

14. Intra-project Cumulative Effects

14.1 Introduction

- 14.1.1 This chapter of the EIAR describes the assessment of intra-project cumulative effects undertaken for the Proposed Development.
- 14.1.2 As defined in **Chapter 2: Approach to the EIA**, intra-project cumulative effects are the result of multiple different effects, which individually may not be considered significant, compounding on site of the Proposed Development to impact key environmental receptors, such as communities, designated areas, or ecosystems, in ways that are more significant. Intra-project effects can occur at all phases of a development: construction, operation, and decommissioning.
- 14.1.3 The assessment of the intra-project cumulative effects of a Proposed Development is a requirement of all EIARs under the Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017, which states that EIARs must cover both the effects of the Proposed Development itself, as well as the cumulation of effects with other existing and/or approved developments.

14.2 Intra-project Cumulative Effects

- 14.2.1 There is no standard approach to the assessment of intra-project effects. As such, for this EIAR, assessment has been undertaken using professional judgment and the technical information provided in Chapters 6 to 13. A summary of the residual effects (effects that are identified when considering mitigation measures embedded within the Proposed Development) which have been considered as part of this intra-project cumulative effect assessment is provided in **Chapter 15: Schedule of Mitigation and Residual Effects**.
- 14.2.2 Where the Proposed Development has been identified as having more than one adverse residual effect on a receptor in Chapters 6 to 13, it is listed and assessed in Table 14-1.

Table 14-1 Intra-project Cumulative Effects

Receptor	Phase	EIAR Chapter & Assessment Topic	Residual Effects	Cumulative Assessment	Additional Mitigation
Peat	Construction	Chapter 8: Ecology	Not significant loss of priority peatland habitats.	There would be a permanent loss of peat to accommodate the construction of the Proposed Development. This would result in adverse effects on peat as an ecological habitat and as a carbon store. Impacts on peat have been minimised at the design stage but siting infrastructure away from deep areas of peat and peat of good condition. As demonstrated in Appendix 13.3: Carbon Balance, the carbon losses from construction will be offset by the construction of the Proposed Development resulting in an overall major beneficial effect on carbon. Overall, there is a not significant permanent cumulative effect on peat.	None required.
		Chapter 13: Geology, Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Peat	Minor adverse impact due to excavation for development infrastructure resulting in loss of peat.		
			Not significant release of carbon into the atmosphere due to excavation for development infrastructure resulting in release of carbon into the atmosphere.		
Tollie to Lealty Core Path	Construction	Chapter 6: Landscape and Visual Assessment	Negligible adverse effect on visual amenity.	There would be a temporary adverse effect on the users of the Tollie to Lealty Core Path during construction due to visibility of construction works and an increase in traffic flow including AILs and HGVs. Overall, there is a not significant temporary cumulative effect on peat.	None required.
		Chapter 11: Traffic, Transport and Access	Minor adverse effect on severance, pedestrian delay and non-motorised user amenity.		
Dam Wood Forest Track Core Path	Construction	Chapter 6: Landscape and Visual Assessment	Negligible adverse effect on visual amenity.	There would be a temporary adverse effect on the users of the Dam Wood Forest Track Core Path during construction due to visibility of construction works and an increase in traffic flow including AILs and HGVs. Overall, there is a not significant temporary cumulative effect on peat.	None required.
		Chapter 11: Traffic, Transport and Access	Minor adverse effect on severance, pedestrian delay and non-motorised user amenity.		

14.3 References

Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017