APPENDIX 13-2

VIEWPOINT (PHOTOMONTAGE ASSESSMENT TABLES)

Table of Contents

1. PHOTOMONTAGE VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT TABLES

Visual impact assessments were conducted for individual viewpoints and are reported in the tables below following the methodology set out in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology* (Section 1.8 Assessing Visual Effects).

As reported in Chapter 13, Section 13.6 Cumulative Context, the assessment and discussion of cumulative visual effects considers the probability of cumulative effects arising with all other wind energy developments in the LVIA Study Area in the following categories, and their potential visual interaction(s) with the Proposed Project:

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

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

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

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

1.1 VP01: SR-28 at Raghly

Viewpoint 01: SR-28 at Raghly	
Viewpoint Description and Details	> View from Co. Sligo Scenic Route SR-28 in the townland of Raghly. > Located approximately 16.4km northeast of the nearest proposed turbine. > Grid Reference (ITM): E 557849; N 841914. > No. of turbines visible (including blades/tips): 14 (out of 17).
LCA and Sensitivity	> No LCA designations for Co. Sligo (SCDP 2024-2030).
Receptors and Sensitivity	> Designated Scenic Route: High. > Nearby to Rosses Point/ Raghly Cliff Walk: High. > Nearby to Landscape Designations – Visually Vulnerable Areas: High.
Description of "Existing View"	The existing view looks southwest across Sligo Bay from the headland at Raghly, with long-ranging views over the water framed in wide, expansive panoramic views. Mountainous terrain features of the far shore can be seen in the distance, with the Ox Mountains framed in the centre of the image. It is noted that open views of Knocknarea and Slieve Daeane are available in the opposite direction from this vantage point, to the east (far off the left edge of the key image). No existing wind farms are visibly discernible from this vantage point.
Proposed Photomontage Description	The Proposed Turbines are partially visible at significant distance near the northernmost slope (right edge) of the Ox Mountains where the slope broadens to the right, located on the far side of the bay. The Proposed Turbines introduce newly visible elements of wind energy development into the view looking in this direction, albeit they are seen as very modest elements relative to the scale of the landscape and panoramic views. Most of the Proposed Turbines are entirely or partially visually screened behind the mountains. No permitted or proposed wind farms are visibly discernible from this vantage point.
Cumulative Context	None.
Sensitivity of Receptor(s)	**Sensitivity = High.** For the definition of this sensitivity rating, refer to Section 1.8.1 Visual Receptor Sensitivity in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
Magnitude of Change	**Magnitude = Slight.** For the definition of this magnitude rating, refer to Section 1.8.2 Magnitude of Visual Change in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
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".*

Viewpoint 01: SR-28 at Raghly	
	Refer to Section 1.8.3 Visual Effects Assessment Matrix in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
Mitigating Factors	> The Proposed Turbines do not impact the open views of Knocknarea and Slieve Daeane in the opposite direction, which could be considered the primary focus of scenic views from this vantage point and its related receptors. > The Proposed Turbines are setback on the far side of the bay, perceived at very modest scale relative to the landscape and are seen in the background of views. > Multiple Proposed Turbines are partially or entirely screened from view by terrain features in the distance. > The Proposed Turbines are effectively absorbed into the wide expanse of panoramic views and do not obstruct any scenic views of the bay.
Residual Visual Effect	**After considering all Mitigating Factors = "Not Significant" (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences".* Refer to Section 1.9 Determination of Residual Effects in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.

1.2 VP02: Knocknarea/ Queen Maeve's Tomb

Viewpoint 02: Knocknarea/ Queen Maeve's Tomb	
Viewpoint Description and Details	> View from Queen Maeve's Tomb on Knocknarea Mountain within the Sligo Passage Tomb Landscape. > Located approximately 15.6km northeast of the nearest proposed turbine. > Grid Reference (ITM): E 562501; N 834805. > No. of turbines visible (including blades/tips): 6 (out of 17).
LCA and Sensitivity	> No LCAs in Co. Sligo (SCDP 2024-2030).
Receptors and Sensitivity	> Sligo Passage Tomb Landscape and Queen Maeve's Tomb: Very High. > Queen Maeve Trail: Very High. > Landscape Designation – Visually Vulnerable Area: High.
Description of "Existing View"	The existing view looks west from the highest point on Queen Maeve Trail, in front of Queen Maeve's Tomb on Knocknarea peak. Wide, sweeping, panoramic views show mountainous terrain of Knocknarea in the foreground, the Ox Mountains framed in the distant background, with Sligo Bay to the north. While existing wind farms are marked in the wireline view, they are not visibly discernible at this distance. The Dunneill turbines will be removed from the landscape as part of the Proposed Project and therefore will not be seen in the proposed view.
Proposed Photomontage Description	The Proposed Turbines are located beyond the Ox Mountains in the distant centre-background and most of them are entirely screened from view or visible as blades or blade-tips only, which will not be discernible at this distance. Proposed Turbines T6 and T7 are partially visible at significant distance near the periphery of the northernmost slope (right edge) of the mountains, where the landscape sharply drops in elevation. T6 and T7 are perceived as very modest elements relative to the sweeping landscape of panoramic views. No permitted or proposed wind farms are within the view.
Cumulative Context	None.
Sensitivity of Receptor(s)	**Sensitivity = Very High.** For the definition of this sensitivity rating, refer to Section 1.8.1 Visual Receptor Sensitivity in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
Magnitude of Change	**Magnitude = Negligible.** For the definition of this magnitude rating, refer to Section 1.8.2 Magnitude of Visual Change in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
Significance of Effect	Very High × Negligible = Moderate/Minor = "Moderate" (EPA, 2022)

Viewpoint 02: Knocknarea/ Queen Maeve's Tomb	
	"An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends". Refer to Section 1.8.3 Visual Effects Assessment Matrix in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
Mitigating Factors	> The key sensitivities of the views from Queen Maeve's Tomb within the Sligo Passage Tomb Landscape; i.e. panoramic views from Knocknarea of the wider mountainous landscape to the south and Sligo Bay to the north, are not significantly impacted owing to distance from the Proposed Wind Farm and low number (2 no.) of visible turbines. > The 2 no. Proposed Turbines which are visible are perceived at very modest scale relative to the landscape and are seen in the distant background of views. > Most of the Proposed Turbines are not visible–they are located beyond the terrain of the Ox Mountains in the distance. > The Proposed Turbines are effectively absorbed into the wide expanse of panoramic views and do not obstruct scenic views as they are located on the periphery of lower elevation terrain in the distance.
Residual Visual Effect	**After considering all Mitigating Factors = "Not Significant" (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences".* Refer to Section 1.9 Determination of Residual Effects in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.

1.3 VP03: Aughras near SR-56

Viewpoint 03: Aughras near SR-56	
Viewpoint Description and Details	> View from the end of the local road at Aughras Coastal Walk trailhead in the townland of Aughras, near Co. Sligo Scenic Route SR-56. > Located approximately 7.7km north of the nearest proposed turbine. > Grid Reference (ITM): E 550730; N 836193. > No. of turbines visible (including blades/tips): 15 (out of 17).
LCA and Sensitivity	> No LCAs in Co. Sligo (SCDP 2024-2030).
Receptors and Sensitivity	> Near a Designated Scenic Route: High. > Near a Landscape Designation – Visually Vulnerable Area: High. > Aughris Coastal Walk: High. > Wild Atlantic Way tourist drive (not designated in local policy): Medium.
Description of "Existing View"	The existing view was captured from a location near the entrance of Aughras Coastal Walk on Sligo Bay, looking southwest over the modified working landscape of agricultural fields and scattered rural housing. The Ox Mountains range is visible in the background. Dunneill Mountain which makes up the northwestern foothills of the larger Ox Mountains range, is framed in the centre of the image. While existing wind farms are marked in the wireline view, they are not discernible at this distance. The Dunneill and Kingsmountain turbines will be removed from the landscape as part of the Proposed Project and therefore will not be seen in the proposed view.
Proposed Photomontage Description	The Proposed Turbines are setback along the top of and behind the ridgeline of Dunneill Mountain, with several blades and hubs visible entirely above the horizon line and a few turbines visible as blade tips only. The Proposed Turbines introduce newly visible elements of wind energy development into the landscape, albeit they are significantly setback from the vantage point. Proposed Turbines T17 and T16 are entirely visually screened behind the mountain. From this distance, the Proposed Turbines exhibit relatively even spacing and an even height profile that follows the topography of the ridgeline and uniformly decreases in height with the downward sloping ridge. No permitted or proposed wind farms are discernible in the view.
Cumulative Context	None.
Sensitivity of Receptor(s)	**Sensitivity = High.** For the definition of this sensitivity rating, refer to Section 1.8.1 Visual Receptor Sensitivity in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
Magnitude of Change	**Magnitude = Slight.** For the definition of this magnitude rating, refer to Section 1.8.2 Magnitude of Visual Change in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.

Viewpoint 03: Aughras near SR-56	
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".* Refer to Section 1.8.3 Visual Effects Assessment Matrix in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
Mitigating Factors	> The Proposed Turbines exhibit a uniform decrease in perceived height that follows the descending slope of the ridgeline and is therefore visually coherent. > The Proposed Turbines are located in the opposite direction of the primary scenic views from this vantage point as well as from the Aughris Coastal Walk, which are directed north towards Sligo Bay and are focused on the local coastline and beach environments. > The Proposed Turbines are well setback along and beyond ridgeline and are perceived at modest scale relative to the landscape and are seen in the background of views. > Multiple Proposed Turbines are partially or entirely screened from view by terrain features in the distance. > The Proposed Turbines are seen within a modified working landscape of upland terrain where wind energy development has been previously established and considered acceptable. > The Proposed Turbines are sited at lower elevations of the steep mountainside within an appropriate spatial extent for the broad landscape and are seen to have a regular staggered spacing in a mix of random and clustered layout with a slightly uneven height profile that follows the rugged topography, thereby aligning with best practice siting and design for good visual aesthetics of wind energy developments in Mountain Moorland Landscapes (DoEHLG 2006 Guidelines, Draft 2019 Guidelines).
Residual Visual Effect	**After considering all Mitigating Factors = "Slight" (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities".* Refer to Section 1.9 Determination of Residual Effects in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.

1.4 VP04: SR-53 at Garryduff

Viewpoint 04: SR-53 at Garryduff	
Viewpoint Description and Details	> View from Co. Sligo Scenic Route SR-53 in the townland of Garryduff, near St. Mary's National School - Kilrusheighter. > Located approximately 5.8km north of the nearest proposed turbine. > Grid Reference (ITM): E 549520; N 834734. > No. of turbines visible (including blades/tips): 15 (out of 17).
LCA and Sensitivity	> No LCAs in Co. Sligo (SCDP 2024-2030).
Receptors and Sensitivity	> Designated Scenic Route: High. > Near St. Mary's National School – Kilrusheighter: Medium.
Description of "Existing View"	The existing view was captured from St. Mary's National School, looking southwest over a modified working landscape of agricultural fields and scattered rural housing, with the Ox Mountains in the distant background. Dunneill Mountain which makes up the northwestern foothills of the larger Ox Mountain Range, is framed in the centre of the image. While existing wind farms are marked in the wireline view, they are hardly discernible at this distance. The Dunneill and Kingsmountain turbines will be removed from the landscape as part of the Proposed Project and therefore will not be seen in the proposed view.
Proposed Photomontage Description	The Proposed Turbines are partially visible, setback along the top of and beyond the ridgeline of Dunneill Mountain, with several blades and hubs visible entirely above the horizon line and a few turbines visible as blade tips only. The Proposed Turbines introduce newly visible elements of wind energy development into the landscape, albeit they are significantly setback from the vantage point. Proposed Turbines T16 and T17 are entirely visually screened behind the mountain. From this distance, the Proposed Turbines exhibit relatively even spacing and an even height profile that follows the topography of the ridgeline. No permitted or proposed wind farms are within the view.
Cumulative Context	None.
Sensitivity of Receptor(s)	**Sensitivity = High.** For the definition of this sensitivity rating, refer to Section 1.8.1 Visual Receptor Sensitivity in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
Magnitude of Change	**Magnitude = Slight.** For the definition of this magnitude rating, refer to Section 1.8.2 Magnitude of Visual Change in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
Significance of Effect	High × Slight = Moderate/Minor = "Moderate" (EPA, 2022)

Viewpoint 04: SR-53 at Garryduff	
	"An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends". Refer to Section 1.8.3 Visual Effects Assessment Matrix in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
Mitigating Factors	> The primary focus of scenic views from the designated scenic route is looking north to Sligo Bay, in the opposite direction of the Proposed Turbines. > The Proposed Turbines exhibit a uniform decrease in perceived height that follows the descending slope of the ridgeline and is therefore visually coherent. > While the view was captured on a designated scenic route, this location is not considered a view or destination of regional or national renown. > The Proposed Turbines are seen within a modified working landscape of upland terrain where wind energy development has been previously established and considered acceptable. > The Proposed Turbines are well setback along and beyond ridgeline and are perceived at modest scale relative to the landscape and are seen in the background of views. > Multiple Proposed Turbines are partially or entirely screened from view by terrain features in the distance. > The Proposed Turbines are sited at lower elevations of the steep mountainside within an appropriate spatial extent for the broad landscape and are seen to have a regular staggered spacing in a mix of random and clustered layout with a slightly uneven height profile that follows the rugged topography, thereby aligning with best practice siting and design for good visual aesthetics of wind energy developments in Mountain Moorland Landscapes (DoEHLG 2006 Guidelines, Draft 2019 Guidelines).
Residual Visual Effect	**After considering all Mitigating Factors = "Slight" (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities".* Refer to Section 1.9 Determination of Residual Effects in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.

1.5 VP05: SR-70 and SR-7 at Doonycoy

Viewpoint 05: SR-70 and SR-7 at Doonycoy	
Viewpoint Description and Details	> View from Co. Sligo Scenic Routes SR-70 and SR-7, and the N59 National Road in the townland of Doonycoy. > Located approximately 3.8km north of the nearest proposed turbine. > Grid Reference (ITM): E 547171; N 833078. > No. of turbines visible (including blades/tips): 17 (out of 17).
LCA and Sensitivity	> No LCAs in Co. Sligo (SCDP 2024-2030).
Receptors and Sensitivity	> Designated Scenic Routes: High. > Residential receptors within 5km: Medium. > Wild Atlantic Way tourist drive (not designated in local policy): Medium. > National Road N59 within 5km: Low.
Description of "Existing View"	The existing view looks south beyond the local church and scattered rural houses amongst agricultural fields, with Dunneill Mountain partially visible in the centre-background in the distance. Mature woodland and boundary vegetation can be seen throughout the fields, along with utility lines and poles, fences and bales. The Dunneill and Kingsmountain turbines are visible along the horizon of the view; they will be removed from the landscape as part of the Proposed Project and therefore will not be seen in the proposed view.
Proposed Photomontage Description	The Proposed Turbines are partially visible beyond the mature woodland and vegetation, setback along the top of and beyond the ridgeline of Dunneill Mountain. Several blades and hubs visible entirely above the horizon line and a few turbines visible as blade tips only. The Proposed Turbines exhibit relatively even spacing and an even height profile that follows the topography of the ridgeline. No permitted or proposed wind farms are within the view.
Cumulative Context	None.
Sensitivity of Receptor(s)	**Sensitivity = High.** For the definition of this sensitivity rating, refer to Section 1.8.1 Visual Receptor Sensitivity in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
Magnitude of Change	**Magnitude = Moderate.** For the definition of this magnitude rating, refer to Section 1.8.2 Magnitude of Visual Change in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
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".*

Viewpoint 05: SR-70 and SR-7 at Doonycoy	
	Refer to Section 1.8.3 Visual Effects Assessment Matrix in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
Mitigating Factors	> The primary focus of scenic views from the designated scenic routes is looking north to Sligo Bay, in the opposite direction of the Proposed Turbines, and those scenic views are limited from this location owing to the settlement and surrounding built structures. > The Proposed Turbines are seen within a modified working landscape of upland terrain where wind energy development has been previously established and considered acceptable. > While the view was captured at the cross-roads of two designated scenic routes, this location is not considered a view or destination of regional or national renown. > The Proposed Turbines are viewed in the background beyond other features including the church and other buildings, utility poles and overhead lines in the foreground which detract from the scenic quality of views. > The Proposed Turbines are well setback along and beyond ridgeline and are perceived at modest scale relative to the landscape and are seen in the background of views. > Multiple Proposed Turbines are partially or entirely screened from view by terrain features in the distance. > The Proposed Turbines are sited at lower elevations of the steep mountainside within an appropriate spatial extent for the broad landscape and are seen to have a regular staggered spacing in a mix of random and clustered layout with a slightly uneven height profile that follows the rugged topography, thereby aligning with best practice siting and design for good visual aesthetics of wind energy developments in Mountain Moorland Landscapes (DoEHLG 2006 Guidelines, Draft 2019 Guidelines).
Residual Visual Effect	**After considering all Mitigating Factors = "Moderate" (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends".* Refer to Section 1.9 Determination of Residual Effects in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.

1.6 VP06: SR-58 at Lough Easky

Viewpoint 06: SR-58 at Lough Easky	
Viewpoint Description and Details	> View from Co. Sligo Scenic Route SR-58 in the townland of Cloonacool, on the Sligo Way waymarked walking trail and Lough Easky Loop. > Located approximately 2.9km south of the nearest proposed turbine. > Grid Reference (ITM): E 544824; N 823287. > No. of turbines visible (including blades/tips): 8 (out of 17).
LCA and Sensitivity	> No LCAs in Co. Sligo (SCDP 2024-2030).
Receptors and Sensitivity	> Designated Scenic Route: High. > Nearby to Landscape Designation – Visually Vulnerable Area: High. > Sligo Way waymarked walking trail through Dunneill Mountain: High. > Lough Easky Loop: Medium. > Residential receptors >3km: Medium.
Description of "Existing View"	The existing view looks north from the eastern shore of Lough Easky within the moorlands of Dunneill Mountain. The steep terrain of Annatoran peak is visible rising to the east and lower elevation hills frame the lake to the west. No existing wind farms are within the view.
Proposed Photomontage Description	A few of the Proposed Turbines are partially visible within the saddle of the topography framed beyond the lake, set back beyond the ridgeline. The visible turbines are seen as blades or blade-tips only. Proposed Turbines T10 through T17 are entirely visually screened beyond the terrain of Annatoran peak at the right of the image. No permitted or proposed wind farms are within the view.
Cumulative Context	None.
Sensitivity of Receptor(s)	**Sensitivity = High.** For the definition of this sensitivity rating, refer to Section 1.8.1 Visual Receptor Sensitivity in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
Magnitude of Change	**Magnitude = Negligible.** For the definition of this magnitude rating, refer to Section 1.8.2 Magnitude of Visual Change in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
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".* Refer to Section 1.8.3 Visual Effects Assessment Matrix in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.

Viewpoint 06: SR-58 at Lough Easky	
Mitigating Factors	> The visible elements of the Proposed Turbines are framed within the saddle between topographical peaks, thereby constraining the visible extent of turbines. > Most of the Proposed Turbines are not visible—they are entirely screened from view by terrain features surrounding the lake. > The Proposed Turbines are setback well beyond the ridgeline and are visible as blades or blade-tips only and therefore do not significantly intrude on the lake vista.
Residual Visual Effect	**After considering all Mitigating Factors = "Not Significant" (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences".* Refer to Section 1.9 Determination of Residual Effects in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.

1.7 VP07: SR-58 at Farranmacfarrell

Viewpoint 07: SR-58 at Farranmacfarrell	
Viewpoint Description and Details	> View from Co. Sligo Scenic Route SR-58 in the townland of Farranmacfarrell. > Located approximately 2.9km northwest of the nearest proposed turbine. > Grid Reference (ITM): E 542403; N 830962. > No. of turbines visible (including blades/tips): 14 (out of 17).
LCA and Sensitivity	> No LCAs in Co. Sligo (SCDP 2024-2030).
Receptors and Sensitivity	> Designated Scenic Route: High. > Residential receptors within 3km: High.
Description of "Existing View"	The existing view looks southeast over sparse residential properties among agricultural fields bounded by mature vegetation and trees, with the Ox Mountains and foothills partially visible in the background. Utility lines, poles and other elements of modified working landscape are visible throughout the view. The Dunneill and Kingsmountain turbines are visible along the foothills in the view; they will be removed from the landscape as part of the Proposed Project and therefore will not be seen in the proposed view.
Proposed Photomontage Description	The Proposed Turbines are partially visible, setback beyond the agricultural fields and along the foothills, with several turbine blades and hubs fully visible above the horizon. Proposed Turbines T2, T4 and T5 are entirely visually screened from view behind mature trees at the right of the image. From this vantagepoint, the Proposed Turbines exhibit a slightly clustered spacing pattern and slightly uneven height profile that follows the undulations in the topography of the foothills. T6 is seen as somewhat visually separated from the clusters. No permitted or proposed wind farms are within the view.
Cumulative Context	None.
Sensitivity of Receptor(s)	**Sensitivity = High.** For the definition of this sensitivity rating, refer to Section 1.8.1 Visual Receptor Sensitivity in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
Magnitude of Change	**Magnitude = Moderate.** For the definition of this magnitude rating, refer to Section 1.8.2 Magnitude of Visual Change in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
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".*

Viewpoint 07: SR-58 at Farranmacfarrell	
	Refer to Section 1.8.3 Visual Effects Assessment Matrix in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
Mitigating Factors	> Considering the residential receptors in close proximity, the Proposed Project exceeds the recommended 500m setback from residences (DoELHG 2006 Guidelines) and adheres to the prescribed 4-times-tip-height (720m) setback distance for residential visual amenity (Draft 2019 Guidelines) in the WEDGs. > The Proposed Turbines are seen within a modified working landscape of upland terrain where wind energy development has been previously established and considered acceptable. > While the view was captured on a designated scenic route, this location is not considered a view or destination of regional or national renown. > The Proposed Turbines are well setback within the landscape and are seen in the background of views. > Multiple Proposed Turbines are partially or entirely screened from view by terrain features in the distance or mature vegetation within the intervening landscape.
Residual Visual Effect	**After considering all Mitigating Factors = "Moderate" (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends".* Refer to Section 1.9 Determination of Residual Effects in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.

1.8 VP08: SR-20 at Dromore West

Viewpoint 08: SR-20 at Dromore West	
Viewpoint Description and Details	> View from Co. Sligo Scenic Route SR-7 in the village of Dromore West, in the townland of Knockaculleen. > Located approximately 5.2km from the nearest proposed turbine. > Grid Reference (ITM): E 542751; N 833887. > No. of turbines visible (including blades/tips): 17 (out of 17).
LCA and Sensitivity	> No LCAs in Co. Sligo (SCDP 2024-2030).
Receptors and Sensitivity	> Designated Scenic Route: High. > Residential receptors approximately 5km: Medium. > Dromore West village: Medium. > Wild Atlantic Way tourist drive (not designated in local policy): Medium.
Description of "Existing View"	The existing view looks southeast over agricultural fields and dense housing and agricultural built structure of Dromore West village, with the Ox Mountains and its sloping foothills framed in the distant centre-background. A mix of mature trees and low scrub line the roadway and is scattered throughout the image. Utility poles, lines and fences and netting are visible throughout the modified working landscape and residential settlement. The Dunneill and Kingsmountain turbines are visible along the foothills in the view; they will be removed from the landscape as part of the Proposed Project and therefore will not be seen in the proposed view.
Proposed Photomontage Description	The Proposed Turbines are partially visible, setback beyond the village housing block and along the distant foothills, with some turbine blades and hubs fully visible above the horizon to the right. From this vantagepoint, the Proposed Turbines exhibit relatively even spacing and an even height profile. The Proposed Turbines are perceived as modest elements relative to the landscape and do not raise the skyline of visible elements. No permitted or proposed wind farms are within the view.
Cumulative Context	None.
Sensitivity of Receptor(s)	**Sensitivity = High.** For the definition of this sensitivity rating, refer to Section 1.8.1 Visual Receptor Sensitivity in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
Magnitude of Change	**Magnitude = Slight.** For the definition of this magnitude rating, refer to Section 1.8.2 Magnitude of Visual Change in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
Significance of Effect	High × Slight = Moderate/Minor = "Moderate" (EPA, 2022)

Viewpoint 08: SR-20 at Dromore West	
	"An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends". Refer to Section 1.8.3 Visual Effects Assessment Matrix in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
Mitigating Factors	> The primary focus of scenic views from the designated scenic route is looking north to Sligo Bay, in the opposite direction of the Proposed Turbines, and those scenic views are limited from this location owing to the settlement and surrounding built structures. > The Proposed Turbines are seen within a modified working landscape of upland terrain where wind energy development has been previously established and considered acceptable. > While the view was captured on a designated scenic route, this location is not considered a view or destination of regional or national renown. > The Proposed Turbines are viewed in the distant background beyond other features including homes and buildings, utility poles and overhead lines in the foreground which detract from the scenic quality of views at this location. > The Proposed Turbines are well setback within the landscape and are seen in the background of views. > Multiple Proposed Turbines are partially or entirely screened from view by terrain features, built structure or vegetation in the distance. > The Proposed Turbines are sited at lower elevations of the steep mountainside within an appropriate spatial extent for the broad landscape and are seen to have a regular staggered spacing in a mix of random and clustered layout with a slightly uneven height profile that follows the rugged topography, thereby aligning with best practice siting and design for good visual aesthetics of wind energy developments in Mountain Moorland Landscapes (DoEHLG 2006 Guidelines, Draft 2019 Guidelines).
Residual Visual Effect	**After considering all Mitigating Factors = "Slight" (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities".* Refer to Section 1.9 Determination of Residual Effects in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.

1.9 VP09: SR-53 at Ballygilcash

Viewpoint 09: SR-53 at Ballygilcash	
Viewpoint Description and Details	> View from Co. Sligo Scenic Route SR-53 in the townland of Ballygilcash. > Located approximately 5.8km north of the nearest proposed turbine. > Grid Reference (ITM): E 542625; N 834526. > No. of turbines visible (including blades/tips): 17 (out of 17).
LCA and Sensitivity	> No LCAs in Co. Sligo (SCDP 2024-2030).
Receptors and Sensitivity	> Designated Scenic Route: High. > Residential receptors approximately 5km: Medium. > Wild Atlantic Way tourist drive (not designated in local policy): Medium.
Description of "Existing View"	The existing view looks southeast over agricultural fields with stone walls and scattered rural housing, with the Ox Mountains framed in the distant centre-background and Sligo Bay visible to the north. Knocknarea is visible in the great distance to the east. Fencing, utility poles and lines and the nearby water storage tower are visible amongst the rural houses. While existing wind farms are marked in the wireline view at the far right edge of the key image, they are in reality visually screened from view by vegetation and localised undulating topography. The Dunneill and Kingsmountain turbines will be removed from the landscape as part of the Proposed Project and therefore will not be seen in the proposed view.
Proposed Photomontage Description	The Proposed Turbines are visible along the distant foothills, with some turbine blades and hubs fully visible above the horizon to the right. The Proposed Turbines are setback beyond the modified working landscape and exhibit relatively even spacing and an even height profile. The Proposed Turbines are perceived as modest elements relative to the landscape. No permitted or proposed wind farms are within the view.
Cumulative Context	None.
Sensitivity of Receptor(s)	**Sensitivity = High.** For the definition of this sensitivity rating, refer to Section 1.8.1 Visual Receptor Sensitivity in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
Magnitude of Change	**Magnitude = Slight.** For the definition of this magnitude rating, refer to Section 1.8.2 Magnitude of Visual Change in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
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".*

Viewpoint 09: SR-53 at Ballygilcash	
	Refer to Section 1.8.3 Visual Effects Assessment Matrix in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
Mitigating Factors	> The Proposed Turbines are located in the opposite direction of the primary scenic views, which are directed towards Sligo Bay. > From this vantage point, the clustered nature of the Proposed Turbines is visually balanced along the distant foothills, with concentrated clusters at either end and even spacing of turbines through the middle. > The Proposed Turbines are seen within a modified working landscape of upland terrain where wind energy development has been previously established and considered acceptable. > While the view was captured on a designated scenic route, this location is not considered a view or destination of regional or national renown. > The Proposed Turbines are well setback along and beyond ridgeline and are perceived at modest scale relative to the landscape and are seen in the background of views.
Residual Visual Effect	**After considering all Mitigating Factors = "Slight" (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities".* Refer to Section 1.9 Determination of Residual Effects in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.

1.10 VP10: SR-20 and SR-52 at Easky

Viewpoint 10: SR-20 and SR-52 at Easky	
Viewpoint Description and Details	> View from Co. Sligo Scenic Routes SR-20 and SR-52 in the townland of Bunowna in Easky village. > Located approximately 11.1km northwest of the nearest proposed turbine. > Grid Reference (ITM): E 537818; N 837861. > No. of turbines visible (including blades/tips): 13 (out of 17).
LCA and Sensitivity	> No LCAs in Co. Sligo (SCDP 2024-2030).
Receptors and Sensitivity	> Designated Scenic Routes: High. > Easky village: Medium. > Easky National School: Medium. > Wild Atlantic Way tourist drive (not designated in local policy): Medium.
Description of "Existing View"	The existing view was captured from the Easky National School, looking southeast over agricultural fields and low stone walls with mature trees lining the distant field borders. The highest peaks of the Ox Mountain range are partially visible along the horizon. Housing blocks and built structures of Easky village are visible throughout the image. The Dunneill and Kingsmountain turbines will be removed from the landscape as part of the Proposed Project and therefore will not be seen in the proposed view.
Proposed Photomontage Description	The Proposed Turbines are partially visible along the distant centre-background and do not raise the skyline of visible elements in the view. The Proposed Turbines are seen mostly below the terrain of the distant horizon and many are visible only as blade-tips. Several Proposed Turbines are entirely screened from views. From this distance, the Proposed Turbines exhibit relatively even spacing and an even height profile. The Proposed Turbines are perceived as very modest elements relative to the landscape. No permitted or proposed wind farms are within the view.
Cumulative Context	None.
Sensitivity of Receptor(s)	**Sensitivity = High.** For the definition of this sensitivity rating, refer to Section 1.8.1 Visual Receptor Sensitivity in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
Magnitude of Change	**Magnitude = Negligible.** For the definition of this magnitude rating, refer to Section 1.8.2 Magnitude of Visual Change in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
Significance of Effect	High × Negligible = Minor = "Slight" (EPA, 2022)

Viewpoint 10: SR-20 and SR-52 at Easky	
	"An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities". Refer to Section 1.8.3 Visual Effects Assessment Matrix in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology.*
Mitigating Factors	> The primary focus of scenic views from the designated scenic routes is looking north to Sligo Bay, in the opposite direction of the Proposed Turbines, and those scenic views are limited from this location owing to the settlement and surrounding built structures. > The Proposed Turbines are viewed in the distant background beyond other features including homes and buildings, utility poles, overhead lines and fencing in the foreground which detract from the scenic quality of views at this location. > The Proposed Turbines are seen within a modified working landscape of upland terrain where wind energy development has been previously established and considered acceptable. > While the view was captured at the cross-roads of two designated scenic routes, this location is not considered a view or destination of regional or national renown. > The Proposed Turbines are well setback along and beyond ridgeline and are perceived at modest scale relative to the landscape and are seen in the background of views. > Multiple Proposed Turbines are partially or entirely screened from view by terrain features, built structure or vegetation in the distance.
Residual Visual Effect	**After considering all Mitigating Factors = "Not Significant" (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences".* Refer to Section 1.9 Determination of Residual Effects in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology.*

1.11 VP11: SR-15 at Corimla South

Viewpoint 11: SR-15 at Corimla South	
Viewpoint Description and Details	> View from Co. Mayo Scenic Route SR-15 and the R294 Regional Road in the townland of Corimla South. > Located approximately 15.7km southwest of the nearest proposed turbine. > Grid Reference (ITM): E 530006; N 818416. > No. of turbines visible (including blades/tips): 2 (out of 17).
LCA and Sensitivity	> M-LCU-G North Mayo Drumlins: Low.
Receptors and Sensitivity	> Designated Scenic Route: High. > Landscape Receptor – Policy Area 4: Low.
Description of "Existing View"	The existing view looks northeast from the scenic route over rolling agricultural land with mature trees and vegetation, with the Ox Mountains range in the background of the view, partially visible behind screening elements in the foreground including dense roadside vegetation, utility poles, and topographical undulations. Several existing wind farms are visible on the wireline image as modest elements in the distance, set back beyond the landform of the foothills, but only a few of the existing turbines are visible in reality owing to visual screening by terrain and vegetation. The Dunneill and Kingsmountain turbines will be removed from the landscape as part of the Proposed Project and therefore will not be seen in the proposed view. It is noted that, from this vantage point, the Bunnyconnellan Wind Farm to the south (not pictured, off the right edge of the image) is partially visible within the landscape, being the closest wind farm to the viewpoint location.
Proposed Photomontage Description	All 17 Proposed Turbines are visible on the wireline image; however, in reality fifteen of them are not visible, being visually screened by intervening vegetation and localised undulations in topography. Only T6 and T7 are visible, they can be seen at the centre-left of the image between the permitted Firlough turbines, which are visible across the centre background of the view, with towers and blades above the horizon. The nature of the visible permitted Firlough turbines within the intervening landscape has the greatest impact on the cumulative setting in terms of visible developments. The permitted Bunnyconnellan Wind Farm Extension (single turbine) is visible to the south (at the right edge of the image), as it is the closest cumulative development to the viewpoint location and is situated in front of the hilly terrain from this perspective.
Cumulative Context	The Proposed Turbines are well setback beyond the distant terrain and do not contribute significantly to the change in cumulative setting owing to the permitted Firlough Wind Farm, which constitutes the primary change in views from this location. While the Bunnyconnellan Wind Farm Extension (single turbine) also adds a new turbine into the view, its location among the existing Bunnyconnellan turbines does not substantially change the visual character of the setting which already contains turbines in that area of the landscape.

Viewpoint 11: SR-15 at Corimla South	
Sensitivity of Receptor(s)	**Sensitivity = High.** For the definition of this sensitivity rating, refer to Section 1.8.1 Visual Receptor Sensitivity in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
Magnitude of Change	**Magnitude = Slight.** For the definition of this magnitude rating, refer to Section 1.8.2 Magnitude of Visual Change in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
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".* Refer to Section 1.8.3 Visual Effects Assessment Matrix in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
Mitigating Factors	> The majority of the scenic route has little to no theoretical visibility of the Proposed Turbines and the actual visibility from the west end of the route is primarily none owing to screening by local terrain and forested hills. > There are no key sensitivities for the scenic route set out in the local policy; however, as the route travels through mountains it can be assumed that the mountainous terrain is the focus of views. In this regard, the Proposed Turbines are set back in the distance and will not impact what could be considered the key scenic views of the route. > While the view was captured on a designated scenic route, this location is not considered a view or destination of regional or national renown. > The Proposed Turbines are well setback beyond the distant terrain and do not contribute significantly to the change in cumulative setting owing to the permitted Firlough Wind Farm, which constitutes the primary change in views from this location.
Residual Visual Effect	**After considering all Mitigating Factors = "Not Significant" (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences".* Refer to Section 1.9 Determination of Residual Effects in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.

1.12 VP12: SR-63 at Scurmore

Viewpoint 12: SR-63 at Scurmore	
Viewpoint Description and Details	> View from Co. Sligo Scenic Route SR-63 in the townland of Scurmore. > Located approximately 15.9km west of the nearest proposed turbine. > Grid Reference (ITM): E 527514; N 828144. > No. of turbines visible (including blades/tips): 17 (out of 17).
LCA and Sensitivity	> No LCAs in Co. Sligo (SCDP 2024-2030).
Receptors and Sensitivity	> Designated Scenic Route: High. > Landscape Designation – Visually Vulnerable Area: High. > Wild Atlantic Way tourist drive (not designated in local policy): Medium.
Description of "Existing View"	The existing view looks east over agricultural fields and fencing from the crossroads of the scenic route, with the highest peaks of the Ox Mountain range partially visible along the horizon. Mature vegetation, low scrub and fencing can be seen among scattered rural housing. A number of existing wind farms are marked in the wireline view, but in reality, they are not visible at this significant distance. The Dunneill and Kingsmountain turbines will be removed from the landscape as part of the Proposed Project and therefore will not be seen in the proposed view.
Proposed Photomontage Description	The Proposed Turbines are visible in the distant background beyond the agricultural fields, setback on the foothills of Dunneill Mountain. Blades and hubs are fully visible and do not break above the horizon line which is formed by the distant Ox Mountains range. The Proposed Turbines are perceived as very modest elements relative to the landscape. Permitted wind farms are marked at the right edge of the wireline image but will not be easily discernible at this significant distance.
Cumulative Context	The Proposed Turbines along with other permitted wind farms may be discernible at significant distance from the vantage point, with .
Sensitivity of Receptor(s)	**Sensitivity = High.** For the definition of this sensitivity rating, refer to Section 1.8.1 Visual Receptor Sensitivity in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
Magnitude of Change	**Magnitude = Negligible.** For the definition of this magnitude rating, refer to Section 1.8.2 Magnitude of Visual Change in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
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".*

Viewpoint 12: SR-63 at Scurmore	
	Refer to Section 1.8.3 Visual Effects Assessment Matrix in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
Mitigating Factors	> The primary focus of scenic views from the designated scenic route is looking north to Sligo Bay, in the opposite direction of the Proposed Turbines. > The Proposed Turbines are seen at significant distance within a modified working landscape of upland terrain where wind energy development has been previously established and considered acceptable. > While the view was captured on a designated scenic route, this location is not considered a view or destination of regional or national renown. > The Proposed Turbines are well setback withini the landscape and are seen in the background of views. > Multiple Proposed Turbines are partially or entirely screened from view by terrain features in the distance.
Residual Visual Effect	**After considering all Mitigating Factors = "Not Significant" (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences".* Refer to Section 1.9 Determination of Residual Effects in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.

1.13 VP13: Killala Bay

Viewpoint 13: Killala Bay	
Viewpoint Description and Details	> View looking across Killala Bay from the trailhead viewing area for Killcummin Loop Walks in the townland of Ballinlena, on the western shore of Killala Bay. > Located approximately 23.9km west of the nearest proposed turbine. > Grid Reference (ITM): E 521231; N 836793. > No. of turbines visible (including blades/tips): 17 (out of 17).
LCA and Sensitivity	> Not located within the 15km LCA Study Area.
Receptors and Sensitivity	> Landscape Receptor – Policy Area 1: High.
Description of "Existing View"	The existing view looks west across Killala Bay from the trailhead at Kilcummin Loop Walks, with long-ranging views over the water framed in wide, expansive panoramic views. Mountainous terrain on the far shore can be seen in the distance. The focus of views is out to the north, overlooking Killala Bay and the greater Atlantic Ocean. The existing Lackan Wind Farm is visible on the far side of the bay along the water's edge in the centre of the image and is not easily discernible at this significant distance.
Proposed Photomontage Description	The Proposed Turbines are visible on the far side of the bay over a small horizontal extent of the view along the base of the mountainous terrain. The towers and blades are not screened and do not raise the existing skyline, which is comprised of the mountains in the background. From this vantage point, the Proposed Turbines are seen to have a clustered layout and even height profile and are perceived as very modest elements relative to the landscape. The permitted Firlough turbines constitute the most noticeable visual change from a cumulative perspective, visible on the far side of the bay at the right edge of the image, and can be seen to have similar perceived height, scale and spacing as the Proposed Turbines, though the developments are situated with a wide distance between them.
Cumulative Context	The Proposed Turbines are positioned directly beyond the existing Lackan turbines and therefore are somewhat visually stacked and are seen as additional wind energy elements in the landscape along with the permitted Firlough turbines. As a result, the extent of visible turbines in the landscape is cumulatively increased, albeit no turbines are particularly discernible at this significant distance.
Sensitivity of Receptor(s)	**Sensitivity = High.** For the definition of this sensitivity rating, refer to Section 1.8.1 Visual Receptor Sensitivity in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
Magnitude of Change	**Magnitude = Slight.**

Viewpoint 13: Killala Bay	
	For the definition of this magnitude rating, refer to Section 1.8.2 Magnitude of Visual Change in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
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".* Refer to Section 1.8.3 Visual Effects Assessment Matrix in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
Mitigating Factors	> The Proposed Turbines are located in the opposite direction of the primary scenic views, which are directed north towards Killala Bay and the greater Atlantic Ocean. > The Proposed Turbines are setback on the far side of the bay, perceived at very modest scale relative to the landscape and are seen in the background of views. > Multiple Proposed Turbines are partially or entirely screened from view by terrain features in the distance. > The Proposed Turbines are effectively absorbed into the wide expanse of panoramic views and do not obstruct any scenic views.
Residual Visual Effect	**After considering all Mitigating Factors = "Not Significant" (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences".* Refer to Section 1.9 Determination of Residual Effects in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.

1.14 VP14: Doonbeakin

Viewpoint 14: Doonbeakin	
Viewpoint Description and Details	> View from the L6308 Local Road in the townland of Doonbeakin. > Located approximately 1.3km north from the nearest proposed turbine. > Grid Reference (ITM): E 545172; N 830138. > No. of turbines visible (including blades/tips): 10 (out of 17).
LCA and Sensitivity	> No LCAs in Co. Sligo (SCDP 2024-2030).
Receptors and Sensitivity	> Residential receptors within 3km: High.
Description of "Existing View"	The existing view looks south over agricultural fields from the local road adjacent to a block of rural residential properties (not pictured off the right of the image). The landscape slopes upwards, away from the viewer, comprising the elevated moorland of Dunneill Mountain. Housing and dense stands of commercial forestry are visible along the ridge, and elevated foothills are partially visible in the distant centre-background. The Dunneill and Kingsmountain turbines are scattered throughout the view and will be removed from the landscape as part of the Proposed Project and therefore will not be seen in the proposed view.
Proposed Photomontage Description	The Proposed Turbines are partially visible across the ridgeline in the distance, with some turbines being setback within commercial forestry and others set within the moorland. All Proposed Turbines are setback beyond the agricultural fields in the view; some are entirely visually screened behind or beyond the ridgelines at the left and right. The perceived scale of the Proposed Turbines varies with distance, with the closest turbines perceived as larger scale (e.g. T7) and the farthest turbines perceived as more modest elements. Several of the Proposed Turbine towers, blades and hubs are fully visible above the horizon. The Proposed Turbines exhibit a clustered layout and spacing pattern with slightly uneven height profile that follows the undulations in the topography of the foothills. No permitted or proposed wind farms are within the view.
Cumulative Context	None.
Sensitivity of Receptor(s)	**Sensitivity = High.** For the definition of this sensitivity rating, refer to Section 1.8.1 Visual Receptor Sensitivity in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
Magnitude of Change	**Magnitude = Moderate.** For the definition of this magnitude rating, refer to Section 1.8.2 Magnitude of Visual Change in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.

Viewpoint 14: Doonbeakin	
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".* Refer to Section 1.8.3 Visual Effects Assessment Matrix in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
Mitigating Factors	> Considering the residential receptors in close proximity, the Proposed Project exceeds the recommended 500m setback from residences (DoELHG 2006 Guidelines) and adheres to the prescribed 4-times-tip-height (720m) setback distance for residential visual amenity (Draft 2019 Guidelines) in the WEDGs. > The landscape is sparsely populated with few receptors, so the number of receptors experiencing visual effects in close proximity is low. > In this case, the nature of the steep ridge which is the dominating landform of the view serves to screen many of the Proposed Turbines entirely from view as they are either enclosed within topography beyond the ridge or are set within the landscape which is sloping downwards beyond it. > The Proposed Turbines are likely to be intermittently and partially visually screened from view at many locations in the area owing to the steep, undulating topography and nature of mature forestry. > The Proposed Turbines are seen within a modified working landscape of upland terrain where wind energy development has been previously established and considered acceptable. > The Proposed Turbines are sited at lower elevations of the steep mountainside within an appropriate spatial extent for the broad landscape and are seen to have a regular staggered spacing in a mix of random and clustered layout with a slightly uneven height profile that follows the rugged topography, thereby aligning with best practice siting and design for good visual aesthetics of wind energy developments in Mountain Moorland Landscapes (DoEHLG 2006 Guidelines, Draft 2019 Guidelines).
Residual Visual Effect	**After considering all Mitigating Factors = "Moderate" (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends".* Refer to Section 1.9 Determination of Residual Effects in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
Turbine Envelope Range: VP14 Doonbeakin	
Assessment of Turbine Envelope Range	Viewpoint VP14 was utilised to assess the potential visual impacts of the full range of proposed turbine scenarios: Scenario 2 Median and Scenario 3 Minimum (refer to *Appendix 13-1*, Section 1.6.7). In the *Photomontage Booklet*, VP14 has two additional section headings: Scenario 2 and Scenario 3. Each section shows the comparative wireline imagery for the different scenarios, overlaid on the Scenario 1 turbine model used in all previous assessments in this appendix.

Viewpoint 14: Doonbeakin	
	For VP14 under the "Scenario 2" section (p.88-91 of the *Photomontage Booklet*), the comparative wireline graphics indicate the Scenario 2 tip height (179.5m) and hub height (105m) shown in gold, overlaid on the Scenario 1 tip height (180m) and hub height (105m) shown in green. Both Scenarios 2 and 1 have the same hub height (105m), therefore, the only visible difference between the two scenarios is the slightly longer blade tip of Scenario 1—the very small difference of 0.5m tip height is illustrated in the enlargement graphic showing the blade tip of T8 on p.91 wireline. The imagery demonstrates that this difference in blade length is not visibly discernible at this distance of greater than 1km from the Proposed Turbines. For VP14 under the "Scenario 3" section (p.92-96 of the *Photomontage Booklet*), the comparative wireline graphics indicate the Scenario 3 tip height (176.6m) and hub height (110m) shown in purple, overlaid on the Scenario 1 tip height (180m) and hub height (105m) shown in green. As the hubs are 5m different in height, the blades of Scenario 3 turbines would be sitting slightly higher into the sky than with Scenario 1. However, the imagery demonstrates that even with the visible difference in the position of the blades, the difference is not significantly noticeable at this distance. Overall, neither Scenario 2 or Scenario 3 present a significant visual difference that would result in a greater magnitude of change in the visual effects. Irrespective of which proposed turbine scenario is used, the determination of residual visual effects reported above in this table will not be altered.

1.15 VP15: SR-58 at Crumhach

Viewpoint 15: SR-58 at Crumhach	
Viewpoint Description and Details	> View from Co. Sligo Scenic Route SR-58 and the L2702 Local Road in the townland of Crumhach. > Located approximately 1.2km northwest of the nearest proposed turbine. > Grid Reference (ITM): E 543218; N 829464. > No. of turbines visible (including blades/tips): 16 (out of 17).
LCA and Sensitivity	> No LCAs in Co. Sligo (SCDP 2024-2030).
Receptors and Sensitivity	> Designated Scenic Route: High. > Residential receptors within 3km: High. > Sligo Way waymarked walking trail through Dunneill Mountain: High.
Description of "Existing View"	The existing view looks south over rolling agricultural fields within the foothills of Dunneill Mountain. The highest peaks of Ox Mountain are visible at the left of the image, and dense stands of woodland are clustered within the low hills. Stands of dense commercial forestry are visible along the distant ridgeline at the left, with fencing and utility poles and lines visible throughout the modified working landscape. The Dunneill and Kingsmountain turbines are scattered throughout the background of the view to the east (at the left of the image) and will be removed from the landscape as part of the Proposed Project and therefore will not be seen in the proposed view.
Proposed Photomontage Description	The Proposed Turbines are partially visible, with some being setback beyond the agricultural fields and ridgeline of the foothills, and a few turbines are positioned on closer foothills. The perceived scale of the Proposed Turbines varies with distance, with the closest turbines perceived as larger scale and the farthest turbines perceived as modest elements. Some of the Proposed Turbine blades and hubs are fully visible above the horizon. Proposed Turbine T5 is entirely visually screened from view behind mature vegetation. From this vantagepoint, the Proposed Turbines exhibit a slightly clustered spacing pattern and slightly uneven height profile that follows the undulations in the topography of the foothills. No permitted or proposed wind farms are within the view.
Cumulative Context	None.
Sensitivity of Receptor(s)	**Sensitivity = High.** For the definition of this sensitivity rating, refer to Section 1.8.1 Visual Receptor Sensitivity in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
Magnitude of Change	**Magnitude = Substantial.** For the definition of this magnitude rating, refer to Section 1.8.2 Magnitude of Visual Change in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.

Viewpoint 15: SR-58 at Crumhach	
Significance of Effect	High × Substantial = Major/Moderate = "Very Significant" (EPA, 2022) *"An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration, or intensity alters most of a sensitive aspect of the environment".* Refer to Section 1.8.3 Visual Effects Assessment Matrix in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
Mitigating Factors	> Considering the residential receptors in close proximity, the Proposed Project exceeds the recommended 500m setback from residences (DoELHG 2006 Guidelines) and adheres to the prescribed 4-times-tip-height (720m) setback distance for residential visual amenity (Draft 2019 Guidelines) in the WEDGs. > The landscape is sparsely populated with few receptors, so the number of receptors experiencing visual effects in close proximity is low. > While the view was captured on a designated scenic route, this location is not considered a view or destination of regional or national renown. The protected views are related to Lough Easky which is located on the far side of the ridge and is not visible from this position. > Regarding the clusters of Proposed Turbines visible to the east and to the west (at the left and right of the image, respectively), the turbines diminish in perceived size/scale with distance due to the orientation of the turbine layout as viewed from this position. > The Proposed Turbines are likely to be intermittently and partially visually screened from view at many locations in the area owing to the steep, undulating topography and nature of mature forestry. > The Proposed Turbines are seen within a modified working landscape of upland terrain where wind energy development has been previously established and considered acceptable. > The Proposed Turbines are sited at lower elevations of the steep mountainside within an appropriate spatial extent for the broad landscape and are seen to have a regular staggered spacing in a mix of random and clustered layout with a slightly uneven height profile that follows the rugged topography, thereby aligning with best practice siting and design for good visual aesthetics of wind energy developments in Mountain Moorland Landscapes (DoEHLG 2006 Guidelines, Draft 2019 Guidelines).
Residual Visual Effect	**After considering all Mitigating Factors = "Moderate" (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends".* Refer to Section 1.9 Determination of Residual Effects in *Appendix 13-1: LVIA Methodology*.
Turbine Envelope Range: VP15 SR-58 at Crumhach	
Assessment of Turbine Envelope Range	Viewpoint VP15 was utilised to assess the potential visual impacts of the full range of proposed turbine scenarios: Scenario 2 Median and Scenario 3 Minimum (refer to *Appendix 13-1*, Section 1.6.7).

Viewpoint 15: SR-58 at Crumhach	
	In the *Photomontage Booklet*, VP15 has two additional section headings: Scenario 2 and Scenario 3. Each section shows the comparative wireline imagery for the different scenarios, overlaid on the Scenario 1 turbine model used in all previous assessments in this appendix. For VP15 under the "Scenario 2" section (p.102-105 of the *Photomontage Booklet*), the comparative wireline graphics indicate the Scenario 2 tip height (179.5m) and hub height (105m) shown in gold, overlaid on the Scenario 1 tip height (180m) and hub height (105m) shown in green. Both Scenarios 2 and 1 have the same hub height (105m), therefore, the only visible difference between the two scenarios is the slightly longer blade tip of Scenario 1—the very small difference of 0.5m tip height is illustrated in the enlargement graphic showing the blade tip of T6 on p.105 wireline. Even with T6 being the most visually prominent of the Proposed Turbines within the view, the imagery demonstrates that this difference in blade length is not visibly discernible at this distance. For VP15 under the "Scenario 3" section (p.106-109 of the *Photomontage Booklet*), the comparative wireline graphics indicate the Scenario 3 tip height (176.6m) and hub height (110m) shown in purple, overlaid on the Scenario 1 tip height (180m) and hub height (105m) shown in green. As the hubs are 5m different in height, the blades of Scenario 3 turbines would be sitting slightly higher into the sky than with Scenario 1. However, the imagery demonstrates that even with the visible difference in the position of the blades, the difference is not significantly noticeable at this distance. Overall, neither Scenario 2 or Scenario 3 present a significant visual difference that would result in a greater magnitude of change in the visual effects. Irrespective of which proposed turbine scenario is used, the determination of residual visual effects reported above in this table will not be altered.

APPENDIX 13-2

END OF DOCUMENT