ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS

FLOOD RISK

A flood risk assessment will be carried out to determine whether the site is at risk of flooding and to ensure the development does not increase the risk of flooding in the local area. The site has been selected because it is not located in a high-risk flood area. Measures will be put in place to manage water drainage effectively, ensuring that the solar panels and the battery storage system remain protected from potential flooding.

Specialist hydrologist and flood risk engineers visited the site in September 2024 to assess flood risks from nearby watercourses, providing valuable information to guide the placement of key infrastructure, including the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS).

CULTURAL HERITAGE

The project archaeologist will be assessing potential impacts on any historical or cultural landmarks near the site. This includes reviewing nearby landmarks, archaeological sites, and historic buildings such as Glamis Castle and St Orland's Stone. The development will ensure that local heritage is preserved, and any important discoveries will be carefully recorded. These assessments are being carried out in line with guidelines from Historic Environment Scotland and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIFA), ensuring they meet national standards for heritage protection. The project will be designed to minimise any negative effects on these culturally valuable areas.

TRANSPORT

A transport and access study is underway to examine the impact of construction and operation traffic on local roads. This assessment ensures that local roads can accommodate construction vehicles and that the project will not create traffic issues for the community. It is considered that the construction phase of the Proposed Development will not give rise to a significant number of daily additional vehicle trips, only around 9 vehicle trips per day on average. As such, the impact of traffic levels on the road network surrounding is likely to be negligible.

NOISE

A noise assessment is underway to evaluate the potential noise levels during both the construction and operation of the project. This includes assessing the noise from construction machinery as well as the operational noise from the solar panels and the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), including cooling systems and transformers. Measures will be implemented to ensure that any noise impact on nearby residents is kept to a minimum.

The projects noise lead has undertaken baseline noise monitoring at the site in October 2024 which will form the basis of their noise model and future assessment.

GLINT AND GLARE

Solar panels can sometimes reflect sunlight, causing glint or glare. An assessment is being conducted with the aim of minimising reflections from the solar panels at nearby homes, roads, or aircraft. If needed, adjustments will be made to the panel positioning to reduce any unwanted reflections. Properties within 1km of the proposed solar panels will be subject to a glint and glare assessment.

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