

## Appendix 1.1

### Statement of Expertise



## Appendix 1.1: Statement of Expertise

Chapter	Qualification / Expertise of Person Responsible
<p><b>Chapter 1: Introduction</b></p> <p><b>Chapter 2: Approach to the EIA</b></p> <p><b>Chapter 3: Site Selection and Design Strategy</b></p> <p><b>Chapter 4: Scheme Description</b></p> <p><b>Chapter 5: Planning Policy Context</b></p> <p>(prepared by LUC with technical inputs from SPEN and forestry inputs from RTS)</p>	<p><b>Kate Wigley BSc (Hons) MA MIEMA CEnv</b> Director of Environmental Planning at LUC. Kate is a Chartered Environmentalist and has over 15 years of professional experience, specialising in integrated environmental design and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of major infrastructure projects, including overhead transmission lines and onshore wind farms. In her lead role, Kate manages and coordinates the communication of information between environmental and technical teams to facilitate mitigation of impacts through the design and EIA processes. Kate has also undertaken a range of environmental planning related research commissions, a number of which have culminated in the preparation of good practice guidance.</p> <p><b>Jo Wotton BSc (Hons) MSc MIEMA CEnv</b> is an Associate Environmental Planner and Chartered Environmentalist with over ten years of experience in EIA and project management. Jo has worked on a range of EIA and environmental planning projects and has project managed and assisted in managing several EIAs for energy related and mixed-use developments. Many of the projects Jo has been involved in have complex issues and involve multi-disciplinary teams.</p> <p><b>Norman O'Neill BSc (For) MICF CEnv</b> is the Managing Director and Senior Forestry Consultant of RTS Ltd, forestry management, timber harvesting and consultancy company. Norman has worked on a number of high profile EIA projects including major utility interconnectors and windfarm developments. Recent projects include Beauty Denny, South-West Scotland, and Inveraray-Port Ann overhead line projects. He has also worked with a range of conservation organisations on providing woodland related advice and project management across Scotland working with groups including the RSPB and the Woodland Trust. Norman has provided forestry advice in relation to the routeing of the Kendoon to Tongland Reinforcement (KTR) Project, the assessment, the implementation of works, delivery of mitigation and landowner discussions.</p> <p><b>Wojciech Dlugolecki MSc</b> is a senior forest surveyor for RTS Ltd with extensive experience in assessing and reporting on forest issues associated with a wide range of EIA projects across Scotland, including works for overhead lines and wind farm projects. With significant expertise in GIS systems, including drone surveys, Wojciech has developed an accurate and concise process for the delivery of the detailed forest assessments required for EIA projects where they involve both native and commercial forests. Recent projects include the South-West Scotland and Boat of Garten Lairg to Loch Buidh overhead line developments.</p>
<p><b>Chapter 6: Landscape and Visual Amenity</b></p> <p>(prepared by LUC)</p>	<p><b>Sam Oxley BSc (Hons) MA CMLI</b> is a Director of Landscape Planning at LUC with over 20 years of experience in the field of LVIA and has worked on numerous wind farm and grid connection projects, particularly across Scotland, but also within England and Wales. Sam seeks to use assessment in an iterative way to help feed into the design process and to mitigate potential impacts. She is experienced in working and liaising with a wider team of experts including engineers and architects, in order to influence project design so as to minimise environmental impacts, whilst helping to develop practical and workable solutions. Sam is a respected Expert Witness who has prepared precognitions, proofs of evidence and written and graphical productions for Public Inquiries, Hearings and Examinations throughout the UK and Ireland. She regularly acts as a Landscape and Visual Expert Witness for wind farms in Scotland, providing professional advice throughout the appeal process and at both oral Hearings and under cross examination at Public Inquiries.</p> <p><b>Allison Palenske BLA MFA</b> is a Senior Landscape Planner and Licentiate Member of the Landscape Institute with over two years' post qualification experience. Allison has been involved in the optioneering, routeing and consultation for a number of grid connection projects. She also provided support for the LVIA of the Kendoon to Tongland Reinforcement (KTR) Project. Allison's key strengths are report writing and production of LVIAs, and she has experience in the production of supporting graphics, field survey and undertaking landscape photography in accordance with current SNH and LI visualisation standards.</p> <p>The preparation of visualisations was led by <b>Susie Duncan BA (Hons) PG (Dip)</b>. Susie is an Associate Director at LUC and heads up the 3D Visualisation team. She has over fifteen years of experience in producing photomontages and 3D digital models used primarily to assess and demonstrate visual impact. This includes the creation of digital terrain modelling for large scale landscape visualisations and verified view photomontages required to accurately illustrate the architectural and planting proposals for proposed developments and masterplans. Susie has extensive experience of the appropriate data use, technical process and presentation formats required for full compliance with all relevant national guidance regarding visualisation production and has carried out peer review on behalf of external clients. She is a proficient user of a number of industry standard and other more specialised 3D software packages and frequently carries out viewpoint photography. Susie has contributed visual content for numerous EIA reports, public exhibitions, consultation documents and public inquiries</p>
<p><b>Chapter 7: Geology, Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Water Resources and Peat</b></p> <p>(prepared by Kaya Consulting and East Point Geo)</p>	<p><b>Dr Sally Stewart BSc, MSc, PhD, MCIWEM, C.WEM</b> is a Principal Environmental Consultant at Kaya Consulting with over 20 years consultancy experience in hydrology, geomorphology, and environmental impact assessment. Sally has undertaken many flood risk assessments, geomorphology (river and coastal) assessments and environmental impact assessments (EIAs) in Scotland and overseas. She has project managed hydrology, peat, and geology chapters for many EIA-Reports for a range of developments, including onshore wind farms, linear developments (onshore cables from offshore and overhead lines) and mining projects.</p> <p><b>Dr Callum Pearson BSc, MRes, PhD</b> is a Senior Hydrologist with over 8 years of academic research and consultancy experience in hydrology and EIA. Callum led the peat and hydrology survey work and contributed to the preparation of the chapter, data analysis and appendices.</p> <p>The Peat Landslide Hazards and Risk Assessment and Peat Management Plan was prepared by <b>Dr Andy Mills BSc, MSc, PhD, CGeol FGS</b>. Andy is a peat geomorphologist and geohazard consultant at East Point Geo. He has 23 years' experience mapping and interpreting peat geomorphology and peat landslides (slides, flows and bursts) in the UK and Ireland, including the specification and interpretation of ground investigations in peatlands. He was technical lead in preparation of the Best Practice Guide for the Scottish Government in relation to peat landslides, having drafted much of both the original guidance and redrafted the second issue. Between 2007 and 2013, and between 2014 and 2018 he acted as lead reviewer for the Scottish Government's contracted checking team for peat stability. assessments submitted to the Energy Consents Unit as part of Section 36 applications for wind farm developments. Andy's core skills and interests lie in the interpretation and management of peat uplands for built infrastructure, particularly in relation to peat landslides. Andy has provided support to numerous developments, including front-end terrain evaluations, peat stability assessments and preparation of peat management plans and enhanced (restoration focused) plans.</p>
<p><b>Chapter 8: Ecology</b></p> <p>(prepared by LUC)</p>	<p><b>Steve Jackson-Matthews MSci (Hons) CEnv MIEEM MEECW</b> is Director of Ecology at LUC with 18 years ecological consultancy experience. Steve has worked extensively within the planning system, undertaking ecological assessments for a wide range of proposed developments across the UK and Ireland. As a specialist in the planning system, Steve routinely project manages Ecological Impact Assessment and Habitat Regulation Assessments to a range of developments, including onshore wind farms, linear developments (onshore cables from offshore and overhead lines) projects.</p> <p><b>Helen Embleton BSc (Hons) MIEnvSc</b> is a Principal Ecologist with LUC. She has 17 years-experience within ecological consultancy. Helen has extensive experience in managing ecological surveys and reporting to inform planning applications across the UK and Ireland. Helen has also designed, managed and delivered many Ecological Impact Assessments, Habitat Regulations Assessments, Preliminary Ecological Appraisal, Species and Habitat Protection Plans, and prepared and discharged the requirements of European Protected Species/ Badger licences.</p> <p><b>Carol Greenwell BSc (Hons) AMRSB</b> is a Consultant Ecologist with LUC who is an experienced field ecologist with 4 years' experience. Carol has gained experience in habitats and protected species surveying in relation to a wide range of proposed developments across the UK. She is also a qualifying member of the Chartered institution of Ecology and Environmental Management.</p>
<p><b>Chapter 9: Ornithology</b></p> <p>(prepared by NRP)</p>	<p><b>Alex Ash BSc (Hons)</b> is a Senior Project Ornithologist at Natural Research (Projects) Ltd with more than 19 years of professional experience in ornithology working for several environmental consultancies in the UK and the Republic of Ireland as well as conservation bodies such as NatureScot, RSPB and The National Trust. For the past ten years Alex has been involved within consultancy</p>

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	<p>being directly involved in over 80 proposed windfarm projects and several powerline proposals. As Senior Project Ornithologist at NRP, Alex is involved in project managing ornithological survey programmes for proposed and operational wind farms and other construction projects, reporting on findings, undertaking impact assessments and advising clients on design and mitigation strategies.</p> <p><b>Blair Urquhart</b> is Director of Operations at Natural Research (Projects) Ltd and has over 26 years' experience of working with birds and their conservation and has managed a range of projects within the energy and conservation sectors. Blair joined NRP from Scottish Natural Heritage where he worked as SNH's lead for certain complex, contentious or novel renewable energy casework. He has an excellent knowledge and working experience of UK and European laws relating to wildlife and the countryside, he also contributed to the development of SNH casework guidance in relation to birds, their interaction with wind energy and powerline developments and impact assessment. Blair has worked on onshore wind farm projects across Scotland, Europe and the Middle East, and has been involved in preparing EIA reports for several powerline projects such as the KTR Project and the Skye Reinforcement Project. He has prepared and written numerous Technical Reports and EIA Report chapters and provided ornithological management advice for a number of renewable energy and powerline developments.</p>
<p><b>Chapter 10: Cultural Heritage</b> (prepared by LUC)</p>	<p><b>Steven Orr MA (Hons) MSc LRTPI FSAScot</b> is an Associate Director of Historic Environment at LUC with more than 15 years professional experience. Steven is a highly experienced town planner and landscape archaeologist, with considerable expertise in research, policy development and environmental assessment. Leading LUC's historic environment team, Steven's archaeological and heritage management knowledge and expertise, coupled with his planning experience, means that he is well-placed to advise on creative, sustainable solutions for conserving and enhancing assets and their setting. His strong track record in policy and research makes him a trusted adviser to government, agencies and NGOs, including acting as an expert witness</p> <p><b>Michelle Statton BA MA PhD ACIFA</b> has been a professional archaeologist since 2006 and historic environment consultant since 2014. Michelle has a strong background in field archaeology, including the management of sub-contractors, and in preparing archaeological and built heritage impact assessments, including EIA. In addition to producing inputs for EIA Reports, Michelle also has considerable experience peer reviewing cultural heritage Environmental Statement chapters on behalf of local authority clients in London and the south-east.</p>
<p><b>Chapter 11: Access, Traffic and Transport</b> (prepared by Mott MacDonald)</p>	<p><b>John Dooley BA, FCILT, IEng MICE, MCIHT</b> is a Chartered Transport Planner (with Expert Witness credentials) and an experienced traffic engineer and road safety auditor, with more than 30 years' experience in transport planning and civil engineering. As lead Transport Specialist and subject matter expert, John has been responsible for the assessment of transport and access requirements for several power and energy developments both in the UK and overseas, involving the appraisal and reporting of traffic impacts for all road users per EIAR and TMP submissions.</p>
<p><b>Chapter 12: Summary of Likely Significant Effects</b> (prepared by LUC)</p>	<p><b>Kate Wigley BSc (Hons) MA MIEMA CEnv</b> and <b>Jo Wotton BSc (Hons) MSc MIEMA CEnv</b> As above.</p>