Technical Appendix 6.3 SEI Report Ornithology and Ecology Scoping

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1 Proposed Method of Re-Assessment

1.1 Introduction

- Aim of the report: To undertake a re-assessment of the impacts of the Proposed Development, specifically focussing on the potential impact on the Dungavel Wind Farm Habitat Management Plan (DWFHMP) and the Muirkirk and North Lower Uplands Special Protection Area (SPA). Taking into account NatureScot's comments in their advice of August 2025 and comments from RSPB Scotland (September 2025).

1.2 Relevant Information to be Included in Re-assessment

- NatureScot and RSPB advice with regard to the potential impacts of the Proposed Development on the delivery of the DWFHMP and on the potential effects on the SPA in relation to the conservation objectives.
- Chapter 6, Ornithology, of the Proposed Development's Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report.
- The Outline Habitat Enhancement Plan (Technical Appendix 7.5 of the Proposed Development EIA Report).
- Long-Term Forest Plan proposals (Figures 13.1-13.2 of the Proposed Development EIA Report).
- Chapter 8, Ornithology, of the Dungavel Wind Farm EIA Report. With specific focus on issues requiring compensation and mitigation via Habitat Management.
- The Dungavel Windfarm Approved Habitat Management Plan (August 2023) and its current delivery status/timescales.
- NatureScot letter responding to Dungavel Wind Farm EIA Report Ornithology Assessment. With a focus on impacts requiring habitat management (28th May 2008).
- Summary of Dungavel Wind Farm operational monitoring reports (now obtained).
- Information to Inform an Appropriate Assessment in Respect of Dungavel Wind Farm (RPS) (June 2006).

1.3 Re-assessment of the impact of the Proposed Development on DWFHMP

- This will follow the structure of the Ornithological Impact Assessment (OIA) within Chapter 6 of the Proposed Development EIA Report.
- Only update relevant sections with new information:
    - Legislation Policy and Guidance.
    - Consultation: Will include a summary of post-submission advice from NatureScot and RSPB.
    - Assessment Methodology and Significance Criteria
    - Desk-study:

- Background to the requirement for DWFHMP. Specifically, how this was taken into account in reaching conclusions of no adverse effect on SPA site integrity. With clarification of what measures are aimed at mitigation, compensation or enhancement
- Current status of DWFHMP and future plans. Taking into account, likelihood of implementation e.g. if enforcement action was taken.
- Operational monitoring from DWFHMP.

- Baseline Conditions

o Include a fuller consideration of baseline conditions taking into account updated information from the desk study.

- Potential Impacts
- Assessment of Construction Effects
- Assessment of Operational Effects
  - This will comprise a comprehensive assessment of the impact of the Proposed Development (including habitat management proposals) on the DWFHMP. Amongst other items, this will include a consideration of whether the delivery of the components of the DWFHMP within the Proposed Development site are necessary to avoid an adverse effect on the integrity of the Muirkirk and North Lower Uplands SPA.
  - Consideration of collision risk to pink footed geese.
- Mitigation and Enhancement Measures. This will include an updated outline Habitat Management and Enhancement Plan with the inclusion of curlew and black grouse as proposed by RSPB.
- Residual Effects