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INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 **Chapter 2: Site Description and Design Evolution**, of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report sets out the design strategy for the proposed development which is to balance achieving maximum energy yield whilst creating a layout which limits (where possible) visual effects and effects on other environmental constraints. The design strategy for the proposed development remains the same as set out in the EIA Report.
- 2.2 This SEI Chapter sets out the changes to the proposed development following consultee responses to the Kirkton Energy Park application.

DESIGN CHANGES TO THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

- 2.3 Statutory consultees NatureScot and Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), both responded to the Kirkton Energy Park application consultation, requesting that some of the proposed infrastructure be moved, in order to address specific concerns. **Table 2-1** details the relevant consultee responses from NatureScot and SEPA.

Table 2-1: NatureScot and SEPA Consultation Responses

Consultee	Date	Consultee Response
SEPA	02 February 2023	To ensure that Groundwater Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystems (GWDTE) are suitably protected: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Turbine 7 shall be micro-sited to avoid direct impacts on M6 habitat.
SEPA	17 May 2023	Thank you for your email of 26 April which included the letter from SLR Consulting Limited of that date. It provides further information relating to the likely groundwater dependence of habitats in the vicinity of T7. We have considered the additional information provided and are content that the M6c Mire in mosaic with U2 in the area of T7 is unlikely to be groundwater dependent and as a result are content that the mitigation measures outlined in the EIA-R can be used to minimise the potential impacts. As a result the second bullet point of section 1 of our previous response (our reference 7478) is revised to Turbine 7 needing to be micro-sited to minimise direct impacts on M6 habitat.
NatureScot	31 July 2023	We identified, during our site visit, that the proposal site includes a variety of habitats of varying condition. There are areas on site which are more sensitive to development than others. Such an area is the access track to turbines 5-11 where it crosses an area of deep peat centred around NC88225947. We advise this area is avoided, with access moved to the north or south of this area.

SEI SITE DESCRIPTION AND DESIGN EVOLUTION 2

- 2.4 In order to address the consultee responses detailed in **Table 2-1**, the following design changes to the proposed development (from that set out in the EIA Report) are as follows:
- relocating Turbine No.7 and its associated crane pad approximately 53m north, from 287881, 959083 to 287885, 959140; and
 - amending the route of the track to Turbines No.5 – 11 (and amending the amount of track to be floated from 446.95m to 536.97m).
- 2.5 **SEI Figure 3.1** shows the new proposed development site layout.
- 2.6 **SEI Figure 2.10** and **SEI Figure 2.11** show the new Turbine No.7 location compared to its previous location, in relation to M6 habitat and peat depth respectively.
- 2.7 The new track alignment to Turbines No 5 – 11, compared to the previous alignment, is shown in **SEI Figures 2.13 to 2.16**, in relation to NVC / Phase 1 habitats, peat depth, slope and forestry.
- 2.8 **SEI Figure 2.17** provides a comparison of the new proposed development site layout compared to the previous site layout.
- 2.9 The amendments to the proposed development site layout are considered to address the concerns from SEPA and NatureScot detailed in **Table 2-1**, as Turbine No.7 (and its crane pad) is no longer located in M6 habitat, and the track to Turbines No 5 – 11 has been rerouted north as requested to avoid deeper peat and sensitive habitats.
- 2.10 The changes to the design of the proposed development can be viewed in the updated wirelines and updated photomontages which are provided in Volume 4 in order to support **SEI Chapter 7: Landscape and Visual**.