



## **APPENDIX 13-3**

### **PHOTOMONTAGE VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT TABLES**

## **Appendix 13-3: Photomontage Assessment Tables**

Maughanaclea Renewable  
Energy Development



1.

# PHOTOMONTAGE ASSESSMENT TABLES

The tables included in this Appendix detail a visual impact assessment of the 18 No. Viewpoints informed by the photomontage visualisations presented in *ELAR 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.

Table 1 - Viewpoint Location Descriptions

VP No.	Description	Grid Ref. (ITM)
1	View from the L-4174 local road, within the townland of Dromclogh East. Located approximately 2.9km south from the nearest proposed turbine, T14.	E: 506,692 N: 552, 365
2	View overlooking Bantry Bay from the N71 National Road in the townland of Abbey. Located approximately 11.6km south-west from the nearest proposed turbine T14.	E: 498,142 N: 548,347
3	View from the L-4718 local road, within the townland of Coomleagh West. Located approximately 1.2km south from the nearest proposed turbine, T08.	E: 509,500 N: 554,089
4	View from the Kealkill Stone Circle, within the townland of Kealkill. Located approximately 2.1km west from the nearest proposed turbine, T14.	E: 505,318 N: 555,667
5	View from the L-4714 local road, within the townland of Barnagowlane West. Located approximately 2.7km south from the nearest proposed turbine, T08.	E: 509,535 N:552,630
6	View from the L-8776 local road, within the townland of Gortloughra. Located approximately 860m north from the nearest proposed turbine, T04.	E: 510,784 N: 559,217
7	View from the R584 regional road, within the townland of Curraglass. Located approximately 4.3km north from the nearest proposed turbine, T01.	E: 510,004 N: 562,715
8	View from the R584 regional road, within the townland of Barnagearagh. Located approximately 6.9km west from the nearest proposed turbine, T14.	E: 500,740 N: 553,480
9	View from the Wild Atlantic viewing point / Vaughans Pass, located off the L-4713 Local Road within the townland of Dromleigh South. Located approximately 11km south-west from the nearest proposed turbine T14	E: 500,099 N: 546,958
10	View from the R585 Regional Road, within the townland of Cousane. Located approximately 1.5km south-east from the nearest proposed turbine, T06.	E: 512,564 N: 556,829
11	View from the R585 Regional Road, within the townland of Maughanaclea. Located approximately 886m north-east from the nearest proposed turbine, T07.	E: 510,988 N: 556,341
12	View from the R585 regional road, within the townland of Maughanaclea. Located approximately 998m north from the nearest proposed turbine, T07.	E: 510,304 N: 556,780
13	View from the R572 Regional Road in the townland of Tracashel. This viewpoint is located at a Wild Atlantic Way Discovery Point – the Whiddy Island View. Located approximately 17km west from the nearest proposed turbine, T14.	E 490,658 N: 552,371
14	View from the R584 Regional Road, within the townland of Cappaboy More. Located approximately 1.9km north from the nearest proposed turbine, T04.	E: 509,662 N: 559,941
15	View from the R585 Regional Road, exiting Kealkill town. Located approximately 2.3km west from the nearest proposed turbine, T14.	E: 505,329 N: 556,309



VP No.	Description	Grid Ref. (ITM)
16	View from the L-95853, within the townland of Maughanaclea. Located approximately 1.1km north from the nearest proposed turbine, T09.	E: 509,292 N: 556,445
17	View from the L-8707 Local Road in the townland of Curraghvaddra. Located approximately 15.8km southwest from the nearest proposed turbine T14.	E: 495,043 N: 545,372
18	View from the L-87821 local road, within the townland of Ahildotia. Located approximately 3km north-west from the nearest proposed turbine, T13.	E: 505,539 N: 557,930

## 1.1 Viewpoint Selection

The locations chosen for photomontages follow a highly detailed and extensive process including review of baseline information, site visits and high-quality photo taking at multiple locations within the LVIA Study Area. Many locations, which based on desktop review had the potential for views of the proposed turbines, had complete intervening screening or were screened to such an extent that the development of photomontages was not considered useful in terms of the assessment process i.e. little or no visibility towards the proposed turbines. In certain instances, viewpoints were not selected for inclusion in the final *ELAR Volume 2: Photomontage Booklet* as a nearby viewpoint, more appropriate in relation to the nearby receptors was produced instead. The Photomontages presented in the *ELAR Volume 2: Photomontage Booklet*, which are assessed in the tables below, therefore, show some of the most open views of the proposed turbines from sensitive visual receptors.

## 1.2 Visual Impact Assessment Methodology

The Visual Impact Assessments reported in the tables below follow the ‘Assessing Visual Effects’ methodology set out in Section 1.8 of *Appendix 13-1 LVIA Methodology*. The cumulative visual effects associated with other wind farms located within the LVIA Study Area and the proposed turbines are included in the assessment tables below.

### Assessment of Cumulative Visual Effects

As reported in Section 13.6 of Chapter 13: Landscape and Visual, 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 turbines. The descriptions of cumulative visual effects reported in this document use the photomontages in the *ELAR Volume 2: Photomontage Booklet* and are guided by the identification labels on the wireline views accompanying each photomontage view. Potential for cumulative visual effects is 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.

## 1.2.2 Viewpoint Assessments

### 1.2.2.1 Viewpoint 1 – Dromclogh East

Viewpoint 1 – Dromclogh East	
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from the L-4174 local road, within the townland of Dromclogh East.</li> <li>➤ Located approximately 2.9km south from the nearest proposed turbine, T14.</li> <li>➤ Located beside a local school.</li> <li>➤ This viewpoint is representative of the residential receptors in medium proximity to the proposed turbines.</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference: E: 506,692 N: 552, 365</li> <li>➤ Number of proposed turbines visible: 8/14</li> </ul>
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ LCT 4 – Rugged Ridge Peninsula: <b>Very High</b> (at far eastern boundary of this LCT, adjacent to LCT15a, approx. 1km west of LCT15a)</li> </ul>
<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Residential Receptors in medium proximity – <b>Medium/High</b></li> <li>➤ Local School – <b>Medium</b></li> </ul>
<b>Description of ‘Existing View’</b>	<p>This view is of a medium range view across a sparsely settled, rural landscape, with agricultural fields and a small number of residential buildings throughout. The elevated terrain comprising agricultural fields and moorland with tracts of</p>

Viewpoint 1 – Dromclogh East	
	<p>commercial forestry forms the backdrop of the view, restricting long range views beyond in this direction.</p> <p>No other existing turbines are visible within this field of view.</p>
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description</b>	<p>8 of the proposed turbines of the southern turbine cluster are seen as moderately scaled features arranged in a coherent linear array along the ridge. Turbine T07 is visible behind turbine T08. The proposed met mast is just about discernible to the left of turbine T09. The northern turbine cluster is fully screened from view.</p> <p>No permitted or proposed turbines are visible within this field of view.</p>
<b>Cumulative Effects with Other Cumulative Wind Energy Developments</b>	<p>No other permitted or proposed turbines are visible within this field of view.</p>
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b> <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)</i>	<p><b>High:</b> This viewpoint has been classified as a high sensitivity viewpoint on account of its location within LCT4 (HVL).</p>
<b>Magnitude of Change</b> <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)</i>	<p><b>Slight:</b> The proposed turbines are seen, but are set-back from the viewpoint, resulting in a slight level of change in the view and its composition. The turbines are partially visible and do not affect the key scenic sensitivities (views to the west and south-west towards HVL LCT4).</p>
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<p><b>High × Slight = Moderate/Minor = 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>
<b>Mitigating factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The proposed turbines of the southern turbine cluster are arranged in a linear array that follows the natural contours of the landform, ensuring that the proposed turbines read coherently within the landscape.</li> <li>➤ With regard to the siting of turbines in proximity to residential dwellings, the Proposed Project exceeds the minimum 500m set back distance in the Guidelines (DoEHLG, 2006), and also the 4 times tip height set-back distance set out for residential visual amenity prescribed by the Draft Guidelines (DoHPLG, 2019).</li> <li>➤ All proposed turbines of the northern turbine cluster of the Proposed Wind Farm are fully screened by intervening landform.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are mostly viewed above the horizon, and they do not obstruct or intrude upon any scenic views of local, county, regional or national renown.</li> <li>➤ The small number of residential receptors on the far side of the valley have their primary scenic amenity directed across the valley to the west and south-west towards HVL LCT4, away from the proposed turbines (towards this viewpoint). The steep side of the valley and set back of the majority of the</li> </ul>

Viewpoint 1 – Dromclogh East	
	turbines just beyond the ridgeline serve to minimise visibility and visual impact of the proposed turbines on this small number of residential receptors.
<b>Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)</b>	<b>Moderate (EPA, 2022)</b> <i>“An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends.”</i>

### 1.2.2.2 Viewpoint 2 – Bantry Bay

Viewpoint 2 – Bantry Bay	
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View overlooking Bantry Bay from the N71 National Road in the townland of Abbey.</li> <li>➤ Located approximately 11.6km south-west from the nearest proposed turbine T14.</li> <li>➤ Located on a designated scenic route C-SR-110 and the Wild Atlantic Way.</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference: E: 498,142 N: 548,347</li> <li>➤ Number of proposed turbines visible: 6/14</li> </ul>
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	➤ LCT 4 – Rugged Ridge Peninsula: <b>Very High</b>
<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Scenic Route – <b>High</b></li> <li>➤ Bantry – <b>Medium</b></li> <li>➤ Recreational Route – <b>Medium / High</b></li> </ul>
<b>Description of ‘Existing View’</b>	<p>A long ranging view across Bantry Harbour and Bay, the Knockboy Mountain range and other distinctive landforms form the backdrop of this view. The western parts of Bantry Town can be seen in the right of this view in the centre midground.</p> <p>No other existing turbines are visible within this field of view.</p>
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description</b>	<p>The majority of the proposed turbines are screened from view by intervening topography. 6 of the proposed turbines are seen within a saddle of lower ground, enclosed by elevated ridgelines either side of the proposed turbines, occupying an overall limited horizontal extent.</p> <p>The proposed Curraglass turbines, a blade tip of Gortloughra and permitted Gortyahilly turbines are seen in the distant background.</p>
<b>Cumulative Effects with Other Cumulative Wind Energy Developments</b>	<p>Only blade tips of the permitted Gortyahilly and proposed Gortloughra turbines are theoretically visible beyond the distant ridgelines in the wireline view, however, due to distance, are barely discernible to the naked eye.</p> <p>The 3 proposed Curraglass turbines would be seen in this view in an uncertain future receiving environment, with some visual separation from the proposed turbines. The proposed turbines add to the extent of turbines potentially visible</p>

Viewpoint 2 – Bantry Bay	
	from this viewpoint. The large-scale and expansive nature of the view effectively accommodates the addition of these cumulative developments.
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b> <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)</i>	<b>High:</b> This viewpoint has been classified as a high sensitivity viewpoint on account of its position on a designated scenic route that overlooks Bantry Bay.
<b>Magnitude of Change</b> <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)</i>	<b>Negligible:</b> The proposed turbines are seen as very small features at a large set-back distance from the viewpoint, comprising a very small portion of the 53.5-degree field of view.
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<b>High x Negligible = Minor = Slight (EPA, 2022)</b>  <i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities.”</i>
<b>Mitigating factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The large scale of the landscape and expansive panoramic views have the capacity to effectively accommodate the proposed turbines as well as other wind energy developments.</li> <li>➤ At a setback distance of &gt;10km, the proposed turbines are visible as very small features in the distant background, located within a saddle of lower ground, occupying a very narrow horizontal extent of the entire wider landscape.</li> <li>➤ The stated focus of this County Cork scenic route is <i>“views of Dunmanus Bay and Bantry Bay, Whiddy Island, Caher, Seefin, Gouladane, Knockboolteenagh, Adrigole, Glenlough and Sugarloaf Mountains, Hungry Hill, Bere Island, and the Beara Peninsula”</i>. As such only a very small part of these views will be affected by the proposed turbines, which are located at a large set-back distance, occupying a limited horizontal extent.</li> </ul> <p>As discussed in Section 13.7.3.4.13 of Chapter 13, given the overall scale of the Wild Atlantic Way (approximately 2,600km in length), and the limited extent within the LVIA Study Area that exhibits potential visibility (approximately 24km), the proposed turbines are not considered to have a significant impact on the route as a whole. Instances where visibility does occur, is limited to a very small section of the overall route, where the turbines appear as miniature elements relative to the landscape in the distant background of the view.</p>
<b>Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)</b>	<b>Not Significant (EPA, 2022)</b>  <i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences.”</i>

### 1.2.2.3 Viewpoint 3 – Coomleagh West

Viewpoint 3 – Coomleagh West	
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	➤ View from the L-4718 local road, within the townland of Coomleagh West.

Viewpoint 3 – Coomleagh West	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Located approximately 1.2km south from the nearest proposed turbine, T08.</li> <li>➤ Located along both the ‘Sheep’s Head Way’ and ‘Mealagh Valley Loop’ walking trails.</li> <li>➤ This viewpoint is representative of the residential receptors in close proximity to the proposed turbines.</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference: E: 509,500 N: 554,089</li> <li>➤ Number of proposed turbines visible: 5/14</li> </ul>
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	➤ LCT 15a - Ridged and Peaked Upland – <b>Medium</b>
<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Residential Receptors in close proximity – <b>High</b></li> <li>➤ Recreational Walking Route – <b>Medium / High</b></li> </ul>
<b>Description of ‘Existing View’ (Two Views)</b>	<p><b>View 3A:</b> This image is of a relatively short-range view overlooking an elevated agricultural slope enclosed by hedgerows. Residential properties and utility poles can be seen throughout the view.</p> <p><b>View 3B:</b> This image is of a short-range view overlooking agricultural fields. Some residential dwellings and agricultural buildings are seen within the view. An upland ridge rises in the background, providing visual containment and limiting long-range views into the distant background.</p> <p>The Northern turbine cluster is screened from view from both Field of Views. No existing turbines are visible within either field of view.</p>
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description (Two Views)</b>	<p><b>View 3A:</b> Three of the proposed turbines (T11, T10, and T14) of the southern turbine cluster are visible above and beyond the ridgeline. Only the blade tip of T14 is discernible beyond the treeline.</p> <p><b>View 3B:</b> Turbine T08 and blades of proposed turbine T9 are visible beyond the ridgeline, while all remaining turbines of the southern turbine cluster are fully screened from view.</p> <p>The northern turbine cluster is not visible in either field of view.</p>
<b>Cumulative Effects with Other Cumulative Wind Energy Developments</b>	No other permitted or proposed turbines are visible within either field of view.
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b> <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)</i>	<b>High:</b> This viewpoint has been classified as a high sensitivity viewpoint on account of the local residents in close proximity to the proposed turbines.

Viewpoint 3 – Coomleagh West	
<b>Magnitude of Change</b> <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)</i>	<b>Moderate:</b> The proposed turbines are seen to be of moderate scale, comprising a large horizontal extent of views, and spanning all of the 53.5-degree field of views.
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<b>High × Moderate = Moderate = Significant (EPA, 2022)</b> <i>“An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration, or intensity alters a sensitive aspect of the environment.”</i>
<b>Mitigating factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ With regard to the siting of turbines in proximity to residential dwellings, the Proposed Project exceeds the minimum 500m set back distance in the Guidelines (DoEHLG, 2006), and also the 4 times tip height set-back distance set out for residential visual amenity prescribed by the Draft Guidelines (DoHPLG, 2019).</li> <li>➤ This local road, used by residents and recreational receptors, is located within a valley enclosed by an elevated ridge to the north and south, restricting visibility of many of the proposed turbines to the north.</li> <li>➤ The open panoramic view across the expansive rural landscape is in the opposing field of view to the south, towards the Mealagh Valley, in the opposite direction of the proposed turbines.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are mostly viewed above the horizon, and they do not obstruct or intrude upon any scenic views of county, regional or national renown.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are located beyond the ridgeline giving a sense of set-back distance from the viewpoint.</li> <li>➤ Only 5 proposed turbines of the Proposed Wind Farm are visible from this photomontage.</li> </ul> <p>This is a sparsely populated area and visual effects shown in the photomontage will only occur for a small number of receptors.</p>
<b>Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)</b>	<b>Moderate (EPA, 2022)</b> <i>“An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends.”</i>

#### 1.2.2.4 Viewpoint 4 – Kealkill Stone Circle

Viewpoint 4 – Kealkill Stone Circle	
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from the Kealkill Stone Circle, within the townland of Kealkill.</li> <li>➤ Located approximately 2.1km west from the nearest proposed turbine, T14.</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference: E: 505,318 N: 555,667</li> </ul>

Viewpoint 4 – Kealkill Stone Circle	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Number of proposed turbines visible: 5/14</li> </ul>
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ LCT 4 – Rugged Ridge Peninsula: <b>Very High</b> (at far eastern boundary of this LCT, adjacent to LCT15a, approx. 1.3km west of LCT15a)</li> </ul>
<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Cultural Heritage Site (Stone Circles) – <b>High</b></li> <li>➤ Recreational Walking Route – <b>Medium / High</b></li> </ul>
<b>Description of 'Existing View'</b>	<p>The Kealkill standing stones are visible in the foreground, located within a grassland field enclosed by scrub land. A hill in the centre and right foreground restricts long-range visibility in this direction. A tract of commercial forestry is located in centre of image. To the left, the landscape opens out, affording long-ranging views towards more elevated, mountainous topography in the distance.</p> <p>The turbines of the existing Shehy More Wind Farm are visible in the distant background, beyond the distant ridgeline.</p>
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description</b>	<p>The turbines of the northern turbine cluster are seen in the distant background along the undulating mountainous ridgelines. They are a relatively compact cluster comprising a small horizontal extent of the view, some visual stacking occurs.</p> <p>The proposed turbines of the southern turbine cluster are screened from view by the hill to the right-hand side of the view.</p> <p>The proposed Gortloughra turbines are seen in the same area of the landscape as the proposed turbines of the northern turbine cluster.</p>
<b>Cumulative Effects with Other Cumulative Wind Energy Developments</b>	<p>In combination visual effects occur with the proposed turbines and the existing Shehy More turbines, which are partially visible in the distant background of the view. within combination visual effects occur the proposed Gortloughra turbines in an uncertain future receiving environment, both developments seen as one collective cluster of turbines within the undulating uplands from this perspective.</p> <p>The proposed Curraglass turbines are not visible in the photomontage. However, they would be visible across the valley 7.3km to the north from this viewpoint in a potential future receiving environment. In combination successional visual effect would occur where the Curraglass turbines would be visible with the proposed turbines but within a different field of view. This expansive landscape is capable of accommodating many wind energy developments</p>
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b> <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)</i>	<p><b>High:</b> This viewpoint has been classified as a high sensitivity viewpoint on account of its location at a cultural heritage monument, a location with panoramic scenic views across Bantry Bay and the rugged landscape (HVL LCT4) to the west (opposite direction than shown in the viewpoint) .</p>
<b>Magnitude of Change</b> <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)</i>	<p><b>Slight:</b> Only the northern turbine cluster of the Proposed Project is visible in this photomontage. The proposed turbines are clearly set back from this viewpoint and are of small scale, occupying a relatively very small portion of the 53.5-degree field of view.</p>

Viewpoint 4 – Kealkill Stone Circle	
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<p><b>High × Slight = Moderate/Minor = 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>
<b>Mitigating factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Through the iterative design process supported by early-stage photomontage production and ZTV modelling, the proposed turbines were carefully sited beyond the hill immediately south-east of the stone circle to ensure turbines of the southern turbine cluster are very well screened from view, mitigating effects on the immediate setting of the standing stones.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines of the northern turbine cluster are visible and are located at a large set-back distance from this viewpoint, reducing their scale and prominence within the composition of the view.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines adopt an irregular spacing and layout, which responds well to the undulating landform and reads coherently within the landscape.</li> <li>➤ From this viewpoint, the highest quality views are focused on the dramatic landscape of the mountains of the Co. Cork High Value Landscape, which is located to the west and north-west of this view, in the opposing direction to the proposed turbines. While the proposed turbines are visible, they are seen to the east (right) (on the periphery of such views) and do not interfere with the scenic quality of panoramic views of the mountainous landscape and Bantry Bay.</li> <li>➤ The large scale of the landscape and expansive nature of the panoramic view has the capacity to effectively accommodate the proposed turbines as well as other wind energy developments.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines appear as distant elements relative to the landscape in the wider landscape and are not perceived as part of the immediate visual context of the Standing Stones / Stone Circle. As such, the proposed turbines do not result in Significant visual effects on receptors experiencing the Kealkill Standing Stones directly. An impact assessment on the Cultural Heritage and setting of Kealkill Standing Stones is included in Chapter 14: Cultural Heritage.</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)</b>	<p><b>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>

### 1.2.2.5 Viewpoint 5 - Barnagowlane West

Viewpoint 5 – Barnagowlane West	
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from the L-4714 local road, within the townland of Barnagowlane West.</li> <li>➤ Located approximately 2.7km south from the nearest proposed turbine, T08.</li> <li>➤ Located along both the ‘Sheep’s Head Way’ and ‘Mullaghmesha Loop’ walking trails.</li> <li>➤ This viewpoint is representative of the residential receptors in medium proximity to the proposed turbines.</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference: E: 509,535 N: 552,630</li> </ul>

Viewpoint 5 – Barnagowlane West	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Number of proposed turbines visible: 7/14</li> </ul>
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ LCT 15a - Ridged and Peaked Upland – <b>Medium</b></li> </ul>
<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Residential Receptors in medium proximity – <b>Medium</b></li> <li>➤ Recreational Walking Route – <b>Medium / High</b></li> </ul>
<b>Description of 'Existing View'</b>	<p>This image is of a medium-range view across a sparsely settled upland valley, it is a transitional landscape, comprising residential dwellings, agricultural fields and marginal upland. The lower valley visible in the midground is composed of pastoral fields enclosed by hedgerows and treelines, with patches of commercial forestry to the left on the elevated ridgeline, The mosaic of landcover contributes to the transitional character of this marginal upland valley. The landform rises to an elevated ridge which limits long range views into the distant background.</p> <p>No existing turbines are visible within this field of view.</p>
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description</b>	<p>Six of the proposed turbines, which form part of the southern turbine cluster are visible from half tower height upwards, arranged in a coherent linear array beyond the ridgeline. Proposed turbine T14 is visually set back from the rest of the turbines and is visible to the far-left hand side of the view. The blade tip of turbine T7 is just about discernible above the distant ridgeline, beyond the 53.5-degree field of view. The northern turbine cluster is not visible in this field of view.</p> <p>No permitted or proposed turbines are visible within this field of view.</p>
<b>Cumulative Effects with Other Cumulative Wind Energy Developments</b>	<p>No other permitted or proposed turbines are visible within this field of view.</p>
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b> <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)</i>	<p><b>Medium:</b> This viewpoint has been classified as a medium sensitivity viewpoint on account of the local residents in medium proximity to the proposed turbines.</p>
<b>Magnitude of Change</b> <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)</i>	<p><b>Slight:</b> The proposed turbines are seen but are set back from the viewpoint and are partially visible, comprising all of the 53.5-degree field of view. The proposed turbines are arranged in a coherent linear array, with even spacing, and a profile that reflects the natural undulations of the ridgeline.</p>
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<p><b>Medium × Slight = Minor = 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>
<b>Mitigating factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ With regard to the siting of turbines in proximity to residential dwellings, the Proposed Project exceeds the minimum 500m set back distance in the Guidelines (DoEHLG, 2006), and also the 4 times tip height set-back distance</li> </ul>

Viewpoint 5 – Barnagowlane West	
	<p>set out for residential visual amenity prescribed by the Draft Guidelines (DoHPLG, 2019).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The entire northern turbine cluster is fully screened from view in this viewpoint.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are visually set back above and beyond the ridgeline.</li> <li>➤ The linear arrangement of the turbines along the ridge introduces a degree of coherence and order within the landscape.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are mostly viewed above the horizon, and they do not obstruct or intrude upon any scenic views of county, regional or national renown.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines read as a coherent array of turbines, with even spacing and a profile that reflects the natural undulations of the ridgeline and are visually balanced within the receiving landscape.</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)</b>	<p><b>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>

### 1.2.2.6 Viewpoint 6 – Gortloughra

Viewpoint 6 – Gortloughra	
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from the L-8776 local road, within the townland of Gortloughra.</li> <li>➤ Located approximately 860m north from the nearest proposed turbine, T04.</li> <li>➤ Located along the Beara Gougane Barra Cycling Route.</li> <li>➤ This viewpoint is representative of the residential receptors in close proximity to the proposed turbines.</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference: E: 510,784 N: 559,217</li> <li>➤ Number of proposed turbines visible: 14/14</li> </ul>
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ LCT 15a - Ridged and Peaked Upland – <b>Medium</b></li> </ul>
<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Residential Receptors in close proximity – <b>High</b></li> <li>➤ Local road users – <b>Medium</b></li> <li>➤ Recreational Route – <b>Medium / High</b></li> </ul>
<b>Description of ‘Existing View’ (Two Views)</b>	<p><b>6A:</b> This image is of a short-range view overlooking an elevated moorland ridge, restricting long-range views. Tracts of forestry are located on the ridge.</p> <p><b>6B:</b> This image is medium-range view overlooking an elevated moorland ridge. Beyond this, distant views extend to an undulating upland landscape comprising rough moorland and tracts of commercial forestry.</p> <p>The overall character of the landscape is of a rural, sparsely settled upland setting.</p>

Viewpoint 6 – Gortloughra	
	No other existing turbines are visible within this field of view.
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description (Two Views)</b>	<p><b>View 6A:</b> The proposed turbines of the northern turbine cluster appear as large features in close proximity to this viewpoint, situated beyond the ridge. Turbine T6 is located on the far side beyond the ridge, as seen in the 90-degree FOV and is largely screened by intervening landform, with only its blade tip visible.</p> <p><b>View 6B:</b> Proposed turbines T05 and T04 of the northern turbine cluster appear as large features in close proximity to this viewpoint, situated along the gently sloping ridge. The proposed turbines of the southern turbine cluster are seen in the distant background, arranged in a coherent linear array along the Maughanaclea Ridge. Of this cluster, turbines T12, T13 and T14 are partially screened by coniferous trees, as seen in the 90-degree FOV.</p> <p>The proposed Gortloughra turbines are seen in the distant background to the left of proposed turbine T01 in the 90° Field of View of 6A.</p>
<b>Cumulative Effects with Other Cumulative Wind Energy Developments</b>	The proposed Gortloughra turbines would be seen in the distant background to the left of proposed turbine T01 in the 90° field of view in an uncertain future receiving environment. The proposed Gortloughra turbines are visually set back from the proposed turbines. Any cumulative visual effects that do arise have been accounted for in the determination of the magnitude of change presented below.
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b> <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)</i>	<b>High:</b> This viewpoint has been classified as a high sensitivity viewpoint on account of the residential receptors in close proximity to the proposed turbines.
<b>Magnitude of Change</b> <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)</i>	<b>Substantial:</b> The proposed turbines are of large scale, and the turbines of the northern turbine cluster appear as very prominent features within the view. The proposed turbines occupy a large horizontal extent of views.
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<p><b>High x Substantial = Major/Moderate = Very Significant (EPA, 2022)</b></p> <p><i>“An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration, or intensity alters most of a sensitive aspect of the environment.”</i></p>
<b>Mitigating factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ With regard to the siting of turbines in proximity to residential dwellings, the Proposed Project exceeds the minimum 500m set back distance in the Guidelines (DoEHLG, 2006), and also the 4 times tip height set-back distance set out for residential visual amenity prescribed by the Draft Guidelines (DoHPLG, 2019).</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are predominantly viewed above the horizon and do not obstruct upon any scenic or sensitive landscape views. They are not set against a backdrop of any unique or distinctive landscape features.</li> <li>➤ This viewpoint is representative of only a very small number of receptors that will experience such open views and visual effects of all turbines of both clusters. For many residential receptors, including the majority of the receptors</li> </ul>

Viewpoint 6 – Gortloughra	
	<p>within the townland of Gortloughra, only the northern turbine cluster is visible. As such, many residents do not experience combined views of both clusters from their dwellings (refer to Section 13.7.3.5 on Residential Receptors).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are located within an area designated as ‘Open to Consideration’ for wind energy development.</li> <li>➤ From this location, the proposed turbines are only discernible in the short- to medium-range, and they do not obstruct the long-ranging, expansive panoramic views to the west towards the HVL (LCT4).</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)</b>	<p><b>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>

### 1.2.2.7 Viewpoint 7 – Curraglass

Viewpoint 7 – Curraglass	
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from the R584 regional road, within the townland of Curraglass.</li> <li>➤ Located approximately 4.3km north from the nearest proposed turbine, T02.</li> <li>➤ Located along both the C-SR-28 designated scenic route.</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference: E: 510,004 N:562,715</li> <li>➤ Number of proposed turbines visible: 8/14</li> </ul>
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	➤ LCT 15a - Ridged and Peaked Upland – <b>Medium</b>
<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Scenic Route – <b>High</b></li> <li>➤ Residential receptors in medium proximity to the proposed turbines – <b>Medium</b></li> </ul>
<b>Description of ‘Existing View’</b>	<p>This image is of a long-range view across a rural valley landscape, with residential dwellings and farm buildings visible in the foreground. The valley opens up in the centre midground of the image, framed by enclosing slopes on either side containing shrub and dense tree vegetation. Beyond this, the view extends to an elevated landform, comprised of a patchwork of agricultural fields, areas of moorland, and tracts of commercial forestry.</p> <p>No other existing turbines are visible within this field of view.</p>
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description</b>	<p>The proposed turbines appear as moderately scaled features in the distant background, set within the moorland and forestry of the marginal uplands, arranged in a generally staggered linear array. 6 no. proposed turbines of the southern turbine cluster are fully screened from view by intervening topography. Turbine T6 is situated beyond the ridge with only blades visible.</p> <p>No other permitted or proposed turbines are visible within this field of view.</p>
<b>Cumulative Effects with Other</b>	No other permitted or proposed turbines are visible within this field of view.

Viewpoint 7 – Curraglass	
<b>Cumulative Wind Energy Developments</b>	
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b> <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)</i>	<b>High:</b> This viewpoint has been classified as a high sensitivity viewpoint on account of its location on a designated scenic route.
<b>Magnitude of Change</b> <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)</i>	<b>Slight:</b> The proposed turbines are visually setback from this viewpoint, comprising a moderate horizontal extent of the 53.5-degree field of view. 6 no. of the proposed turbines are fully screened from view.
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<b>High x Slight = Moderate/Minor = Moderate (EPA, 2022)</b>  <i>“An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends.”</i>
<b>Mitigating factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The proposed turbines adopt a degree of irregular spacing and layout, which responds to the natural landform of the landscape and ensures the proposed turbines read coherently within the landscape view.</li> <li>➤ Both turbine clusters appear visually connected from this location and form a coherent array of the turbines across the undulating landform in the background, contributing to a sense of order within the wider landscape context.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are visible in an upland landscape comprised of commercial forestry and moorland, a modified working landscape where human intervention is already an established characteristic.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are mostly viewed above the horizon in the background of the landscape views.</li> <li>➤ While the views from this scenic route are expansive and possesses some scenic qualities, it does not comprise of any unique or distinctive features of national or regional renown.</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)</b>	<b>Moderate (EPA, 2022)</b>  <i>“An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends.”</i>

### 1.2.2.8 Viewpoint 8 – Barnagearagh

Viewpoint 8 – Barnagearagh	
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from the R584 regional road, within the townland of Barnagearagh.</li> <li>➤ Located approximately 6.9km west from the nearest proposed turbine, T14.</li> <li>➤ This viewpoint is representative of views from the Wild Atlantic Way and the C-SR-111 Scenic Route which are located 230m east from this viewpoint.</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference: E: 500,740 N: 553,480</li> <li>➤ Number of proposed turbines visible: 13/14</li> </ul>

Viewpoint 8 – Barnagearagh	
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	> LCT 4 – Rugged Ridge Peninsula: <b>Very High</b>
<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	> Nearby Designated Scenic Route – <b>High</b> > Ballylickey – <b>Medium</b>
<b>Description of 'Existing View'</b>	This image is of a long-range view from a local road within a settled rural landscape. Residential dwellings are located along the road, interspersed with dense shrub and tree vegetation. Rolling hills that are seen in the distant background form the backdrop to the view.  No other existing turbines are visible within this field of view.
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description</b>	The proposed turbines are arranged in a staggered linear array in the distant background, along the ridgeline, visible from approximately half tower upwards. Turbines of the northern turbine cluster are largely screened from view by intervening topography.  The proposed Gortloughra turbines are seen in the same line of sight as the proposed turbines.
<b>Cumulative Effects with Other Cumulative Wind Energy Developments</b>	The existing Shehy More turbines are theoretically visible beyond the distant ridgelines in the wireline view, however, due to distance, and intervening vegetation are screened from view.  The proposed Gortloughra turbines would be visible in the same general direction as the proposed turbines of the northern turbine cluster in an uncertain future receiving environment.
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b> <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)</i>	<b>Medium:</b> This viewpoint has been assigned a medium sensitivity on account of the settlement of Ballylickey and its close proximity to a designated scenic route.
<b>Magnitude of Change</b> <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)</i>	<b>Slight:</b> The proposed turbines are clearly set back from this viewpoint and are of small scale, occupy a relatively very small portion of the 53.5-degree field of view.
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<b>Medium x Slight = Minor = Slight (EPA, 2022)</b>  <i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities.”</i>
<b>Mitigating Factors</b>	> A large number of proposed turbines, particularly within the northern turbine cluster are obscured from view due to intervening landform and vegetation. > The proposed turbines are arranged in a staggered linear array along the ridgeline, following the natural contours of the landscape and assimilating well within the view.

Viewpoint 8 – Barnagearagh	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Given the considerable set-back distance, the proposed turbines appear as small-scale features within the wider landscape.</li> <li>➤ The primary focus of the Wild Atlantic Way and C-SR-111 designated Scenic Route is directed westwards towards the open seascape, in the opposing direction to the proposed turbines.</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)</b>	<p><b>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>

### 1.2.2.9 Viewpoint 9 – Wild Atlantic View

Viewpoint 9 – Wild Atlantic View	
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from the Wild Atlantic viewing point / Vaughans Pass, just off the L-4713 Local Road within the townland of Dromleigh South.</li> <li>➤ Located approximately 11km southwest from the nearest proposed turbine T14;</li> <li>➤ Located along the Sheep’s Head Way recreational route;</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference: E: 500,099, N: 546,958</li> <li>➤ Number of proposed turbines visible: 14/14</li> </ul>
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ LCT 4 – Rugged Ridge Peninsula: <b>Very High</b></li> </ul>
<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Scenic Viewing Point – <b>Very High</b></li> <li>➤ Recreational Route – <b>Medium / High</b></li> </ul>
<b>Description of ‘Existing View’</b>	<p>View inland across a large-scale undulating landscape from an elevated vantage point. The existing views is one portion of an expansive panoramic view which overlooks Bantry Bay to the north and west from this viewpoint (left of the photomontage – The HVL LCT4). The view shows the transitional marginal landscape at the periphery of LCT 4, with rolling mountains which form the backdrop of this view. The lowlands are occupied by an undulating patchwork of agricultural fields and residential dwellings. A telecom mast is seen to the right of the view.</p>
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description</b>	<p>The proposed turbines are seen as small-scale features above the ridgeline in the distant background, occupying a relatively small horizontal extent within the wide, expansive, panoramic view across the undulating mountainous topography.</p> <p>The permitted Gortyrhilly turbines are just about discernible in the distant background. The proposed Curraglass turbines would be visible in the same area of the landscape as the permitted Knocknamork and Gortyrhilly turbines in an uncertain future receiving environment.</p> <p>The proposed Gortloughra turbines are visible in the same general direction as the proposed turbines.</p>

Viewpoint 9 – Wild Atlantic View	
<b>Cumulative Effects with Other Cumulative Wind Energy Developments</b>	<p>The blade tips of the existing Grousemount, Derragh and Cleanrath turbines are theoretically visible beyond the distant ridgelines in the wireline view, however, due to distance, are barely discernible to the naked eye.</p> <p>The 3 proposed Curraglass turbines would be seen in this view with the permitted Knocknamork and Gortyrähilly turbines in an uncertain future receiving environment, with some visual separation from the proposed turbines.</p> <p>A small number of the proposed Gortloughra turbines would be seen in the same line of sight as the proposed turbines in an uncertain future receiving environment.</p> <p>The large-scale and expansive nature of the view effectively accommodates the addition of the proposed turbines with other wind energy developments.</p>
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b> <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)</i>	<b>Very High:</b> This viewpoint has been classified as a very high sensitivity viewpoint on account of its position at a designated Osi Viewing Point that overlooks Bantry Bay and the High Value Landscape LCT4. A location where receptors come to experience the scenic views.
<b>Magnitude of Change</b> <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)</i>	<b>Slight:</b> The proposed turbines are clearly setback from this viewpoint, and are of very small scale, comprising a very small portion of the 53.5-degree field of view.
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<b>Very High x Slight = Moderate = Significant (EPA, 2022)</b> <i>“An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration or intensity alters a sensitive aspect of the environment.”</i>
<b>Mitigating factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ From this viewpoint, the highest quality views are focussed on the dramatic landscape of the mountains and coastline of the Co. Cork High Value Landscape the north and north-west (as per the sign in the foreground). The proposed turbines are located to the north-east, to the far-right hand side of the view and are not located within this highly scenic portion of the view which is to the left of the photomontage.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are in the far periphery of the most scenic part of the view and the view of the designated High Value Landscape.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are visible as very small features in the distant background.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines adopt an irregular spacing and layout, which responds well to the undulating landform and reads coherently within the landscape.</li> <li>➤ The large scale of the landscape and expansive panoramic views have the capacity to effectively accommodate the proposed turbines of this scale as well as other wind energy developments.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines occupy a very limited horizontal extent within the otherwise wide and expansive landscape view.</li> </ul>

Viewpoint 9 – Wild Atlantic View	
Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)	<p><b>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>

### 1.2.2.10 Viewpoint 10 – Cousane Gap

Viewpoint 10 – Cousane Gap	
Viewpoint Description and Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from the R585 Regional Road, within the townland of Cousane.</li> <li>➤ Located approximately 1.5km south-east from the nearest proposed turbine, T06.</li> <li>➤ This viewpoint was captured at the Cousane Gap, a recognised recreational mountain pass in County Cork.</li> <li>➤ Located along the C-SR29 Scenic Route.</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference: E: 512,564 N: 556,829</li> <li>➤ Number of proposed turbines visible: 9/14</li> </ul>
LCA and Sensitivity	➤ LCT 15a - Ridged and Peaked Upland – <b>Medium</b>
Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Scenic Route – <b>High</b></li> <li>➤ The Cousane Gap Mountain Pass - <b>High</b></li> </ul>
Description of ‘Existing View’	<p>This image is of a long-range view across a rural valley landscape in the centre foreground with elevated terrain either side of the view. Distant mountains form the backdrop of the view. The landcover primarily comprises of agricultural fields, patches of scrub vegetation and coniferous forestry.</p> <p>No other existing turbines are visible within this field of view.</p>
Proposed Photomontage Description (Two Views)	<p><b>10A:</b> All proposed turbines (apart of turbine T14) of the southern turbine cluster are partially visible above and beyond the ridgeline to the far-left hand side of the view, leaving the long-ranging views through the central portion of the valley unobstructed. Of the southern turbine cluster, turbines T07 and T08 are the most prominent, while the remaining turbines are largely screened from view.</p> <p><b>10B:</b> The blade of turbine T05 and the blade tip of turbine T04 of the northern turbine cluster are visible on the periphery of the valley view, beyond the ridgelines to the far right-hand side of the view, leaving the central valley of the portion unobstructed.</p> <p>No other permitted or proposed turbines are visible within this field of view.</p>
Cumulative Effects with Other Cumulative Wind Energy Developments	No other permitted or proposed turbines are visible within either field of view.

Viewpoint 10 – Cousane Gap	
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b> <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)</i>	<b>High:</b> This viewpoint has been classified as a high sensitivity viewpoint on account of its location along a designated scenic route.
<b>Magnitude of Change</b> <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)</i>	<b>Slight:</b> The proposed turbines are only partially visible within this view, largely screened by the intervening landform.
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<b>High × Slight = Moderate/Minor = Moderate (EPA, 2022)</b>  <i>“An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends.”</i>
<b>Mitigating factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Within the V-shaped valley, the eye is drawn down the valley toward the distant mountain, which forms the backdrop to the view and is enclosed by the V-shaped framing of the landform.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are visible on the high ground at the periphery of the view down the V-shaped valley. The central portion of the broad valley with open views towards the dramatic undulating landscape remains unobstructed, preserving the principal scenic focus of the High Value Landscape view (LCT4). As discussed in Section 13.7.3.4 of Chapter 13, site visits determined that the most sensitive views from this scenic route occur where westbound receptors have long ranging views of the remote mountainous landscape of HVL LCT 4 which are seen in the distance, framed by the steep sided Maughanaclea valley. The proposed turbines are seen on the periphery of such views.</li> <li>➤ The majority of the turbines (apart from turbine T07 and T08) are largely screened from view by the intervening landform, with only the blades visible above the distant ridgeline.</li> <li>➤ The majority of the northern turbine cluster is screened from view.</li> <li>➤ There is a substantial visual separation between the clusters both in terms of distance but also in terms of topography, and other intervening landscape features.</li> <li>➤ The location of this viewpoint was carefully selected to ensure both turbine clusters are visible from this location. However, for safety reasons the viewpoint was inset from the actual scenic route itself. The field of view from the scenic route at this gap would make the southern turbine cluster further in the periphery of views.</li> <li>➤ From most locations along this route, the clusters are unlikely to be perceived together. Road users travelling in either direction of this scenic route will instead experience varying levels of visibility of the northern and southern turbine clusters, with receptors generally required to turn their head to view either cluster individually. Visual effects on the journey scenario as experienced from this scenic route is discussed in Section 13.7.3.4 of Chapter 13.</li> </ul>

Viewpoint 10 – Cousane Gap	
Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)	<p>Slight (EPA, 2022)</p> <p><i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities.”</i></p>

### 1.2.2.11 Viewpoint 11 – Maughanaclea Valley

Viewpoint 11 – Maughanaclea Valley	
Viewpoint Description and Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from the R585 Regional Road, within the townland of Maughanaclea.</li> <li>➤ Located approximately 886m northeast from the nearest proposed turbine, T07.</li> <li>➤ Located along the C-SR29 Scenic Route.</li> <li>➤ This viewpoint is representative of the residential receptors in close proximity to the proposed turbines.</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference: E: 510,988 N: 556,341</li> <li>➤ Number of proposed turbines visible: 8/14</li> </ul>
LCA and Sensitivity	➤ LCT 15a - Ridged and Peaked Upland – <b>Medium</b>
Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Scenic Route – <b>High</b></li> <li>➤ Residential Receptors in close proximity to the proposed turbines – <b>High</b></li> </ul>
Description of ‘Existing View’ (Two Views)	<p><b>11A:</b> This image is of a short-range view of an elevated slope, limiting long-range views beyond.</p> <p><b>11B:</b> This image is of a long-range view from a regional road, overlooking a rolling landscape of agricultural fields, moorland and commercial forestry.</p> <p>3 No. existing Grousemount turbines are just about discernible in the distant background of the view of 11B.</p>
Proposed Photomontage Description (Two Views)	<p>The proposed turbines are visible in opposing directions; therefore 2 Field of Views are presented in the photomontage booklet.</p> <p><b>11A:</b> Turbines T7 of the southern turbine cluster is seen as prominent feature within the view. The blade tip of turbine T8 is discernible beyond the ridgeline to the left of turbine T7. The remaining turbines of the southern turbine cluster are screened from view.</p> <p><b>11B:</b> The proposed turbines of the northern turbine cluster are seen as tall elements within the view on the sloping sides of the ridge, occupying a relatively short horizontal extent. Visual overlap occurs with turbines T03 and T01. The proposed Curraglass turbines would be visible in a future receiving environment within the same field of view as 11B.</p>

Viewpoint 11 – Maughanaclea Valley	
<b>Cumulative Effects with Other Cumulative Wind Energy Developments</b>	<p>The existing Grousemount turbines would be seen in the same landscape view as the proposed turbines, beyond the distant ridgeline, behind turbine T04.</p> <p>The proposed Curraglass turbines would be seen to the left of the northern turbine cluster in the distant background in an uncertain future receiving environment. There is a large visual separation between these turbines and the proposed turbines from this viewpoint.</p> <p>The expansive nature of the view effectively accommodates the addition of the proposed turbines with other existing and proposed wind energy developments.</p>
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b> <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)</i>	<b>High:</b> This viewpoint has been classified as a high sensitivity viewpoint on account of the local residents in close proximity to the proposed turbines, and its location along a designated scenic route.
<b>Magnitude of Change</b> <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)</i>	<b>Moderate:</b> The proposed turbines are seen to be of moderate scale comprising a relatively moderate horizontal extent of views within each of the 53.5-degree field of view. The southern turbine cluster is primarily screened from view.
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<b>High x Moderate = Moderate = Significant (EPA, 2022)</b>  <i>“An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration, or intensity alters a sensitive aspect of the environment.”</i>
<b>Mitigating factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ With regard to the siting of turbines in proximity to residential dwellings, the Proposed Project exceeds the minimum 500m set back distance in the Guidelines (DoEHLG, 2006), and also the 4 times tip height set-back distance set out for residential visual amenity prescribed by the Draft Guidelines (DoHPLG, 2019).</li> <li>➤ A large number of the proposed turbines (particularly the southern turbine cluster) are screened from view due to the steep gorge. Therefore, views of the turbines in opposing directions only occurs for a very small portion of the scenic route.</li> <li>➤ Along the entirety of this undulating route, any views of any turbines are intermittent and momentary.</li> <li>➤ There is a substantial visual separation between the clusters both in terms of distance but also in terms of topography, and other intervening landscape features.</li> <li>➤ From most of the locations along this route, the clusters are unlikely to be perceived together. Road users travelling this scenic route will instead experience varying levels of visibility of the northern and southern turbine clusters, with receptors generally required to turn their head to view either cluster individually.</li> <li>➤ For westbound travellers on this Scenic Route (most sensitive), views are focussed along the roadway or along the form of the valley towards the longer ranging views. The proposed turbines are located on the periphery of such views.</li> </ul>

Viewpoint 11 – Maughanaclea Valley	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The northern turbine cluster is seen as a coherent development mostly viewed above the horizon, and do not detract from the most scenic attributes of the scenic route.</li> <li>➤ As discussed in Section 13.7.3.4 of Chapter 13, site visits determined that the most sensitive views from this scenic route occur where westbound receptors have long ranging views of the remote mountainous landscape of HVL LCT 4 which are seen in the distance, framed by the steep sided Maughanaclea valley. The proposed turbines are seen on the periphery of such views.</li> <li>➤ Cumulative visual effects that do occur between the two turbine clusters are mitigated by the visual separation of the two clusters, and the visual screening of the southern turbine cluster from the intervening landform and vegetation</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)</b>	<p><b>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>

### 1.2.2.12 Viewpoint 12 – R585 Road

Viewpoint 12 – R585 Road	
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from the R585 regional road, within the townland of Maughanaclea.</li> <li>➤ Located approximately 998m north from the nearest proposed turbine, T07.</li> <li>➤ Located along the C-SR29 Scenic Route.</li> <li>➤ This viewpoint is representative of the residential receptors in close proximity to the proposed turbines.</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference: E: 510,304 N: 556,780</li> <li>➤ Number of proposed turbines visible: 8/14</li> </ul>
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	➤ LCT 15a - Ridged and Peaked Upland – <b>Medium</b>
<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Scenic Route – <b>High</b></li> <li>➤ Residential Receptors in close proximity to the proposed turbines – <b>High</b></li> </ul>
<b>Description of ‘Existing View’ (Two Views)</b>	<p><b>12A:</b> This image is of a short-range view of an elevated slope, limiting long-range views beyond. A tract of forestry is visible on the right-hand side of the view.</p> <p><b>12B:</b> This image is of a long-range view from a regional road, overlooking a gently rolling landscape of agricultural fields, moorland and commercial forestry. No other existing turbines are visible within this field of view.</p>
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description (Two Views)</b>	<p>The proposed turbines are visible in opposing directions; therefore 2 Field of Views are presented in the photomontage booklet.</p> <p><b>12A:</b> Turbines T7 of the southern turbine cluster is seen as prominent feature to the left-hand side of the view. The blade of turbine T8 is discernible beyond the ridgeline. The remaining turbines of the southern turbine cluster are fully screened from view due to intervening topography.</p>

Viewpoint 12 – R585 Road	
	<p><b>12B:</b> The majority of the proposed turbines of the northern turbine cluster are seen as tall elements situated on the slopes of the ridge, whilst turbine T05 is seen on top of the ridge. T4 appears to be visually separated from the remaining turbines.</p> <p>The proposed Curraglass and Gortloughra turbines would be visible in a future receiving environment within the same field of view as 12B.</p>
<b>Cumulative Effects with Other Cumulative Wind Energy Developments</b>	<p>The existing Grousemount turbines are theoretically visible beyond the distant ridgelines in the wireline view, however, due to distance, are barely discernible to the naked eye.</p> <p>The proposed Curraglass turbines would be seen to the left of the northern turbine cluster in the distant background in an uncertain future receiving environment. There is a large visual separation between these turbines and the proposed turbines from this viewpoint.</p> <p>The proposed Gortloughra turbines would be seen in the same general direction as the proposed turbines of the northern turbine cluster in an uncertain future receiving environment. There is a visual separation between these turbines and the proposed turbines from this viewpoint.</p> <p>While the proposed turbines do add to the extent of turbines visible from this viewpoint, they assimilate into the view, with the topographical features emphasising the separation between the proposed turbines and other cumulative turbines. The expansive nature of the view effectively accommodates the addition of the proposed turbines with other existing and proposed wind energy developments.</p>
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b> <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)</i>	<p><b>High:</b> This viewpoint has been classified as a high sensitivity viewpoint on account of the local residents in close proximity to the proposed turbines, and its location along a designated scenic route.</p>
<b>Magnitude of Change</b> <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)</i>	<p><b>Moderate:</b> The proposed turbines are seen to be of moderate scale comprising a relatively moderate horizontal extent of views within each of the 53.5-degree field of view. The southern turbine cluster is primarily screened from view.</p>
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<p><b>High x Moderate = Moderate = 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>
<b>Mitigating factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ With regard to the siting of turbines in proximity to residential dwellings, the Proposed Project exceeds the minimum 500m set back distance in the Guidelines (DoEHLG, 2006), and also the 4 times tip height set-back distance set out for residential visual amenity prescribed by the Draft Guidelines (DoHPLG, 2019).</li> <li>➤ A large number of the proposed turbines (particularly the southern turbine cluster) are screened from view due to the steep gorge. Therefore, views of the</li> </ul>

Viewpoint 12 – R585 Road	
	<p>turbines in opposing directions only occurs for a very small portion of the scenic route.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The views of the northern turbine cluster will only occur for eastbound receptors on the scenic route.</li> <li>➤ Along the entirety of this undulating route, any views of any turbines are intermittent and momentary.</li> <li>➤ There is a substantial visual separation between the clusters both in terms of distance but also in terms of topography, and other intervening landscape features.</li> <li>➤ From most of the locations along this route, the clusters are unlikely to be perceived together. Road users travelling this scenic route will instead experience varying levels of visibility of the northern and southern turbine clusters, with receptors generally required to turn their head to view either cluster individually.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are mostly seen in the periphery of views (southern turbine cluster) or grouped on the upland, set back on the other side of the valley (northern turbine cluster). The proposed turbines do not obscure or impact any long-ranging views of the “<i>remote mountainous landscape</i>” of the designated scenic route in HVL LCT 4 to the west. In this viewpoint, the proposed turbines have a significant visual impact but do not significantly impact the key scenic attributes of the designated scenic route, as described in the CCDP.</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)</b>	<p><b>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>

### 1.2.2.13 Viewpoint 13 – Whiddy Island View

Viewpoint 13 – Whiddy Island View	
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from the R572 Regional Road in the townland of Tracashel.</li> <li>➤ This viewpoint is located at a Wild Atlantic Way Discovery Point – the Whiddy Island View.</li> <li>➤ Located on a designated scenic route C-SR-110 and the Wild Atlantic Way.</li> <li>➤ Located approximately 17km west from the nearest proposed turbine T14.</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference: E: 490,658 N: 552,371</li> <li>➤ Number of proposed turbines visible: 14/14</li> </ul>
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ LCT 4 – Rugged Ridge Peninsula: <b>Very High</b></li> </ul>
<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Scenic Viewing Point – <b>Very High</b></li> <li>➤ Scenic Route – <b>High</b></li> </ul>
<b>Description of ‘Existing View’</b>	<p>This image is of a long-ranging panoramic view across Bantry Bay, framed by rugged landforms, shrub vegetation, and the distant mountainous ridgelines forming the backdrop of the view. The regional road and the WAW signage are located within the foreground of the view.</p>

Viewpoint 13 – Whiddy Island View	
	The existing Shehy More turbines are just about discernible in the distant background of the view.
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description</b>	<p>The proposed turbines appear as small-scale features in the distant background, arranged in a staggered, irregular linear formation along the elevated ridgelines. Their layout follows the natural contours of the landscape, forming two distinctive clusters. The proposed turbines occupy a very limited horizontal extent within the expansive panoramic landscape view.</p> <p>The proposed Gortloughra and Dereenacreenig West turbines are visible beyond the proposed turbines of the northern turbine cluster.</p>
<b>Cumulative Effects with Other Cumulative Wind Energy Developments</b>	<p>The proposed Dereenacreenig turbines are theoretically visible beyond the distant ridgelines in the wireline view, however, due to distance, are barely discernible to the naked eye.</p> <p>The existing Shehy More turbines would be seen in the same line of sight as the proposed turbines. The proposed Gortloughra turbines would be visible beyond the proposed turbines of the northern turbine cluster in an uncertain future receiving environment.</p> <p>While some cumulative visual effects occur, the receiving landscape is a vast, expansive landscape, which has the capacity to accommodate multiple wind energy developments. The proposed turbines and other developments are effectively absorbed into the landscape. Cumulative visual effects that arise have been accounted for in the determination of the magnitude of change reported below.</p>
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b> <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)</i>	<b>Very High:</b> This viewpoint has been classified as a very high sensitivity viewpoint on account of its position at a designated WAW discovery point that overlooks Bantry Bay and adjoining High Value Landscape.
<b>Magnitude of Change</b> <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)</i>	<b>Slight:</b> The proposed turbines are clearly setback from this viewpoint, and are of very small scale, comprising a very small portion of the 53.5-degree field of view.
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<p><b>Very High x Slight = Moderate = 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>
<b>Mitigating factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are visible as very small features in the distant background, located approx. 17km from the nearest proposed turbine.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines adopt an irregular spacing and layout, which responds well to the undulating landform and reads coherently within the landscape.</li> <li>➤ The large scale of the landscape and expansive panoramic views have the capacity to effectively accommodate the proposed turbines as well as other wind energy developments.</li> </ul>

Viewpoint 13 – Whiddy Island View	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The proposed turbines appear as two coherent clusters, occupying only a very limited horizontal extent within the otherwise wide and expansive landscape. They are contained within a small proportion of the overall visual envelope.</li> <li>➤ Due to their positioning in the very distant background in the periphery of the panoramic view from this location, the proposed turbines do not significantly impact the key scenic sensitivities from this viewpoint.</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)</b>	<p><b>Moderate (EPA, 2022)</b>  <i>“An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends.”</i></p>

### 1.2.2.14 Viewpoint 14 – Cappaboy More

Viewpoint 14 – Cappaboy More	
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from the R584 Regional Road, within the townland of Cappaboy More.</li> <li>➤ Located approximately 1.9km north from the nearest proposed turbine, T04.</li> <li>➤ Located along the C-SR28 designated scenic route, and the Beara Gougane Barra Cycling Route.</li> <li>➤ This viewpoint is representative of the residential receptors in medium proximity to the proposed turbines.</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference: E: 509,662 N: 559,941</li> <li>➤ Number of proposed turbines visible: 10</li> </ul>
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ LCT 15a - Ridged and Peaked Upland – <b>Medium</b></li> </ul>
<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Residential Receptors in medium proximity – <b>Medium/High</b></li> <li>➤ Scenic Route - <b>High</b></li> <li>➤ Recreational Route – <b>Medium / High</b></li> </ul>
<b>Description of ‘Existing View’ (Two Views)</b>	<p><b>14A:</b> This image is of a medium range view overlooking an elevated hilly landform with dense shrub and tree vegetation throughout. A local school is visible in the centre foreground of the image.</p> <p><b>14B:</b> This image is of a medium range view overlooking a hilly landscape with dense shrub and tree vegetation. Distant ridgelines with tracts of coniferous forestry form the backdrop of the view.</p> <p>No other existing turbines are visible within this field of view.</p>
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description (Two Views)</b>	<p><b>14A:</b> Of the northern turbine cluster, the proposed turbines T01, T02 and T03 are screened from view by the school in the foreground. Turbine T06, located beyond the northern ridge, is largely screened with only the blade tip visible. Turbines T05 and T04 are the only prominent turbines visible within this field of view.</p>

Viewpoint 14 – Cappaboy More	
	<p><b>14B:</b> The proposed turbines of the southern turbine cluster are seen as moderately scaled features relative to the landscape within the view, arranged in a staggered, coherent linear array along the ridgeline.</p> <p>Turbine T04 and T05 are seen in both 90-degree Field of Views.</p>
<b>Cumulative Effects with Other Cumulative Wind Energy Developments</b>	<p>The existing Shehy More turbines and proposed Gortloughra turbines are theoretically visible to the far-left hand side of the wireline view (seen in the 90° field of view), however, in reality, are screened from view by dense vegetation. Whilst visibility of these turbines may increase in the winter months when trees have lost their foliage, seasonal variation will not alter the outcome of this assessment. Cumulative visual effects that arise have been accounted for in the determination of the magnitude of change reported below.</p>
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b> <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)</i>	<p><b>High:</b> This viewpoint has been classified as a high sensitivity viewpoint on account of its location on a designated scenic route.</p>
<b>Magnitude of Change</b> <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)</i>	<p><b>Moderate:</b> The proposed turbines are seen to be of moderate scale, comprising a large horizontal extent of views, and spanning all of the 53.5-degree field of view.</p>
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<p><b>High × Moderate = Moderate = 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>
<b>Mitigating factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ With regard to the siting of turbines in proximity to residential dwellings, the Proposed Project exceeds the minimum 500m set back distance in the Guidelines (DoEHLG, 2006), and also the 4 times tip height set-back distance set out for residential visual amenity prescribed by the Draft Guidelines (DoHPLG, 2019).</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are grouped in coherent clusters within the landscape, arranged in a staggered linear array, following the natural contours of the undulating landform, allowing the turbines to read coherently within the landscape view.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are predominantly viewed above the horizon and do not obstruct any landscape views.</li> <li>➤ This is one of the few locations along the majority of the route that provides open views towards the proposed turbines. As discussed in the Route Screening Analysis (Section 13.3.3 of Chapter 13), the road is primarily characterised by stretches of either ‘Dense/Full’ or ‘Partial/Intermittent’ visual screening with limited instances of ‘Little/No’ visual screening.</li> <li>➤ There are expansive and scenic views from this scenic route which runs for approx. 10km. However, where visibility occurs here, this is in the low-lying valley and does not comprise of any unique or distinctive features of international renown.</li> </ul>

Viewpoint 14 – Cappaboy More	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are located along ridgelines, achieving a clear visual separation from the complexity of the lower ground and contributing to a more ordered and coherent appearance within the wider landscape.</li> </ul>
Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)	<p><b>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>

### 1.2.2.15 Viewpoint 15 – Kealkill

Viewpoint 15 – Kealkill	
Viewpoint Description and Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from the R585 Regional Road, exiting Kealkill town.</li> <li>➤ Located approximately 2.3km west from the nearest proposed turbine, T14.</li> <li>➤ Located along the C-SR29 Scenic Route.</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference: E: 505,329 N: 556,309</li> <li>➤ Number of proposed turbines visible: 10/14</li> </ul>
LCA and Sensitivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ LCT 4 – Rugged Ridge Peninsula: <b>Very High</b> (at far eastern boundary of this LCT, adjacent to LCT15a, approx. 2.3km west of LCT15a)</li> </ul>
Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Designated Scenic Route – <b>High</b></li> </ul>
Description of ‘Existing View’	<p>This image is a medium-range view from a regional road overlooking a hilly, sparsely settled landscape. An elevated ridge with dense vegetation is present on the right-hand side of the view, limiting long-range visibility beyond, while distinctive undulating landforms form the backdrop of the view to the left. Dense shrub and tree vegetation is present throughout the view.</p> <p>The existing Shehy More turbines are just about discernible beyond the distant ridgeline.</p>
Proposed Photomontage Description	<p>The proposed turbines are seen as two distinct and separate turbine clusters within the view. The northern turbine cluster is grouped in the distant undulating upland in the background on the left-hand side of the image.</p> <p>The southern turbine cluster is largely screened by intervening topography, with only proposed turbine T13 visible as a more prominent feature above the ridge. All other turbines in this cluster are screened from view, with only the blades of T07, T12, T11 and T14 partially visible.</p> <p>The proposed Gortloughra turbines are visible in the same general direction as the proposed turbines of the northern turbine cluster.</p>
Cumulative Effects with Other	<p>The existing Shehy More turbines are theoretically visible beyond the distant ridgelines in the wireline view, however, due to distance, are barely discernible to the naked eye.</p>

Viewpoint 15 – Kealkill	
<b>Cumulative Wind Energy Developments</b>	The proposed Gortloughra turbines would be visible in the same upland area of the landscape view as the proposed turbines of the northern turbine cluster in an uncertain future receiving environment.
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b> <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)</i>	<b>High:</b> This viewpoint has been classified as a high sensitivity viewpoint on account of the designated scenic route.
<b>Magnitude of Change</b> <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)</i>	<b>Slight:</b> Only the northern turbine cluster of the Proposed Project is fully visible in this photomontage. The proposed turbines are clearly set back from this viewpoint and are of small scale, occupying a relatively very small portion of the 53.5-degree field of view.
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<b>High × Slight = Moderate/Minor = Moderate (EPA, 2022)</b>  <i>“An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends.”</i>
<b>Mitigating factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The majority of the proposed turbines of the southern turbine cluster are screened by the intervening ridge, with only T13 appearing as a prominent feature above the skyline, and T07, T11 and T12 partially visible.</li> <li>➤ Site visits determined that there would be limited visibility of the southern turbine cluster for eastbound receptors due to the steep landform to the south. Any visibility that does occur is relatively momentary for eastbound receptors on the scenic route. This viewpoint is representative of the few locations where such visibility occurs.</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)</b>	<b>Moderate (EPA, 2022)</b>  <i>“An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends.”</i>

### 1.2.2.16 Viewpoint 16 – Maughanaclea

Viewpoint 16 – Maughanaclea	
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from the L-95853, within the townland of Maughanaclea.</li> <li>➤ Located approximately 1.1km north from the nearest proposed turbine, T09.</li> <li>➤ This viewpoint is representative of the residential receptors in close proximity to the proposed turbines.</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference: E: 509,292 N: 556,445</li> <li>➤ Number of proposed turbines visible: 12/14</li> </ul>
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	➤ LCT 15a - Ridged and Peaked Upland – <b>Medium</b>
<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Residential Receptors in close proximity – <b>High</b></li> <li>➤ Nearby Stone Circle Monuments – <b>High / Medium</b></li> </ul>
<b>Description of ‘Existing View’ (Three Views)</b>	<b>16A:</b> This view is taken from a local road overlooking an agricultural pasture field in the foreground, with dense tracts of commercial forestry in the distant background of the view. A single dwelling is seen in the centre of the view.

Viewpoint 16 – Maughanaclea	
	<p><b>16B:</b> This view is overlooking tracts of dense commercial forestry in the background of the view, with a treeline in the centre foreground of the view.</p> <p><b>16C:</b> This view is from a local road with some long-ranging views of distant topographical feature to the left-hand side of the view.</p> <p>The overall character of the view is of a rural, sparsely populated landscape.</p> <p>No other existing turbines are visible within this field of view.</p>
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description (Three Views)</b>	<p><b>16A:</b> The proposed turbines of the southern turbine cluster are seen as tall vertical features within the view, arranged in a staggered linear array within tracts of commercial forestry.</p> <p><b>16B:</b> Within this field of view, the proposed turbines of the northern turbine cluster are further set-back, and are seen beyond the commercial forestry, partially screened by tree vegetation in the foreground.</p> <p><b>16C:</b> The turbines of the northern turbine cluster are seen as small-scale elements relative to the landscape in the background, forming a coherent cluster of turbines, largely screened by intervening vegetation.</p> <p>The blade tips of the proposed Gortloughra turbines are visible within the 16C field of view.</p> <p>No other permitted or proposed turbines are visible within this field of view.</p>
<b>Cumulative Effects with Other Cumulative Wind Energy Developments</b>	<p>The permitted Gortyrhilly turbines are theoretically visible beyond the distant ridgelines in the wireline view, however, are screened from view due to dense intervening vegetation.</p> <p>The blade tips of the proposed Gortloughra turbines would be visible to the east of the northern turbine cluster in an uncertain future receiving environment.</p> <p>Cumulative visual effects that do occur, have been incorporated into the magnitude of change reported below.</p>
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b> <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)</i>	<p><b>High:</b> This viewpoint has been classified as a high sensitivity viewpoint on account of the residential receptors in close proximity to the proposed turbines.</p>

Viewpoint 16 – Maughanaclea	
<b>Magnitude of Change</b> <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)</i>	<b>Substantial:</b> The proposed turbines are of large scale and occupy a large horizontal extent of views, occupying more than the 90-degree field of view.
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<b>High x Substantial = Major/Moderate = Very Significant (EPA, 2022)</b> <i>“An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration, or intensity alters most of a sensitive aspect of the environment.”</i>
<b>Mitigating factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ With regard to the siting of turbines in proximity to residential dwellings, the Proposed Project exceeds the minimum 500m set back distance in the Guidelines (DoEHLG, 2006), and also the 4 times tip height set-back distance set out for residential visual amenity prescribed by the Draft Guidelines (DoHPLG, 2019).</li> <li>➤ This viewpoint is only representative of only a very small number of receptors along this local road, which will experience such views of the proposed turbines.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are predominantly viewed above the horizon and do not obstruct or intrude upon any scenic or sensitive landscape views. They are not set against a backdrop of any valuable or distinctive landscape features.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines of the southern turbine cluster, which is the most visible, are arranged in a relatively staggered linear array, following the natural contours of the undulating landform, allowing the turbines to read coherently within the landscape view.</li> <li>➤ The northern turbine cluster is largely screened from view from this viewpoint.</li> <li>➤ The character of the view is of a local rural area. The proposed turbines are not viewed against or intrude upon any scenic views of local, county, regional or national renown.</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)</b>	<b>Significant (EPA, 2022)</b> <i>“An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration, or intensity alters a sensitive aspect of the environment.”</i>

### 1.2.2.17 Viewpoint 17 – Curraghvaddra

Viewpoint 17 – Curraghvaddra	
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from the L-8707 Local Road in the townland of Curraghvaddra.</li> <li>➤ Located approximately 15.8km southwest from the nearest proposed turbine T14.</li> <li>➤ Located on C-SR-110 designated scenic route, and the Wild Atlantic Way.</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference: E: 495,043 N: 545,372</li> <li>➤ Number of proposed turbines visible: 14/14</li> </ul>
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	➤ LCT 4 – Rugged Ridge Peninsula: <b>Very High</b>
<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Scenic Route – <b>High</b></li> <li>➤ Recreational Route – <b>Medium / High</b></li> </ul>
<b>Description of ‘Existing View’</b>	This image is of a long-range view over Bantry Bay to the northwest, Whiddy Island can be seen in the left midground of the view, and distant mountainous ridgelines form the backdrop of the view.

Viewpoint 17 – Curraghvaddra	
	The existing Shehy More and Grousemount turbines are just about discernible in the distant background of the view.
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description</b>	<p>The proposed turbines appear as small-scale features relative to the landscape in the distant background, arranged in a staggered, irregular linear formation along the elevated ridgelines. The proposed turbines occupy a very limited horizontal extent within the expansive panoramic landscape view.</p> <p>The proposed Gortloughra turbines are visible beyond the proposed turbines in the distant background. The proposed Curraglass and permitted Gortyrähilly turbines are seen in the same field of view as the proposed turbines.</p>
<b>Cumulative Effects with Other Cumulative Wind Energy Developments</b>	<p>The existing Shehy More turbines are just about discernible in the distant background of the view.</p> <p>The permitted Gortyrähilly, and proposed Curraglass turbines would be seen in the same landscape view as the proposed turbines, with some visual separation from the proposed turbines.</p> <p>The proposed Gortloughra turbines would be visible beyond the proposed turbines in an uncertain future receiving environment.</p> <p>The proposed turbines add to the extent of turbines potentially visible from this viewpoint. The large-scale and expansive nature of the view effectively accommodates the addition of these cumulative developments. Cumulative visual effects that do arise have been accounted for in the determination of the magnitude of change presented below.</p>
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b> <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)</i>	<b>Very High:</b> This viewpoint has been classified as being a very high sensitivity viewpoint on account of the very high-quality views. A location where receptors come to experience the scenic views.
<b>Magnitude of Change</b> <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)</i>	<b>Negligible:</b> The proposed turbines are seen as very small features at a large set-back distance from the viewpoint, comprising a very small portion of the 53.5-degree field of view.
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<b>Very High x Negligible = Moderate/Minor = Moderate (EPA, 2022)</b> <i>“An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends.”</i>
<b>Mitigating factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are visible as very small features in the distant background, located approx. 15.8km from the nearest proposed turbine.</li> <li>➤ The large scale of the landscape and expansive panoramic views have the capacity to effectively accommodate the proposed turbines as well as other wind energy developments.</li> </ul>

Viewpoint 17 – Curraghvaddra	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Due to their positioning in the very distant background in the periphery of the panoramic view from this location, the proposed turbines do not significantly impact the key scenic sensitivities from this viewpoint.</li> <li>➤ The stated focus of this County Cork scenic route is “views of Dunmanus Bay and Bantry Bay, Whiddy Island, Caher, Seefin, Gouladane, Knockboolteenagh, Adrigole, Glenlough and Sugarloaf Mountains, Hungry Hill, Bere Island, and the Beara Peninsula”. As such only a very small part of these views will be affected by the proposed turbines, which are located at a large set-back distance, occupying a limited horizontal extent.</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)</b>	<p><b>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>

### 1.2.2.18 Viewpoint 18 – Ahildotia

Viewpoint 18 – Ahildotia	
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from the L-87821 local road, within the townland of Ahildotia.</li> <li>➤ Located approximately 3km northwest from the nearest proposed turbine, T13.</li> <li>➤ Located along the Slí Gaeltacht Mhuscraí walking trail.</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference: E: 505,539 N: 557,930</li> <li>➤ Number of proposed turbines visible: 14/14</li> </ul>
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ LCT 4 – Rugged Ridge Peninsula: <b>Very High</b> (at far eastern boundary of this LCT, adjacent to LCT15a, approx. 585m west of LCT15a)</li> </ul>
<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Recreational Route – <b>Medium / High</b></li> <li>➤ Residential Receptors in medium proximity to the proposed turbines – <b>Medium</b></li> </ul>
<b>Description of ‘Existing View’</b>	<p>This view is of a long-range rolling, marginal, sparsely settled landscape, with rough pasture and scrub vegetation seen in the foreground. The mid-ground is comprised of rolling moorland slopes, while the distant background is defined by undulating hills containing agricultural fields and tracts of commercial forestry.</p> <p>No other existing turbines are visible within this field of view.</p>
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description</b>	<p>Of the northern turbine cluster, only turbines T5 and T6 are prominently visible within the view, while only the blades of the remaining turbines are visible beyond the distant ridgelines (seen in the 90-degree field-of-view).</p> <p>Of the southern turbine cluster, the turbines are seen as moderately scaled elements relative to the landscape arranged in a staggered linear array along the ridgeline. Some visual overlap occurs with turbines T11, T12 and T13. Turbines T7 and T14 appears slightly visually separated from the remaining of the cluster (seen in the 90-degree field-of-view).</p> <p>Blades of the proposed Gortloughra Wind Farm will be seen to the left of the Northern turbine cluster in an uncertain future receiving environment.</p>

Viewpoint 18 – Ahildotia	
<b>Cumulative Effects with Other Cumulative Wind Energy Developments</b>	The proposed Gortloughra turbines would be seen in the distant background to the left of the Northern turbine cluster in the 90° field of view in an uncertain future receiving environment. The proposed Gortloughra turbines are visually set back from the proposed turbines. Any cumulative visual effects that do arise have been accounted for in the determination of the magnitude of change presented below.
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b> <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)</i>	<b>Medium:</b> This viewpoint has been classified as a medium sensitivity viewpoint on account of its location on a recreational walking route and its medium proximity to residential receptors.
<b>Magnitude of Change</b> <i>(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)</i>	<b>Slight:</b> The proposed turbines are clearly setback from this viewpoint, comprising a relatively small portion of the overall 53.5-degree field of view.
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<b>Medium × Slight = Minor = Slight (EPA, 2022)</b>  <i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities.”</i>
<b>Mitigating factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The majority of the northern turbine cluster is obscured from view.</li> <li>➤ There is a substantial visual separation between the clusters both in terms of distance but also in terms of topography, trees and hedgerows, mitigating the potential for any significant cumulative visual effects.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are visible in a sparsely populated upland landscape comprised of commercial forestry and moorland, representing a modified , rural, working landscape.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines adopt an irregular spacing and layout, which responds well to the undulating landform and reads coherently within the landscape.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are mostly viewed above the horizon, and they do not obstruct or intrude upon any scenic views of county, regional or national renown.</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)</b>	<b>Slight (EPA, 2022)</b>  <i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities.”</i>