

| No. | Task | Authority (see abbreviations below) | Scoping Opinion Ref. | ES Reference | Comments |
|-----|--|---|----------------------------|---|---|
| 1 | The following to be taken into account: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * The second National Planning Framework for Scotland * Scottish Planning Policy * PAN 42 Archaeology - Planning Process and Scheduled Monument Procedures * PAN 45 2002 Renewable Energy Technologies * PAN 50 Controlling the Environmental Effects of Surface Mineral Workings * PAN 51 Planning Environmental Protection and Regulation * PAN 60 Planning for Natural Heritage * PAN 62 Radio Telecommunications * PAN 68 Design Statements * PAN 69 Planning and Building Standards Advice on Flooding * PAN 75 Planning for Transport * PAN 79 Water and Drainage * PAN 1/2011 Planning and Noise * PAN 1/2013 Environmental Impact Assessment * PAN 3/2010 Community Engagement * Development in the Countryside and Green Belts: SDD circular 24/1985 * The Habitats Directive (as revised) * Scottish Government Interim Guidance on European Protected Species, Development Sites and the Planning System * Highland Structure Plan March 2001 * Highland-wide Local Development Plan (April 2012) * Sutherland Local Plan (June 2010, as continued in force April 2012) * Highland Renewable Energy Strategy 2006 * HC's Supplementary Guidance - Onshore Wind Energy 2011 | SG | SO pg 5 | Chapter 5: Planning Policy Context and Planning Statement | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning Policy is considered throughout the ES and is referred to in each specialist chapter where relevant. • Included in Chapter 5, Planning Policy Context. • A Planning Supporting Statement has also been issued with the application. <p><i>It is noted that since ECDU issued the Scoping Opinion, the National Planning Framework for Scotland and Scottish Planning Policy have since been updated (June 2014). These documents have been taken into consideration in the ES.</i></p> |
| 2 | Wind farms can impact on aviation, weather and radar stations and thus affect operational safety. Developer encouraged to engage with NATS (NATS En Route Plc (NERL)), BAA, CAA, MOD (Defence Estates), etc on aviation issues at early stage. | SG | SO pg 5 - 6 | Chapter 15: Other Issues | |
| 3 | Wind Energy Team at Defence Estates - will assess the proposal for the MOD. Some of the main concerns the MOD has are interference with Air Defence Radar and Air Traffic Control Radar, and the creation of obstacles in Low Flying Areas. Aviation safety lighting should be considered through consultation with the aviation authorities and the planning authority. The pre-planning consultation form found at http://www.bwea.com/aviation/proforma.html should be completed and emailed to Defence Estates at DIO-Safeguarding-Wind@mod.uk | SG | SO pg 7 | | <i>N.B. The MOD Wind Farm Application Form was updated in February 2014.</i> |
| 4 | Civil Aviation Authority Directorate of Airspace Policy (DAP) - is the civil aviation regulatory focal point for all wind farm proposals. DAP seeks to work with developer at earliest stages to establish potential aviation issues associated with wind turbine proposals. Generic CAA policy and guidance on wind turbines is set out within 'Civil Air Publication 764'. | SG | SO pg 7 | | |
| 5 | CAA - developers should demonstrate that a solution to potential aviation issues is either agreed or well advanced prior to submission of the application. | SG | SO pg 7 | | |
| 6 | The applicant should include relevant economic information connected with the project, including the potential number of jobs, and economic activity associated with the procurement, construction, operation and decommissioning of the development. | SG | SO pg 7 | Chapter 14: Socio-economics and Tourism. | |
| 7 | The ES should be submitted in a user-friendly PDF format which can be placed on the Scottish Government website. High resolution and low resolution PDFs should be provided. | SG | SO pg 8 | | This has been done. |
| 8 | It is considered good practice to set out within the ES the qualifications and experience of all those involved in collating, assessing or presenting technical information. | SG | SO pg 8 | Chapter 1: Introduction. Technical Appendices. | |
| 9 | The non-technical summary should be written in simple terms and describe the various options for the proposal and mitigation measures against the potential adverse impacts. | SG | SO pg 8 | Volume 1; Non Technical Summary | |
| 10 | Site selection/alternatives should demonstrate that a fairly wide set of environmental and economic parameters have been used to narrow down choice of sites. There should be detailed examination of these parameters to minimise impact of the proposal by sensitive design and layout. Wind potential and access to grid, environmental constraints should be included in initial site selection process. Architecture+Design Scotland (A+DS) suggest proposed location should consider wind, access to the grid and character of landscape. | SG; A+DS | SO pg 8 | Chapter 3: Design Evolution, Site Selection and Consideration of Alternatives and Appendix 3.1: Design Statement. | |
| 11 | Description of the proposed development to include information on site boundary, design layout and scale of development. | SG | SO pg 9 | Chapter 4: Description of Development. | |
| 12 | Assessment of environmental effects should include: (a) A description of the physical characteristics of the whole development and the land use requirements during construction, operation, decommissioning and restoration; (b) A description of the main characteristics of the production processes and the nature and quality of the materials used; and (c) An estimate by type and quantity of expected residues and emissions resulting from the operation. | SG | SO pg 9 | Chapters 7 to 15. | Environmental effects of the Development (see Chapter 4: Description of Development) have been assessed throughout the ES. |

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| 13 | Applicant should set out alternative access routes considered and the rationale and methods used to select the chosen access routes. Intended use of access routes should be described. Temporary and permanent routes should also be identified. | SG | SO pg 9 | Chapter 12: Traffic and Transport (and supporting appendices). | The same delivery route utilised for the operational Gordonbush Wind Farm is proposed as substantial works were undertaken on the public road network to accommodate abnormal loads. |
| 14 | The application and ES should include a programme of works complete with outline plans and specifications for decommissioning and reinstatement. Information should be provided on the anticipated working life of the development and after-use site reinstatement. | SG | SO pg 10 | Section 4.5, 4.6 and 4.8. See also Appendix 4.1: Draft CEMP. | |
| 15 | The impacts of constructing, installing and operating the following infrastructure components should be considered and assessed if known: substation; cabling (underground); cabling (overhead) monitoring and control centre. | SG | SO pg 10 | Chapters 7 to 15. | Environmental effects of the Development (see Chapter 4: Description of Development) have been assessed throughout the ES. |
| 16 | Baseline assessment and mitigation should include a description of the environmental features of the proposed site, the likely impacts of the scheme on these features and the measures envisaged to prevent, mitigate, and where possible remedy or offset any significant effects on the environment. This should incorporate details of the arrangements and the methodologies to be used in monitoring of such potential impacts, including arrangements for parallel monitoring of control sites, timing and arrangements for reporting the monitoring results. | SG | SO pg 10 | Chapters 7 to 15. | Baseline assessment, mitigation and monitoring have been referred to throughout the ES. |
| 17 | The ES should fully describe the likely significant effects on the environment and any indirect, secondary, cumulative, short, medium and long term, permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects of the development which result from: (a) the existence of the development; (b) the use of natural resources; and (c) the emission of pollutants, the creation of nuisances and the elimination of waste. | SG | SO pg 10 | Chapters 7 to 15. | Environmental effects of the Development (see Chapter 4: Description of Development) have been assessed throughout the ES. |
| 18 | Developers are invited to produce a statement of expected carbon savings over the lifetime of the development. The statement should include an assessment of the carbon emissions associate with track preparation, foundations, steel, and transport; any carbon losses from tree felling (and offsetting by tree planting); and any carbon losses from loss of degradation of peaty soils. | SG | SO pg 11 | Chapter 15: Other Issues and Appendix 15.2: Carbon Calculator. | |
| 19 | Measures to ensure that the development does not lead to significant drying or oxidation of peat through, for example, development of access track and other infrastructure, drainage channels or 'landscaping' of excavated peat should be set out within the ES, on which a detailed peat management scheme can subsequently be designed. | SG | SO pg 11 | Appendix 4.1: Draft CEMP and Appendix 9.3: Peat Management Plan. | |
| 20 | Developers are encouraged to submit full details of the life cycle carbon footprint of the development. | SG | SO pg 11 | Chapter 15: Other Issues and Appendix 15.2: Carbon Calculator | |
| 21 | Layout and design of wind farm - there is a need for a coherent, structured and quality-driven approach to wind farm development. Appearance of the wind farm is of particular interest. Design strategy should explain the design principles behind the layout plan in a rational way that can be easily understood, expressed through a Design Statement. | SG | SO pg 11 | Chapter 3: Site Selection, Design Evolution & Alternatives and Appendix 3.1: Design Statement. | |
| 22 | Assessment of effects on landscape and visual amenity is important. Assessment methodology to follow GLVIA third edition (2013). General guidance on range of issues to be considered in assesemnt also set out in Appendix 1 of Guidelines on the Environmental Impacts of Windfarms and Small Hydroelectric Schemes (SNH 2001). | SG | SO pg 12 | Chapter 7: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment and Appendix 7.1: LVIA Methodology | |
| 23 | Visualisations - to be presented in such a way as to communicate as realistically as possible the actual visual impact of the proposals. Format of images and focal length of lens to be taken into consideration. | SG | SO pg 12 | Chapter 7: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, Volume 3A (Landscape and Visual Wirelines and Photomontages: SNH Methodology) and Volume 3B (Landscape and Visual Wirelines and Photomontages: THC Methodology). | <i>Since issue of the Scoping Opinion, SNH have released new visualisation guidance (Version 2.1, December 2014), which will be followed, along with The Highland Council Visualisation Standards (May 2013 and March 2015).</i> |
| 24 | All visualisations to be accompanied by information on how to view them so that they best replicate what will be seen if proposals built. Should include required viewing distance between eye and image, and wether it is single frame or a composite panoramic image. Desirable to curve edges of composites so that peripheral parts of image are viewed at same intended viewing distance or to 'pan' across the image with eye remaining at recommended viewing distance. | SG | SO pg 12 | | |

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| 25 | Viewpoints from which photographs are taken should be agreed with planning authority and SNH. Horizontal field of view should be shown on a map so that images can be used accurately on site. | SG | SO pg 12 | | Selection of viewpoints were influenced by the ZTV and were discussed and agreed with The Highland Council and SNH. |
| 26 | The ES should include a description of the landscape character of the area and how that character will be affected by the impact on any landscape designated for their landscape or scenic value including National Parks, National Scenic Areas or local landscape designations such as Area of Great Landscape Value or Regional Scenic Area and the impact on any area which is a recognised focus for recreational enjoyment of the countryside - e.g. a Regional or Country Park. | SG | SO pg 12 | Section 7.6 and 7.10 of Chapter 7: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment. | |
| 27 | The ES should contain site-specific information on all aspects of site work that might have an impact upon the environment, containing further preventative action and mitigation to limit impacts. This is to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Fuel transport and storage management; * Concrete production (including if batching plants are proposed and measures to prevent discharges to watercourses); * Stockpile storage; * Storage of weather-sensitive materials at lay-down areas; * Haul routes and access roads (and if temporary or permanent); * Earthworks to provide landscaping; * Mechanical digging of new or existing drainage channels; * Vehicle access over watercourses; * Construction of watercourse crossings and digging of excavations (particularly regarding management of water ingress); * Temporary and long-term welfare arrangements for workers during construction; * Maintenance of vehicles and plant; * Pollution control measures during turbine gearbox oil changes; * Bunding or roofing of transformer areas; and * Use of oil-cooled power cables and related contingency measures. With regard to oil, imperative that there is a contingency plan to deal with large spills that cannot be dealt with at local level. | SG | SO pg 12/13 | Chapter 4: Description of Development, see also Appendix 4.1: Draft CEMP. | |
| 28 | The ES should identify if there are particularly sensitive receptors of pollution (e.g. salmonid rivers, rivers with freshwater pearl mussels etc.). | SG | SO pg 13 | Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation, Appendix 8.3: Assessment of Fish Habitat Report and Appendix 8.4: Freshwater Pearl Mussel Survey Report. | |
| 29 | The ES needs to demonstrate which periods of the year would be best practice for construction for the site taking into account the need to avoid pollution risks and other environmental sensitivities affecting operational timing such as fish spawning and bird nesting. | SG | SO pg 13 | Appendix 4.1: Draft CEMP. | |
| 30 | The impact of the proposed development on public footpaths and rights of way should be clearly indicated. If any re-routing of paths under a Right of Way is required alternative routes should be highlighted for consideration. | SG | SO pg 13 | Chapter 7: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment and Chapter 14: Socio-economics and Tourism. | |
| 31 | The ES should set out mechanisms to ensure that workers on site, including sub-contractors, are aware of environmental risks, and are well controlled in this context and should state whether or not appropriately qualified environmental scientists or ecologists are to be used as Clerk of Works or in other roles during construction to provide specialist advice. Details of emergency procedures to be provided should be identified in the ES. | SG | SO pg 13 | Appendix 4.1: Draft CEMP. | |
| 32 | It is recommended that following consultation, method statements be approved by the planning authority in consultation with SNH prior to commencement of construction. | SG | SO pg 13 | Appendix 4.1: Draft CEMP. | This would be undertaken at the construction phase of works. |
| 33 | All ecological survey methods should conform to best available standard methods for each habitat and species and follow guidance published by SNH where this is available. Where standard methodologies do not exist, developers should propose and agree an appropriate methodology with SNH specialist advisers. | SG | SO pg 14 | Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation and Chapter 10: Ornithology. | |
| 34 | The ES should address the likely impacts on the nature conservation interests of all the designated sites in the vicinity of the proposed development and provide mitigation proposals. | SG | SO pg 14 | Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation and Chapter 10: Ornithology. | |
| 35 | The potential impact of the proposal on other designated areas such as NSA, LSA, SSSI or Regional/National Park should be carefully and thoroughly considered and appropriate mitigation measures outlined in the ES. | SG | SO pg 14 | Chapter 7: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation and Chapter 9: Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology. | |
| 36 | Early consultation and agreement with SNH, the relevant planning authority and other stakeholders is imperative. | SG | SO pg 14 | Chapter 6: Scoping and Consultation. | |

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| 37 | For developments with a potential to affect Natura sites applicants must provide in the ES sufficient information to make clear how the tests in the Habitats Regulations will be met as described in the June 2000 Scottish Government guidance. | SG | SO pg 14 | Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation and Chapter 10: Ornithology. | There would be no potential impacts on Natura sites as a result of the Development. |
| 38 | Ecology surveys should be carried out at appropriate times or periods of the year by appropriately qualified and experienced personnel, and the suitability of the timing needs to be considered within the ES. | SG | SO pg 15 | Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation. | |
| 39 | The ES should provide a comprehensive account of habitats present on the development site, identify rare or threatened habitats and those protected by European or UK legislation or identified in national or local BAPs. | SG | SO pg 15 | Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation. | |
| 40 | Habitat enhancement and mitigation measures should be detailed particularly in respect to blanket bog, in context of both biodiversity conservation and risk of peat slide. Details of habitat enhancement should be provided. | SG | SO pg 15 | Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation, Appendix 4.1: Draft CEMP and Appendix 9.1: Peat Landslide Hazard & Risk. | |
| 41 | It is expected that the ES address whether or not the development could assist or impede delivery of elements of relevant BAPs. | SG | SO pg 15 | Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation | |
| 42 | The ES should demonstrate that turbine locations have been determined on the basis of habitats on site, especially with regard to any deep peat and intact hydrological units of mire vegetation. ES should demonstrate that access roads have been located to minimise impact on vegetation communities, peat habitat and peat depth. | SG; SEPA | SO pg 15 | Chapter 3: Design Evolution, Site Selection and Consideration of Alternatives, see also Appendix 3.1: Design Statement. | |
| 43 | Measures to avoid pH impact on peatland from use of cement/concrete should be set out. | SG | SO pg 16 | Appendix 4.1: Draft CEMP. | |
| 44 | SNH and RSPB may wish to see a Habitat Management Plan for the area of the scheme and any area managed in mitigation or compensation. A commitment to maintain and/or enhance the biodiversity of the overall area is expected. | SG | SO pg 16 | Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation and Chapter 10: Ornithology. | |
| 45 | Monitoring of any specific potential impacts of the development and of the outcome of any habitat management measures should form part of the ES proposals. | SG | SO pg 16 | Appendix 4.1: Draft CEMP. | |
| 46 | The ES should outline provisions made regarding public access, clarifying the extent of any restrictions proposed during construction and operation and any new facilities to be provided. | SG | SO pg 16 | Chapter 4: Description of Development. | In accordance with the Land Reform Act 2003, chapter 2 section 6(1) (g), general public access rights are removed throughout the construction working area for health and safety reasons |
| 47 | Relevant wildlife legislation and guidance is: * The Habitats Directive; * The Birds Directive; * The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981; * The Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004; * The Protection of Badgers Act 1992; * The 1994 Conservation Regulations; * Scottish Government Interim Guidance on European Protected Species, Development Sites and the Planning System; and * Scottish Biodiversity Strategy and associated Implementation Plans. | SG | SO pg 16 | Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation and Chapter 10: Ornithology. | |
| 48 | Applicants must give serious consideration to/recognition of meeting the three fundamental tests set out in Scottish Government Interim Guidance. | SG | SO pg 16 | Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation. | |
| 49 | Before the application is considered for consent, it must be established which species are present on site. Presence of protected species such as Schedule 1 Birds, European Protected Species and species on schedules 5 and 8 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 should be considered as part of the application process. | SG | SO pg 16 | Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation and Chapter 10: Ornithology. | |
| 50 | A baseline survey of plants present on the site should be undertaken and field and existing data on the location of plants should be used to determine presence of rare or threatened species of vascular and non-vascular plants and fungi. | SG | SO pg 17 | Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation. | |
| 51 | ES should provide an assessment of impacts of the wind farm on birds. Assessment should follow guidance on the SNH website. | SG | SO pg 17 | Chapter 10: Ornithology. | |
| 52 | A baseline survey of the species and number of birds present on the site throughout the year should be undertaken with particular attention to specially protected and/or vulnerable species. All ornithological survey work should confirm to SNH guidance. | SG | SO pg 17 | Chapter 10: Ornithology. | |
| 53 | Survey work should include assessments of flight lines of breeding birds and birds whose migrations or other seasonal distributions traverse or are in close proximity to the site. | SG | SO pg 17 | Chapter 10: Ornithology. | |
| 54 | Collision risk analyses will be necessary for species which regularly pass through the site at any time of year. The analysis should follow the principles set out in the SNH guidance. | SG | So pg 17 | Chapter 10: Ornithology and Appendix 10.1: Collision Risk Calculations. | |

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| 55 | A confidential annex may be required to provide information on location or other environmentally sensitive information related to specially protected species. The annex should not include information that is not confidential or if it does this should be contained elsewhere in the ES. | SG | SO pg 17 | | A Confidential Annex is not required. |
| 56 | Baseline survey of species and numbers of mammals present on site to be undertaken. | SG | SO pg 17 | Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation and Appendix 8.2a and 2b: Faunal Survey Reports. | |
| 57 | Baseline assessment of numbers and species of reptiles and amphibians to be undertaken. | SG | SO pg 17 | Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation and Appendix 8.2a and 2b: Faunal Survey Reports. | |
| 58 | Baseline survey to be carried out to demonstrate the species and abundance of fish present in still and running waterbodies on and around the site throughout the year. This should extend to watercourses which may be affected by run-off from the site during construction, operation or decommissioning. | SG | SO pg 18 | Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation and Appendix 8.3: Assessment of Fish Habitat Report. | |
| 59 | The developer should ensure that the implications of changing water quality, quantity, channel morphology and habitat continuity are addressed specifically with reference to potential impacts on fish and that mitigation addresses these issues. | SG | SO pg 18 | Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation, Appendix 8.3: Assessment of Fish Habitat Report and Chapter 9: Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology. | |
| 60 | Where a development has the potential to impact on local fish populations the developer will be asked to develop an integrated fish and water quality monitoring programme with baseline, development and post-development sampling. Details of proposed monitoring to be included. | SG | SO pg 18 | Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation, Appendix 4.1: Draft CEMP. | |
| 61 | Developers are encouraged to submit fish information in a collective document or with the relevant cross references to other areas of the ES (i.e. hydrology, hydro-geology, water quality, hydro-morphology). | SG | SO pg 18 | Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation and Appendix 8.3: Assessment of Fish Habitat Report. | |
| 62 | Baseline survey of invertebrates present on site and in waterbodies and watercourses on and around the site throughout the year to be undertaken. To be guided by existing information on the presence, distribution and abundance of notable invertebrates. Sampling to extend to watercourses which may be affected by run-off during construction, operation or decommissioning. | SG | SO pg 18 | Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation and Appendix 8.4: Freshwater Pearl Mussel Survey. | |
| 63 | SEPA Pollution Prevention Guidelines: PPG 6 Working at Construction and Demolition Sites, PPG5 Works in, near or liable to affect Watercourses, PPG2 Above ground storage tanks, and others to be referred to. Specific principles contained within PPGs to be incorporated in mitigation measures rather than general reference to adherence required. | SG | SO pg 19 | Appendix 4.1: Draft CEMP and Chapter 9: Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology. | |
| 64 | Prevention and clean-up measures to be considered for construction, operation and decommission stages. | SG | SO pg 19 | Appendix 4.1: Draft CEMP. | |
| 65 | Consult with the local District Salmon Fishery Board and Fishery Trust with regard to impacts on fish and fisheries. | SG | SO pg 19 | Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation | Association of the Salmon Fishery Board were contacted but no response was received. |
| 66 | ES to identify location of and protective/mitigation measures in relation to all private water supplies within the catchments impacted by the scheme. | SG | SO pg 20 | Chapter 9: Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology. | |
| 67 | Detailed statements of the nature of the hydrology and hydrogeology of the site and of potential effects on these to be provided. | SG | SO pg 20 | Chapter 9: Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology. | |
| 68 | Assessment to include statements on the effects of the proposed development at all stages on hydrology, water courses, water quality and quantity and flood risk. | SG | SO pg 20 | Section 9.7 and 9.9 of Chapter 9: Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology. | |
| 69 | ES should give consideration to effects of run-off, high flow in water courses and other hydrological and hydrogeological matters. | SG | SO pg 20 | Chapter 9: Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology. | |
| 70 | Hydrological baseline should include long term average monthly rainfall figures. | SG | SO pg 20 | Chapter 9: Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology. | |
| 71 | Where the project requires significant watercourse engineering works the following information should be included in the ES for at least a typical watercourse within the development area: * Flood flow statistics - the flows for the Mean Annual Flood, 1:100 and 1: 200 year return period; * From a flow duration curve, the mean daily flow and Q95 flow; and * Methods used to calculate these; if non-standard methods are used, these should be described in detail with rationale for use. | SG | SO pg 20/21 | Chapter 9: Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology | No new watercourses are required. |

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| 72 | Impacts on watercourses, lochs, groundwater, other water features and sensitive receptors such as water supplies to be assessed. | SG | SO pg 21 | Section 9.7 of Chapter 9: Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology. | |
| 73 | Measures to prevent erosion, sedimentation or discolouration will be required along with monitoring proposals and contingency plans. | SG | SO pg 21 | Appendix 4.1: Draft CEMP and Section 9.8 of Chapter 9: Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology. | |
| 74 | If culverting is to be proposed, either in relation to new or upgraded tracks, then it should be noted that SEPA has a policy against unnecessary culverting of watercourses. Schemes should be designed to avoid by preference crossing watercourses, and to bridge watercourses which cannot be avoided. Culverting is the least desirable option. | SG | SO pg 21 | Chapter 9: Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology | No new watercourse crossings would be required. |
| 75 | ES should identify all water crossings and include a systematic table of watercourse crossings or channelising with detailed justification for any such elements and design to minimise impact. The table should be accompanied by photography of each watercourse affected and include dimensions of the watercourse. It may be useful for the applicant to demonstrate choice of watercourse crossing by means of a decision tree, taking into account factors including catchment size (resultant flows), natural habitat and environmental concerns. | SG | SO pg 21 | | No new watercourse crossings would be required. |
| 76 | Measures to avoid erosion of the hillside associated with discharge from road culverting need to be set out in the ES. | SG | SO pg 21 | | No road culverting would be required. |
| 77 | The need for and information on abstractions of water supplies for concrete works or other operations should be identified in the ES. | SG | SO pg 22 | Chapter 4: Description of Development and Chapter 9: Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology. See also Appendix 4.1: Draft CEMP. | Abstraction of water for construction activities from a suitable source is proposed to be identified during the detailed design stage. |
| 78 | The ES should describe likely significant effects of the development on geology and soils including direct, indirect, secondary, cumulative, short medium and long term, permanent and temporary, positive and negative * The existence of the development; * The use of natural resources (including borrow pits, the need for which and impact of which, should be appraised as part of the overall impact of the scheme); and * The emission of pollutants, the creation of nuisances and the elimination of waste. | SG | SO pg 23 | Chapter 9: Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology | |
| 79 | ES should identify intended source of rock or fill material to be used for tracks or foundations and should describe the environmental impacts associated with any new quarries or borrow pits or road or track cuttings. | SG | SO pg 23 | Chapter 4: Description of Development and Appendix 9.4: Borrow Pit Assessment. | |
| 80 | Development should include construction practices to minimise the use of raw materials and maximise the use of secondary aggregates and recycled or renewable materials. See www.aggregain.org.uk | SG / SEPA | SO pg 23 | Chapter 4: Description of Development. | |
| 81 | Where borrow pits are proposed the ES should include information regarding the location, size and nature of these including information on the depth of the borrow pit floor and the borrow pit final reinstated profile. | SG | SO pg 23 | Chapter 4: Description of Development and Appendix 9.4: Borrow Pit Assessment. | |
| 82 | Information on borrow pits to be submitted should include, proposed depth of the excavation compared to actual topography, proposed restoration profile, proposed drainage and settlement traps, turf and overburden removal and storage for reinstatement. | SG | SO pg 23 | Appendix 9.4: Borrow Pit Assessment and Appendix 4.1: Draft CEMP. | |
| 83 | If the development is to take place on peatland habitats, the ES should include a comprehensive peat slide risk assessment. | SG | SO pg 23 | Appendix 9.1: Peat Landslide and Hazard Risk Assessment. | |
| 84 | Peat slide risk should also address pollution risks and environmental sensitivities of the water environment. Peat depth mapping and outline construction method statements for engineering works in peat areas (including particular reference to drainage impacts, dewatering and disposal of excavated peat) to be included in ES. | SG | SO pg 23 | Chapter 9: Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology and Appendix 9.1: Peat Landslide and Hazard Risk Assessment. | |
| 85 | The ES should indicate proposed areas of woodland removal to accommodate the scheme components and infrastructure such as roads. Details of the area to be cleared along with evidence to support the proposed scale and sequence of felling. | SG | SO pg 24 | | No felling anticipated. |
| 86 | The ES should detail any trees or woodland areas likely to be indirectly affected by the proposed development (e.g. through changes in hydrology, loss of neighbouring plantation etc.) and provide full detail of alternatives and/or protection and mitigation measures. | SG | SO pg 24 | | No felling anticipated. |
| 87 | The ES should consider any impacts of forestry activities on wildlife and on the soil and water environment, with particular attention paid to ground disturbance, sedimentation, acidification and nutrient leaching. Refer to the Forests and Water Guidelines (4th edition, 2004) in proposing forestry activity and mitigation. | SG | SO pg 24 | | No felling anticipated. |
| 88 | If timber is to be disposed of on site details of the methodology should be submitted. Areas of retained woodland or trees to be clearly indicated and methods for their protection during construction clearly described. | SG | SO pg 24 | | No felling anticipated. |

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| 89 | If areas of woodland are to be felled but then replanted shortly afterwards (typically within about 5 years) this should be indicated in the ES and details of replanting plan provided. | SG | SO pg 24 | | No felling anticipated. |
| 90 | The Scottish Biodiversity Strategy contains targets for priority habitats and species, and the management of whole landscapes for biodiversity. This implies that the developer should be obliged to carry out an assessment of the implications of the proposals on biodiversity, both generally and specifically on priority habitats and species. Also implies developer should assess impacts on soils, water and air resources, and potential loss of woodland with regard to climate change. | SG | SO pg 25/26 | Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation and Chapter 9: Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology. | |
| 91 | The ES should address the predicted impacts on the historic environment and describe the mitigation proposed to avoid or reduce impacts to a level where they are not significant. Historic environment issues should be taken into consideration from the start of the site selection process and as part of the alternatives considered. | SG | SO pg 28 | Chapter 11: Cultural Heritage and Appendix 3.1: Design Statement. | |
| 92 | Both direct impacts on the historic resource and indirect impacts on its setting should be addressed in the EIA. | SG | SO pg 29 | Chapter 11: Cultural Heritage. | |
| 93 | HS recommends that a suitably qualified archaeological/historic environment consultant should be engaged to advise on, and undertake detailed assessment of impacts on the historic environment and advise on mitigation. | SG | SO pg 29 | Chapter 11: Cultural Heritage. | |
| 94 | Potential requirement for waste management licences or licensing exemptions in relation to waste disposed to or from borrow pits should be discussed at an early stage with SEPA. | SG | SO pg 29 | Appendix 4.1: Draft CEMP. | |
| 95 | The ES should identify all of the waste streams (such as peat and other materials excavated) associated with the works. It should demonstrate how the development can minimise use of raw materials and maximise use of secondary aggregates/recycled/renewable materials and how waste material generated is to be reduced, reused or recycled where appropriate (e.g. not resulting in excessive earth moulding or mounding). | SG | SO pg 29 | Chapter 4: Description of Development and Appendix 4.1: Draft CEMP. | |
| 96 | The ES should give consideration to a full site specific Site Waste Management Plan (SWMP). The SWMP should detail measures for managing and minimising waste produced during construction. | SG; SEPA | SO pg 30 | Appendix 4.1: Draft CEMP. | |
| 97 | British Telecom will offer advice regarding EMC and related problems, BT point to point microwave links and satellites. Any interference to BT's current and planned radio networks should be enclosed. | SG | SO pg 30 | Chapter 15: Other Issues. | |
| 98 | Ofcom will comment only in respect of microwave fixed links. | SG | SO pg 31 | Chapter 15: Other Issues. | |
| 99 | Noise predictions should be carried out to evaluate likely impacts of airborne noise from construction activities including blasting or piling which may affect local residents during construction, operation and decommissioning. Advice to be sought from Council Planning and/or Environmental Health departments. | SG | SO pg 31 | Chapter 13: Noise and Vibration and Appendix 13.1: Environmental Assessment Noise and Vibration. | |
| 100 | Information on the impact of shadow flicker on the local community should be included within the ES. | SG | SO pg 31 | Chapter 15: Other Issues. | |
| 101 | ES to include information relating to preferred route options for delivering materials via the trunk road network. | SG | SO pg 31 | Chapter 12: Access, Traffic and Transport. | The same delivery route utilised for the operational Gordonbush Wind Farm is proposed as substantial works were undertaken on the public road network to accommodate abnormal loads. |
| 102 | EIA should address access issues, particularly those impacting on the trunk road network. In particular potential stress points at junctions, approach roads, borrow pits, bridges, site compound and batching areas etc. | SG | SO pg 30/31 | Chapter 12: Access, Traffic and Transport, Appendix 12.1: Abnormal Load Route Survey Report and Appendix 12.2: Abnormal Load Route Survey Supplementary Report. | |
| 103 | Where transport impacts have been investigated but found to be of little or no significance it is sufficient to state in the report that the work has been undertaken, the impacts identified and why it is not significant. | SG | SO pg 32 | Chapter 12: Access, Traffic and Transport. | |
| 104 | Where the development may have cumulative impacts with other existing approved or current wind farm applications assessment should include consideration of cumulative effects. A cumulative assessment should include other existing and consented but yet to be constructed wind farms and any wind farms which are the subject of undetermined consent applications. | SG | SO pg 32 | Chapters 7 to 15. | This has been dealt with in individual chapters where necessary. |
| 105 | In the application for consent the applicant should confirm whether any proposals made within the ES - e.g. for construction methods, mitigation or decommissioning - form part of the application for consent. | SG | SO pg 32 | Application | |

| No. | Task | Authority (see abbreviations below) | Scoping Opinion Ref. | ES Reference | Comments |
|-----|--|--|----------------------|--|--|
| 106 | ES should be submitted in user-friendly Pdf format, and issued directly to all consultees. An up-to-date consultee list can be obtained from the Energy Consents and Deployment Unit. The Energy Consents and Deployment Unit also requires 1 hard copy and 2 CDs. | SG | SO pg 33 | | This has been done. |
| 107 | At application stage the developer should submit a detailed Ordnance Survey plan showing the site boundary and all turbines, anemometer masts, access tracks and supporting infrastructure in a format compatible with the Scottish Government's Spatial Data Management Environment (SDME), along with appropriate metadata. | SG | SO pg 33 | Figure 4.2: Site Layout | |
| 108 | A pre-scoping meeting was held with the applicant and THC when design elements such as landscape and visual impacts including cumulative impacts were discussed. | HC | SO pg 38 | | |
| 109 | Future applications need to take into account mitigation agreed as part of the original Gordonbush Wind Farm, in relation to issues such as land management, deer culling, ornithological works and highlight how, if relevant, they can be extended. | HC | SO pg 38 | Chapter 4: Description of Development and Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation | |
| 110 | A statement which outlines the main development alternatives studied by the applicant should be submitted with the application. | HC | SO pg 38 | Chapter 3: Site Selection, Design Evolution & Alternatives and Appendix 3.1: Design Statement. | |
| 111 | The ES must provide a description of the aspects of the environment likely to be significantly affected by the development. | HC | SO pg 38 | | Environmental effects of the Development (see Chapter 4: Description of Development) have been assessed throughout the ES. |
| 112 | The ES should present a clear summary table of all mitigation measures associated with the development proposal. This table should be entitled draft Scheme of Mitigation. | HC | SO pg 38 | Appendix 4.3: Schedule of Mitigation. | |
| 113 | Specific issues expected to be covered in the ES include recognising the existing land uses affected by the Development, having particular regard for the Highland Council's Development Plan and other supplementary planning policies. | | | Chapter 5: Planning Policy Context and Chapter 14: Socio-Economics and Tourism. | |
| 114 | Include relevant economic information connected with the project, including the potential number of jobs and economic activity associated with the procurement, construction, operation and decommissioning of the development. | HC | SO pg 39 | Chapter 14: Socio-economics and Tourism. | |
| 115 | SSE have produced and published an economic impact statement associated with the initial project; this should be used as a basis for future predicted impact. | HC | SO pg 39 | Appendix 14.1: Gordonbush Wind Farm Case Study | |
| 116 | Recognise community assets that are currently in operation such as road network, footpaths, TV etc. It is expected that mitigation will be offered in respect of these matters. The new track(s) for the extension could create a circular route back to the main access track for the existing wind farm, enhancing the access resource provided by the proposed development. | HC | SO pg 39 | Chapter 14: Socio-economics and Tourism. | |
| 117 | The selection of viewpoints must be discussed with the Highland Council in consultation with Scottish Natural Heritage. | HC | SO pg 39 | Chapter 7: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment. | Selection of viewpoints were influenced by the ZTV and were discussed and agreed with The Highland Council and SNH. |
| 118 | The Council has photography Standards, available on the Council website, which the applicant will be expected to adopt when presenting information on the expected visual impact of the development. | HC | SO pg 39 | Volume 3A: Landscape and Visual Wirelines and Photomontages: SNH Methodology and Volume 3B: Landscape and Visual Wirelines and Photomontages: THC Methodology. | Visualisations have been prepared to both The Highland Council and SNH visualisation standards. |
| 119 | There will be expectation that many of the viewpoints used in the initial wind farm will form the basis of further visualisations; however, there will need to be a review of the proposed ZVI and other recent application in this locality. | HC | SO pg 40 | Chapter 7: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment | Selection of viewpoints were influenced by the ZTV and were discussed and agreed with The Highland Council and SNH. |
| 120 | The development will further extend the number of proposals of this type in the surrounding area, necessitating appropriate cumulative impact, which should feature in the final ES. This subject will be a significant material consideration in the final determination of any future application. | HC | SO pg 40 | Chapters 7 to 15. | Cumulative effects of the Development have been dealt with in individual chapters where necessary. |
| 121 | A Transport Assessment should be submitted as part of the planning application detailing proposed routes and volumes for all construction related traffic, potential impacts of this traffic on local transport infrastructure and measure to mitigate these impacts. | HC | SO pg 40 | Chapter 12: Traffic and Transport, Appendix 12.1: Abnormal Route Survey and Appendix 12.2: Abnormal Load Route Survey Supplementary Report. | |

| No. | Task | Authority (see abbreviations below) | Scoping Opinion Ref. | ES Reference | Comments |
|-----|--|--|----------------------|---|--|
| 122 | The extent and details of all road improvement and strengthening works shall be agreed with TEC Services. All improvements to the public road shall be completed prior to wind farm construction commencing, other than where agreed with TEC Services. | HC | SO pg 40 | Appendix 12.1: Abnormal Load Route Survey Report and Appendix 12.2: Abnormal Load Route Survey Supplementary Report. | |
| 123 | An assessment of the capacity of existing bridges and other structures along the construction access route(s) to cater for all construction traffic will be required. Approval of this assessment by TEC Services is required prior to commencement of construction. | HC | SO pg 40 | | |
| 124 | All works on the public road will require approval through either a Road Construction Consent, or permits under section 56 of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984, together with any necessary structural approvals. | HC | SO pg 40 | | This would be agreed prior to the construction phase of works. |
| 125 | Once any work necessary to accommodate abnormal vehicles has been carried out, a trial run is required to confirm ability of local road network to cater for turbine delivery. HC requires 3 weeks notice of trial to allow opportunity to attend. | HC | SO pg 40 | | This would be agreed prior to the construction phase of works. |
| 126 | A Wear and Tear agreement in accordance with Section 96 of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 will be required. As part of this agreement, pre-start and post construction surveys will need to be carried out by the applicant to the satisfaction of TEC Services. Ongoing monitoring and inspection of | HC | SO pg 40 | | This would be agreed prior to the construction phase of works. |
| 127 | Likely impacts on the nature conservation interests of all designated sites in the vicinity of the proposed development should be assessed and any mitigation required to avoid these impacts or to reduced them to a level where they are not significant. | HC | SO pg 41 | Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation. | |
| 128 | Identify rare and threatened habitats and those protected by European or UK legislation, or identified in national and local Biodiversity Action Plans. Habitat mitigation and enhancement should be detailed in the contexts of both biodiversity conservation and the inherent risk of peat slide. | HC | SO pg 41 | Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation, Chapter 10: Ornithology and Appendix 9.1: Peat Landslide and Hazard Risk Assessment | |
| 129 | Include likely significant effects of the development on the local geology including aspects such as borrow pits, earthworks, site restoration and the soil generally including direct effects and any indirect. | HC | SO pg 41 | Chapter 9: Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology and Appendix 4.1: Draft CEMP. | |
| 130 | If the proposed development is to take place on peatland habitats, the ES must consider the risks of engineering instability relating to presence to peat on the site as well as issues to carbon balance. | HC | SO pg 41 | Chapter 9: Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology, Appendix 9.1: Peat Landslide and Hazard Risk Assessment and Chapter 15: Other Issues. | |
| 131 | The ES should address the nature of the hydrology and hydrogeology of the site and of the potential impacts on water courses, private supplies and aquatic interests within the local watercourses. The assessment should then lead on to appropriate mitigation. | HC | SO pg 41 | Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation and Chapter 9: Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology. | |
| 132 | Identify any private water supplies which may be adversely affected by the development and submit details of the measures proposed to prevent contamination or physical disruption. | HC | SO pg 41 | Chapter 9: Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology. | |
| 133 | Address the existing air quality and the general qualities of the local environment including background noise, sunlight, prevailing wind and all relevant climatic factors. Any affected properties should clearly indicate whether or not there is any financial involvement. | HC | SO pg 41 | Chapter 13: Noise and Vibration Chapter 15: Other Issues. | |
| 134 | The applicant will be required to submit a noise assessment with regard to the operational phase of the development in accordance with ETSU-R-97. This assessment must take into account the potential cumulative effect from any other existing, consented or proposed wind turbine developments and also any consented levels from such developments as well as predicted. | HC | SO pg 41/42 | Chapter 13: Noise and Vibration. | |
| 135 | The applicant will be required to undertake an assessment of the impact of noise from the construction phase including construction traffic in accordance with BS 5228-1:2009. It is expected that the applicant will employ the best practicable means to reduce the impact of noise from construction activities and detail any mitigation measures if required. | HC | SO pg 42 | Chapter 13: Noise and Vibration. | |
| 136 | The Council has received complaints regarding dust generated during the construction of the existing wind farm and subsequently from forestry traffic using the access road. The applicant will be required to submit details of a scheme for suppression of dust arising from construction work and traffic. | HC | SO pg 42 | Appendix 4.1: CEMP and Appendix 4.2: Lessons Learnt from Gordonbush Wind Farm. | |
| 137 | The proposed extension area has already a level of archaeological survey in part as part of the work supporting the existing Gordonbush Wind Farm. However, this work was undertaken some time ago and will require updating. | HC | SO pg 42 | Chapter 11: Cultural Heritage. | |

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|-----|--|---|----------------------------|---|--|
| 138 | A thorough desk-based analysis to include a synthesis of all previous work undertaken and a fresh walkover survey of the area (to include associated infrastructure, borrow pits, compounds) will need to be included in the ES. This must seek to identify all designated heritage/cultural sites which may be affected by the development either directly or indirectly. | HC | SO pg 42 | Chapter 11: Cultural Heritage. | |
| 139 | The Cultural Heritage chapter of the ES will need to be undertaken by a professional and competent historic environment consultant. | HC | SO pg 42 | Chapter 11: Cultural Heritage. | |
| 140 | The Cultural Heritage ES chapter will need to follow Highland Council Standards for Archaeological Work, specifically Sections 3 and 4. | HC | SO pg 42 | Chapter 11: Cultural Heritage. | |
| 141 | The assessment should consider the potential direct and indirect impacts of the development to cultural heritage. The indirect assessment will need to include a study of cumulative impacts. Where indirect impacts are noted, these should be illustrated by photomontages. | HC | SO pg 43 | Chapter 11: Cultural Heritage and Archaeology and Figures 11.3.1 - 11.4.1.2. | |
| 142 | Mitigation to off-set any predicted impact, including re-design and where appropriate compensatory measures will need to be clearly set out as part of the assessment. | HC | SO pg 43 | Section 11.8 of Chapter 11: Cultural Heritage and Appendix 3.1: Design Statement. | |
| 143 | Leading from the assessment of the environmental elements, the ES needs to describe the likely significant effects of the development on the environment, which should cover the direct, indirect, secondary, cumulative, short, medium and long term, permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects of the development. | HC | SO pg 43 | | Environmental effects of the Development (see Chapter 4: Description of Development) have been assessed throughout the ES. |
| 144 | The effects of the development upon baseline data should be provided in clear summary points. The Council requests that when measuring the positive and negative effects of the development, a four point scale is used advising any effect to be strong positive, positive, negative or strong negative. | HC | SO pg 43 | | Environmental effects of the Development (see Chapter 4: Description of Development) have been assessed throughout the ES. |
| 145 | Following the pre-scoping site visit, SEPA consider the most significant issues will be avoiding areas of deep peat and minimising impacts on groundwater dependent terrestrial ecosystems. | SEPA | SO pg 43 | Appendix 3.1: Design Statement. | |
| 146 | Recommend ES includes a section specifically addressing carbon balance (in line with SPP and government guidance) over life of the project, and includes all elements of the proposal, including borrow pits, roads/tracks, other infrastructure and loss of peat bog. Refer to Scottish government guidance: Calculating Carbon Savings from Windfarms on Scottish Peatlands - A New Approach. | SEPA | SO pg 43 | Appendix 15.2: Carbon Calculator. | |
| 147 | SEPA confirm that the National Vegetation Classification information submitted with the Scoping Report, collected to date is of suitable quality. | SEPA | SO pg 44 | | |
| 148 | The layout of the scheme should avoid impacts on highly groundwater dependent terrestrial ecosystems (M6c) and minimise impacts on those generally considered moderate dependent (M15b and U6). | SEPA | SO pg 44 | Chapter 3: Design Evolution, Site Selection and Consideration of Alternatives and Appendix 3.1: Design Statement. | |
| 149 | A map should be provided with all the proposed infrastructure overlain on the vegetation maps to clearly show how important habitats have been avoided and where impacts are likely. | SEPA | SO pg 44 | Figure 8.7: 2013 Phase 1 Habitat Survey of Development Site and Figures 8.8a and 8.8b: 2013 NVC survey of Development Site. | |
| 150 | Generally the route of roads, tracks and trenches within 100m of GWDTEs should be reconsidered. The locations of borrow pits or foundations within 250m of such ecosystems should be reconsidered. If infrastructure cannot be relocated, an assessment of the impacts should be carried out and necessary mitigation should be included in the ES. | SEPA | SO pg 44 | Chapter 3: Design Evolution, Site Selection and Consideration of Alternatives and Appendix 3.1: Design Statement. | <i>SEPA guidance on the impacts of GWDTE was updated in October 2014 which was used for this assessment.</i> |
| 151 | The Scoping report suggests that M15b may not be 'particularly groundwater dependent on site'; the ES should provide further justification for this statement. Even if the habitat is only partially groundwater dependent, information should be provided to explain what effect the development could have on this flow. | SEPA | SO pg 44 | Chapter 9: Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology, Appendix 9.2: Groundwater Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystems Technical Report and Appendix 3.1: Design Statement. | |
| 152 | In areas where avoidance is demonstrated to be impossible, details of how impacts on GWDTEs are minimised and mitigated should be provided within the ES. Impacts to be considered include from drainage, pollution and waste management, as well as preventative/mitigation measures to avoid significant drying or oxidation of peat through construction practices. Any mitigation should also be detailed within the Construction Environmental Management Plan. | SEPA | SO pg 44 | Chapter 9: Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology and Appendix 4.1: Draft CEMP. | |

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|-----|---|--|----------------------|--|---|
| 153 | SEPA would welcome the submission of a draft Habitat Management Plan for the area which could identify areas for wetland improvement post construction. | SEPA | SO pg 44 | Chapter 9: Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology and Appendix 4.1: Draft CEMP. | |
| 154 | It is now best practice for infrastructure that impact upon peatlands, for developers to produce a Peat Management Plan (PMP) within the ES which will form the basis for any detailed peat management proposals required within the CEMP. | SEPA | SO pg 45 | Appendix 9.3: Peat Management Plan and Appendix 4.1: Draft CEMP | |
| 155 | The PMP should demonstrate how the layout and design of the proposal will avoid impact on such areas where possible. In areas where avoidance is impossible, ES should include details of how impact is minimised and mitigated, including a map of peat depth for all construction elements that affect peatland habitats. Details of any surplus peat should also be included. | SEPA | SO pg 45/46 | Appendix 9.3: Peat Management Plan and Chapter 3: Design Evolution; Site Selection and Consideration of Alternatives. | |
| 156 | An approach of minimising disruption to peatland should be adopted - would minimise volume of excavated peat and surplus peat waste. Disposal of waste peat an important consideration. | SEPA | SO pg 46/47 | Appendix 4.1: Draft CEMP | |
| 157 | Details of how waste will be minimised at construction stage should be included in the ES or planning submission, demonstrating that: * construction practices minimise the use of raw materials and maximise use of secondary aggregates and recycled or renewable materials; and * waste material generated by the proposal is reduced and re-used or recycled where appropriate on site. May be opportunities to utilise surplus soils for sustainable purposes elsewhere. | SEPA | SO pg 46 | Chapter 4: Description of Development and Appendix 4.1: Draft CEMP. | |
| 158 | Address risk of disruption to groundwater flow and impact on groundwater abstractions. A list of groundwater abstraction sources both within/outwith the site boundary within a radius of (i) 100m from roads, tracks and trenches and (ii) 250m from borrow pits and foundations should be provided. | SEPA | SO pg 47 | Chapter 9: Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology | |
| 159 | A site survey of existing water features and a map of the location of all engineering activities in the water environment should be included in the ES along with a systematic table detailing the justification for the activity and how any adverse impacts will be mitigated. The table should be accompanied by a photograph of each affected waterbody along with its dimensions. | SEPA | SO pg 48 | | No engineering works are proposed within the water environment. |
| 160 | If other development projects present or proposed within the same catchment area, need to to assess cumulative impact on the water environment. | SEPA | SO pg 48 | Section 9.10 of Chapter 9: Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology. | |
| 161 | Where water abstraction is proposed, the ES should detail whether a public or private source will be used. | SEPA | SO pg 48 | Section 9.8 of Chapter 9: Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology. | |
| 162 | Applicant should systematically identify all aspects of site work that might impact upon the environment, potential pollution risks associated with the proposals and identify the principles of preventative measures and mitigation. This will establish a robust environmental management process with a Draft Schedule of Mitigation, which will be included in a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP). | SEPA | SO pg 48 | Appendix 4.1: Draft CEMP and Appendix 4.3: Schedule of Mitigation. | |
| 163 | Borrow Pits - detailed investigation in relation to the need for and impact should be detailed in the ES including their location, size and nature along with details of depth of the excavation compare to the actual topography and water table. In addition, details about proposed reinstatement should be submitted. | SEPA | SO pg 49 | Chapter 4: Description of Development and Appendix 9.4: Borrow Pit Assessment. | |
| 164 | Excavation works, particularly through dust, blasting and impact on water should be appraised as part of the overall impact of the scheme. | SEPA | SO pg 49 | Appendix 4.1: Draft CEMP and Appendix 4.2: Lessons Learnt from Gordonbush Wind Farm. | |
| 165 | If flood risk is identified then a Flood Risk Assessment should be carried out. SEPA's Technical Flood Risk Guidance for Stakeholders outlines the information required by SEPA to be submitted as part of a Flood Risk Assessment, and the methodologies that may be appropriate for hydrological and hydraulic modelling. Further guidance can be found at SEPA's website. | SEPA | SO pg 49 | Section 9.6 of Chapter 9: Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology. | |
| | <u>Key concerns in relation to proposed development in terms of landscape and visual:</u> * scale of the proposed development is likely to produce major landscape and visual impacts across some areas, notably Strath Brora, both in its own right and cumulatively. * Produce impacts on an area of wild land character, contributing to cumulative attrition of wild land characteristics. | SNH | SO pg 51 | Chapter 3: Design Evolution, Site Selection and Consideration of Alternatives and Chapter 7: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment. | |

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|-----|--|---|----------------------------|--|---|
| 166 | <p><u>Key advice to inform the LVIA and reduce the potential impacts:</u></p> <p>* The design process should consider and seek to reduce potentially significant landscape impacts, particularly from Loch Fleet, Loch Brora & Glen Loth Special Landscape Area (SLA). The LVIA should refer to the key characteristics, special qualities and sensitivities contained in the Highland Council citation for this SLA.</p> <p>* During the design iteration, consider and minimise the visual influence on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Road users travelling along the minor Road between Rogart and Brora. > potential effects on recreational users. > potential effects on residential visual amenity. > visibility of the development through Strath Brora corridor. > effects on the westward views from hills between Strath Brora and Glen Loth. > other visual impacts of associated development (e.g. transformer, turbine towers, welfarebuilding and borrow pits). | SNH | SO pg 51 | Chapter 3: Design Evolution, Site Selection and Consideration of Alternatives, Appendix 3.1: Design Statement and Chapter 7: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment. | |
| 167 | Once the design process has progressed, SNH welcome further discussion along with THC over the proposed viewpoint list. | SNH | SO pg 52 | Chapter 7: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment. | Selection of viewpoints were influenced by the ZTV and were discussed and agreed with The Highland Council and SNH. |
| 168 | With regard to visualisations, our advice is that the <i>Visual Representation of Wind Farms guidance</i> is currently under review, and is likely to be published before the end of 2013. The applicant is recommended to monitor the SNH website to ensure the most appropriate guidance is followed. | SNH | SO pg 52 | Chapter 7: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment | SNH released their updated visualisation guidance in July 2014, which was updated in December 2014. |
| 169 | SNH content that a Wild Land Assessment will be carried out. Advise that the assessment should be supported and informed by 2012 wildness maps which have informed proposed Core Areas of Wild Land. | SNH | SO pg 52 | | Subsequent to the issue of the scoping opinion, SNH 'wild land areas' have been mapped and as agreed with SNH at a meeting in September 2014 these will form the basis of the wild land assessment. |
| 170 | The applicant should consult SNH on the draft wild land assessment methodology. | SNH | SO pg 52 | | The methodology used for the wild land assessment follows that of 2007 SNH guidance as agreed with SNH at a meeting in September 2014. |
| 171 | <p>Carrying out a robust and up to date cumulative assessment will be critical part of the EIA process, given the level of consented, constructed, application and scoping wind farms in the area. The cumulative assessment should separately consider the following scenarios, focusing on the additional impacts that would be produced with Gordonbush Wind Farm:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * the proposals cumulative impact in conjunction with consented and operational wind farms in the study area. * the proposals cumulative impact in conjunction with consented and operational wind farms in the study area plus those for which planning applications have been submitted. * the proposal cumulative impact in conjunction with consented and operational wind farms in the study area, those for which planning applications have been submitted, plus those for which scoping report have been submitted and there is detailed layout information. | SNH | SO pg 52 | Chapter 7: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment | The sites included in the cumulative assessment were agreed with the Highland Council and SNH. This agreed list does not include any scoping sites as none are considered relevant to the assessment. |
| 172 | The notable difference in turbine scale (132m blade tip) compared to the operational Gordonbush Wind Farm (110m blade tip), may produce visual conflict, so alternative design should be considered. | SNH | SO pg 52 | Chapter 3: Design Evolution, Site Selection and Consideration of Alternatives and Appendix 3.1: Design Statement. | |
| 173 | <p>Alternative design should consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Minimising visual conflict with other wind farm development e.g. scale and layout * Minimising cumulative effects on designated landscapes * Minimising cumulative effects on landscape character. For example, the development has the potential to produce major cumulative effects on the landscape and visual experience of Strath Brora. Avoidance and mitigation of effects should be demonstrated. * Minimising cumulative effects on the SAWL and other areas possessing wild land character. | SNH | SO pg 53 | Chapter 3: Design Evolution, Site Selection and Consideration of Alternatives and Appendix 3.1: Design Statement. | |

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|-----|---|---|----------------------------|---|---|
| 174 | Results from the otter survey should be used to ensure that impacts on otter are avoided or reduced to a minimal level through mitigation. | SNH | SO pg 53 | Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation and Chapter 3: Design Evolution, Site Selection and Consideration of Alternatives. | |
| 175 | The proposed development is within the foraging range of all of the qualifying interest of the Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands SPA and golden plover of the nearby Coir an Eoin SSSI, which is also a component of the SPA. Bird interest of these protected areas will require thorough assessment. | SNH | SO pg 53 | Chapter 10: Ornithology. | |
| 176 | Based on the survey effort carried out to date and provided with the scoping report, SNH advise the effects of the habitats of these protected areas can be scoped out. | SNH | SO pg 53 | Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation | |
| 177 | The applicant should assess the direct and indirect impacts on these protected areas and their qualifying interests notified features in the context of their conservation objectives/management statements. Assessed on its own and cumulatively with other projects also affecting the protected area. | SNH | SO pg 53 | Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation and Chapter 10: Ornithology. | |
| 178 | Other protected areas in the vicinity of the proposed development are not anticipated to be affected directly, or indirectly. Shall the development change significantly, we would expect the applicant to review the list of sites. | SNH | SO pg 53 | | |
| 179 | SNH welcome the approach of using Lessons Learnt at the existing Gordonbush Wind Farm to inform the EIA of the proposed extension. | SNH | SO pg 53 | Appendix 4.2: Lessons Learnt from Gordonbush Wind Farm. | |
| 180 | Careful design and mitigation will be required to reduce the impacts to protected species and sensitive habitats. | SNH | SO pg 53 | Chapter 3: Design Evolution, Site Selection and Consideration of Alternatives and Appendix 3.1: Design Statement. | |
| 181 | Based on information provided in the scoping report, further bird survey work is not required, it should be possible to use the previous survey/monitoring information collected for the existing Gordonbush Wind Farm to supplement the 2012/13 survey work for the extension. | SNH | SO pg 54 | Chapter 10: Ornithology. | |
| 182 | Ensuring appropriate mitigation measures are put in place pre and during construction, then a reptile survey would not be required prior to application submission. A mitigation plan should be provided with the ES. | SNH | SO pg 54 | Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation | Reptiles were already surveyed prior to receiving SNH's scoping response. |
| 183 | SNH welcome the reuse of existing borrow pits as it should prevent additional environmental damage occurring. Advice from THC should be sought in relation to any planning conditions applied to the original borrow pits and their restoration. | SNH | SO pg 54 | Chapter 4: Description of Development. | |
| 184 | FCS welcome the production of a Woodland Plan which is expected to take the form of a Long Term Forest Plan to be included within the ES. This should include any felling or thinning, restocking proposals for the sites and any other woodland management proposals. This should be prepared in consultation with FCS, THC, SNH and landowners. | FCS | SO pg 55 | | No tree felling is proposed. |
| 185 | If there is felling and woodland removal proposed then the Scottish Government Woodland Removal Policy must be taken into account. | FCS | SO pg 55 | | No tree felling is proposed. |
| 186 | Details of proposed mitigation should be included in a Compensatory Planting Plan, described in the ES. | FCS | SO pg 55 | | No tree felling is proposed. |
| 187 | The ES should contain information about the exact area of compensatory planting (in Ha) to be carried out both on and off site. FCS that compensatory planting would be a condition of approval. | FCS | SO pg 56 | | No tree felling is proposed. |
| 188 | Welcome recognition in the scoping report the need to consider the potential impact on the setting of historic assets as well as the potential for direct impact on sites. | HS | SO pg 56 | Chapter 11: Cultural Heritage. | |
| 189 | Request the assessment of the potential impact on the following sites: *Ascoile, earthwork 890m SE of (Index no 3288) * Kilbraur, hut circle and clearance cairns, 270m SW of (Index no. 1793) * Balnacoll Hill, cairn 530m NE of Balnacoll Lodge, Strath Brora (Index no. 1769) | HS | SO pg 56 | Section 11.7 of Chapter 11: Cultural Heritage and Figures 11.3.1 - 11.4.1.2. | |
| 190 | Particular consideration should be given to cumulative impacts on the settings of these sites in relation to the original Gordonbush and other proposals in the area. | HS | SO pg 57 | Section 11.11 of Chapter 11: Cultural Heritage. | |

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| 191 | Identified impacts should be illustrated with wireframes and photomontages. | HS | SO pg 57 | Figures 11.3.1 - 11.4.1.2. | Wirelines and Photomontages have been prepared for Balnacoll Hill Cairn and Kilbraur Hut Circle. |
| 192 | In terms of potential direct impact on the scheduled work at Ascoile from access arrangements in the construction phase, the assessment should recommend appropriate mitigation in line with that previously issued for Gordonbush Wind Farm. | HS | SO pg 57 | Chapter 11: Cultural Heritage. | Mitigation for the site at Ascoile was in relation to improvement and widening of the public road, and is therefore not considered relevant for the Development. |
| 193 | Advice on unscheduled archaeology should be gained from the Council's archaeology advisor. | HS | SO pg 57 | | |
| 194 | Content with the mitigation set out in the scoping report for schedule monument interests. | HS | SO pg 57 | | |
| 195 | The ES should fully address any mechanisms that may adversely affect water quality and fish populations. | MS | So pg 58 | Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation and Appendix 8.3: Assessment of Fish Habitat Report. | |
| 196 | Atlantic salmon, trout (sea trout and brown trout) and European eel are of particular interest to MSS-FL. Fish and fishery issues also of concern to the local District Salmon Fishery Boards (DSFBs). This organisation should be contacted at the outset. DSFBs will also have information regarding local fish populations. | MS | SO pg 57/58 | | Association Salmon Fishery Board were contacted but no response was received. |
| 197 | Fish and fish issues also of concern to SNH and SEPA. See SNH website: http://www.snh.gov.uk/about-scotlands-nature/species/fish/freshwater-fish/ | MS | SO pg 58 | | |
| 198 | ES should consider following activities which can have an impact on fisheries: turbine foundations, elevation of borrow pits, road construction/upgrading, cable laying, water abstraction and discharge. | MS | SO pg 58 | Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation, Appendix 8.3: Assessment of Fish Habitat Report and Chapter 9: Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology. | |
| 199 | Construction works should avoid water bodies wherever possible and a buffer of at least 50m from waterbodies should be established. | MS | SO pg 58 | Chapter 3: Design Evolution, Site Selection and Consideration of Alternatives and Chapter 9: Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology. | |
| 200 | Construction should avoid areas of deep peat. If this is not possible appropriate mitigation measures should be put in place. Natural peat channels should be preserved throughout the development; excavated material should not be stockpiled in areas of unstable peat; concentrated water flows onto peat slopes should be avoided. | MS | SO pg 58 | Chapter 3: Design Evolution; Site Selection and Consideration of Alternatives and Appendix 3.1: Design Statement. | |
| 201 | Drainage throughout the proposal should be designed so it does not alter surface flow water runoff influencing the magnitude/frequency of flooding. | MS | SO pg 60 | Chapter 9: Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology. | |
| 202 | Developer should provide information on all species and abundance of fish within the development area. | MS | SO pg 60 | Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation and Appendix 8.3: Assessment of Fish Habitat Report. | |
| 203 | Adherence to best available techniques is expected throughout the development. Site specific mitigation measures and/or enhancement programmes to protect and/or compensate freshwater habitats should be included in the ES. | MS | SO pg 60 | Appendix 4.1: Draft CEMP. | |
| 204 | Monitoring throughout the development phase to be carried out to allow remediation at earliest opportunity for sites where there are thought to be risks to fish populations. | MS | SO pg 60 | Appendix 4.1: Draft CEMP. | |
| 205 | Where development can be clearly demonstrated to be of low risk to fish populations the developer should still draw up site specific mitigation plans to minimise any impact to fish and their inhabiting waters. | MS | SO pg 61 | Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation, Chapter 9: Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology and Appendix 4.1: Draft CEMP. | |
| 206 | The ES should identify the expected Port of delivery for turbine components and provide an assessment of the route to the site in terms of its suitability for the transportation of abnormal loads, notwithstanding any previous use of the route. The report would include swept path analysis, measures required to ensure that the movement of these loads would not have detrimental effect to the structures of the route. | TS | SO pg 62/63 | Chapter 12: Access, Traffic and Transport and Appendix 12.1: Abnormal Load Route Survey and Appendix 12.2: Abnormal Load Route Survey Supplementary Report. | |

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| 207 | The ES should provide detailed information with regard to the construction stage including preferred route options, movement of heavy loads and anticipated construction staff movements via the trunk networks along with an estimate of vehicle trip generation. | TS | SO pg 63 | Chapter 4: Description of Development and Chapter 12: Access, Traffic and Transport. | |
| 208 | Impacts on the trunk road once the development is operational also required. Potential trunk road-related environmental impacts such as noise, air quality, safety, etc should be considered and assessed where appropriate. | TS | SO pg 63 | Chapter 12: Access, Traffic and Transport. | |
| 209 | For the ES, the methods adopted to assess the likely traffic and transportation impacts on traffic flows and transportation infrastructure should comprise: * determination of the baseline traffic and transportation conditions and the sensitivity of the site and existence of any receptors likely to be affected in proximity of the trunk road network; * review of the development proposals to determine the predicted construction and operational requirements; and * assessment of the significance of predicted impacts from these transport requirements, taking into account impact magnitude (before and after mitigation) and baseline environmental sensitivity. | TS | SO pg 63 | Chapter 12: Access, Traffic and Transport and Chapter 13: Noise and Vibration. | |
| 210 | <u>Noise and Vibration</u> - impacts to sensitive receptors should be assessed during the construction and operational phases. Operational traffic noise and construction traffic noise should be assessed by considering the increase in traffic flows and following the principles of CRTN. It is recognised that the development is in a sparsely populated area and some distance from the trunk road, therefore operational noise could be scoped out, as suggested in the scoping report however this should be justified in the ES. | TS | SO pg 64 | Chapter 13: Noise and Vibration | |
| 211 | <u>Air Quality</u> - Where a significant change in road traffic characteristics has been identified, changes in air quality at a worst case scenario sensitive receptor adjacent to the trunk road will require further assessment. The scoping report suggests that air quality will be scoped out and justification should be provided in the ES. | TS | SO pg 64 | Chapter 15: Other Issues | |
| 212 | Where environmental impacts have been fully investigated but found to be of little or no significance, it is sufficient to validate that part of the assessment by stating in the report: * the work that has been undertaken, e.g. transportation/noise/air quality assessments, etc; * what this has shown, i.e. what impact if any has been identified; and * why it is not significant. It is not necessary to include all the information gathered during the assessment of these impacts, although this information should be available, if requested. | TS | SO pg 65 | Chapter 12: Traffic and Transport. | |
| 213 | No response received. | ASFB | SO pg 65 | | |
| 214 | The project should not cause interference to BT's current and presently planned radio networks. | BT | SO pg 65 | Chapter 15: Other Issues | |
| 215 | The scoping report correctly discusses the potential impact the wind turbines have on the communications, navigation and surveillance infrastructure, but it should be remembered that turbines can cause a physical obstruction to aviation stakeholders and this must be taken into account. | CAA | SO pg 66 | Chapter 15: Other Issues. | |
| 216 | Low Flying - The turbines will be within low flying area LFA 14 and will affect military aircraft approaching the RAF Tain Air Weapon Range. | DE | SO pg 66 | Chapter 6: Scoping and Consultation and Chapter 15: Other Issues. | |
| 217 | The MOD will require the proposed windfarm is fitted with 25 candela omni-directional red lighting or infrared lighting with an optimised flash pattern of 60 flashes per minute of 200ms to 500ms duration, fitted to the highest practical point. | DE | SO pg 66 | Chapter 6: Scoping and Consultation and Chapter 15: Other Issues. | |
| 218 | The MOD wishes to be consulted and notified about the progress of planning applications and submissions relating to this proposal to verify that it will not adversely affect defence interests. | DE | SO pg 67 | | |
| 219 | JRC does not foresee any potential problems based on known interference scenarios; however, if details of the wind farm change, it will be necessary to re-evaluate. | JRC | SO pg 67 | | |
| 220 | No response received. | MCoS | SO pg 67 | | |

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| 221 | Potential impact can be ascertained through the use of NATs self assessment maps or pre-application service. | NATs | SO pg 67 | Chapter 15: Other Issues | NATs online self-assessment maps used to establish if technical impact is to be expected. |
| 222 | Concerns that the scoping consultation is taking place after bird surveys have been completed, which is not good practice. SNH have since issued revised guidance on recommended bird survey methods to inform impact assessment of onshore wind farms. In this instance, RSPB do not consider a re-survey is necessary. | RSPB | SO pg 69/70 | Chapter 10: Ornithology. | |
| 223 | The Applicant must clearly demonstrate that the surveys are 'robust and appropriate to the specific proposal'. | RSPB | SO pg 70 | Chapter 10: Ornithology. | |
| 224 | There should be a clear statement on the commitment to mitigation measures in any future ES produced to accompany the proposal. | RSPB | SO pg 70 | Chapter 10: Ornithology and Appendix 4.3: Schedule of Mitigation. | |
| 225 | RSPB commend the intention to consider within the EIA process, lessons learnt from the constructed Gordonbush Wind Farm | RSPB | SO pg 70 | Chapter 10: Ornithology, Appendix 4.2: Lessons Learnt from Gordonbush Wind Farm. | |
| 226 | Concur that the Habitat Management Plan for Gordonbush should be treated as a receptor. The location of the extension will not just impact existing bird populations but will also detract from the agreed measures to compensate for adverse impacts of the constructed wind farm. | RSPB | SO pg 70 | Chapter 10: Ornithology | |
| 227 | One condition for Gordonbush Wind Farm was to facilitate a research project on golden plover, a species recognised then to be potentially affected by the wind farm development. RSPB Scotland carried out this work for SSE, but the results have not yet been released into the public domain. It would be premature to progress an application for a wind farm extension until project conclusions have been published and peer reviewed. | RSPB | SO pg 70/71 | Chapter 10: Ornithology | |
| 228 | Consent for Gordobush Wind Farm was conditional on the developer undertaking ornithological monitoring to elucidate impacts of wind farms and the effectiveness of mitigation measures on breeding birds. Given the proximity of the proposed extension, it would be premature to grant consent without this knowledge. | RSPB | SO pg 71 | Chapter 10: Ornithology | |
| 229 | Gordonbush Wind Farm was designed in part to avoid two breeding merlin sites and also to avoid deeper peats. Adequate justification will need to be given to explain why the site may now be suitable. | RSPB | SO pg 71 | Chapter 3: Design Evolution, Site Selection and Consideration of Alternatives. | |
| 230 | Review of Scottish Waters records indicates the proposed wind farm does not fall within a Scottish Water Drinking Water Protected Area (DWPA), or catchment. | SW | SO pg 71 | | |
| 231 | It is unlikely that the proposed wind farm would impact on Loch Horn and Loch Lunndaigh DWPA located to the south; however, if the EIA process determines that there could be potential impact, Scottish Water should be consulted. | SW | SO pg 71 | | |
| 232 | It is essential that sources and assets are protected from the risk of contamination and damage, if it is determined that the wind farm could impact on DWPA. | SW | SO pg 71 | Appendix 4.1: Draft CEMP. | |
| 233 | Every effort should be made to reduce the risk of soil erosion and pollution from oils etc. during and after the construction phase. | SW | SO pg 72 | Appendix 4.1: Draft CEMP and Chapter 9: Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology. | |
| 234 | Locations where public water supplies may be vulnerable should be identified and the impacts assessed. In particular any impact to the hydrology of the area including natural drainage patterns, base and run-off flows and water quality, along with potential pollution risk. Any new road infrastructure should consider local watercourses and crossings should be kept to a minimum or pollution prevention measures should be put in place. Depending on the vulnerability of the public water supply, a sampling programme should be set up to assess the baseline water quality, a site pollution prevention plan should be put in place, and a dedicated Environmental Manager appointed to assess and monitor any damaging effects. | SW | SO pg 72 | Chapter 9: Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology. | |
| 235 | Mitigation measures to ensure minimum pollution to water courses should be highlighted. | SW | SO pg 72 | Appendix 4.1: Draft CEMP and Chapter 9: Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology. | |
| 236 | No refuelling to take place within the catchment area or storage of fuel or hazardous materials. | SW | SO pg 73 | Appendix 4.1: Draft CEMP. | |
| 237 | The applicant must avoid obstruction and hindrance to any water mains, waste water mains and other SW assets. | SW | SO pg 73 | | |
| 238 | Any potential detrimental impact of the proposed development on tourism, whether visually, environmentally or economically, be identified and considered in full. | VS | SO pg 75 | Chapter 14: Socio-economic and Tourism | |

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| 239 | Consideration of specific concerns relating to the impact of any perceived proliferation of developments on the local tourism industry and therefore the local economy. | VS | | Chapter 14: Socio-economic and Tourism | |
| 240 | The proposed extension runs further along the eastern border of a section of the Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands SPA/SAC/Ramsar site and the Coir an Eoin SSSI, putting it directly between the site and Moray Firth SAC. | SWT | SO pg 75 | | |
| 241 | The Habitat Management Plan for the existing wind farm includes mitigation for negative effects of the wind farm on golden eagle, merlin and golden plover; the SWT would be concerned that the extension may exacerbate these impacts and would expect the cumulative impact of the existing wind farm and the extension to be addressed in the EIA. | SWT | SO pg 76 | Chapter 10: Ornithology. | |
| 242 | Due to its close proximity to the Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands site which is known for its high quality blanket bog, avoidance of deep peat and blanket bog should be considered in the design. | SWT | SO pg 76 | Chapter 3: Design Evolution, Site Selection and Consideration of Alternatives and Appendix 3.1: Design Statement. | |
| 243 | Based on the scoping position and heights, the development would not infringe the safeguarding surfaces for either Inverness or Wick John O'Groats Airports. | H&IAL | SO pg 76 | | |
| 244 | Due to the height of the turbines, a red obstacle light may be required to be fitted at the hub height of some of the turbines. | H&IAL | SO pg 76 | Chapter 15: Other Issues | The Applicant will agree a suitable aviation lighting scheme. |
| 245 | The extension would contribute to a cumulative impact which would be severely detrimental beyond the impact of the current development and will have a significant negative impact on the wild land area. | JMT | SO pg 77 | | |
| 246 | The proposed development is in a SAWL and must be evaluated against the SNH policy guidance 2007. | JMT | SO pg 77 | Chapter 7: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment. | The methodology used for the wild land assessment follows that of 2007 SNH guidance as agreed with SNH at a meeting in September 2014. |
| 247 | Planning Policy is referring to an outdated Sutherland Local Plan. | BCC | SO pg 77 | Chapter 5: Planning Policy Context. | |
| 248 | An assessment should be undertaken to prove that the existing wind farm continues to perform efficiently and meet predicted targets. | BCC | SO pg 77 | Chapter 3: Design Evolution, Site Selection and Consideration of Alternatives and Appendix 3.1: Design Statement. | |

Abbreviations

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| A+DS | Architecture and Design Scotland |
| AGLV | Area of Great Landscape Value |
| ASFB | Association of Salmon Fisheries Boards |
| BAA | British Airports Authority |
| BAP | Biodiversity Action Plan |
| BCC | Brora Community Council |
| BT | British Telecom |
| BWEA | RenewableUK |
| CAA | Civil Aviation Authority Airspace |
| CE | Crown Estate |
| CEMP | Construction Environment Management Plan |
| DAP | Directorate of Airspace Policy (at the Civil Aviation Authority) |
| DBE | Directorate for the Built Environment |
| DE | Defence Estates |
| ES | Environmental Statement |
| FCS | Forestry Commission Scotland |
| FishC | Fisheries Committee |
| GDL(s) | Garden(s) and Designed Landscape(s) |
| GWDTE | Groundwater Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystem |
| HC | Highland Council |
| H&IAL | Highlands & Islands Airport Limited |
| HMP | Habitat Management Plan |
| HS | Historic Scotland |
| JMT | John Muir Trust |
| MOD | Ministry of Defence |
| MCoS | Mountaineering Council of Scotland |
| MS | Marine Scotland |
| MSS-FL | Marine Scotland Science and Freshwater Laboratory |
| NATS | National Air Traffic Services |
| NERL | NATS En Route Plc |
| NHZ | Natural Heritage Zone |
| NPF2 | National Planning Framework 2 |
| NSA | National Scenic Area |
| OS | Ordnance Survey |
| PMP | Peat Management Plan |
| RCAHMS | Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland |
| RoW | Right of Way |
| RSPBS | Royal Society for the Protection of Birds - Scotland |
| SAM(s) | Scheduled Ancient Monument(s) |
| SEPA | Scottish Environment Protection Agency |
| SG | Scottish Government |

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- SNH Scottish Natural Heritage
- SLA Special Landscape Area
- SPA Special Protection Area
- SPP Scottish Planning Policy
- SW Scottish Water
- SWT Scottish Wildlife Trust
- TS Transport Scotland
- VS Visit Scotland
- WFD Water Framework Directive
- WLA Wild Land Area