description of Cumulative Baseline Scenario**
	Operational: • Beinneun and Extension; • Bhlaraidh; • Corriegarth (minimal); • Corrimony; • Dunmaglass (minimal); • Millennium Group; and • Sronelairg. *Consented:* • Aberarder (minimal); • Dell; and • Millennium South. *Application / Appeal:* • Glenshero	No cumulative baseline wind farms are within this LCT. Millennium Group, Millennium South and Beinneun have the greatest influence on the northern and western parts of this landscape, being present as a grouping across the hills and skyline in the north-westerly context. Bhlaraidh has a similar degree of intervisibility but is more distant and separate. Stronelairg and Dell turbines are seen from some parts as a grouping through Glen Tarff or from the highest summits Corriegarth and Dunmaglass are also more distantly perceived in this context. Glenshero affects a different part of the LCT, being seen in the north-easterly context from south-eastern parts of the LCT including parts of Glen Roy and facing slopes and summits. This leads to a baseline situation where wind turbines are perceived around most of the other edges of the LCT within the wider context but appear generally in differing landscape areas. The central core of this LCT is unaffected.
Sensitivity to Additional Change	Medium – High	
Nature of Change	The Proposed Development would appear as small numbers of western cluster turbines seen through the gap of Glen Tarff in combination with Stronelairg and Dell wind turbines or occasionally seen independently as tips. One or two tips of the eastern cluster may also be perceived from a few south-eastern parts of the LCT, seen in context with Glenshero. It is likely that the addition of these eastern cluster turbines to Glenshero would be difficult to perceive. The western cluster turbines seen through Glen Tarff may form a perceptible increase in turbines but would generally affect areas where wind turbines are already prominent in this part of the context and would appear associated with this already developed area. It is therefore considered unlikely that this would increase the degree of effect of wind turbines on this LCT.	
Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Negligible	
Cumulative Landscape Effect	**Negligible** (not significant)	

Table 1.2.5: LCT 231 – Upland Glen - Inverness

Cumulative Capacity Value	Low - Medium	
Cumulative Baseline Scenario	**Existing and Proposed Wind Farms theoretically experienced in combination with the proposed development**	**Description of Cumulative Baseline Scenario**
	Operational: • Stronelairg (minimal). Consented: • None. Application / Appeal: • Glenshero.	None of the baseline cumulative sites are within this LCT. However, turbines and blades of Glenshero are within around 1km and seen on the northern skyline. These from prominent features which affect large parts of the LCT at the eastern and western ends. A very small area on the high side slope of the glen is theoretically affected by Stronelairg, but this is beyond the confines of glen and in a clearly separate landscape.
Sensitivity to Additional Change	High	
Nature of Change	The Proposed Development would be seen as small numbers of western cluster turbines above the northern enclosing glen sides from small areas at the eastern and south-western ends of the LCT, comprising occasional hubs and some isolated turning blades above the skyline. The Proposed Development would not affect any areas not already affected by Glenshero turbines which would appear more numerous and often more prominent. In all instances where turbines of the Proposed Development were present within this northern context, they would be seen adjacent to or behind the Glenshero turbines and they would not noticeably increase the occupied portion of the surrounding context. It is therefore considered that there would be no noticeable increase in effect on the character of the LCT.	
Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Negligible	
Cumulative Landscape Effect	**Negligible** (not significant)	

1.3 CNP Landscape Character Areas

Table 1.3.1: Ardverikie Hills Upland LCA

Cumulative Capacity Value	Low – Medium	
Cumulative Baseline Scenario	**Existing and Proposed Wind Farms Theoretically Visible**	**Description of Cumulative Baseline Scenario**
	Operational: • Stronelairg. Consented: • None. Application / Appeal: • Glenshero	None of the baseline cumulative sites are within this LCA. The majority of the surrounding context is unaffected by wind development but Glenshero is present in the northern context, affecting high ground and slopes towards the west of the LCA. Turbines appear on the skyline to the north and across south facing slopes, sometimes seen as two separate clusters. Stronelairg is occasionally seen as tips to its rear, but appears as part of the same turbine cluster.
Sensitivity to Additional Change	Medium	
Nature of Change	The Proposed Development would appear in the northern context from higher ground and some facing slopes, always in combination with Glenshero and occasionally in combination with Stronelairg. Turbines would appear of similar scale to Glenshero and would not occupy a greater field of view although the increased number of turbines may be perceptible in some instances from higher ground. The Proposed Development would not affect any parts of the LCA which are not already affected by Glenshero. It therefore would not introduce a new feature to the context. As all areas affected would already be influenced in a similar way by Glenshero, no additional effect to landscape characteristics is predicted.	
Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Negligible	
Cumulative Landscape Effect	**Negligible** (not significant)	

Table 1.3.2: The Monadhliath – South Monadhliath Upland LCA

Cumulative Capacity Value	Low	
Cumulative Baseline Scenario	**Existing and Proposed Wind Farms Theoretically Visible**	**Description of Cumulative Baseline Scenario**
	Operational: • Beinneun and Extension (minimal); • Bhlaraidh (minimal); • Corriegarth (minimal); • Dunmaglass (minimal); • Farr (minimal); • Glen Kyllachy (minimal); • Millennium Group (minimal); and • Stronelairg (minimal). Consented: • Aberarder (minimal); • Dell (minimal); and • Millennium South (minimal). Application / Appeal: • Glenshero.	None of the baseline cumulative sites are within this LCA. The majority of the baseline cumulative sites have very little intervisibility with the LCA, generally only along its western / north-western boundary, and occasional high summits. However, from these areas there is a strong impression of extensive wind farm development in the western landscape, extending from the relatively close Glenshero and Stronelairg to distant turbines of Beinneun and Millennium on the far skyline. Within other areas of the LCA, only Glenshero is occasionally intervisible with a few higher slopes and summits in the southern part. This takes the form of a few tips and blades protruding above the western skyline.
Sensitivity to Additional Change	High	
Nature of Change	Potential effects of the Proposed Development would be limited to the western edge and highest summits, affecting a similar extent of area to Glenshero but occasionally theoretically visible in areas which are not affected by the baseline developments. From western fringes and occasional high summits, the Proposed Development would add to the generally developed wind farm landscape which would be perceived in the western context, should all cumulative baseline sites be operational. The western cluster may lead to a perceptible increase in turbines seen within this context but given the effect of the cumulative baseline sites would be unlikely to lead to perceptible change in characteristics of the LCA. However, the eastern cluster would appear perceptibly closer and larger than other turbines which may lead to a locally increased level of effect along this boundary. From other high ground and summit areas in the south of the LCA which are unaffected by the majority of baseline sites, the Proposed Development would be sometimes seen as tips and blades of eastern cluster turbines appearing above the skyline to the west. This would be similar to Glenshero and therefore would not form a new feature, but the Cloiche turbines would increase the affected area of skyline to the north and would slightly increase the area where such effects would be experienced. When moving through these parts of the landscape, it would not be possible to discern whether turbines belonged to the Proposed Development or Glenshero, but the increase in area of skyline affected may give a slightly great sense of a more developed landscape to the west. These effects would occur within a relatively small part of the LCA and the vast majority would remain unaffected by wind turbine development.	
Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Low - Medium	
Cumulative Landscape Effect	**Minor – Moderate** (not significant)	

Table 1.3.3: Ardverikie – Glen Shirra LCA

Cumulative Capacity Value	Low – Medium	
Cumulative Baseline Scenario	**Existing and Proposed Wind Farms Theoretically Visible**	**Description of Cumulative Baseline Scenario**
	Operational: • Stronelairg. Consented: • None. Application / Appeal: • Glenshero.	None of the baseline sites have direct effect on this LCT. Turbines and blades of Glenshero are present in the landscape context to the north, seen along the northern skyline as turbines usually set within a low point between the hills, though its eastern turbine cluster is occasionally seen as blades above a higher part of the skyline. Stronelairg turbines are sometimes seen within this context but are less prominent, appearing as only a few blades and tips.
Sensitivity to Additional Change	High	
Nature of Change	The Proposed Development would be seen as western cluster turbines appearing on the northern skyline from some southern parts of this LCA in combination with Glenshero and Stronelairg turbines. It would not increase the extent of the surrounding skyline occupied by wind turbines and would be likely to be perceived as a part of the same wind farm development as Glenshero. The Proposed Development would not affect any additional parts of the LCA which are not already affected by Glenshero. Given the effect of the Glenshero turbines alone, it is not considered that the Proposed Development would lead to any perceived increase in effect on the character of this LCA.	
Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Negligible	
Cumulative Landscape Effect	**Negligible** (not significant)	

Table 1.3.4: Spey Headwaters – Spey Dam LCA

Cumulative Capacity Value	Low – Medium	
Cumulative Baseline Scenario	**Existing and Proposed Wind Farms Theoretically Visible**	**Description of Cumulative Baseline Scenario**
	Operational: • Stronelairg. Consented: • None. Application / Appeal: • Glenshero.	None of the baseline sites have direct effect on this LCT. Within the southern part of the LCA, turbines and blades of Glenshero are present in the landscape context to the north and north-west and in views across Loch Crunachdan, seen as turbines or blades on the skyline within a low point between the hills. From the higher southern side slope of the glen, Glenshero turbines appear more on the facing slopes giving them a greater presence in the immediate landscape. Intervisibility with Stronelairg turbines is limited to a few higher slope areas which are often wooded. From open elevated glensides, Stronelairg turbines are sometimes seen as a few blade tips beyond the Glenshero turbines but have little influence on landscape character.
Sensitivity to Additional Change	High	
Nature of Change	The Proposed Development would be seen as western cluster turbines appearing on the north-western skyline from southern parts of the LCA. As many of these areas are wooded this would limit intervisibility. The Proposed Development would affect a smaller part of the LCA than Glenshero but would be seen in the same part of the surrounding landscape context, in combination with the Glenshero turbines, notably in views across Loch Crunachdan. It would not increase the extent of the surrounding skyline occupied by wind turbines and would be likely to be perceived as a part of the same wind farm development as Glenshero though from the very highest parts of the southern glen-side the increase in turbine numbers may be perceived. The Proposed Development would not affect any additional parts of the LCA which are not already affected by Glenshero and given the influence of Glenshero on landscape character in these areas, it is unlikely that the Proposed Development lead to any increase in level of effect.	
Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Negligible	
Cumulative Landscape Effect	**Negligible** (not significant)	

Table 1.3.5: Spey Headwaters – Upper Glen of the Spey LCA

Cumulative Capacity Value	Low – Medium	
Cumulative Baseline Scenario	**Existing and Proposed Wind Farms Theoretically Visible**	**Description of Cumulative Baseline Scenario**
	Operational: • Stronelairg. Consented: • None. Application / Appeal: • Glenshero.	None of the baseline sites have direct effect on this LCT. Within the around half of the LCA covering the base and south-western slopes of the glen, Glenshero forms a prominent feature of the northern and western context. From the higher southern side slope of the glen a small number of Stronelairg turbines are also present to the rear of Glenshero, appearing as part of the same grouping. However, as these are only perceived from elevated areas, are more associated with a wider backdrop.
Sensitivity to Additional Change	High	
Nature of Change	The Proposed Development would be seen as western cluster turbines appearing on the north-western skyline from the southern glen floor and side-slopes of the LCA, comprising a slightly smaller area than Glenshero. It would always be seen in combination with Glenshero and would be likely to be perceived generally as part of the same development. Even if an increased number of turbines were perceived, this would not lead to any greater effect than from Glenshero alone because there would be no new areas affected and the Proposed Development would entirely within part of the context which is already affected.	
Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Negligible	
Cumulative Landscape Effect	**Negligible** (not significant)	

1.4 Designated and Protected Landscapes

Table 1.4.1: Cairngorms National Park

Cumulative Capacity Value	Low	
Cumulative Baseline Scenario	**Existing and Proposed Wind Farms Theoretically Visible**	**Description of Cumulative Baseline Scenario**
	Operational: • Beinneun and Extension (minimal); • Bhlaraidh (minimal); • Corriegarth; • Dunmaglass; • Farr; • Glen Kyllachy; • Millennium Group (minimal); and • Stronelairg. Consented: • Aberarder; • Dell; and • Millennium south (minimal). Application / Appeal: • Glenshero.	None of the baseline sites have direct effect on the CNP. The CNP is indirectly affect by the cumulative baseline sites in different ways but generally, areas around its western boundary are influenced by a sense of nearby wind farm developed landscapes to the west, comprising almost all of the baseline sites, as described in the assessment of CNP LCAs (Section 1.3). Some summits to the west of the A9 have a sense of more distant wind farm development to the west, in the Monadhliath and beyond with different summits being affected by different baseline sites. Baseline sites located to the west of the Great Glen, comprising Beinneun, Millennium Group, Millennium South and Bhlaraidh, are only intervisible with the westernmost boundary of the CNP. Whilst all other sites also affect these areas, they have some intervisibility with other areas: the northernmost sites, Farr and Glen Kyllachy, also have more distant intervisibility with parts of the central mountain plateau. Dunmaglass and Aberarder also share some intervisibility with this area but are also more widely intervisible with summits in the west of the CNP. Corriegarth and Stronelairg only distantly affect the edge of the central plateau, although Stronelairg is also intervisible with some summits to the south. Dell has little intervisibility limited to a small area of high ground in the south but Glenshero is more widely intervisible across southern hill summits, to the east and west of the A9, and also affects parts of upper Glen Spey.
Sensitivity to Additional Change	High	
Nature of Change	*Landscape Character* The Proposed Development would be intervisible with areas around the western boundary of the CNP within the Monadhliath – South Monadhliath LCA in the western context, and western hill summits, in combination with other sites, and particularly Stronelairg, Glenshero and Stronelairg, as described in Table 1.3.2. This is predicted to lead to a Minor – Moderate (not significant) effect on this LCT. Effects to other CNP LCAs within the detailed study area is predicted to be Negligible and not significant (see Tables 1.3.1, 1.3.3, 1.3.4 and 1.3.5). This is due to the anticipated effects of the Glenshero Wind Farm which would appear closer and more prominent than the Proposed Development within these LCAs. In this scenario, the Proposed Development would be seen to the rear of Glenshero and likely to be largely indistinguishable (see VP18:	

	Loch na Lairige, Figure 7.9.18.1). Given the effect on the landscape character of Glenshero, it is therefore considered unlikely that there would be any perceptible additional effect on landscape characteristics from the Proposed Development. Outwith the detailed study area, the Proposed Development would lead to some small additional areas of theoretical intervisibility with wind turbines on some higher slopes. This would comprise only a few tips of eastern cluster turbines and usually only one tip. It is considered that this would generally be barely discernible and would have no influence on the landscape character or Special Landscape Qualities experienced from these areas. Larger numbers of turbines would be seen from higher slopes. Towards the south, these would be seen in combination with Glenshero, and occasionally Stronelairg (see VP19: Carn na Caim, Figure 7.9.19.1). Further north from elevated mountain summits and slopes, eastern and western clusters would be seen distantly within the western context, also in combination with Glenshero and Stronelairg. Other cumulative baseline sites would already be seen within this context at similar or closer distance and therefore the Proposed Development is considered unlikely to alter any key landscape characteristics. Due to the very limited likely intervisibility of the Proposed Development and the fact that, when perceptible, it would add to a pre-existing perceptible cluster of turbines, the Proposed Development is unlikely to lead to any perceived encircling of the CNP when considering all baseline cumulative sites. It is nevertheless recognised that on the western boundary more turbines would be perceived in the western landscape context. However, when seen from this area, this context is already characterised by wind development due to the cumulative baseline sites (see Table 1.3.2). *Special Landscape Qualities* As discussed in Table 1.2.1 of Technical Appendix 7.4, there is potential for the Proposed Development to affect some of the Special Landscape Qualities a very localised basis (considered to be not significant). Within a few upland area of the Monadhliath close to the western boundary effects of the Proposed Development alone on the Special Landscape Qualities: '*Vastness of space, scale and height*'; '*Dominance of natural landforms*'; '*Grand panoramas and framed views*'; and '*Wildness*' were identified but considered to be not significant. Given the potential Minor to Moderate cumulative effect within this LCA (see Table 1.3.2) it is considered likely that a cumulative effect would also occur to these Special Landscape Qualities. However, taking into account isolated nature of potential effects in this area in relation to the wider CNP, this is considered unlikely to lead to any perceptible increase in effect, when taking into account the cumulative baseline situation. This includes sequential effects because the different areas of theoretical visibility are very disparate. Within Glen Spey close to the edge of the park, potential non significant effects on '*Landscapes both cultural and natural*'; '*Steep Glens and High Passes*'; and '*A landscape of opportunities*' were identified for the Proposed Development alone. However, when considering the effect of the cumulative baseline situation on this area, and particularly the greater prominence of Glenshero (as described in Table 1.3.5), it is unlikely that the addition of the Proposed Development would lead to any perceptible cumulative effect on these Special Landscape Qualities.
Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Low
Cumulative Landscape Effect	**Minor** (not significant) The integrity of the CNP would not be affected.

Table 1.4.2: WLA 19. Braeroy – Glenshirra - Creag Meagaidh

Cumulative Capacity Value	Low	
Cumulative Baseline Scenario	**Existing and Proposed Wind Farms Theoretically Visible**	**Description of Cumulative Baseline Scenario**
	Operational: • Beinneun and Extension; • Bhlaraidh; • Corriegarth; • Corrimony; • Dunmaglass; • Millennium Group; and • Stronelairg. Consented: • Aberarder; • Dell; and • Millennium South. Application / Appeal: • Glenshero.	None of the baseline sites have direct effect on the WLA. However, the cumulative baseline situation results in a scenario whereby wind turbines have relatively widespread influence across parts of the WLA. The north-western parts of the WLA and higher slopes and summits to west of Glen Roy are closely influenced by the Millennium and Beinneun developments and more distantly, Bhlaraidh, to the north. Stronelairg and Dell are also sometimes seen within these areas through the gap of Glen Tarff. Through upper Glen Spey towards the centre of the WLA and across the upper, facing slopes of Creag Meagaidh and high ground to the east of Glen Roy, Glenshero is frequently a prominent feature and decreases the sense of wildness. From these higher slope areas Stronelairg and Dell also have some influence but are seen to the rear of and less prominent than Glenshero. Corriegarth, Dunmaglass and Aberarder are more distant and seen with a greater degree of separation from highest areas only.
Sensitivity to Additional Change	High	
Nature of Change	Within the southern part of the WLA in LCT 85: Isolated Mountain Plateau (see Table 1.2.1) and LCT 220 – Rugged Massif – Lochaber (see Table 1.2.3), across the southern side of Glen Spey, facing slopes of Creag Meagaidh and higher summits to the east of Glen Roy, western and occasionally eastern clusters of the Proposed Development would be seen in combination with Glenshero and, from the higher slopes and summits, with Stronelairg, Dell and more distant sites to the north. Under the baseline cumulative scenario, these developments, and particularly Glenshero, already reduce the degree of wildness experienced in this part of the WLA (see VP11: Carn Liath, Figure 7.9.11.1.1-7.9.11.1.2 and VP15:Beinn Teallach, Figure 7.9.15.1.1 – 7.9.15.1.2). Eastern and western clusters of the Proposed Development would usually be seen with Glenshero, although may occasionally lead to a small increase in field of view occupied. There would be a few very small areas where the Proposed Development would increase the area where surrounding wind turbines would be theoretically experienced, but within these areas it would appear as only a few very small tips and would have little influence on the wildness characteristics experienced. The influence of the baseline cumulative sites, particularly Glenshero, on the wild land attributes '*Lack of Construction or Other Artefacts*', '*Evidence of Contemporary Land Use*' and '*Arresting or Inspiring Qualities*' is such, that the addition of the Proposed Development is unlikely to further reduce these qualities in this part of the WLA, other than very slightly in the few very small areas unaffected by the cumulative baseline sites. Within the north-western part of the WLA in LCT 236 – Smooth Moorland Ridges (see Table 1.2.4), western cluster turbines of the Proposed Development would be seen through Glen Tarff and from some elevated summits as tips over the skyline, likely to be barely perceptible (see VP17: Carn Dearg (Glen Roy), Figure 7.9.17.1.1-7.9.17.1.2). A few eastern cluster turbines may be perceived from some elevated areas in combination with Glenshero. These areas are already very influenced by the wind turbines of the Millennium and Beinneun developments and therefore the strength of wild land attributes is reduced. The Proposed Development would be experienced in this context with Dell and Stronelairg and	

	would therefore be associated with an already developed area outwith the WLA. Any change to wild land attributes is therefore unlikely. *Key Qualities* As discussed in Table 1.2.2 of Technical Appendix 7.4: Assessment of Designated and Protected Landscapes, there is potential for some degree of effect on the identified Key Qualities of the WLA from the Proposed Development alone, though this is considered unlikely to lead to a significant effect. When considering these effects in relation to the cumulative baseline scenario no additional effect is anticipated on any of the Key Qualities. This is largely due to the effects of the Glenshero and Dell developments which would lead to a reduced strength of physical and perceptual attributes in the areas which would be affected by the Proposed Development. The Proposed Development would almost always be seen in combination with these developments in addition to Stronelairg (which was already considered as part of the baseline for the main assessment) and would often be difficult to perceive as separate. There would be very few areas where wind turbines would appear as a new feature or occupy a greater part of the context and in these areas the addition would usually be barely perceptible. As such, it is considered unlikely that there would be any noticeable effect on any of the Key Qualities if all cumulative baseline sites were already installed and operational. The central core area of the WLA, shown on the Map of Relative Wildness to have the greatest degree of wildness characteristics would continue to be unaffected by wind energy development.
Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Low
Cumulative Landscape Effect	**Minor** (not significant) The integrity of the WLA would not be affected.

Table 1.4.3: WLA 20. Monadhliath

Cumulative Capacity Value	Low	
Cumulative Baseline Scenario	**Existing and Proposed Wind Farms Theoretically Visible**	**Description of Cumulative Baseline Scenario**
	Operational: • Beinneun and Extension; • Bhlaraidh; • Corriegarth; • Corrimony (minimal); • Dunmaglass; • Farr; • Glen Kyllachy; • Millennium Group; and • Stronelairg. Consented: • Aberarder; • Dell; and • Millennium South. Application / Appeal: • Glenshero.	The south-western part of this WLA is influenced by turbines of Stronelairg, Dell and Glenshero within 10km. These are experienced around the boundary and from higher ground with different sites appearing when moving through this area, but appearing generally as a group. Millennium and Beinneun developments would be perceived occasionally from similar areas giving a sense of more extensive wind development to the west. Corriegarth, Dunmaglass and Aberarder are more extensively experienced from higher plateau areas throughout the WLA, other than the far south and east. These appear as two separate clusters in the western landscape. Farr and Glen Kyllachy are also perceived to the north from similar areas through less extensively and often more distantly which contributes to a general sense of wind farm development around the outer extents of the WLA. The more distant westerly sites of Corrimony are perceived only from higher summits and therefore have little influence on the wild land characteristics.
Sensitivity to Additional Change	High	
Nature of Change	The Proposed Development would form part of a grouping with Stronelairg, Dell and Glenshero and would theoretically affect some southern parts of the WLA, although most of the WLA would be unaffected. From some areas, particularly to the north of the eastern cluster, eastern cluster turbines would increase the extent of the surrounding skyline occupied by wind turbines and may appear to bring wind development closer to the WLA. There is the potential for this to slightly affect the attribute '*Sense of Sanctuary or Solitude*'. However, the cumulative baseline sites, particularly Stronelairg and Dell, would already be prominent in these areas and the attributes '*Lack of Construction or Other Artefacts*', '*Evidence of Contemporary Land Use*' and '*Arresting or Inspiring Qualities*' would be already reduced. It is therefore unlikely that the Proposed Development would further reduce these attributes. From some summit areas in the south of the WLA and close to the western boundary the closer proximity of eastern cluster turbines may lead to a sense of wind turbine development moving further towards the WLA. However, these would usually be seen in the context of the prominent Stronelairg, Glenshero and Dell turbines which already reduce wild land attributes. From some of the more isolated summits in this area, there would be a perceptible increase in tips and blades over the western skyline in addition to Glenshero but the presence of Glenshero would lead to a baseline situation whereby wild land attributes would already be reduced slightly. There would be very small areas of the WLA where the Proposed Development would introduce turbines as a new feature: predominantly small dips and hollows. However, there would be fewer of these areas than when considering the Proposed Development alone due to the addition of Glenshero. In these very localised areas small numbers of eastern cluster tips or blades would be evident above the skyline and occasional western cluster blades may be present within the further landscape context. There would also be some areas where the Proposed Development would not be perceived alongside the adjacent cumulative sites	

	(Glenshero, Stronelairg, and Dell). Although other baseline sites would be intervisible with these areas, the Proposed Development would affect a new part of the landscape context, albeit to a small degree. These two aspects may lead to a slight reduction in the attributes *'Lack of Construction or Other Artefacts*', *'Evidence of Contemporary Land Use'* and *'Arresting or Inspiring Qualities'* in these small areas. However, these effects would be extremely localised. *Key Qualities* Table 1.2.3 of Technical Appendix 7.4: Assessment of Designated and Protected Landscapes , identifies a potential for a limited degree of effect on some of the identified Key Qualities of the WLA from the Proposed Development alone. The baseline cumulative scenario would slightly increase the extent of the WLA which would be theoretically affected by wind farm development, with in particular Glenshero and Dell leading to small new areas which would be intervisible with wind turbines. This means that fewer areas would be newly affected by wind turbines due to the Proposed Development. The effect on Key Qualities is therefore considered to be similar as that for the Proposed Development along as the eastern cluster of the Proposed Development would be closer and more influential on the WLA than any of the cumulative sites. Therefore, a small degree of effect is anticipated to '*A range of massive rounded hills and plateaux that are awe-inspiring in their simplicity, openness and immense scale, and offer panoramic views to distant mountain ranges*' and '*An extensive, simple interior with few human artefacts, contributing to a perceived 'emptiness' and a strong sense of naturalness, remoteness and sanctuary*' but this would not be significant.
Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Low
Cumulative Landscape Effect	**Minor** (not significant) The integrity of the WLA would not be affected.

Table 1.4.4: Ben Alder, Laggan and Glen Banchor Special Landscape Area (SLA)

Cumulative Capacity Value	Low – Medium	
Cumulative Baseline Scenario	**Existing and Proposed Wind Farms Theoretically Visible**	**Description of Cumulative Baseline Scenario**
	Operational: • Beinneun and Extension (minimal); • Corriegarth; • Dunmaglass (minimal); • Millennium Group (minimal); and • Stronelairg. Consented: • Aberarder (minimal); • Dell (minimal); and • Millennium South (minimal). Application / Appeal: • Glenshero.	Glenshero and Stronelairg have the greatest effect on this SLA, sharing intervisibility with hills and mountains to the south of Loch Laggan, and smaller hills above Strath Mashie, Glen Spey and Glen Truim. Glenshero also appears on the surrounding skyline of parts of the base of Glen Truim and within Glen Shirra. All other sites are intervisible with only relatively small areas of high ground within the Ardverikie hills to the south of Loch Laggan and a few small areas around the summit of Creag Meagaidh and appear relatively distant or have minimal turbine visibility, thereby having little effect on the character of the SLA.
Sensitivity to Additional Change	High	
Nature of Change	The Proposed Development (eastern and western clusters) would be seen in combination with Glenshero and with Stronelairg and would have similar intervisibility to these sites. The majority of the SLA would be unaffected. Apart from very small areas on the northern hills, where new tips may be perceived, there would be no areas affected which would not already have intervisibility with wind turbines. From elevated areas and summits, the Proposed Development would be seen in combination with Stronelairg and Glenshero, and therefore in a part of the context already occupied by wind turbines. Although the increase in turbine numbers on the northern horizon may be perceptible in some areas, the presence of the existing cumulative baseline turbines already establishes this context as one occupied by turbines and therefore any noticeable change to landscape characteristics is unlikely. From lower areas around Strath Mashie and a small area within upper Glen Spey and the edge of Glen Shirra, the western cluster of the Proposed Development would be seen on the north-eastern skyline in combination with Glenshero. In these areas, the turbines of Glenshero would be very prominent, as described for the Ardverikie – Glen Shirra LCA (see Table 1.3.3), Spey Headwaters – Spey Dam LCA (see Table 1.3.4) and Spey Headwaters – Upper Glen of the Spey LCA (see Table 1.3.5). The turbines of the Proposed Development would appear within the same part of the landscape context and would be likely to be perceived as part of the same development. Given the effect of Glenshero on these areas, it is unlikely that the Proposed Development would lead to any perceptible additional change in landscape characteristics. <u>*Special Qualities*</u> Potential changes which would be perceived in this SLA as a result of the Proposed Development, when considered in addition to the cumulative baseline situation are likely to be small and barely discernible as described above. There is the potential that the increased number of turbines may be perceived in some views, for example from the Ardverikie Hills which could influence the *'Contrasting landform, land-use and views'* and '*The simple landform horizon of the Monadhliath'* elements of the *'Ever Changing Compositions'* Special Quality. However, given the context of existing development, this would be a very small effect.	
Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Negligible	
Cumulative Landscape Effect	**Negligible** (not significant) The integrity of the SLA would not be affected.	

Table 1.4.5: Loch Ness and Duntelchaig SLA

Cumulative Capacity Value	Medium	
Cumulative Baseline Scenario	**Existing and Proposed Wind Farms Theoretically Visible**	**Description of Cumulative Baseline Scenario**
	Operational: • Beinneun and Extension; • Bhlaraidh; • Corriegarth; • Dunmaglass; • Farr; • Glen Kyllachy; • Millennium Group; and • Stronelairg. Consented: • Aberarder; • Dell; and • Millennium South. Application / Appeal: • Glenshero.	The cumulative ZTV suggests widespread intervisibility of this SLA with wind turbines although the presence of woodland and forestry limits the influence of this in reality. Intervisibility of the cumulative baseline sites is mostly limited to the upper slopes outwith woodland and forestry plantation. Millennium and Beinneun sites are mostly experienced from the southern part of the SLA, sometimes framed in views down the glen from the eastern side. Corriegarth, Dunmaglass and Aberarder, and to some extent Farr and Glen Kyllachy are seen through side glens of the eastern side of Loch Ness where open views are obtained and from higher ground above the immediate enclosure of the glen. Bhlaraidh is seen through the gap of Glen Moriston, usually from the eastern side of Loch Ness but is prominent from the high ground around the summit of Meall Fuar-mhonaidh. Stronelairg, Dell, and to a less extent Glenshero, are usually perceived within the southern context from high ground on the west of the Great Glen with some minimal intervisibility around Lochs Ruthven and Duntelchaig.
Sensitivity to Additional Change	High	
Nature of Change	Eastern and western clusters of the Proposed Development would be seen generally from the upper western slopes of the Great Glen where tree cover does not limit the extent of views. Turbines would be seen in a context of the Stronelairg and Dell turbines but would add to the appearance of turbines on the southern and eastern skyline when viewed from some areas including the higher slopes and summit of Meall Fuar-mhonaidh, increasing the field of view occupied by turbines. Both eastern and western cluster turbines would be seen to break the skyline from some areas and would increase the occupied field of view, but would add to the appearance of existing similar turbines belonging to Stronelairg and particularly Dell. From slightly lower areas the western cluster would be seen occasionally where tree cover allows, set in a dip in the skyline formed by Glen Brein. This would reflect the pattern of other cumulative sites experienced within and around the Great Glen such as Corriegarth, Dunmaglass and Aberarder. In general, the appearance of the Proposed Development in these scenarios is considered unlikely to alter the appreciation of the landscape within the SLA. However, in key views from some limited areas such as Meall Fuar-mhonaidh, the change would be perceptible which may slightly reduce perceived value of this context to the SLA. From the vast majority of the SLA, no change would be perceptible. *Special Qualities* The addition of the Proposed Development to the cumulative baseline as described above may lead to a small increased effect on some elements contributing the Special Qualities of the SLA. An increased perception of wind turbines in the wider context, affecting the skyline from elevated areas would result in some limited visual effects on views from small parts of the Great Glan Way (see Technical Appendix 7.7, Receptor R4) and the summit of Meall Fuar-mhonaidh (see Technical Appendix 7.7, Viewpoint 3 and Figure 7.9.3.1.1 – 7.9.3.1.3). This would have a small effect on the experience of the SLA from the Great Glen Way, and	

	role of Meall Fuar-mhonaidh as a vantage point, and would lead to an increased interruption of the smooth skyline ridge. These are all identified elements of the Special Quality *'The Dramatic Great Glen'*. However, these relatively limited effects would not affect the appreciation of the drama of the Great Glen and would therefore not lead to a significant effect on the Special Quality.
Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Low
Cumulative Landscape Effect	**Minor** (not significant) The integrity of the SLA would not be affected.