

## **Appendix 14-3: Photomontage Visual Impact Assessment Tables**

Carrow Wind Farm, Co.  
Tipperary





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# 1. PHOTOMONTAGE VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT TABLES

Visual impact assessments were conducted for individual viewpoints and are reported in the tables below following the methodology set out in *Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology* (Section 1.8 Assessing Visual Effects).

As reported in Chapter 14, Section 14.6 Cumulative Context, the assessment and discussion of cumulative visual effects considers the probability of cumulative effects arising with all other wind energy developments in the LVIA Study Area in the following categories, and their potential visual interaction(s) with the Proposed Project:

- **“Existing”** developments: “Certainty” of cumulative effects occurring;
- **“Permitted”** developments: “High probability” of cumulative effects occurring in a future receiving environment; or
- **“Proposed”** developments: “Uncertain scenario” in which cumulative effects may or may not occur depending on multiple factors.

The descriptions of cumulative visual effects reported in this Appendix are based on the photomontages presented in the *EIAR Volume 2: Photomontage Booklet* and are guided by the identification labels on the wireline views accompanying each photomontage view in that booklet.

In each impact assessment table below, the potential for cumulative visual effects is accounted for in the “Magnitude of Change” row and is also considered in the “Residual Visual Effect” determination given for each viewpoint at the end of each table.

When determining how cumulative effects contribute to the magnitude of change, the primary focus is on considering the extent to which the Proposed Project will contribute toward cumulative effects on the particular receptors at each viewpoint under assessment.

1.1

## VP01: R661 Northeast of Dundrum

Viewpoint 01: R661 Northeast of Dundrum	
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; View from the R661 Regional Road in the townland of Gorteennamona.</li> <li>&gt; Located approximately 3.7km south-east of the nearest turbine (T10).</li> <li>&gt; Grid Reference (ITM): E 599173; N 648868.</li> <li>&gt; No. of turbines visible (including blades/tips): 13 (out of 14).</li> </ul>
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	> Tipperary LCA-17a: Hollyford Hills Mountain Mosaic: Low.
<b>Visual Receptors and Sensitivity</b>	> Regional road and views coming into Dundrum village: Medium.
<b>Description of "Existing View"</b>	<p>The existing view looks west over agricultural fields lined with mature trees and boundary vegetation. Knockbane peak and the foothills of the Slieve Felim Mountains are visible across the background of the image, behind the dense vegetation, beyond the lowland valley fields. Fencing, utility poles and overhead lines are visible throughout the fields.</p> <p>The turbines of multiple existing wind farms are visible to the northwest, including Glencarbry 1, Glencarbry 2, Hollyford and Glenough Wind Farms. The existing turbines are set back along distant ridges and are visible above the horizon.</p>
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description</b>	<p>The proposed turbines are visible on the slopes of Knockbane peak, beyond the lowland fields and vegetation. Some of the proposed turbines are situated on the near slope, with full towers and blade visible, and some are located beyond the ridgeline with only blades and hubs visible. The proposed turbines show a relatively even height profile and somewhat irregular spacing. Proposed turbine T08 is fully screened from view behind terrain and vegetation.</p> <p>In a future receiving environment, no other permitted or proposed wind farms will be visible from this vantage point.</p>
<b>Cumulative Context</b>	Considering that the proposed turbines add visible elements to the view which bring the presence of turbines closer to this vantage point, in-combination cumulative effects will arise from this viewpoint.
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b>	<p><b>Sensitivity = Medium.</b></p> <p>Rationale: On account of this area with residences within moderate proximity who may have open views in the direction of the proposed turbines, the sensitivity is deemed to be "Medium".</p> <p>For the definition of this sensitivity rating, refer to Section 1.8.2 Visual Receptor Sensitivity in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i>.</p>
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>	<p><b>Magnitude = Slight.</b></p> <p><i>Turbines are seen but clearly set back from the viewpoint and are of small scale relative to the landscape, or they are partially visible, they typically comprise a</i></p>

Viewpoint 01: R661 Northeast of Dundrum	
	<p><i>relatively small portion of the 53.5-degree field of view shown in the Photomontage Booklet.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.8.3 Magnitude of Visual Change in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology.</i></p>
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<p>Medium × Slight = Minor = “Slight” (EPA, 2022)</p> <p><i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities”.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.8.4 Visual Effects Assessment Matrix in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology.</i></p>
<b>Mitigating Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are seen within a low sensitivity, modified working landscape of marginal upland where potential wind energy development is acceptable (“Open for Consideration” TCDP RES 2022-2028).</li> <li>➤ This is not a view of county, regional or national renown and not a protected view in local policy.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are set back beyond the lowland fields and mature vegetation, and some are set back beyond the ridgeline.</li> <li>➤ Multiple proposed turbines are partially screened from view by vegetation in the foreground and terrain features in the distance. T08 is entirely screened from view.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are sited on or near elevated peaks within a small spatial extent and with slightly irregular spacing in a clustered layout of relatively even height profile, thereby aligning with best practice siting and design for wind energy developments in Transitional Marginal Landscape Types (DoEHLG 2006 Guidelines, Draft 2019 Guidelines).</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Visual Effect</b>	<p><b>After considering all Mitigating Factors = “Slight” (EPA, 2022)</b></p> <p><i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities”.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.9 Determining Residual Effects in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology.</i></p>

1.2

## VP02: Glenough Lower

Viewpoint 02: Glenough Lower	
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; View from the L1284 Local Road in the townland of Glenough Lower.</li> <li>&gt; Located approximately 820m east of the nearest turbine (T10).</li> <li>&gt; Grid Reference (ITM): E 597145; N 650868.</li> <li>&gt; No. of turbines visible (including blades/tips): 13 (out of 14).</li> </ul>
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	> Tipperary LCA-17a: Hollyford Hills Mountain Mosaic: Low.
<b>Visual Receptors and Sensitivity</b>	> Residential receptors in close proximity (<2km): High.
<b>Description of “Existing View”</b>	<p>The existing view looks west onto the south-facing slopes of Knockbane peak from the elevated foothills of Slieve Felim Mountains comprising agricultural fields. Dense mature trees and boundary vegetation line fields in the foreground and wide tracts of commercial forestry are visible among agricultural fields in the distance.</p> <p>Four turbines of the existing Glencarbry 1 Wind Farm are not visible, but seen in the wireline view, positioned to the west, set back beyond the ridge and are visually screened behind mature vegetation.</p>
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description</b>	<p>The proposed turbines are visible on the slopes of Knockbane peak, beyond the agricultural fields and vegetation. The proposed turbines are situated across the top of the slope, with full towers and blades visible, and some are located beyond the ridgeline with only blades or blade-tips visible. From this vantage point, the proposed turbines show a range of perceived height, with T10 being closest and appearing largest in perceived scale relative to the landscape, and the spacing between turbines is somewhat irregular. Proposed turbine T04 is fully screened from view behind vegetation in the foreground.</p> <p>In a future receiving environment, no other permitted or proposed wind farms will be visible from this vantage point.</p>
<b>Cumulative Context</b>	Considering that cumulative turbines are screened from view at this vantage point, no cumulative effects are likely to arise from this viewpoint. Cumulative effects with Glencarbry 1 Wind Farm may arise from other nearby vantage points along the local road network in the case where cumulative turbines are visible or partially visible.
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b>	<p><b>Sensitivity = High.</b></p> <p>Rationale: On account of residential receptors being in close proximity to the proposed turbines, the sensitivity is deemed to be “High”.</p> <p>For the definition of this sensitivity rating, refer to Section 1.8.2 Visual Receptor Sensitivity in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i>.</p>
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>	<b>Magnitude = Moderate.</b>

Viewpoint 02: Glenough Lower	
	<p><i>Turbines are seen of a moderate and/or large scale relative to the landscape, comprising a large vertical and/or horizontal extent of views, typically comprising all of the 53.5-degree field of view shown in the Photomontage Booklet.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.8.3 Magnitude of Visual Change in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i>.</p>
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<p>High × Moderate = Moderate = “Significant” (EPA, 2022)</p> <p><i>“An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration, or intensity alters a sensitive aspect of the environment”.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.8.4 Visual Effects Assessment Matrix in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i>.</p>
<b>Mitigating Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The Proposed Project exceeds the recommended 500m setback from residences (DoELHG 2006 Guidelines) and adheres to the prescribed 4-times-tip-height (740m) setback distance for residential visual amenity (Draft 2019 Guidelines) in the Wind Energy Development Guidelines (WEDGs).</li> <li>➤ Multiple proposed turbines are partially screened from view by vegetation in the foreground and terrain features in the distance. T04 is entirely screened from view.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are seen within a low sensitivity, modified working landscape of marginal upland where potential wind energy development is acceptable (“Open for Consideration” TCDP RES 2022-2028).</li> <li>➤ This is not a view of county, regional or national renown and not a protected view in local policy.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are sited on or near elevated peaks within a small spatial extent and with slightly irregular spacing in a clustered layout of relatively even height profile, thereby aligning with best practice siting and design for wind energy developments in Transitional Marginal Landscape Types Types (DoEHLG 2006 Guidelines, Draft 2019 Guidelines).</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Visual Effect</b>	<p><b>After considering all Mitigating Factors = “Moderate” (EPA, 2022)</b></p> <p><i>“An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends”.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.9 Determining Residual Effects in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i>.</p>

1.3

## VP03: Multeen Way near Tooreen

Viewpoint 03: Multeen Way near Tooreen	
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from the Multeen Way near Tooreen peak, way-marked walking trail on the L5105 Local Road in the townland of Birchgrove.</li> <li>➤ Located approximately 4.6km north-west of the nearest turbine (T07).</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference (ITM): E 590463; N 655059.</li> <li>➤ No. of turbines visible (including blades/tips): 7 (out of 14).</li> </ul>
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Tipperary LCA-17a: Hollyford Hills Mountain Mosaic: Low.</li> </ul>
<b>Visual Receptors and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Users of way-marked walking trail at high elevation within 5km: High.</li> </ul>
<b>Description of "Existing View"</b>	<p>The existing view looks southeast onto the northwest-facing slope of Knockbane peak, from the foothills of Tooreen peak. A broad expanse of sparsely populated agricultural fields with mature boundary vegetation is visible at the foot of the hills, with tracts of commercial forestry visible near the peaks. A long-ranging view of the River Suir valley is visible in the distance between the hills, comprising a small extent of the overall view.</p> <p>The turbines of three existing wind farms are visible along the top of the upland hills in the mid-ground of the view: Glenough, Glencarbry 2 and Glencarbry 1 Wind Farms. The turbines of Glenough and Glencarbry 2 are visually stacked to the southeast, while those of Glencarbry 1 are evenly spread across hills in the centre, occupying a wide horizontal extent. Most of the visible existing turbines are seen above the horizon and are perceived at similar size and scale relative to the landscape, from this distance. Directly behind this vantage point to the northwest, the existing Mienvee Turbine (52m height) is in very close proximity and therefore may potentially be visible, and some turbines of the existing Garracummer Wind Farm (up to 90m height) may potentially be visible on the east-facing aspects of Tooreen and nearby ridgelines.</p>
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description</b>	<p>The proposed turbines are partially visible across the centre of the view, set back beyond the ridgeline of Knockbane peak such that half of the proposed turbines are entirely screened from view behind topography and the remaining proposed turbines are partially screened by the undulating terrain.</p> <p>In a future receiving environment, no other permitted or proposed wind farms will be visible from this vantage point.</p>
<b>Cumulative Context</b>	<p>Cumulative effects will arise from this viewpoint in combination with the existing turbines. Considering the visual screening of the proposed turbines from this vantage point and the setting of existing cumulative turbines within undulating terrain, the proposed turbines have a limited contribution to the cumulative visual effects.</p>
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b>	<p><b>Sensitivity = High.</b></p> <p>Rationale: On account of the scenic views for recreational users at high elevation, the sensitivity is deemed to be "High".</p>

<b>Viewpoint 03: Multeen Way near Tooreen</b>	
	For the definition of this sensitivity rating, refer to Section 1.8.2 Visual Receptor Sensitivity in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i> .
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>	<p><b>Magnitude = Slight.</b></p> <p><i>Turbines are seen but clearly set back from the viewpoint and are of small scale relative to the landscape, or they are partially visible, they typically comprise a relatively small portion of the 53.5-degree field of view shown in the Photomontage Booklet.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.8.3 Magnitude of Visual Change in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i>.</p>
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<p>High × Slight = Moderate/Minor = “Moderate” (EPA, 2022)</p> <p><i>“An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends”.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.8.4 Visual Effects Assessment Matrix in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i>.</p>
<b>Mitigating Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are set back beyond the ridge and almost entirely screened from view, adding a low number of new elements to the landscape which is already established with wind energy development.</li> <li>➤ The nature of dense vegetation and steep undulating topography considerably limits visibility in the direction of the proposed turbines.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines do not impact scenic views in the foreground and do not obstruct the long-ranging views of the River Suir valley.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are seen within a low sensitivity, modified working landscape of marginal upland where potential wind energy development is acceptable (“Open for Consideration” TCDP RES 2022-2028).</li> <li>➤ This is not a view of county, regional or national renown and not a protected view in local policy.</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Visual Effect</b>	<p><b>After considering all Mitigating Factors = “Not Significant” (EPA, 2022)</b></p> <p><i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences”.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.9 Determining Residual Effects in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i>.</p>

1.4

## VP04: Rock of Cashel

Viewpoint 04: Rock of Cashel	
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from the Rock of Cashel, also known as St. Patrick’s Rock, in the townland of Cashel.</li> <li>➤ Located approximately 14.7km south-east of the nearest turbine (T12).</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference (ITM): E 607355; N 640928.</li> <li>➤ No. of turbines visible (including blades/tips): 14 (out of 14).</li> </ul>
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Tipperary LCA-4: River Suir Central Plain: Low.</li> </ul>
<b>Visual Receptors and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Visitors to the Rock of Cashel: Very High.</li> </ul>
<b>Description of “Existing View”</b>	<p>The existing view is broad and long-ranging, looking northwest over the River Suir valley from the foot of the Rock of Cashel (structure visible at the far-right edge of the 120-degree Key Image). The valley lowlands comprise expansive, sparsely populated agricultural fields lined with boundary vegetation and a mix of development and historic buildings such as Hore Abbey (structure visible at the far-left of the 120-degree Key Image). The Slieve Felim Mountains are visible in the distance across the centre-background of the view.</p> <p>The turbines of thirteen existing wind farms are visible, barely discernible on the horizon. Behind this vantage point, approximately 6km to the east, some turbines of the existing Kill Hill Wind Farm (82m height) may potentially be visible on the west-facing aspects of hilly terrain near Mt. O’Meara.</p>
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description</b>	<p>The proposed turbines are well set back beyond the River Suir valley, visible on the exposed slope of Knockbane peak in the centre-background of the image, at the foothills of Slieve Felim Mountains. The proposed turbines occupy a very small horizontal extent of the view, perceived at very modest size and scale relative to the landscape, and are situated closer to the vantage point than the other existing turbines.</p> <p>In a future receiving environment, the permitted Upperchurch Wind Farm will also be visible amongst the existing wind farms along the horizon, perceived at the same size and scale as the existing wind farms relative to the landscape, which is barely discernible.</p>
<b>Cumulative Context</b>	<p>Cumulative effects will arise from this viewpoint in combination with the existing turbines. Considering the distance of all cumulative turbines from this vantage point and the broad landscape setting with wide expansive views, the proposed turbines have a limited contribution to the cumulative visual effects.</p>
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b>	<p><b>Sensitivity = Very High.</b></p> <p>Rationale: On account of the nationally renowned historical value of Rock of Cashel and visitors coming to this destination specifically to experience landscape views, the sensitivity is deemed to be “Very High”.</p> <p>For the definition of this sensitivity rating, refer to Section 1.8.2 Visual Receptor Sensitivity in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i>.</p>

Viewpoint 04: Rock of Cashel	
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>	<p><b>Magnitude = Slight.</b></p> <p><i>Turbines are seen but clearly set back from the viewpoint and are of small scale relative to the landscape, or they are partially visible, they typically comprise a relatively small portion of the 53.5-degree field of view shown in the Photomontage Booklet.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.8.3 Magnitude of Visual Change in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology.</i></p>
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<p>Very High × Slight = Moderate = “Significant” (EPA, 2022)</p> <p><i>“An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration, or intensity alters a sensitive aspect of the environment”.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.8.4 Visual Effects Assessment Matrix in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology.</i></p>
<b>Mitigating Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are greatly set back beyond the River Suir valley landscape, adding a low number of new elements to the landscape background which is already established with wind energy development.</li> <li>➤ On account of the distance, the proposed turbines are effectively accommodated in this long-ranging and expansive panoramic view.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are perceived at very modest scale relative to the landscape in the distant background of views and are do not obstruct scenic views of the River Suir valley or scenic views of historic structures.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are seen within a low sensitivity, modified working landscape of marginal upland where potential wind energy development is acceptable (“Open for Consideration” TCDP RES 2022-2028).</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Visual Effect</b>	<p><b>After considering all Mitigating Factors = “Slight” (EPA, 2022)</b></p> <p><i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities”.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.9 Determining Residual Effects in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology.</i></p>

## VP05: Setting of Rock of Cashel

Viewpoint 05: Setting of Rock of Cashel	
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from the L5409 Local Road in the townland of Palmers Hill.</li> <li>➤ Located approximately 15km south-east of the nearest turbine (T12).</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference (ITM): E 607869; N 641138.</li> <li>➤ No. of turbines visible (including blades/tips): 14 (out of 14).</li> </ul>
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Tipperary LCA-4: River Suir Central Plain: Low.</li> </ul>
<b>Visual Receptors and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Views from the local road of Rock of Cashel within the wider landscape setting: High.</li> </ul>
<b>Description of "Existing View"</b>	<p>The existing view is a mix of short-range and long-range views, looking northwest over the River Suir valley from the local road passing into the hills to the east of Rock of Cashel (structure visible at the far-left edge of the 120-degree Key Image). The valley lowlands comprise sparsely populated agricultural fields lined with boundary vegetation and take up a moderate extent of the overall view. The Slieve Felim Mountains are partially visible in the distance across the background of the view, with vegetated slopes in the foreground among fenced fields.</p> <p>The turbines of thirteen existing wind farms are visible, barely discernible on the horizon. Behind this vantage point, approximately 6km to the east, some turbines of the existing Kill Hill Wind Farm (82m height) may potentially be visible on the west-facing aspects of hilly terrain near Mt. O'Meara.</p>
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description</b>	<p>The proposed turbines are well set back beyond the River Suir valley, visible as a staggered array across the foothill slopes of Knockbane peak in the centre-background. The proposed turbines occupy a very small horizontal extent of the view and are perceived at very modest size and scale relative to the landscape.</p> <p>In a future receiving environment, the permitted Upperchurch Wind Farm will also be visible amongst the existing wind farms along the horizon, perceived at the same size and scale as the existing wind farms relative to the landscape, which is barely discernible.</p>
<b>Cumulative Context</b>	<p>Cumulative effects will arise from this viewpoint in combination with the existing turbines. Considering the distance of all cumulative turbines from this vantage point and the broad landscape setting with wide expansive views, the proposed turbines have a limited contribution to the cumulative visual effects.</p>
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b>	<p><b>Sensitivity = High.</b></p> <p>Rationale: On account of the historic landscape setting of Rock of Cashel which is nationally renowned, the sensitivity is deemed to be "High".</p> <p>For the definition of this sensitivity rating, refer to Section 1.8.2 Visual Receptor Sensitivity in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i>.</p>

<b>Viewpoint 05: Setting of Rock of Cashel</b>	
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>	<p><b>Magnitude = Negligible.</b></p> <p><i>Turbines are seen as small features at great distance from the viewpoint or partially visible, typically comprising a very small portion of the 53.5-degree field of view shown in the Photomontage Booklet.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.8.3 Magnitude of Visual Change in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology.</i></p>
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<p>High × Negligible = Minor = “Slight” (EPA, 2022)</p> <p><i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities”.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.8.4 Visual Effects Assessment Matrix in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology.</i></p>
<b>Mitigating Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The view represents general views in a journey scenario through the landscape and is not a static destination to which visitors come to experience landscape views.</li> <li>➤ The Rock of Cashel, when viewed in its landscape setting, is seen in the foreground with the proposed turbines and cumulative turbines visible in background of panoramic views. In a journey scenario, these panoramic views are intermittent due to screening by localised topography, and the proposed turbines and cumulative turbines are seen in the background of views at small scale relative to the landscape.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are greatly set back beyond the River Suir valley landscape, adding a low number of new elements to the landscape background which is already established with wind energy development.</li> <li>➤ On account of the distance, the proposed turbines are effectively accommodated in this long-ranging and expansive panoramic view.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are perceived at very modest scale relative to the landscape and are seen in the background of views and do not obstruct scenic views of the River Suir valley.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are seen within a low sensitivity, modified working landscape of marginal upland where potential wind energy development is acceptable (“Open for Consideration” TCDP RES 2022-2028).</li> <li>➤ .</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Visual Effect</b>	<p><b>After considering all Mitigating Factors = “Not Significant” (EPA, 2022)</b></p> <p><i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences”.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.9 Determining Residual Effects in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology.</i></p>

1.6

## VP06: Foilaclog above SR-20

Viewpoint 06: Foilaclog above SR-20	
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from the L5108 Local Road in the townland of Foilaclog, situated above Co. Tipperary designated Scenic Route 20.</li> <li>➤ Located approximately 1.7km west of the nearest turbine (T07).</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference (ITM): E 591387; N 651016.</li> <li>➤ No. of turbines visible (including blades/tips): 12 (out of 14).</li> </ul>
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Tipperary LCA-17a: Hollyford Hills Mountain Mosaic: Low.</li> </ul>
<b>Visual Receptors and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Residential receptors in close proximity (&lt;2km): High.</li> <li>➤ Nearby designated scenic route: High.</li> <li>➤ Recreational trail: High.</li> </ul>
<b>Description of "Existing View"</b>	<p>The existing view looks east onto Knockbane peak from an elevated slope in the foothills of Slieve Felim Mountains, above SR-20 which is situated below in the valley passing between peaks. The view was captured on a recreational trail leading up to Red Hill Summit, situated behind this vantage point. Knockbane peak features sparsely populated agricultural fields and tracts of commercial forestry, and utility poles and overhead lines are visible across the foreground.</p> <p>Five turbines of the existing Glencarby 1 Wind Farm are prominently visible at the top of the Knockbane peak to the north. The existing turbines are set back beyond the ridge line and are visible above the horizon. Directly behind this vantage point to the west, a few turbines of the existing Cappawhite A and B Wind Farms may potentially be visible on the ridgelines of Foildarg peak or set back behind the peak, with full or partial screening by the topography and/or existing forestry stands.</p>
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description</b>	<p>The proposed turbines are set back beyond the ridgeline, with all proposed turbines partially screened from view by the terrain, many with blades fully visible above the horizon. From this vantage point, the proposed turbines show a range of perceived height and scale relative to the landscape, with T07 being closest and appearing largest in perceived scale, and the spacing between turbines is somewhat irregular. Proposed turbines T10 and T14 are fully screened from view behind terrain and forestry.</p> <p>In a future receiving environment, no other permitted or proposed wind farms will be visible from this vantage point.</p>
<b>Cumulative Context</b>	<p>Cumulative effects will arise from this viewpoint in combination with the existing turbines, considering that the proposed turbines widen the extent of visible cumulative turbines from this vantage point.</p>
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b>	<p><b>Sensitivity = High.</b></p> <p>Rationale: On account of the scenic views for users in a recreational capacity, as well as residential receptors in close proximity, the sensitivity is deemed to be "High".</p>

Viewpoint 06: Foilaclog above SR-20	
	For the definition of this sensitivity rating, refer to Section 1.8.2 Visual Receptor Sensitivity in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i> .
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>	<p><b>Magnitude = Moderate.</b></p> <p><i>Turbines are seen of a moderate and/or large scale relative to the landscape, comprising a large vertical and/or horizontal extent of views, typically comprising all of the 53.5-degree field of view shown in the Photomontage Booklet.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.8.3 Magnitude of Visual Change in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i>.</p>
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<p>High × Moderate = Moderate = “Significant” (EPA, 2022)</p> <p><i>“An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration, or intensity alters a sensitive aspect of the environment”.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.8.4 Visual Effects Assessment Matrix in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i>.</p>
<b>Mitigating Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ This view was captured in terrain located above the designated scenic route in order to demonstrate open visibility in the direction of the proposed turbines and is not representative of most views on SR-20 itself; most views on SR-20 will have considerably less visibility than what is shown in the image owing to visual screening by the steep mountainous terrain, or no visibility at all from vantage points in the north.</li> <li>➤ The Proposed Project exceeds the recommended 500m setback from residences (DoELHG 2006 Guidelines) and adheres to the prescribed 4-times-tip-height (740m) setback distance for residential visual amenity (Draft 2019 Guidelines) in the Wind Energy Development Guidelines (WEDGs).</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are seen within a low sensitivity, modified working landscape of marginal upland where potential wind energy development is acceptable (“Open for Consideration” TCDP RES 2022-2028).</li> <li>➤ This is not a view of county, regional or national renown and not a protected view in local policy.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are set back beyond the ridgeline, thereby not obstructing existing scenic views of agricultural fields and mature vegetation within the foothills.</li> <li>➤ Multiple proposed turbines are partially screened from view by the terrain. T10 and T14 are entirely screened from view.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are sited on or near elevated peaks within a small spatial extent and with slightly irregular spacing in a clustered layout of relatively even height profile, thereby aligning with best practice siting and design for wind energy developments in Transitional Marginal Landscape Types (DoEHLG 2006 Guidelines, Draft 2019 Guidelines).</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Visual Effect</b>	<p><b>After considering all Mitigating Factors = “Moderate” (EPA, 2022)</b></p> <p><i>“An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends”.</i></p>

Viewpoint 06: Foilaclug above SR-20	
	Refer to Section 1.9 Determining Residual Effects in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i> .

1.7

## VP07: SR-20 at Drumminacunna

Viewpoint 07: SR-20 at Drumminacunna	
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from Co. Tipperary designated Scenic Route 20 (R497) in the townland of Drumminacunna.</li> <li>➤ Located approximately 3.5km south-west of the nearest turbine (T08).</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference (ITM): E 591323; N 647614.</li> <li>➤ No. of turbines visible (including blades/tips): 5 (out of 14).</li> </ul>
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Tipperary LCA-17a: Hollyford Hills Mountain Mosaic: Low.</li> </ul>
<b>Visual Receptors and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Designated scenic route: High.</li> </ul>
<b>Description of "Existing View"</b>	<p>The existing view looks northeast onto Knockbane peak from the valley lowlands at the western foot of the Slieve Felim Mountains, representing the only portion of SR-20 within the zone of full theoretical visibility. The landscape comprises gently rolling hills of agricultural fields lined with dense roadside and boundary vegetation. Knockbane peak is partially visible in the distant background, beyond dense tracts of woodland and commercial forestry which are also only partially visible.</p> <p>A few turbines and turbine blades of existing wind farms are visible to the north along the distant hills: Glencarbry 1 and Glenough Wind Farms.</p>
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description</b>	<p>The proposed turbines are partially visible along the horizon, set back amongst the rolling hills, with full blades and some towers visible above the horizon. Most of the proposed turbines are entirely or partially screened from view by scattered vegetation across the fields. In the winter months, there may be greater partial visibility if the foliage on trees is less.</p> <p>In a future receiving environment, no other permitted or proposed wind farms will be visible from this vantage point.</p>
<b>Cumulative Context</b>	<p>Considering that the proposed turbines widen the extent of visible cumulative turbines from this vantage point and introduce new elements in closer proximity to the scenic route, in-combination cumulative effects will arise from this viewpoint.</p>
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b>	<p><b>Sensitivity = High.</b></p> <p>Rationale: On account of the designated protected views of the scenic route, the sensitivity is deemed to be "High".</p> <p>For the definition of this sensitivity rating, refer to Section 1.8.2 Visual Receptor Sensitivity in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i>.</p>
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>	<p><b>Magnitude = Slight.</b></p> <p><i>Turbines are seen but clearly set back from the viewpoint and are of small scale relative to the landscape, or they are partially visible, they typically comprise a</i></p>

Viewpoint 07: SR-20 at Drumminacunna	
	<p><i>relatively small portion of the 53.5-degree field of view shown in the Photomontage Booklet.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.8.3 Magnitude of Visual Change in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i>.</p>
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<p>High × Slight = Moderate/Minor = “Moderate” (EPA, 2022)</p> <p><i>“An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends”.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.8.4 Visual Effects Assessment Matrix in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i>.</p>
<b>Mitigating Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are well set back from the designated scenic route and do not obstruct the key sensitivities which are defined as “<i>Views in all directions from Ironmills to Milestone Road (R497)</i>” (TCDP 2022-2028).</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are seen within a low sensitivity, modified working landscape of marginal upland where potential wind energy development is acceptable (“Open for Consideration” TCDP RES 2022-2028).</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are set back beyond the agricultural fields and mature vegetation and are not prominently visible above the existing skyline.</li> <li>➤ Most of the proposed turbines are partially screened from view by vegetation in the foreground and terrain features in the distance.</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Visual Effect</b>	<p><b>After considering all Mitigating Factors = “Slight” (EPA, 2022)</b></p> <p><i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities”.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.9 Determining Residual Effects in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i>.</p>

## VP08: N24 at Limerick Junction

Viewpoint 08: N24 at Limerick Junction	
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from the N24 National Road in the townland of Ballykisteen, located on the waymarked Ballyhoura Way walking trail.</li> <li>➤ Located approximately 14.2km south-west of the nearest turbine (T13).</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference (ITM): E 586180; N 638427.</li> <li>➤ No. of turbines visible (including blades/tips): 14 (out of 14).</li> </ul>
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Tipperary LCA-4: River Suir Central Plain: Low.</li> </ul>
<b>Visual Receptors and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Views from the road outside Limerick: Low</li> <li>➤ Users of way-marked walking trail at distances &gt;14km: Low.</li> </ul>
<b>Description of "Existing View"</b>	<p>The existing view looks northeast from the elevated overpass of Limerick Junction railway where it crosses beneath the N24 and aligns with the Ballyhoura Way. The lowlands comprise commercial and residential buildings lining the railway to the west, with agricultural fields to the east. Dense mature woodland and field boundary vegetation are visible throughout the lowlands, along with utility poles, overhead lines, and fencing lining the railway. The Slieve Felim Mountains are visible across the distant background of the view, primarily to the west, with Knockbane peak in the centre-background.</p> <p>The turbines of eight existing wind farms are visible, barely discernible on the uplands in the distance which form the horizon.</p>
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description</b>	<p>The proposed turbines are visible on the distant slopes of Knockbane peak, on the near side of the foothills to this vantage point, perceived at very modest scale relative to the landscape. The majority of proposed turbines have full towers and blades visible, with some turbines situated in front of higher terrain and other turbines visible above the horizon where the terrain slopes down into the valley to the south. A few of the proposed turbines are set back beyond the foothills and are therefore partially visually screened behind the terrain, while other turbines may be intermittently screened by vegetation in the foreground in a journey scenario. The proposed turbines do not noticeably raise the existing skyline from this distance.</p> <p>In a future receiving environment, a few blade tips of turbines of the permitted Upperchurch Wind Farm may also be barely discernible where the distant terrain dips downward.</p>
<b>Cumulative Context</b>	<p>Considering that the proposed turbines are seen within the same visual extent as the existing turbines and widen the horizontal extent of visible cumulative turbines to a small degree (to the south), in-combination cumulative effects will arise from this viewpoint.</p>
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b>	<p><b>Sensitivity = Low.</b></p> <p>Rationale: On account of the N24 bypass over Limerick Junction being a commuter route, the sensitivity is deemed to be "Low".</p>

Viewpoint 08: N24 at Limerick Junction	
	For the definition of this sensitivity rating, refer to Section 1.8.2 Visual Receptor Sensitivity in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i> .
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>	<p><b>Magnitude = Slight.</b></p> <p><i>Turbines are seen but clearly set back from the viewpoint and are of small scale relative to the landscape, or they are partially visible, they typically comprise a relatively small portion of the 53.5-degree field of view shown in the Photomontage Booklet.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.8.3 Magnitude of Visual Change in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i>.</p>
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<p>Low × Slight = Minor/Negligible = “Not Significant” (EPA, 2022)</p> <p><i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences”.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.8.4 Visual Effects Assessment Matrix in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i>.</p>
<b>Mitigating Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are perceived at very modest scale relative to the landscape and are seen in the background of views.</li> <li>➤ Multiple proposed turbines are partially screened from view by vegetation in the foreground and terrain features in the distance.</li> <li>➤ The majority of the Ballyhoura Way waymarked walking trail traverses the landscape to the south from this point, greater than 14km from the Proposed Wind Farm site and is therefore likely to have only very limited visibility of the proposed turbines in the background of views.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are seen within a low sensitivity, modified working landscape of marginal upland where potential wind energy development is acceptable (“Open for Consideration” TCDP RES 2022-2028).</li> <li>➤ This is not a view of county, regional or national renown and not a protected view in local policy.</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Visual Effect</b>	<p><b>After considering all Mitigating Factors = “Not Significant” (EPA, 2022)</b></p> <p><i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences”.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.9 Determining Residual Effects in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i>.</p>

## VP09: Glencarbry

Viewpoint 09: Glencarbry	
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; View from the L51161 Local Road in the townland of Glencarbry.</li> <li>&gt; Located approximately 750m north-east of the nearest turbine (T06).</li> <li>&gt; View shown in two directions: View A southeast, View B southwest.</li> <li>&gt; Grid Reference (ITM): E 594301; N 652082.</li> <li>&gt; No. of turbines visible (including blades/tips): 14 (out of 14).</li> </ul>
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Tipperary LCA-17a: Hollyford Hills Mountain Mosaic: Low.</li> </ul>
<b>Visual Receptors and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Residential receptors in close proximity (&lt;2km): High.</li> </ul>
<b>Description of "Existing View"</b>	<p>The existing view is broad and long-ranging, looking south onto the lower slopes of Knockbane peak and out over the River Suir valley from a vantage point higher on Knockbane peak. The rolling foothills feature tracts of commercial forestry and uninhabited fields in the foreground, and agricultural fields in the valley lowlands are partially visible in the distance. Utility poles and overhead lines are visible across the view. Mature woodland and forestry line the local road at the right of the view. Distant mountain ranges located beyond the LVIA Study Area are visible across the full width of the background.</p> <p>The existing Kill Hill Wind Farm is visible to the southeast, barely discernible on the horizon. A few turbines of the existing Glencarbry 1 Wind Farm are located directly behind this vantage point to both the west and east but are not currently visible from this viewpoint due to the steep landform and existing stands of forestry.</p>
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description</b>	<p>In View Direction A, the proposed turbines are visible across the rounded terrain of Knockbane peak, set within forestry tracts on the near side as well as beyond the ridgeline, with full blades visible above the horizon. In View Direction B, the proposed turbines are set beyond the nearest ridgeline, with T05 closest and most prominent and T09 almost entirely visually screened behind trees. T07 is entirely screened from view. For all proposed turbines, there is even spacing between most towers such that long-ranging views are visible beyond the infrastructure.</p> <p>In a future receiving environment, no other permitted or proposed wind farms will be visible from this vantage point.</p>
<b>Cumulative Context</b>	<p>Considering that the existing Glencarbry 1 turbines are screened from view at this vantage point, no cumulative effects with Glencarbry 1 are likely to arise from this viewpoint. Cumulative effects with Glencarbry 1 may arise from other nearby vantage points along the local road network in the case where cumulative turbines are visible or partially visible in succession with the proposed turbines.</p>
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b>	<p><b>Sensitivity = High.</b></p> <p>Rationale: On account of residential receptors being in close proximity to the proposed turbines, the sensitivity is deemed to be "High".</p>

Viewpoint 09: Glencarbry	
	For the definition of this sensitivity rating, refer to Section 1.8.2 Visual Receptor Sensitivity in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i> .
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>	<p><b>Magnitude = Substantial.</b></p> <p><i>Turbines may be of a large scale relative to the landscape and very prominent within views, comprising large vertical and/or horizontal extent of views, turbines might typically comprise all of, or greater than the 90-degree field of view shown in the Photomontage Booklet.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.8.3 Magnitude of Visual Change in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i>.</p>
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<p>High × Substantial = Major/Moderate = “Very Significant” (EPA, 2022)</p> <p><i>“An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration, or intensity alters most of a sensitive aspect of the environment”.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.8.4 Visual Effects Assessment Matrix in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i>.</p>
<b>Mitigating Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The Proposed Project exceeds the recommended 500m setback from residences (DoELHG 2006 Guidelines) and adheres to the prescribed 4-times-tip-height (740m) setback distance for residential visual amenity (Draft 2019 Guidelines) in the Wind Energy Development Guidelines (WEDGs).</li> <li>➤ The landscape is sparsely populated with few receptors, and this view represents a vantage point with a high degree of open visibility; many receptors in the area with similar views may experience far less visibility of turbines.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are spaced such that long-ranging views are not fully obscured and are still available looking between and beyond the towers and blades.</li> <li>➤ There is partial and full visual screening of towers and entire turbines owing to undulations in the mountainous terrain and mature trees.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are seen within a low sensitivity, modified working landscape of marginal upland where potential wind energy development is acceptable (“Open for Consideration” TCDP RES 2022-2028).</li> <li>➤ This is not a view of county, regional or national renown and not a protected view in local policy.</li> <li>➤ Significant residual effects only occur for a very small number of residential receptors.</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Visual Effect</b>	<p><b>After considering all Mitigating Factors = “Significant” (EPA, 2022)</b></p> <p><i>“An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration, or intensity alters a sensitive aspect of the environment”.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.9 Determining Residual Effects in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i>.</p>

## VP10: Scarrough

Viewpoint 10: Scarrough	
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; View from the L1282 Local Road in the townland of Scarrough.</li> <li>&gt; Located approximately 1.5km south-west of the nearest turbine (T12).</li> <li>&gt; Grid Reference (ITM): E 594430; N 648290.</li> <li>&gt; No. of turbines visible (including blades/tips): 14 (out of 14).</li> </ul>
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	> Tipperary LCA-17a: Hollyford Hills Mountain Mosaic: Low.
<b>Visual Receptors and Sensitivity</b>	> Residential receptors in close proximity (<2km): High.
<b>Description of "Existing View"</b>	<p>The existing view looks north onto the lower slopes of Knockbane peak, from a lower vantage point of the peak. The rolling hills comprise agricultural fields lined with mature boundary trees and vegetation. Wide tracts of commercial forestry are partially visible along the distant background. Utility poles and overhead lines are visible amongst scattered residences.</p> <p>The turbines of multiple existing wind farms are visible to the northwest, including Garracummer, Glencarbry 1, Glencarbry 2, and Glenough Wind Farms. Most of the existing turbines are set back beyond distant ridges and a few are visible above the horizon.</p>
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description</b>	<p>The proposed turbines are visible primarily above the horizon, set back beyond the undulating ridgeline and mature vegetation in the foreground, within tracts of commercial forestry. The spacing of proposed turbines is viewed as somewhat irregular, with T13, T03 and T12 closest and perceived at similar size and scale relative to the landscape. The other proposed turbines diminish in perceived size and scale with distance and are increasingly visually screened behind the terrain.</p> <p>In a future receiving environment, no other permitted or proposed wind farms will be visible from this vantage point.</p>
<b>Cumulative Context</b>	Considering that the proposed turbines are seen within the same visual extent as the existing turbines and increase the vertical extent of visible cumulative turbines, in-combination cumulative effects will arise from this viewpoint.
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b>	<p><b>Sensitivity = High.</b></p> <p>Rationale: On account of residential receptors being in close proximity to the proposed turbines, the sensitivity is deemed to be "High".</p> <p>For the definition of this sensitivity rating, refer to Section 1.8.2 Visual Receptor Sensitivity in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i>.</p>
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>	<p><b>Magnitude = Moderate.</b></p> <p><i>Turbines are seen of a moderate and/or large scale relative to the landscape, comprising a large vertical and/or horizontal extent of views, typically</i></p>

Viewpoint 10: Scarrough	
	<p><i>comprising all of the 53.5-degree field of view shown in the Photomontage Booklet.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.8.3 Magnitude of Visual Change in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology.</i></p>
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<p>High × Moderate = Moderate = “Significant” (EPA, 2022)</p> <p><i>“An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration, or intensity alters a sensitive aspect of the environment”.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.8.4 Visual Effects Assessment Matrix in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology.</i></p>
<b>Mitigating Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The Proposed Project exceeds the recommended 500m setback from residences (DoELHG 2006 Guidelines) and adheres to the prescribed 4-times-tip-height (740m) setback distance for residential visual amenity (Draft 2019 Guidelines) in the Wind Energy Development Guidelines (WEDGs).</li> <li>➤ The landscape is sparsely populated with few receptors, and this view represents a vantage point with a high degree of open visibility towards the proposed turbines; many receptors in the area with similar views may experience far less visibility of turbines.</li> <li>➤ Scenic views looking out over the River Suir valley from this elevated vantage point are facing the opposite direction from the proposed turbines.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are set back within undulating terrain and mature vegetation and are therefore likely to be intermittently and partially visually screened from view at many locations in the area, including many properties of residential receptors.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are seen within a low sensitivity, modified working landscape of marginal upland where potential wind energy development is acceptable (“Open for Consideration” TCDP RES 2022-2028).</li> <li>➤ This is not a view of county, regional or national renown and not a protected view in local policy.</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Visual Effect</b>	<p><b>After considering all Mitigating Factors = “Moderate” (EPA, 2022)</b></p> <p><i>“An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends”.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.9 Determining Residual Effects in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology.</i></p>

## VP11: SR-33 at Ballynahinch

Viewpoint 11: SR-33 at Ballynahinch	
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from Co. Tipperary Scenic Route 33 on the R505 Regional Road in the townland of Ballynahinch.</li> <li>➤ Located approximately 10.3km south-east of the nearest turbine (T12).</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference (ITM): E 603092; N 642644.</li> <li>➤ No. of turbines visible (including blades/tips): 14 (out of 14).</li> </ul>
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Tipperary LCA-4: River Suir Central Plain: Low.</li> </ul>
<b>Visual Receptors and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Designated scenic route: High.</li> </ul>
<b>Description of "Existing View"</b>	<p>The existing view looks northwest across the lowlands of the River Suir valley from SR-33 which is a relatively short route (1.2km total length); this view represents the only location on the scenic route with open visibility towards Knockbane peak. The lowlands comprise gently rolling hills of agricultural fields lined with low stone walls and mature trees. The Slieve Felim Mountains are partially visible across the distant background, with Knockbane peak openly visible in the centre-background.</p> <p>The turbines of nine existing wind farms are partially visible across the background, barely discernible on the horizon.</p>
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description</b>	<p>The proposed turbines are located in the opposite direction of the protected view of SR-33, visible on the distant slopes of Knockbane peak, both in front of and behind the ridgeline, perceived at very modest scale relative to the landscape. The majority of proposed turbines have full towers and blades visible. The proposed turbines which are set back beyond the foothills are partially visually screened behind the terrain. The proposed turbines do not noticeably raise the existing skyline from this distance.</p> <p>In a future receiving environment, a few turbines of the permitted Upperchurch Wind Farm will also be visible amongst the existing wind farms along the horizon, perceived at the same size and scale relative to the landscape, which is barely discernible.</p>
<b>Cumulative Context</b>	<p>Cumulative effects will arise from this viewpoint in combination with the existing turbines. Considering the distance of all cumulative turbines from this vantage point and the broad lowland setting with views partially screened by intervening vegetation, the proposed turbines have a limited contribution to the cumulative visual effects.</p>
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b>	<p><b>Sensitivity = High.</b></p> <p>Rationale: On account of the designated protected views of the scenic route, the sensitivity is deemed to be "High".</p> <p>For the definition of this sensitivity rating, refer to Section 1.8.2 Visual Receptor Sensitivity in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i>.</p>

<b>Viewpoint 11: SR-33 at Ballynahinch</b>	
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>	<p><b>Magnitude = Slight.</b></p> <p><i>Turbines are seen but clearly set back from the viewpoint and are of small scale relative to the landscape, or they are partially visible, they typically comprise a relatively small portion of the 53.5-degree field of view shown in the Photomontage Booklet.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.8.3 Magnitude of Visual Change in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology.</i></p>
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<p>High × Slight = Moderate/Minor = “Moderate” (EPA, 2022)</p> <p><i>“An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends”.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.8.4 Visual Effects Assessment Matrix in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology.</i></p>
<b>Mitigating Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are located in the opposite direction of designated views from the scenic route and do not obstruct the key sensitivities which are defined as “<i>Views south along road R.505 at Drehideenglashanatooha Bridge</i>” (TCDP 2022-2028).</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are perceived at very modest scale relative to the landscape and are seen in the background of views.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are seen within a low sensitivity, modified working landscape of marginal upland where potential wind energy development is acceptable (“Open for Consideration” TCDP RES 2022-2028).</li> <li>➤ Multiple proposed turbines are partially screened from view by terrain features in the distance.</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Visual Effect</b>	<p><b>After considering all Mitigating Factors = “Not Significant” (EPA, 2022)</b></p> <p><i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences”.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.9 Determining Residual Effects in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology.</i></p>

## VP12: Pallasgreen

Viewpoint 12: Pallasgreen	
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from the N24 National Road in the townland of Kilduff.</li> <li>➤ Located approximately 16.7km south-west of the nearest turbine (T08).</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference (ITM): E 577201; N 646280.</li> <li>➤ No. of turbines visible (including blades/tips): 6 (out of 14).</li> </ul>
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Limerick LCA-1: Agricultural Lowlands: Low.</li> </ul>
<b>Visual Receptors and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ National road within Pallasgreen (Large Village) &gt;15km: Low.</li> </ul>
<b>Description of "Existing View"</b>	<p>The existing view looks northeast towards the Slieve Felim Mountains across the lowlands of the Dead River/Mulkear River valley. The lowlands comprise low rolling hills and agricultural fields lined with mature trees and vegetation. Light fencing and scattered residences are visible throughout the fields. The distinctive foothills of Slieve Felim Mountains are partially visible across the background, with Knockbane peak situated in the centre-background.</p> <p>The turbines of seven existing wind farms are visible, barely discernible on the horizon.</p>
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description</b>	<p>The proposed turbines are partially visible on the distant slopes of Knockbane peak, perceived at very modest scale relative to the landscape. Most of the proposed turbines are set back beyond the foothills and are therefore fully or partially visually screened behind the terrain and others are screened behind distant vegetation. The proposed turbines are barely discernible at this distance.</p> <p>In a future receiving environment, no other permitted or proposed wind farms will be visible from this vantage point.</p>
<b>Cumulative Context</b>	<p>Cumulative effects arise from this viewpoint in combination with the existing turbines. Considering the distance of all cumulative turbines from this vantage point and the broad lowland setting with views partially screened by intervening vegetation, the proposed turbines have a limited contribution to the cumulative visual effects.</p>
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b>	<p><b>Sensitivity = Low.</b></p> <p>For the definition of this sensitivity rating, refer to Section 1.8.2 Visual Receptor Sensitivity in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i>.</p>
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>	<p><b>Magnitude = Slight.</b></p> <p><i>Turbines are seen but clearly set back from the viewpoint and are of small scale relative to the landscape, or they are partially visible, they typically comprise a relatively small portion of the 53.5-degree field of view shown in the Photomontage Booklet.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.8.3 Magnitude of Visual Change in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i>.</p>

Viewpoint 12: Pallasgreen	
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<p>Low × Slight = Minor/Negligible = “Not Significant” (EPA, 2022)</p> <p><i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences”.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.8.4 Visual Effects Assessment Matrix in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i>.</p>
<b>Mitigating Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are perceived at very modest scale relative to the landscape and are seen in the background of views.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are seen within a low sensitivity, modified working landscape of marginal upland where potential wind energy development is acceptable (“Open for Consideration” TCDP RES 2022-2028).</li> <li>➤ This is not a view of county, regional or national renown and not a protected view in local policy.</li> <li>➤ Multiple proposed turbines are partially screened from view by vegetation in the foreground and terrain features in the distance.</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Visual Effect</b>	<p><b>After considering all Mitigating Factors = “Not Significant” (EPA, 2022)</b></p> <p><i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences”.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.9 Determining Residual Effects in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i>.</p>

## VP13: R660 at Beakstown

Viewpoint 13: R660 at Beakstown	
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from the R660 Regional Road in the townland of Beakstown, representing views from Thurles town.</li> <li>➤ Located approximately 14.2km north-east of the nearest turbine (T10).</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference (ITM): E 609557; N 655888.</li> <li>➤ No. of turbines visible (including blades/tips): 13 (out of 14).</li> </ul>
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Tipperary LCA-2: Thurles Hinterland: Low.</li> </ul>
<b>Visual Receptors and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Regional road outside Thurles (Key Town) &gt;10km: Low.</li> </ul>
<b>Description of "Existing View"</b>	<p>The existing view looks southwest over the lowlands of the River Suir valley towards the foothills of the Slieve Felim Mountains, from a vantage point near the River Suir, southwest of Thurles town. The lowlands comprise low rolling hills of agricultural fields lined with mature trees and boundary vegetation. The foothills of Slieve Felim Mountains are partially visible across the distant background, occupying a small extent of the view, with Knockbane peak openly visible in the centre-background.</p> <p>The turbines of seven existing wind farms are visible, barely discernible on the horizon and clustered around one set of hills to the southwest.</p>
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description</b>	<p>The proposed turbines are partially visible on the distant slopes of Knockbane peak, perceived at very modest scale relative to the landscape. Some of the proposed turbines are set back beyond the foothills and are therefore fully or partially visually screened behind the terrain. The proposed turbines are barely discernible at this distance.</p> <p>In a future receiving environment, the permitted Upperchurch Wind Farm may be visible along the horizon to the north, perceived at similar size and scale to the existing wind farms relative to the landscape, which are barely discernible.</p>
<b>Cumulative Context</b>	<p>Cumulative effects will arise from this viewpoint in combination with the existing turbines. In a future receiving environment, the horizontal extent of visible wind farms will be extended in both directions along the horizon (the Proposed Project to the southwest and the permitted Upperchurch Wind Farm to the northwest), though the perceived size and scale of all turbines will be modest, relative to the landscape.</p>
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b>	<p><b>Sensitivity = Low.</b></p> <p>For the definition of this sensitivity rating, refer to Section 1.8.2 Visual Receptor Sensitivity in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i>.</p>
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>	<p><b>Magnitude = Negligible.</b></p> <p><i>Turbines are seen as small features at great distance from the viewpoint or partially visible, typically comprising a very small portion of the 53.5-degree field of view shown in the Photomontage Booklet.</i></p>

Viewpoint 13: R660 at Beakstown	
	Refer to Section 1.8.3 Magnitude of Visual Change in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i> .
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<p>Low × Negligible = Negligible = “Not Significant” (EPA, 2022)</p> <p><i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences”.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.8.4 Visual Effects Assessment Matrix in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i>.</p>
<b>Mitigating Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are perceived at very modest scale relative to the landscape and are seen in the background of views.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are seen within a low sensitivity, modified working landscape of marginal upland where potential wind energy development is acceptable (“Open for Consideration” TCDP RES 2022-2028).</li> <li>➤ This is not a view of county, regional or national renown and not a protected view in local policy.</li> <li>➤ Multiple proposed turbines are partially screened from view by terrain features in the distance.</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Visual Effect</b>	<p><b>After considering all Mitigating Factors = “Not Significant” (EPA, 2022)</b></p> <p><i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences”.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.9 Determining Residual Effects in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i>.</p>

## VP14: R505 at Dundrum

Viewpoint 14: R505 at Dundrum	
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from the R505 Regional Road in the townland of Dundrum.</li> <li>➤ Located approximately 5.5km south-east of the nearest turbine (T12).</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference (ITM): E 597771; N 644546.</li> <li>➤ No. of turbines visible (including blades/tips): 14 (out of 14).</li> </ul>
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Tipperary LCA-4: River Suir Central Plain: Low.</li> </ul>
<b>Visual Receptors and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Regional road outside Dundrum (village) beyond 5km: Medium.</li> <li>➤ Recreational walking trails within a woodland: Low.</li> </ul>
<b>Description of “Existing View”</b>	<p>The existing view looks northwest onto the foothills of Knockbane peak from a vantage point southeast of Dundrum village, with the elevated hills of Bishop’s Wood Forest in the foreground. The hilly terrain features agricultural fields lined with mature woodland and scattered housing. Utility poles and overhead lines are visible across the view. The foothills of Knockbane peak are partially visible beyond the woodlands, and are lined with commercial forestry.</p> <p>The turbines of eight existing wind farms are visible, barely discernible on the uplands in the distance, or fully screened behind mature trees in the foreground of the view.</p>
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description</b>	<p>The proposed turbines are visible across the ridgeline of Knockbane peak with an even height profile. All proposed turbines are partially screened from view as they are set back beyond the distant ridgeline, with all blades visible above the horizon.</p> <p>In a future receiving environment, no other permitted or proposed wind farms will be visible from this vantage point.</p>
<b>Cumulative Context</b>	<p>Considering that the proposed turbines are seen within the same visual extent as the existing turbines and increase the vertical extent of visible cumulative turbines, in-combination cumulative effects will arise from this viewpoint.</p>
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b>	<p><b>Sensitivity = Medium.</b></p> <p>Rationale: On account of receptors potentially using the landscape in a recreational capacity, the sensitivity is deemed to be “Medium”.</p> <p>For the definition of this sensitivity rating, refer to Section 1.8.2 Visual Receptor Sensitivity in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i>.</p>
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>	<p><b>Magnitude = Slight.</b></p> <p><i>Turbines are seen but clearly set back from the viewpoint and are of small scale relative to the landscape, or they are partially visible, they typically comprise a relatively small portion of the 53.5-degree field of view shown in the Photomontage Booklet.</i></p>

Viewpoint 14: R505 at Dundrum	
	Refer to Section 1.8.3 Magnitude of Visual Change in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i> .
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<p>Medium × Slight = Minor = “Slight” (EPA, 2022)</p> <p><i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities”.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.8.4 Visual Effects Assessment Matrix in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i>.</p>
<b>Mitigating Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The proposed turbines occupy a small horizontal extent of the view and are partially screened for being set back beyond the ridgeline.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are viewed with an even height profile and full blades visible above the horizon which avoids visual confusion.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are seen within a low sensitivity, modified working landscape of marginal upland where potential wind energy development is acceptable (“Open for Consideration” TCDP RES 2022-2028).</li> <li>➤ This is not a view of county, regional or national renown and not a protected view in local policy.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are sited on or near elevated peaks within a small spatial extent and with slightly irregular spacing in a clustered layout of relatively even height profile, thereby aligning with best practice siting and design for wind energy developments in Transitional Marginal Landscape Types (DoEHLG 2006 Guidelines, Draft 2019 Guidelines).</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Visual Effect</b>	<p><b>After considering all Mitigating Factors = “Slight” (EPA, 2022)</b></p> <p><i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities”.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.9 Determining Residual Effects in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i>.</p>

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## VP15: Multeen Way at Donohill

Viewpoint 15: Multeen Way at Donohill	
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from the Multeen Way in the River Suir valley at Donohill village, way-marked walking trail on L4206 Local Road in the townland of Donohill Lands.</li> <li>➤ Located approximately 7.8km south-west of the nearest turbine (T13).</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference (ITM): E 590415; N 643233.</li> <li>➤ No. of turbines visible (including blades/tips): 7 (out of 14).</li> </ul>
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Tipperary LCA-4: River Suir Central Plain: Low.</li> </ul>
<b>Visual Receptors and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Users of way-marked walking trail in the valley at &gt;5km: Medium.</li> <li>➤ Local road outside small village: Low.</li> </ul>
<b>Description of "Existing View"</b>	<p>The existing view looks northeast over the lowlands of the Multeen River valley, towards the foothills of Slieve Felim Mountains and Knockbane peak, representing typical views from Multeen Way where it passes through the lowlands. The lowlands feature sparsely populated rolling hills of agricultural fields with mature trees and boundary vegetation. Utility poles and overhead lines are visible throughout the fields. Knockbane peak is partially visible in the distance in the centre-background, beyond the rolling hills.</p> <p>The turbines of nine existing wind farms are visible across the horizon to the north, with some located slightly closer on the near side of hilly terrain and others being barely discernible in perceived size and scale relative to the landscape.</p>
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description</b>	<p>The proposed turbines are partially visible on the distant slopes of Knockbane peak, perceived at very modest scale relative to the landscape. Nearly half of the proposed turbines are entirely screened from view behind dense stands of mature vegetation in the foreground and midground of the view. The proposed turbines are barely discernible at this distance.</p> <p>In a future receiving environment, one turbine of the permitted Upperchurch Wind Farm will be located within the field of view but would be entirely visually screened by vegetated hilly terrain in the mid-ground of the image.</p>
<b>Cumulative Context</b>	<p>Cumulative effects will arise from this viewpoint in combination with the existing turbines. Considering the distance of all cumulative turbines from this vantage point and the broad lowland setting with views partially screened by intervening vegetation, the proposed turbines have a limited contribution to the cumulative visual effects.</p>
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b>	<p><b>Sensitivity = Low.</b></p> <p>For the definition of this sensitivity rating, refer to Section 1.8.2 Visual Receptor Sensitivity in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i>.</p>
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>	<p><b>Magnitude = Slight.</b></p>

<b>Viewpoint 15: Multeen Way at Donohill</b>	
	<p><i>Turbines are seen but clearly set back from the viewpoint and are of small scale relative to the landscape, or they are partially visible, they typically comprise a relatively small portion of the 53.5-degree field of view shown in the Photomontage Booklet.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.8.3 Magnitude of Visual Change in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i>.</p>
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<p>Low × Slight = Minor/Negligible = “Not Significant” (EPA, 2022)</p> <p><i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences”.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.8.4 Visual Effects Assessment Matrix in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i>.</p>
<b>Mitigating Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are perceived at very modest scale relative to the landscape and are seen in the background of views.</li> <li>➤ Multiple proposed turbines are partially screened from view by vegetation in the foreground and terrain features in the distance.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are seen within a low sensitivity, modified working landscape of marginal upland where potential wind energy development is acceptable (“Open for Consideration” TCDP RES 2022-2028).</li> <li>➤ This is not a view of county, regional or national renown and not a protected view in local policy.</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Visual Effect</b>	<p><b>After considering all Mitigating Factors = “Not Significant” (EPA, 2022)</b></p> <p><i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences”.</i></p> <p>Refer to Section 1.9 Determining Residual Effects in <i>Appendix 14-1: LVIA Methodology</i>.</p>



## **APPENDIX 14-3**

**END OF DOCUMENT**