

Marine Scotland Science – EIA Checklist

MSS Standard EIA Report Requirements	Provided in application YES/NO	If YES – please signpost to relevant chapter of EIA Report	If not provided or provided different to MSS advice, please set out reasons.
<p>1. A map outlining the proposed development area and the proposed location of: the towers/poles, permanent and temporary access tracks, including watercourse crossings; buildings including substations; permanent and temporary construction compounds; all watercourses; and contour lines.</p>	Yes	<p>See Chapter 2 - Development Description (EIAR Volume 1) for details and associated Figure 2.1: Site Layout (EIAR Volume 2) for Proposed Development layout.</p> <p>Figure 8.1 (EIAR Volume 2) sets out the existing watercourses on the Site.</p>	Not Applicable.
<p>2. A description and results of the site characterisation surveys for fish (including fully quantitative electrofishing surveys) and water quality including the location of the electrofishing and fish habitat survey sites and water quality sampling sites on the map outlining the proposed turbines and associated infrastructure.</p> <p>This should be carried out where a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) is present and where salmon are a qualifying feature, and in exceptional cases when required in the scoping advice for</p>	Yes – with the exception of electrofishing data	<p>Fisheries baseline characterisation information and locations of contemporary electrofishing sampling sites are detailed and presented in Chapter 7 – Ecology (EIAR Volume 1) and supporting fisheries Technical Appendix (EIAR Volume 4) and Figures (EIAR Volume 2).</p> <p>A programme of baseline and construction phase water quality monitoring is proposed. Monitoring of the watercourses that drain from the Site will be included in the monitoring plan. The monitoring programme would be secured by a pre-development planning condition to be agreed with statutory consultees including Scottish Water, SEPA, Stirling Council (SC), Perth and Kinross Council (PKC) and Marine Scotland. Further</p>	It is not proposed to undertake electrofishing surveys prior to submission of the application.

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other reasons. In other cases, developers can assume that fish populations are present		information is available in Section 8.5 of Chapter 8: Geology, Peat, Hydrology and Hydrogeology (EIAR Volume 1) .	
3. An outline of the potential impacts on fish populations and water quality within and downstream of the proposed development area.	Yes	Chapter 7 - Ecology (EIAR Volume 1) and Chapter 8 - Geology, Peat, Hydrology and Hydrogeology (EIAR Volume 1) discussed potential effects on water quality. Subject to adoption of best practice measures, outlined in Section 8.5, no significant residual effects are predicted on water quality during the construction and operation of the Proposed Development.	
4. Any potential cumulative impacts on the water quality and fish populations associated with adjacent (operational and consented) developments including wind farms, hydro schemes, aquaculture and mining.	Yes	Any scoped-in relevant cumulative impacts are discussed in Chapter 7 - Ecology (EIAR Volume 1) and Chapter 8 - Geology, Peat, Hydrology and Hydrogeology (EIAR Volume 1) . Given the embedded mitigation and good practice pollution control measures to be adopted, cumulative impacts on fish and watercourses are not expected.	
5. Any proposed site-specific mitigation measures as outlined in MSS generic scoping guidelines and the joint publication “Good Practice during Wind Farm Construction”	Yes	Industry standard good practice and embedded mitigation measures would apply. Embedded mitigation has been incorporated throughout the design of the Proposed Development, including a 50 m buffer from all watercourses. Mitigation measures relating to fish and water quality are set out in Chapter 7 – Ecology, Chapter 8 - Geology, Peat,	Not Applicable

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		Hydrology and Hydrogeology (EIAR Volume 1), respectively. An Outline CEMP is also provided in Technical Appendix 2.1 (EIAR Volume 4).	
<p>6. Full details of proposed monitoring programmes using guidelines issued by MD-SEDD and accompanied by a map outlining the proposed sampling and control sites in addition to the location of all turbines and associated infrastructure.</p> <p>At least 12 months of baseline pre- construction data should be included. The monitoring programme can be secured using suitable wording in a condition</p>	No		<p>Detailed monitoring proposals are not included at this stage. It is expected any fisheries or water quality monitoring requirements will be a condition of consent and proportionate to the type and size of the Proposed Development and considering the baseline conditions. Therefore, due to the typical timescales in application determination and taking account of feedback from relevant consultees, detailed monitoring plans would be prepared post-consent and pre-construction during the discharge of conditions process in order to take account of any further contemporary information or changes to the Proposed Development.</p>
<p>7. A decommissioning and restoration plan outlining proposed mitigation/monitoring for water quality and fish populations.</p> <p>This can be secured using suitable wording in a condition.</p>	No		<p>A decommissioning and restoration plan is not included at this stage. It is expected such a plan would be a condition of consent. Given the long timescales involved in reaching the decommissioning phase it is more appropriate to prepare this plan closer to the time of decommissioning in order to account for and consider up to date relevant policy, guidance and standards.</p>

Developers should specifically discuss and assess potential impacts and appropriate mitigation measures associated with the following	Provided in application YES/NO	If YES – please signpost to relevant chapter of EIA Report	If not provided or provided different to MSS advice, please set out reasons.
1. Any designated area (e.g. SAC), for which fish is a qualifying feature, within and/or downstream of the proposed development area.	Yes	The River Tay SAC is located approximately 4.4 km north of the Proposed Development, at its closest point, and is considered in Chapter 7 – Ecology (EIAR Volume 1) and supporting Technical Appendix (EIAR Volume 4).	
2. The presence of a large density of watercourses.	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
3. The presence of large areas of deep peat deposits.	Yes	The presence and distribution of peat, and any required mitigation measures, are discussed in Chapter 8 - Geology, Peat, Hydrology and Hydrogeology (EIAR Volume 1) , TA 8.1: PLHRA and TA 8.2 PMP (EIAR Volume 4)	
4. Known acidification problems and/or other existing pressures on fish populations in the area.	No	Baseline conditions and water classification data is presented in Chapter 8: Geology, Peat, Hydrology and Hydrogeology (EIAR Volume 1) . Acidification is not recorded as an existing water quality pressure. A programme of baseline water quality is proposed, details of which are presented in Chapter 8 - Geology, Peat, Hydrology and Hydrogeology (EIAR Volume 1) .	General catchment and regional pressures may exist, for instance due to barriers and climate change. Allt Eas Domhain and Allt an Fhionn abstraction prevents trout being present at these watercourses.
5. Proposed felling operations.	No	No felling is predicted as part of the Proposed Development.	Not applicable