

# ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)



Although the site has an existing consent, the changes we are proposing mean that a full EIA will once again be required. This extensive study will form part of the formal application to be made to the Scottish Government.

EIA is the process of assessing the likely environmental impacts of a proposed project.

The EIA is required to follow clear steps which can be summarised as follows:

- Screening: to determine whether a particular project requires the preparation of an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR);
- Scoping: stage at which the scope of the EIAR is defined through consultation with statutory consultees;
- Preparation of the Draft EIAR;
- Public Consultation;
- Finalisation of the EIAR;
- Further public Consultation; and
- Review and decision by decision maker.

The EIA process aims to assist the Scottish Government and Local Authority in their determination of the application by identifying where any significant environmental effects are predicted.

The EIAR will be carried out in consultation with statutory consultees, interested parties and the general public.

## Environmental Surveys

The EIAR preparation covers topics including:

- Forestry
- Ecology and Ornithology;
- Protected species;
- Priority habitats;
- Archaeology and Cultural Heritage
- Carbon rich soils and priority peatland habitats;
- Hydrology;
- Landscape and visual impact; and
- Traffic and Transport.

Other desk-based assessments will include appraising the impacts of the proposed development on aviation, noise, telecommunications, socio-economics and climate change.