

**TECHNICAL APPENDIX 5.8: CUMULATIVE LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT TABLES**

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## **1. Technical Appendix 5.8: Cumulative Landscape 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 landscape character, cumulative landscape effects may result where a number of wind energy developments combine, increasing the prevalence of wind turbines within a landscape to an extent where they may become a defining characteristic.

1.1.2 The cumulative landscape assessment considers the potential cumulative effect resulting from the addition of the Proposed Varied Development to the baseline wind development scenario (refer to Figure 5.10: Cumulative Sites included within the Assessment, and Appendix 5.7: Existing and Proposed Wind Turbine Developments within 60 km). 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 The following landscapes are included in the assessment.

#### **Landscape Character Types (LCTs)**

##### LCTs

- LCT 134: Sweeping Moorland and Flows;
- LCT 135: Rounded Hills - Caithness & Sutherland;
- LCT 139: Rugged Mountain Massif - Caithness & Sutherland (Ben-More Assynt sub-area only); and
- LCT 142: Strath - Caithness & Sutherland (Glen Cassley, Strath Oykel and Kyle of Sutherland, and Strath Tirry sub-areas).

#### **Designated and Protected Landscapes**

- Assynt - Coigach National Scenic Area (NSA);
- Wild Land Area (WLA) 34: Reay – Cassley; and
- Ben Klibreck and Loch Choire Special Landscape Area (SLA).

1.1.4 The above areas have been assessed in accordance with the Cumulative Landscape Methodology outlined in Chapter 7 of the 2021 EIA Report. The cumulative assessment of LCTs is presented first as it feeds into the assessment of designated and protected landscapes. The assessment is supported by a range of Cumulative Wirelines, included as Figures V3a-1.2 – V3a-15.2 and Cumulative ZTVs, included as Figures 5.11 – 5.33.

1.1.5 This Appendix should be read in conjunction with the baseline landscape descriptions and assessment of landscape effects included in section 5.8 of Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual Amenity, and Appendices 5.3: Assessment of Landscape Character Types, 5.4: Ben Klibreck and Loch Choire Special Landscape Area Assessment, 5.5: WLA 34 Reay – Cassley

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– Wild Land Assessment and 5.6: Assynt Coigach National Scenic Area – Special Landscape Qualities Assessment.

## 1.2 Landscape Character Types (LCTs)

Table 1.2.1: LCT 134: Sweeping Moorland and Flows

Cumulative Capacity Value	Medium	
Cumulative Baseline Scenario		
Wind Farms Theoretically Visible in Detailed Study Area		Description of Cumulative Baseline Scenario
Existing and Proposed Wind Farms within 20km		Within the detailed study area, the eastern sub-area of this LCT is directly affected by Creag Riabhach which is strongly influential on the character across the north of the LCT and some higher slopes further south. If built, Strath Tirry and Chleansaid (both consented) would also directly affect south-easterly parts of this sub-area, although forest in this area would reduce some intervisibility. Although outwith the LCT, Sallachy (consented), would also be notable in the nearby context to the south-west leading to a greater surrounding influence on some parts of the LCT. The application sites of Coille Linne and Shinness would add further noticeable direct effects in the southern part of this sub-area. Achany, Rosehall and Lairg (all operational) are present within the southerly context, though appear distant from the north. The consented Lairg 2 Redesign and Acheilidh (application) would increase the influence of this cluster if constructed.  In the western sub-area, existing intervisibility is mostly limited to the operational Achany and Rosehall sites, largely focused in the southern half of this area. Sallachy would also become influential on this area in the eastern context though typically only as a few turbines or blades. If constructed, the cluster of sites including Allt an Tuir (application) and Invercassley, Braelangwell and Inveroykel (Scoping) would add further, more noticeable influence within the close south-easterly context.  Limited areas of higher ground would also be indirectly affected by a few tips of some more distant sites, including Chleansaid, Lairg 2 Redesign and Garvary in the western context. Sites beyond 20 km would appear more distant within the south-eastern context.  Overall, the cumulative baseline would result in wind farms being a frequently experienced feature of this LCT, particularly within the eastern sub-area if application sites were to become operational.
Operational / Under Construction:	Application / Appeal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Acheilidh;</li><li>Allt an Tuir;</li><li>Balblair;</li><li>Coille Beith;</li><li>Coille Linne*;</li><li>Shinness*;</li><li>and</li><li>Strath Oykel.</li></ul> Scoping: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Braelangwell;</li><li>Invercassley; and</li><li>Inveroykel.</li></ul> *Indicates a direct effect	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Achany;</li><li>Creag Riabhach*;</li><li>Lairg; and</li><li>Rosehall.</li></ul> Consented: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Chleansaid*;</li><li>Creag Riabhach Extension;</li><li>Garvary;</li><li>Lairg 2 Redesign;</li><li>Meall Buidhe;</li><li>Sallachy; and</li><li>Strath Tirry*.</li></ul>		
Existing and Proposed Wind Farms within 20 – 40km		
Operational / Under Construction:	Application / Appeal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None</li></ul> Scoping: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Beinn Tharsuinn Repower and Western Extension;</li><li>Ceislein;</li><li>Creachan;</li><li>Novar Repowering.</li></ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Beinn nan Oighrean;</li><li>Beinn Tharsuinn;</li><li>Coire na Cloiche;</li><li>Gordonbush and Extension;</li><li>Kilbraur and Extension; and</li><li>Novar and Extension.</li></ul> Consented: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None</li></ul>		
Assessment of Cumulative Effects		
Sensitivity to Additional Change	Medium	
Nature of Change	The Proposed Varied Development would appear in the southern context of the eastern sub-area and the south-easterly context of the western sub-area, most often in combination with Achany and Rosehall, though usually as a separate cluster, appearing closer, and likely to lead to a perceptible increase in turbine numbers in the this context. In the eastern sub-area, this would slightly increase the influence of turbines in southern areas. However, the Proposed Varied Development would be less noticeable in northern areas where Creag Riabhach would be much more influential, as would Strath Tirry and Chleansaid in the east and Sallachy across the north and west. The addition of the Proposed Varied Development would lead to a perceptible increase in turbines within the context of this northern area, but would not lead to a noticeable increase in turbines as a characteristic of the landscape.	

	<p>With the addition of application and scoping sites, there would be greater baseline influence on this LCT, as Shinness and Coille Linne would directly affect the southern parts of this sub-area. Within the eastern sub-area, the Proposed Varied Development would be experienced as part of a large cluster of sites to the south including Invercassley, Strath Oykel and Braelangwell. Under this scenario, the addition of the Proposed Development is unlikely to increase the influence of wind turbines on this sub-area.</p> <p>In the western sub-area, the Proposed Varied Development would appear in combination with Achany and Rosehall, but would be noticeably closer, thereby having greater influence on the character of this area. Sallachy would also be seen at closer proximity in the eastern context from some areas although the Proposed Varied Development would still appear to draw wind turbines slightly closer in the southern context and would increase the influence of turbines as feature in the surrounding context. However, it would only affect part of the LCT and would be seen in a context where wind turbines already form a feature of the landscape.</p> <p>With the addition of application and scoping sites, Invercassley, Inveroykel and Allt an Tuir would form a large cluster to the south at similar distance to the Proposed Varied Development. The Proposed Varied Development would appear to further extend this cluster to the south-easterly context onto the opposite side of Glen Cassley. This would lead to a slightly greater sense enclosure by turbines although the Achany and Rosehall cluster is already seen to affect this context more distantly.</p>
<b>Cumulative Magnitude of Change</b>	Low
<b>Cumulative Landscape Effect</b>	<p><u>Eastern sub-area:</u> Operational and Consented: <b>Minor</b> (not significant) All phases: <b>Negligible</b></p> <p><u>Western sub-area:</u> Operational and Consented <b>Minor - Moderate</b> (not significant) All phases <b>Minor – Moderate</b> (not significant)</p>

**Table 1.2.2: LCT 135: Rounded Hills - Caithness & Sutherland**

Cumulative Capacity Value	Medium	
Cumulative Baseline Scenario		
Wind Farms Theoretically Visible in Detailed Study Area		Description of Cumulative Baseline Scenario
Existing and Proposed Wind Farms within 20km		<p>The cumulative baseline scenario would result in wind farm development being a noticeable characteristic of this LCT throughout the detailed study area. Within the detailed study area operational and consented sites would form a notable cluster on the hills surrounding Lairg including operational sites, Achany, Rosehall and Lairg, and consented sites, Lairg 2 Redesign and Garvary. The application sites at Acheilidh and Balblair would further add to this cluster.</p> <p>The consented sites Sallachy and Meall Buidhe would introduce wind farm development to hills to the west of Loch Shin, and the south of Strath Oykel respectively.</p> <p>The addition of application and Scoping sites would greatly increase the influence of wind farms on these areas. A notable cluster would occur within the hills to the south of Strath Oykel, where the application sites at Strath Oykel and Coille Beith, and the Scoping sites of Inveroykel and Braelangwell would greatly increase the influence of Meall Buidhe, whilst to the north of Strath Oykel, Allt an Tuir (application) and Invercassley (Scoping) would introduce wind farm development to the hills to the west of Glen Cassley.</p> <p>The application sites of Coille Linne and Shinness to the east of Loch Shin would also lead to further indirect but close influence on rounded hills to the west of Loch Shin and east of Glen Cassley in combination with Sallachy.</p> <p>Other more isolated sites within the detailed study area such as Creag Riabhach (operational) and Chleainsaid (consented), as well as those beyond 20 km, would also influence more peripheral parts of this LCT within the study area.</p>
Operational / Under Construction:	Application / Appeal:	
Consented:	Scoping:	
Existing and Proposed Wind Farms within 20 – 40km		
Operational / Under Construction:	Application / Appeal:	
Consented:	Scoping:	
Assessment of Cumulative Effects		
Sensitivity to Additional Change	Generally Medium but High in areas where wild land characteristics predominate and locally around Lairg and Strath Oykel where the baseline scenario of consented, application and scoping sites would lead to a notable focus of development.	
Nature of Change	The Proposed Varied Development would have both direct and indirect effects on the LCT. It would lead to an increase in wind turbine development within the LCT, drawing development further north into the interior of the rounded hills between Glen Cassley and Loch Shin. The majority of areas potentially affected would be already influenced by the operational and consented turbines of Achany, Rosehall and Sallachy, the Lairg / Garvary cluster sites to the east and Meall Buidhe to the south which would lead to wind turbines being intervisible to some extent across almost all parts of the LCT. However, there would be an increased direct influence of wind turbines within and around the Site, and the increased presence of wind turbines at closer proximity would be noticeable across areas to the west and north-west around Glen Cassley in combination with Sallachy which may affect qualities of remoteness.	

	Tuir and Invercassley which would strongly influence areas around Glen Cassley in addition to the collection of sites to the south of Strath Oykel. This would result in a situation where turbines were already a common feature associated with this LCT. The Proposed Varied Development would lead to a more direct presence of wind turbines within the local area around the site and would further contribute to wind turbines as a characteristic of this LCT. It would slightly reduce the extent of undeveloped peatland hills which provides a setting to the mountainous area of Ben More Assynt and may locally reduce a sense of remoteness but in the context of all the cumulative baseline sites, it would not add to the characteristic of wind turbines as a feature of the landscape, because this LCT would already be strongly defined by wind turbines.
<b>Cumulative Magnitude of Change</b>	Medium within the area surrounding the Proposed Development to the north and west, up to 6-8km, Low with the addition of application and scoping sites.
<b>Cumulative Landscape Effect</b>	Operational and Consented: <i>Locally Moderate</i> (significant) to the east and west of Glencassley, up to 6-8km. All phases: <b>Minor</b> (not significant)

**Table 1.2.3: LCT 139: Rugged Mountain Massif - Caithness & Sutherland (Ben-More Assynt sub-area only)**

Cumulative Capacity Value	Low	
Cumulative Baseline Scenario		
Wind Farms Theoretically Visible in Detailed Study Area		Description of Cumulative Baseline Scenario
Existing and Proposed Wind Farms within 20km		No cumulative baseline wind farms are located within this LCT.  Within the Ben More Assynt sub-area, Sallachy (consented) would have the greatest influence on the LCT, being present within 5km, although its influence would be mostly limited to the east facing slopes of Ben More Assynt and Meall an Aonaich and areas around Beinn Leòid and Corrykinloch. Chleansaid and Strath Tirry would affect similar areas, seen beyond Sallachy and Gordonbush and Kilbraur would extend wind farm development seen in this wide context into the far distance.  Of the other operational / consented sites, Creag Riabhach is present in the middle distance to the north-east to the forefront of Ben Klibreck. Achany, Rosehall and the Lairg / Garvary cluster would form a grouping in the mid-ground of the south-eastern context and Meall Buidhe would be present at similar distance further to the south. Sites around Beinn Tharsuinn and Novar would also be distant to the south-south-east but these far-off sites would have little impact on the immediate character of the LCT.  The addition of the scoping / application sites to the north and south of Strath Oykel would establish a very noticeable context of wind farm development to the south-east of the LCT at closer proximity than the operational and consented sites. Application sites Coille Linne and Shinness would also increase the close presence of wind turbines in the eastern context.  This would lead to a baseline situation where wind turbines are widely influential within the landscape context to the east and south from high summits and facing slopes of Ben More Assynt, Meall an Aonaich, Breabeg, and Ben Leòid and other surrounding peaks within the LCT. However, the western context would remain free of wind turbine development.
Operational / Under Construction:	Application / Appeal:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Achany;</li><li>Creag Riabhach;</li><li>Lairg; and</li><li>Rosehall.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Acheilidh;</li><li>Allt an Tuir;</li><li>Balblair;</li><li>Coille Beith;</li><li>Coille Linne;</li><li>Shinness; and</li><li>Strath Oykel.</li></ul>	
Consented:	Scoping:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Chleansaid;</li><li>Creag Riabhach Extension;</li><li>Garvary;</li><li>Lairg 2 Redesign;</li><li>Meall Buidhe;</li><li>Sallachy; and</li><li>Strath Tirry.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Braelangwell;</li><li>Invercassley; and</li><li>Inveroykel.</li></ul>	
Existing and Proposed Wind Farms within 20 – 40km		
Operational / Under Construction:	Application / Appeal:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Beinn nan Oighrean;</li><li>Beinn Tharsuinn;</li><li>Coire na Cloiche;</li><li>Gordonbush and Extension;</li><li>Kilbraur and Extension; and</li><li>Novar and Extension.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None</li></ul>	
Consented:	Scoping:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Beinn Tharsuinn Repower and Western Extension;</li><li>Ceislein;</li><li>Creachan;</li><li>Novar Repowering; and</li><li>Pollie Hill.</li></ul>	
Assessment of Cumulative Effects		
Sensitivity to Additional Change	High	
Nature of Change	There would be no direct change to this LCT and cumulative ZTVs show that the Varied Proposed Development would lead to very little increased intervisibility of wind turbines. The Proposed Development would appear within the south-westerly context in combination with sites forming the Achany / Rosehall / Lairg / Garvary cluster but would appear closer to the LCT within this context, as a combined part of this cluster, particularly from more northerly areas. The Proposed Varied Development would appear to bring wind turbines closer to this LCT in this context, although Sallachy would already appear at similar distance to the east. This would potentially affect wild characteristics as, combined with Sallachy, it may contribute to a reduced perception of distance between the mountains and the developed landscape. However, it would not lead to turbines being perceived as a new feature within the context,	

	<p>as operational and consented sites would already exert widespread influence on the eastern slopes and summits of the LCT leading to a clearly perceived context of wind farm development in the south-east and easterly landscape.</p> <p>With the addition of application and scoping sites, the introduction of Coille Linne and Shinness to the east / north-east, and the large cluster of sites to the south around Strath Oykel would contribute to a closer sense of encirclement within the southern and eastern context. Within this context, the additional influence of the Proposed Varied Development would be less notable. Although it would add further to the appearance of wind farm development at closer proximity and would contribute to this effect, its addition would be unlikely to increase the level of effect or reduce the perception of remoteness to a greater degree than would already occur with the baseline sites.</p>
<b>Cumulative Magnitude of Change</b>	Low
<b>Cumulative Landscape Effect</b>	<p>Operational and Consented: <b>Minor</b> (not significant)</p> <p>All phases: <b>Minor</b> (not significant)</p>

**Table 1.2.4: LCT 142: Strath - Caithness & Sutherland (Glen Cassley, Strath Oykel and Kyle of Sutherland, and Strath Tirry sub-areas)**

Cumulative Capacity Value	Low - Medium	
Cumulative Baseline Scenario		
Wind Farms Theoretically Visible in Detailed Study Area		Description of Cumulative Baseline Scenario
Existing and Proposed Wind Farms within 20km		The operational and consented sites would have considerable influence on the setting of the straths. Strath Tirry (consented) would be directly influential on Strath Tirry and Achany, Rosehall, and the Lairg / Garvary cluster would also appear in the southern context. Chleansaid may also be seen in the eastern context.  Achany, Rosehall, and to some extent the Lairg / Garvary cluster, would be influential on the hills enclosing the north and west of Kyle of Sutherland and Meall Buidhe would be present to the south. One or more of these sites would be experienced throughout the strath and lower parts of Glen Cassley (where trees allow external views) leading to a consistent impression of wind turbines on surrounding hills.  The addition of application and scoping sites would lead to increased influence of wind turbines on all sub-areas of the LCT. Acheilidh and Balblair would add to the cluster or Lairg / Garvary affecting the context of both Strath Tirry and Strath Oykel. Shinness (application) would also be influential immediately to the north-west of Strath Tirry.  In Strath Oykel, scoping and application sites would lead to a very notable increase in the influence of wind turbines at close proximity on both sides of the strath. These sites would also be seen in the southern context of Glen Cassley within the framed views down the glen, with Allt an Tuir and Invercassley being particularly prominent on the southern hills above the glen if constructed.  More distant wind farms beyond 20km would also be occasionally intervisible with some areas leading to a notable extent of development at greater distance, but these sites would be less influential on the immediate character of the straths.  Overall, although Strath Tirry comprises the only site directly affecting the LCT, the cumulative baseline would result in wind farm development being a notable characteristic of the enclosing hills in most areas.
Operational / Under Construction:	Application / Appeal:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Achany;</li><li>Creag Riabhach;</li><li>Lairg; and</li><li>Rosehall.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Acheilidh;</li><li>Allt an Tuir;</li><li>Balblair;</li><li>Coille Beith;</li><li>Coille Linne;</li><li>Shinness; and</li><li>Strath Oykel.</li></ul>	
Consented:	Scoping:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Chleansaid;</li><li>Creag Riabhach Extension;</li><li>Garvary;</li><li>Lairg 2 Redesign;</li><li>Meall Buidhe;</li><li>Sallachy; and</li><li>Strath Tirry*.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Braelangwell;</li><li>Invercassley; and</li><li>Inveroykel;</li></ul> *Indicates a direct effect	
Existing and Proposed Wind Farms within 20 – 40km		
Operational / Under Construction:	Application / Appeal:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Beinn nan Oighrean;</li><li>Beinn Tharsuinn;</li><li>Coire na Cloiche;</li><li>Gordonbush and Extension;</li><li>Kilbraur and Extension; and</li><li>Novar and Extension.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None</li></ul>	
Consented:	Scoping:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Beinn Tharsuinn Repower and Western Extension;</li><li>Ceislein;</li><li>Creachan;</li><li>Novar Repowering; and</li><li>Pollie Hill.</li></ul>	
Assessment of Cumulative Effects		
Sensitivity to Additional Change	Medium for operational and consented baseline High for full baseline	
Nature of Change	The Proposed Varied Development would usually be seen in combination with Achany and Rosehall. From Strath Tirry, it would increase the spread of existing wind turbines along the ridge to the south. This may contribute to a greater influence of turbines affecting the surrounding context of the LCT and a partial surrounding, particularly if application and scoping sites were also constructed. However, in this scenario, wind turbines would already be a strong characteristic of this LCT, particularly the Shinness wind farm to the west.  For the majority of Strath Oykel and Kyle of Sutherland, the Proposed Varied Development would be seen to the rear of or, subsidiary to the operational Achany and Rosehall Wind	

	<p>Farms. The addition of application and scoping sites which would increase the influence of wind turbines in this area would further reduce the cumulative effect of the Proposed Development, particularly if Braelangwell and Inveroykel were constructed, as these sites would become influential in the close southern / western context. From a small area around the confluence of Strath Oykel and Kyle of Sutherland with Glen Cassley the Proposed Varied Development would lead to increased numbers of turbines being visible, as it would appear as a separate cluster from the existing turbines, and may be seen to draw these further into the interior landscape to the north but this would be relatively localised in an area where turbines at Rosehall to the north-east, Allt an Tuir and Invercassley to the north-west, and numerous sites to the south would already be very noticeable.</p> <p>In Glen Cassley, the Proposed Varied Development turbines would appear on the eastern glen side of a section from roughly 1 km south of Badintagairt to Glenmuick and a small area south of Glencassley Castle and would generally influence western glen-side areas. Whilst there is some limited influence of Rosehall and, would also be some influence from the consented site of Meall Buidhe the effect of the Proposed Development would be more immediate on the glen areas and would affect areas not already influenced by wind farm development. This would lead to increased sequential effect from wind turbines when moving through the glen although, because of the relatively limited effect from other sites on Glen Cassley cumulative effects would be experienced more sequentially when moving from Glen Oykel / Kyle of Sutherland, into Glen Cassley.</p> <p>With the inclusion of Scoping / Application sites, Invercassley and Allt an Tuir would become very influential within Glencassley, particularly from the lower parts of the glen, on the western glen-side. Braelangwell and Inveroykel would also become a noticeable feature on the southern skyline particularly from the lower parts of the glen. The addition of the Proposed Varied Development would not add a new characteristic in this scenario but would lead to an increased surrounding effect as it would introduce turbines at similar prominence on the eastern side of the glen. This would increase the impression of wind turbines as a prominent feature when travelling through the glen.</p>
<b>Cumulative Magnitude of Change</b>	<p>Medium for the Glen Cassley sub-area</p> <p>Low for the Strath Tirry sub-area</p> <p>Negligible for Strath Oykel and Kyle of Sutherland sub-area</p>
<b>Cumulative Landscape Effect</b>	<p>Operational and Consented: <b>Minor</b> (not significant) overall, but locally <b>Moderate</b> (significant) for Glen Cassley.</p> <p>All phases: <b>Minor</b> (not significant) overall, but locally <b>Moderate</b> (significant) for Glen Cassley.</p>

### 1.3 Designated and Protected Landscapes

**Table 1.3.1: Assynt - Coigach NSA**

Cumulative Capacity Value	Low	
Cumulative Baseline Scenario		
Wind Farms Theoretically Visible in Detailed Study Area		Description of Cumulative Baseline Scenario
Existing and Proposed Wind Farms within 20km		<p>No cumulative baseline wind farms are located within the NSA.</p> <p>Intervisibility with operational and consented baseline sites would be mostly limited to the eastern edge of the NSA within the 20 km detailed study area, including eastern facing slopes of Ben More Assynt, Meall an Aonaich and Breabag, and areas around Beinn Leòid. At just over 5km to the east, Sallachy (consented) would have the greatest influence across east facing slopes of this area. Chleansaid and Strath Tirry (consented) would affect similar areas, seen beyond Sallachy, and Gordonbush and Kilbraur (operational) would extend wind farm development seen in this wide context into the far distance.</p> <p>Of the other operational / consented sites, Creag Riabhach is present in the middle distance to the north-east to the forefront of Ben Klibreck. Achany, Rosehall and the Lairg / Garvary cluster would feature within the mid-ground of the south-eastern context and Meall Buidhe would be present at similar distance of the NSA leading consistent appearance of spaced wind turbine clusters in the east/south-east context. More distant sites beyond would have little impact on the immediate character of the LCT.</p> <p>The addition of the scoping / application sites to the north and south of Strath Oykel would establish a very noticeable context of wind farm development to the south-east of the NSA at closer proximity than the operational and consented sites. Application sites Coille Linne and Shinness would also increase the close presence of wind turbines in the eastern context. This would create a scenario whereby wind turbines would form a clearly distinguished edge around the south-east and east sides of the NSA, interrupting the connection to the more distant vistas over the lower lying eastern landscapes.</p> <p>However, the western context across the NSA would remain free of wind turbine development.</p>
Operational / Under Construction:	Application / Appeal:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Achany;</li><li>Creag Riabhach;</li><li>Lairg; and</li><li>Rosehall.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Acheilidh;</li><li>Allt an Tuir;</li><li>Balblair;</li><li>Coille Beith;</li><li>Coille Linne;</li><li>Shinness; and</li><li>Strath Oykel.</li></ul>	
Consented:	Scoping:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Chleansaid;</li><li>Creag Riabhach Extension;</li><li>Garvary;</li><li>Lairg 2 Redesign;</li><li>Meall Buidhe;</li><li>Sallachy; and</li><li>Strath Tirry.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Braelangwell;</li><li>Invercassley; and</li><li>Inveroykel;</li></ul> <p>*Indicates a direct effect</p>	
Existing and Proposed Wind Farms within 20 – 40km		
Operational / Under Construction:	Application / Appeal:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Beinn nan Oighrean;</li><li>Beinn Tharsuinn;</li><li>Coire na Cloiche;</li><li>Gordonbush and Extension;</li><li>Kilbraur and Extension; and</li><li>Novar and Extension.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None</li></ul>	
Consented:	Scoping:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Beinn Tharsuinn Repower and Western Extension;</li><li>Creachan; and</li><li>Pollie Hill.</li></ul>	
Assessment of Cumulative Effects		
Sensitivity to Additional Change	High	
Nature of Change	<p><u>Landscape Character</u></p> <p>The Proposed Varied Development would be intervisible with elevated slopes and summits around the eastern edge of the NSA including Ben More Assynt, Meall an Aonaich and Breabag, appearing in the south eastern context to the forefront of the operational sites of Achany and Rosehall and the Lairg / Garvary cluster, though noticeably closer than these other</p>	

	<p>turbines. This area broadly corresponds with the LCT 139: Rugged Mountain Massif - Caithness &amp; Sutherland and therefore the changes described in Table 1.2.4 would also be reflective of those on the NSA. The Proposed Varied Development would appear to bring wind turbines closer to this LCT in this context, although Sallachy would appear at similar distance to the east. This would potentially affect wild characteristics as, combined with Sallachy, it may contribute to a reduced perception of distance between the mountains and the developed landscape. However, it would not lead to turbines being perceived as a new feature within the context, as operational and consented sites would already exert widespread influence on the eastern slopes and summits of the LCT, leading to a clearly perceived context of wind farm development in the south-east and easterly landscape.</p> <p>With the addition of all application and scoping sites, the introduction of Coille Linne and Shinness to the east / north-east, and the large cluster of sites to the south around Strath Oykel would contribute to a closer sense of encirclement in the southern and eastern context. Within this context, the additional influence of the Proposed Varied Development would be less notable. Although it would add further to the appearance of wind farm development at closer proximity and would contribute to this effect, its addition would be unlikely to increase the level of effect or reduce the perception of remoteness to a greater degree than would already occur with the baseline sites.</p> <p><u>Special Landscape Qualities (SLQs)</u></p> <p>As discussed in Section 1.5 of Appendix 5.6, the Proposed Varied Development would result in a Minor (not significant) effect to the SLQs: “Rocky topography of great variety” and “A landscape of vast open space and exposure”. There would be a slightly more noticeable effect on the SLQ “Significant tracts of wild land”, for which a Minor – Moderate (not significant) effect has been predicted. The addition of the Proposed Varied Development to the cumulative baseline is discussed below:</p> <p>“Rocky topography of great variety”: There would be no further degree of change to this SLQ during either of the cumulative phases.</p> <p>“A landscape of vast open space and exposure”: The operational and consented cumulative baseline would lead to some reduction in this SLQ where the Sallachy turbines in the eastern context would interrupt some views to the easterly context. The addition of the Proposed Varied Development would slightly further interrupt expansive views to the south-east which would slightly increase this effect, but the SLQ would remain strongly present. With the addition of application and scoping sites, there would be a greater sense of encirclement to the east and south-easterly context. The Proposed Varied Development would add to this in the slightly closer context, but this would be a fairly small contribution within the setting of other developments.</p> <p>“Significant tracts of wild land”: There would be a perceptible influence on the presence of wildness in the easterly context from the Sallachy Wind Farm, affecting eastern slopes and summits. The Proposed Varied Development would add some localised areas of additional intervisibility of wind turbines to this baseline and would appear somewhat closer in the south-easterly context than other developments, although at similar in distance to Sallachy to the east. This would slightly reduce the perceived extent of undeveloped peatland areas which provide the setting on this side of the NSA, reducing the sense of remoteness from this type of large scale development. However, wild characteristics would remain generally present to a similar degree. The addition of the application and scoping sites would further limit the sense of remoteness more widely around the eastern and south-eastern sides of the NSA. The Proposed Varied Development would contribute to this effect but would be less noticeable in this context where large numbers of turbines at similar proximity would already be present.</p>
<b>Cumulative Magnitude of Change</b>	Low
<b>Cumulative Landscape Effect</b>	<p>Operational and Consented: <b>Minor</b> (not significant) for the NSA as a whole. Locally <b>Minor – Moderate</b> (not significant) for the SLQ “significant tracts of wild land”.</p> <p>All phases: <b>Minor</b> for the NSA as a whole and for all included SLQs.</p>

**Table 1.3.2: WLA 34. Reay – Cassley**

Cumulative Capacity Value	Low	
Cumulative Baseline Scenario		
Wind Farms Theoretically Visible in Detailed Study Area		Description of Cumulative Baseline Scenario
Existing and Proposed Wind Farms within 20km		<p>No operational sites directly affect the WLA but Sallachy (consented) would be within the east of the WLA and Allt an Tuir (application) and Invercassley (scoping) would be in the south-west of the WLA.</p> <p>Achany and Rosehall, situated at the south-east of the WLA, and the operational and consented sites of the Lairg / Garvary cluster would create an established group of wind farm development in this context with intervisibility across south-eastern parts of the WLA including high ground east and west of Glen Cassley and slopes and summits around Ben More Assynt, Meall an Aonaich and Beinn Leòid. To the east and south, Creag Riabhach, Strath Tirry, Chleansaid and Meall Buidhe would form further clusters. This would increase the extent of WLA where intervisibility with wind turbines would occur, particularly west of Glen Cassley where few areas would not feature evidence of wind turbines in the surrounding landscape. However, the consented Sallachy site, would have the greatest effect of these sites, leading to an area to the west of north Loch Shin being clearly defined by wind turbines, and eastern slopes and summits of Ben More Assynt and Meall an Aonaich, and Càrn na Ceàrdaich to the west of Glen Cassley being more directly influenced by wind turbines. Further detail on the effects of operational and consented sites on the strength of wildness within the WLA is included in Appendix 5.5.</p> <p>The application and scoping sites would add considerably to the influence of wind turbines around the east and south of the WLA. Allt an Tuir and Invercassley would directly introduce turbines into south-west of the WLA, likely to notably affect the strength of wildness across areas to the west of Invercassley which would be unaffected by Sallachy. An extensive grouping of application and scoping sites to the south of Strath Oykel would further reinforce the appearance of wind turbines in the southern context and draw wind farm development further to the west.</p> <p>To the north-east, Coille Linne and Shinness would combine with Sallachy which would also greatly increase the influence of wind turbines at close proximity on eastern slopes.</p> <p>Overall, the cumulative baseline scenario would result in a close surrounding context of wind turbines to the south and east which would limit the perceived extent of the WLA and would be likely to noticeably reduce the strength of wildness throughout the south of the WLA, to either side of Glen Cassley and up to the summits and south and east facing slopes of the mountain core.</p>
Operational / Under Construction:	Application / Appeal:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Achany;</li><li>Creag Riabhach;</li><li>Lairg; and</li><li>Rosehall.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Acheilidh;</li><li>Allt an Tuir*;</li><li>Balblair;</li><li>Coille Beith;</li><li>Coille Linne;</li><li>Shinness; and</li><li>Strath Oykel.</li></ul>	
Consented:	Scoping:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Chleansaid;</li><li>Creag Riabhach Extension;</li><li>Garvary;</li><li>Lairg 2 Redesign;</li><li>Meall Buidhe;</li><li>Sallachy*; and</li><li>Strath Tirry.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Braelangwell;</li><li>Invercassley*; and</li><li>Inveroykel.</li></ul>	
*Indicates a direct effect		
Existing and Proposed Wind Farms within 20 – 40km		
Operational / Under Construction:	Application / Appeal:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Beinn nan Oighrean;</li><li>Beinn Tharsuinn;</li><li>Coire na Cloiche;</li><li>Gordonbush and Extension;</li><li>Kilbraur and Extension; and</li><li>Novar and Extension.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None</li></ul>	
Consented:	Scoping:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Beinn Tharsuinn Repower and Western Extension;</li><li>Ceislein;</li><li>Creachan;</li><li>Novar Repowering; and</li><li>Pollie Hill.</li></ul>	
Assessment of Cumulative Effects		

<b>Sensitivity to Additional Change</b>	High
<b>Nature of Change</b>	<p>The Proposed Varied Development would be located in the south-eastern tip of the WLA and would directly affect this area, as well as indirectly affecting a wider area to the east and west of Glen Cassley, approaching the lower south-easterly facing slopes of the mountain core. With the inclusion of operational and consented cumulative sites, the Sallachy Wind Farm in particular would reduce baseline strength of wildness in some of these areas as it would directly affect the eastern part of this area and have indirect effects on east facing slopes of the mountains. Other consented sites would also lead to some changes, but would be less notable due to their distance from the WLA and the effects of existing developments. Review of the cumulative ZTV for the Proposed Varied Development with Sallachy (Figure 5.29) shows that to the east of Glen Cassley, intervisibility of the two sites is quite distinct, whilst to the west of Glen Cassley, both sites would be intervisible from similar areas. This suggests that the Proposed Varied Development would be less influential on the physical attributes 'Lack of Construction or Other Artefacts' and 'Evidence of Contemporary Land Use' to the west of Glen Cassley, but may increase the area where these attributes would be reduced to the east of Glen Cassley. As noted by NatureScot previously, the position of Sallachy within the WLA may also increase the sense of detachment between the plateaux area to the east of Glen Cassley and the mountain areas around Ben More Assynt and Ben Leoid where the greater core of the WLA is perceived. This would lead to a less notable contribution of the area where the Proposed Varied Development would be located to the WLA as a whole.</p> <p>As it would be situated at the far south-eastern tip of the WLA the Proposed Varied Development would usually be seen within the an established context of operational and consented sites including Achany, Rosehall and those in the Lairg / Garvary cluster, as described for LCT 135: Rounded Hills – Caithness and Sutherland (see Table 1.2.2). However, it would directly affect part of the WLA and from other areas would appear noticeably closer than these sites leading to a more immediate influence of wind turbines in the south-east of the WLA where the baseline sites appear more distant. On the higher slopes and summits around Ben More Assynt, the cumulative effects would correspond with those described for LCT 139: Rugged Mountain Massif - Caithness &amp; Sutherland (see Table 1.2.4). In these areas, the Proposed Varied Development would appear further within the south-eastern context, though closer than the cluster of operational and consented sites. When combined with Sallachy, this would have the effect of further reducing the perceived extent of the surrounding peatland context, with the effect being most notable across the plateau area to the west of Glen Cassley, and south-east and east facing slopes around the most southerly part of the mountain area. However, when moving further north, the effect on strength of wildness would diminish as the Sallachy Wind Farm would be more noticeable in the baseline. With the inclusion of all cumulative baseline sites, the strength of baseline wild land attributes would be further reduced across southern and eastern parts of the WLA, particularly in relation to Allt and Tuir (application) and Invercassley (scoping) which would be located within the WLA to the west of Glen Cassley, but also in relation to the extensive grouping of sites to the south of Strath Oykel and those to the east of Loch Shin. This would create a partial encircling of the WLA to the south and east and would mean that in the majority of areas, the strength of wildness would be less influenced by the Proposed Varied Development, because built artefacts and contemporary land use would already appear as an established feature of the context. The area directly affected by the Proposed Varied Development and those areas where the greatest degree of indirect effect would occur would be more noticeably influenced by sites such as Allt an Tuir and Invercassley and would less strongly exhibit the attributes of wild land. The effects of the Proposed Varied Development of the strength on wildness within these parts of the WLA would therefore be much less notable. Nevertheless, it would still contribute to an effect whereby the areas of open peatland which provide the context to the more mountainous core would be perceived as reduced in extent, particularly when viewed from the south-easterly edges of the mountain core.</p> <p><u>WLA Key Qualities</u></p> <p>As discussed in Appendix 5.5, significant effects are predicted for one of the WLA Key Qualities (WLQs) from the Proposed Varied Development in isolation (within the current baseline): WLQ4 - <i>"Extensive, elevated peatland slopes whose simplicity and openness contribute to a perception of awe, whilst highlighting the qualities of adjacent mountains"</i>. This is predicted to be <u>Moderate – Major</u> (significant) within around 3 km of turbines and locally up to 5-6 km</p>

	<p>and <b>Moderate</b> (significant) within around 10 -12 km. No significant effects are predicted for other WLQs.</p> <p>With the addition of operational and consented baseline cumulative sites, there would already be some influence from Sallachy on the perceived extent of the peatland slopes in the eastern context. The Proposed Varied Development would be located to the south-east or east of the peatland areas and usually seen in the context of other baseline operational and consented sites. However, it would further extend into the peatland landscape and would appear closer than existing sites from areas closer to the mountainous core. This is predicted to further reduce the perceived scale of the peatland landscape in combination with Sallachy. However, outwith the immediate confines of the site, the sense of expansiveness, naturalness and locally experienced solitude would still be perceived in connection with the north-westerly and westerly landscape. It is therefore considered that WLQ4 would remain well expressed through the majority of areas where it would already be experienced under the baseline scenario.</p> <p>With the addition of application and scoping sites, Allt an Tuir and Invercassley would lead to their being an already noticeable reduction in the extent of the peatland areas to the south and the partial encircling by wind turbines around the eastern and southern sites of the WLA would create a strongly established edge to these areas. The Proposed Varied Development would perceptibly contribute to this effect by appearing at similar range in the south-eastern context, as well as being directly located on the peatland slopes within the edge of the WLA. This would lead to a further perceptible reduction in the extent of this peatland area. However, with the influence of the baseline sites, particularly those that directly affect the WLA (Sallachy, Allt an Tuir and Invercassley), it would be unlikely to lead to a further reduction in the sense of naturalness and solitude other than in the localised setting around the Site. Therefore, although the WLQ would be confined to a slightly smaller area than the current situation due to the location of the Proposed Varied Development within the southern tip of the WLA, the greater effect on this WLQ would be attributable to the other consented, application and scoping sites.</p> <p>The reduction in perceived extent of WLQ4 would also lead to some effects on the strength of WLQ1: <i>"A range of large, irregular, rocky mountains with steep, arresting slopes and a variety of lochs and lochans, possessing a strong sense of naturalness, remoteness and sanctuary,"</i> as the closer proximity of wind turbines would reduce the perceived sense of remoteness. However, the contribution of the Proposed Varied Development to this effect would be limited, due to its limited theoretical visibility within the mountain core, and the closer proximity of Sallachy to this area. When application and scoping sites are taken into account, the additional effects of the Proposed Varied Development would be barely noticeable. This WLQ would still be strongly expressed within the mountain core area.</p> <p>No changed effect is predicted to WLQ2 or WLQ3 under either cumulative scenario than would be predicted for the Proposed Varied Development in isolation.</p>
<b>Cumulative Magnitude of Change</b>	<p>Operational and Consented:</p> <p>Medium to the east of Glen Cassley, localised to 5-6km and to the west of Glen Cassley within localised areas up to 10-12 km</p> <p>Low across mountain core areas around Ben More Assynt, Meall an Aonaich and Braebag.</p> <p>All Phases:</p> <p>Low</p>
<b>Cumulative Landscape Effect</b>	<p><u>Operational and Consented:</u></p> <p><b>Moderate</b> (significant) across the plateau ridge to the east of Glen Cassley and locally across a few high plateau areas to the west of Glen Cassley, up to 10-12km where Sallachy would be less noticeable affecting WLQ4: <i>"Extensive, elevated peatland slopes whose simplicity and openness contribute to a perception of awe, whilst highlighting the qualities of adjacent mountains"</i>.</p> <p><b>Minor</b> (not significant) across mountain core areas around Ben More Assynt, Meall an Aonaich, Braebag and Ben Leòid affecting the WLQ1: <i>"A range of large, irregular, rocky mountains with steep, arresting slopes and a variety of lochs and lochans, possessing a strong sense of naturalness, remoteness and sanctuary"</i>.</p> <p><u>All Phases:</u></p> <p><b>Minor</b> (not significant) for WLQ1 and WLQ4.</p>

	<p><u><i>Effects on the WLA as a Whole</i></u></p> <p>The vast majority of the WLA would remain unaffected by any wind farm sites. For both cumulative baseline scenarios, the direct effect of the Proposed Varied Development would result in a small part of the southern tip of the WLA where some of the physical and perceptual attributes of wild land may be less likely to be experienced. However, this part of the WLA would already be somewhat detached from the main body, due to the presence of Sallachy, and the significance of this in the context of the WLA as a whole would therefore be less notable. When considering operational and consented schemes only, the effect on the WLA as a whole would be similar to that for the Proposed Varied Development in isolation. Although significant effects predicted to WLQ4 would affect a relatively large proportion of the area within which this WLQ is experienced, beyond the close confines of the Site all of the physical attributes and perceptual qualities which contribute to this WLQ would remain present, due to the continued association with the main body of the WLA to the north and west. However, it would be reduced in its strength which would slightly reduce its contribution to the WLA as a whole.</p> <p>For a cumulative baseline scenario considering the addition of application and scoping sites, the greater level of effect on this WLQ would generally have already occurred in relation to the other sites and the additional contribution of the Proposed Varied Development would be relatively small by comparison. In itself, it would not lead to a significant cumulative effect. Whilst WLQ4 would be likely to be reduced in strength and presence, this would be substantially caused by the other baseline sites and the contribution of the Proposed Varied Development to this effect would be small.</p> <p>The additional effects of the Proposed Varied Development under both cumulative baseline scenarios is therefore not predicted to lead to a significant effect on the WLA as a whole.</p>
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**Table 1.3.3: Ben Klibreck and Loch Choire Special Landscape Area (SLA)**

Cumulative Capacity Value	Low – Medium	
Cumulative Baseline Scenario		
Wind Farms Theoretically Visible in Detailed Study Area		Description of Cumulative Baseline Scenario
<div>Existing and Proposed Wind Farms within 20km</div> <div><div>Operational / Under Construction:</div><div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Achany;</li><li>Creag Riabhach;</li><li>Lairg; and</li><li>Rosehall.</li></ul></div><div>Consented:</div><div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Chleansaid;</li><li>Creag Riabhach Extension;</li><li>Garvary;</li><li>Lairg 2 Redesign;</li><li>Meall Buidhe;</li><li>Sallachy;</li><li>Strath Tirry; and</li><li>Strathrory.</li></ul></div></div> <div><div>Application / Appeal:</div><div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Acheilidh;</li><li>Allt an Tuir;</li><li>Balblair;</li><li>Coille Beith;</li><li>Coille Linne;</li><li>Shinness; and</li><li>Strath Oykel.</li></ul></div><div>Scoping:</div><div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Braelangwell;</li><li>Invercassley; and</li><li>Inveroykel.</li></ul></div><div>*Indicates a direct effect</div></div>		<div>None of the baseline sites would directly effect the SLA. The majority of indirect effects would occur in relation to sites located in the south to south-eastern / south-western context, affecting small areas of facing slopes, summits and surrounding peaks. Of the operational and consented sites, Creag Riabhach has greatest influence, at around 2.5km from the SLA boundary, but this is limited to the eastern and north-eastern slopes of Ben Klibreck on the edge of the SLA. If constructed, Chleansaid and Strath Tirry, located to the south in relatively close proximity, would also become influential within parts of the SLA. Sallachy would also be seen to draw the southern influence of wind turbines further to the west, in areas where Creag Riabhach is not intervisible.</div> <div>The Gordonbush and Kilbraur clusters would have greater influence on the Ben Armine area and would be distant from Ben Klibreck whilst Achany, Rosehall, Lairg, Lairg 2 Redesign and Garvary show more dispersed intervisibility across higher areas throughout. These sites are fairly distant leading to a general context of wind farm development in the far southern landscape which feels relatively separate and distant from the SLA.</div> <div>When considering the additional influence of application and scoping sites, Shinness and Coille Linne would also become influential within the middle distance to the south-west, particularly from the western boundary of the SLA where Coille Linne would appear to link Sallachy and Creag Riabhach. To the south a large number of additional sites, from Acheilidh in the east to Invercassley in the west would connect and draw out the operational and consented sites of the Lairg / Garvary cluster, Achany / Rosehall cluster and Meall Buidhe to create a broad panorama of wind turbines in the distant setting. However, the stronger influence on the SLA qualities would result from the closer sites, particularly Sallachy, Coille Linn and Creag Riabhach which would sit between the SLA and the mountain context of Ben More Assynt.</div>
<div>Existing and Proposed Wind Farms within 20 – 40km</div> <div><div>Operational / Under Construction:</div><div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Beinn nan Oighrean;</li><li>Beinn Tharsuinn;</li><li>Coire na Cloiche;</li><li>Gordonbush and Extension;</li><li>Kilbraur and Extension; and</li><li>Novar and Extension.</li></ul></div><div>Consented:</div><div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None</li></ul></div></div> <div><div>Application / Appeal:</div><div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None</li></ul></div><div>Scoping:</div><div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Beinn Tharsuinn Repower and Western Extension;</li><li>Creachan; and</li><li>Pollie Hill.</li></ul></div></div>		
Assessment of Cumulative Effects		
Sensitivity to Additional Change	High	
Nature of Change	<div>Considering operational and consented sites only, the Proposed Varied Development would be located in the south-western context but intervisibility would be limited to relatively small areas on facing slopes and summits of the mountains. It would almost always be seen within a context of other consented or operational sites being slightly closer than the Achany – Rosehall cluster which lies closest to it but further than other sites such as Chleansaid. It would form part of an established southern context where clusters of wind turbines are seen at spaced intervals and would be unlikely to noticeably change this scenario. A greater effect would experienced from the Sallachy and Creag Riabhach Wind Farms in the western context.</div> <div>With the addition of application and scoping sites to the baseline, the Proposed Varied Development would become part of a much more consistent larger cluster stretching across</div>	

	<p>the southern and south-western context. In this scenario, the turbines of the Proposed Varied Development would be difficult to distinguish from those of Invercassley, Allt an Tuir, Coille Beith and Strath Oykel and would be less prominent than the Shinness Wind Farm which would lie closer to the SLA. Under this scenario it would form a barely perceptible change to the context where turbines would be a common characteristic within the wider landscape to the south, south-west and south-east of the SLA.</p> <p><u>Special Qualities</u></p> <p>The effects described above may result in a small degree of change to the Special Quality “<i>Extensive views from peaks and summits</i>,” under the scenario of operational and consented sites only. However, within this scenario, clusters of wind turbines would already be a strongly established feature of these extensive views and the Proposed Varied Development would not add a new characteristic to this scenario. With the inclusion of application and scoping sites, it would form a barely noticeable change to these views and for both scenarios, these extensive views would remain present and a notable feature of the SLA.</p>
<b>Cumulative Magnitude of Change</b>	<p>Operational and Consented: Low</p> <p>All phases: Negligible</p>
<b>Cumulative Landscape Effect</b>	<p>Operational and Consented: <b>Minor (not significant)</b></p> <p>All Phases: <b>Negligible</b></p>