APPENDIX 13-2

PHOTOMONTAGE VIEWPOINT ASSESSMENT TABLES

Appendix 13-2 Photomontage Viewpoint Assessment Tables

Meenbog Wind Farm, Co. Donegal

Photomontage Assessment Tables

1. PHOTOMONTAGE ASSESSMENT TABLES

The tables included in this Appendix detail a visual impact assessment of the 14 No. Viewpoints aided by the photomontage visualisations presented in EIAR Volume 2 Photomontage Booklet. This Appendix should be read in conjunction with viewing the photomontage booklet. The table below provides location information about the 14 no. Viewpoints assessed.

Table 1 - Viewpoint Location Descriptions

VP No.	Description	Grid Ref. (ITM)
VP01	View from the L6554 local road in the townland of Meenbog, located approximately 910 metres north-east of the nearest proposed turbine (T19).	E: 609,819 N: 887,793
VP02	View from the L3014 local road in the townland of Taughboy, located approximately 2.2km north-east of the nearest proposed turbine (T19). This viewpoint is located on the North West Cycle Trail.	E: 610,361 N: 889,126
VP03	View from the N15 National Road in the townland of Croghanagh, located approximately 2.6km north-west of the nearest proposed turbine (T14).	E: 605,136 N: 888,519
VP04	View from the N15 National Road in the townland of Croghanagh, located approximately 2.7km north-west of the nearest proposed turbine (T14).	E: 604,449 N: 887,695
VP05	View from the N15 National Road in the townland of Cashelnavean, located approximately 2.8km north-west of the nearest proposed turbine (T18).	E: 605,834 N: 889,444
VP06	View from the N15 National Road in the townland of Cashelnavean, located approximately 2.9km north-west of the nearest proposed turbine (T18).	E: 606,899 N: 889,950
VP07	View from the N15 National Road in the townland of Meenacrumlin, located approximately 3.2km north of the nearest proposed turbine (T18). This viewpoint is from a Designated Protected View.	E: 607,690 N: 890,330
VP08	View from the L2974 in the townland of Kinletter, located approximately 4.5km north-east of the nearest proposed turbine (T19).	E: 613,081 N: 889,353
VP09	View from the L6524 in the townland of Meenreagh, located approximately 5km east of the nearest proposed turbine (T19).	E: 614,168 N: 886,718
VP10	View from the L2984 Local Road in the townland of Meenablagh, County Tyrone, located approximately 5.5km east of the nearest proposed turbine (T09).	E: 614,058 N: 884,993

VP No.	Description	Grid Ref. (ITM)
VP11	View from the L7013 in the townland of Altnapaste, located approximately 6.4km north-west of the nearest proposed turbine (T18). This viewpoint is located on the Alt na Peist Walking Trail.	E: 604,433 N: 892,815
VP12	View from the L6335 in the townland of Greenan, located approximately 11.3km west of the nearest proposed turbine (T10). This viewpoint is located on the Bluestack Way Walking Trail.	E: 595,441 N: 885,216
VP13	View from the L2744 in the townland of Magheravall, located approximately 13.8km north of the nearest proposed turbine (T19).	E: 612,008 N: 900,712
VP14	View from the B72 Class B Road in the townland of Castlegore, County Tyrone. Located approximately 16.8km east of the nearest proposed turbine (T09).	E: 625,248 N: 882,789

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 Site, had complete intervening visual screening or were visually 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 Prospective Development. In certain instances, viewpoints were not selected for inclusion in the final EIAR Volume 2: Photomontage Booklet as a nearby viewpoint more appropriate in relation to the nearby receptors was produced instead. Ultimately, it was determined that the same viewpoints used in the original EIAR application were most representative of the Prospective Development in the landscape. The Photomontages presented in the Volume 2 Photomontage Booklet are assessed in the tables below therefore show some of the most open views of the Prospective Development 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 Prospective Development are included in the assessment tables below.

Assessment of Cumulative Visual Effects

As reported in Section 13.7 of Chapter 13, 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 Prospective Development. The descriptions of cumulative visual effects reported in this document use the photomontages in the 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.

1.3 Viewpoint Assessments

1.3.1 Viewpoint 1 – Meenbog

Viewpoint 1 - Meenbog	
Viewpoint Description and Details	› View from the L6554 local road in the townland of Meenbog. › Located approximately 910m north-east of the nearest proposed turbine (T19). › Grid Reference: E 609,819, N 887,793 › Number of Proposed Turbines Visible: 13/19
Landscape Sensitivity	› Moderate Scenic Amenity (Lowest Sensitivity Classification in DCDP) - **Low**
Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	› Residential Receptors – **High** › Receptors using the North West Cycle Trail - **Medium** › Receptors travelling on the L6554 – **Low**
Description of 'Existing View'	This view comprises rising ground with an upland bog landcover. This is an open and exposed view with very little vegetation within the landscape. The view is short as it is curtailed by the rising ground in the foreground. Two residential dwellings are seen within the view. There are no existing wind farms visible in this view.
Proposed Photomontage Description	Most of the proposed turbines are visually screened from view by the intervening landform. The proposed turbines occupy a modest horizontal extent of the view, with one turbine, T19, more prominent than the others due to its close proximity. The other visible turbines recede in size as the distance to each turbine increases. No other permitted or proposed turbines are visible in this view.
Cumulative Effects	No other turbines are visible from this viewpoint; therefore, no cumulative visual effects will arise.
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) *(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)*	**High:** This viewpoint was given a High sensitivity on account of residential receptors in close proximity to the proposed turbines.
Magnitude of Change *(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)*	**Moderate:** Turbines are seen of a moderate scale relative to the landscape, some partially screened by the intervening landform.
Significance of Effect	**High × Moderate = Moderate = Significant (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration or intensity alters a sensitive aspect of the environment."*

Mitigation Factors	› In relation to nearby residential receptors, siting of proposed turbines exceeds the recommended 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). › The lower sections of the turbine towers are partially screened by intervening topography within the landscape, reducing their visual prominence within the view. › The proposed layout presents a reasonably balanced composition of turbines. The perceived scale of the proposed turbines gradually reduces in height as they recede into the distance, with only the proposed turbine (T19) in close proximity fully visible. › The proposed turbines do not obstruct or intrude upon any sensitive or scenic views from this location; the long-ranging views are located in the opposing direction to the turbines from this viewpoint.
Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)	**Moderate (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends."*

1.3.2 Viewpoint 2 – Taughboy

Viewpoint 2 – Taughboy	
Viewpoint Description and Details	› View from the L3014 local road in the townland of Taughboy. › Located approximately 2.2km north-east of the nearest proposed turbine (T19). › Grid Reference: E 610,361, N 889,126 › Number of Proposed Turbines Visible: 12/19
Landscape Sensitivity	› Moderate Scenic Amenity (Lowest Sensitivity Classification in DCDP) - **Low**
Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	› Residential Receptors – **Medium** › Receptors using the North West Cycle Trail - **Medium** › Receptors travelling on the L3014 – **Low**
Description of 'Existing View'	This is a long-range view from a local road, towards distant uplands comprised of commercial forestry. A tract of forestry is present to the right-hand side of the road, limiting long-range views in this direction. No existing wind energy developments are visible in this view.
Proposed Photomontage Description	Several of the proposed turbines are clearly visible. The foreground commercial forestry provides some visual screening to the towers and lower rotating blades of the turbines, with full visual screening of 10 no. of the proposed turbines. The array of visible turbines occupies a small horizontal extent.
Cumulative Effects	The existing Barnesmore and permitted Barnsemore repowering turbines are theoretically visible in the distant background as seen in the wireline view, beyond the distant ridgeline. However, in reality, are not visible as they are visually screened from view by the commercial forestry.

Viewpoint 2 – Taughboy	
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) *(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)*	**Medium:** This viewpoint was given a Medium sensitivity on account of residential receptors >2km from the proposed turbines and recreational users of the North West Cycle Trail.
Magnitude of Change *(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)*	**Slight:** Turbines are seen but clearly set back from the viewpoint and are of moderate relative to the landscape, and many of the proposed turbines are not visible.
Significance of Effect	**Medium × Slight = Minor = Slight (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends."*
Mitigation Factors	› The dense commercial forestry in the foreground of this view provides visual screening of the proposed turbines from this perspective. › From this vantage point, the proposed turbines are not obstructing or intruding upon any scenic views of county, regional or national renown. › The location of this viewpoint is located within an area designated as 'Moderate Scenic Amenity' by the DCDP 2024-2030, the lowest sensitivity designation.
Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)	**Slight (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities."*

1.3.3 Viewpoint 3 - Croghanagh North

Viewpoint 3 – Croghanagh North	
Viewpoint Description and Details	› View from the N15 National Road in the townland of Croghanagh. › Located approximately 2.6km north-west of the nearest proposed turbine (T14). › This viewpoint is also representative of the proposed Barnesmore Gap Greenway. › Grid Reference: E 605,136, N 888,519 › Number of Proposed Turbines Visible: 19/19
Landscape Sensitivity	› Especially High Scenic Amenity (Highest Sensitivity Classification in DCDP) - **High**
Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	› Receptors travelling on the N15 – **Medium** (Range of Low to High) › Receptors using the North West Cycle Trail – **Medium**
Description of 'Existing View'	The view looks across simple upland bog. It is open and exposed. There are extensive areas of commercial forestry in the background with a few mature trees in the foreground. This viewpoint location is in close proximity to the Barnesmore Gap, but the direction of view is focused away from Barnesmore Gap.

Viewpoint 3 – Croghanagh North	
	There are no existing wind farms visible in this view.
Proposed Photomontage Description	All proposed turbines would be clearly visible from this viewpoint, forming a relatively coherent array of turbines in the background of the view. Some portions of the turbine towers and blades are visually screened by intervening topography and vegetation. The proposed turbines occupy a relatively wide horizontal extent. The proposed met mast is seen as a slender, vertical lattice structure to the right of turbine T10. The blades of the Proposed Meenakeeran Wind Farm will be seen beyond the ridgeline, behind the proposed turbines.
Cumulative Effects	In combination simultaneous cumulative visual effects will occur as the blades of the Proposed Meenakeeran Wind Farm would be seen in the same line of sight as the proposed turbines in an uncertain future-receiving environment. The existing Barnesmore Wind Farm and the permitted Barnsemore Repowering turbines are not visible in the photomontage. However, they would be visible beyond the distant ridgeline to the far right from this viewpoint (beyond the 90° field of view). In combination successional visual effects would occur where the Barnsemore turbines would be visible with the proposed turbines but within a different field of view. Cumulative visual effects that do occur, have been incorporated into the magnitude of change reported below.
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) *(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)*	**Medium:** This viewpoint was given a Medium sensitivity on account of receptors travelling on the well-trafficked N15 which include a range from commuters to tourists. The landscape sensitivities attributed to the EHSA are unrelated to the view shown in the Photomontage Booklet. On balance, the sensitivity is considered Medium.
Magnitude of Change *(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)*	**Moderate:** Turbines are seen of a moderate scale relative to the landscape, comprising a wide horizontal extent of the view.
Significance of Effect	**Medium × Moderate = Moderate/Minor = Moderate (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration or intensity alters a sensitive aspect of the environment."*
Mitigation Factors	› Receptors on the N15 consist of fast-moving traffic and the direction of the proposed turbines will not be the focus of views; the turbines are situated perpendicular to the direction of travel (and the Barnsemore Gap). › The proposed turbines are well set-back from the viewpoint, seen in the background of the view in marginal upland comprising commercial forestry. They are not visible in a sensitive area of the landscape (i.e. Barnsemore Gap). › The grid-like layout achieves a balanced composition of well-spaced turbines on a sweeping mountain-side in line with good design

Viewpoint 3 – Croghanagh North	
	principles from the Guidelines (DoEHLG, 2006) and the Draft Guidelines (DoHPLG, 2019). There would be limited potential for overlapping blades to be seen and the array would appear legible and would not add excessive visual clutter into the view. › The separation between the turbines and the protected view and the simple legible layout would allow the turbines to be present without detracting from the views towards the Gap.
Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)	**Moderate (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends."*

1.3.4 Viewpoint 4 – Croghanagh South

Viewpoint 4 – Croghanagh South	
Viewpoint Description and Details	› View from the N15 National Road in the townland of Croghanagh. › Located approximately 2.7km north-west of the nearest proposed turbine (T14). › This viewpoint is also representative of the proposed Barnesmore Gap Greenway. › Grid Reference: E 604,449, N 887,695 › Number of Proposed Turbines Visible: 1/19
Landscape Sensitivity	› Especially High Scenic Amenity (Highest Sensitivity Classification in DCDP) - **High**
Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	› Receptors travelling on the N15 – **Medium** (Range of Low to High) › Receptors using the North West Cycle Trail - **Medium**
Description of 'Existing View'	This is a medium-range view overlooking a simple upland bog landscape on rising ground. There are areas of commercial forestry along the horizon and mixed coniferous trees and deciduous scrub in the foreground. The site entrance road to Meenbog Wind Farm can be seen in the centre foreground. The protected Barnesmore Gap view is focused in the other direction on the N15. There are no existing wind farms visible in this view.
Proposed Photomontage Description	The proposed turbines are largely visually screened by the rise in the foreground and tree cover. Only the blades of 1 no. proposed turbine (T5) would be visible. No other permitted or proposed turbines are visible in this view.
Cumulative Effects	No other turbines are visible from this viewpoint; therefore, no cumulative visual effects will arise.
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) *(See Definitions in*	**Medium:** This viewpoint was given a Medium sensitivity on account of receptors travelling on the well-trafficked N15 which include a range from commuters to tourists. The landscape sensitivities attributed to the EHSA are

Viewpoint 4 – Croghanagh South	
LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)	unrelated to the view shown in the Photomontage Booklet. On balance, the sensitivity is considered Medium.
Magnitude of Change *(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)*	**Negligible**: The majority of the proposed turbines are largely visually screened by intervening rise in elevation and vegetation.
Significance of Effect	**Medium × Negligible = Minor/Negligible = Not Significant (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences."*
Mitigation Factors	› Receptors on the N15 consist of fast-moving traffic and the direction of the proposed turbines will not be the focus of views; the turbines are situated perpendicular to the direction of travel (and Barnsemore Gap). › The proposed turbines are almost fully visually screened by the rising ground and vegetation.
Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)	**Imperceptible (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect capable of measurement but without significant consequences."*

1.3.5 Viewpoint 5 – Cashelnavean West

Viewpoint 5 – Cashelnavean West	
Viewpoint Description and Details	› View from the N15 National Road in the townland of Cashelnavean. › Located approximately 2.8km north-west of the nearest proposed turbine (T18). › This viewpoint is also representative of the proposed Barnesmore Gap Greenway. › Grid Reference: E 605,834, N 889,444 › Number of Proposed Turbines Visible: 19/19
Landscape Sensitivity	› Especially High Scenic Amenity (Highest Sensitivity Classification in DCDP) - **High**
Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	› Receptors travelling on the N15 – **Medium** (Range of Low to High)
Description of 'Existing View'	The view looks across simple upland bog. It is open and exposed, rising toward the horizon. There are extensive areas of commercial forestry in the middle distance and along the horizon and the landscape has a rural character. The edge of Lough Mourne is visible to the left of the view. Turbines of the existing Barnesmore Wind Farm are visible to the far right of the view (90° field of view), beyond the distant ridgeline.
Proposed Photomontage Description	All 19 no. proposed turbines are clearly visible, occupying a relatively wide horizontal extent of the view. The lower tower sections of proposed turbines T1, T2, T7, T9, T14, T17, and T19 are partially visually screened by gentle

Viewpoint 5 – Cashelnavean West	
	rises on the sweeping hillside and commercial forestry. Some visual overlap occurs with turbines T15, T11, and T18. The proposed met mast is seen as a slender vertical lattice structure to the left of turbine T10. The turbines of the proposed Meenakeeran Wind Farm will be seen in the same field of view as the proposed turbines. The permitted Barnesmore Repowering turbines will be seen in the same general area as the existing Barnesmore turbines.
Cumulative Effects	Cumulative effects would occur as the proposed turbines would be seen in combination with the proposed Meenakeeran Wind Farm in an uncertain future receiving environment. In combination simultaneous views occur as the Barnsemore Wind Farm (both existing and permitted) is seen in the distant background, beyond a distant ridgeline, to the right-hand side of the proposed turbines. There is visual separation between the proposed turbines and the Barnsemore Wind Farm (both existing and permitted). Cumulative visual effects that do occur, have been incorporated into the magnitude of change reported below.
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) *(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)*	**Medium:** This viewpoint was given a Medium sensitivity on account of receptors travelling on the well-trafficked N15 which include a range from commuters to tourists. The landscape sensitivities attributed to the EHSA are unrelated to the view shown in the Photomontage Booklet. On balance, the sensitivity is considered Medium.
Magnitude of Change *(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)*	**Moderate**: The proposed turbines are seen of a moderate scale relative to the landscape comprising a relatively wide horizontal extent of the view.
Significance of Effect	**Medium × Moderate = Moderate/Minor = Moderate (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends."*
Mitigation Factors	› Receptors on the N15 consist of fast-moving traffic and the direction of the proposed turbines will not be the focus of views, the turbines are situated perpendicular to the direction of travel (and Barnsemore Gap). › The layout achieves a balanced composition of well-spaced turbines in a grid-like layout in line with good design principles as set out in the Guidelines (DoEHLG, 2006) and the Draft Guidelines (DoHPLG, 2019). › The landscape is of large scale and has the capacity to absorb a wind energy development of this scale.
Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)	**Moderate (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends"*

1.3.6 Viewpoint 6 – Cashelnavean East

Viewpoint 6 – Cashelnavean East	
Viewpoint Description and Details	› View from the N15 National Road in the townland of Cashelnavean. › Located approximately 2.9km north-west of the nearest proposed turbine (T18). › This viewpoint is also representative of the proposed Barnesmore Gap Greenway. › Grid Reference: E 606,899, N 889,950 › Number of Proposed Turbines Visible: 19/19
Landscape Sensitivity	› Especially High Scenic Amenity (Highest Sensitivity Classification in DCDP) - **High**
Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	› Receptors travelling on the N15 – **Medium** (Range of Low to High) › Residential receptors in close proximity - **Medium**
Description of 'Existing View'	The view looks across Lough Mourne towards a simple upland bog landscape. The landscape in this view is open and exposed. The ground across Lough Mourne rises away from this viewpoint. Tracts of commercial forestry run along the horizon to the right of the view. The existing Barnesmore turbines are visible to the right-hand side of the proposed turbines in the 90° field of view.
Proposed Photomontage Description	The proposed turbines form a coherent composition. The north-eastern turbines would be largely visually screened by landform with only the blades of T9, T13, T16, T17, and T19 visible above the rise in topography. The remaining turbines are visible to their full extent at varied set-back distances. The proposed turbines that are visible occupy a relatively short horizontal extent. The permitted Barnesmore Repowering turbines are adjacent the existing Barnsemore turbines to the right-hand side of the view.
Cumulative Effects	In combination simultaneous cumulative visual effects would occur as the Barnsemore Wind Farm (both existing and permitted) are visible beyond the ridgeline, to the right-hand side of the proposed turbines. There is visual separation between the proposed turbines and the Barnsemore Wind Farm (both existing and permitted). Cumulative visual effects that do occur, have been incorporated into the magnitude of change reported below.
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) *(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)*	**High**: This viewpoint was given a High sensitivity on account of being near the origin of the protected Barnesmore Gap viewpoint.
Magnitude of Change	**Slight**: Turbines are seen but clearly set back from the viewpoint, and partially visible.

Viewpoint 6 – Cashelnavean East	
(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)	
Significance of Effect	**High × Slight = Moderate/Minor = Moderate (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends."*
Mitigation Factors	› Receptors on the N15 consist of fast-moving traffic and the direction of the proposed turbines will not be the focus of views; the turbines are situated perpendicular to the direction of travel (and Barnsemore Gap). › The layout achieves a balanced composition of well-spaced turbines in a grid-like layout in line with good design principles as set out in the Guidelines (DoEHLG, 2006) and the Draft Guidelines (DoHPLG, 2019). The proposed turbines appear to be arranged at varied setback positions due to their grid-like layout, establishing an ordered and visually coherent arrangement of turbines within the landscape, limiting visual overlap and reducing the perceived prominence of the turbines within the view. › The landscape is expansive in scale and has the capacity to absorb a wind energy development of this scale.
Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)	**Slight (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities."*

1.3.7 Viewpoint 7 - Meenacrumlin

Viewpoint 7 – Meenacrumlin	
Viewpoint Description and Details	› View from the N15 National Road in the townland of Meenacrumlin. › Located approximately 3.2km north of the nearest proposed turbine (T18). › This viewpoint is also representative of the proposed Barnesmore Gap Greenway. › Grid Reference: E 607,690, N 890,330 › Number of Proposed Turbines Visible: 9/19
Landscape Sensitivity	› Especially High Scenic Amenity (Highest Sensitivity Classification in DCDP) - **High**
Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	› DCDP Protected View – **High** › Receptors travelling on the N15 – **Medium** › Residential receptors <5km – **Medium**
Description of 'Existing View'	The view looks across Lough Mourne towards simple upland bog. The topography rises beyond Lough Mourne, away from this viewpoint. The landscape is open and exposed. Modern sheds with metal fencing on the shore of Lough Mourne. To the left of the view, there are areas of commercial forestry that have recently been replanted.

Viewpoint 7 – Meenacrumlin	
	Turbines of the existing Barnesmore Wind Farm are visible to the far right of the view, beyond the distant ridgeline.
Proposed Photomontage Description	All proposed turbines are predominantly hidden beyond the intervening ridge, with only very short blades visible beyond the ridge. The permitted Barnesmore Repowering turbines will be seen at a location in front of the existing Barnsemore turbines to the right-hand side of the proposed turbines.
Cumulative Effects	In combination simultaneous visual effects would occur as the Barnsemore Wind Farm (both existing and permitted) is seen to the righthand side of the 90° field of view, appearing as a standalone unit, separate to the proposed turbines. There is visual separation between the proposed turbines and the Barnsemore Wind Farm (both existing and permitted). Cumulative visual effects that do occur, have been incorporated into the magnitude of change reported below.
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) *(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)*	**High**: This viewpoint was given a High sensitivity as the origin point of a DCDP Protected View on the N15.
Magnitude of Change *(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)*	**Negligible**: Turbines are seen as small features relative to the landscape and visible only as blades beyond the low hill.
Significance of Effect	**High × Negligible = Minor = Slight (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect which causes noticeable changes in the environment without affecting its sensitivities."*
Mitigation Factors	› The proposed turbines are of very small scale relative to the view, with just a few blades visible. › Receptors on the N15 consist of fast-moving traffic and the direction of the proposed turbines will not be the focus of views; the turbines are situated perpendicular to the direction of travel. › The proposed turbines would be seen in an opposing field of view to the direction of the protected view and would therefore be seen in the far periphery of the views protected by policy. › The proposed turbines do not encroach into the protected view towards the Barnesmore Gap as shown by this viewpoint, as there is considerable angle and distance of separation. The dramatic views towards the Barnesmore Gap would remain unchanged. › The landscape is open and of large scale and thus is capable of absorbing the proposed turbines and other wind energy developments.
Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)	**Imperceptible (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect capable of measurement but without significant consequences."*

1.3.8 Viewpoint 8 - Kinletter

Viewpoint 8 – Kinletter	
Viewpoint Description and Details	› View from the L2974 in the townland of Kinletter. › Located approximately 4.5km north-east of the nearest proposed turbine (T19). › Grid Reference: E 613,081, N 889,353 › Number of Proposed Turbines Visible: 19/19
Landscape Sensitivity	› High Scenic Amenity (Middle Sensitivity Classification in DCDP) - **Medium**
Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	› Trusk Lough Walkway - **Medium**
Description of 'Existing View'	The view looks across an undulating upland bog and commercial forestry. It is expansive in scale, open and exposed, moving toward more mountainous landform in the distant background. There are large tracts of forestry located within this view. Turbines of the existing Barnesmore Wind Farm are visible as very small features beyond the distant ridgeline in the centre of the view.
Proposed Photomontage Description	All of the proposed turbines are fully visible from this viewpoint location, following the sweeping mountainside. They occupy a relatively moderate horizontal extent. The permitted Barnesmore Repowering turbines are in the same line of sight as the proposed turbines, with the Barnesmore Repowering turbines predominantly appearing behind the ridgeline, however indistinguishable from the proposed turbines. The proposed Meenakeeran Wind Farm is seen to the far left of the proposed turbines as seen in 90° field of view.
Cumulative Effects	In combination visual effects would occur as the Barnsemore Wind Farm (both existing and permitted) turbines are seen within the same field of view as the proposed turbines, as a single collective cluster of turbines on the marginal uplands. In combination successional visual effects would occur as the proposed Meenakeeran Wind Farm would be seen to the far left of the proposed turbines as seen in 90° field of view in an uncertain future receiving environment. There is a degree of visual separation between these turbines and the proposed turbines. A collection of existing windfarms to the north (as well as the permitted Drumnahough Wind Farm) are theoretically visible within an opposing field of view of the proposed turbines, as seen in the wireline view. However, they are screened from view in this viewpoint by the tract of commercial forestry.

Viewpoint 8 – Kinletter	
	The large-scale and expansive nature of the view effectively accommodates the addition of the proposed turbines with other wind energy developments. Cumulative visual effects that do occur, have been incorporated into the magnitude of change reported below.
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) *(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)*	**Medium**: This viewpoint was given a Medium sensitivity on account of the recreational users of the Trusk Lough Walkway.
Magnitude of Change *(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)*	**Moderate**: Turbines are seen of a moderate scale relative to the landscape.
Significance of Effect	**Medium × Slight = Minor = Moderate (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends."*
Mitigation Factors	› From this perspective, the proposed turbines **will be** seen in marginal upland comprised commercial forestry. The defining and distinctive qualities of Barnesmore Gap – which is the composition of two landforms standing either side of the steep and narrow valley forming 'the Gap' is not visible from this orientation, and therefore, the proposed turbines do not significantly impact the key scenic sensitivities of the Barnsemore Gap. › The proposed turbines are located low on a sweeping mountainside, in line with good design recommendations from the Guidelines (DoEHLG, 2006) and the Draft Guidelines (DoHPLG, 2019). › The landscape is expansive in scale and has the capacity to absorb a wind energy development of this scale.
Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)	**Slight (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences"*

1.3.9 Viewpoint 09 - Meenreagh

Viewpoint 09 – Meenreagh	
Viewpoint Description and Details	› View from the L6524 in the townland of Meenreagh. › Located approximately 5km east of the nearest proposed turbine (T19). › Grid Reference: E 614,168, N 886,718 › Number of Proposed Turbines Visible: 17/19
Landscape Sensitivity	› Moderate Scenic Amenity (Lowest Sensitivity Classification in DCDP) - **Low**
Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	› Residential Receptors at 5km - **Medium** › Receptors travelling on the L6524 – **Low**
Description of 'Existing View'	The view looks along the local road and across simple upland bog with commercial forestry along the horizon. It is mostly expansive in scale, open and exposed, although there is some smaller scale settled landscape visible to the right of the view. The topography is relatively flat in the foreground and increases gently in the form of rolling hills in the background of the view. The landscape has a rural character. Scrubby vegetation is scattered across the fore- and mid-ground.
Proposed Photomontage Description	The proposed turbines have most of the towers visually screened by the intervening landform, with only turbine blades and their nacelles visible beyond the distant ridgeline and the commercial forestry. Turbine T04 is the most visually prominent turbine from this viewpoint. The proposed turbines occupy a moderate horizontal extent. The permitted Barnesmore Repowering turbines will be seen beyond the ridgeline behind proposed turbines T1, T2, T3, and T4. The proposed Meenakeeran turbines will be seen to the far-left hand side of the 90° field of view.
Cumulative Effects	Turbines of the existing Barnesmore Wind Farm are theoretically visible, as seen in the wireline view, however are screened from view by intervening vegetation, and therefore have no bearing on overall cumulative visual effects. Some in combination cumulative visual effects would occur as the permitted Barnesmore Repowering turbines will be seen in the same field of view as the proposed turbines. In combination successional visual effects would occur as the proposed Meenakeeran turbines would be seen to the far left-hand side of the proposed turbines in an uncertain future-receiving environment. There is a degree of visual separation between the proposed turbines and the Meenakeeran Wind Farm. Cumulative visual effects that do occur are incorporated into the magnitude of change below.

Viewpoint 09 – Meenreagh	
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) *(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)*	**Medium**: This viewpoint was given a Medium sensitivity on account of residential receptors at 5km from the proposed turbines.
Magnitude of Change *(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)*	**Slight**: Turbines are seen but clearly set back from the viewpoint, partially visible, and are of small scale relative to the landscape.
Significance of Effect	**Medium × Slight = Minor = Slight (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities."*
Mitigation Factors	› The landscape is expansive in scale and has the capacity to absorb a wind energy development of this scale. › The location of this viewpoint is located within an area designated as 'Moderate Scenic Amenity' by the DCDP 2024-2030, the lowest sensitivity designation. › The proposed turbines are partially visually screened behind the ridgeline at the horizon and intervening vegetation
Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)	**Slight (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities."*

1.3.10 Viewpoint 10 – Deevoge Bridge

Viewpoint 10 – Deevoge Bridge	
Viewpoint Description and Details	› View from the L2984 Local Road in the townland of Meenablagh, County Tyrone › Located approximately 5.5km east of the nearest proposed turbine (T09). › Grid Reference: E 614,058, N 884,993 › Number of Proposed Turbines Visible: 8/19
Landscape Sensitivity	› West Tyrone Hills and Valleys - **Low**
Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	› Residential Receptors outside 5km – **Medium** › Receptors travelling on the local road – **Low**
Description of 'Existing View'	This view looks across agricultural land and some scattered residential dwellings in the foreground towards simple upland bog with commercial forestry along the horizon. It is a large scale, flat and open landscape with a

Viewpoint 10 – Deevoge Bridge	
	rural character, although there are some deciduous trees along field boundaries and around residential dwellings. There are no existing wind farms visible within this view.
Proposed Photomontage Description	14 no. proposed turbines are fully visually screened by topography, commercial forestry, and deciduous trees with only the blades of 5 proposed turbines visible. A turbine blade of the proposed Meenakeeran Wind Farm is seen to the far left of the proposed turbines as seen in 90° field of view.
Cumulative Effects	In combination simultaneous views would occur as the turbine blade of the Meenakeeran Wind Farm would be seen to the left-hand side of the proposed turbines in an uncertain future-receiving environment. There is a degree of visual separation between the proposed turbines and the Meenakeeran Wind Farm. Cumulative visual effects that do occur, have been incorporated into the magnitude of change reported below.
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) *(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)*	**Low**: This viewpoint was given a Low sensitivity on account of being in a sparsely populated area, on a low trafficked local road, and without a high sensitivity landscape view.
Magnitude of Change *(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)*	**Negligible**: Turbines are seen as small features relative to the landscape, primarily only as blades set back behind intervening topography and commercial forestry.
Significance of Effect	**Low × Negligible = Negligible = Imperceptible (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect capable of measurement but without significant consequences."*
Mitigation Factors	› The proposed turbines are nearly entirely visually screened beyond the sweeping ridge and commercial forestry at the horizon, with only a few blades visible. › The proposed turbines do not obstruct or intrude upon any scenic views of county, regional or national renown.
Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)	**Imperceptible (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect capable of measurement but without significant consequences."*

1.3.11 Viewpoint 11 - Altnapaste

Viewpoint 11 – Altnapaste	
Viewpoint Description and Details	› View from the L7013 in the townland of Altnapaste. › Located approximately 6.4km north-west of the nearest proposed turbine (T18). › Grid Reference: E 604,433, N 892,815 › Number of Proposed Turbines Visible: 19/19
Landscape Sensitivity	› Especially High Scenic Amenity (Highest Sensitivity Classification in DCDP) - **High**
Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	› Walkers on the Alt na Peist Walking Trail – **Medium** › Receptors travelling on the L7013 – **Low**
Description of 'Existing View'	This view looks across an expansive and simple upland landscape of heath, upland bog and extensive commercial forestry. Hills rise to the left and right of the view with longer distance views possible to lower lying land in the centre of the view. There are no existing wind farms visible in this view.
Proposed Photomontage Description	All proposed turbines are visible within this view. The lower components of three no. proposed turbines (T16, T17 and T19) are visually screened by the rising hill slope. The proposed turbines are within a saddle of lower ground, enclosed by elevated ridgelines on either side of the proposed turbines, occupying a limited horizontal extent. The permitted Barnesmore Repowering turbines are visible as very small features above the commercial forestry and rising slope to the right of the view (90° field of view).
Cumulative Effects	The existing Barnsemore turbines are theoretically visible in the distant background, beyond the ridgeline to the right-hand side of the proposed turbines as seen in the wireline view. However, in reality, they are not visible as they are visually screened by commercial forestry. The Barnesmore Repowering turbines can be seen in the same line of sight as the existing Barnesmore turbines, and appear as a few distant blades above the same tract of commercial forestry. There is a degree of visual separation between these turbines and the proposed turbines from this viewpoint. The proposed Pullytean and Meenakeeran Wind Farms will be seen in the same line of sight as the proposed turbines forming one collective cluster of turbines in an uncertain future receiving environment. Cumulative visual effects that do occur have been incorporated into the magnitude of change below.
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) *(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)*	**High**: This viewpoint was given a High sensitivity on account of the Area of Especially High Scenic Amenity being enjoyed by walkers on the Alt na Peist Walking Trail.

Viewpoint 11 – Altnapaste	
Magnitude of Change *(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)*	**Slight**: Turbines are seen but clearly set back from the viewpoint and are of small scale relative to the landscape.
Significance of Effect	**High × Slight = Moderate/Minor = Moderate (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends."*
Mitigation Factors	› From this viewpoint location, the proposed turbines are enclosed by more elevated topography on either side of the view, achieving visual balance within the landscape. › The siting of the proposed turbines between two hills, is in line with good design principles from the Guidelines (DoEHLG, 2006) and the Draft Guidelines (DoHPLG, 2019). › The landscape is expansive in scale and has the capacity to absorb a wind energy development of this scale.
Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)	**Slight (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities."*

1.3.12 Viewpoint 12 – Greenan

Viewpoint 12 – Greenan	
Viewpoint Description and Details	› View from the L6335 in the townland of Greenan. › Located approximately 11.3km west of the nearest proposed turbine (T10). › Grid Reference: E 595,441, N 885,216 › Number of Proposed Turbines Visible: 1/19
Landscape Sensitivity	› Especially High Scenic Amenity (Highest Sensitivity Classification in DCDP) – **High** › Bluestack Mountains - **High**
Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	› Receptors visiting the Bluestack Mountains – **High** › Walkers on the Bluestack Way – **Medium** › Residential receptors outside 10km - **Medium** › Receptors travelling on the L6335 – **Low**
Description of 'Existing View'	The view looks across Lough Eske towards the Bluestack Mountains in the distance which form the horizon. There are scattered residential dwellings located across Lough Eske, near the shoreline, with mature vegetation marking boundaries.

Viewpoint 12 – Greenan	
	Turbines of the existing Barnesmore, Straness, Lough Cuill, and Meenadreen Extension wind farms are partially visible to the righthand side of this view and appear as small elements or are barely perceptible beyond a distant ridgeline.
Proposed Photomontage Description	A singular blade (T03) is seen in the distant background, beyond the distant ridgeline. The permitted Barnesmore Repowering turbines are visible along the distant ridgelines to the right of the view.
Cumulative Effects	As the proposed turbines are barely discernible, owing to their location beyond the ridgeline, they have no potential to give rise to cumulative visual effects.
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) *(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)*	**High**: This viewpoint was given a High sensitivity on account of the Area of Especially High Scenic Amenity and its location with the Bluestack Mountains.
Magnitude of Change *(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)*	**Negligible**: A singular blade is seen in the distant background, beyond the distant ridgeline.
Significance of Effect	**High × Negligible = Minor = Slight (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities."*
Mitigation Factors	› All turbines (bar the blade of turbine T03) are fully screened by the intervening landform and will not be visible from this viewpoint.
Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)	**Imperceptible (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect capable of measurement but without significant consequences."*

1.3.13 Viewpoint 13 - Magheravall

Viewpoint 13 – Magheravall	
Viewpoint Description and Details	› View from the L2744 in the townland of Magheravall. › Located approximately 13.8km north of the nearest proposed turbine (T19). › Grid Reference: E 612,008, N 900,712 › Number of Proposed Turbines Visible: 17/19

Viewpoint 13 – Magheravall	
Landscape Sensitivity	› High Scenic Amenity (Middle Sensitivity Classification in DCDP) - **Medium**
Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	› Residents outside 10km - **Low**
Description of 'Existing View'	This view looks across an open landscape comprising agricultural land in the foreground, a tract of commercial forestry in the middleground. The landscape rises to the left of the view as a low hill where the landcover is comprised of heathland. Some scrubby vegetation lines the foreground. 9 no. existing turbines of the Meenanilta Extension are prominent in the view, divided on two low hills with open valley and mountains on the distant horizon between them. Several existing wind farms, including, Lough Cuill, Straness, and Barnesmore are also just about discernible in the distant background of the view.
Proposed Photomontage Description	The proposed turbines are minor features on the horizon as small-scale elements relative to the landscape, occupying a short horizontal extent. The existing Meenanilta Extension turbines are most prominent, as tall elements in the foreground of the view. The permitted Barnesmore Repowering turbines will be seen in the distant background of views, to the right of the proposed turbines.
Cumulative Effects	Many windfarms, including the existing Bin Mountain, Lough Hill, Church Hill, Seegronan, Seegronan Extension, permitted Church Hill and permitted Crilly Wind Farms, as well as the proposed Meenanullen Wind Farm are theoretically visible as seen in the wireline view. However, in reality, are screened from view by the intervening vegetation, and therefore, have no bearing on overall cumulative visual effects. In combination, simultaneous cumulative visual effects would occur as the proposed turbines will be seen in combination with other wind energy developments in the distant background views. In combination, successional cumulative visual effects would occur as the existing Meenahorna, Cuiliagh, Meenlaban, Meentycat, and Cuilliagh Extentsion are seen in an opposing field of view to the proposed turbines. The proposed turbines will be seen within a vast, expansive landscape, which has the capacity to accommodate the proposed turbines as well as other wind energy developments. Cumulative visual effects that do occur have been incorporated into the magnitude of change below.
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) *(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)*	**Low**: This viewpoint was given a Low sensitivity on account of long-ranging views from population centres from the north-east.
Magnitude of Change *(See Definitions in*	**Slight**: Turbines are seen as small features relative to the landscape, but seen clearly, and are set-back from the viewpoint.

Viewpoint 13 – Magheravall	
LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)	Cumulative visual effects that do occur, have been incorporated into the magnitude of change reported below.
Significance of Effect	**Low × Slight = Minor = Not Significant (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences."*
Mitigation Factors	› Siting of the proposed turbines in a sparsely settled landscape with a relatively lower elevation than the surrounding area reduces the visual prominence and the perceived height of the proposed turbines. › The proposed turbines appear much smaller in scale and less prominent than the turbines of the existing Meengrauv and Meenanilta wind farms, to which the eye is drawn instead.
Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)	**Not Significant (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences."*

1.3.14 Viewpoint 14 – Castlegore

Viewpoint 14 – Castlegore	
Viewpoint Description and Details	› View from the B72 Class B Road in the townland of Castlegore, County Tyrone. › Located approximately 16.8km east of the nearest proposed turbine (T09). › Grid Reference: E 625,248, N 882,789 › Number of Proposed Turbines Visible: 19/19
Landscape Sensitivity	West Tyrone Hills and Valleys – **Low**
Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	Residents outside 15km - **Medium**
Description of 'Existing View'	The view shows a long ranging view looks across an agricultural landscape from an elevated vantage point. There are scattered residential dwellings visible throughout the landscape within this view. In the distance, the landscape is that of a simpler expansive upland landscape with commercial forestry. Mature vegetation screens the left of the view. The existing Barnsemore turbines are just about discernible in the distant background of the view.
Proposed Photomontage Description	Most of the proposed turbines would be visible as very small features within the distant upland landscape, occupying a small horizontal extent of the view.

Viewpoint 14 – Castlegore	
	The permitted Barnesmore Repowering and the propsoed Meenakeeran turbines would be visible to the left of the proposed turbines in the distant background of the view.
Cumulative Effects	Several existing wind farms are theoretically visible from this viewpoint as seen in the wireline view, including Church Hill, Tievenameenta, Crighshane, Croaghanmeal, Lough Cuill, Straness, and Barnesmore. However, in reality are screened from view by intervening vegetation, and therefore have no bearing on overall cumulative visual effects. In combination simultaneous visual effects will occur as the proposed turbines will be seen within the same field of view as the Barnesmore turbines, as well as the proposed Meenakeeran turbines in an uncertain future receiving environment. Cumulative visual effects that do occur have been incorporated into the magnitude of change reported below.
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) *(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)*	**Low**: This viewpoint was given a Low sensitivity on account of the long-ranging distance to the proposed turbines.
Magnitude of Change *(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 13-1)*	**Slight**: Turbines are seen as small features relative to the landscape and at great distance from the viewpoint. Cumulative visual effects that do occur, have been incorporated into the magnitude of change reported below.
Significance of Effect	**Low × Slight = Minor/Negligible = Not Significant (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences."*
Mitigation Factors	› The proposed turbines are located lower on a sweeping mountainside, in line with good design princiiples from the Guidelines (DoEHLG, 2006) and the Draft Guidelines (DoHPLG, 2019). › The landscape is large-scale and has the capacity to absorb a wind energy development of this scale. › The proposed turbines are not visible within the direction of travel from the B72.
Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)	**Not Significant (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences."*

APPENDIX 1

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