APPENDIX 1
MODEL SCREENING CHECKLIST BASED ON ADVICE CONTAINED WITHIN PLANNING CIRCULAR 3/2011:
Adaptation of the Planning (EIA) (Scotland) Regulations 2011 checklist for the Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2000

The entries on this checklist are indicative in terms of what is anticipated to result from development of the proposed Solar PV array if condition 14 was to be varied as set out in the Section 36C application. This document amends the Screening Checklist submitted to Scottish Ministers on 20 March 2017 in respect of the original Screening Request made under the 2000 Regulations for the S.36 application.

1. CHARACTERISTICS OF THE DEVELOPMENT	Yes/no Briefly describe
(a) Size of the development	
Will the development be out of scale with the existing environment?	No
Will it lead to further consequential development or works (e.g. new roads, extraction of aggregate, provision of new water supply, generation or transmission of power, increased housing and sewage disposal)?	Generation of power and transmission off site, by new underground cables to Elgin 132/33kV substation approx. 6 kilometres west of the development
(b) Cumulation with other development	
Are there potential cumulative impacts with other existing development or development not yet begun but for which planning permission exists?	No
Should the application for this development be regarded as an integral part of a more substantial project? If so, can related developments which are	No. It is considered that the

subject to separate applications proceed independently?	planning permission at Speyslaw 17/00808/APP to the north east could proceed independently and vice versa

(c) Use of natural resources	
Will construction or operation of the development use natural resources such as land, water, materials or energy, especially any resources which are non-renewable or in short supply? • land (especially undeveloped or agricultural land)? • water? • minerals? • aggregates? • forests and timber? • energy including electricity and fuels? • any other resources?	Yes, land. However, the land is currently used for sheep grazing and this will continue to be the case if the development takes place.
(d) Production of waste	
Will the development produce wastes during construction or operation or decommissioning? • spoil, overburden or mine wastes? • municipal waste (household and/or commercial)? • hazardous or toxic wastes (including radioactive)? • other industrial process wastes? • surplus product? • sewage sludge or other sludges from effluent treatment? • construction or demolition wastes? • redundant machinery or equipment? • contaminated soils or other material? • agricultural wastes? • any other solid wastes? • liquid or solid wastes in suspension?	None anticipated

(e) Pollution and nuisances	
Will the development release pollutants or any hazardous, toxic or noxious substances to air? Emissions from:- • combustion of fossil fuels from stationary or mobile sources? • production processes? • materials handling including storage or transport? • construction activities including plant & equipment? • dust or odours from handling of materials including construction materials, sewage & waste? • incineration of waste? • burning of waste in open air (e.g. slash material, construction debris)? • any other sources	None anticipated
Is there a potential risk from:- • leachates? • Escape of wastes or other products/by-products that may constitute a contaminant in the environment?	No
Will the development cause noise and vibration or release of light, heat energy or electromagnetic radiation? • from operation of equipment e.g. engines, ventilation plant, crushers? • from industrial or similar processes? • from blasting or piling? • from construction or operational traffic? • from lighting or cooling systems? • from sources of electromagnetic radiation (effects on nearby sensitive equipment as well as people)? • from any other sources?	Noise typical during construction period only. Operational noise will come only from inverter substations likely to omit noise akin to domestic appliances

(f) Risk of accidents, having regard in particular to substances technologies used	
Will there be a risk of accidents during construction or operation of the development which could have effects on people or the environment? • from explosions, spillages, fires etc from storage, handling, use or production of hazardous or toxic substances? • from events beyond the limits of normal environmental protection e.g. failure of pollution control systems? • from any other causes? • could the development be affected by natural disasters causing environmental damage (e.g. floods, earthquakes, landslip, etc)?	None anticipated
Will the development involve use, storage, transport, handling or production of substances or materials which could be harmful to people or the environment (flora, fauna, water supplies)? • use of hazardous or toxic substances ? • potential changes in occurrence of disease or effect on disease carriers (e.g. insect or water borne diseases)? • effect on welfare of people (e.g. change of living conditions) • effects on vulnerable groups (e.g. the elderly)?	No
Other characteristics: potential physical changes (topography, land use, changes in waterbodies etc) from construction, operation or decommissioning of the development	
• permanent or temporary change in land use, landcover or topography including increases in intensity of land use? • clearance of existing land, vegetation & buildings? • Peat land disturbance and/ or degredation leading to; carbon release, damage to habitats, affecting land stability or hydrology? • creation of new land uses? • pre-construction investigations e.g. boreholes, soil testing? • construction or demolition works? • temporary sites or housing for construction workers? • above ground buildings, structures or earthworks	Temporary change in land cover, potential for temporary plant/equipment/vehicles on site during construction. Decommissioning activities will take place in c. 40 years. Agricultural uses will continue on the site throughout the period when the array is

including linear structures, cut & fill or excavations? • underground works including mining or tunnelling? • reclamation works? • dredging? • coastal structures (seawalls, piers)? • offshore structures? • production and manufacturing processes? • facilities for storage of goods or materials? • facilities for treatment or disposal of solid wastes or liquid effluents? • facilities for long term housing of operational workers? • new road, rail or sea traffic during construction or operation? • new road, rail, air, waterborne or other transport infrastructure including new or altered routes and stations, ports, airports etc? • closure or diversion of existing transport routes or infrastructure leading to changes in traffic movements? • new or diverted transmission lines or pipelines? • impounding, damming, culverting, realignment or other changes to the hydrology of watercourses or aquifers? • stream crossings • abstraction or transfers of water from ground or surface waters? • changes in waterbodies or the land surface affecting drainage or run-off? • transport of personnel or materials for construction, operation or decommissioning? • long term dismantling or decommissioning or restoration works? • ongoing activity during decommissioning which could have an impact on the environment? • influx of people to an area either temporarily or permanently? • introduction of alien species? • loss of native species or genetic diversity? • any other changes?	operational. Connection to the grid by new underground cables running from the new on-site primary substation to the existing Elgin 132/33kV sub-station approx. 6 kilometres west of the Airfield.
2. LOCATION OF THE DEVELOPMENT	
<u>(a) Existing land use</u>	
Are there existing land uses on or around the location which could be affected by the development, e.g. homes, gardens, other	Nearby houses to south west of site will

private property, industry, commerce, recreation, public open space, community facilities, agriculture, forestry, tourism, water catchments, functional floodplains, mining or quarrying?	experience visual impact, but this is not considered to be adverse and landscaping could be used to mitigate any such impact
Are there any areas on or around the location which are occupied by sensitive land uses e.g. hospitals, schools, places of worship, community facilities, which could be affected?	None
Is the development located in a previously undeveloped area where there will be loss of greenfield land?	No
(b) Relative abundance, quality and regenerative capacity of natural resources in the area	
Are there any areas on or around the location which contain important, high quality or scarce resources which could be affected by the development? • groundwater resources • surface waters • forestry • agriculture • fisheries • tourism • minerals	Small area of Prime agricultural land. However the land's status will be unaffected after the plant has been decommissioned, and the land will benefit in the interim by employing a low intensity grazing regime across the prime area.
(c) Absorption capacity of the natural environment	
Are there any areas on or around the location which are protected under international or national or local legislation for their ecological, landscape, cultural or other value, which could be affected by the development?	No
Are there any other areas on or around the location which are important or sensitive for reasons of their ecology • wetlands, watercourses or other waterbodies • the coastal zone • mountains, forests or woodlands • nature reserves and parks	No
Are there any areas on or around the location in which species and habitats of Local Biodiversity Action Plan importance are present?	Not anticipated
Are there any areas on or around the location which are used by protected, important or sensitive species of fauna or flora e.g. for	Not anticipated

breeding, nesting, foraging, resting, overwintering, migration, which could be affected?	
Are there any inland, coastal, marine or underground waters on or around the location which could be affected?	Not anticipated
Are there any groundwater source protection zones or areas that contribute to the recharge of groundwater resources?	No
Are there any areas or features of high landscape or scenic value on or around the location which could be affected?	No
Are there any routes or facilities on or around the location which are used by the public for access to recreation or other facilities, which could be affected? Are there any transport routes on or around the location which are susceptible to congestion or which cause environmental problems, which could be affected?	Unlikely, although cabling may be routed alongside existing public road. No
Is the development in a location where it is likely to be highly visible to many people?	No
Are there any areas or features of historic or cultural importance on or around the location which could be affected?	Leuchars House and Innes House and associated Designed landscape lie in woodland to the south east and south west. The impact on these assets was assessed in detail as part of the original Cultural Heritage and Landscape assessments
Are there any areas on or around the location which are already subject to pollution or environmental damage e.g. where existing legal environmental standards are exceeded, which could be affected?	Unknown
Is the location of the development susceptible to earthquakes, subsidence, landslides, erosion, flooding or extreme or adverse climatic conditions e.g. temperature inversions, fogs, severe winds, which could cause the development to present environmental problems?	Considered unlikely

CHECKLIST OF CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING THE SIGNIFICANCE OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

The checklist below is for use in conjunction with the Screening Checklist provided above. It is based on the third section (Characteristics of the Potential Impact) of the 'Selection Criteria for Screening Schedule 2 Development' in Schedule 3 to the EIA Regulations. It is designed to help in deciding whether EIA is required based on the characteristics of the likely impacts of the development.

The Screening Checklist provided a list of questions to help in identifying where there are potential interactions between a development and its proposed location. The checklist below is designed to help decide whether those interactions are likely to be significant.

The following questions can be asked for each 'Yes' answer in the Screening Checklist, and the conclusion and reasons noted against the relevant answer. The questions are designed so that a 'Yes' answer will generally point towards the need for EIA and a 'No' answer towards EIA not being required.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POTENTIAL IMPACT
(a) <u>Extent of the impact</u>
Will the effect extend over a large area? Yes
Will many people be affected? No
(b) <u>Transboundary nature of the impact</u>
Will there be any potential for transboundary impact? No (nb. Development which has a significant effect on the environment in another Member State is likely to be very rare. It is for the Scottish Ministers to consider whether there is likely to be such an effect in each case).

(c) Magnitude and complexity of the impact
Will there be a large change in environmental conditions? None
Will the effect be unusual in the area or particularly complex? Unusual, but not remarkable
Will many receptors other than people (fauna and flora, businesses, facilities) be affected? No
Will valuable or scarce features or resources be affected? Small section of Prime agricultural land (temporarily)
Is there a risk that environmental standards will be breached? No
Is there a risk that protected sites, areas, features will be affected? Not considered likely
(d) Probability of the impact
Is there a high probability of the effect occurring? Small area of Prime agricultural land will be temporarily occupied
Is there a low probability of a potentially highly significant effect? Yes
(e) Duration, frequency and reversibility of the impact
Will the effect continue for a long time? C.40 years
Will the effect be permanent rather than temporary? Temporary
Will the impact be continuous rather than intermittent? Continuous over a temporary period
If intermittent, will it be frequent rather than rare? N/A
Will the impact be irreversible? No. Fully reversible.
Will it be difficult to avoid or reduce or repair or compensate for the effect? The effect cannot be avoided although the proposed use and impact is entirely reversible.