



Red John Pumped Storage Hydro Scheme

Pre-Application Consultation

Report

ILI (Highlands PSH) Ltd.

November 2018

Quality information

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1. Introduction

1.1 Overview

This Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report has been prepared by AECOM on behalf of Intelligent Land Investments (ILI) (Highlands PSH) Ltd (hereafter referred to as the '**Applicant**'). PAC is not a legal requirement for applications made to the Scottish Ministers under Section 36 (s36) of the Electricity Act 1989 but has been undertaken by the Applicant in the interest of good practice.

This PAC Report provides an account of the pre-application consultation that has been undertaken by AECOM on behalf of the Applicant in advance of submitting an application for consent under s36 of the Electricity Act 1989 for the proposed Red John Pumped Storage Hydro (PSH) scheme (hereafter referred to as the '**Development**'). The Development requires an EIA under Schedule 2(1) of the Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017 ('the EIA Regulations'), as it will have an installed capacity of more than 50 MW and is considered to have potentially significant effects on the environment; it is therefore considered an 'EIA development.' In addition, this Report details how consultation with both the local community and statutory bodies undertaken to date by the Applicant has been incorporated into the design process.

The Development comprises the following component parts:

Above ground components

- Headpond (comprises the upper waterbody; the Embankment retaining the water in the Headpond; the Landscape Embankment to naturalise the Headpond; and the Inlet / Outlet structure largely within the Embankment where the waterways exit the Headpond and which will house the mechanical equipment. Where visible on top of the embankment, this Inlet / Outlet structure will be stone clad or in a suitable material to be agreed with The Highland Council);
- Tailpond (comprises the lower waterbody (i.e. Loch Ness), with a partially submerged Inlet / Outlet structure where the waterways enter the loch; a permanent and temporary Jetty for maintenance access to the Inlet / Outlet structure; a temporary Cofferdam that will encircle the required Tailpond area and be pumped dry during construction of the Inlet / Outlet structure; and a temporary pier to build the cofferdam);
- Four construction Compounds (for equipment and material storage, tunnel access, a site office, and welfare facilities);
- Newly formed access to the Development Site from the public transport network;
- Access tracks (both Temporary and Permanent, for movement around site); and,
- Replacement public road (the realignment of the C1064 which currently routes through the Headpond);

Below ground components

- Waterways (a closed loop system for water transfer, consisting of a High Pressure Tunnel to the Power Cavern), a Low Pressure Tunnel between the Power Cavern and Tailpond Inlet / Outlet structure), a Spillway for draining excess water from the Headpond also containing, a scour pipe for scouring and draining in an emergency, and surge shafts as in-built safety features);
- Power Cavern incorporating the Powerhouse (containing reversible pump turbines) and Transformer Gallery (containing the transformers); and,

- Access tunnels.

1.2 Legislative Context

While this application is being submitted under s36 of the Electricity Act 1989, in the interest of best practice the Applicant has adopted the principles of PAC that apply to 'national' and 'major' planning applications as set out in The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 and in the Scottish Government's Planning Circular 3/2013 'Development Management Procedures'. Regulation 7 of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 states that at a minimum, the applicant must consult every community council where any part of their area is within or adjoins the land on which the proposed development is situated and must also hold at least one public event where members of the public can make comments to the prospective applicant on the proposals.

Guidance on PAC is further described in the Scottish Government's Planning Circular 3/2013 Development Management Procedures, where the rationale for statutory requirements include "...publicity and consultation to make communities aware of, and have an opportunity to comment on, certain types of development proposals (namely major and national developments – see paragraph 2.8) before they are finalised and a planning application has been made. The planning applications in such cases must include a report of the pre-application consultation between applicants and communities" (Paragraph 2.1).

Adopting this approach has therefore enabled the local community and all those with an interest in the proposed Development a clear opportunity to provide comment and to influence the evolution of the design where possible.

Please note that while the application has been submitted to the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit (ECU) as a s36 application, the Applicant submitted a Proposal of Application Notice (POAN) to The Highland Council (THC) in June 2018. Where PAC is required, Section 35B of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (as amended) and Regulations 4 and 5 of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 require prospective applicants to notify the planning authority of forthcoming planning applications with a POAN. While the submission of POAN is usually undertaken in advance of the submission of a major planning application, the Applicant opted to follow this procedure in line with the best practice approach outlined in the previous paragraph. A POAN was submitted to THC as Planning Authority on 28th June 2018 (see Appendix A), outlining the following commitments:

- That two public exhibition events and one private exhibition event (intended for Statutory Consultees) would be carried out at the Dores Community Hall, going beyond the minimum of one public event specified within the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2013;
- That the public exhibitions would be advertised in The Press and Journal (on the 2nd and 16th June 2018) and Inverness Courier (29th May, 12th and 19th June 2018) prior to the public exhibitions; and
- That the following key stakeholders would also be directly notified of the consultation events:
 - Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA);
 - Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH);
 - Scottish Water;

- ECU;
- THC;
- Historic Environment Scotland (HES);
- Dores and Essich Community Council;
- Strathnairn Community Council;
- Stratherrick and Foyers Community Council;
- Glen Urquhart Community Council;
- Inverness West Community Council, and,
- Local community (via posts on the Dores on Loch Ness Facebook page and Community Website).

1.3 Structure of the PAC Report

The structure of the PAC Report is as follows:

- Section 2: Pre-Application Consultation: Statutory and Non-Statutory Consultation – details of the statutory and non-statutory consultation undertaken by the Applicant to date, and the Applicant's response to responses received;
- Section 3: Pre-Application Consultation: Community Consultation – details of the public consultation undertaken by the Applicant to date and the main themes of responses received;
- Section 4: Design Evolution – details the iterative design process through which the design has evolved through the consideration of engineering feasibility, environmental constraints and consultation responses; and,
- Section 5: Summary – this Section concludes the PAC Report.

2. Pre-Application Consultation: Statutory and Non-Statutory

2.1 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping

As detailed in the Scottish Government’s Energy Consents Good Practice Guidance “*The Scoping process is designed to identify which issues will or will not need to be addressed in the forthcoming Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). At this stage, an applicant has an initial plan including key details of the site and the proposed development.*” (p. 13).

The purpose of EIA Scoping is therefore to provide information on the likely environmental implications of the scheme and determine the scope and extent of issues to be addressed.

A Request for an EIA Scoping Opinion was submitted to the Energy Consents Unit (ECU) on the 29th September 2017, and registered under reference ECU00000488. A Scoping Opinion was issued on the 30th November 2017.

The Applicant has undertaken several meetings with statutory and non-statutory consultees, both prior to submission of the Scoping Report, and following receipt of the Scoping Opinion.

The Scoping Report provided a description of the Development which included two options for the orientation of the Headpond – Option A and Option B – as shown on Design III: Scoping Figures 2.3 and 2.4. These were presented in the Scoping Report submitted in draft for the Highland Council (THC) Major Pre-Application Advice service and then finalised for the submission of a formal Request for Scoping to the ECU.

The Applicant met with Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) and THC prior to the submission of the Scoping Report, and has maintained contact during key points of the pre-application process.

2.2 Statutory Consultation Bodies

2.2.1 Meetings

Table 2.1 provides a list of the meetings which have been undertaken to date with statutory consultees:

Table 2.1. Meetings Undertaken

Date	Consultees in Attendance	Discussion
May 2017	SEPA & Scottish Water	Discussion around using Loch Duntelchaig and awareness of invasive species
17 August 2017	SEPA & SNH	Informal meeting to introduce the Development and project team
17 August 2017	The Highland Council (THC)	Informal meeting to introduce the Development and project team
24 August 2017	Energy Consents Unit (ECU)	Introductory meeting to the Applicant and Development
25 September 2017	Historic Environment Scotland	Introductory meeting to the Development and to discuss the Scoping Report chapter.
27 September 2017	Multiple	THC Pre-application meeting

Date	Consultees in Attendance	Discussion
5 April 2018	ECU	Meeting to discuss Scoping Opinion and progress on Section 36 application
27 April 2018	SEPA	Meeting to discuss Scoping Opinion, requirement for invasive species management and screening, and Phase 1 peat probing
22 June 2018	ECU	Progress meeting on Section 36 Application
27 June 2018	THC	Private viewing of the public exhibition (SEPA and SNH also invited but could not attend)
28 June 2018	Community Councils	Private viewing of the public exhibition where Dore & Essich, Glen Urquhart, Strathnairn, Inverness West and Stratherrick and Foyers Community Councils attended
5 September 2018	Forestry Commission Scotland	To discuss the forestry plan and felling proposals
1 October 2018	Gate Check Report Meeting and Site Visit	Attended by ECU, SEPA, SNH and THC

2.3 Post-Scoping Consultation

In addition to the meetings, the Applicant has engaged in consultation and liaison with multiple statutory and non-statutory consultees. Appendix B outlines the key points and themes which have been discussed, and a technical response has been provided to demonstrate how this has been incorporated where relevant.

The table in Appendix B outlines the topic-specific consultation which has been undertaken after the Scoping Opinion was issued. Where a consultee has not been contacted, this is not to say that their comments have not been incorporated or considered in the EIA. The Consultation Log within Appendix F summarises the outcomes of the EIA Scoping consultation and, where applicable, how these responses have been addressed in the EIA and final design of the Development.

2.4 Non-Statutory Bodies

Table 2.2 outlines either where consultation has been undertaken with non-statutory consultees or where the responses received to the Scoping Report have been incorporated or considered. This will be described in the full consultation log which is included within the EIA.

Table 2.2. Meetings Undertaken (non-statutory)

Consultee	Summary of Scoping Response Received or Post-Scoping Consultation	Applicant's Response or Post-Scoping Consultation Summary
AM Geomorphology (for the Scottish Government)	Requirement for peat probing survey	A Phase 1 peat probing survey has been undertaken after the scope was agreed with SEPA.

Consultee	Summary of Scoping Response Received or Post-Scoping Consultation	Applicant's Response or Post-Scoping Consultation Summary
Highlands & Islands Airports Ltd	Cross section / elevation drawings requested in Scoping Opinion due to concern over conflict with approach procedures and instrument landing systems	A cross section and elevation drawing, and an image from the 3D model was provided to HIAL in September 2018. A response is awaited.
Windfarms Team, JRC	Comments relate to a windfarm which is not relevant to this Development	No further consultation undertaken since receipt of Scoping Report response.
NATS	No conflict with any installation or equipment identified	No further consultation undertaken since receipt of Scoping Report response.
Sustrans	Comments on recreation routes	Response noted. No further consultation undertaken since receipt of Scoping Report response.
Visit Scotland	Request to consider previous research on windfarms and requests a tourism impact assessment	An assessment on tourism has been undertaken in the Socio-Economic chapter of the EIA Report. The Applicant has also undertaken independent data collection on bed availability, local businesses and use of local recreational routes. This analysis will be included in the EIA Report.

2.5 Changes to Scope of the EIA

New Factors

The Applicant has engaged with statutory and non-statutory consultees on the topic-specific scope, as outlined in Sections 2.1 to 2.3. The Scoping Report also identified where new factors required by the EIA Regulations, introduced in 2017, were either integrated into the existing scope of the proposed EIA (Table 3.1 of the Scoping Report) or were not relevant, and therefore were scoped out (paragraphs 3.2.4 – 3.2.6 of the Scoping Report).

No comments were received on that proposed scope within the Scoping Responses or in response to the Gate Check report, and therefore the EIA continued on that basis.

Requirement for an Air Quality Chapter

Section 13 of the Scoping Report outlined the proposed scope for an Air Quality assessment, which primarily focused on the generation of dust and emissions from construction vehicles. There are no proposed emissions during operation and so these were proposed to be scoped out.

No comments were received on the air quality assessment scope proposed in the Scoping Report. In addition, it has been identified that there is limited potential for direct significant effects from dust on human and ecological receptors with the implementation of embedded mitigation. The gate Check Report proposed that a formal assessment was not included within the EIA Report and that a Dust Management Plan is prepared. This will be accompanied by an Outline CEMP which outlines the general good housekeeping requirements to mitigate diesel emissions and PM₁₀ generation. It is noted that in SEPA's scoping response that they did not require a CEMP to be prepared as part of the application documents, however an Outline CEMP has been prepared and will accompany the other

topic specific management plans which have been identified as part of the impact assessment process.

No comments were received on this proposal at Gate Check stage and so the EIA Report production has proceeded on that basis.

3. Pre-Application Consultation: Community Consultation

3.1 Local Community Engagement

The Applicant has engaged with the local community and community councils from an early stage. A community meeting was held on the 16th August 2017 where an introductory presentation was provided by the Applicant, introducing members of the Applicant team and the project team from AECOM. A representative from the Scottish Government's Community and Renewable Energy Scheme (CARES) also provided a brief presentation regarding community share of the Development.

Approximately 50 members of the local community attended and were invited to view indicative proposals and drawings of the Development, and talk to members of the Applicant and project team. These indicative proposals included Option A and Option B Headpond orientations. The overwhelming response from the local community was in favour of progressing Option B, this was subsequently adopted.

Following this introductory meeting, a project website was created (www.redjohnpsh.co.uk).

3.2 Questionnaires

In order to gain further information about the socio-economic and recreational uses in the area, the Applicant sent out a variety of questionnaires to local businesses, accommodation providers and the local community. The purpose and geographical extent of these questionnaires was as follows:

- Local businesses – sent to local businesses within a 5km radius of the Development with questions related to the nature of their business, use of local recreational facilities for business purposes, number of beds and availability throughout the year if accommodation providers, private water supplies and an opportunity to comment on the Development to the Applicant;
- Accommodation provider – the questionnaire was available at the Public Exhibition and asked questions over the number of beds available and approximate bed availability throughout the year;
- Local access – the questionnaire was available at the Public Exhibition for those who may use the local access tracks in Dirr Wood and surrounding forestry tracks for recreational, business or commuting routes. A figure was provided showing a series of numbered routes with a response sheet; and
- Private water supplies – the local community meeting in August 2017 identified a number of private water supplies. In order to supplement the data search provided by THC, the Applicant undertook its own investigations in order to determine the type, use and location of any other private water supplies.

In total, over 47 Business Questionnaires were sent out, of which 36 did not respond, 9 provided a response, and 2 were returned (no known address or unknown party).

During and after the public exhibition events, an additional 4 Access Questionnaires, 1 Accommodation Questionnaire, 9 Feedback Forms, and 2 Private Water Supply Questionnaires were received.

Information and comments provided within the completed questionnaires were used to inform the EIA Report where relevant, specific comments and feedback on the Development were collated with the feedback from the public exhibition events described in the following Section, with any issued raised

therefore being addressed in the same manner. Table 3.1 in the following Section provides an overview of the key themes which were received as part of feedback from the public. A full consultation log has been included within Appendix F and provides further detailed responses to feedback forms and website responses made before and after the public exhibition events.

3.3 Public Exhibitions

Two public exhibitions were undertaken on the 27 and 28 June 2018, in the Dores Community Hall. The public exhibitions were advertised in The Press and Journal (on the 2 and 16 June 2018) and Inverness Courier (29 May, 12 and 19 June 2018) prior to the public exhibitions (as shown in Appendix C).

Following liaison with the local community representatives, and in addition to the newspaper advertisements, the Applicant provided additional notification via social media pages – the Loch Ness Facebook page and Community Website. The community councils contacted during the POAN process described in Section 1.2 were directly invited to the public exhibition events.

Approximately 105 people attended the exhibitions over the two days, which were open from 3pm to 8pm on the 27 June, and 3pm to 9pm on the 28 June 2018.

A series of exhibitions boards were prepared and are shown in Appendix D. In summary the following information was displayed:

- Background information on the Applicant and PSH;
- Design drawings;
- Environmental and planning constraint drawings;
- Information on the consenting process, EIA, and the role of public consultation; and,
- Topic-specific information based on key environmental topics and how these would be assessed within the EIA Report e.g. Ecology, Landscape, and Traffic and Transportation.



In addition to the feedback forms provided (templates shown in Appendix E), additional copies of the questionnaires (outlined in Section 3.1.1) were made available together with freepost addresses and stamps.

Table 3.1 below outlines the key themes which were received as part of feedback from the public consultation events on the 27 and 28 June 2018. Each theme has been broken down in to specific elements and the Applicant's response is also provided. The key themes which arose from public feedback include:

- Name of the Development;
- Traffic and Transportation (construction effects) ;
- Ecology (impacts and opportunities);
- Forestry;
- Landscape and Visual;
- Community Benefit;
- Material Storage; and,
- Dust.

Table 3.1. Key Themes

Theme	Description	Response
Name of the Development	Incorrect Gaelic translation	<p>A number of responses were received (approximately 11 responses total from the exhibitions and through the project website) that advised that the name of the Development was an incorrect direct translation of one of the lochs within the site boundary: Lochan an Eoin Ruadha.</p> <p>Therefore the Applicant has consulted further with the community councils and is planning to take these responses on board and change the name to a more appropriate geographical description.</p> <p>Therefore current name is a working title and the Development will be renamed appropriately prior to determination.</p>
	Use of the B851	<p>The use of the B851 will be carefully managed and provides the best overall route, avoiding impacts on Dores with its current higher traffic levels. Mitigation measures will be put in place in settlements and sensitive areas on the B851 and B862 to reduce vehicle speeds and to maintain pedestrian and road user safety. Any improvement works that are required for the route will be carried out as part of the enabling works for the project. Measures will also be explored to ensure that construction traffic does not make use of alternative roads such as the C1068 and C1076.</p>
Traffic & Transportation	Justification for not using road through Dores	<p>The village of Dores has been identified as a sensitive area by the Highland Council due to its reliance on tourism and its quiet setting on the shore of Loch Ness. Traffic flows of approximately 2000 vehicles per day have already been observed in the village, therefore the routing of construction traffic through the village has the potential to cause severance to local residents and visitors while causing disruption to the B852 and B862 which provide access to the wider Loch Ness area.</p>
	Issues from previous windfarms including traffic management not being enforced and planning conditions being ignored	<p>An outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) will be submitted with the EIA Report. Contractors will be required to follow the CTMP as a condition of contract.</p>
	Condition of roads	<p>The outline CTMP will include before and after road condition surveys and any damage reasonably attributable to the Development will be repaired, funded by the Development.</p>
	Road safety	<p>The EIA chapter includes an assessment of safety of road users including intimidation. A Traffic Management Plan will be submitted with the EIA.</p>

Theme	Description	Response
Ecology	Translocation of Juniper	The ecology EIA chapter will identify likely mitigation measures, and the EIA will also include the outline of a landscaping scheme. Should juniper translocation be possible and viable, this will be considered.
	Impact on protected species	Surveys have been undertaken for a variety of protected species and will be included within the EIA Report.
	Impact on Groundwater Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystems (GWTDEs)	Impacts on GWTDEs have been assessed within the EIA and suitable mitigation measures will be identified. It is likely that there will be some loss of GWTDEs.
Forestry	Forestry and compensatory planting, including type and nature of planting (overriding request was for native woodland, no more plantation forestry)	The existing forestry plan has been reviewed and areas of compensatory planting have been identified. The Applicant is having ongoing discussions with the Forestry Commission over the requirement for restocking of commercial forestry and if there is an alternative option for the management of the forestry in this area. A decrease in mixed commercial woodland of 293 hectares is proposed along with an increase in native woodlands of 281 hectares. Deer will be excluded to give improvements over the current grazing of new growth. Natural patterns of plant spacing will be followed encouraging the broadleaf woods to become semi-natural in the long term.
Landscape and Visual	Views from opposite valley	A Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) was provided at Scoping Stage and then refined for consultation. Viewpoints 2, 3, 7 and 10 are located within the ZTV viewshed, and photomontages have been prepared from these viewpoints to assist consideration. The design has been realigned and softened through landscaping.
	Views from Urquhart Castle	A visualisation photomontage has been presented from this viewpoint to assist consideration.
	Reinstatement	A fully integrated landscape and forestry strategy will be prepared prior to the commencement of any construction works on site. This will detail how the temporary construction roads and compounds will be reinstated, and the enhancements which will be implemented.
Community Benefit	Potential for a semi-permanent wharf on the loch bank	A wharf will be built as part of the construction phase work when constructing the Inlet / Outlet. A smaller jetty will be retained following construction.
	Parking at Dores is a problem	The Applicant will investigate this. This is not a subject which the EIA will cover.

Theme	Description	Response
	Access for recreation, not just for the residents of Dores, but links to long distance paths and also road cycling	<p>An assessment of the usage of the access paths in the area has been undertaken using questionnaires as well as liaison with users and THC Access Officer. It is not proposed to create any new paths with the exception of one new diverted path which is currently shown going through the Headpond and will be permanently re-routed along the southern embankment of the Headpond.</p> <p>During construction, the Applicant will install both temporary diversions and closures, and then upgrade the paths within the red line boundary using excess material after construction has finished.</p> <p>An Access Management Plan is expected to be conditioned as part of the Section 36 consent and will outline the mitigation measures to be implemented during construction. An outline of this plan will be included within the EIA Report.</p> <p>Additional educational and directional signage will also be installed once the paths are reinstated.</p>
Material Storage	Removal / storage from site	Excavated materials will be utilised in the Headpond embankment, in the landscape embankment, the realignment of the C1064, creating access tracks and reinstating / improving existing access tracks.
	Use of excess materials	The EIA Report will provide a material balance calculation, identify the type and likely volumes of excess material and also its potential reuse.
Dust	Location of crushing and dust from construction tracks	A Dust Management Plan is likely to be made a condition of the Section 36. An outline of the contents of such a Plan will be contained in the Construction Environmental Management Plan.
C1064 diversion	<p>Reinstatement options</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dual lanes; • Single track and passing places (existing situation); or • Single track, passing places and cycle lane 	The existing C1064 is a single track road with passing places, and the new alignment will recreate the status quo. There is no intention to dual this road as the local community were concerned about encouraging speeding vehicles. The diversion will be in place prior to any significant construction works and is required to assist with the enabling works phase.

3.4 Response to Pre-Application Consultation

A full consultation log has been included within Appendix F and provides further detailed responses to feedback forms and website responses made before and after the public exhibition events. The log signposts to specific EIA Report sections, assessments, and technical appendices where relevant.

The Development website has been updated to provide copies of the exhibition boards shown at the public consultation events. In addition, the Applicant has also considered the main source of feedback regarding the name of the Development; the current title is considered a working title for the submission and will be amended prior to determination of the Section 36 application.

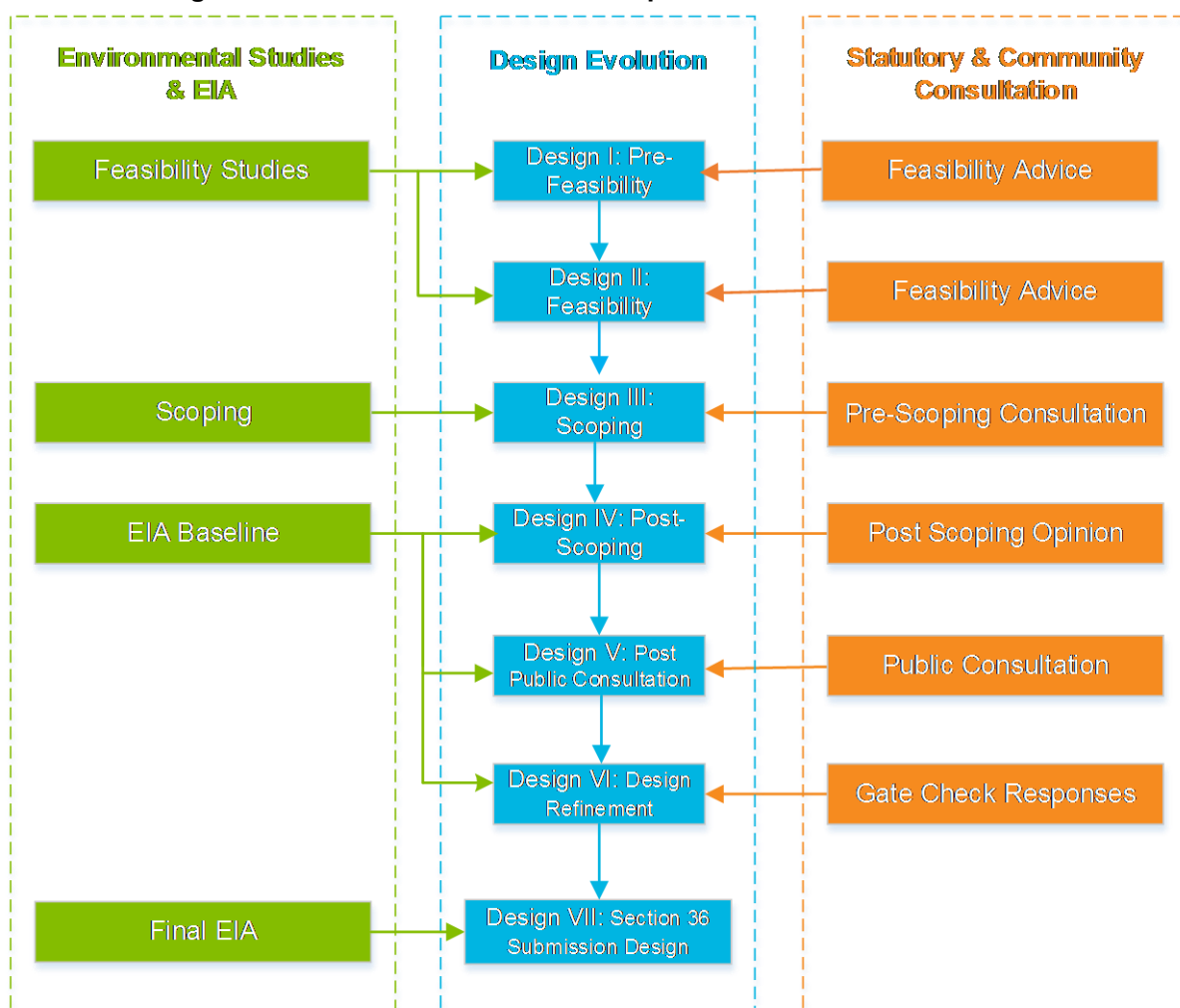
4. Design Evolution

4.1 Design Evolution and Impact from Consultation

The Development has evolved through an iterative design process where the design has been progressed in parallel with the EIA process through consideration of engineering feasibility, environmental constraints and consultation responses. This has resulted in the proposed Development as outlined in Section 1.1. Where possible, mitigation has been integrated into the design to reduce any potential significant effects from the Development on identified receptors.

The evolution of the design of the Development is set out in the following sections and is shown in Insert 2.1.

Insert 2.1: Design Evolution Process for the Development



Design I: Pre-Feasibility

The Applicant reviewed potential PSH scheme locations within Scotland and the potential to develop a PSH scheme utilising Loch Ness with Loch Duntelchaig was identified. The proposed location had been previously considered for the development of a hydro scheme, initially by the former North of Scotland Hydro Electric Board in the 1940's and latterly by Scottish Water.

The Applicant developed a preliminary layout that utilised Loch Duntelchaig as the Headpond and Loch Ness as the Tailpond. An initial schematic was produced as shown in Figure 3.1: Design I: Pre-Feasibility (EIA Report Volume 3).

Design II: Feasibility

Following initial consultation with Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) and Scottish Water, the presence of invasive non-native species (INNS) in Loch Ness and the risk of transfer between the two separate water catchments and into the waterbody supplying Inverness' drinking water was identified. Therefore it was determined that Loch Duntelchaig was not appropriate as a Headpond for the Development. Lochan an Eoin Ruadha and Loch na Curra were then identified as a suitable alternative Headpond to Loch Duntelchaig. A feasibility straight-line layout was developed incorporating the two small lochs into a Headpond. The Feasibility Design can be viewed on Figure 3.2: Design II: Feasibility (EIA Report Volume 3).

Design III: Scoping

As part of the design iteration, a high level environmental assessment was undertaken which included desk based review of environmental constraints and a Phase 1 habitat survey in addition to a bathymetric and topographical survey of the two lochs comprising of the proposed Headpond in the Feasibility Design.

The results of the desktop analysis identified the importance of permissive routes such as the Trail of the Seven Lochs and the South Loch Ness Trail, recreational activities and Caisteal an Dunriachaidh (a Scheduled Monument), amongst other receptors that could be affected by the Development. In addition, the Phase 1 survey identified the presence of breeding red throated diver on Lochan an Eoin Ruadha and Loch na Curra. With respect to these findings, the design was amended as follows:

- An updated Headpond design utilising the two lochs (known as Option A) while directly avoiding the C1064 and Caisteal an Dunriachaidh;
- An alternative Headpond location (known as Option B) located away from the two lochs and further from Caisteal an Dunriachaidh, but located on the C1064, further undesignated archaeological features and partially within Ancient Woodland Inventory (AWI) listed woodland;
- To ensure no cross-catchment transfer of water, the underground Waterways for both Headponds were designed as 'closed loop' systems. This is to mitigate the risk of operational transfer of INNS from the Ness to the Nairn water catchment. The design implications include the choice of a buried pipeline for the Spillway, which also reduces visual impacts;
- Proposed access tracks that utilise the existing forest tracks and road network as much as possible and utilising the fire breaks in the ancient woodland towards Loch Ness to minimise loss;
- Location of Tailpond Inlet / Outlet to avoid the fish farm (although noting that the fish farm is mobile);
- Consideration of transforming any temporary compounds into a permanent visitors centre and to explore the potential for socio-economic and tourism opportunities such as a canoe landing point; and,
- A soil disposal area for any excess spoil generated during construction that utilises land of low ecological value.

The Scoping Design with the two Headpond options can be viewed on Figure 3.3: Design III: Option A and Figure 3.4: Design III: Option B (EIA Report Volume 3).

Design IV: Post Scoping

On receipt of the Scoping Opinion, it was determined that the Option B Headpond was the favourable of the two options considering ecology, archaeology and, water quality and resources.

After selection of the favoured Headpond, the design was further progressed with the following amendments to the Scoping Design:

- To reduce the visual impact of the Headpond Embankment, the Headpond was reoriented and the maximum height of the dam wall above ground level was lowered. The Embankment slope was also softened and extended to help create a more natural form. There were also minor alterations to the Waterways, Powerhouse, and the access tunnels to accommodate the reorientation of the Headpond.
- Excavated material will be used in the Landscape Embankment removing the requirement for permanent on-site spoil storage in the cleared woodland area shown on Figure 3.2 and Figure 3.3.
- Maximum area requirements for construction compounds were determined based on distribution of construction activities and corresponding equipment. Compounds were sited to minimise forest removal, limit visibility and to buffer watercourses as far as practically possible.
- The access road between the Headpond and the Tailpond was rerouted after consultation with the landowner in order to minimise loss of agricultural land. The updated route traverses the Development Site from the Tailpond to Compound 1 and then from Compound 1 to the Headpond and was selected on account of topographic constraints including avoidance of steep gradients. The updated section of access road between the Tailpond and Construction Compound 1 will be temporary and will be reinstated post-construction to minimise operational visual impacts.
- The Spillway was rerouted to align with the proposed Access Tracks for ease of construction and maintenance and also to minimise the footprint of the project.
- A proposed realignment of the C1064 was identified.

The Applicant engaged further with SEPA, THC and SNH in order to clarify responses made within the Scoping Opinion. Further detailed consultation with SEPA (meeting on the 27 April 2018) and SNH confirmed that screening for INNS would not be required following confirmation that the Development was a closed loop system, thereby potential for cross-catchment transfer was negligible. In addition, an INNS risk assessment would be required to be submitted to confirm this agreement. Therefore, a 2 millimetre (mm) aperture screen was selected for the Tailpond Inlet / Outlet to prohibit fish egress.

The updated Option B Headpond scheme was presented for feedback at the public consultation event held at the Dores Community Hall on the 27 and 28 June 2018. This design can be viewed on Figure 3.5: Design IV: Post Scoping (EIA Report Volume 3).

Design V: Post Public Consultation

Following public consultation, Design V was prepared based on the comments and feedback received from the local community and the landowner.

The post public consultation design can be viewed on Figure 3.6: Design V: Post Public Consultation (EIA Report Volume 3) with the following updates from Design IV:

- The red line boundary was updated to reflect the reduced area requirements of the progressed design. The Design V Development Site comprises a reduced area of 950 hectares (ha) and now excludes Lochan an Eoin Ruadha and the area to the south-east around Achnabat.

- The landownership within the Development Site has also been finalised and in addition to the Ach-na-Sidhe Bed and Breakfast on Ashie Moor, other private properties along the B862 and at Balnafoich have been excluded from the red line boundary. There have been some realignment of the below ground works in line with these exclusion areas.
- Realigned routes for core and local paths have been identified in order to retain public access across the Development Site.
- The Tailpond Inlet / Outlet structure was moved northward. This was to allow the landowner to retain access to and use of the field to the north of Baile-a-chladaich on the bank of Loch Ness.
- Based on landowner and public consultation, secondary uses of construction compounds for visitor centres or to facilitate recreation were decided against in favour of reinstating as much of the temporary area in order to retain the tranquillity of the area.

Design VI: Design Refinement

Design VI: Design Refinement is the iteration of the Development design for which s36 consent is intended to be sought and upon which the assessments contained in the EIA Report have been based. Design VI can therefore be viewed on Figures 3.7: Design Refinement (EIA Report Volume 3), which show the layouts for the Development and the above ground and below ground components respectively.

Following on from the public consultation event, a design day was held that brought together the environmental technical specialists relevant to the Development for a holistic review of the Development components. The following sets out the updates to the Post Scoping Design IV as a result of refined engineering feasibility requirements and environmental constraints:

- The Landscape Embankment was reshaped, reducing the tail to the north and also extending to the west. The reshaping will provide a larger buffer between the edge of the Embankment and the realignment of the C1064 at the north of the Headpond as well as providing screening to the realigned road along the western side of the Headpond. The screening will be dual function, softening the angle of the incline of the Embankment and allowing trees to be reinstated between the realigned road and the Headpond. The Landscape Embankment will also soften the appearance of the north-western Headpond Embankment profile in wider views and assist with incorporating the Headpond into the existing landscape.
- The Spillway Inlet was incorporated within the design of the Headpond Inlet / Outlet structure, removing the need a separate Spillway Tower of up to 20 metres (m) in height.
- Compounds were reshaped taking into account topography, watercourses and gradient.
- The maximal dimensions of the Tailpond Inlet / Outlet structure were identified along with the cofferdam required for the construction of the structure. A silt curtain or similar to mitigate impacts from the construction of the Tailpond Inlet / Outlet structure on water quality has been incorporated into the design of the cofferdam.

Design VII: Section 36 Submission Design

Design VII: Section 36 Submission Design is the iteration of the Development design for which Section 36 consent is being sought and is the basis of the assessments contained in Chapters 5 - 16 of this EIA Report (Volume 2). Design VII can be viewed on Figure 2.3: Development Layout, Figure 2.4 Development Layout – Above Ground and Figure 2.5: Development Layout: Underground (EIA Report Volume 3).

The only Amendments from Design VI was included a further amendment adjustment to the red line boundary and minor design to the underground arrangement of the power cavern and above ground access tracks near the Compounds.

A roof was included on the Tailpond Inlet / Outlet structure, which incorporates the screen cleaning system and limits the visibility of the screen.

In addition, the Applicant has been in discussions with the Marine Harvest fish farm regarding the location of the existing farm and its interaction with the construction of the Tailpond Inlet / Outlet. Whilst this has not amended the design of the Development, initial discussions have concluded that the fish farm could be moved away from the temporary construction area (subject to further discussions on planning permission) and therefore this is the assumption of the EIA Report.

5. Summary

From inception, stakeholder engagement has been given high priority in order to adequately address the environmental constraints and opportunities associated with the Development. This PAC Report demonstrates that throughout the project, significant emphasis has been placed on ensuring all relevant stakeholders are adequately informed of the Development and have had sufficient opportunity to fully comment on and inform the design progression.

In particular, the two pre-application consultation events provided the local community with the opportunity to learn about the Development and to raise any suggestions, concerns or issues. In terms of design progression, the opportunity to engage with the local community also proved invaluable in informing the finalised Development.

As demonstrated in this Report, comments received have been considered by the Applicant with a focus on management of effects in the local area during the construction stage of the project. In consultation with those most affected by the Development, design parameters have been amended, such as the requirement for screening at Loch Ness, location of the Tailpond Inlet / Outlet structure, location and orientation of the Headpond and mitigation measures such as the forestry design and landscaping measures.

In undertaking the level of pre-application consultation described within this Report, the Applicant has gone beyond legislative requirements for the Electricity Act and Town and Country Planning Act consenting regimes. The Applicant also anticipates that further discussions will continue with the statutory consultees and the local community through the determination process once the application is submitted.

Appendix A – Proposal of Application Notice

PROPOSAL OF APPLICATION NOTICE MOLADH BRATH IARRTAIS

The Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 as amended by the Planning Etc. (Scotland) Act 2006
Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2008

The Council will respond within 21 days of receiving the Notice. It will advise whether the proposed Pre-application Consultation is satisfactory or if additional notification and consultation above the statutory minimum is required. Please note that a planning application for this proposed development cannot be submitted less than 12 weeks from the date the Proposal of Application Notice is received by the Council and without the statutory consultation requirements having been undertaken. The planning application must be accompanied by a Pre-application consultation report.

Applicant .. Intelligent Land Investments Group Plc.....	Agent ... AECOM.....
Address The Shires.....	Address .1, Tanfield.....
.33 Bothwell Road.....	.. Edinburgh.....
Hamilton, ML3 0AS.....	..EH3 5DA.....
Phone No. .01689 891352.....	Phone ..0131 301 8600.....
E-mail .rm@ilj-energy.com.....	E-mail RedJohnPSH@AECOM.com.....

Address or Location of Proposed Development Please state the postal address of the prospective development site. If there is no postal address, please describe its location. Please outline the site in red on a base plan to a recognised metric scale and attach it to this completed Notice

.....14 kilometres south-west of Inverness, centred on National Grid Reference NH60479 32531.....

Description of Development Please include detail where appropriate – eg the number of residential units; the gross floorspace in m² of any buildings not for residential use; the capacity of any electricity generation or waste management facility; and the length of any infrastructure project. Please attach any additional supporting information.

.....
Hydro non-renewable (generating station) of >200 <500 MW capacity.....

Pre-application Screening Notice

Has a Screening Opinion been issued on the need for a Proposal of Application notice by the Highland Council in respect of the proposed development?

If yes please provide a copy of this Opinion.

YES.....

NO.....

Community Consultation [See checklist of Statutory minimum consultation attached]

State which other parties have received a copy of this Proposal of Application Notice.

Community Council/s	Date Notice Served
Dores and Essich Community Council,	28/06/18
Glenurquhart Community Council	
Strathnairn Community Council	
Inverness West Community Council	
Stratherrick and Foyers Community Council	

Names/details of any other parties	Date Notice Served
.....	
.....	

Please give details of proposed consultation

Proposed public event	Venue	Date and time
		June 27th 15:00 - 20:00
Public Exhibition	Dores Community Hall	June 28th 15:00 - 21:00
Private Exhibition - Statutory Consultees (invited ECU, SEPA, SNH, HES and THC)	Dores Community Hall	June 27th 14:00 - 15:00

Newspaper Advert – name of newspaper	Advert date(where known)
Press and Journal	2/06/18 and 16/06/18
Inverness Courier	29/05/18, 12/06/18 and 19/06/18

Details of any other consultation methods (date, time and with whom)

Community Councils and trusts - 28/06/18 1400 - 1500, invited to Private Exhibition at Dores Community Hall.

Local community - 29/05/18 via posts on the Dores on Loch Ness Facebook page and Community Website.

Interested Parties - Ongoing via updates to the Project Website - <http://www.redjohnpsh.co.uk/>

Statutory Consultees - Ongoing liaison with Scottish Water, SEPA and SNH

Signed 

Date..... 28/06/18

Appendix B – Summary of Post-Scoping Consultation

Summary of Post-Scoping Consultation

Consultee	Summary of Scoping Response Received or Post-Scoping Consultation	Applicant's Response or Post-Scoping Consultation Summary
The Highland Council	Landscape – characteristics, setting, nature of Loch Ness and Duntelchaig Special Landscape Area (SLA)	<p>Consultation has been undertaken with the landscape officer of THC to agree viewpoints and the methodology to be utilised for the landscape and visual assessment. Landscape representation was made during the Pre-Application Advice meeting held on the 27th September 2017 and this continued post-Scoping to finalise the viewpoint locations when Option B Headpond was confirmed.</p> <p>Landscape and visual considerations have been a key factor in developing the design. This has resulted in various mitigation measures being embedded into the as submitted design of the Development as described in Section 1.1.</p>
	Noise – application of BS4142 and location of noise monitoring locations	<p>Further consultation has been undertaken with the Environmental Health Officer (EHO) regarding the application of BS4142 and the assessment methodology agreed including locations of baseline noise monitoring locations. In response to local community liaison, two short term monitoring locations were added, at Midtown and on the southern point of Dores village.</p>
	Archaeology – comments on scope	<p>Further consultation has continued with the County Archaeologist regarding site visits and the location of viewpoint photography.</p>
	Traffic Impacts – requirement for a Transport Assessment (TA) which must identify routing and access arrangements, cumulative assessment with other projects, agreement with the assumption that the likely largest traffic impacts will be from construction and possibly decommissioning phase	<p>We confirm that this has been included in the assessment in Chapter 15: Traffic and Transport.</p>
	Vehicular Access – investigation into routes to site, consideration of existing National Cycle Network Route 78 and over users, welcome proposals for onsite internal tracks avoiding main highway network, realignment of C1064, routing of abnormal loads	<p>We confirm that this has been included in the assessment in Chapter 15: Traffic and Transport.</p>
Structures – require further information on the Headpond orientation and how that relates to the public highway	<p>We can confirm that drawings are included in the EIA Report which show the current and proposed orientation of the diverted C1064 and the Headpond, including landscaping, section orientation and final road alignment.</p>	

Consultee	Summary of Scoping Response Received or Post-Scoping Consultation	Applicant's Response or Post-Scoping Consultation Summary
	Parking & Loading – further information required in the TA and also information on transfer of temporary construction compounds to educational and / or tourism purposes	The temporary elements of Compound 2 at Loch Ness will be removed (with the permanent operational compound remaining) with no tourist visit centre or educational facilities. The permanent jetty to aid any aquatic recreation in the area may remain should an agreement for its maintenance is obtained with the relevant undertaker.
	Construction Traffic Management Plan – should be included in TA. A Framework CTMP should also be included	An outline CTMP is included in the EIA Report as Appendix 15.1.
	Cumulative sites	The Applicant has been in liaison with THC post-Scoping to confirm whether there have been any further potential cumulative sites since those proposed in the Scoping Report. THC confirmed that there had been no change to the proposed cumulative sites proposed in the Scoping Report with the exception of Coire Glas proposed increase in capacity which is included in the EIA Report.
	Recreational routes	AECOM has consulted with THC Access Officer and discussed potential implications to public access within the Development site and the surrounding area. The Applicant was referred to Policy 77 (public access) and Policy 78 (long distance routes) of the Highland Wide Local Development Plan (HwLDP) and identified core paths as being at the top of the hierarchy. THC advised to minimise the impact to access as much as possible and that THC would expect access to be maintained along core paths and other routes through the Development Site where possible. An Outline Access Management Plan is included in Appendix 14.3, Volume 5 of the Application.
Forestry Commission Scotland	Within the Scoping Report response, FCS expressed a preference for an alternative design that would not resort to forestry removal. They also noted policy incompatibility with SG Route Map to 2020.	The Applicant confirmed that Option B Headpond orientation was chosen and this may result in the greater loss of commercial forestry compared to Option A. A detailed forestry assessment has been undertaken in Chapter 12: Forestry, and a design and approach is proposed in accordance with national policy. In order to follow best practice on site, avoiding peat etc, it was found necessary to propose a small area (around 12 hectares) of compensatory planting off-site.

Consultee	Summary of Scoping Response Received or Post-Scoping Consultation	Applicant's Response or Post-Scoping Consultation Summary
	Requirement for Forestry Design Plan	The Applicant and its forestry consultant DGA Forestry are in ongoing discussions over the felling plans and compensatory planting with the Forestry Commission Scotland. A meeting was held on the 5 th September 2018 where proposals for the Forestry Design Plan were discussed.
	Compensatory planting is insufficient against the loss of priority woodland habitats and species, and the area is undetermined in the Scoping Report	Chapter 12: Forestry (Volume 2) and its associated Figures (Volume 5) provide information on the forestry design plan, felling and restocking. In addition, there will be an integrated Landscape and Ecological Reinstatement Plan which integrates forestry, landscape and ecology enhancement and reinstatement measures which will be implemented.
	Headpond orientation	The Applicant has confirmed that Option A has not been selected as the chosen orientation and therefore this would minimise the impact on the schedule monuments such as Caisteal an Dunriachaidh fort.
HES	ZTV only to 3km and not 5km, therefore this has the potential to miss assets	AECOM has undertaken consultation with HES to confirm the location of viewpoints required for photomontages. This consultation was by email, and the final viewpoint locations were confirmed on the 21 st August. In addition, AECOM has undertaken telephone and email consultation with the Highland Council archaeologist (HCA) in relation to SI works undertaken as part of the design works and in relation to the viewpoint requirement for the photomontages. In late May 2018 a telephone consultation was held to discuss the project and the photomontage requirement, and the HCA confirmed she was happy for HES to take a lead on locations, but that she was happy with the proposals to date.
	Requirement for visualisations	Viewpoint photography has been agreed with HES and are contained within Volume 4: Visualisations.
Marine Scotland Science	Requirement for fish surveys to be scoped in, especially spawning surveys along the loch shore	The Applicant has prepared a desk based assessment as agreed with SEPA. On the basis of this agreement and the results of the desk based assessment, no further surveys are anticipated and the full justification will be provided in the relevant EIA Report chapter.
	Requirement for non-injurious screening to prevent fish from being drawn into the Development	In discussions with SEPA, a screen with the appropriate aperture has been agreed to avoid ingress of fish into the Development, or injury to fish.

Consultee	Summary of Scoping Response Received or Post-Scoping Consultation	Applicant's Response or Post-Scoping Consultation Summary
	Requirement for the Moriston Special Area of Conservation (SAC) to be assessed	The Applicant can confirm that the Moriston SAC has been included in the Statement to Inform an Appropriate Assessment which is submitted with the Section 36 Application.
	Assessment of fish populations in smaller burns	The Applicant has prepared a desk based assessment as agreed with SEPA. The desk assessment considered that no fish would be present and so no surveys have been undertaken on the burns, with the exception of aquatic invertebrates.
	Assessment of Invasive non-native species (INNS)	<p>The design evolution presented in Section 4 and in Chapter 3: Evolution of Design and Alternatives of the EIA Report has demonstrated how the Applicant has designed the Development with INNS in mind.</p> <p>An INNS desk study and aquatic invertebrate survey has been undertaken on several burns within the red line boundary. The results identified the presence of no aquatic INNS so far with only a few samples left to analyse. This is expected to confirm that no INNS exist within the red line boundary of the Development. Nonetheless, an Outline Biosecurity Management Plan is outlined in the CEMP (Appendix 3.1, Volume 5).</p> <p>In addition, an INNS Risk Assessment is contained within Appendix 7.2, the conclusions of which have been agreed with SEPA and SNH.</p>
	Entrainment and / or impingement of fish	In discussions with SEPA, a screen with the appropriate aperture has been agreed to avoid ingress of fish into the Development or injury to fish.
Ness District Salmon Fishery Board	Cumulative assessment on proposed projects but also existing developments such as SSE Hydro Dams at Invergarry and Dundreggan, Foyers Power Station and the Caledonian Canal	A cumulative assessment has been undertaken on the project, agreed with THC which includes the proposed Coire Glas capacity increase. The existing hydro power and water based schemes form part of the existing baseline environment considered in the assessment. A water balance calculation and an assessment of the proposed effects to water levels in Loch Ness is provided in Chapter 9: Flood Risk and Water Resources of the EIA Report.

Consultee	Summary of Scoping Response Received or Post-Scoping Consultation	Applicant's Response or Post-Scoping Consultation Summary
	Reduction of water levels in Loch Ness and impact at fish pass at Ness Weir	A water balance calculation and an assessment of the proposed effects to water levels in Loch Ness is provided in Chapter 9: Flood Risk and Water Resources of the EIA Report. It is not expected that any temporary drop in water levels would adversely affect fish populations in Loch Ness or at the fish pass, as water levels would be little changed and remain within the existing range. In addition, the Development will be regulated through a CAR licence which will determine the hydrological conditions where the Development can discharge and / or abstract.
	Disruption of migratory behaviour resulting from discharge of water from the outlet	Due to the screen, it is not anticipated that the discharge from the Development will adversely impact fish populations which may be present at the point of discharge. The flow will be controlled via the CAR licence and dispersed in a controlled manner. In addition, there is anticipated to be no significant temperature change.
	Requirement for a Fisheries Impact Assessment	The fisheries impact assessment is incorporated into the Ecological Impact Assessment within Chapter 7: Aquatic Ecology.
	Consideration of phasing, timing, access routes, development footprint and construction works in design	The Development has had full consideration of the sensitive ecological features in the wider area as well as other environmental features. The timings of critical works (such as blasting) will be programmed to avoid these sensitive times as far as practically possible. An Outline CEMP is contained in Appendix 3.1 (Volume 5) of the EIA Report, and provides further detail about the timings of works and likely mitigation measures if these cannot be avoided.
RSPB	Opposed to Option A due to direct impacts on black-throated and red-throated diver. Consider potential of artificial rafts	The Applicant can confirm the Option A is not the chosen orientation of the Headpond. Therefore there will be no direct loss of the two lochs used by the black and red-throated diver. It will not be possible to have artificial rafts within the now-proposed operational Headpond due to the regular fluctuation of water levels.
	Requirement for HRA Screening Assessment for proximity to Slavonian Grebe in the Loch Ashie Special Protection Area (SPA)	A Statement to Inform an Appropriate Assessment has been prepared and is submitted with the Section 36 application.
	Impacts on raptors and requirement to liaise with Highland Raptor Study Group (HRSG)	Raptor surveys have been undertaken and HRSG has been consulted.

Consultee	Summary of Scoping Response Received or Post-Scoping Consultation	Applicant's Response or Post-Scoping Consultation Summary
Scottish Water	Confirmation of Black Grouse on site and requirement for a minimum buffer of 1.5km for the survey	The Applicant can confirm that this survey buffer has been applied in the surveys undertaken.
	Scottish Water noted concerns over a variety of topics, and namely the proximity of the Development to Loch Ashie and Loch Duntelchaig and any potential effects on the lochs which are used for drinking water.	All points have been noted and the design and assessment takes account of these sensitivities.
	Ecology – concerns over INNS and cross catchment transfer	In addition to changes in the design of the Inlet / Outlet in Loch Ness, an INNS desk study and risk assessment has been prepared and is included with Appendix 7.1 and 7.2 (Volume 5) of the EIA Report. In addition, a Biosecurity Management Plan is contained within the CEMP (Appendix 3.1, Volume 5) which will minimise the potential of cross catchment transfer during construction.
	Geology and Hydrogeology – no mention that the Development is located in the catchments of Loch Ashie and Loch Duntelchaig Drinking Water Protection Area (DWPA). Further assessment / information required on interaction and impacts on aquifers. Impact of Option A on local hydrology and water availability in Loch Duntelchaig, and requirement for a study on dewatering Loch na Curra and Lochan an Eoin Ruadha	Option B was chosen as the Headpond orientation and therefore section 8.2.1 of the Scoping Report is not relevant. However potential effects on these aforementioned features and local hydrology have been considered in the EIA Report in Chapter 10: Water Environment. A dewatering study of the two lochs which were to be utilised by Option A is not required, as Option B is the chosen orientation of the Headpond.
	Loss of Loch Duntelchaig catchment	The EIA Report will include figures to show how the final orientation of the Headpond has been adjusted to avoid the Duntelchaig catchment as far as reasonably possible. This is outlined in Chapter 9: Flood Risk and Water Resources and Chapter 10: Water Environment
	Requirement for Panel Engineer sign off	The Applicant can confirm that a Flood Risk Assessment and breach analysis has been undertaken to inform the EIA Report, and this is contained in Appendix 9.1 of Volume 5. In addition, the Applicant's consultant has a registered Panel Engineer within the design team and has had detailed involvement with the design of the Headpond.

Consultee	Summary of Scoping Response Received or Post-Scoping Consultation	Applicant's Response or Post-Scoping Consultation Summary
	Requirement for construction phase Environmental Manager	The Applicant can confirm that this is a responsibility included within the CEMP and will be responsible for implementing all appropriate mitigation measures as required.
	Site Layout – requirement for detailed plans	The Applicant can confirm that the EIA Report has provided detailed plans of the Development in Volume 3 of the Section 36 submission.
	Water Environment (Controlled Activities (CAR)) (Scotland) Regulations 2011 – requirement for information to be contained within the EIA Report and twin track the application	The Applicant can confirm that a CAR licence application will be submitted shortly after the Section 36 application has been submitted and registered.
SEPA (comments are made to Appendix 1: Detailed Scoping Requirements)	Other Impacts on the water Environment	<p>The design of the Development has been amended to avoid direct impacts on the water environment as far as reasonably and practically possible. Chapter 2 of the EIA Report provides detailed information on the design and Chapter 3: Evolution of Design and Alternatives provides a thorough outline of the design evolution, including embedded mitigation which has been integral to the design.</p> <p>The associated figures provide the detail requested by SEPA as far as reasonably possible, and have identified where this is indicative / to be finalised by the contractor.</p> <p>Chapter 9: Flood Risk and Water Resources and Chapter 10: Water Environment (and their associated Appendices) provides information on other potential likely effects on the water environment. The EIA Report is accompanied by a CEMP (Appendix 3.1, Volume 5) and Outline Water Management Plan (Appendix 10.5, Volume 5).</p>
	Disturbance and re-use of excavated peat and other carbon rich soils	As discussed with SEPA, phase 1 peat probing has been undertaken and limited peat identified in the areas of main construction works and excavation. Full details of the survey will be provided in the EIA Report (Appendix 5.1 and 5.3, Volume 5).
	Disruption to Groundwater Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystems (GWDTE)	A National Vegetation Classification (NVC) survey has been undertaken and the full results provided in Appendix 6.1 (Volume 5) of the EIA Report. There is likely to be some permanent loss of GWDTEs in the location of the Headpond and potential effects on GWDTE near Loch Ness. The EIA Report chapter outlines the required mitigation.

Consultee	Summary of Scoping Response Received or Post-Scoping Consultation	Applicant's Response or Post-Scoping Consultation Summary
	Existing groundwater abstractions	The Applicant has liaised with THC over records of private water supplies (PWS) and other abstractions to inform the EIA Report. In addition, the Applicant also sent out questionnaires to the local community as part of the public consultation to gain further feedback on available and operational PWS. This information has informed the assessment contained in Chapter 10: Water Environment of the EIA Report and also the CEMP provides details on how these features will be protected during the construction phase.
	Forest removal and forest waste	Given the Headpond orientation, forestry removal will be required during the construction phase to facilitate the creation of the Headpond, compounds and access tracks. A forestry design plan has been prepared and is submitted with the EIA Report, in addition to a Landscape and Ecological Management Plan. Details of forestry waste hierarchy and management are proposed in the CEMP (Appendix 3.1, Volume 5).
	Borrow Pits	There is an existing borrow pit which will be initially utilised prior to the excavation of the Headpond. The details required by SEPA will be included in the EIA Report.
	Pollution Prevention and Environmental Management	These details will be included in the CEMP (Appendix 3.1, Volume 5).
	Decommissioning	A description of the decommissioning phase is included with the Project Description and assessed where necessary in the EIA Report.
	Designated Sites	All points noted. A Statement to Inform an Appropriate Assessment is included in the Section 36 submission.
Scottish Natural Heritage	INNS	<p>The design evolution presented in Section 2 has demonstrated how the Applicant has designed the Development with INNS in mind.</p> <p>An INNS desk study and aquatic invertebrate survey has been undertaken on several burns within the red line boundary and this is contained within Appendix 7.1 of Volume 5. An Outline Biosecurity Management Plan is included in the CEMP (Appendix 3.1, Volume 5).</p> <p>An INNS risk assessment is contained within Appendix 7.2 (Volume 5) which demonstrates the closed loop system in relation to INNS. Both SEPA and SNH agree with its conclusions.</p>

Consultee	Summary of Scoping Response Received or Post-Scoping Consultation	Applicant's Response or Post-Scoping Consultation Summary
	Woodland Removal	Chapter 12: Forestry (Volume 2) and its associated figures (Volume 5) provide information on the forestry removal , management, felling, and restocking.
	Landscape & Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA)	<p>The Applicant has liaised with the landscape officer of SNH to agree viewpoints and the methodology to be utilised for the landscape and visual assessment. Landscape representation was made during the Pre-Application Advice meeting held on the 27th September 2017 and this continued post-Scoping to finalise the viewpoint locations when Option B Headpond was confirmed.</p> <p>The Applicant recognises that landscape and visual is a key factor for the application, and has closely integrated the landscape and visual team into the engineering design team. This has resulted in design changes and various mitigation measures being embedded into the final design of the Development described in Section 1.1, and as outlined in Chapter 3: Evolution of Design and Alternatives.</p>
	Fisheries	The Applicant prepared a desk-based assessment. On the basis of agreement with SEPA and the results of the desk-based assessment, no further surveys are anticipated and the full justification will be provided in the relevant EIA Report chapter.
Transport Scotland	No requirement for noise or air quality assessments for trunk road receptors	The Applicant can confirm that these have not been undertaken.

Appendix C – Public Exhibition Adverts

public notices



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

ROADS SCOTLAND ACT 1984

A96 DUALLING INVERNESS TO NAIRN (INCLUDING NAIRN BYPASS) SCHEME

NOTICE OF PRE-INQUIRY MEETING

The Scottish Ministers in exercise of the powers conferred on them by Section 139 of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 and paragraph 1 of the Fourth Schedule of the Acquisition of Land (Authorisation Procedure) (Scotland) Act 1947 have appointed Mr David Buylia BA(Hons) MRTPI and Mr Nick Smith BSc(Hons) MRTPI to call and hold a public local inquiry in connection with the undernoted orders against which objections have been lodged and have not been withdrawn.

- The A96 Trunk Road (Inverness to Nairn, including Nairn Bypass) Compulsory Purchase Order 201[]
- The A96 Trunk Road (Inverness to Nairn, including Nairn Bypass) Extinguishment of Rights of Way Order 201[]
- The A96 Trunk Road (Inverness to Nairn, including Nairn Bypass) Trunking and Detrunking Order 201[]
- The A96 Trunk Road (Inverness to Nairn, including Nairn Bypass) Side Roads Order 201[]

Scottish Ministers have directed that a pre-inquiry meeting will be held. This meeting will be held in public and will commence at 10:00am on Tuesday 05 June 2018 within the Raigmore Suite of the Jurys Inn Hotel, Millburn Road, Inverness, IV2 3TR. This venue has full disabled access. The purpose of the meeting is solely to discuss the administrative arrangements for the inquiry and for the pre-inquiry disclosure of the cases that parties wish to make. No discussion will take place concerning the merits of parties' cases.

Members of the public are welcome to attend and observe proceedings at the pre-inquiry meeting if they wish. All documents submitted in relation to the orders have been published on the DPEA website at www.dpea.scotland.gov.uk. On entering the website, type the case reference number CPO-270-3 into the 'Search by case reference' box to find all documents relating to the orders. Further documents will be uploaded to the website as they become available. If you require any further information please contact Mr Colin Bell at the Planning and Environmental Appeals Division, 4 The Courtyard, Callendar Business Park, Falkirk, FK1 1XR, Telephone 0131 244 6902 or by e-mailing colin.bell@gov.scot
DAVID HENDERSON
Planning and Environmental Appeals Division
4 The Courtyard, Callendar Business Park, FALKIRK FK1 1XR

RED JOHN PUMPED STORAGE HYDRO NOTICE OF PUBLIC EVENT

There will be a public exhibition presenting the proposed Red John Pumped Storage Hydro Project on

**Wednesday the 27th and Thursday the 28th of June
at Dores Community Hall.**

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general notices

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GARDENS OPEN FOR CHARITY

Field House Belladrum Beaulieu IV4 7BA	Sunday 4th June	2pm-4.30pm
Malin Glenaldie Tain IV19 IND	Saturday 10th June Sunday 11th June	11am-5pm
Brackla Wood Culbokie Dingwall IV7 8GY	Thursday 22nd June	2pm-4.30pm
House of Aigas by Beaulieu IV4 7AD	Sunday 25th June	2pm-5pm
Torcroft Balnain Glenurquhart IV63 6TJ	Saturday 1st July Sunday 2nd July 3rd July - 29th August Mondays & Tuesdays only	2pm-5pm 2pm-5pm 2pm-5pm

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR FULL LISTINGS OF OPEN GARDENS
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**GREEN DRIVE HALL
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Share your Memories of Inverness in the

60s, 70s & 80s

We're asking you to share your old pictures with us for the next edition of our Inverness Remembered series.

Vol XIV will focus on memories of Inverness from the 60s, 70s and 80s – school photos, street scenes, groups of friend or colleagues, weddings, celebration or any picture that will stir people's memories of life in Inverness during these decades.

The success of the Inverness Remembered series has all been down to our contributors. We always treat any photographs you send us with care and ensure they are returned to their original owner.

See your memories in print – dig out your old photos from the loft or the cupboard and send them to: **Inverness Remembered Photographs**, The Inverness Courier New Century House, Stadium Road, Inverness IV1 1FG

Or alternatively scan them and email to:
s.barron@spp-group.com

Please remember to include your contact details and as much of a description of the photographs as you can.

We're aiming to publish the Inverness Remembered Vol XIV in time for Christmas



a nostalgic look at yesterday's
Inverness
REMEMBERED VOLUME XIII

The Inverness Courier

public notices

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PROPOSED LET OF A CROFT

James Clark is applying to let the tenancy of the croft at Blairconard, Boleskine & Abertarff to Daniel Clark of 4 Abertarff Place, Fort Augustus.

Written comments from those with a relevant interest (which may be made public) to: Crofting Commission, Leachkin Road, Inverness IV3 8NW, info@gov.scot within 28 days from the date of the advert.

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For further information or exhibitor enquires contact either **CLAIRE MILLAR** or **SARAH ROSS** on

01343 548777

weddingshow@northern-scot.co.uk

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Beaulieu IV4 7AD June

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VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR FULL LISTINGS OF OPEN GARDENS

WWW.SCOTLANDSGARDENS.ORG
Scottish Charity No. SC011337

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publicnotices

www.highland.gov.uk



THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL

**THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL TREE PRESERVATION ORDER
NO.HC132, 2018 STRATTON, INVERNESS**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN in terms of Regulation 4 of the Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation Order and Trees in Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Regulations 2010 of the following particulars in relation to The Highland Council Tree Preservation Order No. HC132, 2018 Stratton, Inverness, which was made on 5th June 2018.

- The reason for making this Order is that these areas of trees are important amenity features between the A96 trunk road and the village of Culloden. The Order will allow the Council to maintain these features in conjunction with proposed residential development in the area and will allow the Council to encourage appropriate longer term management.
- Certified copies of the Order have been deposited for inspection, free of charge, at the offices during the hours mentioned below:-
(a) Service Point, Town House, Castle Street Inverness IV1 1JJ
(b) Planning & Development Service, Council Buildings, Glenurquhart Road, Inverness,
Mondays to Fridays 9.30am to 4.30pm.
- Objections and representations in respect of the Order may be made, in writing, to The Highland Council at Planning and Development Service, Council Buildings, Glenurquhart Road, Inverness, IV3 5NX (Ref: Grant Stuart Forestry Officer), not later than 28 days from the date of the service of the Notice of the making of the Order or the date of publication of the Notice by advertisement as the case may be. Objections and representations shall state the grounds thereof, and shall specify the particular trees or groups of trees in respect of which the Order is made.
- The Planning Authority shall, before deciding whether to confirm the Order, take into consideration any objections and representations duly made in accordance with the said Regulation 4.
- Section 161 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, as amended states that a Tree Preservation Order takes effect on such date as may be specified in the Order but expires 6 months after it is made unless it has, within that period, been confirmed by the planning authority without modification or subject to such modifications as the planning authority consider expedient.

Stewart D Fraser
Head of Corporate Governance
Council Buildings
Glenurquhart Road
Inverness IV3 5NX

Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, as amended by the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006

Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure)(Scotland) Regulations 2013

Notice published under regulation 7(2)

Ardersier Port Ltd (the applicant) gives notice of the proposal to submit an application for the renewal of Planning Permission in Principle Application Reference 13/01689/PIP to establish a port and port related services for energy related uses, including marine channel dredging, quay realignment, repair and maintenance, erection of offices, industrial and storage buildings, delivery and export of port related cargo and associated new road access, parking, infrastructure, services, temporary stockpiling of dredged material, re-grading and upfiling of landward areas and landscaping at the Former Fabrication Yard, Ardersier

A public drop-in information event will be held prior to the submission of this planning application. The event will be held at:

**Ardersier War Memorial Hall, Station Road, Ardersier, IV2 7SU
on Thursday 21st June between 2 – 6pm.**

Any persons wishing to make comments relating to the proposal or wishing to obtain further information may do so by contacting:

Ardersier Port Ltd
c/o Kerri McGuire
Graham + Sibbald
233 St Vincent Street
Glasgow
G2 5QY
Telephone: 0141 567 5371
Email: kerri.mcguire@g-s.co.uk

Comments should be submitted to Graham + Sibbald by Friday 29th June 2018.

Please note that comments made directly to the applicant and their agent are not representations to the Council. Once a planning application has been submitted there will be an opportunity to make representations on the application to the Council.

Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence

MACLEAN TRANSPORT SERVICES LIMITED
of
GREENFIELDS NAIRNSIDE INVERNESS IV2 5BT

is applying for a licence to use HHH Ltd, Tomich Industrial Estate, Muir of Ord, IV6 7WA as an operating centre for 2 goods vehicles and 2 trailers.

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds LS9 6NF, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's office.

ADVERTISEMENT CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE

- The placing of an order either verbal or written will be deemed as acceptance of these conditions.
- Whilst every endeavour is made to insert advertisements as ordered, guarantee of insertion cannot be given and no responsibility can be taken (a) for damage or loss of reproduction materials, (b) for shrinkage, (c) for any consequential loss or damage caused by error or inaccuracy in the printing, (d) for the omission of any advertisement or (e) for any loss or damage alleged to arise from the delay in forwarding replies to Box Numbers however caused.
- The Company reserves the right to refuse or amend any advertisement which may cause offence or which does not comply with Company policy.
- Should the rates for advertisements be altered, the price for the remaining insertions shall be revised accordingly or the advertisement may be cancelled for the remaining part of the order.
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- Advertisements may be altered or cancelled up to the normal advertisement order deadlines.
- The Company reserves the right to revise the conditions and rates without prior notification.
- Refunds will only be given on production of receipt.
- Payment: All private advertisements must be paid for at the time of placing the order. Advertisements costing £65 or less will not be taken without prepayment, unless the person/company placing the order already holds an account agreement with this Company. Payment of accounts must be made within 30 days of the invoice date: failure to do so may result in credit facilities being withdrawn. We are pleased to accept Visa, Access, Mastercard or Eurocard.

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Business Opportunity

We are offering a lease opportunity to run a business within an existing woodland site at Drumnarnoch, Littleburn, Munloch, Inverness-shire, IV8 8PE (Grid Ref NH 6303 5331).

To express interest and receive the tender brief, please contact inverness.rossskye@forestry.gsi.gov.uk

Notes of interest must be received by Noon on 29 June 2018.

www.forestry.gov.uk/scotland

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The Inverness Courier

FERRIES

CalMac supports young islanders

Ferry operator CalMac is supporting the Scottish Government's Year of Young People (YoYP) with two new ticketing initiatives.

Around 500 YoYP 2018 Ambassadors have been recruited to make sure young people and organisations in local communities all over the country know about YoYP 2018 events.

Ambassadors living within the islands CalMac serve are being supported with a selection of free vouchers to YoYP events and all other YoYP Ambassadors (including those on the mainland) will be supplied with a 50% off travel voucher.

CalMac director of community and stakeholder engagement, Brian Fulton, said: "It is a privilege to support the YoYP 2018 Ambassadors and all the hard work they are doing."



'NICE GUY': Chef Gary Gallogley died in a fire in a flat in Inverness on April 5

Man accused of killing chef after flat fire

Death: Family's tribute to 'quiet guy'

BY ALISTAIR MUNRO

A man appeared in private at court yesterday accused of murdering a 54-year-old hotel chef – described by his family as a "nice, quiet guy" – who died after a blaze at a block of flats in Inverness.

Gary Gallogley died in hospital on April 5 following a fire at his home on Mackintosh Road two days earlier.

Ryan Brandie, 23, made no plea. He was committed for further examination and remanded in custody.

It is expected he will make another appearance within the next eight days.

Mr Gallogley, who was originally from Coatbridge, near Glasgow, had lived alone at the flat since 2002.

A family member, who did not wish to be named, said yesterday: "He was a nice guy, a quiet guy who would have done anything for anyone. We are devastated."

"He had moved to the Highlands a few years ago

"He would have done anything for anyone. We are devastated"

and loved the life. He first moved to Aviemore to work in a hotel, but then moved further north to Inverness and decided to stay.

"He worked in a number of hotels in Inverness, but was not working at the time of the incident."

Mr Gallogley had just returned from attending his brother-in-law's funeral in the Central Belt the day before the blaze.

The fire broke out around 10.15pm on the Tuesday, and several residents were evacuated from the block of flats.

Mr Gallogley was rushed to nearby Raigmore Hospital but died two days later of his injuries.

Four appliances from the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service were called to extinguish the blaze.

Detective Inspector Eddie Ross said: "I'd like to thank the local community for their patience during our inquiries. Our thoughts are with Mr Gallogley's family and friends at this sad time."

NATURE

Kids go wild on the ferry

Youngsters sailing to the Northern Isles are to be given a free wildlife pack to help them discover the natural wonders of the Highlands.

The pack, containing a set of pop-up binoculars and a wildlife calendar, will provide helpful nature tips on wildlife found between mainland Scotland and the Northern Isles and will be distributed aboard all three of Northlink Ferries passenger vessels.

The scheme is in partnership with RSPB Scotland and Orca to mark Scotland's Year of Young People 2018.

James Linklater, of NorthLink Ferries, said: "Sailing from the Scottish mainland to Orkney and Shetland is the perfect opportunity to take in the sights of some breathtaking species including seals and puffins."

Futuristic distillery may draw in 30,000 visitors

TOURISM

Whisky aficionados are expected to descend on Speyside en masse this weekend to be among the first to visit a futuristic new distillery.

Macallan is opening its new visitor attraction and production facility today, which has been more than six years in construction and planning as part of a £140 million project.

Yesterday, the whisky giant warned visitors they were expecting to be "very busy" throughout the day with "long queues" – even

warning people planning to visit that there is "no guaranteed entry".

Hotel operators have reported being busier than normal for the time of year

"We expect it to benefit tourism, exports and the economy"

ahead of the launch with some enthusiasts reported to be arriving in the early hours of the morning to be the first to see inside.

Images of the sloping

grass roof have been shared on social media.

The base, which is cut into a slope above Craigellachie, is expected to double the amount of tourists visiting the firm's historic home to more than 30,000 this year.

The new distillery will also allow the drinks company to increase production by up to a third.

Ian Curle, CEO of Edrington, said: "We expect this new Macallan enterprise to deliver significant benefits for the tourism industry, whisky exports and the economy."



Macallan's state-of-the-art new distillery close to Craigellachie is cut into a slope



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City's secret green space

Nature: Community invited to share thoughts on future of reserve

BY SUSY MACAULAY
LOCAL DEMOCRACY REPORTER

Come and enjoy our best-kept secret – that's the message from a group running a wild green space at the heart of one of Inverness's most deprived areas.

Merkinch Local Nature Reserve (MLNR) is yards from 'the Ferry', an area of the city long linked to poverty and crime.

MLNR's new project manager Caroline Snow has been inviting the local community to drop-in sessions to find out what they want for this hidden gem on their doorstep.

Extending west along the Beaully Firth from the old Kessock ferry ticket office, MLNR boasts sea shore and mud flats, pools, swamps and woodland.

Caroline says dolphins regularly swim by and she has even seen a humpback whale and pod of pilot whales.

Otters can often be spotted, along with herons, terns, oyster catchers and there are regular reports of an osprey flying over in the afternoons.

She said: "There have also been sightings of a sea eagle. The wildlife here is astounding."

Turning away from the shore, the reserve has woodland approached through two grassy picnic areas where swallows swoop and finches flit from tree to tree.

Roe deer live in the woods and a kingfisher has even been seen at the far end of the 55 ha reserve.

Caroline's three-year post, funded by the Big Lottery, involves engaging with the Merkinch



PROJECT: Caroline Snow wants the community to have an input about Merkinch Local Nature Reserve. Photograph by Sandy McCook

community, encouraging them to visit the reserve and finding out how they want to use it.

She said: "We had our first drop-in session this week, and people came up with a lot of different ideas."

"The most negative thing I heard was someone didn't like the number of dogs running round and they felt slightly threatened by that, so we're planning to encourage responsible dog ownership."

"But there were lots of positive things, people asking to find out what species live here, what

wildlife, what trees and so on.

"Somebody suggested that we plant lots of edible food trees, so I'm thinking about raised bed gardens and planting fruit trees. I think that would be a nice way to bring the community together."

Caroline's own programme of events for MLNR includes a kids' club every Friday throughout the summer, some joint projects to look at moths and butterflies with countryside ranger John Orr, and evening surveys of bats.

She said, "We'll also be doing guided walks to tell people what lives here and grows here."

"In August we'll have an astronomy night with local mathematician and astronomer Stephen Mackintosh."

"We're even thinking about having a silent disco, where people can cut all sorts of groovy shapes as they listen to music on headphones."

She added: "The more ideas the better and I will chip away and make as many things happen as I possibly can."

RECORD Piper donates funds to charities

BY JAMIE MCKENZIE

A Nairn piper who broke the world record for playing the bagpipes has raised £4,500 for a range of charities and organisations.

Andrew MacLennan played his pipes for 26 hours, 59 minutes and seven seconds, breaking the previous record by almost an hour.

And yesterday at Hootananny's pub in Inverness, £1,500 of the money raised was each donated to representatives from Highland Hospice, Maggie's Cancer Care and the Drumadrochit Piping Society.

Mr MacLennan broke the piping record last month and took the title from Rikki Evans from Porthlethen in Aberdeenshire.

He has also written a new tune which was raffled off to help raise funds.

New Orkney school officially opened by Deputy First Minister John Swinney

EDUCATION
BY ALISTAIR MUNRO

Orkney's newest school was officially opened yesterday by Deputy First Minister John Swinney.

The Scottish Government supported the construction of Evie primary school with a grant of £1.36 million from the Scotland's Schools for the Future programme.

Orkney Islands Council contributed £1.74 million

towards the project. Many of the 38 primary pupils and 16 nursery children watched as Mr Swinney unveiled a plaque marking the official opening, along with parents, staff and people from the community.

Mr Swinney said: "Working in partnership with Orkney Islands Council and Scottish Futures Trust, the Scottish Government has provided

more than £1.4million to help ensure the community has access to dynamic, high tech facilities which will make a real difference to educational outcomes.

"It was a pleasure to be asked to officially open Evie Community School, which is a fantastic state of the art facility parents, learners and staff can all be proud of."

Council convener Harvey Johnston said: "A

new school serving Evie and Rendall had been an aspiration for the council and the community for many years.

"We are grateful for the assistance we received from the Scottish Government in getting the project off the ground. From the warm welcome offered to the deputy first minister it is all too apparent how pleased the children and staff are with their new school."



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Does On Loch Ness added an event. 7 hrs ·

There will be a public exhibition presenting the proposed Red John Pumped Storage Hydro Project



WED, JUN 27 AND 1 MORE

Public Event - Red John Pumped Storage Does

1

Community Organization

Community [See All](#)

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Community Organization

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Team Members

John Hedger

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Internet Explorer browser window showing the website <http://doresonlochness.co.uk/>. The page title is "Dores On Loch Ness Community Web Site".

The page features a navigation menu on the left side with the following items:

- Home Page
- Community Market
- Dores Allotments ▶
- Village Hall ▶
- Local Groups ▶
- All About Dores ▶
- Local Businesses ▶
- Activities ▶
- Dores Post Office
- The Dores Inn
- Bus Timetable
- Refuse Collections
- Local Contacts ▶

The main content area displays a welcome message: "Welcome to the Dores Community Website". Below this, there is a section titled **Pump Station Exhibition - 27th & 28th June.**

The text describes the Dores & Essich Parish, stating it extends from the outskirts of Inverness to the shores of Loch Ness. It notes that much of the land is rural and farmed with extensive tracts of plantation and natural forest. The main settlement is the village of Dores, which is a pleasant village situated on the northern end of Loch Ness. Its inhabitants mostly work in Inverness, 10 miles away.

Below the text is an aerial photograph of the Dores area, showing the river and surrounding landscape.

The browser's address bar shows the URL <http://doresonlochness.co.uk/>. The search bar contains the text "Environmental Impact". The system tray at the bottom right shows the time as 17:39 on 29/05/2018.

Appendix D – Exhibition Boards and Pictures



Who Are ILI?

We have been developing residential and renewable energy projects for nearly 15 years, ranging from single medium sized wind turbines that benefit from the UK's Feed-in Tariff to large scale windfarms. In recognition of this success, we were a finalist at the 2014 and 2015 Scottish Green Energy Awards.

We have now diversified into pumped storage schemes as we seek to play our part in meeting Scotland's future energy needs. Our proposal to develop pumped storage schemes in Scotland was acknowledged in the Scottish Governments energy paper, Scottish Energy Strategy: The Future of Energy in Scotland.

We have successfully raised project funding through Abundance Investment. They have a commitment to only invest in ethical, green projects making them the perfect investment partner.

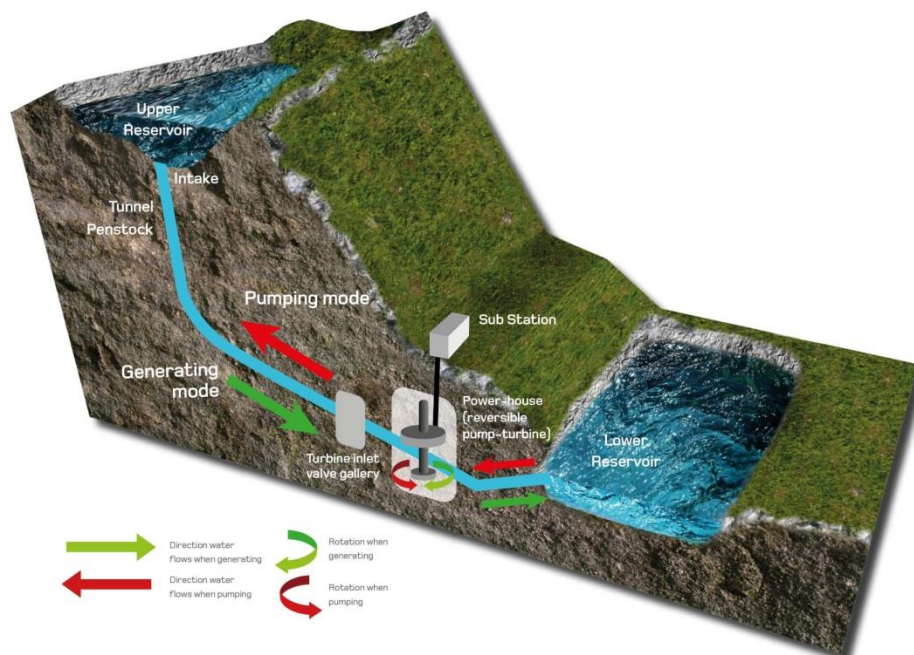


What is Pumped Storage Hydro?

Pumped storage hydro has been used in the UK since the 1960s. The purpose of pumped storage hydro schemes is to store excess electricity that is generated from the UK's baseload energy generation (such as nuclear and coal or gas power stations) and provide balance in the grid during periods of high demand as well as periods of excess supply. Excess energy is available typically at night when demand for electricity from the grid is low, and the baseload power stations take a longer time to reduce power from peak activity during the day; this is in addition to any intermittent energy available from renewable energy sources such as wind farms and solar parks.

Water is pumped from a lower reservoir (or tailpond) to an upper reservoir (or headpond) using excess available energy. Once the water is stored in the headpond, it is then discharged through turbines when required to create electricity during times of peak demand.

Pumped storage hydro has the potential to smooth out the peaks and troughs in our energy supply, a characteristic that will become increasingly important as the UK transitions from conventional energy generation to renewable and more intermittent technologies. Pumped storage hydro is currently the most efficient way of storing large amounts of electricity, and with short start-up times, it is one of the best technologies to help smooth fluctuations in the UK grid.





The Planning Process, Environmental Impact Assessment and Consultation

Planning Process

Pumped storage hydro schemes with an electrical output greater than 50 Mega Watts (MW) requires consent from the Scottish Ministers. This is a requirement under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 and is often referred to as a Section 36 consent.

Our application for Section 36 consent will be submitted to and managed by the Energy Consents Unit (ECU), a government department with the final decision being taken by the Scottish Ministers.

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

EIA is the process of identifying, evaluating and mitigating the likely significant effects of a proposed development. Independent environmental experts are conducting a range of environmental studies to assess what potential effects a pumped storage hydro could have. The scope of these studies is agreed by the ECU in consultation with the appropriate regulatory bodies, such as Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH), Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA), and the local planning authority. The results of these studies will help to inform the design of the pumped storage scheme and protect the environment by minimising potential effects on receptors such as local community, recreation and tourism, landscape, wildlife, and water quality.

The EIA is undertaken in parallel with the engineering development of the pumped storage hydro, which ensures that means of reducing potential effects can be embedded into the scheme design.

The studies will be presented in an EIA Report which also contains a non-technical summary. The results of the EIA will ensure that the potential effects of the pumped storage hydro are known to decision makers such as the Scottish Ministers and the local planning authority to inform their determination of consent.

Consultation

This Public Exhibition is an opportunity for you to make comments to us on our proposals for the pumped storage scheme before we make our application. Your comments, along with the results of ongoing environmental studies will inform the final design of the pumped storage scheme. Once the design is finalised, the Section 36 application will be submitted to the ECU and consent requested from the Scottish Ministers.

Once the application for Section 36 consent has been submitted, you will be able to read full copies of the ES online and at advertised locations within the local community. You will also be able to make comments via the ECU or local planning authority websites.



Intelligent

Land Investments
GROUP



Ecology

The Highlands provide habitat for a wide range of species including some of national and international importance. Areas throughout South Loch Ness have been designated for the protection of species and habitats. Loch Ashie and Loch Ruthven are both designated for their populations of Slavonian grebes and Creag nah Clag is recognised for its lichen diversity and geology.

A suite of ecological surveys looking at the habitats, plant and wildlife around the pumped storage scheme is currently underway. Relevant surveys for the area have been selected based on what the local habitat can support and the scope has been approved by the Highland Council, Scottish Natural Heritage and Scottish Environmental Protection Agency. The surveys cover:

- Habitats;
- Protected mammals (including otter, pine marten, wildcat, bats, red squirrel, badger and water vole);
- Breeding birds;
- Reptiles;
- Great crested newt;
- Invertebrates; and
- Invasive non-native species.

The surveys are conducted by suitably qualified experts in line with statutory requirements and methodologies provided in national guidelines. The results from the surveys will factor in the design of the pumped storage scheme and influence the construction programme to ensure that effects on ecology are minimised. The ecological assessment, including the results of the surveys will be reported within the EIA Report.



Recorded habitats within Red John study area.

Noise, Vibration and Air Quality

The pumped storage scheme is located in a rural setting with no major sources of noise or air pollution or emissions to air.

Noise

The noise assessment will be informed by baseline noise monitoring and modelling. The monitoring locations have been agreed in consultation with the Highland Council's Environmental Health Officer. The baseline noise survey has been completed and combined long term sound monitoring (for one week) and short term sound monitoring points (taken on one day).

Noise monitoring will determine the existing noise levels and allows future noise limits to be set for the construction and operational phases. The assessment will also consider vibration from construction activities and also construction traffic on public roads.

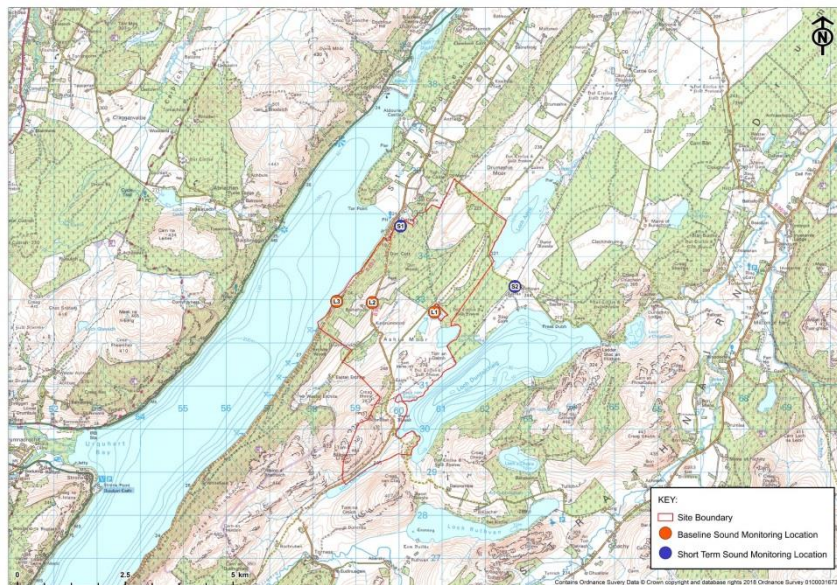
Once the scheme is operational, noise impacts from the pumped storage scheme are expected to be negligible due to the depth of the turbines. Both the surface and underground movements from vehicles during operation will also be considered.

Any noise impacts will be minimised through careful engineering design, construction planning and consultation with the Highland Council's Environmental Health Officer in addition to the local community. In addition a Noise Management Plan will be prepared and agreed with stakeholders as part of the EIA.

Air Quality

The likely air quality impacts will be from dust generated during construction and emissions from temporary generators for construction power. A Dust Management Plan will be prepared as part of the EIA Report.

Once operational, the pumped storage scheme is not anticipated to release any air emissions.



Noise monitoring locations.



Recreation and Tourism

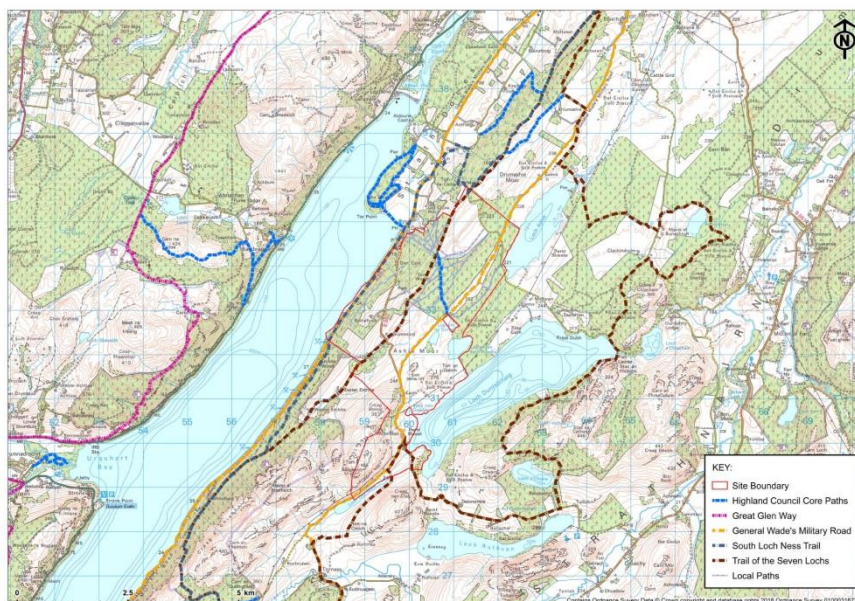
Loch Ness is a popular tourist destination and the area is renowned for its beauty and tranquillity. There is a range of visitor accommodation in the area around Dores, as well as recreational and sporting pursuits and visitor attractions. The area is connected into a wide network of footpaths and trails that are used for a variety of outdoor activities. There are also a number of local and regional events that are located around or that pass through Dores.

We want to maintain the appeal of the area while also delivering clean energy for Scotland and the UK. Our aim is that the pumped storage scheme will deliver additional local economic benefit, local jobs and opportunities. This includes proposed partnerships with local educational bodies and initiatives to provide apprenticeship opportunities, enabling local young people to gain new skills and experience.

We also want to maintain access during construction around the pumped storage scheme while safeguarding public safety. This may mean closing or diverting local routes and trails at times during peak construction or critical path activities. Any closures and diversions will be temporary and all routes will be reinstated post-construction to an equivalent or greater standard for those routes affected and the wider network where possible. These details will be provided in the EIA Report.

You can help with the recreation and tourism assessment by letting us know how you use the local area. Let us know which routes and trails you use and what activities you participate in. If you own a local business let us know about it. Get in touch by speaking to one of our representatives at the public exhibition, filling out a questionnaire, or emailing us at redjohnpsh@aecom.com.

Your comments will help us assess how the pumped storage scheme could affect recreation and tourism, and help us to minimise any adverse effects and enhance the benefits.



Recreational routes within study area.



Flood Risk and Water Quality

Water is a valuable resources and especially so around Loch Ness where there are a multitude of often competing uses including drinking, navigation, energy generation, nature conservation, fishing, bathing and other recreational activities. Downstream of the pumped storage scheme, there has been considerable flood defence investment in the River Ness Flood Protection Scheme to protect Inverness from flooding.

The EIA Report will assess:

- Water resources – The physical effects of the pumped storage scheme on surface and ground waters;
- Water quality – The chemical composition and ecological status of the receiving and surrounding water resources and how the pumped storage scheme may alter this;
- Water supply – Identifying drinking water supplies from Loch Ashie and Loch Duntelchaig to private water supplies and assessing how the pumped storage scheme may interact with these; and
- Flood risk – By modelling peak flood flows within the Loch Ness and the wider catchment in addition to the operation of the pumped storage scheme and assess flood risk at flood receptors.

The outcome of these assessments will feed into the design and operation of the pumped storage scheme, including appropriate siting of new infrastructure to avoid water bodies where possible, the design of watercourse crossings, surface water management and pollution control to avoid issues with any sensitive water bodies or drinking water supplies. The results will also be used to develop appropriate operational management such as not discharging water into Loch Ness when the catchment is in flood to avoid any additional flood risk to the downstream catchment.

We have consulted with the Highland Council to find out about private water supplies in the area. If you have a private water supply you would like us to know about, let us know by speaking to one of our representatives at the public exhibition and filling out a questionnaire, or emailing us at redjohnpsh@aecom.com.



View of Loch Ness from shoreline.



Burn within study area.

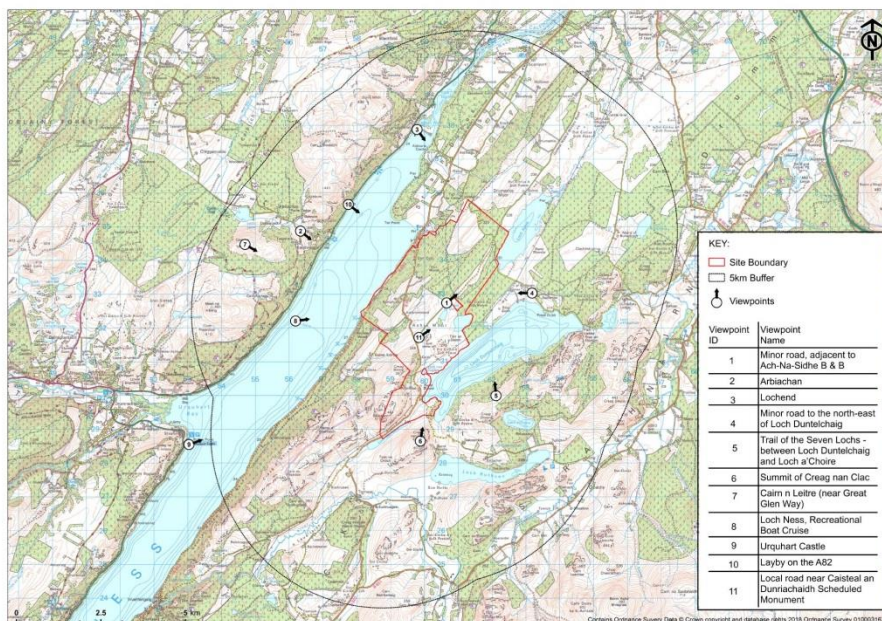
Landscape and Visual Amenity

The pumped storage scheme is located within an area of forestry set within a landscape characterised by undulating plateau moorland, Loch Ness and the dramatic Great Glen. It is located within the Loch Ness and Duntelchaig Special Landscape Area (SLA), which is a local designation identified by the Highland Council.

The primary aim of the landscape and visual assessment is to provide an objective way of understanding and assessing the likely change that the pumped storage scheme will have on the character and appearance of the surrounding landscape and on views experienced by people living there and using it. Parts of the pumped storage scheme will be visible from a number of locations in the surrounding area and the map below shows the location of the representative viewpoints used in the assessment. These have been agreed with the Highland Council and Scottish Natural Heritage and are used to help understand the likely change that could be experienced as a result of the introduction of the scheme.

As part of the assessment, visualisations of the pumped storage scheme within the existing landscape will be produced to help inform the Scottish Ministers decision. These will be available for viewing within the EIA Report.

The landscape and visual assessment is influencing the design of the scheme, helping to limit the effects on the landscape and on views and enabling the design of the scheme to be responsive and sympathetic to the local context. Through a process of careful consideration and siting of the above ground infrastructure, sensitive design of embankment profiles, the creation of earth bunding with native tree planting and the careful selection of construction materials, the pumped storage scheme will be integrated as effectively as possible into the surrounding landscape.



Landscape and Visual Viewpoints.

Traffic and Transportation

The Traffic and Transportation study will assess and quantify the traffic likely to be generated by the pumped storage scheme during the construction phase and will determine the most appropriate route(s) to the site.

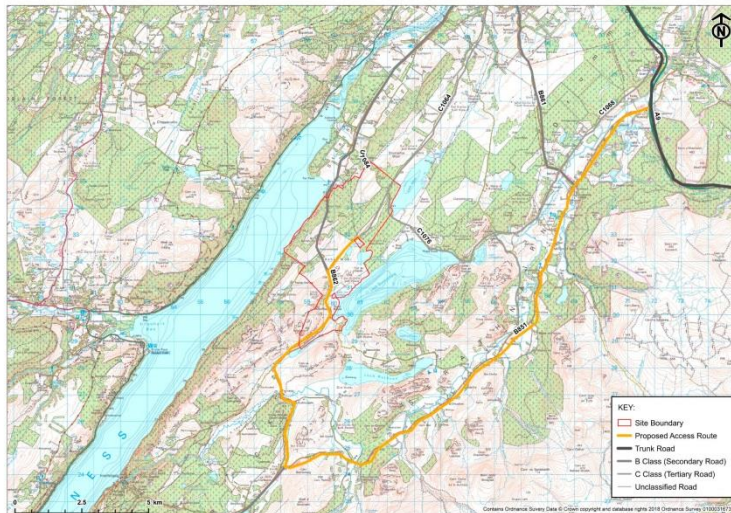
Road access to the pumped storage scheme is possible via a network of roads including the B862 (Dores Road), B851 (Errogie to Culloden Moor Road), B861 (Inverness to Inverarnie Road), C1064 (Ashie Moor Road), C1076, C1068 and U1083 (Darris Road), which make up the study network. The proposed access route at present is along the B851 from the A9 north of the pumped storage hydro and then south along the B862. This route is shown on the map below. No construction traffic will enter Dores and travel north on the B862.

The majority of the traffic is anticipated to be generated during the construction phase and will be as a result of a combination of staff in light vehicles travelling to and from the site and the heavy goods vehicles required to transport plant and materials to/from/within the site.

The C1064 will be permanently realigned around the headpond. A temporary replacement road will be made available ahead of construction works starting. Site access will utilise existing tracks and minor roads where possible. Other road improvement works may be required.

Traffic and transport impacts will be minimised and managed through a Traffic Management Plan, which will take local feedback into account and be developed in consultation with the Highland Council, Transport Scotland and Police Scotland.

Let us know your thoughts and help us determine suitable diversions, optimal times for deliveries and routes to and from the site. Get in touch by speaking to one of our representatives at the public exhibition or emailing us at redjohnpsh@aecom.com.



Access to the pumped storage scheme.



View along C1064.

Protecting the Environment

Forestry

A forestry assessment will be conducted to develop a forestry plan for the pumped storage scheme. The forestry plan will look at felling, restocking and for compensation planting so that there is no net loss in forest cover from the pumped storage scheme.

Archaeology

A cultural heritage assessment will look at both the designated and non-designated heritage assets in the area. Effects on heritage setting will be considered along with direct impacts on assets themselves. The assessment will be informed by national and local heritage records and also on site surveys.

Ground Conditions and Geology

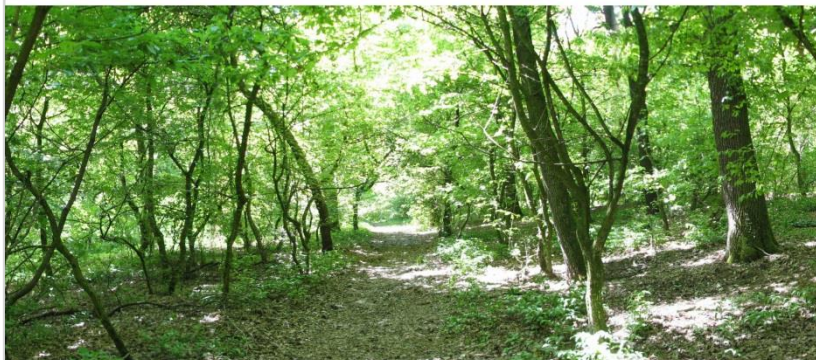
A geological and ground condition assessment will be conducted to look at the soils, solid geography and the hydrogeological conditions and groundwater resources. The design of the pumped storage scheme will be informed by peat surveys and ground investigations that will help to site and route the scheme elements.

Materials Management

Indicative calculations of the material generated by the construction of the pumped storage scheme will be produced via the engineering design. These calculations will also show the volume and type of material generated and then utilised by the construction of the pumped storage scheme, specifically the headpond and other structures. A Waste Management or Materials Management Plan will be prepared and submitted with the EIA Report.

Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP)

Construction of the pumped storage scheme will be conducted in accordance with a CEMP that will describe the management arrangements for the construction site and acts as a vehicle for transferring the construction mitigation identified within the EIA Report into practice. The CEMP is a crucial document during the construction phase and any mitigation identified in the CEMP must be complied with as a condition of the Section 36 consent. It will also detail the procedures for complaints and any environmental incidents.



Appendix E – Questionnaire and Feedback Form Templates

AECOM
1 Tanfield
Edinburgh
EH3 5DA
+44 131 301 8600
16/05/18

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Red John Pumped Storage Hydro – Business Questionnaire

In September 2017, Intelligent Land Investment (ILI) Group submitted a Scoping Report to the Scottish Government for the proposed construction and operation of a Pumped Storage Hydro facility off Loch Ness at Dores, approximately 14 kilometres (km) southwest of Inverness. The Project is designed to generate electricity during peak loadings on the National Grid. The Project reservoir (referred to as the headpond) will be replenished during times of surplus electricity by pumping water from Loch Ness up to the headpond.

As part of the section 36 application ILI have commissioned AECOM to undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to assess the potential impacts of the Project. This will be summarised in an EIA Report, which will be submitted later this year.

In order to inform the EIA Report, AECOM will be undertaking a socio-economic assessment to determine potential impacts and benefits to the local community, industry and employment during the construction and operational phases of the scheme. We will be assessing elements such as impacts on tourism, temporary accommodation for workers, and investigating the probability of utilising local trades and businesses. We recognise that tourism is important to the local area and would like to have an understanding of estimated booking patterns for accommodation and the frequency and volume of footpath and trail use.

We enclose a questionnaire that will inform the assessment specifically in relation to available accommodation in the area as well as the use of the footpaths and trails in the vicinity of the Project site. It would be sincerely appreciated if you could complete the enclosed questionnaire and return it to us by 25 June 2018. This will provide valuable information to inform the socio-economic assessment in the EIA Report.

You can send the questionnaire direct to us at RedJohnPSH@aecom.com. For more information about the proposed Red John pumped storage scheme please go to <http://www.redjohnpsh.co.uk/>. The Request for Scoping Report can be viewed on the Energy Consents Unit (ECU) website with the corresponding Scoping Opinion from the Scottish Ministers: <http://www.energyconsents.scot/ApplicationSearch.aspx> using the ECU reference number: ECU00000488.

As the Project progresses there will be further opportunities to provide comment. A public exhibition will be held at Dores Community Hall on Wednesday 27 and Thursday 28 of June. The exhibition will start at 3pm both days and finish at 8pm on the Thursday and 9pm on the Friday. You are invited to attend the exhibition to find out further details about the Project and to provide your feedback.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us at the email address above or via our website.

Yours sincerely,

AECOM Project Manager

Business Questionnaire

Red John Pumped Storage Hydro

Name and Address of Establishment:
Contact Name:
Contact Telephone:
Contact Email Address:

Question 1.		
Please choose one of the following which describes your business type. If you answer (a) please proceed to question 2. If you answer (b) – (e), please proceed to question 3.		
a. Accommodation	b. Food and drink	c. Tourism or recreation attraction
d. Local business or service	e. Other:	

Question 2.a		
Please choose one of the following which describes your accommodation facility:		
a. Hotel	b. B&B	c. Self-catered Accommodation
d. Campsite	e. Other (please specify):	

Question 2.b				
How many rooms do you have?				
a. 1-5	b. 6-10	c. 11-20	d. 21-30	e. More than 31

Please provide number of beds:

Question 2.c		
Please choose which of the following best describes the purpose of people staying at your accommodation facility:		
a. Business	b. Tourism and Recreation	c. Mixture of both
d. Other (please specify):		

Question 2.d
Please provide the approximate percentage of accommodation capacity used per month per purpose (i.e. 20% business, 80% tourism, 0% other in August)

Month	% Business	% Tourism & Recreation	% Other
January			
February			
March			
April			
May			
June			
July			
August			
September			
October			
November			
December			

<p>Question 3.a During construction, paths and roads around the Project may need to be closed or diverted in the interest of protecting public safety. Closures and diversions will be temporary and all routes will be reinstated post-construction. The Project will provide path improvements/ upgrades for the routes affected by construction. A map of potentially affected routes is enclosed. This question is regarding the business use of these footpaths and trails.</p>			
<p>What is your business?:</p>			
<p>Question 3.b Does your business rely on the local routes, paths and trails identified on the attached map?</p>		<p>Yes / No</p>	
<p>Question 3.c If yes, how frequently does your business use the routes, paths and trails?</p>			
<p>a. Annually</p>	<p>b. Monthly</p>	<p>c. Weekly</p>	<p>d. Daily</p>
<p>Question 3.d Using the route labels on the enclosed map, which are the routes you use most frequently?</p>			
<p>Question 3.e Do you have any comments regarding path and road closure and diversions?</p>			

Question 4.

Do you have any comments on the Project?

Private Water Supplies - This question only relates to businesses within the Dores and Essich Community Council area.

Under the Private Water Supplies (Scotland) Regulations 2006, local councils are required to keep a record of all private water supplies in their area. However an evaluation of the regulations conducted in 2016 for the Scottish Government¹ found that it was not clear that all registers were maintained with up-to-date information.

In the interest of protecting private water supplies that may be impacted by construction, the Project has obtained the private water supply register maintained by the Highland Council. In addition to this, the Project would like to give you the opportunity to provide details of your private water supply.

Question 5.a

Do you have a private water supply (i.e. not mains water)?

Yes / No

Question 5.b

If yes, what is the water used for?

a. Drinking

b. Non-potable

c. Stock watering

Question 5.c

What type of source is it?

a. Well/ borehole

b. Spring

c. Watercourse

¹ ICF Consulting Services and University of Dundee for Scottish Government. (2016). *An Evaluation Of Private Water Supply Regulation In Scotland*. Available: <http://dwqr.scot/media/29747/dwqr-an-evaluation-of-private-water-supply-regulation-in-scotland-final-report-25-jan-2016.pdf>

[Accessed 14/05/18]

Accommodation Questionnaire

Red John Pumped Storage Hydro

Name and Address of Establishment:

Contact Name:

Contact Telephone:

Contact Email Address:

Question 1.

Please choose one of the following which describes your business type. If you answer (a) please proceed to question 2. If you answer (b) – (e), please proceed to question 3.

a. Accommodation	b. Food and drink	c. Tourism or recreation attraction
d. Local business or service	e. Other:	

Question 2.a

Please choose one of the following which describes your accommodation facility:

a. Hotel	b. B&B	c. Self-catered Accommodation
d. Campsite	e. Other (please specify):	

Question 2.b

How many rooms do you have?

a. 1-5	b. 6-10	c. 11-20	d. 21-30	e. More than 31
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Please provide number of beds:

Question 2.c

Please choose which of the following best describes the purpose of people staying at your accommodation facility:

a. Business	b. Tourism and Recreation	c. Mixture of both
d. Other (please specify):		

Question 2.d			
Please provide the approximate percentage of accommodation capacity used per month per purpose (i.e. 20% business, 80% tourism, 0% other in August)			
Month	% Business	% Tourism & Recreation	% Other
January			
February			
March			
April			
May			
June			
July			
August			
September			
October			
November			
December			

Access Questionnaire

Red John Pumped Storage Hydro

During construction, paths and roads around the Project may need to be closed or diverted in the interest of protecting public safety. Closures and diversions will be temporary and all routes will be reinstated post-construction. The Project will provide path improvements/ upgrades for the routes affected by construction. The Access Routes map shows the potentially affected routes.

Contact Details [Optional] Address:
Contact Name:
Contact Telephone:
Contact Email Address:

Question 1	
Does you use the local routes identified on the access route map?	Yes / No

Question 2			
If yes, how frequently do you use the routes, paths and trails?			
a. Annually	b. Monthly	c. Weekly	d. Daily

Question 3			
What activities do you use the routes for?			
a. Walking	b. Dog walking	c. Cycling/ biking	d. Horse riding
e. Other (please specify):			

Question 4
Using the route labels on the access route map, which are the routes you use most frequently?

Question 5

Do you have any comments regarding path and road closure and diversions?

Question 6

Do you have any comments on the Project?

Public Exhibition Feedback Form

Red John Pumped Storage Hydro

Contact Details

Name:
Address:
Contact Telephone:
Contact Email Address:

Do you have any comments on the Project?

Appendix F – Consultation Log

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
01.1.01	ECU	30/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Subject to specific comments below, the Scottish Ministers expect the EIA report which will accompany any application for the proposed development to include full details showing that all the advice, guidance, concerns and requirements raised by each consultee in the correspondence attached at Annex 2 to this opinion, have been addressed.	Noted
01.1.02	ECU	30/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p><u>Water Environment (Controlled Activities) (Scotland) Regulations 2011 (as amended) (CAR)</u></p> <p>In the case of a generating station in respect of which a controlled activity, within the meaning of the Water Environment (Controlled Activities) (Scotland) Regulations 2005, will be carried on, the Scottish Ministers shall, before granting a consent under section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989, obtain and have regard to the advice of the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) on matters relating to the protection of the water environment and have regard to the purposes of Part 1 of the Water Environment and Water Services (Scotland) Act 2003.</p> <p>The proposed development will require an authorisation from SEPA under CAR. The ECU encourages applicants to twin-track applications for consent under section 36 and CAR to ensure that CAR requirements can be accommodated more easily when proposals are at their most fluid. Scottish Ministers will not issue any section 36 consent in respect of a hydro development until the CAR licence has been approved and issued.</p>	The Applicant can confirm that an application for a CAR license will be made after the submission of the Section 36.
01.1.03	ECU	30/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p><u>Water Rights for Hydro-Electric Generating Stations in Scotland</u></p> <p>In Scotland, Schedule 5, Section 10(5) of the Electricity Act 1989 allows for a person who holds a generation licence under section 6(1)(a) to be authorised by Scottish Ministers to abstract and divert from any watercourse or loch and to use such water as may be necessary for the purposes of constructing or extending a generating station wholly or mainly driven by water, and of operating that generating station after construction or extension. Such authorisation shall be by order and shall provide for the compulsory acquisition by the person of such rights, as regards the abstraction, diversion and use, as may be specified in the order; and the order may contain such incidental, consequential and supplementary provisions as the Scottish Ministers thinks necessary or expedient. Should an Acquisition of Water Rights Order be required, it is advised that this is applied for at the same time as the application for section 36 consent in order to avoid protracted consultation timescales.</p>	The Applicant can confirm that an application for the acquisition of water rights will be made after the submission of the Section 36.
01.1.04	ECU	30/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	It should be noted that to facilitate uploading to the Energy Consents portal, the EIA Report and its associated documentation, when submitted, should be accompanied with a CD containing the EIA report and its associated documentation divided into appropriately named separate files of sizes no more than 10 MB. This will also assist SNH and other consultees.	Noted

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
01.1.05	ECU	30/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p>5. Mitigation Measures</p> <p>The Scottish Ministers are required to make a reasoned conclusion on the significant effects of the development on the environment as identified in the environmental impact assessment. The mitigation measures suggested for any significant environmental impacts identified should be presented as a conclusion to each chapter. Applicants are also asked to provide a consolidated schedule of all mitigation measures proposed in the environmental assessment, provided in tabular form, where that mitigation is relied upon in relation to reported conclusions of likelihood or significance of impacts.</p>	A mitigation register is contained within Appendix 17.1
02.1.01	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p>Policy 51: Trees and Development & Policy 52: Principle of Development in Woodland – set out the Council’s support for proposals that safeguard existing woodland, but require applicants to demonstrate the capacity of the site to deliver development where woodland is present. Given that this proposal has the potential to create adverse impacts, with the presence of Ancient and Long Established woodland (please see the relevant constraints map), it will be essential to demonstrate how woodland is being safeguarded and, where it is being removed, what provisions will be made for compensatory planting. Any proposed works should also have regard to Scottish Government’s Control of Woodland Removal Policy. The response in this pack from the Forestry Team provides further detail on the issues around trees and woodland. Policy 51 includes reference to the Trees, Woodland and Development Supplementary Guidance which may be of relevance.</p>	Noted, the Planning Statement provides further detail on compliance with this policy
02.1.02	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p>Policy 55: Peat and Soils – requires applicants to demonstrate that their proposal will not cause unnecessary disturbance, degradation or erosion of peat and soils. This is particularly relevant in relation to the potential spoil disposal and dredging works described in the Draft Scoping Report submitted with the pre-application meeting request. There are pockets of Carbon Rich Soil, Deep Peat and Priority Peatland Habitat (Groups 1 and 3) as indicated in the SNH Carbon and Peatland 2016 Map. As your proposals progress, you should ensure that appropriate assessment and mitigation of potential impacts on the peat and soil resource is identified. It is noted from the pre-application meeting that you are in the process of undertaking peat probing onsite.</p>	Noted, the Planning Statement provides further detail on compliance with this policy
02.1.03	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p>Policy 57: Natural, Built and Cultural Heritage – considers impacts on natural, built and cultural heritage designations and features. These are split into three categories of importance: international, national and local/regional. The following key features will require survey work and assessments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Loch Ashie SPA and SSSI - Loch Ruthven SAC, SPA, SSSI and Ramsar - Caisteal an Dunriachaidh Scheduled Monument within the site and several other Scheduled Monuments in proximity to the site - multiple Historic Environment Records within the site - Listed Buildings in proximity to the site - Aldourie Designed Landscape around 1 km NW of the site, Dochfour Designed Landscape around 3 km NW of the site - Loch Ness and Duntelchaig Special Landscape Area, described in the Assessment of Highland Special Landscape Areas (whole site within SLA, not shown on constraints map) 	Noted, the Planning Statement provides further detail on compliance with this policy

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
02.1.04	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Policy 58: Protected Species – safeguards European protected species and only supports development where an adverse effect is likely if there are other overriding interests. You should refer to the response from SNH for further detail about potential for impacts from the proposal on protected species.	Noted, the Planning Statement provides further detail on compliance with this policy
02.1.05	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Policy 61 Landscape – sets out that development should reflect the character of the landscape and the special qualities identified in the relevant Landscape Character Assessment. The LCAs are a starting point to base assessment of landscape and visual impact on. It is key to set out who the visual receptors of the development are, what the landscape impacts are and how these two factors relate. This proposal sits in a potentially sensitive landscape setting, being wholly within the Loch Ness and Duntelchaig Special Landscape Area. You should refer to the response from the Landscape Officer on key landscape considerations for this proposal. The Highland Council has Visualisation Standards for Wind Energy Developments, these will be relevant to this proposal given the likely need to assess scale and distance in relation to the proposal.	Noted, the Planning Statement provides further detail on compliance with this policy
02.1.06	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Policy 63 Water Environment – supports development that does not compromise the objectives of the Water Framework Directive. Assessment of this proposal will include how the proposal relates to the River Basin Management Plan for the Scotland River Basin District and, for this proposal, the North Highland River Basin Management Plan.	Noted, the Planning Statement provides further detail on compliance with this policy
02.1.07	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Policy 64 Flood Risk – sets out the Council's expectations in regard to floodrisk. This policy is highly likely to be relevant to the proposal. The Council's Flood Team and Scottish Environment Protection Agency responses in this pack provide further information as does the Council's Flood Risk and Drainage Impact Assessment Supplementary Guidance.	Noted, the Planning Statement provides further detail on compliance with this policy
02.1.08	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Policy 67 Renewable Energy Developments – supports proposals that contribute to meeting renewable energy generation targets. This support is subject to addressing important key issues and other criteria. The Council must be satisfied that the development is located, sited and designed in a way that will not be significantly detrimental to a number of considerations as set out in the Policy. This proposal has potential to make a considerable contribution to renewable energy generation. The Onshore Wind Energy Supplementary Guidance includes a Landscape Appraisal for the Loch Ness area. Although this proposal is for pump storage hydro rather than onshore wind, there are likely to be elements of this study (e.g. Key Views, Routes and Gateways identified) that will be of relevance to Landscape and Visual Assessment of the proposal.	Noted, the Planning Statement provides further detail on compliance with this policy
02.1.09	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Policy 77 Public Access – sets out the requirement for proposals that will affect a Core Path to retain the existing path or ensure suitable alternative provision. Drumashie Moor (IN12.05) and Kindrummond to Dirr Wood (IN12.04) Core Paths are within the site and the proposals will have to comply with this policy. The Policy also affords protection to the Public's wider access rights. There are several routes in the wider path network across the site and these should be taken into consideration. You should refer to the response from the Council's Access Officer for further detail.	Noted, the Planning Statement provides further detail on compliance with this policy

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02.1.10	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Policy 78 Long Distance Routes – safeguards long distance routes and seeks to enhance them and their setting. There are two on the site, the Trail of the Seven Lochs and the South Loch Ness Trail. You should refer to the response from the Council's Access Officer for further detail. The relevant Core Paths, Long Distance Routes and Wider Path Network Routes are shown in the relevant constraints map.	Noted, the Planning Statement provides further detail on compliance with this policy
02.1.11	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	The proposal outlines two Options, A and B which both include Headponds with banking rising above the existing ground level, Option A – to a max of 30.2m and Option B to a Max of 43m above existing, in addition to headrace, powerhouse, tailrace, spillway, access and other associated infrastructure. Whilst it is difficult to fully anticipate the likely effects of the development on the degree of information currently available, it is clear that for either option the headpond alone would be a significant intervention in the existing landscape.	Noted, the Planning Statement provides further detail on compliance with this policy
02.1.12	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	The application site lies wholly within the Loch Ness and Duntelchaig Special Landscape Area, and as such, key characteristics, qualities and sensitivities are outlined in the 'Assessment of Highland Special Landscape Areas' found at https://www.highland.gov.uk/directory_record/712044/special_landscape_areas_citations	Noted
02.1.13	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Overview – this area is dominated by the vast linear feature of Loch Ness and its dramatic landform trench, flanked by steep, towering wooded slopes that leads to undulating moorland ridges and a contrasting remote interior plateau of upland lochs, small woods and rocky knolls.	Noted, a description of the baseline character and composition is provided in Chapter 11: Landscape & Visual
02.1.14	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Key Landscape and Visual Characteristic – the striking, linear landform trench containing Loch Ness offers a dramatic sequence of landscape elements along its 23 mile length. The horizontal water's surface combines with adjacent steep slopes to create a simple and distinctive profile of contrasting planes and edges. To the east of Loch Ness an undulating moorland plateau characterised by rocky knolls and small-scale woods and forests, and peppered with upland lochs, creates an intricate landscape mosaic which contrasts strongly with the adjacent simple drama of the Great Glen.	Noted, a description of the baseline character and composition is provided in Chapter 11: Landscape & Visual
02.1.15	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Special Quality: Contrasting Intimate Plateau – an undulating moorland plateau of rocky knolls flanked by small-scale woods and forests, patches of pastures and sporadic farmsteads, and interspersed with a sequence of tranquil lochs, that creates an intimate mix of landscape elements of changing visual interest.	Noted, a description of the baseline character and composition is provided in Chapter 11: Landscape & Visual
02.1.16	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Sensitivity to change – both sides of Loch Ness are sensitive to the introduction of built development which would intrude on views up and down the loch and also across the loch. The area is sensitive to any development which would require significant modification to the landform of the Great Glen and surrounding moorland plateau. Not only could this be highly visible upon the glen sides slopes and affect the apparent bounding edge of the glen, but it could also affect the sense of openness and wildness within the moorland parts of this part of the SLA.	Noted, a description of the baseline character and composition is provided in Chapter 11: Landscape & Visual

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02.1.17	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	From these it is clear that the simplicity of the landscape composition of Loch Ness and the Great Glen is highly valued, as is the landscape around Loch Duntelchaig, for its own characteristics, for its contrast with the adjacent landscape of Loch Ness and for its contribution to views across the loch. In addition to the SLA, the Headpond Options sit within the Flat Moorland Plateau with Woodland LCT, in proximity to Farmed and Wooded Foothills and the broad, Steep Sided Glen.	Noted, a description of the baseline character and composition is provided in Chapter 11: Landscape & Visual
02.1.18	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Key Characteristics of the LCTs are set out in the Landscape Character Assessment documents. In view of the nature of the earthworks required for the construction of the headponds, following aspects are highlighted. Flat Moorland Plateau with Woodland: - a predominantly horizontal skyline, with a general lack of features of known scale resulting in it being often difficult to determine distance or relative size. - a simple landscape with little diversity and where it is often difficult to orientate oneself. - a strong perception of remoteness. Farmed and Wooded Foothills: - typified by low rocky hills with complex and irregular landform of steep sided slopes, rocky ridges and peaks. - generally open upper slopes - offering extensive and panoramic views which convey a sense of exposure. - boundary with the Flat Moorland Plateau with Woodland area marked by conifer plantations. Broad Steep Sided Glen: - long even skylines create a very strong sense of linear enclosure If it is to be possible to successfully integrate a headpond into the landscape and visual environment, a high degree of mitigation by design will have to be achieved.	Noted, a description of the baseline character and composition is provided in Chapter 11: Landscape & Visual, and the associated appendices
02.1.19	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Assessment of impact must include any impacts arising from the 'realignment' of the C1064.	This is contained with Chapter 11: Landscape & Visual
02.1.20	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	The full extent of disturbance and excavation is difficult to determine from the information available, but as the applicants clearly understand all impacts arising from such works stand to be assessed for LVIA impacts.	This is contained with Chapter 11: Landscape & Visual
02.1.21	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	The final form of the infrastructure required at the side of Loch Ness is also not fully clear, and a Visitor Centre is mooted within the presentation. And impacts from these stand to be assessed.	The above ground infrastructure is shown on Figure 2.4. Following consultation feedback, no Visitors Centre is included within the design of the Development
02.1.22	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Post operationally it is indicated that the dam would stay in place. At first consideration this seems as though it would create an extraordinary landscape feature, so it will be useful to see what the decision process is that leads to retention of earthworks rather than reinstatement.	This is shown in the Visualisations provided in Volume 4. Chapter 11: Landscape and Visual outlines how the Embankment and Landscape Embankment have been designed to naturalise the slopes of the Development. Further detail is included in the chapter and also in design evolution section of Section 3: Alternatives
02.1.23	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Attached is a document that details generally how the Council would like Visual Impact Assessments to be carried out.	Noted

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
02.1.24	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	The scoping report outlines the proposal to submit a detailed noise assessment for both the construction and operational phases. Elevated levels during construction are to be expected but provided the best practicable measures are taken to minimise noise, the impact should be within acceptable levels. Generally, the most important aspect for construction noise is to keep to normal working hours and avoid week-ends, evenings and early mornings.	Baseline noise surveys have been undertaken and the results provided in Chapter 16: Noise & Vibration. Working hours are outlined in Chapter 2: Project and Site Description
02.1.25	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Environmental Health Officers are happy with the proposal to assess operational noise in terms of BS 4142. As suggested in the report, it is advisable for the consultant to liaise with Environmental Health on the way this standard should be applied. One such aspect is the implementation of any penalties for noise characteristics. As per the pre-app request, it was advised that the usual standard noise condition for this sort of noise source i.e. - "Noise should not exceed NR 20 when measured or calculated within the bedroom of any noise-sensitive premises with windows open for ventilation purposes." OR "The operating noise Rating level should not exceed the Background noise level by more than 5dB(A) including any characteristics penalty. Terms and measurements to be in accordance with BS 4142: 2014 Methods for Rating Industrial & Commercial Sound."	Section 16.3 of Chapter 16: Noise and Vibration provides the methodology
02.1.26	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Environmental Health confirms they are happy with the proposed noise monitoring locations. The exact siting should be chosen to be representative of the locations at which any condition would apply which would usually be the garden or patio or another external amenity area. If there are any site specific noise sources that might affect the measurement this should be noted and included in the assessment report.	Noted
02.1.27	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Environmental Health are happy with the proposals for the assessment of vibration however, to clarify, the target outcome should be for vibration from this development to be noticeable at any noise sensitive property.	Noted
02.1.28	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Archaeology The methodology as set out in the scoping report is acceptable. The appropriate sources of data have been identified in order to inform the site characterisation and the method of whole project and of cumulative impact assessment is appropriate. The ES chapter will need to follow Highland Council Standards for Archaeological Work. The Standards are available at http://www.highland.gov.uk/downloads/file/1022/standards_for_archaeological_work .	Noted
02.1.29	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Transport Planning will be looking for the traffic impacts of this development to be contained within a Transport Assessment (TA) supporting the EIA, with the principles of the scope covering that set out in the attached note and produced in accordance with the below linked Local Guidelines: - Roads and Transport Guidelines for New Developments (Section 2.2) - Guidance on the Preparation of Transport Assessments	Noted

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
02.1.30	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	The TA will need to come forward with preferred routing arrangements to and from the site and the assessment done on that basis. We'd be happy to comment on a scope for the TA once the routing arrangements have been established and a draft scope produced.	Noted
02.1.31	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Cumulative impacts from other developments in the area will need to be taken account of within the TA. We note that Table 3.6 lists a series of developments taken from Highland Council Planning Portal. Highland Council Planners would be best-placed to clarify the status of these developments and whether there are any other developments that need including. We note that the final list of cumulative developments will need to be formed after the preferred routing arrangements to the development have been established. However, we would expect cumulative developments to also include traffic from developments that may not be in the proximity of the site, but will be generating their own construction traffic on the routes this development proposes to use. This can include other power-generation schemes in that part of the Highlands. The proposed list of cumulative developments should be identified within the TA Scoping and agreed with Highland Council prior to commencing the TA.	The cumulative list of projects is outlined in Section 4.5.18 of Chapter 4: Approach to EIA. This has been assessed as relevant in each chapter
02.1.32	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	We agree with your assumptions that the likely largest traffic impacts from a development of this type will result during the construction and possibly decommissioning of the development, with operational traffic impacts likely to be low. However, we would expect the TA to identify the proposed routing and access arrangements for operational traffic, plus any mitigation needed on the road network to safely accommodate it	Noted
02.1.33	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	We note that a desktop exercise has been done that concluded Highland Council do not hold historic records of traffic data for the roads identified in the study area. The proposals for traffic data gathering to inform the TA should be set out and agreed through the TA scoping exercise.	Noted
02.1.34	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Re. the statement about using 'Low' growth assumptions from NRTF, this should again be justified through the TA scoping exercise.	This is included within Chapter 15: Traffic & Transportation
02.1.35	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	We welcome the statements about looking into opportunities for on-site batching and sourcing of materials needed for the build. If such approaches are possible, this should limit the amount of vehicle movements needed in and out of the site. However, its currently not clear to what extent such on-site sourcing and re-use will be possible. If this information won't be known at the time of developing the TA, the assessment will need to test the implications of different scenarios, including a worst case scenario that may be no excavated material being deemed suitable for re-use and needed to be taken off-site. The justification for the establishment of different scenarios for testing should be set out through the TA scoping exercise.	Noted
02.1.36	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Access to the site is still being investigated, with consideration being given to using combinations of the following local roads in the area: <input type="checkbox"/> B862 Dores Road <input type="checkbox"/> B851 Errogie to Culloden Moor Road <input type="checkbox"/> B861 Culduthel Road <input type="checkbox"/> C1064 Inverness to Ashie Moor Road <input type="checkbox"/> C1076 Loch Ashie to Brin Road <input type="checkbox"/> C1068 Daviot to Dunlichity Road <input type="checkbox"/> U1084 Darris Road	Construction traffic routes are outlined in Section 15.5.2-16.5.19 of Chapter 15: Traffic & Transportation

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
02.1.37	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Once the route(s) for accessing this site have been identified, we'd expect the TA to identify the location, type and scale of any mitigation needed to allow them to be used for construction access purposes, whilst also keeping them safe and usable by others. It should be noted that the routes identified are popular tourist routes, whilst also providing key connections for communities east of Loch Ness. Although there have been some improvements in recent years, funded in part by contributions from other developments in the area, there are still sections of these routes that would struggle to accommodate large and heavy construction traffic, whilst also remaining safe for use by tourists and people from the local communities in the area. The condition of some of those roads is also poor and we'd want to ensure they remain safe and usable for all, both during their use by construction traffic and after the works had been completed. Some of the routes identified are also included in the National Cycle Network Route 78, which the TA should take into consideration when assessing the impacts of this development on the transport networks in the area.	Construction traffic routes are outlined in Section 15.5.2-15.5.19 of Chapter 15: Traffic & Transportation
02.1.38	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	The B851, B861 and B862 are covered by the South Loch Ness Road Improvement Strategy that identifies aspirations for improving them going forward. Should the final proposals identify use of any of these routes for either construction or ongoing operational access purposes, we'd recommend that discussions are held with Council Officers involved in developing and delivering the South Loch Ness Road Improvement Strategy to identify the likely mitigation needed and possible methods for getting that mitigation delivered.	Construction traffic routes are outlined in Section 15.5.2-15.5.19 of Chapter 15: Traffic & Transportation
02.1.39	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	We welcome the proposals for off-road access tracks for the movement of plant and material linked with the works. This should help to limit the impacts of construction traffic on the local roads within the works area. We also welcome the suggestion of marshals being used to manage the points where construction traffic will cross the public road. However, we'll expect the TA to give some indication of what other traffic management arrangements will be used at these conflict points, such as signage, road markings, gating arrangements, proposals for keeping the public road clean and free of dirt and debris etc. For clarity, we would expect general priority of movement to be kept in favour of the public road and the traffic using those roads.	The Construction Traffic Management Plan in Appendix 15.1 outlines these points
02.1.40	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Depending on the scale of any mitigation works needed to the road networks proposed for accessing this site and their location with regards to the surrounding environment, it is possible that the impacts of those road mitigation measures may need to be considered within the EIA. Certainly the need for any such assessment should be justified within the EIA.	This is included within Chapter 15: Traffic & Transportation

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
02.1.41	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	One possible proposal that may require specific consideration in the EIA is if Option B comes forward requiring the realignment of the existing C1064. We would not support closure of that route until a suitably designed alternative was implemented and available for all road users. The standards for designing such a route would need to adhere with our published Roads and Transport Guidelines for New Developments, with any proposals needing to be agreed through a formal Road Construction Consent application. Any designs should maintain the continuity of the C1064, avoiding the need to give-way when travelling along it, whilst also avoiding protracted re-routing and the creation of excessive gradients. This could involve changes to that shown towards the northern tie-in with the existing C1064. It is likely that most improvements needed to the public road network to permit safe access to and from your site will be left in-place as lasting improvements for general users of those roads. However, should there be unacceptable safety, operational or maintenance issues with the implemented improvements, The Council may require them either to be removed or changes implemented once their need for construction purposes has ended.	The realignment of the C1064 would be in place prior to any closure of the old alignment. This would also be early part of the construction phase
02.1.42	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	With regards to the routing of abnormal loads, the TA will need to evaluate the appropriateness of the proposed route for moving such vehicles to and from the site, including any mitigation needed to accommodate their movement. This could include a full survey of the route and the provision of Trial Runs to prove the route is achievable and/or to establish the extent of works required to facilitate transportation.	This is included within Chapter 15: Traffic & Transportation
02.1.43	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	The proposed point(s) of access from the public road into the site will need to be identified, together with sufficient justification for their adequacy to accommodate the likely types and volumes of traffic anticipated. We will be looking for dimensioned drawings showing the intended form of the junction(s) and the scale of any improvements needed to establish them.	Points of access on public roads are shown on Figures 2.24 and 2.25
02.1.44	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Achievable clear visibility distances out of any access should be demonstrated and their adequacy justified, both in terms of the nature of public road they're taking access from and the prevailing speeds of traffic using that road. Any accesses should also take suitable steps to prevent surface water run-off or any loose material from the private access tracks, including mud and construction materials, from being brought onto the public road. Any gates on accesses should also be set back sufficiently to avoid a vehicle needing to wait in the public road.	Points of access on public roads are shown on Figures 2.24 and 2.25
02.1.45	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	It is likely that The Council will be seeking an agreement under Section 96 of the Roads (Scotland) Act to cover any potential extraordinary expenses in repairing local roads that may be damaged by vehicles associated with this development. We'll be looking for any such agreement to be supported by a suitable financial guarantee, usually in the form of a Road Bond, to cover the likely costs of such repairs.	Noted

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
02.1.46	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Any changes needed to structures on the publicly adopted local road network to accommodate the proposed construction traffic for this development will need to go through the Councils' Technical Approval procedure as described within Section 3.1.7 of the current Roads and Transport Guidelines for New Developments. These Guidelines recommend early engagement with The Councils' Structural Engineering Team to help ensure that all necessary approvals are in-place prior to works commencing. The point of contact is Norman Smart Norman.Smart@highland.gov.uk.	Noted
02.1.47	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	The document states that maximum embankment heights for both headpond options will be significant (30.2m for Option A and 43m for Option B). It is not clear what the likely heights of such structures will be in the vicinity of the public road network. However, we will want comfort that such structures have been adequately designed and their implementation will not change the ground conditions that support those local public roads (eg surcharging, changes to groundwater levels, new springs etc). These issues should be taken up with the Council Structures Team to determine what level of information they will need to determine if the proposals will or will not adversely impact the public road network.	The above ground infrastructure is shown on Figure 2.4. Cross sections in relation to the realigned C1064 are shown on Figure 2.21
02.1.48	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Transport Scotland should be approached about any impacts or alterations needed to structures on the Trunk Road Network.	Noted
02.1.49	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	All temporary and permanent parking provision or loading and unloading requirements for the construction and operation of this facility will need to be provided for off the publicly adopted local road network.	Noted
02.1.50	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Given the scale of workforce anticipated at this site (up to 300 people at the busiest times), the TA should clarify the proposed location and scale of staff parking provision, justifying the adequacy of the proposed approach. This should include setting out any measures to manage staff movements to and from the site to limit the number of single occupancy vehicles needing access on a daily basis.	An indicative arrangement for Compound 1 is shown on Figure 2.19
02.1.51	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	It is noted that the documentation provided refers to possible conversion of temporary compounds to permanent visitor centres for educational and tourism purposes. If such features are to form part of a planning application, the arrangements for accessing, servicing and parking at such facilities should be set out in the TA.	Following consultation feedback, no Visitors Centre is included within the design of the Development
02.1.52	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	A Framework Construction Traffic Management Plan should be provided in the TA, setting out how the construction activities of this development, including access to and from the site, will be managed to limit their impacts on other road users and the communities on the proposed access route(s).	A framework Construction Traffic Management Plan is provided as Appendix 15.1
02.1.53	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	We would expect the routing of construction traffic to wherever possible avoid existing communities such as Dores. Where this cannot be avoided, we would look for the TA to clarify what traffic management arrangements will be established to avoid or limit any adverse impact on the day-to-day operation of those communities.	Construction traffic routes are outlined in Section 15.5.2-15.5.19 of Chapter 15: Traffic & Transportation
02.1.54	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	The Framework Construction Traffic Management Plan should also set out how feedback from local community groups will be sought and fed into the development and ongoing delivery of the Construction Traffic Management Plan.	A framework Traffic Management Plan is provided as Appendix 15.1. Communication engagement and liaison is outlined in Section 3.3 of the Construction Environmental Management Plan

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
02.1.55	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	1. Identify all public roads affected by the development. In addition to transporting abnormal loads, this should also include routes to be used by local suppliers and the workforce.	Construction traffic routes are outlined in Section of Chapter 15: Traffic & Transportation
02.1.56	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p>2. Set out the existing nature and condition of these public roads, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The road name and number, where applicable. - Road widths, including any pinch points. - The nature of their horizontal and vertical alignments, including any known steep gradients. - The location, size and condition of existing passing places on single track roads. - An assessment of the carriageway strength including, where necessary, construction depths and road formation where there is likely to be significant proposed impacts. This may include the need for non-destructive testing and sampling as required to determine the carriageway construction and strength. This work should be undertaken by a suitably capable and qualified consulting engineer acceptable to the Council. - The location and nature of any structures either spanning or supporting the roads, including a description of their nature (e.g. bridge, culvert etc.), any width, height or weight restrictions and where necessary, an assessment of their load carrying capability. This work should be undertaken by a suitably capable & qualified consulting engineer acceptable to the Council. - The nature and quantum of properties serviced by the roads. In addition to the quantum of residential properties, specific recognition should be made of any schools, businesses or other community facilities serviced by these roads. - The nature and quantum of existing traffic flows on these roads, taking account of seasonal variations and tourism impacts. This should include reference to how often the roads are used by school or commercial bus services, refuse vehicles and whether the routes are used by pedestrians, cyclists and equestrians. 	This is included within Chapter 15: Traffic & Transportation, with reference to relevant Figures and associated appendices

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
02.1.57	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p>3. Identify the anticipated impacts from the proposed development, including any cumulative impacts from other developments likely to be happening at the same time as your development. These impacts should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The quantum of existing and new traffic impacting on these roads, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o numbers of light and heavy vehicles o numbers of abnormal loads o profiles of anticipated new traffic movements throughout the duration of the works <input type="checkbox"/> Any impacts to existing carriageways, structures, verges or other aspects of these public roads. This should include information on swept paths and gradient analysis where the passage of traffic could be problematic. <input type="checkbox"/> The location of any new or changes to existing accesses off these public roads to be used for accessing this development. This should include the extent of existing visibility from each of these accesses onto the public roads. <input type="checkbox"/> Any impacts or restrictions needing to be imposed on existing road users. <input type="checkbox"/> Any impacts or restrictions needing to be imposed on adjacent properties or local communities serviced by these public roads. 	This is included within Chapter 15: Traffic & Transportation, with reference to relevant Figures and associated appendices
02.1.58	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p>4. Set out the proposed mitigation measures needed to tackle the anticipated impacts set out above. This should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The location and nature of any carriageway widening or strengthening. <input type="checkbox"/> Visibility improvements at access points and along the public roads forming access routes. <input type="checkbox"/> The location and nature of any strengthening or widening needed to existing structures. <input type="checkbox"/> The provision of new or enhanced passing places on single track roads. <input type="checkbox"/> Road safety measures to manage the impacts of any identified road safety concerns. <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic management proposals for the construction and ongoing operation of the facility. 	This is included within Chapter 15: Traffic & Transportation, with reference to relevant Figures and associated appendices
02.1.59	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p>5. Any residual effects on the road network and its users following implementation of the proposed mitigation and any actions proposed associated with those residual effects.</p>	This is included within Chapter 15: Traffic & Transportation, with Table 15.15 which provides the summary of residual effects
02.1.60	The Highland Council	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p>From the Council's point of view, the biggest challenge will be the visual impact, not just from the immediate vicinity where it will be vital to make sure the new loch sits well, and looks as natural as possible, within the pattern of waterbodies in that area, but also from further afield, from across Loch Ness and the hills above it and also the A82 trunk road as a key tourist route.</p> <p>This will be a complex and challenging proposal. While the potential output would make a sizable contribution to energy targets, Scottish Government policy, advice and guidance is clear that a balance must be struck between meeting our energy challenge and safeguarding our environment.</p>	Noted

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
02.2.01	The Highland Council	24/09/2018	Gate Check Response	I can confirm that having undertaken a review of the Gatecheck Report that The Highland Council have no comments to make at this time.	Noted
02.2.02	The Highland Council	24/09/2018	Gate Check Response	It is considered that the developer has, to this point, taken into consideration issues raised by The Highland Council and other statutory consultees and third parties; and that the developer has engaged appropriately with The Highland Council.	Noted
03.1.01	SNH	31/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	Designated Sites - Loch Ashie Special Protection Area (SPA) and Loch Ruthven SPA, both designated for Slavonian grebe, are in close proximity to the site. Consideration should be given to potential impacts on this species	A Statement to Inform an Appropriate Assessment has been undertaken and is included in the Section 36 application
03.1.02	SNH	31/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	Invasive non-native species - There are a number of invasive non-native species present in Loch Ness and we would expect the applicant to provide mitigation measures in any application to ensure the spread of these species is not exacerbated by this proposal. Further information on non-natives can be found on our website at http://www.snh.gov.uk/protecting-scotlands-nature/nonnative-species/	An assessment of non-native invasive species is included in Chapter 6: Terrestrial Ecology and Chapter 7: Aquatic Ecology, with a risk assessment provided in Appendix 7.2
03.1.03	SNH	31/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	Woodland Removal - We note that approximately 41% of the development site contains woodland and that woodland clearance will be required as part of the proposed development. We recommend that the applicant contacts Forestry Commission Scotland at an early a stage to discuss the Control of Woodland Removal Policy and the implications it may have on the development.	We can confirm that the Applicant has liaised with the Forestry Commission and had a site visit onsite. Please see Chapter 10: Forestry for more details
03.1.04	SNH	31/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) - We support the proposal to include an LVIA in the EIA. We recommend that the EIA Report explains the design process used to select the final layout and assesses any alternatives considered and how landscape and visual mitigation has been incorporated.	Chapter 3: Alternatives outlines the design evolution of the Development which outlines how landscape and visual, and other environmental features, have been incorporated into the design of the Development
03.1.05	SNH	31/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	We advise that the following viewpoints be added at this stage for consideration: 1. Urquhart Castle for tourist impacts. We are unclear why a 5km buffer has been added but presumably there will be visibility from here. 2. The viewpoint layby on the A82. We are not sure what tree coverage is like but visualisations should be obtained after leaf fall to capture a "worst case" scenario 3. A visualisation from the water to reflect the path of the Jacobite Cruises and other vessels and which has been used as a viewpoint for other developments. Again this will assess impacts on tourists. 4. Lochend to include residential amenity.	A Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) was provided at Scoping Stage and then refined for consultation. Consultation has been undertaken with the landscape officer of THC to agree viewpoints and the methodology to be utilised for the landscape and visual assessment. Landscape representation was made during the Pre-Application Advice meeting held on the 27th September 2017 and this continued post-scoping to finalise the viewpoint locations when Option B Headpond was confirmed.
03.1.06	SNH	31/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	Visualisation should comply with the standard detailed in the following guidance: https://www.snh.scot/sites/default/files/2017-07/A2203860%20-%20Visual%20representation%20of%20wind%20farms%20-%20Guidance%20-%20Feb%202017.pdf	Volume 4: Visualisations have been prepared in line with THC and SNH requirements

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03.1.07	SNH	31/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p>Fisheries - We can find no reference in the scoping report to assess the impact of the proposal on fish or fisheries. We advise that an assessment of the current/ existing fisheries interests should be undertaken. The level of detail required in relation to this will depend on the final site option and the watercourses affected.</p> <p>If the final design has an impact on existing water bodies or water course we advise that an electrofishing survey to identify fish species present would be required. Should any salmonids be present in the watercourses then a further survey of the salmonid population will be required to establish the exact limit to migration within the catchment and assess the impact that the proposal will have upon nursery habitat for salmonids. Any relevant mitigation measures would need to be identified in the EIA Report.</p>	A desk based assessment has been undertaken and is included in Chapter 7: Aquatic Ecology
03.1.08	SNH	31/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	We recommend that any fisheries surveys required are done in consultation with the Ness District salmon Fisheries Board.	A desk based assessment has been undertaken and is included in Chapter 7: Aquatic Ecology
03.1.09	SNH	31/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	We request that each chapter of the ES is saved to a separate pdf file with a maximum size of 10MB in order to make the file sizes manageable.	Noted
03.1.10	SNH	31/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p>1 Guidance for assessing impacts on the natural heritage</p> <p>There are a variety of guidance and advice notes for developments available on our website, covering topics such as landscape, birds and protected species. We would expect the applicant to follow the latest guidance as published on our website via http://www.snh.gov.uk/planning-and-development/ .</p>	Noted
03.1.11	SNH	31/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p>2 Service Level Statement (SLS)</p> <p>We refer the applicant to our Service Level Statement (SLS), which sets out the level of engagement they may expect from us during the planning process. The SLS is available on our website via http://www.snh.gov.uk/planning-and-development/renewable-energy/our-approach-to-renewables/managing-applications/.</p>	Noted

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
03.1.12	SNH	31/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p>Carbon rich soils, deep peat and priority peatland habitat has been identified in Scottish Planning Policy as a nationally important mapped resource. The area of this development is mapped (http://www.snh.gov.uk/docs/A2009248.pdf) as Class 2 for carbon rich soils, deep peat and priority peatland habitat, i.e.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Most of the vegetation cover indicates priority peatland habitats - All soils are carbon-rich soil and deep peat <p>We therefore advise that an assessment should be made of the impacts of the proposal on carbon rich soils, deep peat and priority peatland habitat (not just a review of peat depth data as suggested on p31). The assessment should describe the overall size and scale of resource including the type of peatland likely to be affected, quantify the loss of any of that resource as well as any loss of function of the habitat, whereby the peat, or peatland habitat, is likely to be lost or significantly degraded as a result of the development. It should also describe the frequency of drains and peat cutting, the presence of plant species indicating peat formation capability and/or lack of disturbance, any areas of natural surface pattern, and whether or not there is any invasion by woodland or scrub. It should also detail whether the development footprint contains any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - an abundance of Sphagnum-rich ridges, - ridges of Sphagnum – Betula nana, - hummocks of S.fuscum or S. austinii - Peat mounds - Hollows of Sphagnum or bare peat <p>The overall effect of the above Scottish Government policies and initiatives is an expectation that developments will be no less than neutral in their impacts on peat and areas of peatland habitat. Mitigation and compensation measures to achieve that should be integral to any planning application affecting the peatland resource and should be presented as a Peatland Management Plan.</p>	Noted
03.1.13	SNH	31/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p>4. Protected Species – birds and mammals</p> <p>We support the proposal to survey all protected birds and mammal species as described in the Scoping Report. Due to the mobile nature of mammals survey work should be undertaken within 12 months of the submission date of any application which comes forward and should extended to include any off site work that may impact on protected species. For example bat surveys should be completed for any bridges that are to be upgraded or re-pointed as a result of this development, and appropriate licenses obtained where applicable.</p> <p>All surveys should follow the latest agreed methodologies. Results and any possible mitigation measure should be provided in the EIA Report and if necessary in a confidential annex.</p>	Noted
03.1.14	SNH	31/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p>We support the proposal to undertake a new Phase 1 and NVC Survey of the site. However, it should be noted that it is not just the land directly affected by works which may be impacted upon, but also a buffer zone which may be indirectly affected by, for example, alterations to hydrology, vehicle movement compaction or land to be managed as part of compensation or mitigation of the proposal.</p>	A Phase 1 Habitat Assessment has been undertaken and this is included as Appendix D of the Scoping Report (Appendix 4.2 of the EIA Report). A NVC survey has been completed and is included as Appendix 6.1 of the EIA Report

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
03.1.15	SNH	31/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	We would expect surveys to extend to the proposed access route and new tracks. The ES should also fully consider the potential natural heritage impacts of vehicle movements, track creation and modification along the full length of the proposed routes, including those outwith the development area. The applicant may find the "Constructed Tracks in the Scottish Uplands" (available from our website publications pages, via http://www.snh.org.uk/pdfs/publications/heritagemanagement/constructedtracks.pdf) provides useful advice on track creation and maintenance in upland area. The Forestry Commission's "Forests and Water Guidelines" (4th edition) (available from http://www.forestry.gov.uk/PDF/fcgl002.pdf/\$FILE/fcgl002.pdf) also provides useful advice on water crossings and working in forests.	The survey areas are outlined in each of the species specific reports contained within the Appendices.
03.1.16	SNH	31/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	The importance of habitat types should be analysed, and that the amount of habitat lost will be quantified, we recommend that habitat mitigation measures, including any areas of restoration are described in a dedicated Habitat Management Plan. Further guidance on what to include in Habitat Management Plans can be found on our website (http://www.snh.gov.uk/planning-and-development/renewable-energy/onshore-wind/general-advice-and-information/)	Noted
03.1.17	SNH	31/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	With reference to the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003, the applicant should pay due regard to the potential use of the area for recreation by the general public when designing and planning the proposed development. Regard should be given not only to the proposed development site but also the proposed access routes and additional tracks, which may increase the perceived recreational value of the area. Access should not be restricted unless necessary for health and safety or other overriding reasons. Where access needs to be restricted at any time, clear signage following the Scottish Outdoor Access Code branding guidelines is recommended (http://www.outdooraccessscotland.com/branding/).	Noted
03.2.01	SNH	02/10/2018	Additional Consultation - INNS RA	I can confirm that the Risk Assessment addresses our concerns raised in our scoping response of 31 October 2017 in relation to Invasive Non Native Species (INNS).	The Applicant acknowledges this response and welcomes the conclusions
03.2.02	SNH	02/10/2018	Additional Consultation - INNS RA	We are supportive of the closed loop system design which will prevent any spread of aquatic INNS within the catchment and subject to the provision of an agreeable Biosecurity Management Plan being produced prior to any construction the spread of terrestrial INNS should be minimised as well.	The Applicant acknowledges this response and welcomes the conclusions
03.3.01	SNH	05/10/2018	Gate Check Response	I can confirm we have had a variety of pre-application communications with the applicant. Subject to the level of detail being presented in the EIAR being as described in the Gatecheck Report and the information we requested at scoping in relation to fish impacts also being included then we should have sufficient information to assess the proposal.	Noted. Regarding the requirement for fish surveys, we can confirm that a desk study has been undertaken and this is contained within Chapter 8: Aquatic Ecology (Volume 2) of the EIA Rerport.

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
04.1.01	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p>Thank you for consulting us on the above development by way of your email received on 10 October 2017. We have had useful early engagement with the developer but had hoped that they would have used our earlier written advice to you to help produce a focussed finalised version of the scoping report. Nonetheless we note the comments in your email that they will take into consideration the advice we have already provided.</p> <p>Our site specific advice is below; unsurprisingly it is very similar to our last response to you of 28 September 2017. We have also provided our generic advice for scoping windfarm developments in the attached appendix.</p>	The Applicant has continued to engage with SEPA through the pre-application process
04.1.02	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p>We would very much welcome early sight of the habitat and peat survey work before it is formally submitted as part of the application. This will allow us to give early and focused advice on the proposals. In this case we would also welcome further engagement on the material balance assessment to ensure that excavations are minimised and suitable uses are found for all the material.</p>	Both the NVC and peat survey reports have been shared with SEPA in advance of the Section 36 submission. Chapter 3: Alternatives outlines how the Development has evolved including the reuse of material. The Materials Management Appraisal provides additional detail on how suitable material has been incorporated into the design of the Development, the likely volumes, opportunities for reuse and type.
04.1.03	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p>In relation to section 1 of the attached Appendix (site layout):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For a development of this scale it is especially important to ensure that detailed layout plans submitted at the application stage are provided for all elements of the development. The plans submitted with the application must detail all the temporary or ancillary works such as laydown areas, rock and peat storage areas and site compounds, which we presume will be extensive for a development of this size. The application submission should include plans which show above and below ground infrastructure separately. • The assessment should specifically consider whether there are opportunities to minimise overall impacts from the development by collaborative working and sharing infrastructure with Scottish Water who also have existing and planned works in this area. 	The drawings which are associated with Chapter 2 provide details of the indicative arrangements and layouts of the Development. Limited information is known about the Scottish Water pipeline project but discussions are ongoing, and a cumulative assessment is included within the EIA Report
04.1.04	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p>In relation to section 2 of the attached Appendix (CAR requirements) and Section 3 and Appendix 6.1 of the scoping report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are aware of the following invasive non-native species in the Ness catchment - Flatworm (<i>Phagocata woodworthi</i>), Freshwater shrimp (<i>Crangonyx pseudogracilis</i>) and Nuttall's Waterweed (<i>Elodea Nuttallii</i>). • If option A is to be pursued then an assessment of the environmental significance of the loss of the two lochs and change in proposed catchment is required. 	Option A was not chosen as the Headpond orientation
04.1.05	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p>In relation to section 3 of the attached Appendix (other water impacts):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We note that the existing access track from one of the compounds to the road through the forest requires upgrading. For the avoidance of doubt the assessment should provide information on the extent of all upgrading works. • We note that access between the construction compounds and different work areas will change throughout the construction periods. The application should identify proposed corridors for these routes, taking into consideration local sensitivities. • Detailed drawing of the potential temporary wharf in Loch Ness should be provided accompanied by an assessment of effects on the water body. 	Noted, this information is shown on the drawings associated with Chapter 2

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04.1.06	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p>In relation to section 4 of the attached Appendix (peat):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We welcome the proposal for a Peat Management Plan. All excavated peat must be re-used on site with no permanent storage or disposal allowed. Floating track should be used to reduce the volume of excavated peat. • The Plan should consider proposals for peatland restoration works on the site, including for example, restoration of any redundant tracks or historic peat cuttings. Such works could also help compensate for loss of GWDTE. 	An outline peat management plan has been included in Appendix 5.3 of the EIA Report
04.1.07	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p>In relation to section 5 (GWDTE) and Appendix 6.1 of the scoping report we are generally content with the habitat survey proposals outlined in Appendix 6.1.</p>	Potential effects on GWDTEs are outlined in Chapter 6: Terrestrial Ecology and the NVC report in Appendix 6.1
04.1.08	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p>In relation to section 8 of the attached appendix (borrow pits) and rock and overburden excavation generally as outlined in the scoping report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In view of the extensive volume of excavated material being produced we do not expect the development to include additional borrow pits. • The information requirements outlined in section 8.2 of the appendix should be provided insofar as they are relevant to the excavation works proposed. • The proposals outlined in section 2.5.6 and to some extent section 2.6.33 of the scoping report and related figures for a "soil disposal area" would not be acceptable as they would represent a licensable landfill operation and as such should not be included in the application. However there will be a requirement for temporary material storage and as the land take for this is likely to be significant they should be shown in the application. Storage locations should be as close to the excavated area as possible and avoid local sensitivities such as watercourses. • We expect the application to be supported by an assessment of the amount of overburden and rock that will be generated and expected quality, based on intrusive site investigations. This should be accompanied by detailed proposals either for justifiable re-use on site (our preference) or use or disposal elsewhere. The application submission will need to include a detailed map of where and how rock or other material will be re-used on site, including volumes and depths. Any waste materials will need to be removed from the site and disposed of to a suitably licenced facility or made use of via a suitable waste management exemption. • We understand that there may be significant transportation issues with removal of any of the material from the site so, although not an issue directly within our remit, we recommend that the assessment includes information on transport implications. 	A Materials Management Appraisal (Appendix 5.2) provides information on the type, volume and likely sources and resues of material on site
04.1.09	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p>In relation to section 7 (forest waste) we are content that this information can be provided in the proposed Materials Management Appraisal.</p>	A Materials Management Appraisal (Appendix 5.2) provides information on the type, volume and likely sources and resues of material on site

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
04.1.10	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	In relation to section 9 (pollution) we can confirm that from our perspective an outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP), Waste Management Plan and Dust Management Plan need not be provided with the application. This is on the understanding that (1) the proposed Materials Management Appraisal will address all aspects of material management (minimisation, handling, processing, reuse on site, reuse off site and if required disposal) and any related waste management, (2) detailed site plans are submitted which demonstrate how impacts on the environment have been minimised through design and (3) all mitigation is detailed within a suitably robust schedule of mitigation. This approach will hopefully help streamline the overall information and assessment requirements.	An outline Construction Environmental Management Plan has been prepared and is contained within Appendix 3.1
04.1.11	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	Please see our website for further information above the Reservoirs Act 2011.	Noted
04.1.12	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	This appendix sets out our scoping information requirements. There may be opportunities to scope out some of the issues below depending on the site. Evidence must be provided in the submission to support why an issue is not relevant for this site in order to avoid delay and potential objection.	Noted
04.1.13	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	If there is a delay between scoping and the submission of the application then please refer to our website for our latest information requirements as they are regularly updated; current best practice must be followed. We would welcome the opportunity to comment on the draft submission. As we can process files of a maximum size of only 25MB the submission must be divided into appropriately named sections of less than 25MB each.	Noted
04.1.14	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	All maps must be based on an adequate scale with which to assess the information. This could range from OS 1: 10,000 to a more detailed scale in more sensitive locations Each of the maps below must detail all proposed upgraded, temporary and permanent site infrastructure. This includes all tracks, excavations, buildings, borrow pits, pipelines, cabling, site compounds, laydown areas, storage areas and any other built elements. Existing built infrastructure must be re-used or upgraded wherever possible. The layout should be designed to minimise the extent of new works on previously undisturbed ground. Cabling must be laid in ground already disturbed such as verges. A comparison of the environmental effects of alternative locations of infrastructure elements, such as tracks, may be required.	Noted
04.1.15	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	The proposed hydro scheme will require an authorisation from us under CAR. It is likely that the CAR application will be subject to a derogation (exemption under the Water Framework Directive) assessment and third party consultation which could result in amendments to the scheme. We therefore encourage applicants to twin-track applications for consent under planning and CAR to ensure that CAR requirements can be accommodated more easily when proposals are at their most fluid.	The Applicant can confirm that an application for a CAR license will be made after the submission of the Section 36.

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04.1.16	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p>Should the applicant choose not to twin-track their applications then the following details must be included in the planning submission to allow us to provide an indication of the potential consentability of the proposal under CAR:</p> <p>a) The location and design of the intakes and outfalls and their impact upon the morphology of the water environment. b) Compensation flow. c) Fish passages. d) Other relevant CAR or planning applications or consents for abstractions/hydro schemes. e) Sensitive water uses, water dependent species (including bryophytes) and ecosystems.</p>	The Applicant can confirm that an application for a CAR license will be made after the submission of the Section 36. The scope of the CAR has been discussed with SEPA
04.1.17	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	See Planning guidance on hydropower developments to assist in meeting these information requirements. More detailed guidance on CAR can be found on our hydropower web page .	Noted
04.1.18	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p>Other elements of the scheme must be designed to avoid impacts upon the water environment. Where activities such as watercourse crossings, watercourse diversions or other engineering activities in or impacting on the water environment cannot be avoided then the submission must include justification of this and a map showing:</p> <p>a) All proposed temporary or permanent infrastructure overlain with all lochs and watercourses. b) A buffer of at least 10m drawn around each loch or watercourse. If this minimum buffer cannot be achieved each breach must be numbered on a plan with an associated photograph of the location, dimensions of the loch or watercourse and drawings of what is proposed in terms of engineering works. c) Detailed layout of all proposed mitigation including all cut off drains, location, number and size of settlement ponds.</p>	Chapter 2: Project and Site Description provides detailed information of drainage and watercourse crossings. An indicative arrangement of access tracks are shown on Figures 2.22 and 2.20, with an indicative arrangement of Compound 1 shown on Figure 2.21 which demonstrates the buffers which have been applied to watercourses.
04.1.19	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	If water abstractions or dewatering are proposed, a table of volumes and timings of groundwater abstractions and related mitigation measures must be provided.	No water abstractions are anticipated with the main dewatering activities being undertaken in Loch Ness
04.1.20	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	Further advice and our best practice guidance are available within the water engineering section of our website. Guidance on the design of water crossings can be found in our Construction of River Crossings Good Practice Guide .	Noted
04.1.21	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	Refer to Appendix 2 of our Standing Advice for advice on flood risk. Watercourse crossings must be designed to accommodate the 0.5% Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP) flows, or information provided to justify smaller structures. If it is thought that the development could result in an increased risk of flooding to a nearby receptor then a Flood Risk Assessment must be submitted in support of the planning application. Our Technical flood risk guidance for stakeholders outlines the information we require to be submitted as part of a Flood Risk Assessment. Please also refer to Controlled Activities Regulations (CAR) Flood Risk Standing Advice for Engineering, Discharge and Impoundment Activities.	Noted

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
04.1.22	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	Scottish Planning Policy states (Paragraph 205) that "Where peat and other carbon rich soils are present, applicants should assess the likely effects of development on carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions. Where peatland is drained or otherwise disturbed, there is liable to be a release of CO2 to the atmosphere. Developments should aim to minimise this release."	Chapter 5 and Appendix 5.1 provides details of the Phase 1 peat survey. The alignment of the C1064 has been routed to avoid the larger areas of peat
04.1.23	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	The planning submission must a) demonstrate how the layout has been designed to minimise disturbance of peat and consequential release of CO2 and b) outline the preventative/mitigation measures to avoid significant drying or oxidation of peat through, for example, the construction of access tracks, drainage channels, cable trenches, or the storage and re-use of excavated peat. There is often less environmental impact from localised temporary storage and reuse rather than movement to large central peat storage areas.	Chapter 5 and Appendix 5.1 provides details of the Phase 1 peat survey. The alignment of the C1064 has been routed to avoid the larger areas of peat
04.1.24	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	The submission must include: A detailed map of peat depths (this must be to full depth and follow the survey requirement of the Scottish Government's Guidance on Developments on Peatland - Peatland Survey (2017)) with all the built elements (including peat storage areas) overlain to demonstrate how the development avoids areas of deep peat and other sensitive receptors such as Groundwater Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystems.	Chapter 5 and Appendix 5.1 provides details of the Phase 1 peat survey.
04.1.25	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	The submission must include: A table which details the quantities of acrotelmic, catotelmic and amorphous peat which will be excavated for each element and where it will be re-used during reinstatement. Details of the proposed widths and depths of peat to be re-used and how it will be kept wet permanently must be included.	Chapter 5 and Appendix 5.1 provides details of the Phase 1 peat survey.
04.1.26	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	To avoid delay and potential objection proposals must be in accordance with Guidance on the Assessment of Peat Volumes, Reuse of Excavated Peat and Minimisation of Waste and our Developments on Peat and Off-Site uses of Waste Peat.	Noted
04.1.27	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	Dependent upon the volumes of peat likely to be encountered and the scale of the development, applicants must consider whether a full Peat Management Plan (as detailed in the above guidance) is required or whether the above information would be best submitted as part of the schedule of mitigation.	Given the extents of peat found, an outline peat management plan is included within Appendix 5.3
04.1.28	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	Please note we do not validate carbon balance assessments except where requested to by Scottish Government in exceptional circumstances. Our advice on the minimisation of peat disturbance and peatland restoration may need to be taken into account when you consider such assessments.	No carbon calculations have been undertaken
04.1.29	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	GWDTE are protected under the Water Framework Directive and therefore the layout and design of the development must avoid impact on such areas.	The design of the Development has sought to avoid sensitive environmental features, and therefore apply the mitigation hierarchy at the earliest opportunity. This can be seen in Chapter 3: Alternatives
04.1.30	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	A map demonstrating that all GWDTE are outwith a 100m radius of all excavations shallower than 1m and outwith 250m of all excavations deeper than 1m and proposed groundwater abstractions. If micro-siting is to be considered as a mitigation measure the distance of survey needs to be extended by the proposed maximum extent of micro-siting. The survey needs to extend beyond the site boundary where the distances require it.	Please see the NVC survey report in Appendix 6.1

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04.1.31	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	If the minimum buffers above cannot be achieved, a detailed site specific qualitative and/or quantitative risk assessment will be required. We are likely to seek conditions securing appropriate mitigation for all GWDTE affected.	Noted
04.1.32	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	Please refer to Guidance on Assessing the Impacts of Development Proposals on Groundwater Abstractions and Groundwater Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystems for further advice and the minimum information we require to be submitted.	Noted
04.1.33	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	The submission must include: A map demonstrating that all existing groundwater abstractions are outwith a 100m radius of all excavations shallower than 1m and outwith 250m of all excavations deeper than 1m and proposed groundwater abstractions. If micro-siting is to be considered as a mitigation measure the distance of survey needs to be extended by the proposed maximum extent of micro-siting. The survey needs to extend beyond the site boundary where the distances require it	Noted
04.1.34	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	If tree felling is proposed the submission must include a map with the boundaries of where felling will take place and a description of what is proposed for this timber in accordance with Use of Trees Cleared to Facilitate Development on Afforested Land – Joint Guidance from SEPA, SNH and FCS.	Please see Chapter 10: Forestry and its associated figures
04.1.35	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	Scottish Planning Policy states (Paragraph 243) that "Borrow pits should only be permitted if there are significant environmental or economic benefits compared to obtaining material from local quarries, they are time-limited; tied to a particular project and appropriate reclamation measures are in place." The submission must provide sufficient information to address this policy statement.	Noted
04.1.36	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	In accordance with Paragraphs 52 to 57 of Planning Advice Note 50 Controlling the Environmental Effects of Surface Mineral Workings (PAN 50) a Site Management Plan should be submitted in support of any application.	Noted

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
04.1.37	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p>The following information should also be submitted for each borrow pit:</p> <p>a) A map showing the location, size, depths and dimensions.</p> <p>b) A map showing any stocks of rock, overburden, soils and temporary and permanent infrastructure including tracks, buildings, oil storage, pipes and drainage, overlain with all lochs and watercourses to a distance of 250 metres. You need to demonstrate that a site specific proportionate buffer can be achieved. On this map, a site-specific buffer must be drawn around each loch or watercourse proportionate to the depth of excavations and at least 10m from access tracks. If this minimum buffer cannot be achieved each breach must be numbered on a plan with an associated photograph of the location, dimensions of the loch or watercourse, drawings of what is proposed in terms of engineering works.</p> <p>c) You need to provide a justification for the proposed location of borrow pits and evidence of the suitability of the material to be excavated for the proposed use, including any risk of pollution caused by degradation of the rock.</p> <p>d) A ground investigation report giving existing seasonally highest water table including sections showing the maximum area, depth and profile of working in relation to the water table.</p> <p>e) A site map showing cut-off drains, silt management devices and settlement lagoons to manage surface water and dewatering discharge. Cut-off drains must be installed to maximise diversion of water from entering quarry works.</p> <p>f) A site map showing proposed water abstractions with details of the volumes and timings of abstractions.</p> <p>g) A site map showing the location of pollution prevention measures such as spill kits, oil interceptors, drainage associated with welfare facilities, recycling and bin storage and vehicle washing areas. The drawing notes should include a commitment to check these daily.</p> <p>h) A site map showing where soils and overburden will be stored including details of the heights and dimensions of each store, how long the material</p>	It is not proposed to have any new borrow pits with the exception of the Headpond excavation which is the main source of excavated material
04.1.38	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p>One of our key interests in relation to developments is pollution prevention measures during the periods of construction, operation, maintenance, demolition and restoration. A schedule of mitigation supported by the above site specific maps and plans must be submitted.</p> <p>These must include reference to best practice pollution prevention and construction techniques (for example, the maximum area to be stripped of soils at any one time) and regulatory requirements. They should set out the daily responsibilities of ECOWs, how site inspections will be recorded and acted upon and proposals for a planning monitoring enforcement officer. Please refer to Guidance for Pollution Prevention (GPPs).</p>	The CEMP outlines the roles and responsibilities of the environment team during construction which includes ECoWs. A Mitigation Register is contained within Appendix 17.1
04.1.39	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p>The submission must set out how decommissioning will be achieved should the proposed development be discontinued. The submission needs to demonstrate that there will be no discarding of materials that are likely to be classified as waste as any such proposals would be unacceptable under waste management licensing. Further guidance on this may be found in the document Is it waste - Understanding the definition of waste.</p>	Section 2.16 provides information on decommissioning

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
04.1.40	SEPA	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	The layout and the general principles for decommissioning must demonstrate waste minimisation and compliance with the above waste regulatory position.	Section 2.16 provides information on decommissioning
04.2.01	SEPA	17/09/2018	Additional Consultation - Peat Probing	In view of the fact that it has now been shown that nearly all of the infrastructure is located on peat / carbon rich soils less than 50 cm deep I do not consider that further peat probing is required to inform the S36 application. Further peat probing would be required post-determination to define the exact routes of roads/tracks and boundaries of laydown areas.	The Applicant acknowledges this response and welcomes the conclusions
04.2.02	SEPA	17/09/2018	Additional Consultation - Peat Probing	I presume that the few additional "non-grid" points were recorded where the engineer saw pockets of deeper peat and decided to record them – if that's the case then note that in the submission to explain them.	Noted, this can be found in Chapter 5 Geology and Ground Conditions Section 5.4.19
04.2.03	SEPA	17/09/2018	Additional Consultation - Peat Probing	Out of interest what's the peat feature identified [within the Headpond area]? It clearly cannot be avoided but is it likely to be a bigger problem than it looks?	Chapter 5 and Appendix 5.1 provides details of the Phase 1 peat survey.
04.2.04	SEPA	17/09/2018	Additional Consultation - Peat Probing	I note that there is no peat probing in the area of the southern temporary compound. Looking at GIS it looks like it's open field and maybe edge woodland so I think it's unlikely to be peaty but again it would be good if the submission covered off why it's not been probed.	Chapter 5 and Appendix 5.1 provides details of the Phase 1 peat survey.
04.03.0 1	SEPA	02/10/2018	Gate Check Response	Thank you for your consultation email which SEPA received on 12 September 2018. We received the related Gate Check Report direct from AECOM on 13 September 2018 and can confirm that we found the joint Gate Check meeting and site visit on 1 October very useful.	Noted
04.03.0 2	SEPA	02/10/2018	Gate Check Response	The Gate Check Report, supplemented by the discussions we had at the meeting, suggests that the application should be supported by all the information we requested at the scoping stage. However without being consulted on a full draft of the application submission it is clearly not possible for us to provide a definitive view on this.	Noted
04.03.0 3	SEPA	02/10/2018	Gate Check Response	We have had good pre-application discussions with the developer regarding a number of issues within our interests. For example, we have agreed the level of peat probing required to inform the layout design and the developer has consulted us on their Invasive Non-Native Species Risk Assessment (which we can confirm we are content with).	We note the response and the approval of the INNS Risk Assessment is welcomed. The results of the peat probing survey are contained within Appendix 5.3 of Volume 5. The INNS Risk Assessment is contained within Appendix 7.2 of Volume 5
04.03.0 4	SEPA	02/10/2018	Gate Check Response	We would welcome further informal consultation on the Groundwater Dependant Terrestrial Ecosystem survey and assessment and the proposed Material Management Appraisal prior to formal submission, if this is possible, as the results and interpretation of these are likely to be of significant interest to us.	Details of the NVC survey and identification of GWDTEs can be found in Appendix 6.1 of Volume 5. The MMA can be found in Appendix 5.1.
05.1.01	HES	14/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	This letter contains our comments for our historic environment interests. That is, scheduled monuments and their setting, category A listed buildings and their settings, World Heritage Sites, and gardens and designed landscapes and battlefields included in their respective inventories. If you have not already done so, I recommend that you consult the relevant planning authority's archaeological and conservation services, who will also be able to comment on potential impacts on the historic environment. This may include heritage assets outwith our remit, such as category B and C listed buildings, and unscheduled archaeology.	The Applicant notes these comments and can confirm that further consultation has been undertaken prior to submission of the EIA Report

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
05.1.02	HES	14/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	<p>Potential direct impacts There are four scheduled monuments within the red line boundary for the scheme: Caisteal an Dunriachaidh, fort 1520m N of Achnabat (SM 11817)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achanabat, cairn 960m N of (SM 11799) • Achnabat, hut circle 1065m N of (SM 11828) • Achnabat, hut circle 815m NNE of (SM 11827) <p>From the information and figures submitted with the draft scoping report it appears that there will not be any direct physical impacts from the construction and operation of the proposed scheme. However, we note that the scoping report at section 9.4.1 states that there are likely to be significant physical impacts on all four scheduled monuments in both options A and B. It is not entirely clear to us at this stage why direct impacts are being predicted. Further comments are included in the attached annex.</p>	The Applicant can confirm that Option B was chosen for the Headpond and this is the basis of the assessment contained within Chapter 13
05.1.03	HES	14/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	<p>Potential setting impacts There are also a number of heritage assets within our remit in the vicinity of the proposed scheme whose settings have the potential to be adversely impacted by it. The annex to this letter gives details of a number of assets which appear likely to experience impacts. This list should not be treated as exhaustive, and is only intended as a reference to those assets which at this stage appear most likely to be impacted.</p>	Noted
05.1.04	HES	14/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	We welcome that cultural heritage has been scoped into the environmental impact assessment (EIA). We are generally content with the overall methodology set out in the scoping report, however we do have a few comments to make. We note that section 9 of the scoping report refers to a 3km study area for assessing setting impacts, however there is no explanation of why this particular limit has been set and the ZTV's provided cut off at 5km so it is not possible to identify if sites beyond this point may potentially receive setting impacts. A fixed radius of search can miss sensitive assets at greater distances and we therefore recommend using a wider ZTV in the first instance to identify the potential for setting impacts.	AECOM has undertaken consultation with HES to confirm the location of viewpoints required for photomontages. This consultation was by email, and the final viewpoint locations were confirmed on the 21st August. In addition, AECOM has undertaken telephone and email consultation with the Highland Council archaeologist (HCA) in relation to SI works undertaken as part of the design works and in relation to the viewpoint requirement for the photomontages. In late May a telephone consultation was held to discuss the project and the photomontage requirement, and the HCA confirmed she was happy for HES to take a lead on locations, but that she was happy with the proposals to date. Viewpoint photography has been agreed with HES and photomontages included in Volume 4 Visualisations
05.1.05	HES	14/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	We welcome that our Managing Change in the Historic Environment guidance note is included in the references at the end of Section 9 of the scoping report and we strongly recommend its use when assessing potential setting impacts.	Noted
05.1.06	HES	14/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	There is no reference to any visualisations being provided to help support the assessments of impacts and effects. We strongly recommend that visualisations such as photomontages are provided to demonstrate the effects of the proposals on the setting of assets. Further detailed comments are provided in the attached annex.	See response to 05.01.06
05.1.07	HES	14/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	Our website provides general information on a number of issues the applicant may find helpful. This includes our role in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process, advice about pre-application consultations and general recommendations about the Scoping and Environmental Statement stages.	Noted

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
05.1.08	HES	14/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	<p>Historic Environment Scotland consider that it may be possible to accommodate a pumped storage hydro scheme at this location but, based on the information provided so far, it appears that the proposals have the potential to raise significant concerns for our interests. There is the potential for significant adverse impacts on the setting of historic environment assets within the site and around it. In order to address these issues, amendments or alterations to the layout may be required, subject to information provided during the assessment.</p> <p>The list below is not considered to be exhaustive, and we would recommend that a wider search is undertaken of the surrounding area for potential impacts in the first instance. It is important to note that some assets have settings that are particularly sensitive to impacts, and the likely sensitivity of the setting should be used to help determine which sites are assessed in more detail in the EIA Report.</p>	A setting assesment is contained within Chapter 13
05.1.09	HES	14/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	<p>We note that section 9.4.1 of the scoping report suggests that there are likely to be significant physical impacts on all four of the scheduled monuments within the proposed development boundary from both Options A and B. As noted above it is not clear to us from the drawings and information provided at this stage as to how these direct physical impacts would occur.</p>	See response to 05.01.06
05.1.10	HES	14/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	<p>From the drawings provided neither headpond for Option A nor B would appear to directly impact on any of the scheduled monuments, although we note the very close proximity of the headpond in Option A. The spillways, head and tailraces, power caverns, access tracks both temporary and permanent and construction compounds also do not appear to directly impact on any of the scheduled monuments. We would welcome clarification on the physical impacts which are being predicted in the scoping report and we are happy to discuss this matter in more detail at a meeting.</p>	This is contained within Chapter 13 with the above and below ground infrastructure shown on Figure 2.4 and Figure 2.5 respectively. The Applicant can confirm that Option B has been chosen as the Headpond orientation and that this is the basis of the assessment in Chapter 13
05.1.11	HES	14/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	<p>We would like to take this opportunity to note that any physical interventions within the scheduled areas of any of the scheduled monuments would be likely to require scheduled monument consent from Historic Environment Scotland. At this stage we can confirm that it is unlikely that scheduled monument consent would be granted for any works within the scheduled areas.</p>	Noted
05.1.12	HES	14/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	<p>There are a number of scheduled monuments both within the development boundary and in the surrounding area which may receive setting impacts from the proposed development. As noted above this list is not exhaustive and a wide ZTV should be used in the first instance to identify assets which require further detailed assessment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caisteal an Dunriachaidh, fort 1520m N of Achnabat (SM 11817) • Achanabat, cairn 960m N of (SM 11799) • Achnabat, hut circle 1065m N of (SM 11828) • Achnabat, hut circle 815m NNE of (SM 11827) • West Town, five hut circles 480m WSW of (SM 11813) • West Town, ring cairn 240m SW of (SM 11551) • Urquhart Castle (SM 90309 and Property in Care of Scottish Ministers) <p>Our key interest in this case is likely to be the potential setting impacts on the scheduled fort within the proposed development boundary and our comments below have focused on this asset.</p>	A Zone of Theoretical Visibility is shown on Figure 11.4

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
05.1.13	HES	14/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	<p>Caisteal an Dunriachaidh, fort 1520m N of Achnabat (SM 11817)</p> <p>This scheduled monument represents the remains of a fort of probable Iron Age date, defended by inner and outer stone ramparts which follow the top of the rocky ridge on which the fort is located on a NNE/SSW alignment. The fort commands the lower lying ground of Ashie Moor where extensive remains of prehistoric settlement have been identified. The fort is an obvious landmark on a high point in the surrounding low lying ground between Loch Duntelchaig and Loch Ness and commands extensive views outward in all directions over the relatively undeveloped landscape which forms a key characteristic of the setting of this monument. There are clear and uninterrupted views to the NE towards the two smaller lochs of Loch na Curra and Lochan an Eoin Ruadha and in the further distance the prehistoric settlement and funerary monuments near West Town (SM 11813 and 11551).</p>	See response to 05.01.06
05.1.14	HES	14/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	<p>Option A</p> <p>From the information and drawings provided so far, we have significant concerns over the proposed Option A for this pumped storage hydro scheme. The proposals to combine the two smaller lochs of Loch na Curra and Lochan an Eoin Ruadha into one larger headpond for the scheme would dramatically alter the topography and setting of the fort. Figure 2.3 indicates that the headpond for this option would be in very close proximity to the scheduled fort, within c. 300m of the asset. The information provided in the scoping report indicates that the embankment surrounding the headpond would be up to a maximum height of 30.2m above the existing ground level. This represents a substantial change to the topography of the landscape in very close proximity to the fort and would have a significant impact on the setting of the fort in this direction, radically changing the views outwards. Given that a key characteristic of the setting of the fort is the low lying/flat nature of the surrounding it, the development proposals comprising such a change in topography in such close proximity have the potential to have an adverse impact on the integrity of the setting of the monument. The size of the new headpond and the height of the embankment would potentially reduce our ability to understand, appreciate and experience the monument in its setting.</p>	We can confirm that Option A is not the chosen Headpond orientation and is not the basis of the assessment contained in Chapter 13
05.1.15	HES	14/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	<p>We therefore have significant concerns over the proposals for the scheme shown in Option A. We consider that Option A may lead to impacts on the setting of the monument which may impact on the integrity of that setting and therefore raise issues of national importance. It seems unlikely that it would be possible to substantially mitigate the level of impact to the setting of the fort from Option A. Should Option A be chosen to go forward in its current form it is possible that Historic Environment Scotland will object to the development. We would be happy to discuss this further if that would be helpful.</p>	We can confirm that Option A is not the chosen Headpond orientation and is not the basis of the assessment contained in Chapter 13

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
05.1.16	HES	14/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	<p>Option B</p> <p>From the information and drawings provided at this stage Option B appears to be less likely to raise such significant impacts on the setting of this scheduled monument. The proposals shown in Option B are considerably further to the NE, over 1km from the monument on an area of ground which begins to rise up above the low lying ground surrounding the fort. The information provided indicates that the embankment required for this option would be higher than Option A, at up to 43m above existing ground level. The location of the new headpond at this greater distance and on ground which does not form part of the low-lying/flat Ashie Moor suggests that the impacts to the setting of the scheduled fort would be lesser than the impacts from Option A. We consider that it is likely that there will still be impacts to the setting from Option B which would need to be assessed in the EIA Report, however we consider that it may be possible to accommodate this option for the scheme without significantly reducing the ability to understand, appreciate and experience the monument in its setting.</p>	Noted, and this is the basis of the assessment contained in Chapter 13
05.1.17	HES	14/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	<p>Visualisations</p> <p>We would strongly recommend that visualisations are provided to demonstrate the impacts of the proposed development on the setting of the scheduled fort. Visualisations, including photomontages, should demonstrate both the views from the fort towards the development and from the surrounding area showing both the fort and the development in the same view to demonstrate the impacts on views towards the fort in its setting. We would be happy to be involved in further discussions regarding visualisations if this would be helpful.</p>	See response to 05.01.06
05.1.18	HES	14/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	<p>Urquhart Castle (SM 90309 and Property in Care)</p> <p>Urquhart Castle lies on the opposite shore of Loch Ness, around 5.5km from the red line boundary of the development. We note that this scheduled monument currently lies outside the 3km study area proposed and beyond the 5km ZTVs provided with the scoping report. Urquhart Castle has an expansive setting given its location on the edge of Loch Ness and it is not currently clear whether the proposed development will be visible from the castle. Given the scale of the development proposals and that some elements of the scheme will be located on the edge of Loch Ness, including the potential substation, we recommend that consideration should be given to potential setting impacts on Urquhart Castle. Should significant impacts be identified we would recommend that visualisations are provided to support the assessment.</p>	A ZTV is shown on Figure 11.4 and Viewpoint 9 provides a visualisation from this location. Chapter 13 concludes that there is views from Urquhart Castle would not be significantly affected by the Development.
05.1.19	HES	14/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	<p>Other scheduled monuments</p> <p>There are a number of other scheduled monuments in the area surrounding the proposed development, including those listed above. It is not clear from the information provided at this stage whether or not either of the options for the proposed scheme would be likely to have significant impacts on the setting of these assets. We therefore recommend that they are assessed to determine whether significant setting impacts are likely. Should significant impacts be identified we suggest that any assessment in the EIA Report should also be accompanied by visualisations to demonstrate the level of impacts.</p>	Impacts on other scheduled monuments is outlined in Section 13.4.13-13.4.44 of Chapter 13 and in Table 13.5 which summarises all the residual effects

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
05.1.20	HES	14/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	<p>Summary</p> <p>We note that there are currently two options being considered for the proposed pumped storage hydro scheme. Historic Environment Scotland considers it likely that Option A will raise significant concerns for the impacts to the integrity of the setting of Caisteal an Dunriachaidh, fort 1520m N of Achnabat (SM 11817). It seems likely from the information provided so far that Option B will not raise concerns over the integrity of the setting of this monument. We therefore recommend that Option B is the preferred option for our remit. We would be happy to meet with the developer to discuss these matters further.</p>	The Applicant can confirm that Option B was chosen for the Headpond and this is the basis of the assessment contained within Chapter 13. Further consultation has been undertaken prior to the submission as outlined in the response to 05.01.06
05.2.01	HES	31/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p>We have previously provided comprehensive comments on the draft version of this scoping report in our letter dated 14 September 2017. I have reviewed the scoping report provided and note that there have been no changes made to the project description, the archaeology and cultural heritage chapter or the figures provided. We are therefore content to rely on the comments laid out in our previous response from 14 September which I will forward along with this letter. We have no further detailed comments to add at this time.</p>	Noted - please see responses to 05.1.01
05.2.02	HES	31/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p>I would also note that Historic Environment Scotland met with the applicant's cultural heritage advisor on the 25th September to discuss the comments made in our letter of 14th September. At the meeting we reiterated our comments and discussed the need for visualisations to demonstrate the level of impacts on the setting of the scheduled monuments for both options for the scheme.</p>	Noted - please see responses to 05.1.01
05.3.01	HES	25/09/2018	Gate Check Response	<p>Having reviewed the submitted report, I can confirm that we are broadly content that the details given reflect Historic Environment Scotland's involvement with, and advice regarding, the EIA process for this development. We consider that we have been appropriately consulted at this stage, and that the proposed assessment is appropriate for our requirements. We note that the design and layout has been modified since the original scoping request and we consider that the changes to the layout will not alter our advice as provided previously. We would welcome further consultation should any further changes to the design and layout be proposed.</p>	Noted. Details on the evolution of the Development are contained with Chapter 3: Design Evolution and Alternatives. This includes consideration of the Scoping Response from HES. The Applicant confirms that they welcome further consultation post-submission
05.3.02	HES	25/09/2018	Gate Check Response	<p>If the developer would like us to provide further comment on any visualisations produced prior to submission of the EIA Report and application we would be happy to do so.</p>	Visualisations have been prepared and can be found in Volume 4: Visualisations
06.1.01	AM Geomorphology	14/09/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p>We note from section 7.3.6 of the Main Report that dependent on the extent of peat present across the site, a range of peat studies may be undertaken as part of the EIA (including a peat stability assessment). It is important therefore that peat probing is undertaken at a sufficient level to inform the need for such studies (or demonstrate that they are not required).</p>	Chapter 5 and Appendix 5.1 provides details of the Phase 1 peat survey.
07.1.01	Transport Scotland	11/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	<p>In the event that the trunk road is to be utilised, we would request that an assessment of the potential effects of traffic and transport relating to the construction of the new proposal on the trunk road receptors be undertaken as part of the ES.</p>	Chapter 15 provides the Traffic and Transportation assessment including an assessment of the roads to be utilised for the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Development

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
07.1.02	Transport Scotland	11/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	Detailed assessment of potential trunk road related environmental impacts (associated with increased traffic) such as driver delay, severance, pedestrian amenity, safety etc should be considered and assessed where appropriate (i.e. where Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA) Guidelines for further assessment are breached). These specify that road links should be taken forward for assessment if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic flows will increase by more than 30%, or • The number of HGVs will increase by more than 30%, or • Traffic flows will increase by 10% or more in sensitive areas. 	Section 15.3 outlines the methodology which the assessment has been used
07.1.03	Transport Scotland	11/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	The methods adopted to assess the likely traffic and transportation impacts on traffic flows and transportation infrastructure should comprise: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. 	Section 15.3 outlines the methodology which the assessment has been used
07.1.04	Transport Scotland	11/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	Where environmental impacts are 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The work that has been undertaken; • 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.	Section 15.3 outlines the methodology which the assessment has been used with Table 15.15 providing a summary of the residual effects. A Framework Construction Traffic Management Plan is contained in Appendix 15.1
07.1.05	Transport Scotland	11/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	Noise and Air Quality Assessments We note that an assessment of potential noise impacts associated with the construction phase will be provided within the ES. Given the temporary nature of the construction phase, we can confirm that we do not require any assessment of trunk road receptors in this regard. Similarly, there will be no requirement to provide any assessment of potential air quality or vibration impacts on trunk road receptors.	Noted
07.1.06	Transport Scotland	11/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	Operational Assessment The SR indicates that once the PSH facility is operational, the amount of traffic associated with the development will be minimal, therefore, it is proposed that any operational assessment will be scoped out of the EIA Report. This is considered acceptable.	Noted
07.1.07	Transport Scotland	26/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	Transport Scotland was consulted on a pre-scoping report and provided comments in a letter dated 11/09/2017. It is noted that the Scoping Report under consideration has not changed significantly since this previous submission, with the most notable amendment being headpond options. The choice of headpond has no bearing on the Trunk Road network and consequently, Transport Scotland has no comment to make on this issue. In conclusion, the comments made in our previous correspondence remain valid.	Noted

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
08.1.01	Marine Scotland Science	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	MSS looked at the Red John Scoping Report of September 2017, Highland Council's Pre-Application Advice Response of 28 September, Scottish Water's comments of 20 September and joined you at the meeting hosted by The Highland Council on 27 September.	Noted
08.1.02	Marine Scotland Science	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	The report understates the fish issues, which should not be scoped out of either option	Noted
08.1.03	Marine Scotland Science	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Loch Ness has an important fish community of high conservation and fisheries importance, which includes salmon, brown trout including the long lived ferox form, Arctic charr, eel and pike. Regardless of which Option is pursued, there will be a need to review what information is available of the fish present in Loch Ness and what potential there is for them to be adversely affected by the construction work and operation of the scheme, and consider what mitigation to minimise adverse effects is possible. Although Loch Ness is large, areas important to particular fish species may be localised, for example for spawning in the case of loch spawning fish. The developer should consider whether survey work to establish whether the stretch of loch shore involved has or is likely to have any special value to any of the fish species and consider what action to take if special value is identified.	Please see Chapter 7: Aquatic Ecology
08.1.04	Marine Scotland Science	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Effective non-injurious screening to prevent fish from being drawn into the system will not be a simple matter and will require careful attention as many of the fish may be very small. There should be consideration of what action will be taken and/ or additional measures will be needed should fish become regularly present or established in the system and header loch.	Please see Chapter 7: Aquatic Ecology
08.1.05	Marine Scotland Science	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	The screening arrangements will also require assessed by SEPA under CAR and there will a need to co-ordinate the assessments.	Noted
08.1.06	Marine Scotland Science	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	There will be a need to consider potential impacts on the salmon species interest of the Moriston SAC. The whole SAC salmon population needs to pass through Loch Ness at two life stages - salmon smolts emigrating from the River Moriston to the sea feeding grounds and adult salmon returning to need to pass through Loch Ness. The preliminary Ecological Assessment notes that the exact route of migration through Loch Ness is not known but that this will be investigated to determine the potential for fish connected with the designated site to interact directly with the Development. This is helpful, but regardless of the results the developer commits to screening.	A Statement to Inform an Appropriate Assessment has been undertaken and is included in the Section 36 application
08.1.07	Marine Scotland Science	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	For option A there will be a need to establish by survey work the fish species and an indication of their abundance in Loch na Curra and Lochan an Eoin Ruadha to assess conservation value and risks. MSS notes the Bruce Sandison (2011) Rivers and Lochs of Scotland: The Anglers Complete Guide mentions Lochan na Curra as having a large stock of pike. Draining/ transferring the fish from Loch na Curra and Lochan an Eoin Ruadha completely into Loch Duntelchaig would have major considerations and there would be cross catchment considerations and licences to consider both for rescuing and transferring fish to other waters.	Option A was not chosen as the Headpond orientation
08.1.08	Marine Scotland Science	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	With both options, there will be similar considerations on smaller scale for the fish populations of the burns which will be lost.	Please see Chapter 7: Aquatic Ecology

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
08.1.09	Marine Scotland Science	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	As already noted, there will be a need to prevent further or wider impacts from identified invasive non-native species, and this should be extended to cover all invasive non-native species, whether they have been identified or not.	An assessment of non-native invasive species is included in Chapter 6: Terrestrial Ecology and Chapter 7: Aquatic Ecology, with a risk assessment provided in Appendix 7.2
09.1.01	Forestry Commission Scotland	14/09/2017	Scoping Opinion	The first consideration for the developer should be whether the underlying purpose of the proposals can reasonably be met without resorting to woodland removal. Design approaches which reduce the scale of felling required to facilitate the development should be considered and integration of the development with the existing woodland structure is a key part of the consenting process.	Please see Chapter 12: Forestry and its associated figures
09.1.02	Forestry Commission Scotland	14/09/2017	Scoping Opinion	FCS acknowledges the consideration of changes to the woodland structure, resulting in possible loss of woodland area. An analysis will need to be done to determine the area of woodland loss and how this fits with The Control of Woodland Removal Policy and compensatory planting that this will likely require. The implications of restructuring on the landscape and stability / integrity of the woodland remaining will also have to be considered. The key to this is in the Forest Design Plan for the area and the restocking proposals for the site.	Please see Chapter 12: Forestry and its associated figures
09.1.03	Forestry Commission Scotland	14/09/2017	Scoping Opinion	Any compensatory planting outside the current planning area would be subject to The Forestry (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017. These can be found here http://scotland.forestry.gov.uk/supporting/grants-and-regulations/environmental-impact-assessment	Please see Chapter 12: Forestry and its associated figures. Approximately 12.1 ha of compensatory planting is required
09.1.04	Forestry Commission Scotland	14/09/2017	Scoping Opinion	Contrary to Section 14.2.1 the proposed development is located entirely within privately owned woodland and does not extend to within the boundaries of the National Forest Estate.	Noted
09.1.05	Forestry Commission Scotland	14/09/2017	Scoping Opinion	Section 14.2.5 Although a proportion of the Native Scots Pine Woodland is managed on a 'commercial basis' the impact of the proposed development on the integrity or conservation value of the woodland should not be considered insignificant as it will have been managed in accordance with The UK Forestry Standard (The governments' approach to sustainable forestry). Active management of native pinewoods when undertaken sensitively can benefit biodiversity and increase resilience by allowing greater diversity.	Noted
09.1.06	Forestry Commission Scotland	14/09/2017	Scoping Opinion	According to the Native Woodland Survey of Scotland (NWSS) four UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UKBAP) Priority Habitats are present within the proposed development namely Native Pinewood, Upland Mixed Ashwood, Upland Birchwood and Wet Woodland. The proposed development will also impact on Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland (ASNW) and Long Established Woodland of Plantation Origin (LEPO). NWSS describes a wide range of species and structural diversification within the development area. All age classes from visible regeneration to veteran trees have been recorded as being present. The majority of the woodland likely to be impacted by this development also records a high degree of semi-naturalness. Both the Scoping Report and the NWSS indicate the presence of Juniper within the development area (a UKBAP Priority Species recorded within the Scottish Biodiversity List, considered by the Scottish Ministers to be of principal importance for biodiversity conservation). Juniper is already under threat from <i>Phytophthora austrocedri</i> (<i>P. austrocedri</i>). <i>P. austrocedri</i> is a fungus-like pathogen which poses a threat to juniper trees in Britain. Further information can be found at https://www.forestry.gov.uk/paustrocedrae	Noted

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
09.1.07	Forestry Commission Scotland	14/09/2017	Scoping Opinion	A large proportion of the area earmarked for spoil disposal (approx. 50ha) is naturally regenerated Native Pine and Upland Birchwood established with public funding through the Woodland Grant Scheme (WGS III Ref: 030/001885 Clune Wood). There will be contractual obligations as well as nature conservation implications for this area.	This spoil area was removed from the Development as part of the design evolution. Please see Chapter 3: Alternatives for more information
09.1.08	Forestry Commission Scotland	14/09/2017	Scoping Opinion	Policy relevance: Conservation of ASNW and restoration of the biodiversity of plantations on ancient woodland sites are priorities in the Scottish Forestry Strategy and Scottish Biodiversity Strategy. Scottish Planning Policy recognises the high value of ancient woods and semi-natural woodlands for nature conservation. SG Policy on Control of Woodland Removal guiding principles include a strong presumption in favour of protecting Scotland's woodland resources and that woodland removal should be allowed only where it would achieve significant and clearly defined additional public benefits.	Noted
09.1.09	Forestry Commission Scotland	14/09/2017	Scoping Opinion	FCS would welcome the inclusion of a forestry assessment and chapter as part of the EIA.	Please see Chapter 12: Forestry and its associated figures
09.1.10	Forestry Commission Scotland	14/09/2017	Scoping Opinion	In the first instance FCS would prefer the developer find an alternative design that would not resort to woodland removal. The proposed development as detailed within the Scoping Report does not comply with the SG Policy on Control of Woodland Removal as it is located within woodlands with a strong presumption against removal.	Noted, however following scoping feedback, Option A was discounted. This is outlined in the design evolution in Chapter 3: Alternatives
09.1.11	Forestry Commission Scotland	14/09/2017	Scoping Opinion	Both Options identified within the Scoping Report lack the recognition of the value of nature and do not sit well with SG Route Map to 2020, in that they oppose Priority Project 2: The restoration of Native Woodland.	Noted
09.1.12	Forestry Commission Scotland	14/09/2017	Scoping Opinion	Compensatory planting is insufficient in terms of mitigating against the loss of priority woodland habitats and species as such FCS would object to any final design that would impact negatively on Scotland's Native Woodland resource.	Please see Chapter 12: Forestry and its associated figures. Approximately 12.1 ha of compensatory planting is required
09.1.13	Forestry Commission Scotland	14/09/2017	Scoping Opinion	Further information will be required on how the proposed development is likely to affect the UKBAP Priority Habitats and species and likely mitigation measures.	Please see Chapter 12: Forestry and its associated figures
09.1.14	Forestry Commission Scotland	14/09/2017	Scoping Opinion	Woodland removal is likely to result in a requirement for compensatory planting for an area yet to be determined. FCS would seek that this was a condition of approval and that compensatory planting had to be in place prior to construction commencing.	Please see Chapter 12: Forestry and its associated figures. Approximately 12.1 ha of compensatory planting is required
09.1.15	Forestry Commission Scotland	14/09/2017	Scoping Opinion	FCS would be happy to work with the developers as plans progress. I also enclose a copy of FCS generic scoping opinion for further information; although the document is mainly directed at windfarm developments much of the information is relevant to the Red John Pumped Storage Scheme.	Noted

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
10.1.01	Scottish Water	20/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	<p>Drinking Water Protected Areas</p> <p>The proposed site falls partly within the drinking water catchments within which SW abstractions from Loch Duntelchaig, Loch Ashie and Loch Ness are located (see attached drinking water catchment map). SW abstractions are designated as Drinking Water Protected Areas (DWPA) under Article 7 of the Water Framework Directive. Loch Duntelchaig and Loch Ashie supply Inverness Water Treatment Works (WTW), Loch Ness supplies Invermoriston WTW. It is essential that water quality and water quantity in the area are protected. Annex 1 details a list of precautions and protection measures to be taken within a DWPA and the wider drinking water catchment.</p>	A Water Framework Directive assessment has been undertaken and is contained within Appendix 10.4 of the EIA Report
10.1.02	Scottish Water	20/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	<p>SW has concerns over the location of the proposed works within Loch Duntelchaig and Loch Ashie and the impact it could have on public drinking water supplies. SW would prefer that the headponds and other associated infrastructure and activities are located out of both Loch Duntelchaig and Loch Ashie drinking water catchments. If it can be demonstrated that this is not practicable, an assessment of impacts on the structural integrity of Loch Duntelchaig and Loch Ashie, their dams, their water quality and quantity and any other associated infrastructure, will require to be undertaken. This should cover the construction, operation and decommissioning stages.</p>	Chapter 10: Water Environment provides an assessment of the potential effects on water quality to the surrounding water environment during the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Development
10.1.03	Scottish Water	20/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	<p>Section 6 Ecology</p> <p>There is no mention of the following non-native invasive species Phagocata woodworthi (a flatworm), Elodea nuttallii (a type of pond weed) or Cragonyx pseudogracilis (a non native shrimp) in the ecology section. These are species which SW has experienced concern from SEPA regarding potential cross-catchment spread.</p>	An INNS desk study, survey and risk assessment has been undertaken, and this is contained within Chapter 7: Aquatic Ecology
10.1.04	Scottish Water	20/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	<p>Section 6 Ecology</p> <p>Section 6.2.13 it says that due to the nature of the proposed development there is significant scope for non-native invasive species (NNIS) in Loch Ness to be pumped up into the headpond and in Option A there is a risk of a NNIS being transferred to Loch Duntelchaig during dewatering, whilst in Section 8.5.3, it is noted that the development has been designed to avoid cross-catchment transfer however, there is no information on how this will be done. SEPA in discussion with SW over a future option to supply Loch Ness water directly to a WTW located in the Loch Ashie catchment, have raised concerns over the potential for catchment transfer of NNIS. We would therefore request further information and details of the mitigation for cross-catchment transfer of NNIS into Loch Ashie catchment.</p>	An INNS desk study, survey and risk assessment has been undertaken, and this is contained within Chapter 7: Aquatic Ecology. The Risk Assessment contained within Appendix 7.2 outlines the closed loop system which is integral to the design of the operational Development. A Biosecurity Management Plan will be implemented during construction.
10.1.05	Scottish Water	20/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	<p>Section 7 Geology and Hydrogeology</p> <p>It has not been identified that the options will be located within water catchments for Loch Duntelchaig and Loch Ashie DWPA which are public water supplies. This is a key factor which is not detailed in this section. It is only mentioned that The Middle ORS is known to be used for public water supplies from a borehole in the Turriff Basin. Loch Ness is also a public supply DWPA which has not been identified.</p>	Noted, this is recognised in Chapter 10: Water Environment

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
10.1.06	Scottish Water	20/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	<p>Section 7.3.4</p> <p>There is potential for groundwater contribution to both Loch Duntelchaig and Loch Ashie due to the local geology. This section refers to the assessment of construction and operational effects which may interact with the aquifers and any existing abstractions which are found locally. It is not clear if this is referring solely to private water supplies, but this should include the interaction with groundwater contributing to Lochs Duntelchaig and Ashie.</p>	Noted, this is recognised in Chapter 10: Water Environment
10.1.07	Scottish Water	20/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	<p>Section 8 Water Quality and Water Resources</p> <p>Whilst within Figure 8.1, Lochs Ness, Duntelchaig and Ashie are labelled as DWPA, it has not been identified that the options will be located within Loch Ness DWPA and Loch Duntelchaig and Loch Ashie DWPA. It should be stated that the proposals are located in the above mentioned DWPAs.</p>	Noted, this is recognised in Chapter 10: Water Environment
10.1.08	Scottish Water	20/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	<p>Section 8.2.1</p> <p>It is mentioned that “indirect effects on Loch Ashie from changes in water abstraction as a consequence of the proposed Development may also need to be considered but may be scoped out depending on the headpond Option chosen”. This differs from section 8.4.4 where it is stated that:</p> <p>“Depending on the headpond Option, during operation there may also be direct hydrological impacts to Loch Duntelchaig, Loch Ashie and the Allt a’ Mhinisteir stream due to a loss of catchment area. Option A could result in a reduction in the availability of potable water supply from Loch Duntelchaig, which could indirectly affect Loch Ashie should SW decide to augment supplies by increasing their abstraction from that loch. In a similar manner, Option B could result in a reduction in the availability of potable water supply from Loch Ashie by affecting flows along the main feeder stream. This could also indirectly affect Loch Duntelchaig, should SW decide to augment supplies by increasing their abstraction from that Loch Duntelchaig. The scope of this assessment will be confirmed upon confirmation of the headpond Option, but it should be noted this aspect could also be scoped out subject to further discussions with SW.”</p> <p>The impacts need to be discussed with SW and taken into account to determine the risks on these public drinking water supplies. Neither option can be scoped out, as they could have a significant impact on water quality, quantity and infrastructure and this has to be assessed.</p>	Noted, this is recognised in Chapter 10: Water Environment

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
10.1.09	Scottish Water	20/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	<p>Section 8.2.11 The following is stated:</p> <p>“Scottish Water are understood to also have the ability to transfer water from Loch Ness to Loch Duntelchaig under drought conditions, although do not abstract on a daily basis under normal circumstances.”</p> <p>This statement is incorrect. There is no transfer from Loch Ness in place at present and no infrastructure to do so. A proposed future scheme takes water from Loch Ness to the water treatment works directly.</p>	Noted
10.1.10	Scottish Water	20/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	<p>Section 8.2.16 It is stated that Loch Duntelchaig in conjunction with Loch Ashie is the main potable water supply reservoir for Inverness, but does not state that it is a DWPA. It does highlight that the current arrangement is under pressure to meet future demand. It is not stated that any impact on current yield as a result of this proposal will therefore exacerbate this.</p>	Noted. Chapter 11: Flood Risk and Water Resources contains a detailed assessment of this.
10.1.11	Scottish Water	20/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	<p>Section 8.2.22 It is recognised little is known about the water quality and hydrology of Loch na Curra and Lochan an Eoin Ruadha, and the surrounding moorland. This would need to be determined to understand potential impacts of the options and on dewatering the lochs on Loch Duntelchaig</p>	Chapter 10: Water Environment and Chapter 11: Flood Risk provides an assessment of the potential effects during the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Development
10.1.12	Scottish Water	20/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	<p>Section 8.3.7 This needs to include a study of the impact of dewatering Loch na Curra and Lochan an Eoin Ruadha into Loch Duntelchaig on raising the water levels of Loch Duntelchaig. Please can details be provided of how drainage to Loch Duntelchaig and Loch Ashie from the remaining contributing area downstream of the headponds is to be aligned and managed and any impacts on water quantity and quality be assessed. From Figure 2.3 (Option A), it looks like only a portion of Lochan an Eoin Ruadha is to be included in the headpond.</p>	The Applicant can confirm that Option B was chosen for the Headpond and this is the basis of the assessments contained within the EIA Report
10.1.13	Scottish Water	20/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	<p>Section 8.3.10 This states that an assessment of low flows impact will be carried out and if significant, there will be a review of safe yield of the WTW sources. This should be an assessment of the impact on all flows and an assessment of the impacts on yield is required, regardless of how large or small the impacts on the inflow flow sequence appears to be.</p>	Noted

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
10.1.14	Scottish Water	20/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	Section 8.4.6 This section states that Option B would avoid impacts on Loch Duntelchaig as there would be no loss of catchment area. From the map provided (Figure 2.3), the headpond would encroach into Loch Duntelchaig catchment over a small area. It also says that the headpond area will be isolated from the local catchments, reducing the catchment areas of Lochs Ashie and Duntelchaig and a detailed assessment of the contributing area will be assessed. SW requires details of these contributing areas and how they will be assessed.	Chapter 11: Flood Risk provides a detailed assessment of water catchments
10.1.15	Scottish Water	20/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	Section 8.4.9 This notes that in extreme rainfall there could be potential overtopping of the pond embankment and spill arrangements will be provided to Ness catchment. SW requires details of this to ensure that there is no impact on its sources. We would expect flood studies to be completed and reservoir inundation maps prepared to assess the impact of a breach of either option on the downstream environment and to identify if there is potential for a breach scenario to discharge into Loch Duntelchaig/Ashie, artificially raising top water level enough to impact on the dam structures. As the applicant will be aware, a Qualified Civil Engineer (QCE) should be appointed from the DEFRA All Reservoir Panel to sign off the construction of the headpond impoundments.	The Applicant can confirm that a Panel Engineer from AECOM has been involved at all stages in the design of the Development to date.
10.1.16	Scottish Water	20/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	Section 8.5.3 Notes that the development has been designed to avoid cross-catchment transfer- can details of this be supplied?	In terms of INNS, this is outlined in the Risk Assessment contained in Appendix 7.2
10.1.17	Scottish Water	20/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	Option A Locating the headpond and other infrastructure, partly within the existing Loch Duntelchaig DWPA catchment, will impact on water yield and water quality in the loch, which could be exacerbated if the yield is reduced. This will be affected during construction and then operation of the proposal.	The Applicant can confirm that Option B was chosen for the Headpond and this is the basis of the assessments contained within the EIA Report
10.1.18	Scottish Water	20/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	Option A If the two lochs and any significant watercourses flowing in will be diverted to settlement ponds and then into Loch Duntelchaig, this could cause concerns with water quality even if via settlement ponds. Lochan na Curra is not within the existing catchment area of Loch Duntelchaig and would appear to flow naturally towards Loch Ness, so draining water from one catchment to another could affect water quality, which would require to be assessed. SEPA may have concerns, as this would effectively be a cross-catchment transfer of water. Sediment in the bottom of the existing lochs could introduce elements that would not normally be expected to enter Loch Duntelchaig. Sediment is not the only concern which is mentioned in the Scoping Report, organic carbon content and other parameters such as metals will need to be assessed as this could affect the water treatment work and potentially public supply.	The Applicant can confirm that Option B was chosen for the Headpond and this is the basis of the assessments contained within the EIA Report

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
10.1.19	Scottish Water	20/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	Option A Part of the headpond, temporary access track and one of the temporary construction compounds would be located within the catchment Loch Duntelchaig. The impact on water quality would require to be assessed and mitigated. It is stated in the Scoping Report that the compounds are anticipated to be unsealed (stone, metalled or gravel surface) in nature.	The Applicant can confirm that Option B was chosen for the Headpond and this is the basis of the assessments contained within the EIA Report
10.1.20	Scottish Water	20/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	Option A It is proposed that water pumped from Lochan an Eoin Ruadha to Loch Duntelchaig will have the outlet situated away from the shore in Loch Duntelchaig to reduce the sediment disturbance at the shoreline. The outlet location will also have a silt curtain installed to reduce the chance of any sediment dispersal. This is not sufficiently clear to understand the impact of the proposal.	The Applicant can confirm that Option B was chosen for the Headpond and this is the basis of the assessments contained within the EIA Report
10.1.21	Scottish Water	20/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	Option A Any peaty and silty water will be pumped out into large silt dewatering bags that could be located in the low lying area between Loch Duntelchaig and Lochan an Eoin Ruadha. The bags will be placed onto the existing vegetation and in an area where the filtered water can drain towards Loch Duntelchaig. Locating the sediment bags within the Loch Duntelchaig catchment could affect water quality particularly if there was a burst. They will then be left to dry out and cut open in the catchment. It is not indicated where the material will be disposed to, only that it will be used for reinstatement.	The Applicant can confirm that Option B was chosen for the Headpond and this is the basis of the assessments contained within the EIA Report
10.1.22	Scottish Water	20/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	Option A It is indicated that following the removal of the water from the lochs, a smaller continuous pumping operation will be carried out over the majority of the construction period as the new headpond is being constructed. It is not stated where this will be drained to, if into Loch Duntelchaig, this introduces a continual risk to water quality.	The Applicant can confirm that Option B was chosen for the Headpond and this is the basis of the assessments contained within the EIA Report
10.1.23	Scottish Water	20/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	Option A It is not stated how the watercourse from the Lochan an Eoin Ruadha and the surrounding area will be sealed off from Loch Duntelchaig catchment and when.	The Applicant can confirm that Option B was chosen for the Headpond and this is the basis of the assessments contained within the EIA Report
10.1.24	Scottish Water	20/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	Option A Plant to be used to drain the lochs introduces the risk of fuel and oil spills into Loch Duntelchaig, in particular plant working within watercourses.	The Applicant can confirm that Option B was chosen for the Headpond and this is the basis of the assessments contained within the EIA Report
10.1.25	Scottish Water	20/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	Option B Locating the headpond partly within the existing Loch Duntelchaig DWPA (a small area) and Loch Ashie DWPA catchments, will impact on water yield and water quality in both lochs, which could be exacerbated if the yield is reduced. This will be affected during construction and then operation of the proposal.	Chapter 11: Flood Risk provides a detailed assessment of water catchments

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
10.1.26	Scottish Water	20/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	Option B The impact of deforestation would require to be assessed and mitigated.	Chapter 10: Forestry provides detailed assessment of the forestry resource, felling and management. Any site clearance involving the removal of forestry and other features is contained in the relevant chapters
10.1.27	Scottish Water	20/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	Both Options All proposed works seem to be far enough away to minimise any impact on our existing dam structures (albeit there is no indication of construction access routes at this stage), but we would ask that levelling surveys are completed across the dam structure at both Loch Duntelchaig and Ashie before and after work activities, to see if there has been any impact.	Noted
10.1.28	Scottish Water	20/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	Both Options During construction, we would request the on-site presence within the project team for a dedicated Environmental Manager to look after the interests of SW and to ensure that risks to our raw water sources are kept to a minimum.	The Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) outlines the roles and responsibilities of the required staff during the construction phase. This includes a dedicated Environmental Manager
10.1.29	Scottish Water	20/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	Scottish Water Assets A review of our records indicates that there are Scottish Water assets including a 180mm water distribution main running along the B862 which may be affected by the proposed development. The location of SW assets (including water supply and sewer pipes, water and waste treatment works, reservoirs etc.) should be confirmed by obtaining detailed plans from our Asset Plan Providers. Details of our Asset Plan Providers are included in Annex 1.	Noted
10.1.30	Scottish Water	20/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	Scottish Water Assets All SW assets potentially affected by the development should be identified, with particular consideration being given to access roads and pipe crossings. If necessary, local Scottish Water personnel may be able to visit the site to offer advice. All of Scottish Water's processes, standards and policies in relation to dealing with asset conflicts must be complied with.	Noted
10.1.31	Scottish Water	20/09/2017	Pre-Application Response	It should be noted that the development will be required to comply with Sewers for Scotland and Water for Scotland 3rd Editions 2015, including provision of appropriate clearance distances from Scottish Water assets.	Noted
10.2.01	Scottish Water	18/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	On that basis [the Scoping Report only having minor changes between draft and submission] we don't have any further comments to make in addition to our most recent response issued in September [the Pre-Application Response].	Noted

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
11.1.01	Ness District Salmon Fishery Board	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	A number of potential impacts arising from the proposed development are of concern to us. These include, but are not limited to the following: - Entrainment and/or impingement of salmon and sea trout smolts at the Loch Ness inlet, in particular those originating from the River Moriston SAC; - The cumulative effects of the proposed development on smolt escapement in combination with other projects that are under construction or going through planning, but also existing developments such as SSE Hydro Dams at Invergarry and Dundreggan, Foyers Power station and the Caledonian Canal; - Reduction of water levels in Loch Ness resulting from the intake of water for the proposed development (particularly during low flow conditions). This has the potential to effect water levels in the River Ness and the ability of fish to negotiate the fish pass at Ness Weir; and - Disruption of the migratory behaviour of salmon and sea trout resulting from the discharge of water from the outlet of the proposed development. This has the potential to leave them more vulnerable to illegal exploitation and predation.	A Statement to Inform an Appropriate Assessment has been undertaken and is included in the Section 36 application, in addition to the impact assessment contained in Chapter 7: Aquatic Ecology
11.1.02	Ness District Salmon Fishery Board	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	The proposal has the potential to impact on salmon and sea trout populations across the Ness system. As such, the spatial extent of the studies to inform the EIA should cover the entire area of the catchment accessible to salmon, rather than be limited to the proposed development area and 'nearby watercourses' as stated in the scoping document.	Noted, please see Chapter 7: Aquatic Ecology
11.1.03	Ness District Salmon Fishery Board	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	Information relating to the behaviour of migratory salmonids as they pass through Loch Ness is extremely limited. Given the scale of the proposed development and its potential impacts on migratory salmonid populations in the Ness system; it is imperative that an extensive desk study together with both adult and smolt tracking studies be commissioned to adequately inform the assessment of likely impacts.	Noted, please see Chapter 7: Aquatic Ecology
11.1.04	Ness District Salmon Fishery Board	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	The impacts of development proposals on fish and fisheries are different to the standard receptors normally considered as part of an Environmental Impact Assessment. We strongly recommend that the developer produces a stand-alone 'Fisheries Impact Assessment'. This will more easily allow the balance of conservation and socioeconomics (i.e. the impacts on angling) to be considered.	Noted, please see Chapter 7: Aquatic Ecology
11.1.05	Ness District Salmon Fishery Board	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	Given our statutory duties, this response concentrates on salmon and sea trout populations. The Environmental Impact Assessment should however also include an assessment of the likely effects on other key fish species including brown trout, Arctic char, European eel and lamprey species.	Noted, please see Chapter 7: Aquatic Ecology where these species have been assessed
11.2.01	Ness District Salmon Fishery Board	02/10/2018	Gate Check Response	Loch Ness forms an important migratory route and refuge for Atlantic salmon and Sea trout (migratory salmonids) as they travel between the marine and freshwater environments. Fish originating in the upper Ness system (including the Rivers Oich, Garry, Tarff and Moriston), middle Ness system (Rivers Enrick, Coiltie, Foyers and Farigaig) and lower Ness system (River Ness and tributaries) all have the potential to be present in the area of the proposed development.	Noted

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
11.2.02	Ness District Salmon Fishery Board	02/10/2018	Gate Check Response	The River Moriston is a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) designated for Atlantic salmon and freshwater pearl mussel (which depend on the juvenile salmon for part of their lifecycle). The most recent site condition monitoring for the Moriston SAC considers the condition of the Atlantic salmon interest to be 'Unfavourable, No Change'. The Scottish Government has also recently published its 'Conservation Assessment' for the 2018 salmon fishing season. This estimates that the Moriston SAC has only a 0.5 percent probability of meeting its salmon 'egg requirement'. As such it has been designated as a 'Category 3' system, where exploitation is deemed to be unsustainable and management action is required to reduce exploitation. Further to the above, abundance of salmon in the Upper River Garry has declined over the last fifty years and is showing little sign of recovery. Historical annual returns of up to 900 salmon through the fish counter in the Garry Dam have now reduced to a five-year average of just 50 fish. More widely, there has been a long-term decline in the annual Ness district and Scottish National salmon rod catch.	Noted. The Applicant has undertaken a HRA Screening Assessment and this is contained in the Statement of Inform an Appropriate Assessment
11.2.03	Ness District Salmon Fishery Board	02/10/2018	Gate Check Response	A general decline in the numbers of returning adult salmon places a greater emphasis on their protection. We aim to maximise the number of healthy wild salmon and sea trout that go to sea from the Ness system (referred to as 'smolt escapement'). As such it is important that a robust assessment of likely impacts of the proposed Red John scheme is completed and adequate measures put in place to mitigate any potential negative impacts.	Noted
11.2.04	Ness District Salmon Fishery Board	02/10/2018	Gate Check Response	A number of potential impacts associated with the proposed Red John scheme were highlighted in our scoping response: > Entrainment and/or impingement of salmon and sea trout smolts at the Loch Ness inlet, in particular those originating from the River Moriston SAC;	Noted
11.2.05	Ness District Salmon Fishery Board	02/10/2018	Gate Check Response	> The cumulative effects of the proposed development on smolt escapement in combination with other projects that are under construction or going through planning, but also existing developments such as SSE Hydro Dams at Invergarry and Dundreggan, Foyers Power station and the Caledonian Canal;	Noted
11.2.06	Ness District Salmon Fishery Board	02/10/2018	Gate Check Response	> Reduction of water levels in Loch Ness resulting from the intake of water for the proposed development (particularly during low flow conditions). This has the potential to effect water levels in the River Ness and the ability of fish to negotiate the fish pass at Ness Weir; and	Noted
11.2.07	Ness District Salmon Fishery Board	02/10/2018	Gate Check Response	> Disruption of the migratory behaviour of salmon and sea trout resulting from the discharge of water from the outlet of the proposed development. This has the potential to leave them more vulnerable to illegal exploitation and predation.	Noted
11.2.08	Ness District Salmon Fishery Board	02/10/2018	Gate Check Response	Very little is known about the migrations or behaviour of salmon (smolts, adults or recovering kelts) in large water bodies such as Loch Ness. As such we feel that further surveys are required to fill any gaps in knowledge and allow for a robust impact assessment.	Noted

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
11.2.09	Ness District Salmon Fishery Board	02/10/2018	Gate Check Response	For example, salmon smolts are believed to 'passively' migrate (drift downstream) during the majority of their migration to sea. This makes them very vulnerable to the effects of wind and currents in the Loch, meaning that they may be blown or pushed in the wrong direction. The Ness DSFB has received reports of large shoals 'super shoals' of salmon smolts in the Loch Ness during the spring period (estimated to number in the hundreds of thousands, i.e. a significant proportion of the total smolt run). One of the most common sightings has been at Dores Beach, close to the proposed development site. It is not known whether the fish were pushed to this location by the predominant wind or current direction, or whether they actively choose to gather (or stage) in this location prior to migrating through the River Ness on masse. In either case, the potential for significant numbers of smolts to be present in the proximity of the intake/discharge point significantly increases the risk of a potential impact on smolt survival.	Noted
11.2.10	Ness District Salmon Fishery Board	02/10/2018	Gate Check Response	Furthermore, it is generally expected that a proportion of the salmon smolt run is drawn into the Caledonian Canal at Ness Weir (where the flow out of Loch Ness is split between the River Ness and the Canal). Smolts have a very limited period of physiological readiness in which they must enter the sea. In some cases it is believed that this 'smolt window' may be as short as a week, which means that any fish delayed in the Canal are unlikely to survive. Any change to the existing flow regime at Ness Weir associated with the proposed development (particularly in combination with the effects of other water users) will therefore have the potential to impact on smolt survival. Given the current lack of information available regarding the behaviour of smolts in these locations, we would need to take the 'precautionary approach' and assume the worst case scenario, i.e. the scheme will have a negative impact of smolt survival. A well designed smolt tracking study would however enable a more informed assessment of likely impact and help to inform any mitigation measures that might be required.	Noted
11.2.11	Ness District Salmon Fishery Board	02/10/2018	Gate Check Response	The same is true in regard to adult salmon migrations through Loch Ness. The fish pass (or 'spout') located in Dochfour Weir is believed to create a partial barrier to upstream migration of adult salmon under certain flow conditions, however the specific thresholds are not currently known. Without this information it will be difficult to make an informed assessment of the likely impacts of any changes in flow resulting from the operation of the proposed development on the efficiency of the existing fish pass. Furthermore, adult fish are known to utilise the loch as a refuge. They are drawn into the lower reaches of the Rivers Oich and Moriston during hydro generation (and associated increase in flows) before dropping back into the loch. The same behaviour has been reported at the Glendoe tailrace, which has now become a population poaching location. We will need confidence that any 'distraction' in adult salmon migration resulting from the discharge from the proposed development will not have a significant negative impact. A well designed adult salmon tracking study would enable a more informed assessment of likely impact and help to inform any mitigation measures that might be required.	Noted

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
12.1.01	Scottish Canoe Association	19/10/2017	Pre-Application Response	As access coordinator for the Scottish Canoe Association your consultation letter and cd regarding the above project have been forwarded to me. Do you have a web site that I could direct my fellow kayakers too? Even a basic location map would be helpful.	The application is available at the ECU website and also at the project website hosting by the Applicant at www.redjohnpsh.co.uk
12.1.02	Scottish Canoe Association	06/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	I have received no adverse comments from my fellow paddlers. The Scottish Canoe association will not therefore be commenting on the Red John scheme.	Noted
13.1.01	VisitScotland	31/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	Importance of scenery to tourism Scenery and the natural environment have become the two most important factors for visitors in recent years when choosing a holiday location. The importance of this element to tourism in Scotland cannot be underestimated. The character and visual amenity value of Scotland's landscapes is a key driver of our tourism product: a large majority of visitors to Scotland come because of the landscape, scenery and the wider environment, which supports important visitor activities such as walking, cycling wildlife watching and visiting historic sites. The VisitScotland Visitor Experience Survey (2015/16) confirms the basis of this argument with its ranking of the key factors influencing visitors when choosing Scotland as a holiday location. In this study, over half of visitors rated scenery and the natural environment as the main reason for visiting Scotland. Full details of the Visitor Experience Survey can be found on the organisation's corporate website, here: http://www.visitscotland.org/research_and_statistics/tourism_topics/wind_farms-1.aspx	Please see Chapter 14: Socio-Economics
13.1.02	VisitScotland	31/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	Taking tourism considerations into account We would suggest that full consideration is also given to the Scottish Government's 2008 research on the impact of wind farms on tourism. In its report, you can find recommendations for planning authorities which could help to minimise any negative effects of renewable energy developments on the tourism industry. The report also highlights a request, as part of the planning process, to provide a tourism impact statement as part of the Environmental Impact Analysis. Planning authorities should also consider the following factors to ensure that any adverse local impacts on tourism are minimised: <input type="checkbox"/> The number of tourists travelling past en route elsewhere <input type="checkbox"/> The views from accommodation in the area <input type="checkbox"/> The relative scale of tourism impact i.e. local and national <input type="checkbox"/> The potential positives associated with the development <input type="checkbox"/> The views of tourist organisations, i.e. local tourist businesses or VisitScotland The full study can be found at www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2008/03/07113507/1	Please see Chapter 14: Socio-Economics
13.1.03	VisitScotland	31/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	Given the aforementioned importance of Scottish tourism to the economy, and of Scotland's landscape in attracting visitors to Scotland, VisitScotland would strongly recommend any potential detrimental impact of the proposed development on tourism - whether visually, environmentally and economically - be identified and considered in full.	Please see Chapter 14: Socio-Economics

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
13.1.04	VisitScotland	31/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	VisitScotland strongly agrees with the advice of the Scottish Government –the importance of tourism impact statements should not be diminished, and that, for each site considered, an independent tourism impact assessment should be carried out. This assessment should be geographically sensitive and should consider the potential impact on any tourism offerings in the vicinity.	Please see Chapter 14: Socio-Economics
13.1.05	VisitScotland	31/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	VisitScotland would also urge consideration of the specific concerns raised above relating to the impact any perceived proliferation of developments may have on the local tourism industry, and therefore the local economy.	Please see Chapter 14: Socio-Economics
14.1.01	RSPB Scotland	03/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	We note that the site contains some areas of peatland, including deep peat. As required by Policy 55 of the Highland-wide Local Development Plan, the proposal should demonstrate how it avoids unnecessary disturbance, degradation or erosion of peat and soils. If any peat would be disturbed, an assessment of the likely effects of the development on carbon dioxide emissions should be undertaken, as required by Scottish Planning Policy.	Chapter 5 and Appendix 5.1 provides details of the Phase 1 peat survey.
14.1.02	RSPB Scotland	03/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Several bird species listed for their importance in a European context, and others which are of conservation concern in the UK, are present or potentially present on the site. These include black-throated and red-throated diver, Slavonian grebe, goshawk, hen harrier, osprey and peregrine. All of these species are in Annex 1 of EU Directive 79/409/EEC on the Conservation of Wild Birds, which requires the Government to take special conservation measures to protect their habitats, including due regard to their conservation in the taking of development management decisions. All of these species are also on Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Other important bird species likely to occur on the site include black grouse which is on the Red list of Birds of Conservation Concern. The potential impacts on all of these species should be adequately covered within the EIA report.	A Statement to Inform an Appropriate Assessment has been undertaken, in addition to stand alone ornithological assessment in Chapter 8: Ornithology
14.1.03	RSPB Scotland	03/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	The assessment should consider phasing, timing of operations, and access routes as well as the development footprint and construction works, in order to minimise the impacts on the bird interest in the area.	Through the application of the mitigation hierarchy, this has been taken into account in the assessment
14.1.04	RSPB Scotland	03/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Both black-throated divers and red-throated divers are known to breed in or frequent all the lochs surrounding Loch Duntelchaig. Red-throated divers have been recently recorded breeding on Loch na Curra and are present on Loch an Eoin Ruadha. We would be opposed to Option A as shown on Figure 2.3, as this layout would result in the loss of these lochs as a breeding habitat. As paragraph 5.3.5 of the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal states, replacement of these lochs with a head pond subject to water level fluctuations of high amplitude and frequency would render the water body unsuitable for much of the notable vegetation and fauna. The head pond proposed for Option A would be unsuitable for breeding and also result in potential loss of primary feeding habitat due to higher water levels (shallow waters are required by young birds to access invertebrate prey species). Fluctuating water levels could prove detrimental to nest sites, which could flood or be left surrounded by dry land allowing access to predators. These impacts would also need to be considered in relation to Slavonian grebe.	Option A was not chosen as the Headpond orientation

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
14.1.05	RSPB Scotland	03/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Additionally, the construction of any scheme is likely to be a major source of disturbance to the birds present on water bodies. In addition to their main breeding loch, adult RTDs and BTDs frequent other nearby lochs to forage and this requires consideration. We would recommend no disturbance during the breeding season from April 1st – July 31st and that the minimum exclusion zone distance adopted is 750m from a nest.	Option A was not chosen as the Headpond orientation
14.1.06	RSPB Scotland	03/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Artificial nesting rafts are used readily by black-throated and red-throated divers, and the extra provision of these may help to mitigate impacts and create suitable nesting habitat. It must be noted that rafts require annual maintenance and long-term commitment. Careful consideration must be given to the siting of rafts, as black-throated divers will displace red-throated divers and grebes.	Option A was not chosen as the Headpond orientation. In addition it is not proposed to add these rafts into the operational headpond of the Development due to the fluctuating water levels
14.1.07	RSPB Scotland	03/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	The proposed development lies in an area which forms part of the core range in Scotland (and UK) of the Slavonian grebe, one of our rarest water birds. The breeding range in Britain has always been restricted to a few freshwater lochs in a relatively small part of Scotland. Loch Ashie and Loch Ruthven Special Protection Areas are both large open lochs and are two of the most important sites designated in Britain for Slavonian grebe. Loch Ashie is used as an important pre- and post-breeding site and sometimes supports breeding birds. It is likely that Slavonian grebe also regularly use other lochs in the area, which along with Loch Ashie therefore should be included in the scope of survey work and assessment.	A Statement to Inform an Appropriate Assessment has been undertaken, in addition to stand alone ornithological assessment in Chapter 8: Ornithology
14.1.08	RSPB Scotland	03/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Due to the potential impacts of the development on Slavonian grebe associated with Loch Ashie SPA, particularly in relation to disturbance (from noise and visual effects), the Scottish Government (Energy Consents Unit) will need to undertake an appropriate assessment of the potential impacts on the SPA, taking into account advice from Scottish Natural Heritage. The applicant should submit information to inform that appropriate assessment, including on the impacts of fluctuating and low water levels as discussed above.	A Statement to Inform an Appropriate Assessment has been undertaken, in addition to stand alone ornithological assessment in Chapter 8: Ornithology
14.1.09	RSPB Scotland	03/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Should breeding or pre/post-breeding behaviour be in evidence we recommend an exclusion zone of at least 300m radius, within which no construction or other activities can take place from 15th April – 31st July, in order to avoid disturbance of the birds.	Noted
14.1.10	RSPB Scotland	03/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Our records show that goshawk, hen harrier, long-eared owl, osprey and peregrine, are recorded as breeding or probably breeding on or around the development site. Due to the sensitivity of nest locations they are not detailed here but can be provided on request by the Highland Raptor Study Group (HRSG). Advice should be obtained from the HRSG before any survey work is undertaken to avoid any extra disturbance to already established nest locations which can be identified by HRSG.	Chapter 8: Ornithology provides an assessment on birds, and included a desk study, records search and survey data.
14.1.11	RSPB Scotland	03/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Additionally, it is important to consider the home hunting ranges of certain species and potential effects of the development on these, as hunting adult raptors will regularly frequent the same area and could be affected by disturbance. For example, male ospreys can show preferences to certain lochs for hunting.	Noted

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
14.1.12	RSPB Scotland	03/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	Black Grouse are identified as being present within the development area, and the potential impact on this species could be significant. A minimum buffer around the development site of 1.5km should be applied for survey work. Black grouse are known to suffer from disturbance and displacement while lekking and we recommend that in order to avoid this, there should be construction and other activity within a buffer of 750m around any lek site (this distance can vary according to line of sight and time of day) between 1 hour before and 2 hours after local sunrise from the 15th March – 15th May.	The Black Grouse survey is included in Appendix 8.1
14.2.01	RSPB Scotland	04/10/2018	Gate Check Response	I write on behalf of RSPB Scotland with regard to the gatecheck report for the above proposal. We are content with the submitted gatecheck report, and have the following advice and recommendations at this stage.	Noted
14.2.02	RSPB Scotland	04/10/2018	Gate Check Response	As noted in our response regarding the EIA scoping request, Slavonian grebe, black-throated and red-throated divers are known to breed in or frequent all the lochs surrounding Loch Duntelchaig. We are pleased to note that the previously considered Option A for the headpond location is not being proposed. These species are listed under Annex 1 of the Birds Directive (2009/147/EC) and Schedules 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. It is an offence to disturb any whilst it is building a nest or whilst it is in, on or near a nest containing eggs or young. It is also an offence to intentionally or recklessly harass these birds and to disturb dependent young. Without robust mitigation, the construction of this scheme would be likely to lead to disturbance of nearby breeding pairs and foraging adults, potentially affecting their breeding success. It is therefore essential that robust mitigation measures are implemented to prevent such disturbance if the scheme is consented and goes ahead.	Noted. The Applicant can confirm that an assessment on these species has been undertaken.
14.2.03	RSPB Scotland	04/10/2018	Gate Check Response	We are pleased to see in Table 3.2 that operations will be programmed to avoid disturbance to these sensitive species. They should occur outside of the breeding period of 1st April – 31st July, especially highly disruptive work such as blasting and the use of rock hammers. We recommend an exclusion zone of at least 750m from Loch Ashie, Loch an Eoin Rhuadha, Loch na curra and Loch Duntelchaig, unless it is confirmed by an ECoW that breeding or pre-post breeding behaviour of these species is not in evidence and that operations within this distance will not cause disturbance.	Noted. The Applicant can confirm that such activities are proposed to be undertaken outside this sensitive season. However the buffer zone is not possible as the Headpond is located within 200m of the banks of Loch Ashie. We can confirm that an ECoW is secured through the CEMP
14.2.04	RSPB Scotland	04/10/2018	Gate Check Response	We welcome the proposed provision of a construction environmental management plan (CEMP) and request an opportunity to review and comment on the proposed mitigation measures when the outline CEMP becomes available.	An outline CEMP is provided in the EIA Report as Appendix 3.1.
15.1.01	JRC	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	This proposal cleared with respect to radio link infrastructure operated by: The Local Electricity Utility and Scotia Gas Networks	Noted

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
15.1.02	JRC	11/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p>JRC analyses proposals for wind farms on behalf of the UK Fuel & Power Industry. This is to assess their potential to interfere with radio systems operated by utility companies in support of their regulatory operational requirements.</p> <p>In the case of this proposed wind energy development, JRC does not foresee any potential problems based on known interference scenarios and the data you have provided. However, if any details of the wind farm change, particularly the disposition or scale of any turbine(s), it will be necessary to re-evaluate the proposal.</p> <p>In making this judgement, JRC has used its best endeavours with the available data, although we recognise that there may be effects which are as yet unknown or inadequately predicted. JRC cannot therefore be held liable if subsequently problems arise that we have not predicted.</p> <p>It should be noted that this clearance pertains only to the date of its issue. As the use of the spectrum is dynamic, the use of the band is changing on an ongoing basis and consequently, developers are advised to seek re-coordination prior to considering any design changes.</p>	Noted
16.1.01	NATS	16/10/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p>The proposed development has been examined from a technical safeguarding aspect and does not conflict with our safeguarding criteria. Accordingly, NATS (En Route) Public Limited Company ("NERL") has no safeguarding objection to the proposal. However, please be aware that this response applies specifically to the above consultation and only reflects the position of NATS (that is responsible for the management of en route air traffic) based on the information supplied at the time of this application. This letter does not provide any indication of the position of any other party, whether they be an airport, airspace user or otherwise. It remains your responsibility to ensure that all the appropriate consultees are properly consulted. If any changes are proposed to the information supplied to NATS in regard to this application which become the basis of a revised, amended or further application for approval, then as a statutory consultee NERL requires that it be further consulted on any such changes prior to any planning permission or any consent being granted.</p>	Noted
17.1.01	ScotWays	07/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p>The National Catalogue of Rights of Way does not show any rights of way affected by the area outlined in red on Figure 1.2 The Proposed Development Site. As there is no definitive record of rights of way in Scotland, there may be other routes that meet the criteria to be rights of way but have not been recorded as they have not yet come to our notice.</p>	A desk based survey has identified the routes shown on Figure 14.1 showing all known recreational routes in the Development Site boundary
17.1.02	ScotWays	07/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p>Baseline Information 12.3.3 states that information sources for tourism and recreation may include ScotWays: Aecom is welcome to contact the Society directly if a more detailed consultation response is required.</p>	Noted
17.1.03	ScotWays	07/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	<p>You will no doubt be aware there may now be general access rights over any property under the terms of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003. We understand that the applicant has consulted the Core Paths Plan, prepared by Highland Council's access team as part of their duties under this Act. We strongly recommend that the applicant consult with the access team at Highland Council with regard to any proposals for closure/diversions of recreational routes across the site.</p>	Noted

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
17.1.04	ScotWays	07/11/2017	Scoping Opinion	We note that Figure 10.2 is titled Public Rights of Way. As, noted above, there are no recorded rights of way across the development site this sheet appears to use the recreational baseline rather than show the right of way network over the site and should perhaps be re-titled.	Noted, this has been amended for the EIA Report
20.1.01	Member of the public	17/07/2018	Public Exhibition	Issues due to increased traffic on B862 as there are no roadside fences on the hill ground and stock can range freely all year round. Increased dangers in spring/ summer-time (mid-March onwards). Road marked orange on map. I also am concerned at the single track road between Croachy on the B851 to Achnabat (B862) that this is not used as a short cut. I farm at Ballachar and Dalcrombie also and there are no roadside fences and stock roams freely also. Road marked red on map.	A Framework Traffic Management Plan will be implemented and enforced through the Section 36 planning consent. This CTMP will outline the mandatory routes for all forms of construction traffic including timings, speeds, and approvals. In addition the Construction Environmental Management Plan outlines the roles and responsibilities of the construction staff and the method of raising concerns or making a complaint.
20.1.02	Member of the public	10/07/2018	Public Exhibition	Very impressed with the thought and planning that has gone into this scheme. This and other schemes like it will help to make Scotland self-sufficient in renewable energy and keep us on track to become world leaders in the field. My main concern, in common with other people in the area, is the use (or abuse) of our local road network during the construction phase by contractors from outside of the area who do not know how to use single track roads. I appreciate that this scheme will probably result in fewer heavy vehicle movements than the windfarm developments we are accustomed to, but I still feel that the developers have an obligation to put some of their projected profits into local road improvements e.g. widening part of the Daviot- Inverarnie stretch or the Dores Brae (B862 south of Dores). This would ease congestion, reduce damage to vehicles from damaged road surfaces, and possibly even get some renewable energy skeptics on side! P.s. "Lochan an Eoin Ruadha" translates as "Little loch of the red grouse" (Eon Ruadh = Red Grouse) <u>Not</u> Red John!	A Construction Traffic Management Plan will be implemented and enforced through the Section 36 planning consent. This CTMP will outline the mandatory routes for all forms of construction traffic including timings, speeds, and approvals. In addition the Construction Environmental Management Plan outlines the roles and responsibilities of the construction staff and the method of raising concerns or making a complaint. Comments on the name error is noted, and the Applicant will rename the project prior to the determination of the planning consent by Scottish Ministers

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
20.1.03	Member of the public	06/07/2018	Public Exhibition	<p>1. In support, overall excellent idea and planning, however...</p> <p>2. Name needs corrected and changed. Incorrect Gaelic translation.</p> <p>3. Please protect the mature trees and blackberry ground cover near to the Drumashie crossroads. This is potential capercaillie territory and they have been seen and heard in Strath Nairn and Stratherrick in similar habitat. Locals also collect blackberries here.</p> <p>4. Ensure local businesses are properly compensated for loss of business, <u>not</u> indirectly through the community fund. Even if this is afterwards, it could be done by comparing income before and during work. But preferably compensated during construction.</p> <p>5. Please ensure and enforce the rule that no extra traffic uses the Abersky Road or the Loch Ruthven road.</p> <p>6. Do something to prevent accidents and speeding at the Achnabat corner. This is bad enough already without more traffic. The road surface and visibility are awful. Slow down.</p> <p>7. If there is more traffic on the road through Strath Nairn, please do something about the dreadful road surface between Farr Hall end and the A9 past Dell ? farm.</p> <p>8. Please let everyone know well in advance of any local delays or diversions. We need plenty of notice particularly about any road closures as this affects people going to work, and potential business traffic.</p> <p>9. Make sure the Community Liaison Officer is connected properly to all those affected. Not everyone has access to the internet, particularly the elderly and those who can't get a proper connection.</p> <p>10. We already have problems with people speeding, on our single track roads, and this is made worse by extra-slow drivers. We need some signs to enforce and inform on the use of passing places and speed traps if necessary. Problems with the roads will be made worse by increased traffic. We have seen this already in StrathNairn with increased accidents and a recent fatality - Good luck with all your endeavours, hope it all goes well.</p>	<p>Comments are made using the same notation for ease of reference:</p> <p>1. Noted</p> <p>2. Comments on the name error is noted, and the Applicant will rename the project prior to the determination of the planning consent by Scottish Ministers</p> <p>3. Our surveys have confirmed the presence of Black Grouse but not capercaillie. None the less, there are no plans to alter the crossroads at this location or impact the mature trees</p> <p>4. Details of the community benefit are outlined in the Planning Statement. In addition, the Construction Environmental Management Plan outlines the roles and responsibilities of the construction staff and the method of raising concerns or making a complaint.</p> <p>5. A Framework Traffic Management Plan will be implemented and enforced through the Section 36 planning consent. This CTMP will outline the mandatory routes for all forms of construction traffic including timings, speeds, and approvals.</p> <p>6. Any damage caused to the roads to be used by construction traffic will be rectified, and in some cases, improvements will be made to those specific roads prior to construction starting</p> <p>7. Please see response to point 5</p> <p>8. The CEMP outlines that there will be a community liaison group and a dedicated officer who will be responsible for communicating with the surrounding communities about the construction phase of the Development. This will include a website, and a newsletter as well as regular meetings.</p> <p>9. Alternative means of communication will be made such as meetings, newsletters and leaflet drops</p> <p>10. Please see response to point 5 regarding traffic</p>
20.1.04	Member of the public	27/06/2018	Public Exhibition	<p>Positive about project. What benefits will the Project gain to the local community?</p>	<p>Details of the community benefit are outlined in the Planning Statement. In addition, any highway improvements and improvements to local paths and recreational routes will remain. The Access Management Plan also outlines the improved signage and educational boards which will be installed. It is also proposed to leave the permanent elements of the jetty to aid any aquatic recreational craft.</p>
20.1.05	Member of the public	27/06/2018	Public Exhibition	<p>The Project will have enormous impact on the B851 if 300 people are employed and they don't live on site. I appreciate the importance of the Project. I am concerned at the impact it will have on the local community during the construction phase.</p>	<p>It is proposed that there is a sufficient workforce in Inverness and surrounding residential areas given the presence of other hydro power schemes in the vicinity. Therefore it is intended that a local workforce will avoid the need for local accommodation to be used by a substantial external workforce. In addition a small worker accommodation facility is proposed during critical path activities onsite. With regards to traffic, a Construction Traffic Management Plan will be implemented and enforced through the Section 36 planning consent. This CTMP will outline the mandatory routes for all forms of construction traffic including timings, speeds, and approvals.</p>
20.1.06	Member of the public	27/06/2018	Public Exhibition	<p>Good clear presentation of the proposal and thank you to the staff for answering questions. Generally, support the proposal, but concerned over the destruction of General Wade's Road section.</p>	<p>A cultural heritage assessment of General Wade's road has been undertaken in Chapter 13</p>

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
20.1.07	Member of the public	27/06/2018	Public Exhibition	Good presentation - info and people Good that input being requested before planning had been completed We are particularly interred/ concerned about visual impact from Abriachan and light pollution Could we please receive visual impact photos once these show the Project (email).	Visualisations have been prepared and can be found in Volume 4: Visualisations. The viewpoint from Abriachan is number 2
20.1.08	Member of the public	27/06/2018	Public Exhibition	Very positive Project. Fully support proposal.	Noted
20.1.09	Member of the public	27/06/2018	Public Exhibition	In principle in favour of any scheme that promotes renewable energy, so support this scheme. The only concern would be about traffic management during the construction phase.	A Construction Traffic Management Plan will be implemented and enforced through the Section 36 planning consent. This CTMP will outline the mandatory routes for all forms of construction traffic including timings, speeds, and approvals.
21.1.01	Stratherrick and Foyers Community Council	10/07/2018	Public Exhibition	The SFCC had huge concerns over the proposed traffic route for the Project, as it will come through an SFCC area between Dunmaglass and Torness. Our area has had to endure wind farm and hydro scheme traffic for more than 4/5 years already. Our roads are not built for this kind of traffic and are being ruined. Although a TMP will be agreed and in place, our previous experiences show that TMP's are not easily experiences show that TMP's are not easily enforceable and end up just being ignored. Speeding work vehicles through our villages is top of the SFCC agenda every month. Yes we get some road upgraders, but again these come with more upheavle and inconvenience to locals. The SFCC will object to the proposed traffic route and request an alternative be considered.	A Construction Traffic Management Plan will be implemented and enforced through the Section 36 planning consent. This CTMP will outline the mandatory routes for all forms of construction traffic including timings, speeds, and approvals. In addition the Construction Environmental Management Plan outlines the roles and responsibilities of the construction staff and the method of raising concerns or making a complaint.
22.1.1	Local Business		Business Questionnaire	I would not want it to be too noisy e.g. continuous hum as we are the 2nd closest house to project	The EIA Report contains a noise assessment with Figure 16.2 providing the noise monitoring locations which have been used for the impact assessment
22.1.2	Local Business		Business Questionnaire	The road running from loch duntelchaig, through the crossroads at the intersection of No 14 and downwards past Clune Wood leading down the hair pin bend road to the B852 is used frequently by guests going to the Dores Inn. It doesn't appear to be mentioned, but as it is very narrow and has no signed passing places (as pointed out by one freaked guest who didn't know to use the coreners instead!) so it having 3 junctions of possible traffic will need extra passing places. My neighbour uses it frequently. Will the residents of the Duntelchaig area be linked into the mains if they want to? To give the option would be nice. Note: call me if any workmen want to bring a campevan/ caravan as I may be able to rent an area depending on dates of required stay (not sure when project starts).	Thank you for your comments. The B852 will not be used for construction traffic for entry into Dores. The access route for all construction traffic is via the A9 and B851, with the exception of potential sensitive times of the year to avoid impact to ornithological features on Loch Eion Rhuda, where traffic will enter the site via Compound 3. A Framework Traffic Management Plan is included in the EIA Report as Appendix 15.1 and outlines how construction traffic will be managed on all public roads. There is no proposals to amend any existing utility arrangements near Loch Duntelchaig with the exception of the diversions required on the C1064 and some localised distribution overhead lines in the vicinity of the Headpond.
22.1.3	Local Business		Business Questionnaire	Anticipating some disruption during construction - noise, traffic etc. Would consider long-term lets to construction personel if required.	Noted
22.1.4	Local Business		Business Questionnaire	The project will severely curtailed our riding operations so adequate provision will need to be made to make sure the impact is as little as possinle - alternative tracks provided and plenty of communication about works in progress so we can work together.	The Access Management Plan is provided in Appendix 14.3 and outlines the alternative routes, diversions and closures which will be required during the construction phase. It also details other measures such as signage and communication regarding the construction phase.

ID	Organisation	Date	Consultation Method	Comments	Response from Applicant
22.1.5	Local Business		Business Questionnaire	Concern about increase traffic Concern about noise pollution	The EIA Report contains a Framework Traffic Management Plan and a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) which outlines the measures to control these aspects of the construction phase.
22.1.6	Local Business	29/06/2018	Public Exhibition	Not enough information supplied to date to provide detailed comments. Concerns and topics I would expect to be addressed: - Flood Risk Assessment - Associated impacts on our property and insurance; - Transport: winter safety; Route for construction to be confirmed; Access from A9 S of Daviot through Inverarnie how will this be controlled. - Ecological Impacts: GWD Ecosystems; Ornithology - Osprey v. close by - spotted on way home from consultation. Wood peckers, kyte, grebe, barn owl, kestrel, perrigine falcon all in area; Bats definitely in construction area; red squirrel; scots pine some interesting examples; -Archaeology: wades road, mill stone, stone circle; - LVIA: Particularly from Loch Ashie and Loch Duntelchaig north side - Effects on hydrology, water table and knock on flood implications. Also on Loch Duntelchaig levels as we have a private water supply. Sceptic tanks and soakaways are used on most properties here increase in water table will impact these needs considered; - Non-native species introduction to Loch Ashie or Loch Duntelchaig spread by birds etc. from headpond. - carbon calc for the Development - actual savings; - Social-economic benefits? Local content of construction how will this be insured. - Construction programme minimise disturbance but realistic re winter shutdowns. - Noise impacts of construction - construction site hours? - Recreation use of Loch Ashie near Development for dog walking, stand up paddle boarding, paddling, fishing and wild camping.	Responses are made in the same order for ease of reference: - A flood risk assessment has been undertaken and is contained within Chapter 9, with the breach analysis in Appendix 9.1. The Applicant is unable to provide any information on insurance. - A Construction Traffic Management Plan will be implemented and enforced through the Section 36 planning consent. This CTMP will outline the mandatory routes for all forms of construction traffic including timings, speeds, and approvals. - A full ecological impact assessment has been undertaken and contained in Chapter 6: Terrestrial Ecology, Chapter 7: Aquatic Ecology and Chapter 8: Ornithology, including all the associated appendices for species specific surveys. A Statement to Inform an Appropriate Assessment is also included within the submission for potential effects on Natura 2000 sites - An archaeological assessment has been undertaken and is contained with Chapter 15 - Chapter 11 contains the Landscape and Visual Assessment and should be read in conjunction with its associated Appendices. The Visualisations (to both THC and SNH standards) are available in Volume 4 Visualisations - Chapter 9 provides information on flood risk whilst Chapter 10 provides an assessment on water quality and private water supplies - An assessment of non-native invasive species has been undertaken, specifically on aquatic species as well as terrestrial and this is contained within Chapters 6 and 7. A INNS Risk Assessment for the construction and operational phases has been completed and is contained within Appendix 7.2. This has been approved by SEPA and SNH (see comments G135 and G70) - No carbon calculation has been undertaken - A socio-economic assessment is contained within Chapter 14 with the community benefit outlined in the Planning Statement - A noise assessment is contained within Chapter 16 with the working hours outlined in Chapter 2: Project and Site Description - The Applicant can confirm that no works are proposed in Loch Ashie and
23.1.01	Inverness West CC	13/10/2018	s36 Copies	Firstly, please address all correspondance from now on to our chairman, George Hawco, Dalluarach, Abriachan, Inverness, IV3 8LB, to whom a paper application should be sent. Mr Hawco is currently on holiday.	Noted with thanks
23.1.02	Inverness West CC	13/10/2018	s36 Copies	Secondly please note there is a highly successful community forest in Abriachan, owned and managed by residents, founded 20 years ago, which welcomes more than 40,000 visitors each year and provides educational facilities and an extensive network of forest paths and high hill walks, including Carn na Leitir and Meall a Bhathaich. From the latter there would be extensive views into your development site. It might be appropriate for ECU to consult with the Abriachan Forest Trust on the development. They can be contacted via their chairman, Marco Baglioni, Easter Tomachoin, Abriachan, IV3 8LB.	Noted
23.1.03	Inverness West CC	13/10/2018	s36 Copies	We agree with THC that there should be a set of visualisations to THC guidelines.	We can confirm that the visualisations prepared conform to both THC and SNH requirements and are contained Volume 4 Visualisations

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23.1.04	Inverness West CC	13/10/2018	s36 Copies	We agree with various agencies that felling should be kept to a minimum.	Noted, this is outlined in Chapter 10: Forestry
23.1.05	Inverness West CC	13/10/2018	s36 Copies	We consider that all above ground infrastructure should be rendered/finished in a material and of a colour which will blend into the background.	Noted, we seek to gain agreement on the finishes with the relevant bodies post-planning consent
23.1.06	Inverness West CC	13/10/2018	s36 Copies	We agree with THC that a landscape and visual effects appraisal should be jargon-free and include a sensitive assessment of how the landscapes are viewed, used and valued by residents and visitors alike.	We can confirm that the visualisations prepared conform to both THC and SNH requirements and are contained Volume 4 Visualisations. Commentary can also be found in Chapter 11: Landscape & Visual and the associated appendices
23.1.07	Inverness West CC	13/10/2018	s36 Copies	It is a small point, but I notice Abriachan is mis-spelt in your scoping document. This is not to be pedantic, but spelling errors make a digital search/use of manual index more difficult than it should be.	Noted

