

Appendix 10.1: Historic Environment Assessment



Loch Liath Wind Farm Ltd

Loch Liath Wind Farm EIA Historic Environment Assessment

Final report
Prepared by LUC
April 2023



Loch Liath Wind Farm Ltd

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Project Number
11057

Version	Status	Prepared	Checked	Approved	Date
1.	Final report	LUC	LUC	LUC	13.04.2023

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Executive Summary

LUC was commissioned by Loch Liath Wind Farm Ltd to prepare a Historic Environment assessment (HEA) to accompany its proposal for a new wind energy development at Loch Liath (hereafter the 'Proposed Development').

No heritage assets were identified within the footprint of the Proposed Development. Land use of the exposed, wet and unproductive upland plateau appears to have been limited to seasonal grazing and sporting activities, and the potential for the previously unrecorded heritage assets including buried archaeological remains within the footprint of the Proposed Development has been assessed to be low to negligible.

There are extensive areas of peat across the upland plateau. As peat is formed by anaerobic conditions that prevent the micro-biological activity needed for the chemical breakdown of organic materials, there is potential for organic archaeological remains, and a high potential for paleoenvironmental evidence.

Heritage assets within the wider landscape are characterised by evidence of prehistoric settlement and funerary monuments, post-medieval buildings, pre-Improvement farmsteads, townships and shieling sites, a battlefield, Improvement era farmsteads and buildings associated with sporting activity, including Loch Ashlaich shooting box and bothy, a category C listed building.

A number of designated heritage assets which may experience setting change as a result of the operation of the Proposed Development were also included in the HEA baseline. These comprise Iron Age or early medieval settlements formed of oval hut circles and round houses accompanied by clearance cairns and field systems, a Pictish cemetery and Urquhart Castle located on the western shore of Loch Ness. Urquhart Castle has been included in the HEA baseline due to in-combination views from Loch Ness.

No significant effects have been identified for the heritage assets identified in the cultural heritage baseline, including as a result of setting change.

Chapter 1 Introduction

Project Background

1.1 LUC was commissioned by Loch Liath Wind Farm Ltd to undertake a historic environment assessment (HEA) to accompany its proposal for a new wind energy development at Loch Liath Wind Farm (hereafter the 'Proposed Development').

1.2 The Proposed Development is located on a moorland plateau directly west of the Great Glen and Loch Ness, and approximately 10km south-west of Drumnadrochit. This area (hereafter referred to as 'the Site') is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) NH 38974 24700. The location of the Proposed Development is shown on **Figure 10.1** in **Volume 2: Figures**. (For the avoidance of doubt, all Figure references, unless explicitly indicated otherwise, are internal references to images within this document.)

1.3 The Proposed Development is subject to an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) under The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017¹ ('the EIA Regulations'), and the application for Section 36 consent under the Electricity Act 1989 is accompanied by an EIA Report. This HEA forms a technical appendix to the EIA Report to fulfil the requirements of the NPF4, the Historic Environment Policy for Scotland (HEPS), Scottish Planning Policy (SPP)² and Planning Advice Note 2/2011 (PAN 2) at national level, and Highland-wide Local Development Plan (HWLDP) (please refer to **Chapter 5: Statutory and Policy Framework** of the EIA Report).

The Proposed Development

Description

1.4 The Proposed Development comprises ten wind turbines with a maximum blade tip height of up to 200m and three wind turbines with a maximum blade tip height of up to 180m.

1.5 Foundations to support each wind turbine will be created alongside associated crane hardstandings at each turbine

¹ References to all legislation relate to that as amended and in force at the time of writing.

² At the time of writing NPF4 had not be formally adopted and published by the Scottish Government, meaning that SPP remained in force.

location. A network of onsite access tracks and associated watercourse crossings alongside a network of underground cables will also be required.

1.6 Other key elements of the Proposed Development include: control buildings and substation, a permanent anemometer mast or LiDAR compound including associated foundations and hardstanding, temporary construction compound(s), laydown area(s); car park(s) and a borrow pit.

Access

1.7 The Proposed Development will be accessed via the A887. The access will then utilise the existing Bhlaraidh Wind Farm track, before accessing the turbines. Only minor changes to the existing Bhlaraidh Wind Farm track will be required. Access across the Proposed Development, connecting the turbines and associated infrastructure will be via a network of c.9km of new access tracks.

Construction

1.8 It is estimated that it will take up to approximately 18 months to construct the Proposed Development. Construction works will include the following main activities:

- working of temporary borrow pit for the extraction of stone;
- construction of the temporary construction compound and car parking;
- construction and upgrading of site access tracks, including passing places, turning heads, junctions and drainage;
- construction of culverts under tracks to facilitate drainage and maintain existing hydrology;
- construction of turbine foundations;
- construction of an onsite substation;
- excavation of trenches and cable laying adjacent to site tracks;
- movement onto site and delivery and erection of wind turbines;
- commissioning of the wind farm; and
- restoration of temporary construction areas and implementation of the habitat management measures.

Operation

1.9 The expected operational life of the Proposed Development is 35 years from the date of commissioning. The main components of the Proposed Development during operation will comprise:

- 13 wind turbines (three (Turbines 1, 6 and 7) will have tip heights of up to 180m and ten (Turbines 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13) will have a tip height of up to 200m).
- It is anticipated that six of the turbines (T1, 4, 7, 10, 12 and 13) will be fitted with visible aviation warning lights;
- Crane hardstandings and adjacent laydown areas;
- One permanent steel lattice anemometer mast of up to 122.5m in height;
- Onsite underground electrical cables and cable trenches;
- Onsite substation and control building;
- Watercourse crossings and associated infrastructure i.e. culverts;
- 9.325km of access tracks which includes 8,185km standard track and 1,140 km of floating track;
- Onsite passing places (location and size to be determined by the turbine supplier);
- Site signage; and
- A Habitat Management Area.

1.10 Full details of the Proposed Development are provided in **Chapter 4: Project Description** of the EIA Report.

Aims and objectives

1.11 The aim of this HEA is to identify the baseline conditions for the historic environment and assess if they may be affected by the Proposed Development. This will be achieved by:

- Identifying heritage assets within the Primary Study Area, and those within the Inner and Outer Study Areas with the potential to experience effects, including those as a consequence of setting change;
- Outlining the cultural significance of those heritage assets identified as susceptible to change, including any contribution made by their setting;
- Assessing the value (importance) of those heritage assets included in the baseline; and
- Identifying the potential for change to those heritage assets as a result of the Proposed Development.

1.12 The HEA includes consideration of known heritage assets and the potential for previously unrecorded heritage assets, including buried archaeological remains.

Chapter 2 Methodology

Introduction

This chapter sets out the approach to the HEA, and the sources consulted in compiling and understanding the baseline data to undertake the assessment. For the purposes of the assessment, the historic environment is held to be “the physical evidence for human activity that connects people with place, linked with the associations we can see, feel and understand.”³ Its constituent parts are known as ‘heritage assets’ which are synonymous with ‘cultural heritage assets’, ‘historic assets’ or ‘sites’. These can be tangible features, buildings, or places or intangible stories, traditions and concepts⁴ that provide physical evidence of past human activity and hold sufficient value (i.e. cultural significance) to this and future generations to merit consideration in the planning system.⁵ This assessment therefore focuses on if, and how, the Proposed Development will change the cultural significance of heritage assets within and around it.

Guidance

2.1 This report has been prepared in accordance with the principles contained following appropriate guidance:

- Code of Conduct: professional ethics in archaeology (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (Cifa), 2022);⁶
- Standard and guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment Cifa (2020);⁷
- Managing Change in the Historic Environment Guidance Notes – setting (hereafter referred to as the HES setting guidance) (Historic Environment Scotland (HES), 2020);⁸
- Managing Change in the Historic Environment Guidance Notes – historic battlefields (hereafter referred to as the HES historic battlefield guidance) (HES, 2020);⁹

³ HES, 2014. The Historic Environment Strategy for Scotland, pp. 2.

⁴ SNH and HES, Environmental Impact Assessment Handbook, p.172, (2018).

⁵ Ibid, p.175.

⁶ Cifa, 2022. Code of conduct: professional ethics in archaeology. Available on line:

<https://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/Code%20of%20conduct%20revOct2022.pdf> [Accessed November 2022].

⁷ Cifa, 2020. Standard and Guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment. Available on line:

https://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/CifAS%26GDBA_4.pdf [Accessed November 2022].

⁸ HES, 2020. Managing Change in the Historic Environment: Setting. Available on line: <https://www.historicenvironment.scot/archives-and-research/publications/publication/?publicationid=80b7c0a0-584b-4625-b1fd-a60b009c2549> [Accessed November 2020]

⁹ HES, 2020. Managing Change in the Historic Environment: Historic Battlefields. Available on line: <https://www.historicenvironment.scot/archives-and-research/publications/publication/?publicationid=b7a05b45-f2a9-4c71-8450-a60b0094c62e> [Accessed November 2020]

- Designation Policy and Selection Guidance (HES, 2019);¹⁰
- Planning Advice Note 2/2011: Planning and Archaeology;¹¹
- Environmental Impact Assessment Handbook (particularly the framework for Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment provided in Appendix 1; hereafter this guidance is referred to as the EIA Handbook) (HES and Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH), 2018);¹² and
- Principles of Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment (PCHIA) in the UK (Cifa, Institute of Historic Building Conservation and Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment, 2021);¹³

Study areas and data gathering

Study areas

2.2 The following study areas have been defined in response to the potential for physical change to heritage assets, and informed by the Proposed Development's Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) and an understanding of the distance over which significant effects arising from setting change are considered likely:

- **The Primary Study Area:** consisting of the footprint of the Proposed Development. All heritage assets located within the Primary Study Area have been considered.
- **The Inner Study Area:** consisting of the land outwith the Primary Study Area to a distance of 5km from it. All heritage assets located within the Inner Study Area have been considered for the potential for effects arising from setting change.
- **The Outer Study Area:** consisting of land between 5km and 10km from the Primary Study Area. Designated heritage assets lying within this area have been considered for the potential for effects due to setting change.

2.3 In addition, designated heritage assets identified as being sensitive to setting change and having theoretical visibility of the Proposed Development at greater distances to

the Outer Study Area, or where specific in-combination views may be affected has been identified and included in this assessment.¹⁴

2.4 The extent of the Inner and Outer Study Areas are identified on **Figures 10.1 and 10.2 in EIA Report Volume 2: Figures.**

Sources

2.5 Supporting data and information was collected and collated for the study areas. In line with best practice, the following publicly accessible sources of primary and secondary information were used in preparation of the baseline and inform the assessment:

- HES spatial datasets and database for designated heritage assets comprising:
 - scheduled monuments;
 - listed buildings;
 - conservation areas;
 - Inventory-listed Garden and Designed Landscapes; and
 - Inventory-listed Historic Battlefields.
- THC Historic Environment Record (HER) data (updated 9 November 2022);
- THC conservation area information.
- HES Canmore¹⁵ database;
- Historic Land-use Assessment (HLA) data;
- Historic Ordnance Survey mapping (principally First and Second Edition 25 inch and 6 inch to a mile mapping where available for the Primary Study Area) and other published historic mapping held in the National Library of Scotland (NLS) and available online;
- Aerial photographs (oblique and vertical) held by the National Collection of Aerial Photography (NCAP), Cambridge Aerial Photos and Britain From Above available online;

¹⁰ HES, 2019. Designation Policy and Selection Guidance. Available on line: <https://www.historicenvironment.scot/archives-and-research/publications/publication/?publicationId=8d8bbaeb-ce5a-46c1-a558-aa2500ff7d3b> [Accessed November 2022]

¹¹ Planning Advice Note 2/2011: Planning and archaeology. Available on line: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/pan-2-2011-planning-archaeology/> [Accessed November 2022]

¹² HES and SNH, 2018. Environmental Impact Assessment Handbook <https://www.historicenvironment.scot/archives-and-research/publications/publication/?publicationId=6ed33b65-9df1-4a2f-acbb-a8e800a592c0> [Accessed November 2022]

¹³ Cifa, Institute of Historic Building Conservation and Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment, 2021. Available on line: https://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/30361_iema_principlesofchia_v8.pdf. [Accessed November 2022].

¹⁴ While there is no theoretical visibility of the Proposed Development from Urquhart Castle (SM90309), there is potential for in-combination views of the Proposed Development with the castle from the east side of Loch Ness, and from the loch itself, that may affect the contribution of setting to the cultural significance of the heritage asset.

¹⁵ National Record of the Historic Environment

setting of various heritage assets including Urquhart Castle (SM90309) and Craig Mony, fort (SM5808). Due to their locations, some heritage assets were unable to be visited due to limited access or ground conditions.

Assumptions and limitations

2.10 The assessment has utilised a range of sources on the area's historic environment. Much of this is necessarily secondary information compiled from a variety of sources (e.g. HER data and grey literature reports). It has been assumed that this information is reasonably accurate unless otherwise stated.

2.11 At the time desk-based research was undertaken (January/February 2021), archives and collection centres were closed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Historic Ordnance Survey mapping and aerial photographs were consulted which were readily available online comprising those held by Canmore, the NLS, NCAP, Cambridge Aerial Photos, and Britain From Above.

2.12 Given the remote location of the Proposed Development and the limited potential for previous landscape change within the Primary Study Area, online sources are sufficient to inform the historic environment baseline, including to inform the assessment of potential for previously unrecorded heritage assets.

2.13 The potential for previously unrecorded heritage assets, including buried archaeological remains, has been considered in relation to the pattern and significance of known heritage assets (drawn from the THC HER data and a review of historic mapping and available digital aerial imagery) in the vicinity of the Primary Study Area and land use history within it to understand the archaeological potential.

2.14 While non-intrusive or intrusive archaeological investigations¹⁸ have not been undertaken to inform the historic environment baseline, the sources identified above are sufficient to identify the potential for previously unrecorded heritage assets, including the potential for buried archaeological remains within the Primary Study Area and the assessment of any likely significant effects.

2.15 Whilst some information gaps are inevitable, given the buried nature of archaeological remains, it is considered that there is sufficient information to enable an informed decision to be taken in relation to the identification and assessment of likely significant environmental effects on cultural heritage. A precautionary approach has been applied, based on the

- Available reports from recent archaeological work undertaken in the area ('grey literature');
- Relevant archive material held by THC, HES, NLS, Registers of Scotland available online;
- Where available, publicly-accessible LiDAR data;
- Visualisations and 3-D turbines modelled and viewed in Google Earth; and
- Findings of other relevant topics identified in **Chapter 6: Landscape and Visual Amenity, Chapter 7: Geology, Hydrology, Hydrogeology, and Peat and Chapter 11: Noise and Vibration** of the EIA Report for the Proposed Development.

2.6 In addition to the sources identified above, the Scottish Archaeological Research Framework (ScARF)¹⁶ and the Highland Archaeological Research Framework (HighARF)¹⁷ were used to inform the assessment of the cultural significance and importance of those heritage assets identified in the baseline.

Field survey

2.7 A walkover survey of the Primary Study Area and site visits to selected heritage assets in the Inner and Outer Study Areas was undertaken in May 2021 to inform the assessment. Weather conditions during this survey were mixed but visibility was generally sufficient to inform the identification of the setting of heritage assets. A subsequent walkover was conducted on a potential northern access route in December 2021.

2.8 The walkover survey targeted the Primary Study Area within the Site. It allowed for the verification of all known heritage assets, confirming their interpretation, location, and likely sensitivity to change, and informed the assessment of potential effects on those assets. No previously unrecorded heritage assets were identified within the Primary Study Area during the walkover survey. Selected heritage assets beyond the Primary Study Area were also visited to confirm their setting and inform the assessment of change to that setting.

2.9 The selection of heritage assets beyond the Primary Study Area was informed by the ZTV and professional judgement in relation to the likely sensitivity to setting change of heritage assets with theoretical visibility or the potential for in-combination views that contribute to their cultural significance. This included the use of a boat tour along Loch Ness to understand potential in-combination effects on the

¹⁶ ScARF is an evolving research resource for Scottish archaeology which provides a national overview of the subject by period and identifies relevant national research questions. Available online at: <https://scarf.scot/national/>

¹⁷ HighARF provides a chronological overview of the heritage of the Highland region and identifies key regional research questions. Available online at: <https://scarf.scot/regional/higharf/>

¹⁸ Non-intrusive and intrusive archaeological investigations can include geophysical survey and archaeological trial trenching.

available information and the professional experience and judgment of the project team, to ensure that all likely significant effects have been assessed and reported. For the avoidance of doubt, when any asset is identified as being of 'uncertain' importance, a precautionary approach would be applied, and the effect reported as potentially significant. However, this has not been necessary in this instance.

Approach to assessment

2.16 The heritage assets forming the baseline were subject to a high-level analysis to identify those that are sensitive to the Proposed Development and required detailed assessment. Those heritage assets identified as being likely to experience effects have been subject to a full assessment undertaken in line with the six steps set out in PCHIA:

1. Understanding heritage assets:
 - a. describe the heritage asset;
 - b. ascribe heritage significance; and
 - c. attribute importance.
2. Evaluating the consequences of change:
 - a. understand change;
 - b. assess impact; and
 - c. weigh the effect.

Description

2.17 A factual description of each heritage asset is provided including, but not limited to, where relevant their location, form, fabric, and condition. As proportionality is key, the information presented is focused on that which is relevant to understanding the cultural significance of the heritage asset, especially those elements that might be affected by the Proposed Development.

Ascribing cultural significance

2.18 This assessment seeks to identify the cultural significance of the heritage assets within the historic environment baseline to assess the likely impact of the Proposed Development on cultural heritage and the recommendations for any appropriate mitigation to reduce effects.

2.19 The cultural significance that makes heritage assets important can be articulated in various ways. The HES

Designation Policy and Selection Guidance¹⁹ sets out how Scotland's historic sites and places are assessed to determine whether their cultural significance is of national importance. One approach to assessing cultural significance in any circumstance (designated or non-designated) is to adjust these criteria to reflect the relative importance of the heritage asset, from national to local. However, as each heritage asset type (such as monument and historic building) is assessed against different designation criteria this approach is not consistent, which can make it difficult for the reader to follow.

2.20 A more consistent and easily understandable approach draws upon the heritage values referenced by the Historic Environment Policy for Scotland²⁰, which are drawn from The Burra Charter²¹. These values are detailed in the Australia ICOMOS Understanding and Assessing Cultural Significance Practice Note²² and comprise:

- **Evidential value:** This refers to the information content of a place and its ability to reveal more about an aspect of the past through examination or investigation of the place, including the use of archaeological techniques. The relative scientific value of a place is likely to depend on the importance of the information or data involved, on its rarity, quality or representativeness, and its potential to contribute further important information about the place itself or a type or class of place or to address important research questions.
- **Historical value:** This is typically either illustrative or associative. It is intended to encompass all aspects of history; for example, the history of aesthetics, art and architecture, science, spirituality, and society. It therefore often underlies other values. A place may have historic value because it has influenced, or has been influenced by, an historic event, phase, movement or activity, person or group of people. It may be the site of an important event. For any place, the significance will be greater where the evidence of the association or event survives at the place, or where the setting is substantially intact, than where it has been changed or evidence does not survive. However, some events or associations may be so important that the place retains significance regardless of such change or absence of evidence.
- **Aesthetic value:** This refers to the sensory and perceptual experience of a place; that is, how we respond to visual and non-visual aspects such as sounds, smells and other factors having a strong impact on human thoughts, feelings and attitudes. Aesthetic

qualities may include the concept of beauty and formal aesthetic ideals. Expressions of aesthetics are culturally influenced.

- **Social/ Spiritual value:** This refers to the associations that a place has for a particular community or cultural group and the social or cultural meanings that it holds for them. Spiritual value refers to the intangible values and meanings embodied in or evoked by a place which give it importance in the spiritual identity, or the traditional knowledge, art and practices of a cultural group. Spiritual value may also be reflected in the intensity of aesthetic and emotional responses or community associations and be expressed through cultural practices and related places.

The contribution of setting to cultural significance

2.21 The ICOMOS heritage values are a way of transparently and consistently articulating the cultural significance of any heritage asset, including any contribution made by setting to that cultural significance. The HES setting guidance identifies that setting is the way the surroundings of a heritage asset or place contribute to how it is understood, appreciated, and experienced in the present landscape.²³ All heritage assets have a setting, but the contribution that this makes to their cultural significance varies in line with the location, form, function and preservation of the asset and its surroundings. Setting can be integral to the cultural significance of a heritage asset (contributing to one or more of its heritage values or their appreciation), therefore a change in an important element of an asset's setting can equate to a direct impact to its cultural significance. Equally, where setting does not contribute to a heritage asset's cultural significance, no effect can result from setting change.

2.22 The contribution made by setting to a heritage asset's cultural significance is set out discursively.

Ascribing importance

2.23 Heritage assets may derive their cultural significance from one or more of the above heritage values, but a lack of interest in one or more of these values does not indicate a lower level of importance, just that their interest lies elsewhere. The above heritage values help in understanding cultural significance of a heritage asset, but do not determine the level of that significance (i.e. 'importance').

2.24 The ICOMOS heritage values (discussed above) can help explain a heritage asset's cultural significance, but they do not explain how important (e.g. high, medium, low) the significance of the asset is. Establishing the importance of a

heritage asset is a key stage of the assessment process as it influences the way in which decisions are made during the development of a proposal as well as the weight to be given it by the decision-maker. Importance is determined using professional judgement alongside an understanding of local, regional, and national historic environment research objectives and, where appropriate, the use of the designation criteria for heritage assets. The criteria used to inform the assessment of importance of heritage assets are identified in **Table 2.1**.

Table 2.1: Heritage asset importance criteria

Importance	Criteria
High	Designated heritage assets. Non-designated heritage assets that meet the criteria for statutory designation, or an equivalent level of cultural significance.
Medium	Non-designated heritage assets of regional or regional/local value.
Low	Non-designated heritage assets of local value.
Very low	Non-designated heritage assets of less than local or other value.
Uncertain	The heritage value of the heritage asset could not be fully ascertained.

Evaluating the consequences of change

2.25 A heritage asset's sensitivity to change does not automatically equate to its importance. It varies depending on the nature of a heritage asset's cultural significance, the contribution that setting makes to that cultural significance, and the character of the Proposed Development and the way in which it interacts with that cultural significance.

2.26 Unless otherwise stated, all heritage assets within the Primary Study Area have been assumed to be of high sensitivity to physical change as their cultural significance is derived primarily from their evidential and historic value (form and fabric) which will be diminished or lost if physically changed.

2.27 Sensitivity to setting change is variable and has been established based on an understanding of the contribution made by setting to a heritage asset's cultural significance and the likely interaction of the Proposed Development with that contribution. Sensitivity to setting change has been articulated by describing the way a heritage asset's setting contributes (or not) to its cultural significance (or understanding that

¹⁹ HES 2020. Designation Policy and Selection Criteria.

²⁰ HES 2019. Historic Environment Policy for Scotland.

²¹ Australia ICOMOS, 2013. The Burra Charter. Available online at: <https://australia.icomos.org/publications/burra-charter-practice-notes/#bc>

²² Australia ICOMOS, 2013. Understanding and assessing cultural significance practice note. Available online at:

https://australia.icomos.org/wp-content/uploads/Practice-Note_Understanding-and-assessing-cultural-significance.pdf

²³ HES 2020, Managing Change in the Historic Environment: Setting, p.5.

significance), with reference to HES setting guidance, and how that contribution may be changed by the Proposed Development.

Assessment of potential effects

Types of effects

2.28 This assessment considers the potential effects associated with the construction and operation of the Proposed Development as detailed below. Effects to heritage assets are described in terms of the extent to which the Proposed Development will degrade or enhance the heritage assets' cultural significance using professional judgement.

2.29 Impacts can be adverse or beneficial, temporary or permanent, avoidable or unavoidable, individual or cumulative, amongst many factors. The following effects have been assessed in full:

- Direct effects resulting from physical change to heritage assets within the Primary Study Area. Heritage assets beyond this study area are not at risk of physical change as a result of the Proposed Development.
- Direct effects to designated and non-designated heritage assets that are identified as being sensitive to setting change. These effects are considered in relation to different study areas identified in above.
- Cumulative operational effects as a result of setting change (cumulative physical effects are not considered likely given the nature of the Proposed Development).

Physical effects

2.30 Direct physical effects to heritage assets occur when, as a result of a development, the fabric of a heritage asset is removed or damaged; this will be permanent and generally occurs during the construction phase. This risk exists in relation to recorded heritage assets as well as previously unrecorded heritage assets, including buried archaeological remains.

2.31 Indirect physical effects can also occur at any stage of a development to heritage assets which lie outside the Primary Study Area. For instance, adverse impacts can include changes in groundwater levels which can affect the preservation of waterlogged archaeological remains, or damage to buildings and structures from vibration arising from construction plant and machinery. These adverse effects are likely to be permanent.

2.32 To identify heritage assets sensitive to physical change an intersection analysis was run between known heritage assets and the Proposed Development footprint. Consideration has also been given to the potential to

encounter further hitherto unrecorded heritage assets, including buried archaeological remains.

Setting change

2.33 Effects related to setting change are direct and result from how a development proposal alters a heritage asset's setting in a way which affects its cultural significance or how it is perceived. Such changes are often visual, but can also relate to disruptions of historical, functional or symbolic relationships (including intervisibility between heritage assets or historic patterns of land use) or sensory factors such as noise, odour or emissions.

2.34 Indirect impacts on setting can also occur away from a proposal, such as changes in traffic around a heritage asset. This type of impact can occur at any stage of development and may be temporary, permanent or reversible.

2.35 To identify heritage assets whose cultural significance is potentially sensitive to setting change a high-level assessment of all known heritage assets that intersected with the ZTV was undertaken. Heritage assets outside of the ZTV were also reviewed to see if in-combination views that could affect their cultural significance were considered possible.

2.36 A full list of heritage assets within the Inner and Outer Study Areas can be found in **Annex A: Designated Heritage Assets Scoping Assessment Tables**. This list has been used to establish the level of baseline data to inform the scope of the assessment of potential effects to heritage assets due to setting change.

Cumulative effects

2.37 Impacts of a cumulative nature can relate to the physical fabric or setting of heritage assets. This can be a result of impact interactions between different impacts of a development or in-combination with impacts of other schemes. Alternatively, they may be additive impacts from incremental changes caused by a development together with other extant schemes or those already in the planning system.

2.38 This assessment considers the potential effects to the cultural significance of heritage assets against a baseline that includes existing or consented wind farms, in line with the schemes agreed for inclusion in the cumulative assessment.

Understanding change

2.39 In line with the PCHIA guidance and EIA Handbook, the way in which the Proposed Development may change the cultural significance of a heritage asset, and whether that change is temporary or permanent, has been clearly articulated with explicit reference to the heritage value(s) affected.

Assessing impact (magnitude of change)

2.40 Assessment of the impact to a heritage asset's cultural significance as a result of the Proposed Development has been undertaken using professional judgement and an understanding of how the heritage values of that asset that contribute to its cultural significance will be affected. It is not a measure of the reach or extent of the proposal or the importance of the heritage asset. As per the PCHIA guidance a simple scale is used for assessing an impact and, for transparency, the criteria for this are set out below in **Table 2.2**.

Table 2.2: Level of impact / Magnitude of change criteria

Magnitude of Change	Description
Large	Total or near total loss of a heritage asset's cultural significance either through physical and/or setting change.
Medium	Substantial loss or alteration of a heritage asset's cultural significance either through physical and/or setting change.
Small	Slight loss or alteration of a heritage asset's cultural significance either through physical and/or setting change.
None	No change to the cultural significance of a heritage asset.

Level of effect (significance of effect)²⁴

2.41 The level of the effect has been determined using professional judgement to reflect the importance of the heritage asset using the scaled criteria in **Table 2.3** below. The justification for the significance of effect has been reported clearly. This approach accords with the guidelines for assessment set out in the PCHIA guidance (termed 'weighting the effect') and the EIA Handbook.

2.42 A clear statement has been made as to whether an effect is a significant effect in terms of the EIA Regulations based on professional judgement of the available evidence and guided by the description of significance of effect identified in **Table 2.3**. As standard, major and moderate effects are considered significant in the context of the EIA Regulations.

Table 2.3: Significance of effect criteria

Significance of Effect	Description
Major	A large magnitude of change (e.g. total or near total loss) to the cultural significance of a heritage asset of medium or high importance.
Moderate	A medium magnitude of change (e.g. substantial loss or alteration) to the cultural significance of a heritage asset of medium or high importance; or a high magnitude of change (total or near total loss) to a heritage asset of low importance.
Minor	A small magnitude of change (slight loss or alteration) to the cultural significance of a heritage asset of medium or high importance; a medium or small (slight to substantial loss or alteration) to the cultural significance of a heritage asset of low importance; or any change to a heritage asset of very low importance.
None	No change to the cultural significance of a heritage asset.

Visualisations

2.43 A range of visualisations were used to inform the assessment of setting change. These are detailed in **Table 2.4** and included in **Annex B: Visualisations**. The locations of visualisations used to support this assessment are depicted on **Figure 10.3 in EIA Report Volume 2: Figures**.

Table 2.4: Heritage assets visualisations locations agreed with HES

Designation Reference	Heritage Asset	Wireframe/ photomontage Location Ref
LB19486	Loch Ashlaich, shooting box and bothy	CH1 (Figure 10.4 in Annex B)
SM11437	Garbeg, settlement 1160m NNW of Garbeg Cottage	CH3 (Figure 10.6 in Annex B)
SM11438	Garbeg Cottage, settlement 1250m N of	CH3 (Figure 10.6 in Annex B)

²⁴ In EIA terms the level of effect is typically referred to as the significance of effect. This terminology has deliberately been avoided to prevent confusion with the discussion of cultural significance.

Similarly, the PCHIA term of 'weighting the effect' has been avoided to remove any sense of conflation with weighing of effects in the planning balance – a matter solely for the decision-maker.

Designation Reference	Heritage Asset	Wireframe/ photomontage Location Ref
SM4635	Garbeg Cottage, burial mounds 920m NNE of	CH2 and CH9 (Figures 10.5 and 10.12 in Annex B)
SM11455	Loch nam Faolieag, hut circles	CH3 (Figure 10.6 in Annex B)
SM11456	Achratagan, hut circle	CH4 (Figure 10.7 in Annex B)
SM90309	Urquhart Castle*	CH5, CH6, CH7 CH8 (Figures 10.8 to 10.11 respectively in Annex B)

* The wireframe location for these heritage assets have been selected for potential in-combination views rather than from the asset itself where there is no direct visibility.

2.44 Garbeg, settlement 1160m NNW of Garbeg Cottage (SM11437), Garbeg Cottage, settlement 1250m N of (SM11438), Garbeg Cottage, burial mounds 920m NNE of (SM4635) and Loch nam Faolieag, hut circles (SM11455) have a similar level of visibility and therefore the visualisations from of Garbeg, settlement 1160m NNW of Garbeg Cottage (SM11437) is representative of the effect on this group of heritage assets.

2.45 3D turbines have also been generated to be viewed in relevant software, allowing for an understanding of the visibility of the Proposed Development in views from heritage assets and to inform the assessment of potential changes to their setting. The 3D turbines were viewed against a bare earth 3D terrain model which does not feature buildings, vegetation or other boundaries.

Chapter 3 Site Context and Conditions

Introduction

3.1 This chapter provides a summary of the site context and conditions for the Site.

Land use and topography

3.2 The Site occupies an upland area to the west of the Great Glen and Loch Ness, with Glen Urquhart to the north and Glen Moriston to the south. The area where the turbines are proposed to be sited comprises of undulating upland moorland plateaux with rocky outcrops and upland lochans (Figures 3.1 and 3.2). Large parts of the Site are covered by peat deposits of varying depths.

3.3 There are numerous steep-sided rocky hills, including Meall Fuar-Mhonaigh (699m AOD) from which views of the Great Glen are afforded to the north-east, east and south-east. Mixed woodland and coniferous forest plantations are found on the lower slopes and glen side to the north and south-east.

3.4 Settlements nearby are generally located within the glens and adjacent to key communications corridors, with the closest settlements to the Site comprising Balhain (4.5km to the north-east), Invermoriston (6km to the south-east) and Drumnadrochit (10km north-east). A number of small clusters of residential properties are found scattered along the glens to the north, east, south and north-west.

3.5 Loch Ness lies to the east of the Site within the Great Glen. Due to the steep sided profile of the glen, views from the shores of Loch Ness are generally contained and focussed along the loch, with limited longer-distance views of the hills and plateaux to the east and west of the loch.

3.6 The high open topography of the Site and its environs exposes it to the elements and make it less desirable for permanent settlement and agricultural activities than the nearby straths and glens, where archaeological evidence of occupation and settlement is widespread.

3.7 Current land use within the Site comprises limited seasonal pastoral grazing and sporting activities, while beyond are existing wind farms to the south-west and areas of extensive commercial forest plantations on the glen sides.

Geology

3.8 Detailed information on the geology of the Site and its environs is presented in **Chapter 7** of the EIA Report. A summary is provided below.

3.9 The bedrock geology to the east of the Site consists principally of metamorphic bedrock formed approximately 542 to 1,000 million years ago, and sandstone a sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 398 to 416 million years ago in the Devonian Period. There are also patches of igneous rocks formed by intrusions of silica-poor magma forming intruded batholiths, plutons, dykes and sills. To the west are areas of sedimentary rocks formed in shallow seas, approximately 541 to 2,500 million years ago.

3.10 The superficial geological of the Site comprises deposits contain glacial till which originally formed up to 3 million years ago in the Quaternary Period. These deposits consist mostly of sand and gravel formed in cold periods with Ice Age glaciers scouring the landscape and depositing moraines of till.

3.11 Peat deposits are an organic accumulation of plant material in a wetland context. Peat provides important information about climate and environmental change, which can include evidence of human activities that interacted with the wet landscape²⁵. Therefore, paleoenvironmental evidence (i.e. evidence of past environments and climate such as seeds, pollen, etc.) from peat deposits can help to reconstruct the environment in which human activities took place.

3.12 The peat coverage of the Site has been mapped. This mapping has shown that depths of peat vary from 0.5m to 5m. The design development for the Proposed Development has sought to avoid areas of deep peat. Further information on the peat coverage and how areas of deep peat were identified and avoided is in provided in **Chapter 7** of the EIA Report.

Figure 3.1: Undulating topography of the Site and its environs



Figure 3.2: Upland lochans with the Site and its environs



Previous archaeological investigations

3.13 No previous archaeological investigations have taken place within the Site.

3.14 A number of desk-based assessments and a watching brief have been previously undertaken within the wider landscape. The results of these previous studies are limited and do not provide any additional information to inform the baseline.

3.15 A desk-based assessment and rapid walkover archaeological survey was undertaken for Tihill Forestry in

Iron Age (700 BC-43 AD)

3.21 During the Iron Age new types of structures and settlements were established in the Highland region, principally located in prominent positions designed to enable a level of control over those passing through the landscape. These included defended enclosures such as duns, hillforts and crannogs. Duns are usually located in elevated positions, they often circular or oval in plan with drystone enclosure wall. Hillforts can be defined as larger and more complex duns, often encircled by drystone walls or earthen ramparts comprising banks and ditches. Crannogs are partly artificial islands formed by deposited material and structural piles and palisades built in wet environment. Generally, these monuments have a broad date, but the majority appear to date from the Iron Age.

Early medieval and medieval period (410AD-1536AD)

3.22 No information related to potential Roman interchange have been recorded within the wider landscape. Here, the transition from the Iron Age to the early medieval period appears to happen with limited Roman interaction that has not been identified locally in the archaeological record. Nevertheless, it is likely that a measure of contact between local potentates and the Roman military was ongoing – mirroring evidence from contemporary Moray. This reveals a pattern of large-scale bribery directly from Imperial coffers, possibly with the intention of securing local compliance and control of hostile elements.

3.23 A drastic change was witnessed by the late 3rd century, when evidence of the Pictish culture begins to appear in the regions archaeological record. They occupied and dominated the Highland area until the 9th century. Evidence of these late Iron Age people is enigmatic, and most widely associated with carved stones and distinctive – if rarely encountered – material culture. The eastern Highlands and Moray, in addition Aberdeenshire and Angus, appear to have been strongholds of Pictland, with extensive evidence of large, defended sites (e.g. Craig Phadraig, Knock Farrill, Burghead, Tap o' Noth and potentially Urquhart) and a growing understanding of ecclesiastical (Portmahomack and Kinneddar) and potentially 'royal' centres (Rhynie). However, clear evidence of contemporary rural settlement of 'normal' status remains sparse, with sites such as Garbeg Cottage in the wider study area representing rare survivals or at least recognised examples. Ritual and funerary evidence is largely confined to cropmark examples of distinctive square barrow cemeteries, but relatively few examples have been excavated. Fewer still remain upstanding, with just four recognised examples extant – including Garbeg.

3.24 First encountered as raids and then permanent settlement of the Northern and Western Isles, Caithness,

1997 at the upland site of Allt Sàigh approximately 8km south-east of the Primary Study Area ahead of works to construct a new access track (THCHER Event: EHG212). The walkover survey identified a number of features including a settlement and a "substantial turf dyke". In the following year, an archaeological watching brief was undertaken during construction of the access track which cut through the dyke (THCHER Event: EHG337).

3.16 In 2011, a desk-based assessment and walkover survey was carried out by Jacobs Engineering UK Ltd in advance of the proposed Bhlaraidh Wind Farm (THCHER Event: EHG4495) to the south of the Primary Study Area. Twenty features were identified within the application area including a scheduled monument and two category C listed buildings. Seventeen non-designated heritage assets were also identified; however, none were considered at risk from the Bhlaraidh Wind Farm development as the nearest of these was over 1km from the nearest wind farm element.

Archaeological and historical background

3.17 This section provides a summary of the archaeological and historical background for the Site to inform the historic environment baseline for the assessment.

3.18 There are no heritage assets belonging to the Palaeolithic and Mesolithic period within the wider landscape, with the first archaeological remains recorded in the historic environment baseline dating to the Neolithic period.

Neolithic and Bronze Age (3,800 BC-700 BC)

3.19 From around 3,800 BC, the Highland region saw the introduction of cereals cultivation and domesticated animals, together with a slow transformation of the peoples lifestyle from hunter gathering to subsistence agriculture. This period was characterised by the introduction and use of pottery, construction of megalithic monuments, such as standing stones and stone circles, permanent settlement and commemoration of the dead in the form of funerary monuments, such as stone cairns. Further changes occurred during the Bronze age period (2,500-2,400 BC), when the Highlands saw the arrival of new communities associated with a new type of pottery (Beaker pottery) and the first use of metal.

3.20 There is abundant evidence of the Neolithic and Bronze Age period within the wider landscape, comprising upstanding archaeological remains associated with the occupation of the area including monumental and funerary monuments, and archaeological evidence of the settlement and exploitation the landscape suggesting a prolonged period of intense occupation of the lower hilltops and slopes in the vicinity of Strathglass, Glen Urquhart, Glen Convinth, Stratherrick, Glen Morriston.

²⁵ Historic England 2021. Peatlands and the Historic Environment. An Introduction to their Cultural and Heritage Value, p. 5.

Sutherland and Wester Ross, Vikings began to appear, towards the end of the first millennium AD.

3.25 In the beginning of the medieval period (1086AD-1536AD), the Highland region was an area contested by Norse and Scottish peoples. However, from the 13th century, the region was controlled by the Kings of Scotland. Conflicts endured in the first decades of the century, followed by a period of mutual integration of northern and southern Scottish. The progressive development of church governance further implemented this interaction.

3.26 Evidence of human occupation and settlements for this period is difficult to definitively identify and archaeological remains of rural settlement and exploitation are rare.

3.27 A monumental example of this period is represented by the Urquhart Castle (SM90309), which comprises the remains of a complex Medieval castle located on a promontory of Loch Ness to the north-east of the Site. In addition to the structures that form the complex of buildings at Urquhart Castle, evidence of an earlier Pictish settlement have been recovered during archaeological investigations.

3.28 Inverness, as the largest settlement in the immediate vicinity, was granted its first charter by David I in the 12th century, but is likely to have substantially earlier origins. Inverness castle was reputed to have been built by Malcolm III, on the site of that erected by Mac Bethad mac Findláich (Macbeth) while mormaer of Moray.

Post medieval (1536- 20th century)

3.29 The post-medieval represented a major period of transformation for the Highlands, which saw significant population growth, but also conflict between warring clans, and periods of civil unrest at least in part caused by the wider religious, social and economic strife that affected Scotland from the mid-16th century until the mid-18th century. Agricultural improvements, beginning in the early-mid 18th century led to wide scale modification of the landscape, through enclosure, drainage and extensive application of newly developed fertilisers to better quality land. This also involved the systematic depopulation of traditional inland farming communities, refocusing of settlement at the coasts and attempts to use tenant labour to support new economic ventures, to make way for large-scale sheep farming.

3.30 Between the Jacobite risings of 1715 and 1745, the Highlands became a militarised landscape, with the construction of a network of military roads and garrisons to maintain order and Government control. The original Fort George was constructed in 1727 in Inverness, as one of the hubs of the network, but was destroyed during the 1745 rising. Fort Augustus, at the southern end of Loch Ness, was established between 1729 and 1742 as part of General

Wade's programme of military works. The Fort William – Fort Augustus – Inverness military road runs along the eastern side of Loch Ness, bypassing the site.

3.31 From the mid-18th century, in the aftermath of the 1745 Rising, increased pace of agricultural Improvement, the effect of large-scale forfeiture of estates held by Jacobite gentry, and wider social and economic pressures on the population drove dramatic landscape and cultural change. As patterns of Clearance took hold across much of the Highlands, widespread emigration to the colonies – initially Canada, but latterly Australia and New Zealand – was many Highland people's only option for a sustainable future. Near-total failures of the potato crop across the Highlands and islands 1846, continuing until 1854, fuelled further outward migration, both to the lowlands to find work in the industrial cities, and to the colonies.

3.32 These changes are well attested by conflictual events, archaeological features, structural remains and standing buildings which characterise the study area. These are mostly located within and in the vicinity of glens and straths, while there is less evidence of these changes on the hill tops, moors and mountains of the region.

3.33 Examination of historical mapping (from the 16th century to 20th) illustrate the Site was largely unaffected by the changes of the post-medieval period.

World War conflicts (1914-1945)

3.34 From a social perspective, the armed forces of the United Kingdom became a highly important element of life in the Highland region with a large number of Highland men volunteering in the army. However, it is during the 20th century that the Highlands became gradually characterised by large training areas, extensive airfields, naval bases, anti-invasion defences, anti-aircraft defences, and supply systems. No evidence of this sort of land use has been identified within the Site or wider study areas.

Chapter 4 Historic Environment Baseline

Introduction

4.1 This chapter sets out the historic environment baseline conditions for the Proposed Development. It discusses the heritage assets within the Primary Study Area and in the wider study areas with the potential to be affected by the Proposed Development. It describes their cultural significance, including any contribution made by their setting and ascribed their importance. Heritage assets discussed in this chapter are shown on **Figures 10.1** and **10.2** in **EIA Report Volume 2: Figures**.

Primary Study Area

4.2 No designated or non-designated heritage assets have been identified within the Primary Study Area.

Potential for previously unrecorded heritage assets, including buried archaeological remains

4.3 While there is evidence of prehistoric activity, including settlement, within the straths and glens surrounding the Site and on the lower slopes running up to the edge of the upland plateau, no evidence of activity before the post-medieval period has been identified on the upland plateau itself.

4.4 Evidence of historic land use within the Site and its surrounding landscape appears to have been seasonal, including the exploitation of the plateau for summer grazing and later sporting activities. This, in combination with the exposed, wet and unproductive environment, suggests there is a **low to negligible** potential for previously unrecorded heritage assets, including buried archaeological remains within the Primary Study Area.

4.5 There are extensive areas of peat with depths measuring between 0.5m to 5m (please refer to **Chapter 7** of the EIA Report) across the upland plateau. It can take over 1,000 years for a metre of peat to form, with the varying depths having the potential to preserve any archaeological remains which predate, or coincide with, the peat formation. As peat is formed in anaerobic conditions, which prevent the micro-biological activity needed for the chemical breakdown of organic materials there is potential for organic archaeological

remains, and a **high** potential for paleoenvironmental evidence.

Inner Study Area

4.6 The location of the heritage assets identified within the Inner Study Area are shown on **Figure 10.1** in **EIA Report Volume 2: Figures**.

Designated heritage assets

4.7 Two designated heritage assets have been identified within this Inner Study Area. These comprise:

- Loch Ashlaich shooting box and bothy (a category C listed building; LB19486), located approximately 2.2km east from the nearest turbine location (T4); and
- Leviskie Cottage, fort and earthwork 1050m NE of (a scheduled monument; SM4567), located approximately 4.8km to the south-east of the nearest turbine location (T3).

Loch Ashlaich shooting box and bothy (LB19486)

Description

4.8 Loch Ashlaich shooting box and bothy were constructed c.1855 for John Charles Ogilvy-Grant, 7th Earl of Seafield (1815 – 1881). The Earl is known to have undertaken extensive improvements to his estates, for example building new estate housing, steadings and roads, and planting woodland. Shooting boxes are small lodges, huts or houses providing accommodation for shooting parties during the shooting season. The Earl resided at the Loch Ashlaich shooting box for two weeks every September until his death in 1881.

4.9 This example is a single storey, timber lathed building located on an island at the centre of Loch Ashlaich. It has been suggested the island may be artificial, but the island is in fact natural (Crannog, Loch Aslaich; MHG2696). The shooting box measures c.4.5m by 20m and has a timber-lined interior with heather insulation and corrugated iron roof, over tarred shingle-style timber. The principal elevation is symmetrical with four doors each flanked by timber, two-leaf shuttered window, leading to separate rooms. It has two ridge stacks and blank end gables with coombed ceilings to the interior (clad in varnished boarding), and plain, painted stone chimneypieces with hood-like, shallow canopies.

4.10 Bothies are basic shelters provided in remote mountainous areas, generally by landowners for their estate workers, such as stalkers. They vary in size from little more than a large box up to two-storey cottages and usually built of local stone with slate roofs. The single storey gabled bothy is located on the shore of the loch, within direct sight of the

shooting box. The two buildings formed part of what was historically a larger group of related structures including a boat house, coal shed and pier. However, these additional features are no longer extant.

4.11 The setting of this heritage asset comprises the surrounding remote upland plateau and its location on Loch Ashlaich. Views from the shooting box and bothy are limited by the hills which surround the loch. It is assumed that the focus of shooting activity at the asset itself was wildfowl on the loch, so the key functional and visual relationships of the asset are with the waterbody.

Significance

4.12 The cultural significance of this heritage asset is derived primarily from its evidential and historical (illustrative) value as good examples of its type, which illustrate the working parts of a country estate. The fact that they are constructed in wood, rather than stone, adds to its evidential and historical (illustrative) value. Both structures have a functional and historical relationship with each other, the shooting box providing accommodation for the shooting parties and the bothy providing accommodation for the estate workers supporting them. The shooting box has a further functional relationship to its loch and open upland setting as it is home to the game which drew the sportsmen to that particular location. Similarly, the bothy would not be located where it is, were it not for the isolated and remote nature of its setting.

Importance

4.13 While buildings of this type are a common feature of upland shooting estates, the survival of the timber buildings dating from the 19th century, and the buildings' historical associations with the Seafield family contribute to the cultural significance of this heritage asset.

4.14 Due to its designation and the contribution made to its cultural significance derived from of its evidential and historical value, this historic asset is of **high** importance.

Leviskie Cottage, fort and earthwork 1050m NE of (SM4567)

Description

4.15 This heritage asset comprises a small late prehistoric fortified enclosure constructed on a trapezoidal promontory on the lower south-facing slope of Carn Mor overlooking the eastern end of Glen Moriston where the River Moriston joins Loch Ness. The fort is defended to the north and west by two ditches with a central rampart and to the south and east by steep natural slopes. A linear earthwork which runs north-west/south-east appears to have been added as an additional defensive element.

settlement, occupation and land use from the late Bronze Age to the Iron Age.

4.21 Their setting next to watercourses and generally in more sheltered locations contribute to the understanding and appreciation of their choice of location. The spatial and visually relationship between the hut circles and their associated field system and clearance cairns forms part of their setting, contributing to the understanding of their functional relationship.

4.22 While not uncommon in the Highland region, the evidential value of these heritage assets has the potential to contribute to regional research questions relating to Bronze Age and Iron Age settlement and daily life within the region²⁶²⁷. The importance of these heritage assets has been assessed to be **medium**.

4.23 Located to the west of the Site, Possible Shieling Hut, Loch Na Leirisdein (MHG22969) would have been used during the summer months as temporary accommodation by people tending cattle grazing on the open hill. Other evidence of pre-improvement agricultural activity and settlement within the Inner Study Area include the remains of crofts and associated field system (MHG53613) and Shewglie Wood Township (MHG23290).

4.24 Evidence of later Improvement Era agricultural activity includes the remains of a post-medieval farmstead on the western bank of the River Enrick. Comprising a single storey building with a corrugated iron roof now used as a stalkers bothy, it once formed part of a larger farmstead depicted on early Ordnance Survey mapping (MHG22970).

4.25 The cultural significance of these heritage assets is derived from the evidential value of their surviving physical remains and the potential of any buried archaeological remains to contribute to the understanding of pre-improvement and improvement era settlement, and changing land use from the 1750s to the mid-19th century. In addition, their upland fringe setting in sheltered locations with ready access to water, and the spatial and visual relationship between the remains of contemporary buildings and associated field systems, contribute to the understanding and appreciation of them as subsistence farming settlements, and how they are experienced as such.

4.26 Shieling huts, pre-improvement crofts and the remains of post-medieval farmsteads, and the field systems that accompanied them, are common and well-understood heritage assets found throughout the Scottish uplands. These and similar heritage assets within the Inner Study Area are of **low** importance.

Significance

4.16 The cultural significance of this heritage asset is largely derived from the evidential (scientific) value of its physical remains, including any surviving buried archaeological remains, in understanding defensive structures, economy and the control of the landscape during the later prehistoric period. The fort and enclosure are of historical (illustrative) value as a rare type of small fort, of particular interest because its main defences consist of a rampart between equal sized ditches, with part of a linear earthwork of unusual form and later reinforcement. Its location on a promontory on the lower south-facing slope of Carn Mor, overlooking the eastern end of Glen Moriston where the River Moriston joins Loch Ness, contributes to how it is understood and appreciated as a defensive structure controlling movement through Glen Moriston, and how it is experienced as such.

Importance

4.17 Due to its designation and the contribution made to its cultural significance of its evidential and historical value this historic asset is of **high** importance.

Non-designated heritage assets

4.18 A further 28 non-designated heritage assets have been identified within the Inner Study Area. The majority of these are located on the lower slopes below the open upland plateau to the north-west and north of the Inner Study Area and close to watercourses. They are characterised by evidence of prehistoric settlement, post-medieval pre-improvement crofts, townships and shieling sites, and Improvement Era farmsteads and a shooting lodge.

4.19 The earliest non-designated heritage assets within the Inner Study Area comprise groups of Bronze Age and Iron Age hut circles (MHG2768, MHG2769 and MHG2770) located in the north of the Inner Study Area. These consist of circular dry-stone and/or turf-walled huts between c.9m to 13m in diameter surviving to a height of up to c.0.7m. These hut circles have associated field systems and clearance cairns (MHG41450 and MHG41449). The clearance cairns are generally circular piles of stones c.3m to 7m in diameter and between c.0.2m to 0.8m high and are the result of field clearance. These heritage assets are located on the lower north-facing slopes of Coille a Chorcaidh and at Coire Mor to the north and west of the Inner Study Area.

4.20 The cultural significance of these heritage assets is largely derived from the evidential (scientific) value of their upstanding physical remains, and the potential for any buried archaeological remains to contribute to the understanding of

²⁶ <https://scarf.scot/regional/higharf/bronze-age/6-9-research-questions/>

²⁷ <https://scarf.scot/regional/higharf/iron-age/7-9-research-questions/>

4.27 Performing a similar function to the listed shooting box and bothy at Loch Ashlaich, the Shooting Lodge on Loch Ma Stac (MHG55927) is a substantial two-storey rubble stone building forming part of the Corrimony Estate. Located on a small island, the lodge is linked to the loch side by a causeway. The remains of another building, probably a bothy associated with the lodge, are located on the loch shore.

4.28 While the cultural significance of the lodge is largely derived from its evidential and historical value encapsulated in its historic fabric and historical relationship with the Corrimony Estate, its isolated upland setting on the loch contributes to the understanding and appreciation of its function as temporary accommodation for shooting parties and the way it is experienced as such.

4.29 In consideration of this heritage asset's potential to contribute to the understanding the working of 19th century shooting estate, this asset has been assessed to be of **medium** importance.

4.30 Three modern memorials were recorded during the walkover survey, comprising stone cairns with memorial plaques. These commemorate the lives of John Ferguson, who died while fishing in Loch nam Meur, and Russel Cameron who died in 2002, while the third was erected in 1996 in remembrance of the 17th century battle of Carn Mharbh Dhaoine (MHG2703; **Figure 4.1**).

4.31 While these cairns are modern, they have some cultural significance derived from their social value and community associations. Their locations are important in relation to the people and events they commemorate, and their isolated upland setting makes some contribution to how they are experienced. As modern examples of a common form of memorial structure, these heritage assets are of limited cultural significance, and as such are of **low** importance.

4.32 Carn Mharbh Dhaoine is reputed to be the location of a late 17th century battle located on a small rocky plateau south of Corribuy (MHG14103). The battle took place in 1691 or 1692 between the men of Lochaber and the men of Glen Urquhart.

4.33 While travelling on an old path leading from Corribuy to Glen-Coilty after returning from a cattle raid, the men of Lochaber were intercepted by an inferior force of men from Glen Urquhart led by James Grant of Shewglie, whom they defeated. After the battle, the Glen Urquhart dead were buried and six small cairns raised over their graves, which gives the area its name, the 'Carn Mharbh Dhaoine' or the 'Rock (or Cairn) of the Dead Men'.

Figure 4.1: Memorial cairn marking the location of the battle of Carn Mharbh Dhaoine



Commemoration cairn erected in 1996 with the location of the battlefield in the background.

4.34 The evidential value of the battlefield is derived from the physical remains of the cairns and any surviving buried archaeological remains, including human remains, associated with them. While any lead projectiles recovered from the battlefield may contribute to an understanding of the calibre and type of the firearms used during the battle, given the size and nature of the battle, their distribution is unlikely to contribute to the understanding of its progress or tactics employed. The historical value of the battlefield is derived from the understanding of the battle drawn from contemporary and later accounts, the historical relationship to known participants and the feuding clan culture that persisted in the Highlands during the 16th and 17th centuries. The site of the battlefield has some social value derived from its relationship with the local community expressed in the construction of the modern memorial cairn (MHG2703; **Figure 4.1**).

4.35 While its remote upland setting contributes to how the battlefield is experienced, the key landscape features of the battlefield comprise its upland location, the flat upland plateau on which it took place and on a historical route between Corribuy to Glen-Coilty.

4.36 Given that the potential for any surviving archaeological remains associated with the battle to contribute to an understanding of small-scale inter-clan conflicts is limited, but in recognition of how its historical and social value contributes to its cultural significance, the importance of this heritage asset has been assessed to be **medium**.

Outer Study Area

4.37 The location of heritage assets identified within the Outer Study Area and those beyond the Outer Study Area scoped in

for further assessment are depicted on are depicted on **Figure 10.2** in **EIA Report Volume 2: Figures**.

Designated heritage assets

4.38 The following designated heritage assets are located within this study area:

- five scheduled monuments;
- 76 listed buildings; and
- one conservation area.

4.39 An additional five scheduled monuments beyond the Outer Study Area have been identified as being sensitive to setting change arising from the Proposed Development and so have been included in the baseline.

4.40 Most of the scheduled monuments relate to prehistoric domestic and defensive settlement sites, including rare examples of particular local or period monument types. This includes oval hut foundations dating from the Iron Age or early medieval/Pictish period that deviate from prehistoric round hut circle traditions common elsewhere in Scotland (SM11437 and SM11438).

4.41 Overall, the listed buildings within the Outer Study Area tend to be associated with the main settlements within or at the heads of Glen Affric, Glen Urquhart and Glen Moriston, including those within the villages of Tomich, Corrimony and Invermoriston. The listed buildings within these settlements are characterised by:

- post-medieval places of worship, such as Our Lady And St Bean's Roman Catholic Chapel, Cannich (LB7115) and St Curitan's Chapel And Burial Ground, Corrimony (LB14998);
- house and cottages, examples include Plodda Cottage (LB8107) and 1, Tomich (LB8113);
- commercial building, such as Tomich Hotel, Tomich; LB8120; and
- buildings and structures associated with large estate houses, including 'Barracks' And Servant's Tunnel, Invermoriston House (LB15017) and Gate Lodge, Guisachan House (LB8106).

4.42 Outside of these settlements, listed buildings are concentrated along Glen Affric to the north-west of the Outer Study Area and Glen Urquhart to the north. These buildings are characterised by farmsteads (examples include Coire Mor, Guisachan Farm (LB8093)), former agricultural works cottages (such as Steading, Guisachan Farm; LB8091) and former mills (including Corn Mill And Kiln, Mill Of Tore; LB15014) and historic road bridges (Lochletter Bridge; LB15003).

4.43 Tomich Conservation Area (CON23) encompasses areas of the settlement either side of the road that passes through the village and includes those part of the settlement which were established as an estate village serving Guisachan House.

4.44 None of the 76 listed buildings identified within the Outer Study Area, or Tomich Conservation Area, have theoretical intervisibility with the Proposed Development. Given their distance from the Proposed Development, any in-combination views are not predicted to affect their cultural significance, which is largely derived from their architectural (evidential and aesthetic value) or historic (illustrative) interest.

4.45 In consideration of their designations as scheduled monuments, listed buildings and as a conservation area, these heritage assets are of **high** importance.

Designated heritage assets scoped in for assessment

4.46 Baseline analysis undertaken for this assessment indicates that the following designated heritage assets may be affected by setting change as a result of the Proposed Development:

- Garbeg, settlement 1160m NNW of Garbeg Cottage (SM11437)
- Garbeg Cottage, settlement 1250m N of (SM11438)
- Garbeg Cottage, burial mounds 920m NNE of (SM4635)
- Loch nam Faoileag, hut circles 730m NNW of Wester Balnagrantach (SM11455)
- Achratagan, hut circle and cairnfield 790m NNE of (SM11456)
- Urquhart Castle (SM90309)

4.47 The majority of designated heritage assets scoped in for assessment will have direct theoretical visibility of one or more turbines forming part of the Proposed Development. The list also includes a designated heritage asset where no direct intervisibility is predicted, but where there is potential for turbines to appear in-combination views in the background of key views towards the asset.

4.48 Further information as to why designated heritage assets within the Inner and Outer Study Area have been scoped in or out of the assessment of effects is presented in **Annex A**.

4.49 No further baseline information on those designated heritage assets scoped out of the assessment is presented.

Garbeg, settlement 1160m NNW of Garbeg Cottage (SM11437) and Garbeg Cottage, settlement 1250m N of (SM11438)

Description

4.50 These heritage assets comprise two distinct groups of sub-rectangular or oval hut foundations forming the footings for houses believed to be late Iron Age or early historic in origin. The largest of these measures 14.7m long and 6.5m wide, with stony banks up to 1.8m high. They are mostly bow-sided and round-ended with straight facets around the corners or doorways. Two have a lower end associated with drains, which would indicate use as byres to house farm animals – paralleled in later Scotto-Scandinavian and medieval dwelling forms.

4.51 Surrounding and in between the huts of the eastern cluster there are numerous clearance cairns and portions of field dykes which may be contemporary with the sub-rectangular/oval buildings, but are more likely to date to the period of an earlier roundhouse structures also evident.

4.52 Their setting comprises rough moorland pasture, overlooking a wide plain at the top of a larger valley, and their historical and functional relationship to possibly contemporary heritage assets in the landscape, including Garbeg Cottage, burial mounds (SM4635). This element of their setting allows for a better understanding of the monument types and demonstrates that dwellings, such as these were not in isolation within the landscape.

Significance

4.53 The cultural significance of these heritage assets is largely derived from their evidential (scientific) value as a good representative example of local variations in domestic architecture likely to retain archaeological information to contribution to the understanding of the date of the houses, and with the potential to add to the understanding of late Iron Age or early historic upland land use, settlement, house forms and uses, and society. The historical (illustrative) value of their upstanding remains demonstrates the presence and unusual form of settlement and local variations in domestic architecture and building use, as well as upland land use and society, both in this locality and by association, Scotland.

4.54 These heritage assets also have potential group value with the nearby heritage assets of a similar period in Glen Urquhart, and together they illustrate prehistoric and/or early historic activity at a landscape level and have the potential to inform the understanding of activity over a wider locality. This may be appreciated visually to some extent as they include some upstanding remains, however, their size and scale means that they are not especially visible over longer distances.

Importance

4.55 Due to their designation and potential of their physical remains to inform future research into potential to contribution to the understanding of the date of the houses, as well as information on later prehistoric or early historic upland land use, settlement, house forms and uses, and society, these heritage assets are of **high** importance.

Garbeg Cottage, burial mounds (SM4635)

Description

4.56 This heritage asset comprises a Pictish cemetery which includes at least 14 square to trapezoidal mounds up to 0.2m high and 5.5m across, ten round mounds of varying size up to 10m across, and what is probably an earlier roundhouse (refer to **Figures 4.2** and **4.3**). A ditch, with causeways across each corner, surrounds each square mound. All but one of the burial mounds has a ditch or part of a ditch around it and one has an additional bank. Some of the barrows cluster together in roughly linear groups. A number of square and round barrows lie in the surrounding area, which is inter-dispersed with prehistoric clearance cairns and field boundary dykes. Four of the cairns within the cemetery have been partially excavated, one producing a fragment of a Pictish symbol stone.

4.57 The burial mounds are located in rough pasture below a break in slope, on a low shoulder of ground overlooking the prehistoric field systems on flat ground near the top of a wide valley. In the surrounding area there are several other scheduled monuments, which together may form a relict prehistoric/early historic landscape. These include Garbeg, settlement 1160m NNW of Garbeg Cottage (SM11437; c.1km to the north-west), Garbeg Cottage, settlement 1250m N of (SM11438; c.0.8km to the east) and Loch nam Faoleag, hut circles 730m NNW of Wester Balnagrach (SM11455; c.2km to the west).

4.58 Other excavated examples of Pictish cemeteries show that there is a high probability of un-mounded cist burials in the vicinity, and subsequent land use as pasture means that there is a high likelihood of preservation of buried archaeological remains associated with the cemetery. It is only one of a small number of identified Pictish cemeteries unique to Scotland. The majority are only visible as cropmarks. Of the very small number of upstanding cemeteries, this is one of the two best examples and its relationship to a possible rare example of the early medieval settlements at Garbeg is unparalleled.

Significance

4.59 The cultural significance of this heritage asset is derived primarily from its evidential (scientific) value as the upstanding and buried archaeological remains of Pictish funerary

monument which have the potential to add to the knowledge of burial and ceremonial practices of the time. The upstanding remains are of historical (illustrative) value as an extremely well-preserved example of a rare monument type with the potential to inform our understanding of the ritual practices of this poorly understood period in Scotland's past.

4.60 The Pictish cemetery potentially has group value with the nearby prehistoric or early historic monuments in the valley, including the settlements at include Garbeg, and together they illustrate prehistoric or early historic activity at a landscape level and have the potential to inform the understanding of human activity over a wider locality. This may be appreciated visually to some extent as the heritage asset includes some upstanding remains, however, their size and scale means that they are not especially visible over longer distances. The square barrows are generally orientated on a north-east to south-west axis, suggesting a definite design intent. There is no evidence of topographic or cosmological alignment playing a role in the design and location of Pictish barrows. They are evidently not intended to be physically imposing monuments, and the intimate grouping of the assets and very close proximity to probably contemporaneous settlement suggests a local focus. While broad vistas are available from the assets, the key setting relationships are likely to be with contemporaneous settlement and field systems, and the probably earlier (likely Bronze Age) hut circles and field systems on the higher ground to the east, comprising a physically and temporally extensive archaeological landscape.

Importance

4.61 In consideration of this and the heritage asset's designation and as an extremely well-preserved example of a rare monument type, dating to a period that is poorly understood, with a high potential for associated buried archaeological remains having the potential for future research to inform the understanding of ritual practices of the period, this asset is of **high** importance.

Figure 4.2: Garbeg Cottage, burial mounds



View towards the Proposed Development with upstanding remains of burial mounds in the foreground

Loch nam Faoleag, hut circles (a scheduled monument; SM11455)

Description

4.62 This heritage asset comprises three hut circles of Iron Age or early medieval origin, between 7.1m and 5.8m in diameter internally, within stony banks 0.3m high which have spread in places, but have defined exposed faces of coursed masonry. All are scooped into the hillside, which is scattered with c.20 small clearance cairns. An enclosure bank surrounds the hut circles and most of the clearance cairns.

4.63 The hut circles setting comprises their location on a gently sloping terrace in upland moorland pasture, and the historical and functional relationship to contemporary heritage assets in the landscape. This element of their setting allows for a better understanding of the monument types and demonstrates that dwellings such as these were not in isolation within the landscape.

4.64 This upland farming settlement is one of several possibly contemporary heritage assets in the area, which together may form a relict prehistoric/early historic landscape. These include Garbeg, settlement 1160m NNW of Garbeg Cottage (SM11437; c.0.8km to the east), Garbeg Cottage, settlement 1250m N of (SM11438; c.1.5km to the east) and Garbeg Cottage, burial mounds 920m NNE of (SM4635; c.1.8km to the east).

Figure 4.3: Upstanding remains of Garbeg Cottage, burial mounds



Trapezoidal shaped burial mound in the foreground with round mounds in the background

Significance

4.65 The cultural significance of this heritage asset is derived primarily from the evidential (scientific) value of its physical remains, including potential buried archaeological remains to increase our knowledge of upland settlement, house forms and uses, land use and society. The historical (illustrative) value of this heritage asset is derived from its potential to reveal information about local variations in domestic architecture and building use.

4.66 As a group of well-preserved hut circles in a defined enclosure with associated clearance cairns, this heritage asset has the potential to contribute to future research on attitudes to house building and living in houses of later prehistoric/early medieval communities in the region and elsewhere in Scotland. Comparing this to others outside the region can create an understanding of regional identities and differing lifestyles and economies.

Importance

4.67 In consideration of this heritage asset's designation, and potential to make a significant addition to the understanding of late-prehistoric and early historic settlement and land use, this asset is of **high** importance.

Achratagan, hut circle and cairnfield (SM11456)

Description

4.68 This heritage asset comprises a later prehistoric hut circle and associated field system located on the edge of a terrace. The hut circle is oval in plan, measuring 11.4m from north-west/south-east by c.9.1m and 0.5m high (refer to **Figure 4.4**). The hut circle is situated on the leading edge of a

level terrace, which falls away steeply southwards towards a burn, with the slope having deliberately been built up on the south side to create a level interior. The entrance is on the south-east, which is typical of this monument type.

4.69 There are numerous possibly contemporary clearance cairns, measuring up to 6m in diameter, covering the rest of the terrace, and on the slope below the hut circle.

Significance

4.70 The cultural significance of this heritage asset is derived primarily from its evidential (scientific) value and the potential of its physical remains, including any buried archaeological remains, to inform the understanding of local variations in domestic architecture and building use, as well as upland late prehistoric settlement and land use. It also has some lesser historical (illustrative) value derived from its above ground remains, with the relationship between the building foundations and field clearance cairns legible spatially and visually.

Importance

4.71 Due to this heritage asset's designation and potential of their upstanding physical remains and any surviving buried archaeological remains to inform future research into potential contribution to the understanding late prehistoric houses and upland land use these heritage asset is of **high** importance.

Figure 4.4: Achratagan, hut circle and cairnfield



View orientated towards the entrance of the hut circle with the location of the Proposed Development in the background

Urquhart Castle (SM90309)

Description

4.72 Strategically situated on Strone Point, a promontory on the shore of Loch Ness, Urquhart Castle comprises the remains of a complex multi-phase medieval castle. The

surviving elements of the castle include the 16th century tower house, water gate, great hall, kitchens, a chapel, smithy, dovecot and gatehouse (see **Figures 4.5** and **4.6**). It has long distance views along Loch Ness and would have been prominent in views when approached from the loch.

4.73 The gatehouse tower may have been built in the 14th century and possibly housed the lodging of the constable or keeper of the castle. The gateway was flanked by two half-round towers and defended by a portcullis and double doors. At the end of the promontory, prominent in views from the loch, the 16th century tower house is thought to have been built for the Grants, to whom James IV gave the lordship of Urquhart in 1509.

4.74 As well as the defensive advantages of its location on the promontory extending into the loch, direct access to the castle from the loch via the water gate (refer to **Figure 4.6**) enabled the castle to be reached and supplied by boat at a time when road transport was slow and vulnerable to interception during periods of unrest. During the Jacobite siege of 1689-90 the castle garrison was re-supplied by boat prolonging the siege.

Figure 4.5: Urquhart Castle



Urquhart Castle, including the prominent 16th century tower house to the right of the image

Figure 4.6: Urquhart Castle water gate



View looking north-west towards the water gate (centre) at Urquhart Castle when approached from Loch Ness

4.75 The landward side of the castle was protected by a moat and ditch that was formerly crossed by a wooden drawbridge before being replaced by a stone causeway. At the north end of this ditch is a large kiln. The presence of the kiln next to a large, open, gently sloping area suggests that there was a small settlement beyond the walls of the castle.

4.76 Excavations have shown the castle was constructed on the site of an earlier vitrified fort alongside evidence of a small settlement beyond the castle's walls and ditch. Artefact remains recovered from the castle and its environs are typical of those associated with a castle site including medieval iron objects, pottery fragments, a crucible fragment and burnt bone.

4.77 The castle was occupied for at least 500 years. From the late 17th century, the castle had fallen out of use with its stone, lead, timber and other building materials having been robbed.

4.78 The castle's location on a natural rocky promontory on the edge of Loch Ness halfway down the Great Glen, and at the entrance to Glen Urquhart, contributes to the understanding and appreciation of its chosen defensive location controlling access to Glen Urquhart and movement along and down Loch Ness and the Great Glen.

4.79 While the castle is a dominant and striking feature in the landscape when approached by boat from Loch Ness, views of the castle from on the loch to the north-east are somewhat diminished by the prominence of the modern red sandstone Historic Scotland (HS) visitor centre (refer to **Figure 4.7**). Views of the castle from the loch, including those of the water gate, are at their most arresting and informative when experienced in relatively close proximity from the castle (refer to **Figure 4.6**).

4.80 The castle is less perceptible and subsequently not dominant in longer views when approaching from the loch and in views towards the castle from the eastern shore. This is largely as a result of the scale and form of the castle, with its squat profile and the muted colour palette of the castle walls and towers in combination with the natural exposed bedrock of the promontory and intervening vegetation, blending with the high steep-sided wooded hillside to the west forming the castle's backdrop (refer to **Figure 4.8**).

4.81 The water gate is best experienced when approaching the castle by boat to the north-west (see **Figures 4.6** and **4.7**), or from within the castle in views looking out over the loch towards the south-east. Views from the water gate, the modern pier and footpath leading to it and views to the north-west towards the castle from the loch contribute to how its function as the principal access to the castle by boat is understood, appreciated and experienced.

Figure 4.7: Urquhart Castle from Loch Ness



View of Urquhart Castle and the visitor centre when approaching from Loch Ness

Figure 4.8: Urquhart Castle from the centre of Loch Ness



View towards Urquhart Castle from the centre of Loch Ness with the location of Proposed Development in the background (right)

Significance

4.82 The cultural significance of Urquhart Castle is derived from its evidential value in terms of its method of construction and building materials, and the potential for buried archaeological remains to provide evidence of the castle and the sites' earlier phase as a Pictish defended enclosure. It has historical (illustrative) value as the ruined remains of one of the largest medieval castles in Scotland, and considerable historical (associative) value as a result of its royal and noble owners and occupiers and the role it played in key historical conflicts over its 500 years of use. The castle also has aesthetic value derived from the ruined remains and their picturesque setting. Its setting also contributes to its historic (illustrative) value as it remains open and with the exception of the HS visitors centre remains largely undeveloped, allowing for an appreciation of the buildings' dominance and authority, as well as its strategic siting when viewed in close proximity from the loch.

Importance

4.83 Urquhart Castle is of national importance as one of the largest surviving castles in Scotland, which played a key role in the Wars of Scottish Independence. In consideration of its designation and the contribution its evidential, historical and aesthetic value makes to its cultural significance, this heritage asset is of **high** importance.

Chapter 5 Assessment

Introduction

5.1 This chapter considers potential effects in relation to the cultural significance of the heritage assets outlined in the previous baseline chapter.

5.2 A summary of the Proposed Development is provided in above. Further detailed information in relation to the construction and operation of the Proposed Development can be found in **Chapter 4** of the EIA Report.

Potential effects to heritage assets

Direct effects resulting from physical change

5.3 No heritage assets have been recorded within the Primary Study Area.

5.4 While there is the potential for construction activities, such as groundworks, within the construction footprint of the Proposed Development to removed or truncate any previously unrecorded heritage assets, including buried archaeological remains that may be present, the potential for the presence of previously unrecorded heritage assets has been assessed to be **low to Negligible**.

5.5 The Primary Study Area has areas of peat identified as being up to 5m deep. The design development for the Proposed Development has sought to avoid interacting with areas of deep peat. While there is potential for areas of deep peat to retain paleoenvironmental information, the potential for the construction of the Proposed Development to affect the preservation of this record has been assessed to be **negligible**.

Direct effects resulting from setting change

Shooting Lodge on Loch Ma Stac (MHG55927)

5.6 This non-designed heritage asset is of **medium** importance.

5.7 During operation the Proposed Development turbines will be present in views to the north-east from the shooting lodge. The nearest visible turbine will be approximately 3km from it. The presence of the Proposed Development in views to the north-west will not significantly alter how the remote upland and loch setting of this asset, or the way this element of its setting contributes to how the asset is experience in the

landscape, or how its functional relationship with the upland landscape and loch as a source of game contributes to the understanding of it as part of a shooting estate.

5.8 The evidential (architectural) and historical (illustrative) values which contribute most to this heritage asset's cultural significance will not be affected.

5.9 Changes to the setting of this heritage asset during operation of the Proposed Development will slightly alter the way the asset is experienced within the wider upland landscape. This could lead to a level of impact judged to be **small** resulting in a **minor** potential level of effect in EIA terms.

Loch Ashlaich shooting box and bothy (LB19486; MHG31795; MHG38653)

5.10 This heritage asset is of **high** importance, as reflected by its status as a listed building.

5.11 During the operation of the Proposed Development, the rotor and hubs of two turbines and the tips of the blades of a further four turbines will be visible in views to the west from the shooting box and bothy (please refer to **Figure 10.4** in **Annex B**). These will be seen in the opening between higher ground at Carn an Tuairneir to the north and higher ground to the east of Loch nam Meur. The nearest visible turbine will be approximately 2.3km from this heritage asset.

5.12 While elements of the Proposed Development will be visible in views west and in-combination views towards this heritage asset, the presence of the Proposed Development in these views will not significantly alter how the remote upland and loch setting of this asset, or the way this element of its setting contributes to how the asset is experience in the landscape, or how its functional relationship with the upland landscape and loch as a source of game contributes to the understanding of it as part of a shooting estate.

5.13 The presence of the Proposed Development in the landscape would not affect the way that this heritage asset's location on and beside Loch Ashlaich, and the spatial and visual relationship between the shooting box and bothy contributions to the appreciation and understanding of their functional relationship, and their cultural significance.

5.14 In addition, the evidential value (architectural) and historical (illustrative) value as good examples of their type, unusually constructed in wood, illustrating the working parts of a country estate and historical association with the Seafield family, which contribute most to this heritage asset's cultural significance will not be affected.

5.15 Changes to the setting of the heritage asset during operation of the Proposed Development will slightly alter the way the asset is experienced within the wider upland

landscape setting. However, its key setting relationships – between the shooting box and the loch, between the two buildings, and with the wider moorland basin in which the loch is situated will remain unaffected. This could lead to a level of impact judged to be **small** resulting in a **minor** potential level of effect in EIA terms.

Garbeg, settlement 1160m NNW of Garbeg Cottage (SM11437) and Garbeg Cottage, settlement 1250m N of (SM11438)

5.16 These heritage assets are of **high** importance, as reflected in their status as scheduled monuments.

5.17 While the Proposed Development will be visible in views to the south-west from both heritage assets, at an approximate distance of 14km the Proposed Development will be only just discernible on the skyline and would be seen in-combination with existing turbines (refer to **Figure 10.5** and **Figure 10.6** in **Annex B**).

5.18 The presence of the Proposed Development in the wider landscape and in these views will not affect the relationship with likely contemporary heritage assets in the wider landscape and along the hillside, including Garbeg Cottage, burial mounds 920m NNE of (SM4635), or the contribution this element of their setting makes to the understanding and appreciation of their historical and functional relationship with those assets and contemporary settlement and upland farming practices.

5.19 In addition, the physical remains of these heritage assets, including any associated buried archaeological remains that may be present (evidential value), which contributes most to their cultural significance will not be affected.

5.20 Changes to the setting of these heritage assets resulting from the operation of the Proposed Development will not affect their cultural significance, and therefore **no effects** resulting from the Proposed Development have been identified.

Garbeg Cottage, burial mounds 920m NNE of (SM4635)

5.21 This heritage asset is of **high** importance, as reflected in its status as a scheduled monument.

5.22 While the Proposed Development will be visible in views to the south-west from this heritage asset, at an approximate distance of 14km the Proposed Development will be only just discernible (refer to **Figure 10.5** in **Annex B**). The presence of the Proposed Development in the wider landscape and in these views will not affect the spatial and visual relationship with likely contemporary heritage assets along the hillside, including Garbeg, settlement 1160m NNW of Garbeg Cottage (SM11437) and Garbeg Cottage, settlement 1250m N of (SM11438), or in the wider landscape, and the contribution

this element of its setting makes to the understanding and appreciation of this asset's historical and functional relationship with those monuments and the location of ritual and burial monuments within the landscape.

5.23 In addition, the physical remains of this heritage asset, including any associated buried archaeological remains that may be present (evidential and historical value), that contributes most to the asset's cultural significance will not be affected.

5.24 Changes to the setting of Garbeg Cottage, burial mounds resulting from the operation of the Proposed Development will not affect this heritage asset's cultural significance, and therefore **no effects** resulting from the Proposed Development have been identified.

Loch nam Faolieg, hut circles 730m NNW of Wester Balnagrantach (SM11455)

5.25 This heritage asset is of **high** importance, as reflected by its status as a scheduled monument.

5.26 While the ZTV suggests that there may be limited theoretical visibility from this heritage asset in views to the south-west, these are likely to be restricted by intervening vegetation on the higher ground running between Torr Buidhe to the north-west and Cnoc na Moine to the south-east.

5.27 The presence of the Proposed Development in the wider landscape and in very limited visibility from this heritage asset in views to the south-west will not affect its relationship with likely contemporary assets in the wider landscape or the contribution this element of its setting makes to the understanding and appreciation of their historical and functional relationship with those assets, and in understanding upland settlement and farming practices of the period.

5.28 In addition, the physical remains of this heritage asset, including any associated buried archaeological remains that may be present (evidential and historical value), that contributes most to its cultural significance will not be affected.

5.29 The operation of the Proposed Development will not affect this heritage asset's cultural significance, and therefore **no effects** resulting from the Proposed Development have been identified.

Achratagan, hut circle and cairnfield 790m NNE of (SM11456)

5.30 This heritage asset is of **high** importance, as reflected by its status as a scheduled monument.

5.31 While the Proposed Development would be perceptible in views to the south-west from this heritage asset (refer to **Figure 10.7 in Annex B**), the distance from the nearest

turbine will be approximately 9.5km, and as such the Proposed Development will not be dominant in those views.

5.32 The presence of the Proposed Development in the wider landscape, and in changed views to the south-west will not alter the contribution this element of the setting of this heritage asset makes to the cultural significance, which is largely derived from the spatial and visual relationship between the building foundations and field clearance cairns. The operation of the Proposed Development would not change how this heritage asset's setting or its physical remains (evidential and historical value) contribute to its cultural significance, and as such **no effects** resulting from the Proposed Development are predicted.

Urquhart Castle (SM90309)

5.33 This heritage asset is of **high** importance, as reflected by its status as a scheduled monument.

5.34 The ZTV for the Proposed Development has identified that there will be no theoretical visibility between Urquhart Castle and the Proposed Development. There is potential for in-combination views towards the castle and the Proposed Development as a result of turbines appearing behind the castle when looking south and south-west from Loch Ness and the eastern shore.

5.35 These in-combination views occur at a distance between approximately 1km and 4km from the castle and from some areas of the eastern shore over approximately 3km from the castle (**Figures 10.8, 10.9 and 10.11 in Annex B**; refer also to **Figure 4.8**). From these distances the castle is not easily perceptible in the landscape and is not dominant in these views (see **Figures 4.8 and 4.9 and Figure 5.1**). In-combination views do not occur when approaching the castle from the loch beyond the point at which the castle's dominance within the landscape becomes more apparent (refer to **Figure 10.10 in Annex B**; see also **Figure 4.7**) or from views towards the water gate from the south-east (refer to **Figure 4.6**).

5.36 While in-combination views of Urquhart Castle and the Proposed Development will occur from limited locations on Loch Ness and the eastern shore, they would not adversely affect the appreciation of the castle's picturesque setting (aesthetic value), or how its location on the rocky promontory extending into the loch and the approach via the water gate, contributes to the understanding and appreciation of the castle's strategic siting, or the historic (illustrative) value of the architectural features as a defensive military structure and the appreciation of the buildings dominance, authority and function.

5.37 In-combination views of the castle and Proposed Development during operation would not affect the heritage

asset's cultural significance, and **no effects** resulting from the Proposed Development have been identified.

Figure 5.1: Urquhart Castle from the eastern shore of Loch Ness



View looking north-west towards Urquhart Castle from the eastern shore of Loch Ness. The castle is barely perceptible in the landscape

Potential cumulative effects

5.38 A full list of operational and consented developments in **Chapter 6** of the EIA Report.

5.39 The nearest operational or consented developments beyond the Outer Study Area are approximately 17km from the Proposed Development. While the potential for cumulative effects resulting from setting change have been considered, given that the potential for setting change to significantly effect a heritage asset diminishes with distance, significant cumulative effects, including those resulting from in-combination views beyond the Outer Study Area are not predicted.

5.40 Cumulative effects resulting from setting change have been considered in relation to the developments identified in **Table 5.1**. These developments fall within the Inner and Outer Study Areas for the Proposed Development.

Table 5.1: Operational and consented developments within the Inner and Outer Study Areas

Name	Status
Bhlaraidh Wind Farm Extension	Consented
Bhlaraidhn Wind Farm	Operational
Corrimony	Operational

Garbeg, settlement 1160m NNW of Garbeg Cottage (SM11437), Garbeg Cottage, settlement 1250m N of (SM11438) and Garbeg Cottage, burial mounds 920m NNE of (SM4635)

5.41 While the Proposed Development will be present in in-combination views to the south-west with the consented Bhlaraidh Wind Farm Extension from these heritage assets, the Proposed Development and Bhlaraidh Wind Farm Extension will be only just discernible on the skyline (refer to **Figures 10.5 and 10.12 in Annex B**). The presence of the Proposed Development in-combination with Bhlaraidh Wind Farm Extension in the wider landscape and in these views will not affect the spatial and visual relationship with likely contemporary heritage assets in the wider landscape and with each other or the contribution this element of their setting makes to the understanding and appreciation of their historical and functional relationship with those assets and in understand upland farming and funerary practices of the period. In-combination views are also not predicted to change the way the upland landscape setting of these heritage assets contributes to how they are experienced.

5.42 Changes to the setting of these heritage assets resulting from the operation of the Proposed Development in-combination with Bhlaraidh Wind Farm Extension will not affect their cultural significance, and therefore **no cumulative effects** have been identified.

Chapter 6 Conclusions

Potential direct effects resulting from physical change

6.1 No direct physical effects on known heritage assets have been identified.

6.2 Construction activities for the Proposed Development have the potential to remove or truncate any previously unrecorded buried archaeological remains that may be present within the footprint of the Proposed Development. However, the potential for previously unrecorded archaeological remains within the Primary Study Area has been assessed to be **low**.

6.3 While the presence and depth of peat recorded within the Primary Study Area, suggests a **high** potential for paleoenvironmental evidence, the design of the Proposed Development has sought to avoid impacting on areas of peat, or hydrological changes within the Site. The potential for peat deposits containing paleoenvironmental that could inform the understanding of past environments, including past human activity, is considered to be **low** to **negligible**.

Potential direct effects resulting from setting change

6.4 Potential effects have been identified on one designated heritage asset (Loch Ashlaich shooting box and bothy; LB19486; **high** importance) and one non-designated heritage asset (Shooting Lodge on Loch Ma Stac; MHG55927; **medium** importance) due to changes to their setting. These changes will lead to a **minor** potential level of effect.

Potential cumulative effects

6.5 No potential cumulative effects on heritage assets have been identified.

Mitigation

6.6 No specific additional mitigation for potential physical effects during construction on previously unrecorded archaeological remains, the potential for which has been assessed to be **low**, have been identified. The Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) for the Proposed Development identifies construction best practice mitigation for the historic environment.

6.7 Measures which may be adopted include the implementation of a working protocol should previously unrecorded archaeological features be discovered.

6.8 The evolution of the design process has sought to reduce the potential for impacts on heritage assets resulting from setting change. This has included a reduction in the number of turbines and their re-siting.

6.9 For developments of this sort, it is difficult to fully mitigate impacts to heritage assets resulting from setting change during operation, beyond those changes to the design and layout identified as the Proposed Development evolved. Therefore, no specific mitigation to reduce the potential effects to heritage assets due to setting change resulting from the operation of the Proposed Development have been identified.

Annex A Designated Heritage Assets Scoping Tables

Table A.1: Scoping Assessment Table for Scheduled Monuments within the Inner Study Area

Designation Reference	Heritage Asset Name	Theoretical Number of Turbines Visible	Scoped In/Out	Reasoning
SM5808	Craig Mony, fort	0	Out	There is no theoretical visibility from this heritage asset towards the Proposed Development. In-combination views are only likely at some distance (>c.2km) with low visibility. The areas from which in-combination views may be possible are largely at such a distance from the Proposed Development that their perception would not be meaningful in relation to the cultural significance of this heritage asset.
SM11437	Garbeg, settlement 1160m NNW of Garbeg Cottage	9 - 11	In	There would be theoretical visibility from this heritage asset of the Proposed Development.
SM4567	Levishie Cottage, fort and earthwork 1050m NE of	0	Out	There is no theoretical visibility from this heritage asset of the Proposed Development or in-combination views of the Proposed Development.
SM11438	Garbeg Cottage, settlement 1250m N of	12 - 13	In	There would be theoretical visibility from this heritage asset of the Proposed Development.
SM4635	Garbeg Cottage, burial mounds 920m NNE of	9 - 11	In	There would be theoretical visibility from this heritage asset of the Proposed Development.
SM90081	Corrimony, chambered cairn 600m ESE of	0	Out	There is no theoretical visibility from this heritage asset of the Proposed Development. In-combination views are only likely at some distance (>c.1km) with low visibility. Potential in-combination visibility is limited primarily by intervening topography, but there is also intervening vegetation, such as field boundary trees. In addition, the areas from which in-combination views may be possible are largely at such a distance from the Proposed Development that their perception would not be meaningful in relation to the cultural significance of this heritage asset.
SM11455	Loch nam Faioleag, hut circles 730m NNW of Wester Balnagrantach	5 - 8	In	Theoretical visibility from this heritage asset of the Proposed Development would be limited to the southern end of asset.
SM11456	Achratagan, hut circle and	9 - 11	In	There would be theoretical visibility from this heritage asset of the Proposed Development.

Designation Reference	Heritage Asset Name	Theoretical Number of Turbines Visible	Scoped In/Out	Reasoning
	cairnfield 790m NNE of			
SM11875	Dundreggan Farm, motte 35m SW of	0	Out	There is no theoretical visibility from this heritage asset of the Proposed Development or in-combination views of the Proposed Development.
SM13578	Comar Wood, dun 830m SW of Comar Lodge	0	Out	There is no theoretical visibility from this heritage asset towards the Proposed Development. In-combination views will be extremely limited given the topography of the surrounding landscape and intervening vegetation, to a degree that their perception would not be meaningful in relation to the cultural significance of this heritage asset.
SM13577	Badger Fall, still 150m SSE of, Glen Affric	1 - 4	Out	While there is theoretical visibility from this heritage asset to the Proposed Development, its current surroundings in dense woodland by a watercourse would restrict views towards the Proposed Development. In addition, there would be no in-combinations views of the Proposed Development due to the topography of the surrounding landscape and intervening vegetation.
SM90309	Urquhart Castle	0	In	In-combination view from Loch Ness and the eastern shore.

Table A.2: Scoping Assessment Table for Listed Buildings within the Inner and Outer Study Area

Designation Reference	Heritage Asset Name	Category	Theoretical Number of Turbines Visible	Scoped In/Out	Reasoning
LB7101	Knockfin House, (By Tomich)	C	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB7113	Cannich, Comar.	C	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB7114	Cannich Church Of Scotland	C	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB7115	Cannich, Marydale Roman Catholic Church, Presbytery And Former School	B	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.

Designation Reference	Heritage Asset Name	Category	Theoretical Number of Turbines Visible	Scoped In/Out	Reasoning
LB7115	Cannich, Marydale Roman Catholic Church, Presbytery And Former School	B	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB7115	Cannich, Marydale Roman Catholic Church, Presbytery And Former School	B	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB7116	Cannich, Mill	B	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB7118	Glen Affric Hydro Electric Scheme, Fasnakyle Power Station	A	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB7119	Fasnakyle Bridge Over River Glass	B	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB7120	Glassburn	B	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8087	16, 17, 18, Tomich	C	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8087	16, 17, 18, Tomich	C	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8087	16, 17, 18, Tomich	C	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8088	19, 20, 21, Tomich	C	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not

Designation Reference	Heritage Asset Name	Category	Theoretical Number of Turbines Visible	Scoped In/Out	Reasoning
					extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8088	19, 20, 21, Tomich	C	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8088	19, 20, 21, Tomich	C	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8089	22, 23, 24, Tomich	C	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8089	22, 23, 24, Tomich	C	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8089	22, 23, 24, Tomich	C	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8090	By Tomich, Guisachan Farm House	C	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8091	By Tomich, Guisachan Farm Steading	B	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8092	By Tomich, Guisachan Farm, Pair Cottages To Rear Of Steading Square	C	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8093	By Tomich, Guisachan Farm Dairy	B	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.

Designation Reference	Heritage Asset Name	Category	Theoretical Number of Turbines Visible	Scoped In/Out	Reasoning
LB8106	By Tomich, Guisachan, Achanagleish Cottage	C	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8107	By Tomich, Guisachan, Plodda Cottage	C	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8109	Tomich, Knockfin Bridge Over River Deabhag	B	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8110	Tomich, East Lodge To Former Guisachan House	B	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8111	Tomich, Guisachan Cottage	B	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8112	Tomich, Corrie Lodge (Comprising East Wing, Corrie Lodge And West Wing)	C	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8112	Tomich, Corrie Lodge (Comprising East Wing, Corrie Lodge And West Wing)	C	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8112	Tomich, Corrie Lodge (Comprising East Wing, Corrie Lodge And West Wing)	C	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8113	1, 2, 3, Tomich "Ardastur"	C	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8113	1, 2, 3, Tomich "Ardastur"	C	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not

Designation Reference	Heritage Asset Name	Category	Theoretical Number of Turbines Visible	Scoped In/Out	Reasoning
					extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8113	1, 2, 3, Tomich "Ardastur"	C	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8114	4, 5 Tomich	B	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8114	4, 5 Tomich	B	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8115	6, 7 Tomich	C	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8115	6, 7 Tomich	C	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8116	8, 9 Tomich	B	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8116	8, 9 Tomich	B	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8117	10, 11 Tomich	C	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8117	10, 11 Tomich	C	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.

Designation Reference	Heritage Asset Name	Category	Theoretical Number of Turbines Visible	Scoped In/Out	Reasoning
LB8118	12, 13 Tomich	C	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8118	12, 13 Tomich	C	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8119	Tomich "Mealbane"	C	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8120	Tomich Hotel, Post Office And Former Stables	C	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8120	Tomich Hotel, Post Office And Former Stables	C	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8120	Tomich Hotel, Post Office And Former Stables	C	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8121	Tomich, Tweedmouth Memorial Fountain	B	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8122	Tomich, Entrance To Guisachan Farm With Gate Piers And Gates	C	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8123	14, Tomich, Gate House	B	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8124	15 Tomich	C	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not

Designation Reference	Heritage Asset Name	Category	Theoretical Number of Turbines Visible	Scoped In/Out	Reasoning
					extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB8125	By Tomich, Guisachan, Former Stables	B	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB14997	Glenurquhart, Corrimony Grange Barn	A	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB14998	Glenurquhart, Corrimony Burial Ground	C	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB14999	Glenurquhart, Corrimony Bridge Over River Enrick	B	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB15000	Glenurquhart, Old Corrimony	B	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB15002	Glenurquhart, Kilmartin Hall And Garden Walls	B	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB15003	Glenurquhart, Lockletter Bridge Over River Enrick	B	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB15014	Glenurquhart, Mill Of Tore And Mill Cottage	B	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB15014	Glenurquhart, Mill Of Tore And Mill Cottage	B	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.

Designation Reference	Heritage Asset Name	Category	Theoretical Number of Turbines Visible	Scoped In/Out	Reasoning
LB15015	Glenurquhart, Shewglie	B	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB15016	By Invermoriston, Alltisaigh House	B	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB15017	Invermoriston, "Barracks" And Servants' Tunnel To Former Mansion	B	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB15018	Glenurquhart, St Ninians Episcopal Church	C	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB15019	Invermoriston, Cottage And Pottery Studio (By Old Bridge) (Old Smithy Cottage)	C	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB15019	Invermoriston, Cottage And Pottery Studio (By Old Bridge) (Old Smithy Cottage)	C	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB15020	Invermoriston, Gazebo. (In Policies Of Invermoriston House)	B	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB15021	Invermoriston, Home Farm And Former Barn To Rear.	A	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB15022	Invermoriston, Church Of Scotland	B	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB15023	Invermoriston, Burial Ground And 2 Pairs Of Gate Piers.	B	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not

Designation Reference	Heritage Asset Name	Category	Theoretical Number of Turbines Visible	Scoped In/Out	Reasoning
					extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB15023	Invermoriston, Burial Ground And 2 Pairs Of Gate Piers.	B	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB15024	Invermoriston, Old Bridge Over River Moriston	B	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB15025	Invermoriston, Road Bridge Over River Moriston	B	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB19486	Loch Ashlaich, Shooting Box And Bothy	C	6	In	Intervisibility and in-combination views of the Proposed Development.
LB49692	Lochletter Farm, Garden Pavilion	B	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.
LB15023	Invermoriston, Burial Ground And 2 Pairs Of Gate Piers.	B	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.

Table A.3: Scoping Assessment Table for Conservation Areas within the Inner and Outer Study Areas

Designation Reference	Heritage Asset Name	Theoretical Number of Turbines Visible	Scoped In/Out	Reasoning
CA126	Tomich Village	0	Out	No intervisibility with the Proposed Development, and the setting of this heritage asset does not extend as far as the Proposed Development.

Annex B

Visualisations

Figure 10.4: View from Ashlaich, shooting box and bothy (LB19486)

Figure 10.5: View from Garbeg Cottage, burial mounds 920m NNE of (SM4635)

Figure 10.6: View from Garbeg, settlement 1160m NNW of Garbeg Cottage (SM11437), Garbeg Cottage, settlement 1250m N of (SM11438) and Loch nam Faolieag, hut circles 730m NNW of Wester Balnagrantach (SM11455)

Figure 10.7: View from Achratagan, hut circle and cairnfield 790m NNE of (SM11456)

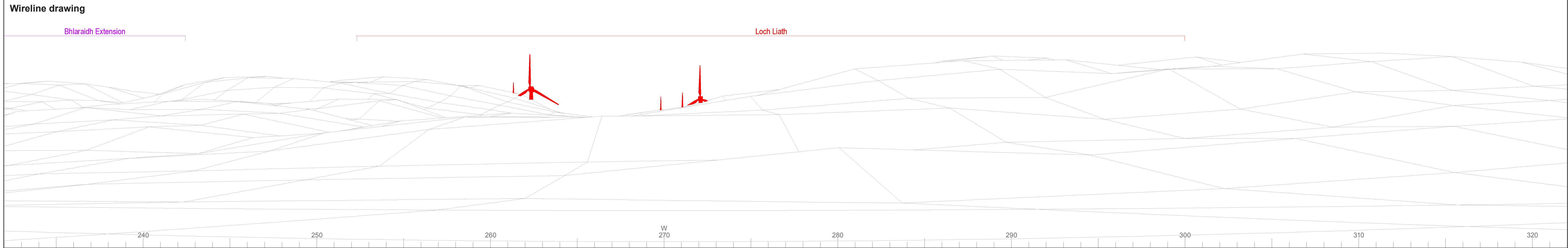
Figure 10.8: View towards Urquhart Castle (SM90309) from Erchite Wood picnic area Loch Ness

Figure 10.9: Views of Urquhart Castle (SM90309) from Loch Ness

Figure 10.10: View of Urquhart Castle (SM90309) from Loch Ness

Figure 10.11: View towards Urquhart Castle (SM90309) from Erchite Wood picnic area Loch Ness

Figure 10.12: View from Garbeg Cottage, burial mounds 920m NNE of (SM4635)



Wireline drawing

Bhlaraidh Extension

Loch Liath

240

250

260

W
270

280

290

300

310

320

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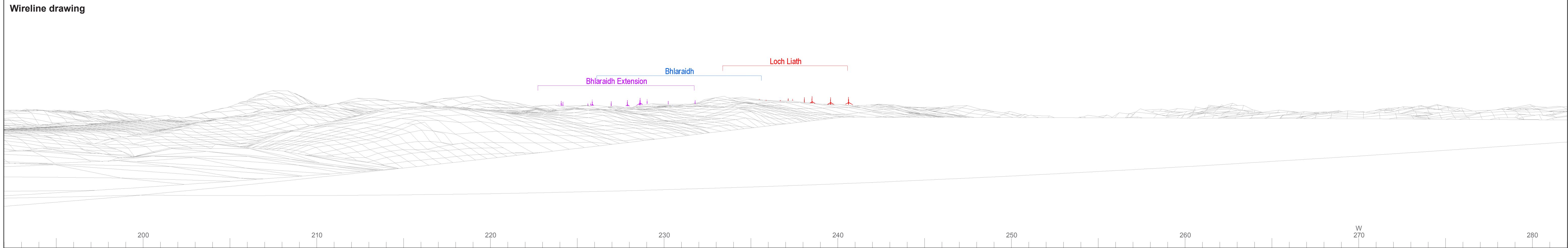


OS reference: 240930E 823569N
 AOD: 399 m
 Direction of view: 277°
 Nearest turbine: 2.3 km

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
 Principal distance: 522 mm
 Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
 Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Wind Farm Developments key
 (by status):

Proposed scheme
 Consented



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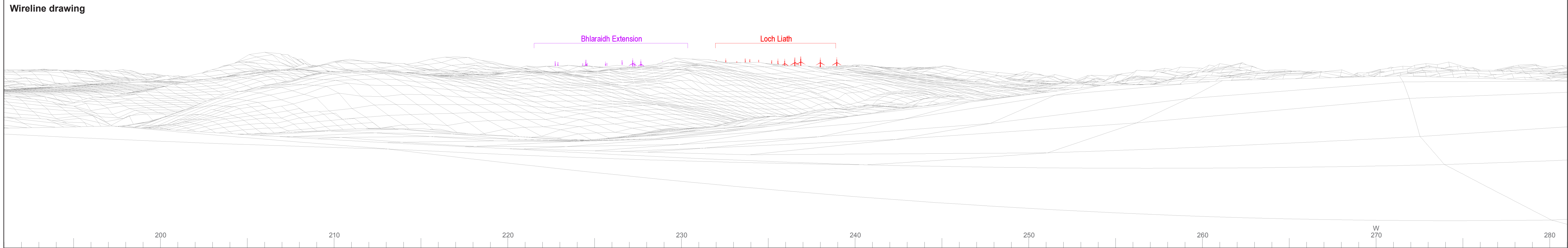
OS reference: 251063E 832236N
 AOD: 303 m
 Direction of view: 237°
 Nearest turbine: 14.6 km

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
 Principal distance: 522 mm
 Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
 Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Wind Farm Developments key
 (by status):

Proposed scheme
 Operational
 Consented

Loch Liath Wind Farm
Figure: 10.5
 View from Garbeg Cottage, burial mounds 920m NNE of (SM4635)



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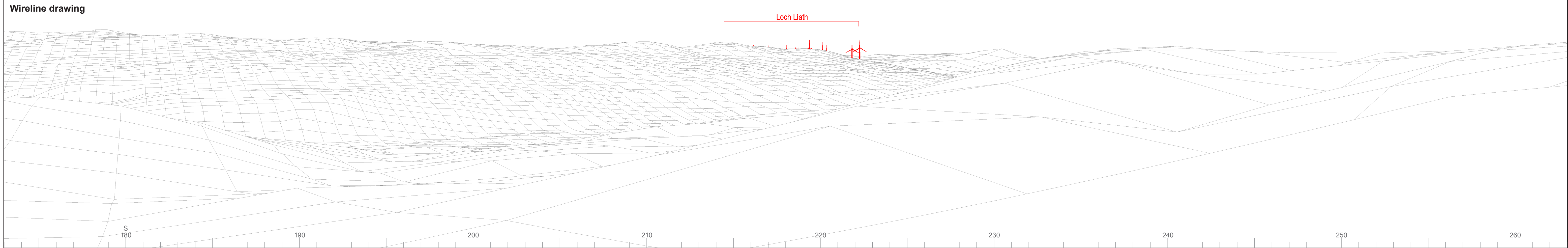
OS reference: 250929E 832745N
 AOD: 321.5 m
 Direction of view: 236°
 Nearest turbine: 14.8 km

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
 Principal distance: 522 mm
 Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
 Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Wind Farm Developments key
 (by status):

Proposed scheme
 Consented

View from Garbeg, settlement 1160m NNW of Garbeg Cottage (SM11437) Garbeg Cottage, settlement 1250m N of (SM11438) Loch nam Faolieag, hut circles 730m NNW of Wester Balnagrantach (SM11455)



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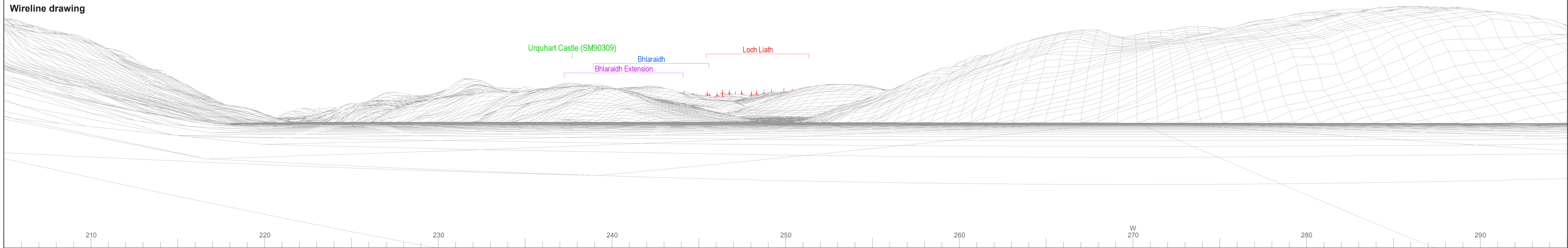


OS reference: 244794E 832261N
 AOD: 276 m
 Direction of view: 218°
 Nearest turbine: 9.7 km

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
 Principal distance: 522 mm
 Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
 Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Wind Farm Developments key
 (by status):

Proposed scheme



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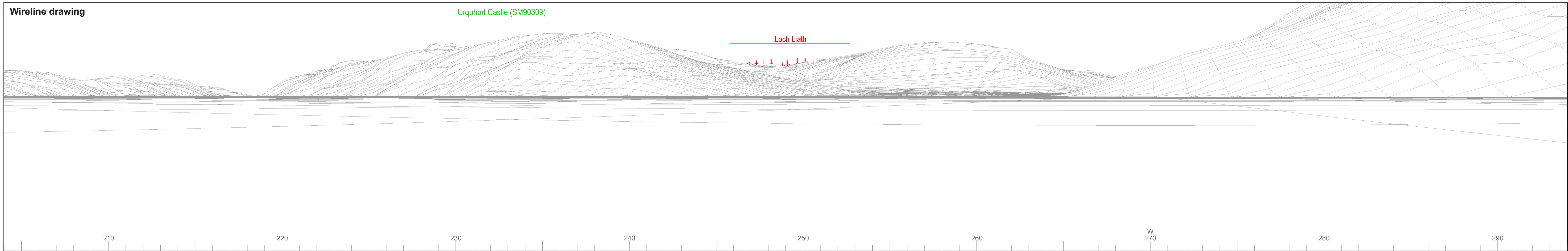


OS reference: 257717E 831590N
 AOD: 17.3 m
 Direction of view: 250°
 Nearest turbine: 20.4 km

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
 Principal distance: 522 mm
 Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
 Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Wind Farm Developments key
 (by status):

Proposed scheme
 Operational
 Consented
 Scheduled Ancient Monument



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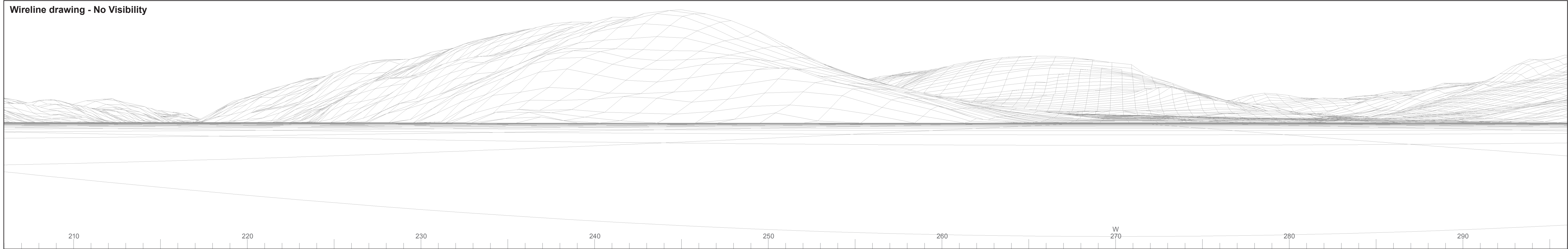


OS reference: 255150E 830187N
 AOD: 15.3 m
 Direction of view: 249°
 Nearest turbine: 17.5 km

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
 Principal distance: 522 mm
 Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
 Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Wind Farm Developments key
 (by status):

Proposed scheme
 Scheduled Ancient Monument



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OS reference: 254063E 829281N
 AOD: 15.3 m
 Direction of view: 251°
 Nearest turbine: 16.2 km

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
 Principal distance: 522 mm
 Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
 Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Wind Farm Developments key
 (by status):



Photomontage

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OS reference: 257717E 831590N
AOD: 17.3 m
Direction of view: 250°
Nearest turbine: 20.4 km

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Camera: Nikon D750
Lens: 50mm Fixed Focal Length
Camera height: 1.5 m

Photography Date: 15/04/2021
Photography Time: 09:55:00

Loch Liath Wind Farm
Figure: 10.11
View towards Urquhart Castle (SM90309) from Erchite Wood picnic area Loch Ness



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OS reference: 251063E 832236N
AOD: 303 m
Direction of view: 237°
Nearest turbine: 14.6 km

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Camera: Nikon D750
Lens: 50mm Fixed Focal Length
Camera height: 1.5 m

Photography Date: 14/04/2021
Photography Time: 17:17:00

Loch Liath Wind Farm
Figure: 10.12
View from Garbeg Cottage, burial mounds 920m NNE of (SM4635)