
TECHNICAL APPENDIX 7.10: CUMULATIVE VISUAL ASSESSMENT TABLES

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1 Technical Appendix 7.10: Cumulative Visual Assessment Tables

1.1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 Cumulative effects are those that occur as a result of the construction of more than one development of similar type within the landscape. In terms of visual amenity, cumulative effects may result where a number of wind energy developments combine within a particular view, increasing the prominence of wind turbines.
- 1.1.2 The cumulative visual assessment considers the potential cumulative effect resulting from the addition of the Proposed Development to the baseline wind development scenario (refer to Figure 7.7.2: Cumulative sites included within the Assessment and Table 7.8.4 within Chapter 7: Landscape and Visual Amenity). For the purposes of the assessment, two baseline cumulative scenarios have been considered:
- All operational and consented cumulative baseline sites would be constructed and operational within the landscape; and
 - All the cumulative baseline sites (including application and scoping sites) would be constructed and operational within the landscape.
- 1.1.3 Visual receptors located at viewpoints (see Figures 7.4.1 and 7.4.2) and using routes (See Figures 7.6.1 and 7.6.2) are considered in the cumulative visual assessment, as described in Technical Appendix 7.9: Visual Assessment Tables. However, only those locations which have been identified as likely to experience a Minor visual effect or greater as a result of the Proposed Development alone have been included, as it is considered that a Negligible effect could not contribute to a significant cumulative effect. The following receptor locations are therefore included in the cumulative assessment:

Viewpoints

- VP1: A836 above the Crask Inn (see Figure 7.9.1 – 7.9.4);
- VP2: A836 bridge by Dalnessie entrance (see Figure 7.10.1 – 7.10.4);
- VP3: Saval (see Figure 7.11.1 – 7.11.4);
- VP5: Ben Hee (see Figure 7.13.1 – 7.13.4);
- VP6: Rosehall (see Figure 7.14.1 – 7.14.4);
- VP7: High Road (see Figure 7.15.1 – 7.15.4);
- VP8: A836 - A838 Junction (see Figure 7.16.1 – 7.16.4);
- VP9: Achnairn caravan and camping site entrance (see Figure 7.17.1 – 7.17.4);
- VP10: Ben More Assynt (see Figure 7.18.1 – 7.18.4);
- VP11: Glencassley road to south of Castle (see Figure 7.19.1 – 7.19.4);
- VP12: Glencassley road by Langwell Hill (see Figure 7.20.1 – 7.20.4);
- VP13: Ben Klibreck (see Figure 7.21.1 – 7.21.4);
- VP14: A838 near West Shinness (see Figure 7.22.1 – 7.22.4);
- VP16: Minor road at Inveroykel forest access (see Figure 7.24.1 – 7.24.4);
- VP18: Carn Chuinneag (see Figure 7.26.1 – 7.26.4);
- VP19: Seana Bhràigh (see Figure 7.27.1 – 7.27.4); and
- VP21: Meall an Aonaich (see Figure 7.29.1 – 7.29.4).

Routes

- R3: A836 Lairg to Altnaharra;
- R4: A838 Dalchork to Corrykinloch;
- R6: A837 Invershin to Oykel Bridge;

- R8: C1136 Ardgay – Culrain – Doune – Brae Road;
- R9: U2117 Cassley Bridge – Duchally Road;
- R12: SU21.03: Allt an Tuir Burn Walk;
- R14: SU21.09: Achness Waterfall;
- R15: Group of paths around Duag Bridge; and
- R17: Scottish Hill Track 332.

Notes on Cumulative Assessment Tables

- 1.1.4 Cumulative baseline sites theoretically visible in combination with the proposed development are identified as being either 'in combination' or 'in succession'.
- 1.1.5 Sites visible in combination with the proposed development refer to those that are visible within the observer's arc of vision with the Proposed Development. That is, within the same 90° field of view as the Proposed Development. All sites identified as visible in combination are not necessarily visible in combination with each other. Sites within 60-90° would be within the observer's peripheral field of view and are marked 'P'.
- 1.1.6 Sites visible in succession refer to those that are visible when the observer turns their head away from the Proposed Development.
- 1.1.7 The cumulative baseline scenario for all VPs is illustrated on Figures 7.9.2 – 7.29.2. Cumulative ZTVs with cumulative baseline sites are included as Figures 7.8.1 – 7.8.18.

1.2 Viewpoints

Table 1.2.1: VP1 - A836 above the Crask Inn

Cumulative Baseline Scenario				
Viewpoint Location and Context	NC 52294 25050 (see Figure 7.9.1 – 7.9.4)			
	Representative of views obtained from travellers on the public road and residents and visitors at Crask and more broadly representative of middle-distance views obtained from the north.			
Cumulative baseline sites theoretically visible in combination with the proposed development	Visible in combination		Visible in succession	
	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Achany;Beinn nan Oighrean;Beinn Tharsuinn;Coire na Cloiche;LairgNovar; andRosehall.	<u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Braemore; andLairg Extension (application). <u>Application / Appeal</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Lairg Extension (application); andMeall Buidhe. <u>Scoping</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Chleansaid (P);Garvary; andSallachy.	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None. <u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Creag Riabhach	<u>Application / Appeal</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None. <u>Scoping</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None
Description of Baseline Cumulative View	Slightly elevated, panoramic views across peatland landscape to south and west. Ben More Assynt forms a focal point in the westerly view. Existing Achany and Rosehall wind turbines are distant on the southern skyline and the application site Meall Buidhe would slightly increase this group to the west. Lairg Extension (consented or application) and Garvary (scoping) would be visible in the middle ground to the south-south-east forming a much greater grouping around the existing Lairg turbines. However, continued growth of forest in this part of the view may lead to these turbines being less visible over time. Equally, removal of this forest, may further reveal these sites. Of other application and scoping sites, some tips and blades of Chleansaid would also appear further to the south-east but may be expected to be similarly hidden by tree growth over time. Sallachy would sit in the middle ground to the west-south-west partially to the foreground of Ben More Assynt. To the north, coniferous shelterbelt screens much of the view but the tips and blades of the consented Creag Riabhach Wind Farm may occasionally be seen above and between the trees.			
Sensitivity to Additional Change	Medium			
Assessment of Cumulative Effect				
Nature of Change	The Proposed Development would appear in the south-westerly view on the skyline. Seen in the context of Achany and Rosehall and partially to the foreground of Meall Buidhe if this were constructed. The Proposed Development would appear slightly larger and closer than these sites and would extend wind turbine development slightly further westwards in the view, towards Ben More Assynt. The wind turbines would be perceptible but considered unlikely to distract from the existing panoramic qualities of the view or the focus of Ben More Assynt, particularly when considered in the context of Sallachy which would appear clearly separate in the westerly views when application and scoping sites were added to the baseline.			
Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Low			
Cumulative Visual Effect	Minor (not significant) for baseline scenarios considering the operational and consented sites only, and the addition of application and scoping sites.			

Table 1.2.2: VP2 – A836 bridge by Dalnессie entrance

Cumulative Baseline Scenario			
Viewpoint Location and Context	NC 57475 13940 (see Figure 7.10.1 – 7.10.4) Representative of views obtained by travellers / recreational users of public road and track and more generally of westerly views at closer middle distance		
Cumulative baseline sites theoretically visible in combination with the proposed development	Visible in combination		Visible in succession
	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Achany;Rosehall;Novar; andNovar Extension. <u>Consented</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Braemore; andCreag Riabhach (P).	<u>Application / Appeal Scoping</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None.	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Farr; andGlen Kyllachy <u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None. <u>Application / Appeal Scoping</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Strath Tirry.Chleansaid
Description of Baseline Cumulative View	Low elevation, open and panoramic views across the peatland landscape to the west, but limited by woodland and forest to east. Operational Achany and Rosehall sites are seen on the skyline hills to the west-south-west and Braemore would be set just to the east of them in the southerly view through Achany Glen with Novar and Novar Extension very distant beyond. The application site of Strath Tirry would be located directly to the east of this location and Chleansaid would appear to its rear, likely to appear clearly visible and close, through and above the trees on the western side of the road. Sallachy and Creag Riabhach would appear very small as blade or tips in the north-western and northern views respectively.		
Sensitivity to Additional Change	Medium		
Assessment of Cumulative Effect			
Nature of Change	The Proposed Development would appear on the skyline to the west-north-west, and would appear to stretch existing Achany and Rosehall grouping further to the west but would be likely to appear as a separate cluster. There would be a perceptible increase in the numbers of turbines within the view but this is considered unlikely to distract from the existing panoramic qualities of the westerly view as the Proposed Development would be to the rear of existing, closer focal points such as woodlands and properties. Given the proximity and scale of the turbines to the east of the VP the Proposed Development is not anticipated to noticeably increase the prominence of wind turbines as a feature of the view.		
Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Low		
Cumulative Visual Effect	Minor (not significant) for baseline scenarios considering the operational and consented sites only, and the addition of application and scoping sites.		

Table 1.2.3: VP3 – Saval

Cumulative Baseline Scenario				
Viewpoint Location and Context		NC 59173 08273 (see Figure 7.11.1 – 7.11.4) Representative of views obtained by residents and visitors of a group of rural properties, elevated to the north of Lairg.		
Cumulative baseline sites theoretically visible in combination with the proposed development	Visible in combination		Visible in succession	
	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Achany;Beinn nan Oighrean (P)Beinn Tharsuinn (P)Coire na Cloiche;Novar (P);Novar Extension (P); andRosehall.	<u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Braemore. <u>Application / Appeal</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Meall Buidhe. <u>Scoping</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Chleansaid (P);Garvary (P); andSallachy.	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Lairg. <u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Lairg Extension (consented).	<u>Application / Appeal</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Lairg Extension (application);South Kilbraur. <u>Scoping</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None
Description of Baseline Cumulative View		Elevated views with main southerly orientation towards the southern mountains and hills around Carn Chuinneag. Panoramic views round to east and west feature rounded hills interspersed with croft land and forest plantation. The cumulative baseline scenario would lead to wind turbines forming a very noticeable feature within this view. Operational and consented turbines of Lairg and Lairg Extension and Braemore would appear within the main southerly view in the close to middle distance with Achany and Rosehall smaller on the skyline to the south-west. Additional application and scoping turbines of Garvary and Meall Buidhe would add to these clusters creating a preponderance of turbines throughout this view with Beinn nan Oighrean, Beinn Tharsuinn, Coire na Cloiche, Novar and Novar Extension in the far distance beyond them. To the rear of the main view Chleansaid would form a visible feature to the north. Sallachy to the north-and South Kilbraur to the east would be screened from view by the intervening vegetation.		
Sensitivity to Additional Change		Low		
Assessment of Cumulative Effect				
Nature of Change		The Proposed Development would be visible on the skyline of the forested ridgeline to the west, extending the existing grouping of Achany and Rosehall turbines. Featuring as mostly blades and tips above the skyline and out of the main focus of the view, turbines would be similar in scale to existing Achany turbines and would not affect the main focus of the view. Overall, the increase in turbines in this part of the view is likely to be perceptible but this is not considered to lead to turbines becoming a more prominent feature of the view given the position of the Proposed Development outwith the main focus of the view, and the greater prominence of wind turbines within the main focus of the view both with a scenario featuring operational and consented sites only, and the addition of application and scoping sites.		
Cumulative Magnitude of Change		Low		
Cumulative Visual Effect		Minor (not significant) for baseline scenarios considering the operational and consented sites only, and the addition of application and scoping sites.		

Table 1.2.4: VP5 – Ben Hee

Cumulative Baseline Scenario				
Viewpoint Location and Context		NC 42655 33931 (see Figure 7.13.1 – 7.13.4) Representative of views obtained by hillwalkers and more broadly representative of visibility from mountain summit areas to the north.		
Cumulative baseline sites theoretically visible in combination with the proposed development	Visible in combination		Visible in succession	
	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Achany;Beinn nan Oighrean;Beinn Tharsuinn;Coire na Cloiche;Gordonbush Extension;Kilbraur and Extension;Lairg;Novar and Extension; andRosehall.	<u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Braemore;Creag Riabhach; andLairg Extension (consented) <u>Application / Appeal</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Kintradwell;Lairg Extension (application);Meall Buidhe;South Kilbraur; andStrath Tirry. <u>Scoping</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Chleansaid;Garvary; andSallachy.	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None. <u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None.	<u>Application / Appeal</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None. <u>Scoping</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None. Note – sites may be visible in succession with each other
Description of Baseline Cumulative View		Elevated 360° panoramic views around the surrounding extensive landscape. Layers of receding mountains to south-west, west and north and extensive views across forested landscapes around Loch Shin to the south-east. Operational and consented cumulative baseline sites would appear as mostly distant clusters in the south-easterly view including Achany, Rosehall and Braemore, Lairg and Lairg Extension and, slightly more distant Kilbraur and Extension. Creag Riabhach would be closer, to the east. Other operational sites would be less perceptible in the far distance. The addition of application and scoping sites would lead to operational / consented turbine clusters being enlarged and increased in density leading to wind turbines forming a very established feature of the south-easterly view. Chleansaid would appear to the forefront of Kilbraur, Garvary would extend and surround Lairg and Lairg Extension. Sallachy would form a new cluster at closer proximity to the south, with Meall Buidhe distantly beyond it and Strath Tirry would form a separate small cluster set between Lairg and Chleansaid. Kintradwell would appear distantly on the horizon but would form a small cluster with Gordonbush Extension.		
Sensitivity to Additional Change		Low		
Assessment of Cumulative Effect				
Nature of Change		The Proposed Development would feature within the middle to far distant view to the south, in the context of existing Achany and Rosehall turbines seen to extend wind turbines slightly further westwards in the view if application and scoping sites are not taken into account but to the rear of and set to the east of Sallachy if these sites are considered. Although it would appear slightly larger and closer than adjacent Achany and Rosehall turbines, it would be of a similar scale to other turbines in the view such as Lairg Extension. Although Creag Riabhach would appear closer, it affects a separate part of the view. With application and scoping sites added to the baseline scenario, the Sallachy Wind Farm would appear more prominent and the addition of the Proposed Development would be less perceptible as turbines would already be established further westwards and at closer proximity in the view.		
Cumulative Magnitude of Change		Low		

Cumulative Visual Effect	Minor (not significant) for baseline scenarios considering the operational and consented sites only, and the addition of application and scoping sites.
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Table 1.2.5: VP6 – Rosehall

Cumulative Baseline Scenario				
Viewpoint Location and Context		NC 47028 02032 (see Figure 7.14.1 – 7.14.4) Representative of views obtained by residents and visitors of Rosehall village and travellers passing through on the A837.		
Cumulative baseline sites theoretically visible in combination with the proposed development	Visible in combination		Visible in succession	
	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Achany; andRosehall. <u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None	<u>Application / Appeal Scoping</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None. <u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Braemore.	<u>Application / Appeal Scoping</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Meall Buidhe.None.
Description of Baseline Cumulative View		Relatively contained view of buildings interspersed with trees and woodland with a backdrop of containing hills clad by forest on their slopes but with clear summits. Existing turbines of Rosehall are present in the view to north-east, appearing on the hill summit with tips and blades of Achany to their rear, largely concealed by forest. A few blades of Braemore would also be concealed by forest. Meall Buidhe would be seen in views to the south on the skyline of the hills, partially screened by intervening mature trees.		
Sensitivity to Additional Change		Medium		
Assessment of Cumulative Effect				
Nature of Change		The southerly turbines of the Proposed Development would appear on the skyline, slightly oblique to the main focus of the view as blades and hubs with more northern parts of the Proposed Development appearing further oblique to the main view up Glen Cassley to the north, though filtered or screened by trees. The closer turbines would appear relatively large, though similar in scale to the closer Rosehall turbines and may be perceived as a continuation of the existing cluster. However, the Proposed Development would extend the field of view occupied by turbines and is likely to increase the degree to which wind turbines would be noticeable within the view.		
Cumulative Magnitude of Change		Medium - High		
Cumulative Visual Effect		Moderate (significant) for baseline scenarios considering the operational and consented sites only, and the addition of application and scoping sites.		

Table 1.2.6: VP7 – High Road

Cumulative Baseline Scenario				
Viewpoint Location and Context	NC 60226 04804 (see Figure 7.14.1 – 7.14.4) Representative of views obtained by residents and visitors of scattered properties at Tomich and Rhian Breck.			
Existing and proposed windfarms theoretically visible in combination with the proposed development	Visible in combination		Visible in succession	
	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Achany; andRosehall. <u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Creag Riabhach.	<u>Application / Appeal</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Strath Tirry. <u>Scoping</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Sallachy	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None. <u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None.	<u>Application / Appeal</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Kintradwell. <u>Scoping</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None.
Description of Baseline Cumulative View	Elevated open views to north and west. Existing turbines of Achany and Rosehall Wind Farms are present along the skyline of the hills in the westerly view. Strath Tirry would appear in views up the valley to the north. Sallachy, to the north-west, and Creag Riabhach to the north would be screened by intervening trees and buildings from the VP but maybe seen in the far to middle distance if moving slightly from the VP location. Views towards Kintradwell to the east would also be concealed by intervening trees.			
Sensitivity to Additional Change	Medium			
Assessment of Cumulative Effect				
Nature of Change	Blades and tips would feature on the forested skyline to the west, extending the appearance of turbines on this skyline to the north. The turbines would appear at a similar scale to, but less prominent than Rosehall and Achany which appear more as turbines on the crest of the hill. The introduction of the Proposed Development would result in a perceptible increase in wind turbines, but it would not increase to overall prominence of wind turbines in the area.			
Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Low			
Cumulative Visual Effect	Minor (not significant) for baseline scenarios considering the operational and consented sites only, and the addition of application and scoping sites.			

Table 1.2.7: VP8 - A836 - A838 Junction

Cumulative Baseline Scenario				
Viewpoint Location and Context		NC 57326 09947 (see Figure 7.16.1 – 7.16.4) Representative of views obtained by residents and visitors of properties around Tirrystide and Dalchork and road users of the A836 and A838.		
Existing and proposed windfarms theoretically visible in combination with the proposed development	Visible in combination		Visible in succession	
	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Achany. <u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Braemore (P); andCreag Riabhach (P).	<u>Application / Appeal</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Strath Tirry (P). <u>Scoping</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Sallachy	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None. <u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None.	<u>Application / Appeal</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Strath Tirry. <u>Scoping</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Chleansaid.
Description of Baseline Cumulative View		Low vantage views along the roads, partially obscured by nearby roadside vegetation and roadside signage. To north-west, views feature rural properties interspersed amongst small wooded and forested areas. Felled forest and construction of the Dalchork substation feature in views to east and forest plantation-clad hills terminate views to south-west and west in the near to middle distance. Of the operational and consented sites, a few blades of Achany appear above the skyline to the south-west whilst Braemore would feature in the southerly view towards Achany glen down the end of Loch Shin. At greater distance to the north, Creag Rhiabhach would be unlikely to be visible, being concealed by a small forest plantation. Of the application and scoping sites, Sallachy would be perceptible to the north-west, slightly filtered by trees. While theoretically appearing as close and large turbines in the northerly view, Strath Tirry and Chleansaid would be largely screened by mature, mostly coniferous trees, although tips of these turbines may be seen above or through the trees which may give a sense of their scale and proximity.		
Sensitivity to Additional Change		Low-Medium		
Assessment of Cumulative Effect				
Nature of Change		Tips and blades of turbines would feature in middle distance of the westerly view, appearing on the skyline of the forest clad hills. These would appear similar to existing blades of Achany Wind Farm, set further along the ridge to the west though slightly more distant. Although the Proposed Development would form a perceptible addition to the view, it would not form a distracting feature in the view or increase the prominence of wind turbines.		
Cumulative Magnitude of Change		Low		
Cumulative Visual Effect		Minor (not significant) for baseline scenarios considering the operational and consented sites only, and the addition of application and scoping sites.		

Table 1.2.8: VP9 – Achnairn caravan and camping site entrance

Cumulative Baseline Scenario				
Viewpoint Location and Context		NC 55793 12701 (see Figure 7.17.1 – 7.17.4) Representative of views obtained by residents and visitors (including campers), to small settlement area and campsite.		
Existing and proposed windfarms theoretically visible in combination with the proposed development	Visible in combination		Visible in succession	
	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Achany;Beinn nan Oighrean (P);Beinn Tharsuinn (P);Corie na Cloiche;Lairg; andNovar. <u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Braemore; andLairg Extension (consented) (P).	<u>Application / Appeal</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Lairg Extension (application) (P). <u>Scoping</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Garvary (P); andSallachy	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None. <u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None.	<u>Application / Appeal</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Strath Tirry. <u>Scoping</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Chleansaid.
Description of Baseline Cumulative View		Elevated views to south-east, down Loch Shin and Achany Glen and south-west across Loch Shin, partially reduced by trees and roadside vegetation. Existing turbines of Achany Wind Farm are present as blades and hubs on the skyline to the south-west whilst those of Braemore would be seen in the framed view down Loch Shin to the south with Beinn nan Oighrean, Beinn Tharsuinn, Coire na Cloiche and Novar on the distant skyline beyond. Lairg Wind Farm and Lairg Extension would form a cluster to the south-east though would be partially screened from the VP by a foreground building. The Scoping site of Garvary would add to these sites forming a large cluster in the middle ground which would frame the view on down Loch Shin on the opposite side to Braemore. Strath Tirry and Chleansaid would be seen as blades against the skyline to the north-east. Although nearby landform would partially screen these turbines from the VP, they would be easily seen if moving slightly further up the hill into the camp site. Views of Sallachy to the north-west would be screened by foreground vegetation.		
Sensitivity to Additional Change		Low - Medium		
Assessment of Cumulative Effect				
Nature of Change		The Proposed Development would be seen to the west-south-west, generally slightly oblique within the main orientation of the view with blades and hubs of turbines appearing in a low point on the skyline between two hills with a few additional tips likely to be barely perceptible. The turbines would extend the field of view occupied by wind turbines and would lead to a greater effect on the main, south-west aspect of the view. When considering the full range of cumulative sites, this may be perceived to increase a sense of encirclement by moving the influence of turbines further to the west in the view.		
Cumulative Magnitude of Change		Medium		
Cumulative Visual Effect		Moderate (significant) for baseline scenarios considering the operational and consented sites only, and the addition of application and scoping sites.		

Table 1.2.9: VP10 – Ben More Assynt

Cumulative Baseline Scenario				
Viewpoint Location and Context	NC 31833 20148 (see Figure 7.18.1 – 7.18.4) Representative of views obtained by hillwalkers and more generally representative of types of view obtained at middle distance from the edge of the Assynt Coigach NSA.			
Existing and proposed windfarms theoretically visible in combination with the proposed development	Visible in combination		Visible in succession	
	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Achany;Beinn nan Oighrean;Beinn Tharsuinn;Corie na Cloiche;GordonbushGordonbush ExtensionKilbraurKilbraur ExtensionLairg;Novar;Novar Extension;Rosehall.	<u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Braemore;Creag Riabhach; andLairg Extension (consented). <u>Application / Appeal</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">KintradwellLairg Extension (application);Meall Buidhe;South Kilbraur;Strath Tirry. <u>Scoping</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">ChleansaidGarvary; andSallachy	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None. <u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None. <p>Note – sites may be visible in succession with each other</p>	<u>Application / Appeal Scoping</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None.
Description of Baseline Cumulative View	Elevated and expansive 360° views feature layers of receding mountains to the south, through west and north to east but are more open across forested areas and towards eastern settled coastal areas to the south-east. The cumulative baseline of operational and consented sites would lead to wind farms forming recognised feature within the south-easterly and north-easterly view with Achany and Rosehall, and Lairg and Lairg Extension forming clusters in the mid-ground to the south-east, Kilbraur and Gordonbush (and Extensions) forming distant clusters in the east, Creag Riabhach to the north-east, and other sites around Beinn Tharsuinn and Novar very distant in the southerly view. The addition of application and scoping sites would lead to wind farms forming a very established feature of the view in these directions. Sallachy would be close within the easterly view and Chleansaid and Strath Tirry would be seen in the mid-ground beyond it, but to the foreground of Gordonbush and Kilbraur. Kintradwell would also appear on the skyline beyond Gordonbush leading to a much greater density of turbine clusters in this part of the view. Garvary would appear to join the existing clusters associated with Lairg and Achany / Rosehall to the south-east and Meall Buidhe would draw the appearance of turbines in the mid-ground further to the south.			
Sensitivity to Additional Change	Medium			
Assessment of Cumulative Effect				
Nature of Change	The Proposed Development would appear within the elevated south-easterly view. With both baseline scenarios, this view would be already affected by wind turbine development and therefore the Proposed Development would not extend the area of the view occupied by turbines. However, it would appear slightly closer than baseline sites. With a scenario whereby only operational and consented applications were present, the Proposed Development would appear partly to the forefront of the Achany – Rosehall cluster and stretch towards the Lairg cluster increasing the appearance of wind turbines in this direction and appearing to bring these closer. However, with the addition of application and scoping sites, Garvary would create a larger cluster in this part of the view and whilst the closer appearance of the Proposed Development may be perceptible, it would not increase the prominence of turbines in this part of the view. Under this scenario, other sites which would			

	be closer or at similar proximity would already create a precedent for wind turbines at closer proximity which would also limit the increased prominence of the Proposed Development.
Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Low
Cumulative Visual Effect	Minor – Moderate (not significant) for a baseline with operational and consented sites only. Minor (not significant) for a baseline featuring all cumulative baseline sites.

Table 1.2.10: VP11 – Glencassley road to south of Castle

Cumulative Baseline Scenario				
Viewpoint Location and Context		NC 44489 06224 (see Figure 7.19.1 – 7.19.4) Representative of views obtained by travellers and recreational users of rural road and Glen Cassley.		
Existing and proposed windfarms theoretically visible in combination with the proposed development	Visible in combination		Visible in succession	
	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Rosehall. <u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None.	<u>Application / Appeal Scoping</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None.	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None. <u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None.	<u>Application / Appeal Scoping</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None.
Description of Baseline Cumulative View		Low vantage views, framed by valley sides to north and south, but filtered / screened by riverside trees to north. View enclosed and directed by steep heather-clad and forested glen sides. A few tips and one turbine of the Rosehall Wind Farm appear above the glen-side to the south-east.		
Sensitivity to Additional Change		Medium		
Assessment of Cumulative Effect				
Nature of Change		Two turbines and two blades of the Proposed Development would appear above the easterly glen-side. These would appear larger than the existing visible turbines and would therefore increase the prominence of turbines as a feature of the view. However, they would not distract from the main, funnelled views down the glen from this location.		
Cumulative Magnitude of Change		Medium - High		
Cumulative Visual Effect		Moderate (significant) for baseline scenarios considering the operational and consented sites only, and the addition of application and scoping sites.		

Table 1.2.11: VP12 – Glencassley road by Langwell Hill

Cumulative Baseline Scenario				
Viewpoint Location and Context		NC 40664 12269 (see Figure 7.20.1 – 7.20.4) Representative of views obtained by travellers and recreational users of rural road and Glen Cassley.		
Existing and proposed windfarms theoretically visible in combination with the proposed development	Visible in combination		Visible in succession	
	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Rosehall. <u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None.	<u>Application / Appeal</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None. <u>Scoping</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None.	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None. <u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None.	<u>Application / Appeal</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None. <u>Scoping</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None.
Description of Baseline Cumulative View		Low vantage views, framed by low valley sides to north and south, up and down the open glen floor, interrupted by occasional mid-ground trees and occasional stands of coniferous trees and native woodland on glen slopes. Ben More Assynt forms a particular focus when looking up the glen. A single tip of the Rosehall Wind Farm would be theoretically visible to the south above the glen-side but in reality would be likely to be barely perceptible. Given the lack of cumulative baseline in the view, the sensitivity to cumulative change is low.		
Sensitivity to Additional Change		Low		
Assessment of Cumulative Effect				
Nature of Change		Turbines of the Proposed Development would appear above the skyline of the easterly glen-side between enclosing hills, with a few tips appearing above the skyline of the more distant glen side. As the existing turbine of Rosehall Wind Farm that is theoretically visible is barely discernible in the view, there would be no perceptible cumulative context within which the Proposed Development would be seen, therefore although the Proposed Development may result in a significant effect alone, no perceptible cumulative change would be evident.		
Cumulative Magnitude of Change		Negligible		
Cumulative Visual Effect		Negligible (not significant) for baseline scenarios considering the operational and consented sites only, and the addition of application and scoping sites.		

Table 1.2.12: VP13 – Ben Klibreck

Cumulative Baseline Scenario			
Viewpoint Location and Context		NC 58527 29902 (see Figure 7.21.1 – 7.21.4) Corbett summit representative of views obtained by hillwalkers and more generally of more distant elevated views to the north east.	
Existing and proposed windfarms theoretically visible in combination with the proposed development	Visible in combination		Visible in succession
	<u>Operational / Under Construction</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Achany;Beinn nan Oighrean;Beinn Tharsuinn;Coire na Cloiche;Gordonbush (P);Gordonbush Extension (P)Kilbraur and Extension (P);Lairg;Novar;Novar Extension;Rosehall.	<u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Braemore; andCreag Riabhach; andLairg Extension (consented) <u>Application / Appeal</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Kintradwell (P)Lairg Extension (application);Meall Buidhe;Strath Tirry; andSouth Kilbraur (P) <u>Scoping</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Chleansaid;Garvary; andSallachy.	<u>Operational / Under Construction</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None. <u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None. <u>Application / Appeal</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None. <p>Note – sites may be visible in succession with each other</p>
Description of Baseline Cumulative View		Elevated, 360 ° panoramic views over surrounding extensive hills and mountains. The operational and consented cumulative baseline would form a perceptible setting of turbines within the southerly view. To the south, Achany, Rosehall and Braemore would form a strung-out group across the middle distance with Lairg and Lairg Extension slightly separated to the east of them. Beinn Tharsuinn, Coire na Cloiche and Novar would be very distant on the hills beyond. Kilbraur (and extension) and Gordonbush (and extension) would form distant clusters to the south-east. Creag Riabhach would appear separate to the other baseline sites within the closer context to the west. With the addition of application and scoping sites, turbines would become a more established feature within the southerly view. Garvary would increase the size and density of the Lairg cluster and Meall Buidhe would appear distant beyond the western end of the Achany – Rosehall cluster. Strath Tirry and Chleansaid would bring wind farms closer within the southern view and Kintradwell, on the skyline beyond Gordonbush, would increase the prominence of this turbine cluster. Sallachy would feature in the westerly view beyond Creag Riabhach, increasing the occupied area of the view in this direction.	
Sensitivity to Additional Change		Medium - High	
Assessment of Cumulative Effect			
Nature of Change		The Proposed Development would be seen to the west of the Achany and Rosehall cluster but slightly separate in the view and slightly larger and therefore closer. In the context of operational and consented sites only, this would be a new cluster in the view but at a broadly similar distance to existing turbines, occupying the same landform ridge as Achany and Rosehall. Although Creag Riabhach would already create some precedence for turbines in the westerly view the Proposed Development would bring those in the more distant mid-ground slightly further westwards and closer to the more mountainous part of the view, but not far enough to affect the focus of the mountains in the view. When application and scoping sites are added to the cumulative baseline, the Proposed Development would appear similarly as a new, slightly separate cluster to the west of Achany and Rosehall but would appear slightly less remarkable in a baseline where closer developments such as Chleansaid and Strath Tirry would be more noticeable. The movement to the west would be less noticeable due to the appearance of Sallachy further west and at slightly closer proximity. However, the Proposed	

	Development would lead to a slightly greater occupied portion of the view and may appear to draw the baseline clusters closer together thereby altering the balance of developed and undeveloped space in the view.
Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Low
Cumulative Visual Effect	Minor (not significant) for baseline scenarios considering the operational and consented sites only, and the addition of application and scoping sites.

Table 1.2.13: VP14 – A838 near West Shinness

Cumulative Baseline Scenario				
Viewpoint Location and Context		NC 52823 15428 (see Figure 7.22.1 – 7.22.4) Representative of views obtained by residents and visitors to nearby properties and road users on the A838.		
Existing and proposed windfarms theoretically visible in combination with the proposed development	Visible in combination		Visible in succession	
	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Achany; andLairg. <u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Lairg Extension (consented).	<u>Application / Appeal</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Lairg Extension (application). <u>Scoping</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Garvary; andSallachy.	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None. <u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None.	<u>Application / Appeal</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None. <u>Scoping</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None.
Description of Baseline Cumulative View		Slightly elevated views across Loch Shin to the heather-clad ridge line on far side, with forest and woodland on lower slopes. More panoramic views are available, looking south-east down Loch Shin and west towards Ben More Assynt, slightly filtered by roadside trees and woodland and are more representative of those perceived by road users. Existing wind turbines of Achany Wind Farm appear as blades above the skyline to the south-south-west. Lairg and Lairg Extension are theoretically visible in west-south-westerly views although predominantly filtered or hidden by trees from the VP. The scoping site of Garvary would increase the size of this cluster, leading to it appearing more visible in the south-westerly view along Loch Shin. Sallachy would appear in the north-western view looking up Loch Shin. Although this is filtered by trees from the VP it would be become more visible if moving slightly from the VP position.		
Sensitivity to Additional Change		Medium - High		
Assessment of Cumulative Effect				
Nature of Change		The Proposed Development would appear in the south-westerly view across Loch Shin above the skyline, on a low point between hills. This comprises the main view from nearby properties though would be more oblique for road users. The Proposed Development would appear more visible than Achany turbines which are smaller and seen only as blades from this location. It would provide some connection within the view between the Lairg – Garvary Cluster and the Sallachy cluster and would be a noticeable increase in turbines in the central part of the view when considering both baseline scenarios.		
Cumulative Magnitude of Change		Medium		
Cumulative Visual Effect		Moderate (significant) for baseline scenarios considering the operational and consented sites only, and the addition of application and scoping sites.		

Table 1.2.14: VP16 – Minor road at Inveroykel forest access

Cumulative Baseline Scenario				
Viewpoint Location and Context		NC47391 00319 (see Figure 7.24.1 – 7.24.4) Representative of views obtained by travellers on rural road and nearby rural properties at Ochtow and Inveroykel.		
Existing and proposed windfarms theoretically visible in combination with the proposed development	Visible in combination		Visible in succession	
	<u>Operational / Under Construction</u>	<u>Application / Appeal</u>	<u>Operational / Under Construction</u>	<u>Application / Appeal</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Achany; andRosehall. <u>Consented</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Braemore (P).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">None. <u>Scoping</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Garvary (P).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">None. <u>Consented</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Meall Buidhe. <u>Scoping</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None.
Description of Baseline Cumulative View		The most open view is to the north although this comprises a passing, side view for travellers. Northerly view is across the valley floor towards the lower reaches of the Cassley with backdrop of forest and heather-clad hills. Existing Rosehall and Achany turbines are prominent on the skyline of the enclosing hills in the north-north-east to easterly view. Braemore would also be clearly visible against the skyline in views to the east and a few turbines and tip of the scoping sites of Garvary may perceptibly increase this cluster in the view. Although Meall Buidhe would also be theoretically visible from this location, dense commercial forest plantation to the south of the VP would obscure any view towards it.		
Sensitivity to Additional Change		Low - Medium		
Assessment of Cumulative Effect				
Nature of Change		In the northerly view, the Proposed Development turbines would appear on the skyline to the west of the existing Achany and Rosehall turbines, but separated. The Proposed Development turbines would be a similar height in the view but would appear perceptibly larger due to the longer blade length and slightly greater sense of distance. Although the existing turbines are already very noticeable in the view, the Proposed Development would increase the area of the view occupied by turbines leading to little available open view from this location where turbines would not form a focus.		
Cumulative Magnitude of Change		Medium		
Cumulative Visual Effect		Moderate (significant) for baseline scenarios considering the operational and consented sites only, and the addition of application and scoping sites.		

Table 1.2.15: VP18 – Carn Chuinneag

Cumulative Baseline Scenario				
Viewpoint Location and Context	NH 48364 83325 (see Figure 7.26.1 – 7.26.4) Representative of views obtained by hill-walkers and more generally of distant elevated views obtained from the south.			
Existing and proposed windfarms theoretically visible in combination with the proposed development	Visible in combination		Visible in succession	
	<u>Operational / Under Construction</u>	<u>Application / Appeal</u>	<u>Operational / Under Construction</u>	<u>Application / Appeal</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Achany;Gordonbush;Gordonbush Extension;Lairg; andRosehall. <u>Consented</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Braemore;Creag Riabhach; andLairg Extension (consented).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Kintradwell;Lairg Extension (application);Meall Buidhe;South Kilbraur; andStrath Tirry. <u>Scoping</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Chleansaid;Garvary; andSallachy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Beinn nan Oighrean;Beinn Tharsuinn;Coire na Cloiche;Corriemoillie;Lochluichart Extension;Novar; andNovar Extension. <u>Consented</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Kirkan. <u>Scoping</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Lochluichart Extension 2.
Description of Baseline Cumulative View	Elevated 360° panoramic views of surrounding extended landscape with receding layers of mountains to north, south and west and coastal lands to east. Operational and consented turbines would be widespread within the view including Coire na Cloiche and Beinn Tharsuin to the east, Novar (and extension) to the south-south-east and Lochluichart / Corriemoillie to the south. Achany, Rosehall, Braemore, Lairg and Lairg Extension would form a fairly consistent series of clusters across the far- to mid-ground of the northerly view with Creag Riabhach distant beyond. Gordonbush and Kilbraur would be distant to the north-east. The addition of application and scoping sites would lead to a further density and prominence of turbine clusters, particularly in the northern view where Garvary would further extend the range of sites in the mid to far distance, Chleansaid and Strath Tirry would form a grouping of sites beyond these and Meall Buidhe would appear more noticeable in the foreground, stretching turbines further to the west, with Sallachy distant to its rear. South Kilbraur and Kintradwell would also increase the size of the Gordonbush – Kilbraur cluster and Kirkan and Lochluichart Extension 2 would slightly increase the Lochluichart cluster to the south.			
Sensitivity to Additional Change	Medium			
Assessment of Cumulative Effect				
Nature of Change	The Proposed Development would appear within the far to middle distance of the northerly view, extending the mid-ground grouping Achany, Rosehall, Braemore and Lairg / Lairg Extension further towards the western view. It would appear as a separate cluster but the turbines would appear perceptibly larger than those of Rosehall. When also considering application and scoping sites, the addition of the Proposed Development would be slightly less noticeable due to Meall Buidhe which would be seen to the foreground and the more distant Sallachy, both of which would already extend the appearance turbines further towards the westerly mountain views. However, it’s position within one of the few unoccupied parts of the line of sites present throughout the northern view would form a perceptible contribution to the overall prominence of wind turbines throughout this view.			
Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Low			
Cumulative Visual Effect	Minor (not significant) for baseline scenarios considering the operational and consented sites only, and the addition of application and scoping sites.			

Table 1.2.16: VP19 – Seana Bhràigh

Cumulative Baseline Scenario				
Viewpoint Location and Context		NH 28181 87872 (see Figure 7.27.1 – 7.27.4) Representative of views obtained by hill-walkers and more generally from elevated locations to the south-west and within the Fannichs, Beinn Dearg and Glencalvie SLA.		
Existing and proposed windfarms theoretically visible in combination with the proposed development	Visible in combination		Visible in succession	
	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Achany;Beinn nan Oighrean;Beinn Tharsuinn;Gordonbush;Gordonbush Extension;Killbraur;Killbraur Extension;Lairg;Novar (P);Novar Extension (P); andRosehall.	<u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Braemore; andCreag Riabhach; andLairg Extension (consented). <u>Application / Appeal</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Kintradwell;Lairg Extension (application);Meall Buidhe;South Kilbraur; andStrath Tirry. <u>Scoping</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Chleansaid;Garvary; andSallachy.	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None. <u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None.	<u>Application / Appeal</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None. <u>Scoping</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None.
Description of Baseline Cumulative View		Elevated 360° panoramic views of surrounding extended landscape. Receding layers of mountains are seen extensively to west with dramatic lone mountain peaks of Assynt to the north. Ben More Assynt and more distantly Ben Loyal and Klibreck form focal points in the view to the north-east behind a mid-ground of forested slopes. The view is more restricted by nearby summits to the east and south but the sea forms a backdrop to the easterly view. The cumulative baseline scenario of operational and consented sites results in a focus of distant wind farm development in the north-easterly context with Creag Riabhach, Achany and Rosehall and Braemore, Lairg and Lairg Extension forming three distinct clusters. Kilbraur (and extension) and Gordonbush (and extension) would be distant beyond the Braemore – Lairg cluster. Beinn Tharsuinn, Beinn Oighrean and Novar (and extension) be barely perceptible to the east. When application and scoping sites are added to the baseline, the existing groupings to the north-east become more consolidated with Chleansaid and Strath Tirry adding to the Rosehall – Achany grouping and Meall Buidhe and Garvary, along with other more distant sites, extending and increasing the turbine density of the Braemore - Lairg cluster. Sallachy would appear in the northern context close to Creag Riabhach but would be similarly small and distant.		
Sensitivity to Additional Change		Medium - High		
Assessment of Cumulative Effect				
Nature of Change		The Proposed Development would appear distantly within the elevated south-east view, extending the spread of the Achany and Rosehall turbines in the view, although appearing as a separate and slightly closer cluster if application and scoping sites are not included in the baseline. With the inclusion of application and scoping sites, Chleansaid and Strath Tirry would occupy the space between these clusters although the Proposed Development would still appear slightly closer. With both baseline scenarios the Proposed development would occupy an undeveloped part of the view and would partially sit to the foreground of Klibreck which forms a focal point within this part of the view. It would create a connection of turbines between Achany or Chleansaid and Creag Riabhach and Sallachy to the north, but its differing scale would lead to it appearing as a separate cluster slightly closer to the VP. Nevertheless,		

	it would comprise a perceptible increase in wind turbines within the view and would contribute to a consistent spread of turbines across the open and extensive north-eastern view. However, other parts of the view including the more mountainous western, and north-western and southern views would remain unaffected.
Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Low
Cumulative Visual Effect	Minor (not significant) for baseline scenarios considering the operational and consented sites only, and the addition of application and scoping sites.

Table 1.2.17: VP21 – Meall an Aonaich

Cumulative Baseline Scenario			
Viewpoint Location and Context	NC 33603 16417 (see Figure 7.29.1 – 7.29.4) Representative of views obtained by hillwalkers and elevated views obtained within the south-east corner of the Assynt – Coigach NSA at closer proximity.		
Existing and proposed windfarms theoretically visible in combination with the Proposed Development	Visible in combination		Visible in succession
	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Achany; Beinn nan Oighrean; Beinn Tharsuinn; Gordonbush; Gordonbush Extension; Killbraur; Killbraur Extension; Lairg; Novar (P); Novar Extension (P); and Rosehall. 	<u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Braemore; Creag Riabhach; and Lairg Extension (consented). <u>Application / Appeal</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kintradwell; Lairg Extension (application); Meall Buidhe; South Kilbraur; and Strath Tirry. <u>Scoping</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chleansaid; Garvary; and Sallachy. 	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None. <u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None.
Description of Baseline Cumulative View	<p>Elevated 360° views, most extensive and open to the south with distant mountains beyond a forest plantation mid-ground, and the east where receding ridgelines of forest and hills are seen. Westerly views are more restricted by nearby summits and the craggy summits and slopes of Ben More Assynt are striking to the north. Operational and consented sites would form turbine clusters in the mid-ground and distance to the south-east and north-east with Creag Riabhach to the north-east, and Lairg Extension, and Achany, Rosehall and Braemore forming two clusters to the south-east. Lairg, Kilbraur (and extension) and Gordonbush (and extension) would appear in the distant backdrop between these clusters and sites around Beinn Tharsuin would be very distant to the south. The application and scoping sites would lead to a noticeable increase in wind turbines in the north-east to south-easterly view. Sallachy would form a line of turbines fairly close in the north-easterly view, drawing the Creag Riabhach cluster closer to the other sites. Chleansaid and Strath Tirry would also create a more consistent spread of turbine clusters in the middle distance between the established groupings of Creag Riabhach and Lairg Extension, whilst Garvary would join together the two separate clusters of Lairg Extension and Achany, Rosehall and Braemore. Meall Buidhe would appear in combination with the sites to the south, but slightly closer.</p>		

Sensitivity to Additional Change	Low - Medium
Assessment of Cumulative Effect	
Nature of Change	The Proposed Development would appear to the forefront of the Rosehall, Achany, Braemore and Lairg Extension clusters of operational and consented sites. Whilst this is an area where wind turbines would form an established feature of the view, the Proposed Development would appear larger and somewhat closer than these sites. Therefore, with a baseline scenario featuring operational and consented sites only, it would appear to bring wind farm development closer towards the foreground of the view. With the addition of application and scoping sites, Garvary would appear to join together the two clusters of operational and consented sites and the Proposed Development would appear to form a part of this larger cluster. Sallachy would also appear closer to the VP and the additional application and scoping sites would lead to a greater presence of wind turbines characterising the north-easterly to southerly view. Therefore, whilst it would form a perceptible addition to this baseline, the effect of the Proposed Development would be reduced.
Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Medium for a baseline featuring operational and consented sites only Low for a baseline featuring all cumulative baseline sites, including application and scoping
Cumulative Visual Effect	Moderate (significant) for a baseline with operational and consented sites only. Minor - Moderate (not significant) for a baseline featuring all cumulative baseline sites.

1.3 Routes

Table 1.3.1: Route R3 – A836 Lairg to Altnaharra

Cumulative Baseline Scenario				
Viewpoint Location and Context		Predominantly single track A-road used by travellers including cyclists on National Cycle Route 1.		
Existing and proposed windfarms theoretically visible	Frequent		Occasional	
	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Achany;Beinn nan Oighrean;Beinn Tharsuinn;Coire na Cloiche;Lairg;Novar and Extension; andRosehall. <u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Braemore;Creag Riabhach; andLairg Extension (consented).	<u>Application / Appeal:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Lairg Extension (application)Meall Buidhe; andStrath Tirry. <u>Scoping:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Chleansaid;Garvary; andSallachy.	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Kilbraur. <u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None.	<u>Application / Appeal:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None. <u>Scoping:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None.
Description of Baseline Cumulative View		Large parts of this route are enclosed by trees and roadside forest plantation, notably between Dalnessie Estate entrance and Crask, and also south of Dalchork. Between Dalchork and Dalnessie Estate operational and consented sites Achany and Rosehall are seen on the southern skyline with Braemore also sometimes seen down the valley. These sites would also be seen distantly from parts of the road around Crask where a wider southerly view may also lead to distant visibility of Lairg and Lairg Extension. North of Crask, Creag Riabhach would be close and very noticeable on the west side of the road. Additional application and scoping sites would add to the wind turbines seen from this route, with Strath Tirry, sited adjacent to the Dalnessie Estate entrance, particularly prominent in passing. Chleansaid would also be seen to its rear, although would often be concealed by forest and trees. In the southerly views from Crask, Garvary would add to the turbines visible, tips of Meall Buidhe may also be seen to the west of Achany and Rosehall, and Sallachy turbines would be seen further west in the view contributing to a general sense of wind farm development in the southern context when travelling south.		
Sensitivity to Additional Change		Medium		
Assessment of Cumulative Effect				
Nature of Change		The Proposed Development would theoretically appear as turbines on the skyline ridge to the south of Loch Shin when travelling south between Dalchork and Rhian Bridge (approximately 8.8km) and North Dalchork and The Crask (7km). Between Dalchork and Rhian Bridge, turbines would be seen on the westerly skyline in the context of existing Achany and Rosehall turbines but would extend this grouping slightly. With the addition of the application and scoping sites to the baseline, this may be slightly less noticeable due to Strath Tirry which would be seen on the approach from north or south. The Proposed Development would be hidden by roadside forest for much of the route between North Dalchork and The Crask, but would be visible around Crask Inn on the far southern skyline, extending the existing grouping of Achany and Rosehall to the west (see VP1, Figure 7.9.2). This may be less noticeable with the addition of application and scoping sites to the baseline whereby a greater spread of turbines would be visible in this view. Overall, whilst the Proposed Development may		

	perceptibly increase turbine numbers seen from parts of this route, it would not lead to a noticeable increase or to turbines becoming more prominent.
Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Low
Cumulative Visual Effect	Minor (not significant) for baseline scenarios considering the operational and consented sites only, and the addition of application and scoping sites

Table 1.3.2: Route R4 – A838 Dalchork to Corrykinloch

Cumulative Baseline Scenario				
Viewpoint Location and Context	Single track A-road alongside Loch Shin used by travellers and recreational users. Principle transportation link but also used by tourers, cyclists, etc.			
Existing and proposed windfarms theoretically visible in combination with the proposed development	Frequent		Occasional	
	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Achany;Lairg; <u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Lairg Extension (consented).	<u>Application / Appeal:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Lairg Extension (application). <u>Scoping:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Garvary; andSallachy.	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Beinn nan Oighrean;Beinn Tharsuinn;Coire na Cloiche;Novar and Extension; andRosehall. <u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Braemore; andCreag Riabhach.	<u>Application / Appeal:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Strath Tirry. <u>Scoping:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Chleansaid.
Description of Baseline Cumulative View	Views are predominantly across, up or down Loch Shin, depending on the direction of travel, sometimes restricted by roadside trees or woodland. Turbines and blades of operational Achany wind turbines are seen over the ridge to the south and south-west, and Lairg and Lairg Extension would be seen on the skyline when travelling south-eastwards along the route between Fiag Bridge and Dalchork. The additional scoping site of Garvary would extend the Lairg and Lairg Extension cluster leading to large numbers of turbines seen down Loch Shin when travelling south-east. Sallachy would be seen on the skyline to the north-west and west when travelling northward. It would be particularly noticeable to the west of Fiag Bridge and towards the Oversaig Hotel looking across Loch Shin. Trees along the route would filter some views on occasion. A number of other developments would also be seen to the south from the short stretch between Colaboll and the A836.			
Sensitivity to Additional Change	Medium			
Assessment of Cumulative Effect				
Nature of Change	The Proposed Development would be theoretically visible between Dalchork and Fiag Bridge (approximately 17.5km) and would appear on the skyline on the opposite side of Loch Shin. When travelling north-west, this would be likely to affect views roughly between Dalchork and Shinness (around 7km) and when travelling south-east, would affect views between around Fiag Bridge and Shinness (around 11.5km). There would be no visibility between Fiag Bridge and Corriekinloch. The Proposed Development would be seen in a context of the cumulative baseline turbines. With the exception of very short sections near Fiag Bridge, it would not be visible from any part of the route where existing turbines were not already visible, for both baseline scenarios. However, whilst the existing sites would create a precedent for the appearance of wind turbines in the view when travelling along full length of the route, the Proposed Development would contribute to a sequential experience of wind turbines which would frequently be seen when travelling this route and would increase the perceived presence of wind turbines surrounding the route, particularly through the central part between Achnairn and West Shinness for around 6km.			
Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Medium			
Cumulative Visual Effect	Moderate (significant) for baseline scenarios considering the operational and consented sites only, and the addition of application and scoping sites.			

Table 1.3.3: Route R6 – A837 Invershin to Oykel Bridge

Cumulative Baseline Scenario			
Viewpoint Location and Context	Single track A-road with passing places following the north side of Kyle of Sutherland and River Oykel used by travellers and recreational users.		
Existing and proposed windfarms theoretically visible in combination with the proposed development	Frequent		Occasional
	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• None. <u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Braemore.	<u>Application / Appeal:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meall Buidhe. <u>Scoping:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Garvary.	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Achany;• Beinn nan Oighrean;• Beinn Tharsuinn;• Coire na Cloiche; and• Rosehall. <u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lairg Extension (consented).
Description of Baseline Cumulative View	Views are predominantly enclosed within the broad valley to east and west and across low-lying farmed flats and rivers. Trees, woodland and forest alongside the route limit and filter views to glimpses and short snapshots though more open sections of the route around Inveroykel and Linsidmore allow more expansive views along the straths. Existing Achany and Rosehall turbines are seen when travelling east along a short section between Inveroykel and Rosehall and occasionally glimpsed between trees travelling west to Rosehall from Invernauld. Braemore would be seen from a slightly longer section to the west of Rosehall but would often be filtered by roadside trees. The application site of Meall Buidhe would be more consistently seen in filtered views on the skyline to the south and south-west for much of the route including views across Kyle of Sutherland obtained to the west of Rosehall. Whilst Lairg Extension (both consented and application) and Garvary would be theoretically visible to the east along parts of the route, in reality, trees would almost always filter or screen these sites. Beinn nan Oighrean, Beinn Tharsuinn and Coire na Cloiche may be visible in the distance to the south on clear days along the short stretch of the route between the B864 and the A836.		
Sensitivity to Additional Change	Low - Medium		
Assessment of Cumulative Effect			
Nature of Change	There would be no view of the Proposed Development from the majority of this route. Passing views would be theoretically obtained between Invernauld and through Rosehall village. In reality, because of the surrounding forest cover, it is likely that turbines would only be perceptible when travelling east through Rosehall village where the operational Rosehall turbines are also seen. Whilst the turbines would appear relatively large from this short section (see VP6 (Figure 7.14.1 – 7.14.4)), this would comprise a passing and relatively brief view seen within the context of existing Rosehall turbines, and it is considered unlikely to lead to a noticeable change in the visibility or prominence of turbines along the route as a whole.		
Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Low		
Cumulative Visual Effect	Minor (not significant) for baseline scenarios considering the operational and consented sites only, and the addition of application and scoping sites.		

Table 1.3.4: Route R8 – C1136 Ardgay – Culrain – Doune – Brae Road

Cumulative Baseline Scenario				
Viewpoint Location and Context	Single track road with passing places on the south side of Kyle of Sutherland / River Oykel used by travellers and recreational users.			
Existing and proposed windfarms theoretically visible in combination with the proposed development	Frequent		Occasional	
	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Achany; andRosehall. <u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Braemore.	<u>Application / Appeal:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Meall Buidhe. <u>Scoping:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Garvary.	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Beinn nan Oighrean;Beinn Tharsuinn;Coire na Cloiche; andLairg. <u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Creag Riabhach; andLairg Extension (consented).	<u>Application / Appeal:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Lairg Extension (application);Strath Tirry. <u>Scoping:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Chleansaid.
Description of Baseline Cumulative View	Varying views, but generally with a northerly focus whether travelling east or west. Large parts of the route are enclosed by woodland and forest though there are short open sections, around Culrain, Achnahanat, Ochtow and Doune. Operational Rosehall and Achany turbines are present in views from these open sections towards the western end of the route and consented Braemore turbines would add to these, leading to an extensive spread of turbines seen in the northerly view. Braemore would also be present in more open and filtered views from the eastern part of the route around Ruie and Taoir and east of Carbisdale Castle where the scoping site of Garvary would also be seen in the north-easterly context. Whilst Meall Buidhe would be theoretically visible along most of this route, it would often be screened by the extensive commercial forest cover present on the southern side of the road. However, it would contribute to a sense of surrounding by wind turbines along western stretches of the route around Achnahanat.			
Sensitivity to Additional Change	Low			
Assessment of Cumulative Effect				
Nature of Change	Theoretical visibility of the Proposed Development would be limited to a section between Strathkyle House and Inveroykel (approximately 8.8km) and a very small stretch near Carbisdale Castle (0.4km). For the majority of these areas, the turbines would be barely discernible to the rear of the operational Achany and Rosehall turbines. West of Wester Achnahanat, turbines would move out from behind the Rosehall and Achany turbines and would more clearly appear as a separate development (VP16 (see Figure 7.24.1 – 7.24.4) shows a worst case view from this route). In this area this would lead to the greater part of the open view being occupied by turbines. However, this would be very localised on this route and therefore the Proposed Development would add little to the prominence of turbines which is already experienced.			
Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Low			
Cumulative Visual Effect	Minor (not significant) for baseline scenarios considering the operational and consented sites only, and the addition of application and scoping sites.			

Table 1.3.5: Route R9 – U2117 Cassley Bridge – Duchally Road

Cumulative Baseline Scenario			
Viewpoint Location and Context	A single-track dead-end route up Glen Cassley used by recreational users, estate workers and residents.		
Existing and proposed windfarms theoretically visible in combination with the proposed development	Frequent		Occasional
	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u>	<u>Application / Appeal:</u>	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u>
	• Rosehall.	• None.	• Coire na Cloiche.
	<u>Consented:</u>	<u>Scoping:</u>	<u>Consented:</u>
	• None.	• None.	• Meall Buidhe.
Description of Baseline Cumulative View	Varying views when travelling up the glen. The lower section south of Glen Rossal is generally more enclosed around the river by woodland, but occasional breaks in the trees give views of surrounding glen-side hills. The route becomes increasingly open after Glen Rossal. North of Glencassley Castle views are panoramic across, up and down the flat glen floor. Ben More Assynt is seen to the north-west, framed through Gleann na Muic. Visibility of existing Rosehall turbines is limited. These are occasionally seen on the southern skyline from the lower part of the road, through trees. There is also some very limited theoretical visibility of Coire na Cloiche and Meall Buidhe around Badintagairt. However, these would be very fleeting views and barely perceptible.		
Sensitivity to Additional Change	Low		
Assessment of Cumulative Effect			
Nature of Change	The ZTV indicates that there would be intermittent sections of theoretical intervisibility of the Proposed Development between Rosehall and Glencassley Castle and more consistent visibility from a 3.8km section between Badintagairt and Glenmuick. Between Rosehall and Glencassley Castle, the turbines would often be screened or filtered by adjacent woodland and forest but would appear moderately large above the eastern glen-side from an approximate 1km section just to the south of Glencassley Castle (see VP11 (Figure 7.19.1 – 7.19.4)). The turbines would also be more relatively close on the side slopes between Badintagairt and Dalmichy travelling south but the open views up and down the glen would be unaffected (see VP12 (Figure 7.20.1 – 7.20.4)). The Proposed Development would therefore result in an increase in sequential visibility of wind turbines along this route but there would be few available combined views of the Proposed Development with other developments due to the limited visibility of baseline sites. Although a greater sense of cumulative effect may be noticeable on very short sections at the southern end of the route (a worst case example is indicated by VP 11 (see Figure 7.19.1 – 7.19.4)), this would be a very small contribution to the experienced of this route as a whole.		
Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Medium		
Cumulative Visual Effect	Minor (not significant) for baseline scenarios considering the operational and consented sites only, and the addition of application and scoping sites.		

Table 1.3.6: Route R12 – SU21.03: Allt an Tuir Burn Walk

Cumulative Baseline Scenario				
Viewpoint Location and Context	A recreational footpath commencing at Invercassley Stores.			
Existing and proposed windfarms theoretically visible in combination with the proposed development	Frequent		Occasional	
	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Achany; andRosehall. <u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None.	<u>Application / Appeal:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Meall Buidhe. <u>Scoping:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None.	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None. <u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Braemore.	<u>Application / Appeal:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None. <u>Scoping:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None.
Description of Baseline Cumulative View	From Invercassley stores, the route initially crosses open fields to the rear of housing with views across the river and glen, somewhat reduced by trees and riverside woodland. The northern part of the route is within forest plantation, though recent felling has opened up elevated views within this part of the route, to east and west and partly to the north from the most northerly section. Where there are open views to north-east and east, a few turbines of Rosehall appear at relatively close proximity on the skyline. The application site of Meall Buidhe would also be visible on the skyline in open views southward.			
Sensitivity to Additional Change	Medium			
Assessment of Cumulative Effect				
Nature of Change	Turbines would be present on the skyline within the easterly view from the lower and more elevated parts of the path and also to the north from the most northerly elevated section. The turbines would form a separate cluster in the view and would be very noticeable. Although similar to the cumulative baseline turbines, they would increase the occupied area in the view. Trees would screen some or all of the turbines from some parts of the route.			
Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Medium			
Cumulative Visual Effect	Moderate (significant) for baseline scenarios considering the operational and consented sites only, and the addition of application and scoping sites.			

Table 1.3.7: Route R14 – SU21.09: Achness Waterfall

Cumulative Baseline Scenario				
Viewpoint Location and Context	A grassy riverside footpath used by fishermen and other recreational users.			
Existing and proposed windfarms theoretically visible in combination with the proposed development	Frequent		Occasional	
	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u>	<u>Application / Appeal:</u>	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u>	<u>Application / Appeal:</u>
	• Rosehall.	• Meall Buidhe.	• None.	• None.
	<u>Consented:</u>	<u>Scoping:</u>	<u>Consented:</u>	<u>Scoping:</u>
	• None.	• None.	• None.	• None.
Description of Baseline Cumulative View	Views are generally focussed towards the adjacent river and within the foreground, but open fields to the east allow wider views of the surrounding hills and forest. Operational Rosehall turbines are present in the easterly view, as blades and tips above the skyline though intervening forest and trees filter these from some parts. Meall Buidhe would be present as turbines along the skyline in the southerly view but would be often hidden by riverside trees and the road bridge over the River Cassley.			
Sensitivity to Additional Change	Medium			
Assessment of Cumulative Effect				
Nature of Change	The Proposed Development may be visible as tips and blades above the forested slopes to the north and north-east but is likely to be filtered or screened somewhat by foreground trees and forest on the glen-sides. This may lead to a perceptible increase in the appearance of blade tips in the easterly to north-easterly part of the view when considered with Rosehall, but would not increase the prominence of wind turbines as a feature of the view.			
Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Low			
Cumulative Visual Effect	Minor (not significant) for baseline scenarios considering the operational and consented sites only, and the addition of application and scoping sites.			

Table 1.3.8: Route R15 – Group of paths around Duag Bridge

Cumulative Baseline Scenario					
Viewpoint Location and Context		Several long distance recreational tracks converge in the area around Duag Bridge. Together these include the routes of Core Path SU21.10: Oykel Bridge – Glen Einig, Scottish Hill Tracks 321 (Strath Rusdale (Alness) to Oykel Bridge), 323 a and b (Inverlael to Oykel Bridge) and 324 a and b (Ullapool to Oykel Bridge or Alness), Heritage Path ‘Ullapool to Strath Carron Track’ and part of the Cape Wrath Trail.			
Existing and proposed windfarms theoretically visible in combination with the proposed development		Frequent		Occasional	
		<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Achany; andRosehall. <u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None.	<u>Application / Appeal:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None <u>Scoping:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None.	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Lairg (sequential). <u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Braemore (sequential); andLairg Extension (consented) (sequential).	<u>Application / Appeal:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Lairg Extension (application) (sequential). <u>Scoping:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Chleansaid.
Description of Baseline Cumulative View		Views from these tracks are generally enclosed and directed along the valleys of the Glen Einig and Strath Mulzie and Loch an Daibh but with open views sometimes available towards surrounding mountain peaks, particularly views from some sections of the track up Strath Mulzie which are focussed on Seana Braigh. More elevated sections of the tracks provide more expansive views, notably around Allt nan Càisean, descending to Glen Einig and more remote parts of Scottish Hill Track 323a (Inverlael to Oykel Bridge. Woodland within Glen Einig and some parts of Strath Mulzie filters and limits the extent of views. There is extensive theoretical visibility of Rosehall and Achany to the north-east along this route. However, these views would often be filtered or screened by woodland other than the area around Allt nan Càisean and a few other more distant elevated sections. The tips of Chleansaid would also be barely perceptible in these views, seen to the west of Lairg and Achany. Lairg, Braemore and Lairg Extension (both consented and approved), would be theoretically visible from a very short section at the start of the route near Oykel Bridge but in reality would be likely to be imperceptible due to the track-side trees and other intervening woodland.			
Sensitivity to Additional Change		High			
Assessment of Cumulative Effect					
Nature of Change		From some parts of these routes, the Proposed Development may be seen in the north-easterly context, likely to be generally limited to the elevated section of path near Allt na Càisean, and other more distant views, although filtered views may occasionally be seen from Glen Einig. Turbines would be likely to be perceptible in this view, seen to the west of, and slightly larger and closer than, existing Achany and Rosehall turbines in an area where existing tips of Chleansaid would be theoretically seen, but generally barely discernible. More distantly the Proposed Development would appear similarly adjacent to Achany and Rosehall, slightly increasing the length of route from which turbines would be theoretically seen, but generally small in these views. Overall, the additional visibility of the Proposed Development may be locally perceptible, but is not anticipated to increase to the prominence of wind turbines in views experienced from the route.			
Cumulative Magnitude of Change		Low			
Cumulative Visual Effect		Minor (not significant) for baseline scenarios considering the operational and consented sites only, and the addition of application and scoping sites.			

Table 1.3.9: Route R17 – Scottish Hill Track 332

Cumulative Baseline Scenario			
Viewpoint Location and Context	A rough path and track approximately 30km in length between Kylesku and the A837 near Benmore Lodge used by recreational users.		
Existing and proposed windfarms theoretically visible in combination with the proposed development	Frequent		Occasional
	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None. <u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None.	<u>Application / Appeal:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None. <u>Scoping:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">None.	<u>Operational / Under Construction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Achany;Beinn nan Oighrean;Beinn Tharsuinn;Coire na Cloiche; andGordonbush;Gordonbush Extension;Kilbraur and Extension;Lairg; andRosehall. <u>Consented:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Braemore;Creag Riabhach; andLairg Extension (consented). <u>Application / Appeal:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Kintradwell;Lairg Extension (application);South Kilbraur; andStrath Tirry. <u>Scoping:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Chleansaid;Garvary; andSallachy
Description of Baseline Cumulative View	Predominantly open views of surrounding hills, mountains and moorland. Elevated and panoramic views to the east as the route rises over the shoulder of Meall an Aonaich and traverses the lower slopes of Ben More Assynt. Towards the northern end through the cnocan landscape the views are constantly changing, being more enclosed as the path winds through the cnocan and more expansive as it rises up over small hills. Most turbine visibility would occur between Loch na Sròine Luime and Loch Sail an Ruathair (below Ben More Assynt and Meall an Aonaich respectively) where there would be theoretical visibility of the operational and consented sites of Achany and Rosehall with other more distant sites around Beinn Tharsuinn and Kilbraur also perceptible. Braemore, Lairg Extension and Creag Riabhach would only be briefly visible: Lairg Extension and Braemore, as tips to the south-east from a high point passing Meall an Aonaich; and Creag Riabhach to the north-east from a few short sections east and north of Ben More Assynt. The application and scoping baseline would add to the turbines visible, but would only marginally increase the length of path affected. Chleansaid would appear as a separate cluster in a similar part of the view and from similar areas as Creag Riabhach. Sallachy would appear as much closer blades and occasionally turbines to the forefront of these sites, whilst Garvary would appear to extend the Achany – Rosehall cluster visible from similar parts of the route. Kintradwell and South Kilbraur may perceptibly increase the scale of the more distant wind turbine clusters to the east. There would be limited high points on other parts of the route where these sites would be briefly visible.		
Sensitivity to Additional Change	Medium - High		
Assessment of Cumulative Effect			
Nature of Change	The Proposed Development would be visible in south-easterly views for an approximate 6km section of the route crossing the lower slopes of Ben More Assynt and Meall an Aonaich. It would only be theoretically visible on extremely short sections of the route where no other turbines would be seen and would almost always be seen in the context of existing Achany and Rosehall turbines and other sites which occasionally combine with these. However, the Proposed Development would appear closer to the route and larger in the view, particularly, around the base of Meall and Aonaich. Moving further north, the		

	appearance of the Proposed Development would reduce within the expansive surrounding view, whilst Sallachy would become more visible. Without the addition of Sallachy, the effect of the Proposed Development would be experienced more when travelling south, with the sense of travelling closer towards it. If Sallachy were already operational, this effect would be less because Sallachy would already create a precedent for closer wind turbines in the view. However, the Proposed Development would combine with Sallachy and contribute to combined, successive and sequential effects to the view from this part of the route featuring turbines at closer proximity. Nevertheless, the effect overall would be on a small part of this very long route and one where turbines would already form feature of the view.
Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Low, Locally Medium
Cumulative Visual Effect	<p>Minor (not significant) for the route as a whole, for baseline scenarios considering the operational and consented sites only, and the addition of application and scoping sites.</p> <p>Locally Moderate (significant) for 3km between Loch Sail an Ruathair and Loch Carn nan Conbhairean for a baseline scenario of operational and consented sites only.</p> <p>Locally Moderate (significant) for 7km of the route between Loch na Sròine Luime and Loch Sail an Ruathair for a baseline scenario including application and scoping sites, due to sequentially experienced effects with Sallachy.</p>