



## Kintore Hydrogen Plant

Environmental Impact Assessment Report  
Appendix 6.3: Visual Assessment Tables

Date: August 2024

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## Environmental Impact Assessment Report

**Volume 3**

**Appendix 6.3**

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## Qualifications

Prepared by: Chartered Landscape Architects at ASH design + assessment Ltd. (ASH), a registered practice with the Landscape Institute (LI). Key staff involved in the preparation of this Chapter include Nicola Sukatorn, a Chartered Landscape Architect and Chartered Member of the Landscape Institute (CMLI), who has 10 years' experience of Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA); and Sarah Kjellman, a Landscape Architect and Associate Member of the LI, who has 4 years' experience of LVIA; along with other members of ASH.

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## Appendix 6.3: Visual Assessment Tables

### 1.1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 This appendix provides detailed assessment of changes to the view from visual receptor locations identified trails and cycle routes identified as having the potential to gain views of the proposed development.
- 1.1.2 The findings for building-based receptors are reported in Section 1.2 / Table 1 of this appendix, while route-based receptors are addressed in Section 1.3 / Table 2. Information on the rationale for those locations included in the visual assessment is included in Chapter 6: Landscape and Visual.
- 1.1.3 Visualisations from nine Visualisation Locations (VLs) support this assessment. These are presented in Volume 3 of the EIA Report. Further detail on the preparation of visualisations is included in Appendix 6.1.
- 1.1.4 The assessment considers magnitude of visual change and visual effect at two stages:
- during construction of the proposed development; and
  - during operation of the proposed development.
- 1.1.5 This appendix is supported by Chapter 6: Figures 3.3 and 3.4.

## 1.2 Building-based receptor locations

Table 1: Building-based receptor locations

Reference / name / location / type / context	Nature of existing view	Sensitivity	Nature of change	Distance <sup>1</sup> (approx. to closest part of site boundary)	Impact magnitude		Effect	
					Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
<p><b>B1</b> <b>Properties including South Leylodge and Leylodge Schoolhouse</b></p> <p>Residents or visitors at properties along minor road, between Firley Moss and the B977.</p> <p><i>Views from this group are illustrated from VL5 and VL6 (see Figures 6.5a-d and 6.6a-c).</i></p>	<p>Mixed, relatively open views north-west, north-east, south-west and south-east, across undulating farmland, with field boundaries demarcated by drystone dykes. Small patches of forestry and woodland are visible, with transmission towers in close proximity particularly to the north. Views from Leylodge Schoolhouse are filtered by garden vegetation and a patch of pine trees on the north-eastern side of the property. From property south of South Leylodge, views north are enclosed by other properties and woodland.</p>	<p>Medium-High</p>	<p>Some open main/side views of the proposed electrolysis plant site, very noticeable in views, with the southern part of the site visible in close proximity to the north, seen in the context of transmission towers.</p> <p>From South Leylodge, construction traffic would be visible in close proximity passing these receptors on the minor road and along an existing access track into the site. From Leylodge Schoolhouse, there would be views of the construction of the new permanent access track into the site, although this would be partially screened / filtered by coniferous woodland to the north of the property.</p>	<p>30 m</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>Medium-High</p>	<p>Moderate-Major-Adverse (significant)</p>	<p>Moderate-Major Adverse (significant)</p>
<p><b>B2</b> <b>Dewsford</b></p> <p>Residents or visitors at property and farm buildings west of Kintore Substation.</p>	<p>Mixed views, with views to the north enclosed by forestry, with more open views across undulating farmland to the south featuring pylons in close proximity. In views north-east Kintore Substation may be perceptible nearby, but potentially screened by landform and/or trees. (NB. Due to private access, unable to ascertain views)</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Open views of the proposed electrolysis plant site, in open views in very close proximity to the north, south and west.</p> <p>Construction activity would be visible very nearby, potentially adjacent to the property boundaries.</p>	<p>0 m</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>Major Adverse (significant)</p>	<p>Moderate--Major Adverse (significant)</p>
<p><b>B3</b> <b>Properties including Leylodge, East Leylodge, and North Leylodge</b></p> <p>Residents or visitors at properties and farm buildings along or near the B977 around Leylodge.</p> <p><i>Views from part of this group are illustrated from VL4 (see Figures 6.4a-c).</i></p>	<p>Mixture of views, with some views north and south along the road, and some views across the B977 to the east or west across fields and patches of woodland and forestry, with some views of transmission towers and Kintore Substation, to varying degrees. Small-scale wind turbines visible to the east.</p> <p>Some views of Kintore Substation to the north, although largely screened by trees.</p>	<p>Low-Medium</p>	<p>The proposed electrolysis plant site would be visible in close proximity in some main, rear and side views to the west, partially screened by landform and from some, screened or filtered by vegetation or other buildings. Where visible, it would be seen in the context of transmission towers and in some views, visibly adjacent to Kintore Substation.</p> <p>Construction of the proposed electrolysis plant site would also be visible, including construction traffic along the B977 and new temporary construction access off the B977.</p> <p>Construction work associated with the proposed underground services adjacent to the B977 would also be visible in close proximity, particularly from properties at the southern end of this receptor group, including Leylodge and East Leylodge.</p>	<p>Xxxx0 m</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Low-Medium</p>	<p>Moderate Adverse (significant)</p>	<p>Minor-Moderate Adverse (not significant)</p>

Reference / name / location / type / context	Nature of existing view	Sensitivity	Nature of change	Distance <sup>1</sup> (approx. to closest part of site boundary)	Impact magnitude		Effect	
					Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
<b>B4</b> <b>Properties near Kintore Substation</b> Residents or visitors at properties and farm buildings along or near the B977, near Kintore Substation.	Mixture of views across fields, and onto trees, with views of Kintore Substation and transmission towers in close proximity.	Low	The proposed electrolysis plant site may be perceptible to the west, but partially screened / filtered by trees and buildings, and seen in the context of the nearby Kintore Substation.	0.3 km	Low	Low	Minor Adverse (not significant)	Minor Adverse (not significant)
<b>B5</b> <b>Properties including Fordtown, Uppermill Farm</b> Residents or visitors at properties and farm buildings along or near the B977, near the roundabout with the B944.	Mixture of views, with some enclosure from trees, and more open views across fields, featuring transmission towers.	Medium	The proposed development would be screened by trees and buildings. Construction access for the proposed water pipework may be visible from Fordtown, but this may be limited and potentially similar to farm activity.	Xxxx0 m	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible
<b>B6</b> <b>Properties including Womblehill and South Womblehill</b> Residents or visitors at properties and farm buildings / warehouses east of the B977.	Mixed views, with some views enclosed by woodland and other buildings. From South Womblehill there are open views in multiple directions, with main views south-east across low-lying farmland and woodland, featuring transmission towers. Views to the west / south-west feature small-scale wind turbines in close proximity, and transmission towers along the skyline above groups of trees, residential properties and farm buildings.	Medium	The proposed electrolysis plant site may be partially visible from South Womblehill behind groups of trees, in front of transmission towers on the skyline and in the same direction as wind turbines in the foreground. From here, the proposed gas connection (above-ground installation) would also be visible in open main views to the south. From other properties, the proposed electrolysis plant site and gas connection are likely to be screened in views by vegetation and buildings Construction access for the proposed gas connection (above-ground installation) would be via the access road to these properties. This would result in views of construction traffic for these properties during construction, and views of construction works associated with the proposed gas connection from South Womblehill.	0 m	Low-Medium	Low	Minor-Moderate Adverse (not significant)	Minor Adverse (not significant)

Reference / name / location / type / context	Nature of existing view	Sensitivity	Nature of change	Distance <sup>1</sup> (approx. to closest part of site boundary)	Impact magnitude		Effect	
					Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
<p><b>B7</b> <b>Properties including Bogfold, Drumnaheath and Wardes</b></p> <p>Residents or visitors at properties and farmhouses in elevated position to the south of Firley Moss.</p> <p><i>Views from part of this group are illustrated from VL7 (see Figures 6.7a-c).</i></p>	<p>Elevated views across undulating farmland, mainly facing east / north-east across undulating farmland, patches of woodland and forestry, electricity transmission infrastructure and small-scale wind turbines towards low-lying hills in the distance. Many of these properties are in a relatively enclosed position, with garden vegetation and nearby groups of trees screening or filtering views, but some more open views would be obtained from properties further east. From Wardes, there are elevated views particularly to the north and east, filtered by trees around the properties.</p>	Medium	<p>Some open, elevated main views towards the proposed electrolysis plant site to the north / north-east, with views from other properties filtered or screened by trees and vegetation. The site would be noticeable in the view but would be seen in the context of transmission towers.</p> <p>Construction works would be noticeable on the hillside.</p>	0.3 km	Medium	Medium	Moderate Adverse (significant)	Moderate Adverse (significant)
<p><b>B8</b> <b>Properties including Tillybin</b></p> <p>Residents or visitors at properties in elevated position south of Bandshed Moss.</p> <p><i>Views from this group would be similar to those illustrated from VL8 (see Figures 6.8a-c).</i></p>	<p>Views mainly to the east, with some views more elevated across fields with patches of woodland and coniferous forestry, electricity transmission infrastructure, and small-scale wind turbines towards forested hills in the distance. Some views are north towards Harthill plantation, with Bennachie hill top visible in the distance.</p>	Medium	<p>The proposed electrolysis plant site would be visible in main views east, on both sides of the 'The Knock', backclothed against the hillside, and seen in views of transmission towers. From Wester Tillybin, views would be more elevated and slightly more distant, with potentially more of the development visible, although views may be partially filtered by intervening trees and other buildings.</p> <p>Construction work associated with the proposed electrolysis plant site would be visible, while more distant construction of the proposed water pipeline is likely to be screened or largely imperceptible.</p>	0.6 km	Medium	Medium	Minor-Moderate Adverse (not significant)	Minor-Moderate Adverse (not significant)
<p><b>B9</b> <b>Properties including Aquherton and Strathray</b></p> <p>Residents or visitors at properties and associated farm buildings along minor road east of the B977.</p> <p><i>Views from this group would be similar to those illustrated from VL3 (see Figures 6.3a-c).</i></p>	<p>Mixed views, with the majority of views towards the road or east/west along the road. Views from some properties are enclosed by surrounding vegetation and buildings, although some properties have some open views out across fields, with patches of broadleaf woodland and pine, and small blocks of coniferous forestry, featuring transmission lines, small scale wind turbines, and other clusters of properties / farm buildings.</p>	Low	<p>From many of these properties, the proposed electrolysis plant site would be screened or filtered by vegetation or other buildings. From some properties, there may be some more open side / oblique views of the proposed electrolysis site, perceptible on the hillside to the north-west, partially screened by trees. However, it would occupy a small part of the overall view and is unlikely to become a prominent feature.</p> <p>Construction of the proposed electrolysis plant site may be perceptible on the hillside. Construction works associated with the proposed water pipeline, hydrogen pipeline and gas connection may be perceptible to the north.</p>	35 m	Low	Low	Minor Adverse (not significant)	Minor Adverse (not significant)

Reference / name / location / type / context	Nature of existing view	Sensitivity	Nature of change	Distance <sup>1</sup> (approx. to closest part of site boundary)	Impact magnitude		Effect	
					Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
<p><b>B10</b> <b>Properties along B977 including Burnside and Fornetsyde</b> Residents or visitors at properties along B977 to the south of proposed development.</p>	Mixed views, with some views north and south along the road, and some views towards the road. Views west are largely screened by trees along the road. Views east, are more open across fields and groups of trees, featuring transmission lines, and small scale wind turbines. Some views north-east and north-west are more enclosed by trees, farm buildings or landform, while other views are more open across fields.	Low	From the majority of these properties, views of the proposed development would be screened by trees or landform, and it is unlikely that it would be visible.	0.2 km	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible
<p><b>B11</b> <b>Properties including Broomhill</b> Residents or visitors at properties along or near minor road east of B977. Views from part of this group are illustrated from VL2 (see Figures 6.2a-c).</p>	Relatively open views across fields with hedgerows patches of broadleaf woodland and small areas of coniferous forestry, featuring small scale wind turbines and transmission towers, with Kintore Substation visible in the distance. Views from properties further to the east are more elevated, while views from properties by the B977 are low-level.	Low-Medium	From properties lower down near the B977, the proposed electrolysis plant site would be largely screened by landform, with some of the roofs of the southern electrolyzers partially visible behind the rising landform to the north-west. From some of the properties further east along the road, the proposed electrolysis plant site would be visible in open views in the valley below to the west of Kintore Substation, backclothed against forestry and in the vicinity of transmission towers.  Construction work for the proposed electrolysis plant site, would be relatively distant in views although this would be seen in the context of farming activities and traffic along the B977 road.	1.8 km	Low-Medium	Low	Minor-Moderate Adverse (not significant)	Minor Adverse (not significant)
<p><b>B12</b> <b>Properties including Little Fornet and North Fornet</b> Residents or visitors at properties in elevated position east of the B977.</p>	Some slightly elevated main views north and west across farmland and small patches of forestry/woodland, filtered by garden vegetation and trees surrounding properties.	Low-Medium	Oblique views towards the proposed electrolysis plant site, likely screened by forestry block from Little Fornet. Likely seen in the context of Kintore Substation and transmission towers in the foreground.  Construction work for the proposed electrolysis plant site, would be relatively distant in views although this would be seen in the context of farming activities and traffic along the B977 road.	1.7 km	Low-Medium	Low	Minor-Moderate Adverse (not significant)	Minor Adverse (not significant)



Reference / name / location / type / context	Nature of existing view	Sensitivity	Nature of change	Distance <sup>1</sup> (approx. to closest part of site boundary)	Impact magnitude		Effect	
					Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
<p><b>B13</b> <b>Properties including Hillhead, Drumstone and North Croft</b> Residents or visitors at properties in elevated position to the north of B979.</p>	Mixed views, with elevated views across a patchwork of undulating farmland, forestry blocks and areas of broadleaf woodland, towards distant hills, with the landmark hill of Bennachie visible to the north-west from some properties. At lower level, there are views of transmission towers and small scale wind turbines. From Drumstone, views to the north/north-west are enclosed by woodland in close proximity, whereas Hillhead has more open views, with main views north. Auchronie has relatively open and extensive views north/north-east/north-west across the landscape.	Low	The proposed electrolysis plant site would be screened by intervening trees and woodland in views from some properties, including Drumstone. From properties in more open positions, there would be more open main / oblique distant views in front of forestry. It would be seen in the context of small-scale wind turbines, transmission towers and other industrial development, and while it would become a perceptible feature it would form a small part of the overall view.	1.9 km	Low	Low	Minor Adverse (not significant)	Minor Adverse (not significant)
<p><b>B14</b> <b>Properties including Netherton and Blackchambers</b> Residents or visitors at properties along minor road to the south-west of Muir of Kinellar</p>	Mixed views, with some semi open views across farmland and forest, featuring agricultural buildings in the foreground. Views from properties east of junction are more enclosed, restricted by garden vegetation and surrounding woodland, although some filtered views would be obtained across fields to the north.	Low	The proposed electrolysis plant site may be perceptible in some filtered, oblique views from some of these properties, seen against forestry in the distance. However, in many of these views, it would be screened by trees, other buildings and hedgerows in the midground.	1.0 km	Low	Low	Minor Adverse (not significant)	Minor Adverse (not significant)
<p><b>B15</b> <b>Kinellar</b> Residents, visitors or workers at cluster of industrial buildings, farmhouses, commercial premises and residential development along the A96 including Heathland Park, Ellismoss Farms, Marshall's Farm Shop.</p>	Mixed views, with some views contained by surrounding buildings, and other, more open views over the surrounding patchwork of fields, woodland and forestry blocks towards more distant hills including Bennachie to the north-west, as well as some views towards the A96.	Low	There may be some distant views of the proposed electrolysis plant site from properties with more open views, although the majority of views would be filtered or screened by trees, surrounding buildings or nearby forestry. Given the distance and visual context featuring other several other built features, including some more industrial and agricultural features, it would be barely perceptible in views.  Construction works associated with the proposed water pipeline, which crosses under the A96, would be visible from some of these properties in close proximity crossing the A96. This may include horizontal directional drilling (HDD) compounds either side of the A96, which would be seen in the context of this main road and industrial / commercial developments in the vicinity.	0 m	Low-Medium	Negligible	Minor-Moderate Adverse (not significant)	Negligible



Reference / name / location / type / context	Nature of existing view	Sensitivity	Nature of change	Distance <sup>1</sup> (approx. to closest part of site boundary)	Impact magnitude		Effect	
					Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
<p><b>B16</b>                      Properties including Leschangie, Whitestones, Harthills and Hill of Cottown</p> <p>Residents, visitors or workers at properties and industrial buildings along minor road along forestry edge north of Harthills Plantation.</p>	Mixed views, mainly enclosed by surrounding forestry and woodland, with some more open views across fields looking south from properties at the western end of this group, and from South Cottown to the east by the B994.	Low	The proposed development would likely be screened in views by nearby forestry.	0.4 km	No View	No View	No View	No View
<p><b>B17</b>                      Properties including Upper Cottown, Blairs and Craigmyle Cottage</p> <p>Residents or visitors at properties along or near the B994 road in largely wooded context.</p>	Mixed views, mainly towards the road, largely enclosed by surrounding forestry and woodland.	Low	The proposed development would likely be screened by forestry and not be visible from these properties.	1.4 km	No View	No View	No View	No View
<p><b>B18</b>                      Properties including Drumshalloch, Fairview and Hillhead Caravan Park</p> <p>Residents or visitors at properties, farm buildings and caravan park in elevated position along minor road north of B994 and Hall Forest.</p>	Most views are to the south, with potentially some elevated views across farmland and forest, with some views enclosed by forestry.	Low-Medium	The proposed development would likely be screened in views by intervening forestry in the foreground or further in the distance, although some views of the electrolysis plant element may be obtained over the tree tops.	1.3 km	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible

Reference / name / location / type / context	Nature of existing view	Sensitivity	Nature of change	Distance <sup>1</sup> (approx. to closest part of site boundary)	Impact magnitude		Effect	
					Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
<p><b>B19</b> <b>Muir of Kinellar, Kinellar House and other properties north of the A96</b></p> <p>Residents or visitors at properties and farm buildings in elevated position north of the A96 and south-east of Kintore.</p>	<p>Mixed views, with some open elevated, extensive views south-west and north-west across fields towards forested hills, with transmission lines and small-scale wind turbines visible in midground. Kintore Substation is visible in the distance. To the east, there are some views towards nearby residential development at Blackburn. From Kinellar House, views are enclosed by surrounding woodland, and some other properties also have views which are enclosed or partially enclosed by garden vegetation and nearby trees.</p>	Low-Medium	<p>The proposed electrolysis plant site would be visible from properties with more open views, seen on the distant valley floor, adjacent to Kintore Substation, partially back clothed against forestry, and filtered in some views by trees in front. It would be seen at a distance within an already developed context and would occupy a small part of the overall view, where visible.</p> <p>Construction works associated with the proposed water pipeline would be visible in close proximity, particularly from properties at the southern end of this receptor group, including Muir of Kinellar and Broomhill.</p>	0 m	Low-Medium	Low	Minor-Moderate Adverse (not significant)	Minor Adverse (not significant)
<p><b>B20</b> <b>Wood Cottage and other properties</b></p> <p>Residents and visitors at properties and farm buildings south of railway line and east of Kintore.</p>	<p>Mixed, generally more low-level views, with some open views across fields with groups of trees and drystone dykes, featuring transmission lines and some views enclosed or filtered by garden vegetation and trees. Potentially some filtered views towards the river and railway line from properties further north.</p>	Low-Medium	<p>The proposed electrolysis plant site would likely be screened by vegetation and landform from most of these properties. The proposed pumphouse and potential water treatment facility and associated access would be located in close proximity to these properties and would be visible (although would be below the skyline) from some of these properties where there are more open views towards the River Don, and screened/filtered by vegetation from others.</p> <p>Construction works associated with the proposed water pipeline, abstraction and discharge point, and pumphouse with potential associated water treatment works would also be visible in close proximity.</p>	0.1 km	Low-Medium	Low-Medium	Minor-Moderate Adverse (not significant)	Minor-Moderate Adverse (not significant)
<p><b>B21</b> <b>Properties including Waterside</b></p> <p>Residents and visitors at properties along B977, to the east of Kintore.</p> <p><i>Views from this group are illustrated from VL9 (see Figures 6.9a-c).</i></p>	<p>Slightly elevated views south and south-west across farmland with groups of trees and views of the River Don from some properties. Some views towards Kintore to the west. Some views enclosed within trees surrounding properties.</p>	Low-Medium	<p>The proposed electrolysis plant site would likely be screened by landform and vegetation.</p> <p>There may be some limited visibility of the proposed pumphouse and potential water treatment facility in the distance, and on the valley floor, particularly during construction, although this would be limited by riparian vegetation along the river and would occupy a small part of the overall view..</p>	0 m	Low	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible

Reference / name / location / type / context	Nature of existing view	Sensitivity	Nature of change	Distance <sup>1</sup> (approx. to closest part of site boundary)	Impact magnitude		Effect	
					Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
<p><b>B22</b> <b>Balbithan</b> Residents and visitors at cluster of properties and farm buildings north of Kintore.</p>	Elevated views, with some views to the south-west across the River Don and surrounding farmland with groups of trees, the settlement of Kintore, towards forested hills.	Medium	<p>The proposed electrolysis plant site would be visible on the distant hillside behind Kintore, partially behind Kintore Substation. Although seen on a hillside, it would be seen as a relatively small part of the overall elevated view, within a developed visual context, and at a distance. From some properties, it is likely that views would be filtered or screened by vegetation and other buildings.</p> <p>Construction works on the River Don may be perceptible, but potentially screened / filtered by intervening trees and /or landform.</p>	1.1 km	Low	Low	Minor Adverse (not significant)	Minor Adverse (not significant)
<p><b>B23</b> <b>Clovenstone</b> Residents and visitors at cluster of properties in elevated position west of the A96 and north-west of Kintore.</p>	Some views enclosed by nearby forest and garden vegetation, and some more open, elevated views south over nearby fields and forestry further in the distance.	Low	The proposed development would likely be screened by forestry and landform.	2.9 km	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible
<p><b>B24</b> <b>Properties including Aquhythie and Brownhill</b> Residents and visitors at properties north of Kemnay and west of the B993.</p>	A mixture of main views. From properties along forestry edge, views are relatively enclosed, with some more open, elevated views overlooking fields and forestry to the south / south-east from receptors at the southern end of this receptor group.	Low	The proposed development would likely be screened by forestry and landform.	4.5 km	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible
<p><b>B25</b> <b>Properties including Tappies and Woodend</b> Residents and visitors at properties south of Craigearn, and north of Castle Fraser GDL.</p>	From some properties including Woodend Farmhouse views enclosed within woodland. From other properties including Tappies there are more open views across surrounding farmland, forest and hills, with some views potentially enclosed or filtered by garden vegetation and farm buildings.	Low	The proposed development would likely be screened by forestry and landform.	3.0 km	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible



Reference / name / location / type / context	Nature of existing view	Sensitivity	Nature of change	Distance <sup>1</sup> (approx. to closest part of site boundary)	Impact magnitude		Effect	
					Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
<b>B26</b> <b>Properties including Wogle Cottage and Blackhill</b> Residents, visitors and workers to scattered properties and industrial buildings south of the A96 near Kinellar.	Mixed views over farmland with groups of trees and farm buildings, with some more open views west as well as some views enclosed or filtered by forestry/woodland.	Low	Potentially some distant views of proposed development, but likely screened by landform, vegetation and other built features from most of these receptors, and/or imperceptible as a small part of the overall view.	1.6 km	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible
<b>B27</b> <b>Kintore</b>	A mixture of views, often enclosed by other buildings, with a lot of views at the western edge of Kintore also contained by embankments and trees along the A96, as well as patches of woodland and forestry on the outskirts of this settlement. Some more open views from properties at the edge of this settlement, particularly to the south, or in elevated positions out across surrounding fields, woodland and industrial development at the edge of the settlement.	Low	From most of Kintore, views of the proposed development are expected to be screened by buildings, vegetation, and landform with some limited potential for views from receptors on the edge of this settlement, such as from the south. However, any potential views would be distant, and the proposed development would likely be barely perceptible and experienced in the context of residential, agricultural, electrical and industrial development .	0.4 km	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible

### 1.3 Route-based receptor locations

Table 2: Route-based receptor locations

Reference / name / location / type / context	Nature of existing view	Sensitivity	Nature of change	Distance <sup>1</sup> (approx. to closest part of site boundary)	Impact magnitude		Effect	
					Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
<p><b>R1</b> <b>A96</b></p> <p>Travelers on A-road passing by Kintore, and section of core path 408.06 and 408.06R.</p>	<p>Varied views, with some sections enclosed by embankments on either side, planted with trees. Around Kinellar, there are some open, low level views out towards surrounding farmland with a patchwork of fields and forest, featuring transmission towers, wind turbines and farm buildings. Some glimpsed views towards Kintore to the east behind roadside trees.</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>There would be passing views of the proposed electrolysis plant site from a section of this road between Kintore and Kinellar, where it would be seen to the west in the context of Kintore Substation and occasionally in the same part of the view as small scale wind turbines in the midground, partially backclothed against forestry in front of distant hills. However, given the speed of users of this road, and built visual context, it would be barely perceptible as a new feature in views.</p> <p>During construction, the proposed water pipeline would cross this route, and so construction compounds for HDD works to cross under the A96 may be perceptible for a very short section but would not affect the visual experience of users of this route.</p>	<p>0 m</p>	<p>Negligible</p>	<p>Negligible</p>	<p>Negligible</p>	<p>Negligible</p>
<p><b>R2</b> <b>B977</b></p> <p>Travellers on B-road from Kintore to Dunecht past Kintore Substation.</p> <p><i>Views from parts of this route are illustrated from VL4 (see Figures 6.4a-c) and VL9 (see Figures 6.9a-c).</i></p>	<p>Mixture of views, both open and enclosed at different sections, with several transmission towers prominent in views and Kintore Substation noticeable along short sections (particularly when travelling south). Small scale wind turbines visible east of Leylodge. Views enclosed by buildings when passing through Kintore.</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>There would be passing views of the proposed electrolysis plant site from a section of this route, where it would be visible on the hillside, partially behind landform and buildings on the roadside. It would be experienced in sequential views with Kintore Substation.</p> <p>During construction, works associated with the proposed underground services would be visible for a short section, adjacent to this route near Leylodge. Construction works associated with the proposed electrolysis plant site would be visible slightly further from the route. The construction access for the proposed gas connection would come off this route near Fordtown, but construction traffic is unlikely to be perceptible as a visual change.</p>	<p>0 m</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Moderate Adverse (significant)</p>	<p>Minor Adverse (not significant)</p>
<p><b>R3</b> <b>B994</b></p> <p>Travellers on B-road from Kintore to Kemnay.</p>	<p>Mixture of views: more enclosed views near Upper Cottown, with a mixture of more open and enclosed/filtered views between Cottown and Kintore across surrounding fields and forest. Transmission towers visible from majority of route as well as some small glimpses of Kintore Substation through a brief gap in the trees near Cottown.</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>The proposed development would be screened by forestry and roadside trees and although there may be some very brief glimpsed views near Kintore, it would be barely perceptible given the visual context.</p>	<p>0.4 km</p>	<p>Negligible</p>	<p>Negligible</p>	<p>Negligible</p>	<p>Negligible</p>

Reference / name / location / type / context	Nature of existing view	Sensitivity	Nature of change	Distance <sup>1</sup> (approx. to closest part of site boundary)	Impact magnitude		Effect	
					Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
<p><b>R4</b> <b>Railway</b> Travellers on Aberdeen-Inverness railway line passing through Kintore.</p>	<p>Varied views across surrounding farmland and groups of trees, with some views towards the River Don to the north / east, and some views of Kintore to the south / west, passing by industrial buildings on the outskirts of Kintore, with some sections enclosed by trees.</p>	Low	<p>The proposed electrolysis plant site would be screened by trees and vegetation along the railway line, buildings and local landform. The proposed pumphouse and potential water treatment facility would be visible in passing views from a very short section of the route, where it would be located adjacent to the railway line, on the southern side, with the water intake structure located north of the railway, by the river. The intake pipe would cross under the railway, resulting in some views of construction work.</p>	0 m	Low	Negligible	Minor Adverse (not significant)	Negligible
<p><b>R5</b> <b>Core paths in and around Kintore</b> Recreational users of routes including Core Paths 410.01, 410.05, 410.05P, 410.04, 410.04P and 410.02.</p>	<p>Some enclosed views within Kintore. From Core Path 410.01, there are more open views to the west when leaving Kintore, across fields, with Hallforest Castle forming a central landmark, although more distant views are contained by forestry to the north and roadside trees along the B994 to the south. From Core Path 410.04 around Gauch Hill, views are largely enclosed by woodland, with some more open views from the proposed 410.04P route to the east, out towards surrounding roads and residential and commercial development. From Core Path 410.02 to Tuach Hill, there is a mixture of open views and views enclosed or filtered by woodland on top of the hill, with some more open elevated views of Kintore and surrounding countryside.</p>	Low	<p>From most of these routes the proposed development would be screened by trees or buildings, although there is some potential for distant, filtered views towards the proposed development from Tuach Hill. If visible, it would be seen in the context of Kintore buildings and adjacent to Kintore Substation, and barely perceptible in the distance.</p>	0.4 km	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible



Reference / name / location / type / context	Nature of existing view	Sensitivity	Nature of change	Distance <sup>1</sup> (approx. to closest part of site boundary)	Impact magnitude		Effect	
					Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
<p><b>R6</b>  <b>Core Paths south-east of Kintore</b>                      Recreational users of routes including Core Path 402.03, 410.03, 410.03P, 402.01 and 402.02.</p>	<p>From Core Path 410.03 along the River Don, there are low-level views along the river and surrounding fields and groups of trees, with the railway (which the route passes under) in close proximity. From Core Path 402.03 there are open, elevated views in multiple directions over farmland with clusters of trees out towards distant hills, occasionally filtered by trees along the route. Transmission lines cross this route and pass by in close proximity, and at the northern end the route passes by warehouse buildings at the outskirts of Kintore. Near Kinellar House, the route passes by woodland and farm buildings, with some more enclosed views. From Core Path 402.01 which follows the B979, views are enclosed or filtered by roadside vegetation and buildings / warehouses to the south, and somewhat limited by rising landform to the north. From Core Path 402.02, running roughly parallel to 402.01, but higher up on the hillside, there are some elevated views south over farmland and forest, filtered by trees lining the route.</p>	<p>Low-Medium</p>	<p>There would be some open, elevated views towards the proposed development from some of these routes, particularly Core Path 402.03, from where the proposed electrolysis plant site would be perceptible on the distant hillside from much of this route, seen adjacent to Kintore Substation. There may also be distant, filtered views of the proposed electrolysis plant site from Core Path 402.01 and 402.02.</p> <p>The proposed water pipeline, abstraction and discharge point, and pumphouse with potential associated water treatment works would also be located adjacent to a part of this route, resulting in some disturbance during construction and visibility in operation, particularly from CP10.03.</p>	<p>0 m</p>	<p>Low-Medium</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Minor-Moderate Adverse (not significant)</p>	<p>Minor Adverse (not significant)</p>

<sup>1</sup> Where 0 m is recorded, the Site Boundary is immediately adjacent to (or crosses) the receptor location.