Technical Appendix 3.1: Outline Decommissioning and Construction Environmental Management Plan

Technical Appendix 3.1: Outline Decommissioning and Construction Environmental Management Plan (ODCEMP)

3.1.1 Introduction

General

3.1.1.1 This Outline Decommissioning and Construction Environmental Management Plan (ODCEMP), has been prepared as part of the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) for the Novar 1 Wind Farm Repowering project (hereafter referred to as the 'Proposed Development') and forms a Technical Appendix 3.1 of Volume 4 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) submitted as part of the application for consent for the Proposed Development under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989.

3.1.1.2 This ODCEMP will be updated by the Principal Contractor once appointed with detailed information and finalised prior to commencement of decommissioning and construction, in consultation with the relevant authorities and taking account of the approved plans and planning conditions.

3.1.1.3 The appointed contractors will be required to prepare detailed method statements which will be incorporated into the final Decommissioning and Construction Environmental Management Plan (DCEMP).

3.1.1.4 The requirement to produce a detailed DCEMP, which is in accordance with the framework set out in this outline document, will form part of the contract for the decommissioning and construction works for the Project. The management measures, method statements and referenced good practice guidance and legislation will form the basis of the detailed design to be prepared by the Principal Contractor.

3.1.1.5 The DCEMP will be a working document that will evolve during the different phases of the project. As such it would be subject to regular reviews and updates to:

- Address any planning or consent conditions;
- Ensure it reflects best practice at the time of decommissioning and construction;
- Ensure it incorporates the findings of pre-construction site investigations and surveys;
- Reflect changes resulting from the decommissioning and construction methods used by the contractor(s); and
- Take account of any unforeseen conditions encountered during decommissioning and construction.

3.1.1.6 The DCEMP will provide:

- A schedule of all construction stage mitigation measures required to address likely significant effects identified in the EIAR;
- A schedule of all additional good practice management and mitigation measures for the decommissioning of the existing Novar 1 Wind Farm and the construction and decommissioning of the repowered wind farm, included as part of the proposed construction work, in line with industry good practice guidance;
- A schedule of roles and responsibilities for delivering the requirements of the DCEMP, including a statement of responsibility to 'stop the job/ activity' if a potential breach of mitigation or legislation occurs;
- Method statements for monitoring, auditing, and for environmentally high-risk construction and decommissioning activities;
- Templates for reporting and communication of environmental management performance on-Site and with the Applicant, planning authority and other relevant parties;
- Decommissioning and construction stage environmental management measures, based on both compliance with relevant regulations and relevant good practice including but not limited to:
  - The Water Environment (Controlled Activities) (Scotland) Regulations 2011[1,2], and the requirement for Construction Site Licence[3] (and Pollution Prevention Plan);
  - Forestry Commission (2017). UK Forestry Standard: The Government's approach to sustainable forestry, 4th Edition. Forestry Commission, Edinburgh[4];
  - NatureScot (2019) Good Practice During Wind Farm Construction, A joint publication by Scottish Renewables, NatureScot, SEPA, Forestry Commission Scotland and Historic Environment Scotland, Marine Scotland Science, 4th Edition[5];
  - Netregs, Guidance for Pollution Prevention (GPP)[6];
  - CIRIA Publications including CIRIA C768 (Guidance on the construction of SuDS), CIRIA C753 (The SuDS Manual)[7];
  - NatureScot (2015) Constructed Tracks in the Scottish Uplands, 2nd Edition[8];
  - The Air Quality Standards Regulations 2010;
  - The Control of Pollution Act 1974;
  - The Environmental Protection Act 1990, Part 2A;
  - The Conservation (Natural Habitats) Regulations 1994 (as amended);
  - The Special Waste Regulations (Scotland) 1996;
- A template for the production of detailed and task/site specific plans for on-Site components of the construction work.

3.1.1.7 It is anticipated that specific mitigation plans and additional management measures will be required to address archaeology, ecology (protected habitats and species), surface water management and pollution prevention, watercourse crossings, waste, access arrangements, soil and peat management, construction and decommissioning impacts (noise, dust), and community liaison.

[1] UK Government. The Water Environment (Controlled Activities) (Scotland) Regulations 2011. Online. Available at: https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2011/209/contents/made [accessed 28/01/2026]

[2] SEPA, 2022. The Water Environment (Controlled Activities) (Scotland) Regulations 2011 (as amended): A Practical Guide. Online. Available at: https://www.sepa.org.uk/media/dw5de0kh/car-a-practical-guide.pdf [accessed 28/01/2026]

[3] SEPA, 2021. Supporting Guidance WAT-SG-75. Sector Specific Guidance: Water Run-Off from Construction Sites. Online. Available at: https://www.sepa.org.uk/media/340359/wat-sg-75.pdf [accessed 28/01/2026]

[4] Forestry Commission, 2017. The UK Forestry Standard. Online. Available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-uk-forestry-standard [accessed 28/01/2026]

[5] NatureScot, 2019. Guidance- Good Practice during Wind Farm Construction. Online. Available at: https://www.nature.scot/guidance-good-practice-during-wind-farm-construction [accessed 28/01/2026]

[6] NetRegs, 2024. Guidance for Pollution Prevention. Online. Available at: https://www.netregs.org.uk/environmental-topics/guidance-for-pollution-prevention-gpp-documents/ [accessed 28/01/2026]

[7] SUSDRAIN, URL: https://www.susdrain.org/resources/ciria-guidance.html [accessed 28/01/2026]

[8] NatureScot, 2015. Constructed tracks in the Scottish Uplands. Online. Available at: https://www.nature.scot/doc/archive/constructed-tracks-scottish-uplands [accessed 28/01/2026]

Objectives of the ODCEMP

3.1.1.8 The objectives of the ODCEMP are to:

- Outline the proposed mechanisms for ensuring the delivery of environmental measures to avoid or reduce potential environmental effects;
- Ensure procedures are in place so that there is a prompt response to effects requiring remediation, including reporting and any additional mitigation measures required to prevent a recurrence;
- Provide an outline of the content that would be supplied in the decommissioning and construction method statements and strategies that would be prepared to secure mitigation measures in relation to different design aspects of the Proposed Development;
- Ensure compliance with relevant legislation and identify where it would be necessary to obtain authorisation from the relevant statutory bodies;
- Ensure that appropriate monitoring and reporting would be in place;
- Provide a framework to ensure that environmental issues are effectively managed in a consistent and integrated manner and to produce the DCEMP once a contractor has been appointed;
- Support the planning application for the project to illustrate the applicant's responsibilities and plans to manage environmental aspects during the decommissioning and construction of the Proposed Development; and
- Set out the Applicant's expectations to guide contractor(s) on their requirements with regards to environmental commitments, standards and compliance.

Structure of the ODCEMP

3.1.1.9 This ODCEMP is based on established good management practices, relevant Scottish legislation and includes the following information:

- Information pertaining to data management, roles and responsibilities, project team structure, mitigation and monitoring, auditing and non-compliance and corrective actions;
- Information pertaining to staff training, health and safety and community liaison;
- Information about the Site and the Proposed Development;
- Outline of the construction works methodology; and
- Environmental management measures for specific environmental topics.

Decommissioning and Construction Phases Activities

3.1.1.10 Detailed decommissioning and construction activities are described in **Chapter 3: Site Description and Proposed Development (EIAR Volume 2)**.

3.1.1.11 The Outline Circular Decommissioning Strategy for the existing Novar 1 Wind Farm is included in **Technical Appendix 1.5 (EIAR Volume 4)**.

Schedule of Mitigation

3.1.1.12 A schedule of mitigation measures, outlining a summary of mitigation measures raised by each technical topic and specific project phase, is provided in **Technical Appendix 14.1 (EIAR Volume 4)**.

3.1.1.13 The final version of the DCEMP will include a schedule of embedded mitigation, commitments made in the EIAR and good practice measures.

3.1.1.14 Additionally, the DCEMP will also maintain a schedule of commitments required by specific planning conditions.

3.1.2 General Site Requirements

Working Hours

3.1.2.1 The normal working hours would be as follows:

- 07:00 to 19:00 Monday to Friday;
- 07:00 to 13:00 Saturday; and
- No working on Sundays or public holidays.

Additional Hours of working

3.1.2.2 No audible works associated with the turbine delivery off-site and on-site, the completion of turbine erection or emergency work, will take place outside of the proposed working hours, and any such out-of-hours works would be subject to prior agreement with THC.

3.1.2.3 The requirement for out-of-hours work could arise, for example, from delivery and unloading of abnormal loads or health and safety requirements, or to ensure optimal use is made of fair-weather windows for the removal of existing site infrastructure during decommissioning and the erection of new turbine blades and the erection and dismantling of cranes during construction stage.

Good Housekeeping

3.1.2.4 The Applicant and their contractors shall always follow and maintain a good housekeeping policy during decommissioning and construction works. This will include but not necessarily be limited to the following requirements.

- General maintenance and cleanliness of the Site boundary, welfare facilities and storage areas;
- Provision of adequate welfare facilities for Site personnel;
- Appropriately designated smoking areas with waste containers;
- Appropriate waste management provision and regular collections;
- Open fires will be prohibited;
- Effective infestation prevention of pests or vermin including arrangements for regular disposal of food or other material attractive to pests. If infestation occurs, the Applicant will take appropriate action to eliminate and prevent further occurrence;
- Maintenance of wheel washing facilities or other containment measures;
- No discharge of Site runoff or water discharge without agreement of the appropriate authority including the procurement of any required licences, permits or consents;
- Appropriate security and lighting;
- The use of less intrusive noise alarms which meet the safety requirements of the worksite, such as broadband reversing warnings, or proximity sensors to reduce the requirement for traditional reversing alarms; and
- Provision of Site layout maps showing key areas such as material storage, spill kits and waste storage.

Fire Prevention and Control

3.1.2.5 Plans and management controls will be put in place for the Site and its construction welfare facilities to prevent fires. Additionally, the following measures will be implemented:

- Maintain good housekeeping throughout construction;
- Complete waste disposal frequently to prevent the build-up of flammable materials on Site;
- Prevent litter accumulating on Site;

- Store hazardous materials according to the Manufactures' Materials Safety Data Sheet (MSDS), avoiding co-location of incompatible materials;
- Store gases appropriately in locked cages when not in use to prevent unauthorised access with no additional materials stored within the cage; and
- Open fires will be prohibited.

Clearance and Re-instatement on completion of construction

3.1.2.6 The Applicant will reinstate all working areas associated with the Proposed Development on completion of the construction works. All plant, materials, vehicles, temporary buildings and fencing will be removed and the surface of the ground restored as near as practicable to its original or specified landscaping condition.

Considerate Constructors Scheme

3.1.2.7 The Site will be registered with the national Considerate Constructors Scheme (CCS). The CCS scheme promotes best practices among construction sites, companies and suppliers to improve the image of the construction industry.

Environmental Permits, Consents and Licences

3.1.2.8 The Applicant and their Principal Contractor(s) will be responsible for obtaining all necessary environmental permits, consents and licences prior to the works starting. These can include but not limited to:

- Controlled Activities Regulations (CAR) licenses;
- Protected Species licenses;
- Peat Management approval;
- Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI); and
- Scheduled Monument Consent.

3.1.3 Communication Protocol

Roles and Responsibilities

3.1.3.1 The DCEMP will confirm the roles, responsibilities and communication routes for environmental management during the works. This plan will refer to or incorporate communication protocols for use during an environmental emergency or incident. An outline of the anticipated key roles and responsibilities are presented in Table 3.1.1 below.

Table 3.1.1: Summary of Anticipated Key Roles and Responsibilities relating to the implementation of the DCEMP

Role	Responsibilities
Developer (The Applicant)	▪ Appointment of the Principal Contractor, Project Manager, Environmental Manager and Archaeological Clerk of Works.
Principal Contractor	▪ Ensuring that the works are carried out in accordance with the final DCEMP and any contract documentation; ▪ Ensuring that mitigation and management measures, environmental monitoring and auditing are carried out in accordance with the DCEMP; ▪ Ensuring that the appointed subcontractors and contractors are appropriately qualified and competent; ▪ Facilitating and ensuring that environmental awareness training is carried out for all site workers and contractors. Training should include an induction for site workers which should include environmental elements pertaining to the implementation of the final DCEMP; ▪ Monitoring the performance of contractors/sub-contractors and provide direction as required; ▪ Liaise regularly with the Environmental Manager; ▪ Complete regular audits of the final DCEMP and report findings and carry out any follow up actions identified including corrective actions in the event of breaches; and ▪ Responsible for the actions of management of contractors and subcontractors associated with the decommissioning and construction works and ensuring that they comply with the requirements of the final DCEMP and any applicable environmental legislation.
Project Director	▪ Supporting the development and implementation of this ODCEMP and the DCEMP once a contractor has been appointed. The Project Director is also responsible for providing strategic direction of the Applicant's environmental objectives; ▪ Administer and review updates of the DCEMP; and ▪ Direct on-Site compliance checks during construction and associated work areas to ensure adherence to the ODCEMP and DCEMP once developed.
Project Manager	▪ Developing and implementing the final DCEMP; and ▪ Reviewing and updating the final DCEMP in consultation with the Project Director, Construction Health and Safety and Environment (CHSE) advisors, and the management team, as required.
Environmental Manager	▪ Undertaking environmental monitoring and reporting as specified in the final DCEMP; ▪ Undertaking environmental audits in conjunction with the Principal Contractor as specified in the final DCEMP. Conduct regular reporting of the findings of the audits; ▪ Regularly review the final DCEMP to ensure it accurately reflects the construction works at a frequency of no less than every six months, or where there are significant changes to construction methodologies or from a breach of the conditions in the DCEMP; ▪ Ensuring that all relevant environmental consents, licences and permits are in place prior to the commencement of the works and ensuring that the requirements of any permits are included in the final DCEMP and adhered to; ▪ Act as the first point of contact for environmental issues associated with the Proposed Development; ▪ Undertake environmental training (including toolbox talks) as required, to ensure that all Site operatives are aware of the environmental requirements; ▪ Ensure that the objectives of the final DCEMP are being achieved and that these are not contrary to any relevant legal requirements; and

Table 3.1.1: Summary of Anticipated Key Roles and Responsibilities relating to the implementation of the DCEMP

Role	Responsibilities
	▪ Engage with the Principal Contractor on environmental issues identified during the construction work and issue Corrective Notices where required.
Contractors/Subcontractors	▪ Work to agreed plans, methods and procedures to minimise environmental impacts; ▪ Carry out all works in accordance with the final DCEMP; ▪ Undertake the site induction training, which will cover environmental issues; and ▪ Report all environmental incidents to their line manager.
Site Operatives	▪ Ensure adherence to the environmental requirements for the development and associated works as outlined in the final DCEMP; and ▪ Identify any environmental issues on Site and report these to the Site Manager and the Environmental Manager as appropriate.
Environmental Clerk of Works (EnvCoW)	▪ EnvCoW would be appointed to oversee environmental measures detailed in the DCEMP, this doesn't include ecology and ornithology measures which would be dealt by ECoW, as set out below.
Ecological Clerk of Works (ECoW)	▪ The appointed ECoW will also provide advice on technical aspects of the environment as requested, and the potential impact of specific activities as required by the Applicant; ▪ ECoW will review whether construction activities are likely to affect breeding birds and, if so, what mitigation options are available; ▪ Construction teams will be advised by the ECoW of existing/ new constraints together with mitigation options; ▪ The ECoW will attend site and check for signs of nesting on a regular basis throughout the construction period to ensure all environmental mitigation relevant to breeding birds is delivered; and ▪ Monitoring will be undertaken by the ECoW, where appropriate, to ensure no disturbance is caused.
Archaeological Clerk of Works	▪ Overseeing Site activities to ensure compliance with archaeological mitigation measures defined in the DCEMP and any related consent conditions; ▪ Supervising fencing off archaeological remains; and ▪ Undertaking an archaeological watching brief on ground-breaking works across the Site as identified in the DCEMP.

Recording and Reporting

3.1.3.2 The DCEMP will set out the requirements for recording and reporting all aspects of environmental management, for example:

- Minutes and attendance record of start-up meeting (on-Site meeting prior to commencement of decommissioning and construction works);
- An environmental risk register;
- minutes of weekly meetings covering environmental (ecology, archaeology, hydrology) issues (meetings may be combined with regular construction progress meetings);
- A Communication Plan;
- Records of toolbox talks;
- Dust/noise monitoring records;
- Site waste and materials records;
- Water quality monitoring records (if required); and
- Licensing and consents.

3.1.3.3 The DCEMP would be agreed with The Highland Council (THC) and relevant statutory consultees before adoption.

Environmental Audits and Inspections

3.1.3.4 The DCEMP will set out the programme of environmental audits, including audits of sub-contractors to be undertaken by the contractor, on a quarterly basis (as a minimum) and provides an audit report within two weeks of the audit being undertaken.

3.1.3.5 The contractor(s) will develop a template for completing and reporting audits for the agreement of the employer prior to the commencement of Site works.

Community Liaison

3.1.3.6 During the decommissioning of the existing wind farm and construction of the Proposed Development, a community liaison group will be set up to disseminate information and take feedback, and the project website will be regularly updated to provide the latest information relating to traffic movements associated with vehicles accessing the Site.

Risk Assessments and Method Statements

3.1.3.7 Once appointed, the Principal Contractor would prepare Risk Assessments and Method Statements (RAMS) where significant environmental risk is identified for any Site activity during decommissioning and construction.

3.1.3.8 RAMS must align with the embedded mitigation measures outlined in **Technical Appendix 14.1 Schedule of Mitigation (EIAR Volume 4)** and good practice measures to remove/reduce identified potential environmental impacts. RAMS must be reviewed and approved by BWL, prior to the activity commencing on Site.

Training and Competence

Site Induction

3.1.3.9 All persons engaged or visiting the site must undergo a health safety and environmental management induction session prior to starting work on site. The Applicant's Construction Health, Safety and Environment (CHSE) advisor or equivalent will prepare a plot specific induction to be incorporated into the final DCEMP to ensure all construction environmental risks are adequately covered, and the Applicant will ensure that all operatives attend the induction.

Start of Shift Briefing

3.1.3.10 The Principal Contractor will ensure that daily start of shift briefings are held for staff working on Site, to be run by the Applicant's management staff, recorded and filed in the site office. Start of shift briefings will include environmental risks and control measures such as those to limit noise and vibration and to prevent dust and air emissions.

Environmental Training

3.1.3.11 The Applicant will undertake a programme of health, safety and environmental training for all personnel, and training records will be logged and kept in the Site offices for inspection. Training should include all environmental aspects identified in the final DCEMP.

3.1.3.12 The Principal Contractor will carry out toolbox talks and briefings for their site staff and operatives. The following areas are recommended subject areas:

- General environmental requirements;
- Noise restrictions (Section 61)[9];
- Implementing Best Practicable means (noise and dust);
- Waste management and storage; and
- Contaminated land.

Health and Safety

3.1.3.13 Under the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 (CDM 2015), the Principal Contractor must prepare and implement a project specific plan outlining Health and Safety provisions during the decommissioning and construction phase of the project.

3.1.4 Environmental Incident Planning

Environmental Incidents

3.1.4.1 All accidents, incidents and near misses will be reported to the Applicant's Principal Advisor – Construction Health Safety and Environment, investigated and managed in compliance with the Applicant's standards and relevant health and safety legislation.

3.1.4.2 The Principal Contractor will prepare and implement appropriate measures to control the risk of pollution due to construction activities, materials and extreme weather events and will develop and maintain an Incident Response Plan (IRP). The IRP should include as a minimum:

- A list of key external and internal contacts;
- A Site plan showing:
  - Site drainage;
  - The location of COSHH and fuel storage areas (where applicable);
  - The location of refuelling activities (where applicable);
  - Locations of shut off valves (water and fuel);
  - Locations of spill equipment, drain and sewer capping devices, sump pumps, bunds and booms.
- A list of stored hazardous materials;
- A list of appropriate spill kit material for different types of spills;
- Refuelling procedures;
- Standby arrangements for emergency tankers to deal with a major spillage or flood event (including fire waters);

3.1.4.3 Specific emergency response procedures will be available for the following:

- Flood events;
- Spill containment and remediation;
- Complaints;
- Discovery of contamination including invasive species;
- Discovery of treasure or finds of archaeological/heritage interest;
- Discovery of asbestos; and
- Discovery of unexploded ordnance (UXO).

Emergency Contact Numbers

3.1.4.4 The Applicant will update the internal key emergency contact details in Table 3.1.2 below once confirmed. Key third party emergency contact details are outlined in Table 3.1.3.

Table 3.1.2: The Applicant's/Principal Contractor's Emergency Contact Details (to be completed)

Role	Name	Contact Details
Principal Contractor	TBC	TBC
Project Director	TBC	TBC
Project Manager	TBC	TBC
Site Manager	TBC	TBC
Environmental Manager	TBC	TBC
Ecological Clerk of Works (ECoW)	TBC	TBC
Environmental Clerk of Works (EnvCoW)	TBC	TBC
Archaeological Clerk of Works	TBC	TBC
Health and Safety Manager/Officer	TBC	TBC
Community Liaison Manager	TBC	TBC

Table 3.1.3: Third-party Emergency Contact Details

Name	Contact Details
All Emergency Services (Police, Fire, Ambulance)	999
Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA)	Office: 0800 80 70 60 (24-hour Incident helpline)
Scottish Water	24-hour customer emergency number: 0800 0778 778
THC (Environmental Health team)	Office: 01349 886606 Email: envhealth@highland.gov.uk
SSEN (Alness 1 Grid Supply Point (GSP) substation	Emergency number: 105
Site Ecologist	TBC
Geo-environmental Specialist	TBC
Invasive Species Specialist Contractor	TBC

[9] Control of Pollution Act 1974. Available at: https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1974/40/section/61

Emergency Access

3.1.4.5 The Applicant will ensure that the requirements of the relevant fire authority and other emergency services are followed for the provision of Site access points. A community emergency plan and management controls will be developed to ensure that the community are fully informed, and appropriate arrangements are in place for evacuation in the case of a major emergency.

3.1.5 Typical Decommissioning and Construction Stage Environmental Management Measures and Plans

Outline Decommissioning Strategy

3.1.5.1 The outline strategy for decommissioning the existing Novar 1 Wind Farm is detailed in **Technical Appendix 1.5 (EIAR Volume 4)**, covering the schedule, key stages of decommissioning, and options for material recovery and circularity. It serves as the preliminary strategy that will be systematically reviewed, updated, and finalised as a detailed Decommissioning and Restoration Plan (DRP) closer to the scheduled cessation of generation at Novar 1.

Contractor Requirements

3.1.5.2 A Principal Contractor will be appointed, and they will ensure that all employees, sub-contractors, suppliers and other visitors to the Site are made aware of the content of the DCEMP and its applicability to them. Accordingly, environmental specific induction training will be prepared and presented to all categories of personnel working on and visiting the Site.

3.1.5.3 As a minimum, the following information will be provided to all inductees:

- Identification of specific environmental risks associated with the work to be undertaken on-Site by the inductee;
- Summary of the main environmental receptors, risks, aspects and requirements at the Site as identified in the DCEMP; and
- Environmental Incident and Emergency Response Procedures (including specific Environmental Communication Plan requirements).

3.1.5.4 A conveniently sized copy of an Environmental Risk Map or equivalent will be provided to all inductees showing all of the sensitive areas, exclusion zones and designated washout areas. The map will be updated and reissued as required. Any updates to the map will be communicated to all inductees through a tool-box talk given by specialist environmental personnel. Regular toolbox talks will be provided during construction to provide ongoing reinforcement and awareness of environmental issues.

3.1.5.5 The Applicant/Principal Contractor would be required to prepare a number of environmental management plans. A typical list of such plans are shown in Table 3.1.4. The list of plans would be confirmed post-consent and would be incorporated into the detailed DCEMP.

Table 3.1.4: Typical Decommissioning and Construction Stage Environmental Plans

Environmental Plan	Details to be included in Environmental Plan
Community Liaison Plan	▪ Details on the proposed communication protocols and project team contacts.
Archaeological Management Plan	▪ Requirements for mitigation and/or good practices measures agreed with the planning authority and in line with measures specified in the EIAR and the DCEMP.
Tree Felling Plan	▪ Felling plan and tree protection measures.
Ecological Management Plan	▪ Measures required to protect ecology at the Site during decommissioning and construction and to ensure compliance with relevant nature conservation and wildlife protection legislation.
Decommissioning and Construction Breeding Bird Protection Plan	▪ Measures to protect breeding birds during decommissioning and construction phases.
Surface, Groundwater and Water Quality Monitoring Management Plan	▪ The Design for drainage management measures, to incorporate sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) to attenuate the volume and rate of runoff and maintain water quality; ▪ The requirement for monitoring (including visual inspection and sampling) of all drainage measures employed during the construction phase to assess and manage the performance of the drainage system and ensure they are maintained appropriately and remain effective. The performance of the drainage measures will be monitored and recorded; ▪ The monitoring of surface watercourses to be undertaken during the construction phase, if required; ▪ The Principal Contractor(s) will obtain the appropriate CAR licence from SEPA prior to the commencement of decommissioning and construction; and ▪ The Principal Contractor will be responsible for implementing any requirements of the Site Licence and associated Pollution Prevention Plan (PPP), along with Guidance for Pollution Prevention (GPPs) and General Binding Rules (GBRs) relevant to the protection of water quality.
Dust Management Plan	▪ Dust management controls and protocols for implementation e.g. in the event of dry weather.
Sustainable Management Plan	▪ Identify and audit intended material and proposed waste management streams through Sustainable Management Plan; and ▪ Follow the principle of the Waste Hierarchy to ensure resources are managed efficiently by identifying and mitigating against unsustainable practices.
Ancillary Excavation Works and Material Storage	▪ Details of ancillary excavation works and material storage, identifying responsibilities of the contractor(s).
Peat Management Plan	▪ The PMP will be produced post consent using data acquired through the Site investigation campaign; and ▪ Outline measures to maintain soil structure and function during temporary storage and reinstatement work.
Peat Instability Risk Assessment Management Plan	▪ Include details on geotechnical risk register and management plan to manage risks associated with construction close to areas identified as having peat instability risk.
Noise Management Plan	▪ Specify hours of work and provide an outline of proposed restrictions, noise control measures required during site works.
Construction Traffic Management Plan	▪ Include details on traffic management plan measures agreed with the planning authority.
Temporary Lighting	▪ Temporary lighting will be required at the temporary decommissioning/construction compounds for security

Table 3.1.4: Typical Decommissioning and Construction Stage Environmental Plans	
Environmental Plan	**Details to be included in Environmental Plan**
	purposes and to ensure that a safe working environment is provided to construction staff. In addition, temporary lighting could be required to ensure safe working conditions at infrastructure locations during construction; and ▪ All temporary lighting installations will be downwards pointing passive infra-red (PIR) activated lighting and all lights will be switched off during daylight hours and outwith working hours.

3.1.6 Decommissioning and Construction Method Statements

Decommissioning and Construction Programme

3.1.6.1 The estimated total duration for the decommissioning of the existing Novar 1 Wind Farm and the construction of the repowered wind farm is 36 months.

Decommissioning and Construction Method Statements

3.1.6.2 Table 3.1.5 presents the details that shall be included in the method statements for key elements of the construction of the repowered and decommissioning activity associated with both the existing Novar 1 Wind Farm and the proposed repowered wind farm.

Table 3.1.5: Decommissioning and Construction Method Statements	
Key elements of Proposed Development	**Details to be included in Method Statement**
Temporary compounds, lighting, staging area and Site fencing	▪ Layout of temporary decommissioning compounds; ▪ Type and extent of temporary fencing required during decommissioning works; ▪ Layout of temporary construction compounds; and ▪ Layout of the Site fencing and access arrangement.
Public access roads	▪ The improvements proposed along the access route to Site and detailed in a Traffic Management Plan (TMP) which will also set out any Agreements or Licences required with the relevant statutory authorities and the delivery of abnormal indivisible loads (AIL).
Site entrance	▪ Requirements for inspection of Site entrance roads; ▪ Requirement/protocols for providing a road sweeper to remove any mud or debris transferred onto the roads from Site activities if required; and ▪ Details on Site entrance security.
Internal Tracks	▪ Details on removal of existing Internal Track that are not required for the repowered wind farm; ▪ Details on widening existing Internal Track and construction of new Internal Tracks, including installation of track drainage; and ▪ Areas requiring sub-grade drainage measures to maintain groundwater connectivity (based on detailed site investigation at pre-construction phase).
Watercourse crossings	▪ Design of watercourse crossings in accordance with the Water Environment (Controlled Activities) (Scotland) Regulations 2011 as amended (CAR). ▪ Watercourse crossing construction methodology, including detailed measures to prevent pollution. Specifications shall comply with: ▪ Flood Estimation Handbook[10] (Statistical Analysis) and ReFH2 - used where appropriate used to determine the design flow; ▪ CIRIA Culvert design and operation guide (C689); ▪ Scottish Executive (2002) River Crossings and Migratory Fish: Design Guidance (where appropriate); and ▪ Other SEPA guidance where appropriate.
Areas of hardstanding	▪ Design details on areas of hardstanding; and ▪ Excavation methods for their decommissioning and construction methods for their installation.
Turbine foundations	▪ Decommissioning details for removal of existing turbine foundations; and ▪ Construction details for new turbine foundations for the Proposed Development.
Turbine and turbine transformer erection	▪ Decommissioning details for dismantling of existing turbine components; and ▪ Construction details for turbine and turbine transformer erection.
Site electrical works	▪ Specify decommissioning and construction details for Site electrical works.
Cable trench design philosophy	▪ Methods of decommissioning on-Site cables; including methods for cable removal and outline a plan for leaving cables in-situ where applicable; and ▪ Route and design of new on-Site cables, including methods of installation, watercourse crossing and measures to ensure that cable trenches do not provide a preferential pathway for dewatering peat forming habitats.
Substation, control building, parking and compound method statement shall specify:	▪ Methods of demolition for the existing control building and decommissioning of the compound; and ▪ Construction details for substation, parking and substation compound.
Grid connection	▪ Interface with distribution network operator for new grid connection.

3.1.7 Decommissioning and Restoration Plan for the Repowered Wind Farm

3.1.7.1 The expected operational life of the Proposed Development will be 35 years from the date of final commissioning. Towards the end of this period a decision will be made as to whether to remove or

[10] UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology: Flood Estimation Handbook. Online. Available at: https://www.ceh.ac.uk/our-science/projects/flood-estimation-handbook [last accessed 08/05/2024]

replace the turbines. If refurbishment or replacement is chosen, then relevant applications would be made.

3.1.7.2 The DCEMP will be updated on completion of the construction work for handover to the Site owner.

3.1.7.3 The DCEMP will provide details of all relevant 'as-built' plans/drawings and technical details which will inform the decommissioning process.

3.1.7.4 The DCEMP will provide a schedule of bill of quantities to summarise the components and constituent materials which form the Proposed Development, and the likely options or methodology envisaged for the decommissioning process.

3.1.7.5 A Decommissioning and Restoration Plan (DRP) will be prepared and will be submitted for approval by THC, NatureScot and SEPA prior to the commencement of site works on repowered wind farm.

3.1.7.6 The final DRP establishes the definitive operational schedule, environmental risk mitigations, contractor compliance standards, and reverse-construction methodologies for safely dismantling site infrastructure. It details the precise material pathways, circular recovery targets, and progressive land reinstatement protocols required to satisfy planning consent conditions and return the site to an agreed, environmentally stable state.

3.1.7.7 The DRP will consider embedded and best practice mitigation measures outlined in this ODCEMP and the DCEMP to mitigate adverse environmental impacts occurring during the decommissioning of the repowered wind farm. The decommissioning contractor will, where necessary produce RAMS for potentially environmentally sensitive works to consider the likely significant impacts, including but not limited to:

- Landscape and visual amenity;
- Cultural heritage;
- Ecology;
- Ornithology;
- Hydrology, hydrogeology and soils;
- Noise;
- Dust and air quality;
- Waste and materials management;
- Traffic and access; and
- Aviation.