

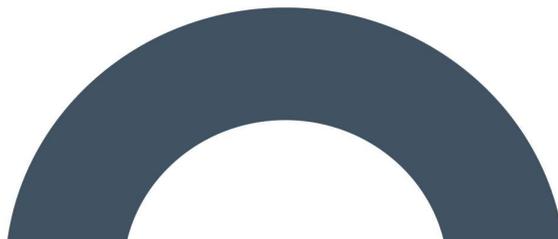
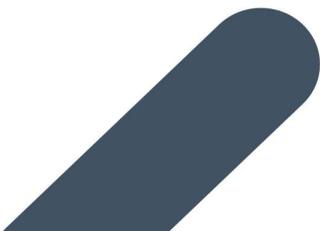
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Appendix 14-3

Carrig Renewables Wind Farm

Photomontage Assessment Tables

Tipperary Planning Authority - Inspection Purposes Only!



1. PHOTOMONTAGE ASSESSMENT TABLES

The tables included in this Appendix detail a visual impact assessment of the photomontage visualisations of the 18 No. Viewpoints presented in the Volume 2 Photomontage Booklet. This Appendix should be read in conjunction with viewing the photomontage booklet. The Table below provides location information about the 18 No. Viewpoints assessed.

VP No.	Description	Grid Ref. (ITM)
1	View from the R489 regional road in the townland of Lisballyard, located approximately 4.6km northwest of the nearest proposed turbine. This viewpoint is located along a designated scenic route in the Tipperary County Development Plan 2022-2028.	E: 596,482 N: 706,227
2	View from a local road in the townland of Clonfinane located approximately 1.3km northeast of the nearest proposed turbine.	E: 600,174 N: 703,054
3	View from the N62 national road in the townland of Drumakeenan, located approximately 14.2km southeast of the nearest proposed turbine.	E: 610,385 N: 692,313
4	View from a local road in the townland of Stonestown, located approximately 18.8km northeast of the nearest proposed turbine. This is a designated viewpoint location in the Offaly County Development Plan 2021-2027.	E: 608,939 Y: 718,108
5	View from a local road at Naylor's Hill within the townland of Cumber Lower, located approximately 18.6km east of the nearest proposed turbine. This is a designated viewpoint location in the Offaly County Development Plan 2021-2027.	E: 618,038 N: 703,359
6	View from a local road west of the N52, in the townland of Faddan More, located approximately 735m east of the nearest proposed turbine.	E: 600,119 N: 701,691
7	View east from the N52 national road in the townland of Tinlough, located approximately 4.3km northeast of the nearest proposed turbine.	E: 603,660 N: 702,304
8	View from a local road on the outskirts of Birr, located approximately 6.5km east of the nearest proposed turbine in the townland of Drumbane.	E: 605,576 N: 704,140
9	View from a local road in the townland of Abbeville, located approximately 4.2km northwest of the nearest proposed turbine. This viewpoint is located along the 'Ormond Way' way marked walking trail overlooking Lackeen Castle.	E: 595,009 N: 704,383

VP No.	Description	Grid Ref. (TM)
10	View from the N62 national road in the townland of in the townland of Clonkelly, located approximately 6.9km east of the nearest proposed turbine.	E: 606,301 N: 701,108
11	View from the R438 regional road in the townland of Lelagh, approximately 3.6km north of the nearest proposed turbine.	E: 599,513 N: 705,656
12	View from the Cloondavaun Marina overlooking Lough Derg, in the townland of Cloonmoylan, located approximately 18.2km west of the nearest proposed turbine.	E: 580,044 N: 701,787
13	View from the N65 national road in the townland of Ballycasey, located approximately 8.3km southwest of the nearest proposed turbine.	E: 591,571 N: 696,629
14	View from the L3011 local road in the townland of Newtown, approximately 9.3km north of the nearest proposed turbine. This is a designated viewpoint location in the Offaly County Development Plan 2021-2027.	E: 599,092 N: 711,458
15	View from the R493 regional road, in the townland of Firmount, located approximately 8.9km west of the nearest proposed turbine. This viewpoint is located along a designated scenic route in the Tipperary County Development Plan 2022-2028.	E: 589,421 N: 701,228
16	View from the village of Carrig, in the townland of Doughkill, located approximately 2.2km east of the nearest proposed turbine.	E: 601,653 N: 701,176
17	View from a local road in the townland of Arrimore located approximately 762m southwest from the nearest proposed turbine.	E: 598,514 N: 700,573
18	View from the R438 regional road, in the townland of Sharragh, located approximately 2.8km northwest of the nearest proposed turbine.	E: 597,229 N: 704,452

1.1

Visual Impact Assessment Methodology

The Visual Impact Assessments reported in the tables below follow the ‘Assessing Visual Effects’ methodology set out in Section 1.6.2 of Appendix 14-1 – *LVIA Methodology*. The cumulative visual effects associated with other wind farms located within the LVIA Study Area and the Proposed Development are included in the assessment tables below.

Assessment of Cumulative Visual Effects

As reported in Section 14.6 of Chapter 14, the assessment of cumulative visual effects considers all other existing, permitted and proposed wind energy developments in the LVIA Study Area and their interactions with the Proposed Development. The descriptions of cumulative visual effects reported in this document use the photomontages in the Volume 2 Booklet and are guided by the identification labels on the wireline views accompanying each photomontage view. Potential for cumulative visual effects are accounted for in the ‘Magnitude of change’ row in each impact assessment table and are considered in the ‘Residual Visual Effect’ determination given for each Viewpoint.

1.2

Viewpoint Assessments

Viewpoint 1 - Lisballyard			
Viewpoint Description and Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > View from the R489 regional road in the townland of Lisballyard. > Located approximately 4.6km northwest of the nearest proposed turbine (T6). > This viewpoint is located along a designated scenic route in the Tipperary County Development Plan 2022-2028. > Grid Reference: E: 596,482, N: 706,227 > Number of Turbines Visible: 7/7 		
LCA and Sensitivity	Tipperary LCA 11 Shannon Callows – High	Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	Residents – Low Rathcabbin – Medium Regional Road – Medium Scenic Route – Medium/High
Description of ‘Existing View’	<p>The view is comprised of a number of agricultural fields, with the regional road seen in the left-hand side of the image. This is medium-range view over flat agricultural farmland, with a gentle rise in elevation seen in the right background. The fields are bordered primarily by low hedgerows with some mature trees and treelines interspersed throughout the view. A farm building can be seen to the left-hand side of the view, with several mature treelines seen behind it in the left background. Several overhead lines are seen throughout the view. The character of the view is rural and agricultural.</p> <p>The existing Carrig and Skehanagh turbines are theoretically visible from this location but are screened from view by the various treelines in the view.</p>		
Proposed Photomontage Description	6 of the 7 proposed turbines are visible in the background of the view, with varying levels of screening provided by the intervening vegetation. 3 turbines are seen from at least mid-tower up. Turbine T2 is entirely screened from view by a large mature tree, however this effect will differ		

Viewpoint 1 - Lisballyard	
	depending on exact viewing location. There is some overlap of turbine components between turbines T3 and T6.
Cumulative Effects	There are no other turbines visible from this viewpoint and therefore no cumulative visual effects are deemed to arise.
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)</i>	Medium – This viewpoint is located along a designated scenic route in the TCDP, with the view described as follows “ <i>South on the R489 east of Lorrha</i> ”, indicating that the focus of the scenic view is partially in the direction of the Proposed Development. However, the view in question is not of a particularly high scenic quality, is generally unremarkable, and is typical of many other views of agricultural fields within the surrounding area. There are no long ranging views available, and visibility primarily restricted to medium range views over agricultural fields and farmsteads. Considering these factors this viewpoint has been assigned a Medium sensitivity.
Magnitude of Change <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)</i>	Slight – The proposed turbines are partially seen and result in a low level of change in the view. The character of the view is altered by remains similar to the baseline existing situation.
Significance of Effect	Medium x Slight = Minor = Slight (EPA, 2022) <i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities.”</i>
Mitigation Factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › There is substantial screening of the proposed turbines due to intervening features in the landscape, although this effect will differ depending on exact viewing location. › The turbines are viewed as relatively small features in the background of the view and they do not impact any of the key scenic sensitivities of this designated scenic route. › The baseline view is generally unremarkable and is typical of many other views of agricultural fields within the surrounding area. Visibility primarily restricted to medium range views over agricultural fields and farmsteads.
Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)	Slight (EPA, 2022) <i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities.”</i>

Viewpoint 2 - Clonfinane			
Viewpoint Description and Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > View from a local road in the townland of Clonfinane. > Located approximately 1.3km northeast of the nearest proposed turbine (T2). > Grid Reference: E: 600,165 N: 703,053 > Number of Turbines Visible: 7/7 		
LCA and Sensitivity	Tipperary LCA 7 Borrisokane Lowlands – Medium	Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	Local Road – Low Residents – High
Description of 'Existing View'	The view overlooks an agricultural field enclosed by hedgerows and deciduous trees. The landscape in view is flat. Dense vegetation is present throughout the view, restricting visibility to short-range views.		
Proposed Photomontage Description	All seven of the proposed turbines are visible within the background of the view. Turbines T1 and T7 are only visible from the upper reaches of the turbine towers, with other turbines partially screened by the vegetation in view. All turbine nacelles are visible. The closest turbines appear as large vertical objects within the view although they are notably located beyond the short-range views available in the baseline. The proposed met mast is visible above the treelines in the background, as a thin vertical object located to the right of turbine T3.		
Cumulative Effects	No other windfarms are visible from this viewpoint, and therefore no cumulative visual effects arise for this viewpoint.		
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)</i>	High – This viewpoint has been classified as a high sensitivity viewpoint on account of the existing residential receptors living along the local road in close proximity to the Proposed Development.		
Magnitude of Change <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)</i>	Substantial – The proposed turbines are seen as large-scale, prominent vertical features within the view. The proposed turbines are visible in close proximity to the viewer.		
Significance of Effect	High x Substantial = Major/Moderate = Very Significant (EPA, 2022) <i>“An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration or intensity alters most of a sensitive aspect of the environment.”</i>		
Mitigation Factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > With regard to the siting of turbines in proximity to residential dwellings, the Proposed Development adheres to the minimum 500m set back distance in the current WEDGs (DoEHLG, 2006) and also the 4 times tip height set-back distance set out for residential visual amenity prescribed by the draft WEDGs (DoHPLG, 2019). > The field structure, vegetation, and other landscape elements seen throughout the view are a physical landscape buffer and provide a sense of scale in relation to the setback distance of the turbines, with turbines viewed as sited beyond multiple fields or behind a treeline. > All turbine components are viewed above the horizon and are not visible against the backdrop of any valuable or unique landscape features. 		

Viewpoint 2 - Clonfinane	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › As a result of the iterative design process, the turbines are viewed as a coherent cluster with only a moderate horizontal extent within the view, even from this location in close proximity to the site. › The baseline view is generally unremarkable and is typical of many other views of agricultural fields within the surrounding area and wider rural landscape of Ireland. › The lower tower sections of all proposed turbines are obscured from view by the intervening landform reducing their prominence when viewed within the landscape.
Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)	Moderate (EPA, 2022) <i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities”</i>

Viewpoint 3 - Drumakeenan			
Viewpoint Description and Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › View from the N62 national road in the townland of Drumakeenan, located approximately 14.2km southeast of the nearest proposed turbine (T1). › Grid Reference: E: 610,385 N: 692,313 › Number of Turbines Visible: 7/7 		
LCA and Sensitivity	Offaly ILCA 1 – Birr Plains – Low	Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	National Road – Low
Description of ‘Existing View’	<p>This view looks from an elevated section of roadway over a gently undulating agricultural landscape. The landcover is comprised of agricultural fields, bordered by hedgerows and treelines. There are also tracts of commercial forestry and other woodland seen in the left background. The topography rises in the left background forming a ridgeline associated with the peak of Knockshigowna.</p> <p>The existing Carrig and Skehanagh turbines are located on this ridgeline and are seen in the left background of this view.</p>		
Proposed Photomontage Description	<p>The proposed turbines are seen in the background, viewed in a linear array, seen above the skyline. The proposed turbines are seen as very small features within the view and occupy a small horizontal extent. There is some overlap between the turbines components of turbines T1 and T3.</p>		
Cumulative Effects	<p>There are some additional cumulative visual effects that arise at this viewpoint. The proposed turbines are seen to add another wind farm within this part of the view. Although there is approximately even spacing between the three cluster of turbines (comprised of the existing Carrig and Skehanagh turbines, as well as the turbines of the Proposed Development), providing some visual balance in the landscape view.</p>		
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) (See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	<p>Low – This viewpoint has been assigned a Low sensitivity on account of receptors along the national road located a substantial distance from the nearest proposed turbine.</p>		

Viewpoint 3 - Drumakeenan	
Magnitude of Change <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)</i>	Slight – The proposed turbines are visible almost to their full extent and extend the horizontal extent of turbines visible in this view. However, with the scale of the turbines reduced substantially by distance, their appearance within the view will result in a low level of change in the view and its composition and a low degree of contrast.
Significance of Effect	Low x Slight = Minor/Negligible = Not Significant (EPA, 2022) <i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences.”</i>
Mitigation Factors	› The view of the turbines from this elevated location along the road will be momentary and road users travelling at speeds of up to 80kmph will not experience this view for long.
Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)	Not Significant (EPA, 2022) <i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences.”</i>

Viewpoint 4 – Stonestown			
Viewpoint Description and Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › View from a local road in the townland of Stonestown. › Located approximately 18.8km northeast of the nearest proposed turbine (T2). › This viewpoint is located along a designated scenic route in the Tipperary County Development Plan 2022-2028. › Grid Reference: E: 608,939 Y: 718,108 › Number of Turbines Visible: 7/7 		
LCA and Sensitivity	Offaly ILCA 2 Central Wetlands - Low	Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	Local Road – Low Residents – Low Scenic View - Medium
Description of ‘Existing View’	<p>The view looks from an elevated vantage point over a flat cutover peatland landscape, where tracts of woodland and other trees appear as the main feature of the land cover. The peak of Slieve Ara (which is located beyond the south-western extent of the LVIA Study Area, can be seen as a faint background feature.</p> <p>The existing Cloghan and Meenwaun Wind Farms can be seen in relatively close proximity to the viewpoint and are large vertical features within the view. The existing Carrig and Skehanagh turbines are also theoretically visible in the background, however, the atmospheric conditions prevent views of these turbines in this image. It is considered that they are visible in this view, however.</p>		
Proposed Photomontage Description	The proposed turbines are seen as small background features in this view, viewed as smaller vertical features than the other closer turbines. They are seen as a small linear array, viewed above the horizon, to the right-hand side of Slieve Ara.		

Viewpoint 4 – Stonestown	
	The permitted Derrinlough Wind Farm is also seen in this view, across a large horizontal extent of the view. The turbines of the Proposed Development are seen behind and through this wind farm.
Cumulative Effects	There are a number of other existing and permitted turbines in view from this location in close proximity to the viewpoint. The addition of the proposed turbines to this view gives rise to limited additional cumulative visual effects. The proposed turbines appear as very small features within the background of the view, and while they do extend the landscape area over which turbines are visible from this location, the scale of these proposed turbines means that they give rise to very limited cumulative visual effects in relation to the views of the other existing and permitted turbines.
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)</i>	Medium – This is the location of a designated scenic view in the OCDP, however, the existing view itself is comprised of high levels of wind farm development in close proximity. Therefore, in relation the Proposed Development, a wind farm located a substantial distance from this viewpoint, the sensitivity of this viewpoint is considered Medium.
Magnitude of Change <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)</i>	Slight – The addition of the proposed turbines is barely distinguishable from the do-nothing scenario, where the permitted Derrinlough turbines are built. However, the proposed turbines will be seen through another wind farm, with additional cumulative visual effect arising as a result. Overall, the composition and character of the view is substantially unaltered by the addition of the proposed turbines.
Significance of Effect	Medium x Slight = Minor = Slight (EPA, 2022) <i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities”</i>
Mitigation Factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The view in question is already subject to high levels of wind energy development. The addition of the proposed turbines into the view does not add novel elements within the view. ➤ Whilst the proposed turbines contribute to cumulative visual effects, the proposed turbines are very small within this view in comparison to the other closer existing and permitted turbines and has a very minor addition to the landscape view.
Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)	Not Significant (EPA, 2022) <i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences.”</i>

Viewpoint 5 – Naylor's Hill			
Viewpoint Description and Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > View from a local road at Naylor's Hill within the townland of Cumber Lower, located approximately 18.6km east of the nearest proposed turbine (T1). > This is a designated viewpoint location in the Offaly County Development Plan 2021-2027. > Grid Reference: E: 618,038 N: 703,359 > Number of Turbines Visible: 6/7 		
LCA and Sensitivity	Offaly ILCA 6 – Slieve Bloom Upland Areas – High	Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	Residents – Low Local Road – Low Designated Scenic View – High
Description of 'Existing View'	<p>The is an open expansive view to the west from an elevated road. The topography slopes downwards quickly from the viewpoint, towards a relatively flat agricultural plain. The landcover is primarily comprised of agricultural fields defined by hedgerows and deciduous treelines. Some tracts of woodland and residential buildings can also be seen throughout the view. There are some areas of higher elevation seen, including the hill of Knockshigowna in the left background.</p> <p>The existing Carrig and Skehanagh turbines are also visible atop this hill. The existing Meenwaun turbines are also visible from this location, in the right background. The existing Cloghan turbines are also visible from this viewpoint, but are located beyond the right-hand extent of this image.</p>		
Proposed Photomontage Description	<p>The proposed turbines are seen as small features in the background of the view. The turbines are arranged in a liner array, seen primarily above the skyline, with overlap of turbine components of turbines T2 and T7, as well as T4 and T1. The proposed turbines are seen within a small horizontal extent of the view.</p> <p>The permitted Derrinlough turbines are visible at the right-hand extent of the image.</p>		
Cumulative Effects	<p>There are several other wind farms (existing and permitted) visible from this viewpoint which will be seen in combination with the turbines of the Proposed Development. There is substantial visual separation between the Proposed Development and these other existing and permitted developments. The expansive, flat nature of the view seen here creates a sense of large area of space in which the addition of the Proposed Development does not result in substantial levels of turbines seen across the entirety of the view. There is capacity within the landscape in view to effectively absorb a wind energy development of the scale of the Proposed Development without substantial cumulative visual effects.</p>		
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)</i>	High – This viewpoint is deemed to be a High sensitivity viewpoint on account of the designated protected view in the OCDP, and the expansive, long-ranging nature of the view itself.		

Viewpoint 5 – Naylor's Hill	
Magnitude of Change <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)</i>	Negligible – The proposed turbines are seen as very small elements in the distant background of the view, within a limited horizontal extent. The composition and character of the view will remain broadly similar as a result of the addition of the proposed turbines.
Significance of Effect	High x Negligible = Minor = Slight (EPA, 2022) <i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities.”</i>
Mitigation Factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › The Proposed Development is located within a landscape character area of medium sensitivity and the proposed turbines do not obstruct any sensitive or scenic views from this location. › As a result of the iterative design process (see Chapter 3), the turbines are viewed with only a moderate horizontal extent within the view, even from this location in close proximity to the site. The Proposed Development reads coherently in the landscape as one turbine cluster. LVIA was a key constraint considered to ensure the turbine layout is seen as one visually connected development within the landscape (previous layout iterations included 2 clusters - See Chapter 3). › The proposed turbines are effectively absorbed within the background of this expansive and long ranging panoramic view and they do not interfere with any key landscape sensitivities.
Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)	Slight (EPA, 2022) <i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities.”</i>

Viewpoint 6 – Faddan More			
Viewpoint Description and Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › View from a local road west of the N52, in the townland of Faddan More. › Located approximately 735m east of the nearest proposed turbine (T2). › Grid Reference: E 600,119 N 701,691 › Number of Turbines Visible: 7/7 		
LCA and Sensitivity	Tipperary LCA 7 Borrisokane Lowlands – Medium	Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	Residents – High Local Road – Low
Description of ‘Existing View’	The view is comprised of agricultural fields either side of a small local road leading to the Proposed Development Site. A line of mature deciduous trees can be seen to the right-hand side, and an agricultural shed and farmyard can be seen to the left-hand side. A treeline is visible throughout the background of the view, comprising of mature deciduous forestry and a tract of birch plantation to the right, restricting visibility to medium-range views.		
Proposed Photomontage Description	All proposed turbines are visible from this viewpoint as tall vertical elements aligned in a coherent cluster within the background of the view. Turbine T1 and T2, which are the closest turbines to the viewpoint are viewed as large vertical structures, whilst the remaining turbines occupy a moderate vertical		

Viewpoint 6 – Faddan More	
	extent within the view. Turbines T6 and T2 are substantially screened and are only slightly visible due to the intervening vegetation, whilst the remaining turbines are partially screened by the intervening treeline, although it is noted that this screening effect will differ depending on the exact viewpoint location. The upper section of the proposed met mast is visible to the right of turbine T4.
Cumulative Effects	No other windfarms are visible from this viewpoint, and therefore no cumulative visual effects arise for this viewpoint.
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)</i>	High – This viewpoint has been classified as a high sensitivity viewpoint on account of the nearby residential receptors in close proximity to the nearest proposed turbines.
Magnitude of Change <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)</i>	Substantial – The proposed turbines are seen as large-scale, prominent vertical features within the view. The proposed turbines are almost fully visible in close proximity to the viewer.
Significance of Effect	High x Substantial = Major/Moderate = Very Significant (EPA, 2022) <i>“An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration or intensity alters most of a sensitive aspect of the environment.”</i>
Mitigation Factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › With regard to the siting of turbines in proximity to residential dwellings, the Proposed Development adheres to the minimum 500m set back distance in the current WEDGs (DoEHLG, 2006) and also the 4 times tip height set-back distance set out for residential visual amenity prescribed by the draft WEDGs (DoHPLG, 2019). › Whilst the turbines are large features in the view, the Proposed Development is located within a landscape character area of medium sensitivity and the proposed turbines do not obstruct or interfere with any sensitive or scenic views from this location. › As a result of the iterative design process (see Chapter 3), the turbines are viewed with only a moderate horizontal extent within the view, even from this location in close proximity to the site. The Proposed Development reads coherently in the landscape as one turbine cluster. LVIA was a key constraint considered to ensure the turbine layout is seen as one visually connected development within the landscape (previous layout iterations included 2 clusters - See Chapter 3). › The baseline view is generally unremarkable and is typical of many other views of agricultural fields within the surrounding area. The short range view in the direction of the proposed turbines is not particularly scenic nor are there any unique landscape features in view. › The vegetation, and other landscape elements seen throughout the view are a physical landscape buffer and provide a sense of scale in relation to the setback distance of the turbines, with turbines viewed as sited beyond a forestry site. › This is not a densely populated location, with only two residential dwellings experiencing the view shown by this photomontage. › In summer months there will be less visibility of the proposed turbines as foliage on deciduous trees will provide increased levels of screening.

Viewpoint 6 – Faddan More	
Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)	Significant (EPA, 2022) <i>“An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration or intensity alters a sensitive aspect of the environment.”</i>

Viewpoint 7 - Tirlough			
Viewpoint Description and Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > View from the N52 national road in the townland of Tirlough. > Located approximately 4.3km northeast of the nearest proposed turbine (T2). > Grid Reference: E: 603,660 N: 702,304 > Number of Turbines Visible: 7/7 		
LCA and Sensitivity	Tipperary LCA 7 – Borrisokane Lowlands – Medium	Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	National Road – Medium Residents - Medium
Description of ‘Existing View’	<p>This view looks across the national road towards open agricultural fields bordered by hedgerows and mature treelines on either side of the road. Residential and agricultural buildings are seen to the right of the image. An overhead line is seen running parallel to the far side of the road. The character of the view is rural and agricultural.</p> <p>The existing Skehanagh and Carrig turbines are visible from this location, although they are out of view in this image. They are visible to the left-hand side of the road between 5-7km away.</p>		
Proposed Photomontage Description	<p>The proposed turbines are seen in a clustered layout in the centre background behind a cluster of deciduous trees. A number of the turbines (T5, T3, T2 and T7) are partially screened due to this vegetation, although this effect will differ depending on exact viewing location. Several turbines are seen almost in the full extent. The proposed met mast is visible to the right of turbine T4. The turbines are moderately scaled vertical features within the view and occupy a relatively limited horizontal extent within the view.</p>		
Cumulative Effects	<p>There will be a combined (in succession – where the observer has to turn their head to see cumulative developments) view of the existing Carrig and Skehanagh turbines and the turbines of the Proposed Development from this viewpoint.</p>		
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)</i>	<p>Medium - This viewpoint has been classified as a medium sensitivity viewpoint on account of the national road users as well as residential receptors located along this road who are located in medium proximity to the Proposed Development.</p>		
Magnitude of Change <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)</i>	<p>Slight – The proposed turbines are partially visible, and are visible at a distance where they will result in a low level of change within the view and its composition. The character of the view is slightly altered but will remain similar to the baseline existing situation.</p>		

Viewpoint 7 - Tirlough	
Significance of Effect	Medium x Slight = Minor = Slight (EPA, 2022) “An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities.”
Mitigation Factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › The majority of the turbines are partially screened due to the existing vegetation in the background of the view. While this effect will differ as receptors travel along the road, there are numerous screening elements within this vegetated landscape type which will result in a similar effect occurring. › The turbines are not located in the direction of travel of the road and will therefore not be in the direct line of vision for visual receptors using the road.
Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)	Slight (EPA, 2022) “An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities.”

Viewpoint 8 – Drumbane			
Viewpoint Description and Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › View from a local road on the outskirts of Birr in the townland of Drumbane. › Located approximately 6.5km east of the nearest proposed turbine (T02). › Grid Reference: E: 605,576 N: 704,140 › Number of Turbines Visible: 7/7 		
LCA and Sensitivity	Offaly ILCA 1 Birr Plains - Low	Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	Local Road – Low Residents (including Birr) – Medium Waymarked Trail – Medium
Description of ‘Existing View’	<p>This view looks from an elevated vantage point over several agricultural fields and lines of mature deciduous trees seen along their boundaries. The built infrastructure of Riverstown can be seen through the background of the view, with the topography and tracts of woodland and other treelines providing screening of the landscape beyond. In the left background the hill of Knockshigowna can be seen. The character of the view is primarily rural and agricultural, although the settlement of Riverstown increases the level of human development seen in the view.</p> <p>The existing Carrig and Skehanagh turbines are visible atop the Knockshigowna ridgeline in the left background.</p>		
Proposed Photomontage Description	<p>The proposed turbines are partially visible in the background behind tracts of woodland seen. As a result of the clustered grid layout of turbines, from this location turbines T2, T3, and T5 appear in an ordered linear array, and the remaining turbines to the left- and right-hand side of these appear with a small gap between them and the other turbines. Components of turbines T3 and T5 are overlapping from this orientation, although this effect will differ depending on exact viewing location. At this distance, the turbines appear</p>		

Viewpoint 8 – Drumbane	
	as small background elements, partially screened from view by the intervening vegetation.
Cumulative Effects	There are combined views of the proposed turbines and the existing Skehanagh and Carrig turbines from this viewpoint, when on clear days both will be seen in a similar direction. The turbines of the Proposed Development appear as closer and larger features than the smaller existing turbines.
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)</i>	Medium – This viewpoint represents views from the town of Birr, which although located greater than 6km from the Proposed Development, is the largest population centre within 15km of the proposed turbines.
Magnitude of Change <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)</i>	Slight – The proposals are partially visible as small features in the background of the view and with a limited horizontal extent. They will result in a low level of change in the view. The character of the view is altered but will remain similar to the baseline existing situation.
Significance of Effect	Medium x Slight = Minor = Slight (EPA, 2022) <i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities.”</i>
Mitigation Factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › The turbines are not located in the direction of travel of the road, and will therefore not be in the direct line of vision for visual receptors using the road. › The turbines are located in the background of the view, with only partial views of all turbines, and turbines are seen above the skyline of the view, reducing the visual confusion arising as a result of their addition. › This viewpoint is located on the outskirts of Birr, and as seen from Photowire VPX and Photowire VPX (see Appendix 13-5) views from within the town of Birr itself will be much more substantially limited than the open views shown here.
Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)	Not Significant (EPA, 2022) <i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences.”</i>

Viewpoint 9 – Lackeen Castle			
Viewpoint Description and Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › View from a local road in the townland of Abbevill, located approximately 4.2km northwest of the nearest proposed turbine (T7). › This viewpoint is located along the ‘Ormond Way’ way marked walking trail overlooking Lackeen Castle. › Grid Reference: E: 595,009, N: 704,383 › Number of Turbines Visible: 6/7 		
LCA and Sensitivity	Tipperry LCA 7 – Borrisokane Lowlands – Medium	Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	WM trail walkers – Medium Residential Receptors – Medium Road – Low
Description of ‘Existing View’	<p>The view is comprised of agricultural fields on either side of a small local road. The road itself is border by low hedgerows on either side. Lackeen Castle can be seen in the right background, surrounded by mature deciduous trees. A number of other treelines can be seen throughout the background of the view, which generally restrict visibility to medium-range views in this flat landscape. The character of the view is rural and agricultural.</p> <p>The existing Carrig and Skehanagh turbines are theoretically visible from this location. However, the treelines seen in these directions prevents actual visibility of these existing turbines.</p>		
Proposed Photomontage Description	<p>The proposed turbines are partially seen in the background of the view. There is substantial screening of turbines T4 and T7 from a line of mature trees bordering Lackeen Castle. The other turbines have partial screening of their lower components as a result of other treelines in the background. The turbines are viewed in a linear array, seen against the skyline. The turbines are moderately scaled vertical features within the view and occupy a relatively limited horizontal extent within the view.</p>		
Cumulative Effects	<p>There are no other turbines visible from this location and so cumulative visual effects do not arise.</p>		
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)</i>	<p>Medium – This is deemed to be a Medium sensitivity viewpoint on account of the visual receptors using the Ormond Way waymarked walking route as well as residential receptors located along this road who are located in medium proximity to the Proposed Development.</p>		
Magnitude of Change <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)</i>	<p>Slight – The proposed turbines are partially visible, and are visible at a distance where they will result in a low level of change within the view and its composition. The character of the view is slightly altered but will remain similar to the baseline existing situation.</p>		
Significance of Effect	<p>Medium x Slight = Minor = Slight (EPA, 2022) <i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities.”</i></p>		
Mitigation Factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › From within the site of Lackeen Castle itself, there will be no or extremely limited visibility of the proposed turbines as a result of 		

Viewpoint 9 – Lackeen Castle	
	<p>screening from the surrounding treeline. See PWVP N in Appendix 14-5.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> › The lower tower sections of all proposed turbines are obscured from view by the intervening landform and distant treelines, reducing the prominence of the turbines when viewed within the landscape.
Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)	<p>Slight (EPA, 2022) <i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities.”</i></p>

Viewpoint 10 - Clonkelly			
Viewpoint Description and Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › View from the N62 national road in the townland of the townland of Clonkelly. › Located approximately 6.9km east of the nearest proposed turbine (T1). › Grid Reference: E: 606,301 N: 701,108 › Number of Turbines Visible: 7/7 		
LCA and Sensitivity	Offaly ILCA 1 – Birr Plains – Low	Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	Residents – Low Waymarked Trail – Medium National Road – Medium
Description of ‘Existing View’	<p>The view looks over an agricultural field adjacent to the national road. This field is bordered on the far side by a low hedgerow. Views are generally contained by a number of hedgerows and treelines seen throughout the image. A slight rise in topography in the right background gives rise to views of more agricultural farmland, with fields delineated by hedgerows and treelines. The character of the view is rural and agricultural.</p> <p>The existing Skehanagh and Carrig Wind Farms are theoretically visible from this location. However, only turbines from the Skehanagh Wind Farm can be seen in the left background, with the other turbines screened from view by vegetation.</p>		
Proposed Photomontage Description	<p>The proposed turbines are seen in a linear array, above the vegetation bordering nearby fields in the centre background. All turbine nacelles are visible, although several turbine towers are screened from view by intervening vegetation. The turbines appear as relatively small background elements, within a limited horizontal extent within the view.</p>		
Cumulative Effects	<p>There are some limited views of the existing Skehanagh turbines also available at this viewpoint. These existing turbines are located 6.7km from this viewpoint (the proposed turbines are located slightly further - 6.9km). Given the level of screening of these and other existing turbines, as well as the distance of the viewpoint from these existing turbines, and the turbines of the Proposed Development, there are limited cumulative visual effects that arise at this viewpoint.</p>		

Viewpoint 10 - Clonkelly	
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)</i>	Medium – This viewpoint has been classified as a medium sensitivity viewpoint on account of receptors travelling along the national road, as well as users of the Birr Cycle Route.
Magnitude of Change <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)</i>	Slight – The proposed turbines are visible at a sufficient distance to be perceptible and result in a low level of change in the view. The character of the view is altered but remains similar to the baseline existing situation.
Significance of Effect	Medium x Slight = Minor = Slight (EPA, 2022) <i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities”</i>
Mitigation Factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › As a result of the iterative design process, the turbines are viewed with only a small horizontal extent within the view. › The turbines are located perpendicular to the direction of travel, and so the turbines will not be in the direct line of vision for passing transport receptors. › Views at locations further along this road in either direction are much more substantially screened and so the level of visibility of the proposed turbines seen in this view will not occur at the majority of other locations along this road.
Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)	Not Significant (EPA, 2022) <i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences.”</i>

Viewpoint 11 - Lelagh			
Viewpoint Description and Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › View from the R438 regional road in the townland of Lelagh, approximately 3.6km north of the nearest proposed turbine (T6). › Grid Reference E: 599,513 N: 705,656 › Turbines visible: 4/7 		
LCA and Sensitivity	Tipperary LCA 11 Shannon Callows – High	Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	Residents – Medium Regional Road – Medium
Description of ‘Existing View’	<p>This view looks across an agricultural field and some residential and agricultural buildings seen in the right and centre background. The field in view is bordered on the far side by a tall mature treeline of deciduous trees. The treelines seen in the background restrict longer range views in this direction. The character of the view is rural and agricultural.</p> <p>The existing Carrig and Skehanagh turbines are theoretically from this location. However, the treelines seen throughout the view prevent actual visibility.</p>		

Viewpoint 11 - Lelagh	
Proposed Photomontage Description	The proposed turbines are partially visible behind the treelines seen in the centre background. They are substantially screened by this vegetation, with 3 turbine nacelles visible and the blade arc of one other turbine also visible.
Cumulative Effects	There are no actual views of other cumulative turbines from this location so cumulative visual effects do not arise.
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)</i>	Medium – This viewpoint has been classified as medium sensitivity on account of the residents in medium proximity to the Proposed Development and the regional road.
Magnitude of Change <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)</i>	Negligible – The proposed turbines are substantially screening by the dense intervening vegetation, and there are very limited views of the proposed turbines as a result. This will approximate little or no change in the view and the character of the view will be substantially unaltered as a result.
Significance of Effect	Medium x Negligible = Minor/Negligible = Not Significant (EPA, 2022) <i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences.”</i>
Mitigation Factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › The turbines are not located in the direction of travel of the road, and will therefore not be in the direct line of vision for visual receptors using the road. › In summer months, when the trees are in leaf, there will be additional screening of the proposed turbines from this viewpoint.
Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)	Not Significant (EPA, 2022) <i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences.”</i>

Viewpoint 12 – Lough Derg			
Viewpoint Description and Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › View from the Cloondavaun Marina overlooking Lough Derg, in the townland of Cloonmoylan › Located approximately 18.2km west of the nearest proposed turbine - T5. › Grid Reference: E: 580,044, N: 701,787 › Number of Turbines Visible: 7/7 		
LCA and Sensitivity	Galway LCU 4c – Lough Derg Environs Unit – High	Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	Recreational Marina Users – High Visitors to Lough Derg – High
Description of ‘Existing View’	This is an open and expansive view over Lough Derg, with long range views permitted due to the lack of screening features on the Lough. The far side of the Lough is comprised of some low, gentle undulations in topography, with heavily vegetated landcover present throughout this part		

Viewpoint 12 – Lough Derg	
	<p>of the view. This consists of tract of deciduous woodland and treelines, with some agricultural fields also seen in the centre and right background.</p> <p>The existing Skehanagh and Carrig turbines are theoretically visible in the centre background but are entirely screened from view by the vegetation present in the intervening landscape.</p>
Proposed Photomontage Description	The proposed turbines are seen as very small features in the distance background of the view, partially screened by intervening treelines and topography. The turbines are located approximately 12km further from the viewpoint than the shoreline of the Lough seen in front of them. The turbines are arranged in a linear array, with no landform as a backdrop.
Cumulative Effects	There are no other turbines actually visible from this viewpoint and therefore no cumulative visual effects are deemed to arise.
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)</i>	High – This viewpoint is deemed to be a High sensitivity viewpoint on account of visual receptors using Lough Derg in a recreational capacity.
Magnitude of Change <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)</i>	Negligible – The proposed turbines are barely distinguishable in the photomontage and little change occurs when compared with the existing view. The composition and character of the view will be substantially unaltered and there will be little or no change in the view.
Significance of Effect	High x Negligible = Minor = Slight (EPA, 2022) <i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities.”</i>
Mitigation Factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › At this distance, and within the scale of the landscape in view, the proposed turbines occupy a very limited horizontal and vertical extent within the view. › The proposed turbines are difficult to discern without the aid of the wireline. › The proposed turbines are seen in the distant background, and do not obstruct views of Lough Derg or its wooded shores, and have little to no effect on the key sensitivities of the landscape and landscape views in this area.
Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)	Not Significant (EPA, 2022) <i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences.”</i>

Viewpoint 13 - Ballycasey	
Viewpoint Description and Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › View from the N65 national road in the townland of Ballycasey › Located approximately 8.3km southwest of the nearest proposed turbine (T5). › Grid Reference: E: 591,572 N: 696,629 › Number of Turbines Visible: 5/7

Viewpoint 13 - Ballycasey			
LCA and Sensitivity	Tipperary LCA 7 – Borrisokane Lowlands – Medium	Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	National Road – Medium Residents - Low
Description of 'Existing View'	<p>The view is comprised of a number of agricultural fields bordered by hedgerows and stone walls. Mature and semi-mature trees are interspersed along the hedgerows seen and provide screening of the landscape beyond. The majority of views available are medium or short-range views.</p> <p>There is visibility Knockshigowna in the right background and the existing Carrig and Skehanagh turbines can be seen on the lower reaches of the associated ridgeline. These existing turbines are located between 9-10km from this viewpoint.</p> <p>The existing Meenwaun and Cloghan turbines are theoretically visible (indicated by wireline view) from this viewpoint, in the left background. However, the intervening screening elements prevent any actual visibility of these turbines, except for a view of the blade of a single turbine.</p>		
Proposed Photomontage Description	<p>The proposed turbines are seen in the centre background, although are substantially screened by the intervening treelines. Just one turbine nacelle is visible, and the blade arcs of 4 other turbines are visible. The proposed turbines are seen as small features within the background, occupying a small horizontal extent within the view.</p> <p>The permitted Derrinlough wind farm is theoretically visible in the same direction as the existing Meenwaun turbines. There will be very limited actual visibility of these turbines from this location considering their scale within the view at this distance and the various screening elements existent on the ridgeline.</p>		
Cumulative Effects	<p>There are combined (in succession where a viewer has to turn their head to see the other turbines) views of the proposed turbines and the existing Carrig and Skehanagh turbines from this location, although the distance between these means that there will not be any substantial cumulative visual effects.</p>		
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)</i>	<p>Medium – This viewpoint has been classified as a medium sensitivity viewpoint on account of the national road users.</p>		
Magnitude of Change <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)</i>	<p>Negligible – The proposed turbines will be difficult to discern in this view considering their scale and the distances involved. The change in view will be barely distinguishable from the existing view, and will approximate little or no change in the character of the view.</p>		
Significance of Effect	<p>Medium x Negligible = Minor/Negligible = Not Significant (EPA, 2022) <i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences.”</i></p>		

Viewpoint 13 - Ballycasey	
Mitigation Factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › The majority of the turbines are partially screened due to the existing vegetation in the background of the view. While this effect will differ as receptors travel along the road, there are numerous screening elements within this vegetated landscape type which will result in a similar effect occurring. › The turbines are not located in the direction of travel of the road and will therefore not be in the direct line of vision for visual receptors using the road.
Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)	Imperceptible (EPA, 2022) <i>“An effect capable of measurement but without significant consequences”</i>

Viewpoint 14 – Newtown			
Viewpoint Description and Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › View from the L3011 local road in the townland of Newtown, approximately 9.3km north of the nearest proposed turbine (T6). › This is a designated viewpoint location in the Offaly County Development Plan 2021-2027. › Grid Reference (ITM): E: 599,092 N: 711,458 › Number of Turbines Visible: 7/7 		
LCA and Sensitivity	Offaly ILCA 5 River Shannon and Callows – High	Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	Local road – Low Residents – Low Designated Viewpoint Location – High
Description of ‘Existing View’	<p>This view looks over a gently declining slope towards the callows of the Little Brosna River. The elevated position of the small local road provides a vantage point for views to the south from this location, with several agricultural fields and lines of mature deciduous trees seen along their boundaries. The topography flattens where the river is located, although the river itself is not possible to discern in this view. The topography then gently rises on the far side, where tracts of deciduous woodland and conifer plantations can be seen throughout the skyline in the background of the view. The character of the view is rural in nature.</p> <p>The existing Carrig and Skehanagh Wind Farms are theoretically visible from this location, as indicated by the wireline view. However, factors of distance (13.5km to the nearest of these turbines) and atmospheric conditions prevent actual views of these turbines in the image.</p>		
Proposed Photomontage Description	<p>The turbines of the Proposed Development are seen above the treeline seen in the background of the view, beyond and separated from the callows of the Little Brosna. As a result of the clustered grid layout of turbines, from this location turbines T3, T4, and T6 appear in an ordered linear array, and the remaining turbines to the left- and right-hand side of these appear with a small gap between them and the other turbines. Components of turbines T1 and T2, as well as T5 and T7 are overlapping from this orientation, although this effect will differ depending on exact viewing location. At this</p>		

Viewpoint 14 – Newtown	
	distance, the turbines appear as small background elements, partially screened from view by the intervening vegetation.
Cumulative Effects	There are combined views of the proposed turbines and the existing Skehanagh and Carrig turbines from this viewpoint, when on clear days both will be seen in the same direction. The turbines of the Proposed Development appear as closer and larger features than the smaller existing turbines.
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)</i>	High – This viewpoint is located along a low-trafficked local road with limited number of visual receptors. However, it is also located adjacent to a designated scenic viewpoint in the Offaly County Development with described views at least partially in the direction of the Proposed Development.
Magnitude of Change <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)</i>	Slight – The proposals are partially visible as small features in the background of the view and with a limited horizontal extent. They will result in a low level of change in the view. The character of the view is altered but will remain similar to the baseline existing situation.
Significance of Effect	High x Slight = Moderate/Minor = Moderate (EPA, 2022) <i>“An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends”</i>
Mitigation Factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › The focus of the protected view is described as “View over Little Brosna and Callows” in the OCDP. The Little Brosna River itself is not in view here due to screening by riverside vegetation, however, the callows themselves are visible in the background beyond the agricultural fields seen in the midground. The proposed turbines are seen beyond this area within the landscape in view, visible in the far background and do not obstruct or do not interfere directly with the protected focus and key sensitivities of this view. › The turbines are well screened by the intervening vegetation and are viewed as small background elements within the view. › This viewpoint is located along a small local road and this designated view has no assigned public viewing area. There are likely limited numbers of visual receptors experiencing this view.
Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)	Slight (EPA, 2022) <i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities.”</i>

Viewpoint 15 - Firmount	
Viewpoint Description and Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › View from the R493 regional road, in the townland of Firmount, located approximately 8.9km west of the nearest proposed turbine T5. › This viewpoint is located along a designated scenic route in the Tipperary County Development Plan 2022-2028. › Grid Reference E: 589,421 N: 701,228 › Number of Turbines Visible: 7/7

Viewpoint 15 - Firmount			
LCA and Sensitivity	Tipperary LCA 10 Upper Lough Derg – High	Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	Regional Road – Medium Residents – Low Scenic Route - High
Description of 'Existing View'	<p>This view looks down the regional road bordered with a stone wall and tall mature deciduous trees to the left-hand side of the road and a hedgerow to the right. Beyond this hedgerow the topography slopes downwards allowing long-range views of the countryside to the east and south. Tracts of mature deciduous woodland, treelines and commercial forestry are seen throughout the view, along with one-off rural housing. The hill of Knockshigowna is seen in the right background.</p> <p>The existing Carrig and Skehanagh turbines are visible at a substantial distance from this location. The existing Meenwaun and Cloghan turbines are also theoretically (as indicated by the wireline view) visible from this location, although these are entirely screened from view by intervening vegetation.</p>		
Proposed Photomontage Description	<p>The proposed turbines are visible in the background of the view, in a linear array, neatly spaced, with a small horizontal extent across the skyline. There are open views towards the proposed turbines due to the flat landscape in the intervening space. Overlap of turbine components occurs between turbines T7 and T2 although this effect will differ depending on exact viewing location.</p> <p>There is theoretical visibility of the permitted Derrinlough turbines (as indicated by the proposed wireline view) from this location, although these are entirely screened from view by intervening vegetation.</p>		
Turbine Range Assessment <i>(See Section 14.7.4 of the EIAR)</i>	<p>It is noted that additional photomontages were produced showing differing turbine configurations, the 'Lowest Hub and Longest Blade Possible with Maximum Tip Height of 185m', and 'Lowest Hub and Shortest Blade'. The difference between these configurations and the 'Highest Hub and Shortest Blade' is difficult to discern even with the aid of the comparative wireline image, and is negligible in terms of visual effects, demonstrating that differences between differing turbine configuration within the range stated is negligible from a landscape and visual perspective.</p>		
Cumulative Effects	<p>The existing Carrig and Skehanagh turbines are seen as very small features in the right background of the image on two small hills and there are combined views of the Proposed Development and these existing developments. However, the distance and resultant difficulty in discerning the existing turbines within the view means that any cumulative visual effects are minor. Within the scale of landscape in view, the addition of the proposed turbines does not amount to substantial cumulative visual effects from this location.</p>		
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)</i>	<p>High – This viewpoint is located along a designated scenic route in the TCDP, with the view described as follows “West of the R493 north of Terryglass”, indicating that the focus of the scenic amenity on this route is directed away from the Proposed Development which is located to the east of this route. However, considering that long ranging views of a scenic</p>		

Viewpoint 15 - Firmount	
	quality are seen from this location, this viewpoint has been assigned a High sensitivity.
Magnitude of Change <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)</i>	Slight – The proposed turbines are seen as small features within the background of the view and give rise to a low level of change and low degree of contrast.
Significance of Effect	High x Slight = Moderate/Minor = Moderate (EPA, 2022) <i>“An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends”</i>
Mitigation Factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › The designated focus of the scenic route is directed away from the Proposed Development. › This viewpoint represents one of the only elevated vantage points on the designated scenic route where there is open visibility of the Proposed Development, receptors on this route will only have this view momentarily. Visibility of the proposed turbines is restricted by screening from landform and roadside vegetation from elsewhere on the scenic route. › The proposed turbines are seen in the far background of the image and do not obstruct views of any sensitive landscape features within the landscape in view, such as the hilltop seen in the right background. › As a result of the iterative design process, the turbines are viewed as a neat linear array with a small horizontal extent within the view. The Proposed Development reads coherently in the landscape as one turbine cluster. LVIA was a key constraint considered to ensure the turbine layout is seen as one visually connected development within the landscape (previous layout iterations included 2 clusters - See Chapter 3). › The Proposed Development will not introduce novel elements into views of the landscape, due to existence of operational windfarms.
Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)	Slight (EPA, 2022) <i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities.”</i>

Viewpoint 16 – Carrig			
Viewpoint Description and Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › View from the village of Carrig, in the townland of Doughkill located approximately 2.2km east of the nearest proposed turbine (T1). › Grid Reference: E: 601,653 N: 701,176 › Number of Turbines Visible: 6/7 		
LCA and Sensitivity	Tipperary LCA 7 Borrisokane Lowlands – Medium	Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	Carrig Village – Medium National Road – Medium Residents – Medium
Description of ‘Existing View’	The view is comprised of a low hedgerow situated parallel to the national road in the foreground. A narrow road enclosed by tall hedgerows and		

Viewpoint 16 – Carrig	
	trees on either side is seen to the right-hand side of the image, leading to a private residence. Medium range, open views of agricultural fields are available behind the hedgerow with clusters of trees seen bordering the fields. Further deciduous vegetation and residential dwellings are visible in the far background of the image.
Proposed Photomontage Description	<p>Turbines T1, T4 and T5 are substantially screened by deciduous trees bordering the field adjacent to the viewpoint, although it is noted that this screening effect will differ depending on the exact viewing location. The turbine blades of turbines T1 and T5 are partially seen through the tree’s branches.</p> <p>4 of the remaining turbines (turbines T3, T7, T6 and T2) are almost visible to their full extent, seen as tall vertical objects within the landscape, with some overlap of blades occurring between turbines T3 and T7 and turbines T6 and T2.</p>
Turbine Range Assessment <i>(See Section 14.7.4 of the EIA)</i>	It is noted that additional photomontages were produced showing differing turbine configurations, the ‘Lowest Hub and Longest Blade Possible with Maximum Tip Height of 185m’, and ‘Lowest Hub and Shortest Blade’. The difference between these configurations and the ‘Highest Hub and Shortest Blade’ is noticeable with the aid of the comparative wireline image, but is negligible in terms of visual effects, demonstrating that differences between differing turbine configuration within the range stated is negligible from a landscape and visual perspective.
Cumulative Effects	The existing Skehanagh and Carrig turbines are visible from this location, although they are out of view in this image. They are visible to the left-hand side of the road between 3-5km away. There will be a combined (in succession – where the observer has to turn their head to see cumulative developments) view of these turbines and the turbines of the Proposed Development.
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)</i>	Medium - This viewpoint has been assigned a Medium sensitivity on account of residents within the village of Carrig, the closest settlement to the Proposed Development.
Magnitude of Change <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)</i>	Moderate – The proposed turbines are seen as moderately scaled vertical features within the view, in medium proximity to the viewpoint. There will be a partial change in character to the view, and the change will be readily noticeable. In addition, the proposed turbines will result in turbines now being visible in two directions from this viewpoint. The proposed turbines will occupy a moderate horizontal and vertical extent within the view. And the change will not be a substantial change in character to the wider landscape setting.
Significance of Effect	Medium x Moderate = Moderate/Minor = Moderate (EPA, 2022) <i>“An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends.”</i>
Mitigation Factors	<p>› This location provides one of the most open views towards the Proposed Development from within Carrig village, with buildings and</p>

Viewpoint 16 – Carrig	
	<p>other infrastructure providing substantial screening in the direction of the Proposed Development from other locations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Turbines T1 and T5 are substantially screened within this view and the turbines are partially seen in between the branches. Seasonal change will increase screening of these turbine blades during the summer months. Although it is noted that this screening effect will differ depending on the exact viewing location of an observer. › The field structure, vegetation, and other landscape elements seen throughout the view are a physical landscape buffer and provide a sense of scale in relation to the setback distance of the turbines, with turbines viewed as sited in the distance, beyond multiple fields or behind a treeline. › The baseline view is generally unremarkable and is typical of many other views of agricultural fields within the surrounding area. The proposed turbines do not obstruct views of any sensitive landscape features or scenic views from this location.
Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)	<p>Moderate (EPA, 2022) <i>“An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends.”</i></p>

Viewpoint 17 – Arrigmore			
Viewpoint Description and Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › View from a local road in the townland of Arrigmore › Located approximately 762m southwest from the nearest proposed turbine (T4). › Grid Reference: E: 598,514 N: 700,573 › Number of Turbines Visible: 7/7 		
LCA and Sensitivity	Tipperary LCA 7 Borrisokane Lowlands – Medium	Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	Local road – Low Residents – High
Description of ‘Existing View’	<p>The view is from a local road overlooking a deciduous treeline located behind a grass field in the foreground. A residential dwelling is seen to the left-hand side of the image enclosed by hedgerows and a deciduous treeline, which is seen through the midground. The upper reaches of dense commercial forestry is visible above this treeline throughout the background of the image, obscuring any long ranging views of the landscape beyond. The character of the view is rural, with agriculture and commercial forestry visible from the viewpoint.</p> <p>The existing Meenwaun and Cloghan turbines are theoretically visible from this viewpoint but are screened from view by the various treelines in the view.</p> <p>The existing Carrig and Skehanagh turbines are visible from this viewpoint, although not in the direction of the proposed turbines. They will be seen in the opposite direction, at a distance of 3.8km from the nearest turbine.</p>		

Viewpoint 17 – Arrigmore	
Proposed Photomontage Description	<p>All proposed turbines are visible within this view as tall vertical elements, seen above the commercial forestry. Turbines T4 and T5, being the closest turbines, are viewed as large vertical features, whilst the remaining turbines occupy a moderate vertical extent within the view. The proposed met mast is viewed directly adjacent to turbine T7. There is partial screening of the turbines as a result of the intervening vegetation.</p> <p>The permitted Derrinlough turbines are also theoretically visible from this viewpoint but are screened from view by the various treelines in the view.</p>
Turbine Range Assessment <i>(See Section 14.7.4 of the EIA)</i>	<p>It is noted that additional photomontages were produced showing differing turbine configurations, the ‘Lowest Hub and Longest Blade Possible with Maximum Tip Height of 185m’, and ‘Lowest Hub and Shortest Blade’. The difference between these configurations and the ‘Highest Hub and Shortest Blade’ is noticeable with the aid of the comparative wireline image, but is negligible in terms of visual effects, demonstrating that differences between differing turbine configuration within the range stated is negligible from a landscape and visual perspective.</p>
Cumulative Effects	<p>There will be some combined (in succession where the observer has to turn their head to see another development) view of the Proposed Development and the existing Carrig and Skehanagh views from this location. These existing turbines are not located in close proximity to the viewpoint and cumulative visual effects are minor as a result.</p>
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)</i>	<p>High – This viewpoint has been classified as a high sensitivity viewpoint on account of the nearby residential receptors in close proximity to the nearest proposed turbines.</p>
Magnitude of Change <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)</i>	<p>Substantial – The proposed turbines are seen as large-scale, prominent vertical features within the view. The proposed turbines are almost fully visible in close proximity to the viewer.</p>
Significance of Effect	<p>High x Substantial = Major/Moderate = Very Significant (EPA, 2022) <i>“An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration or intensity alters most of a sensitive aspect of the environment.”</i></p>
Mitigation Factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › The vegetation, and other landscape elements seen throughout the view are a physical landscape buffer and provide a sense of scale in relation to the setback distance of the turbines, with turbines viewed as sited beyond a forestry site. › With regards to the siting of turbines in proximity to residential dwellings, the Proposed Development adheres to the minimum 500 metre set back distance in the current WEDGs (2006, DoEHLG) and also the 4 times tip height set-back distance explicitly set out for residential visual amenity prescribed by the draft WEDGs (2019, DoHPLG). › Whilst the turbines are large features in the view, the Proposed Development is located within a landscape character area of medium

Viewpoint 17 – Arrigmore	
	<p>sensitivity and the proposed turbines do not obstruct or interfere with any sensitive or scenic views from this location.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > As a result of the iterative design process, the turbines are viewed with only a moderate horizontal extent within the view, even from this location in close proximity to the site. > The baseline view is generally unremarkable and is typical of many other views of agricultural fields within the surrounding area. The short range view in the direction of the proposed turbines is not particularly scenic nor are there any unique landscape features in view.
Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)	<p>Significant (EPA, 2022) <i>“An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration or intensity alters a sensitive aspect of the environment.”</i></p>

Viewpoint 18 – Sharragh			
Viewpoint Description and Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > View from the R438 regional road, in the townland of Sharragh, > Located approximately 2.8km northwest of the nearest proposed turbine (T6) > Grid Reference: E: 597,229 N: 704,452 > Number of Turbines Visible: 7/7 		
LCA and Sensitivity	Tipperary LCA 7 Borrisokane Lowlands – Medium	Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	Residents – Medium Regional Road – Medium
Description of ‘Existing View’	<p>The view is comprised of a local road bordered by low hedgerows, overlooking open agricultural fields with gently undulating topography. The fields are bordered by low hedgerows or mature deciduous trees, which are seen throughout the background of the view. An overhead line is seen running into the centre background, where it disappears over a small rise in topography. Two residential dwelling are seen in the left background. The character of the view is rural and agricultural.</p> <p>Turbines of the existing Skehanagh and Carrig Wind Farms are seen, but are difficult to discern, in the centre background.</p>		
Proposed Photomontage Description	<p>All of the proposed turbines are visible as tall vertical elements arranged in a clustered layout in the background of the view. The turbines are partially screened behind a slight rise in topography, with some minor screening from vegetation also occurring. All turbine nacelles are visible in the view. The turbines occupy a limited horizontal extent within the view. There is some overlap of the existing overhead line with the proposed turbines from this orientation, although this effect will differ depending on exact viewing location.</p>		
Turbine Range Assessment <i>(See Section 14.7.4 of the EIAR)</i>	<p>It is noted that additional photomontages were produced showing differing turbine configurations, the ‘Lowest Hub and Longest Blade Possible with Maximum Tip Height of 185m’, and ‘Lowest Hub and Shortest Blade’. The difference between these configurations and the ‘Highest Hub and Shortest Blade’ is difficult to discern even with the aid of the comparative wireline image, and is negligible in terms of visual effects, demonstrating that</p>		

Viewpoint 18 – Sharragh	
	differences between differing turbine configuration within the range stated is negligible from a landscape and visual perspective.
Cumulative Effects	The existing Skehanagh and Carrig turbines are slightly visible as very small elements in the far background of the image, seen behind the Proposed Development. Given the difficulty in discerning the existing turbines in the view, substantial cumulative visual effects are not deemed to arise at this location as a result of this in combination view of turbines.
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)</i>	Medium – This viewpoint has been classified as a medium sensitivity viewpoint on account of receptors travelling along the regional road and nearby residents located in medium proximity to the Proposed Development.
Magnitude of Change <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)</i>	Moderate – The proposed turbines are seen a moderately scaled elements within the view, over a relatively medium horizontal extent. The proposed turbines are not located in close proximity to this viewpoint. The change is readily noticeable but not substantially different in scale from the surroundings at this this distance.
Significance of Effect	Medium x Moderate = Moderate/Minor = Moderate (EPA, 2022) <i>“An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends.”</i>
Mitigation Factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › The baseline view is generally unremarkable and is typical of many other views of agricultural fields within the surrounding area. › The proposed turbines are seen in the background of the view and do not obstruct any sensitive or scenic views from this viewpoint. › There are no substantial cumulative visual effects as the existing Skehanagh and Carrig turbines are barely discernible from this viewpoint. › As a result of the iterative design process (see Chapter 3), the turbines are viewed with only a moderate horizontal extent within the view. The Proposed Development reads coherently in the landscape as one turbine cluster. LVIA was a key constraint considered to ensure the turbine layout is seen as one visually connected development within the landscape (previous layout iterations included 2 clusters - See Chapter 3) › The lower tower sections of all proposed turbines are obscured from view by the intervening landform reducing their prominence when viewed within the landscape.
Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)	Slight (EPA, 2022) <i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities.”</i>