

## APPENDIX 8.2 CRITERIA FOR THE RATING OF IMPACTS

(Based on the EPA 'Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Statements' 2002, Section 5 Glossary of Impacts) and the DRAFT 'Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports' - Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), August 2017 (Section 3, pp 50-52). For this LVIA they are further described as follows:

### Degree or magnitude of effects (significance)

**Imperceptible / Not Significant:** The development proposal is either distant or screened by existing landform, vegetation or built environment.

**Slight Effects:** The development proposal forms only a small element in the overall panorama / field of view, or there is substantial intervening screening by the existing landform, topography and/or vegetation. The view or character of the landscape is noticeably changed but without affecting its sensitivities.

**Moderate Effects:** An appreciable segment of the existing view is affected by the proposed development or the development creates visual intrusion in the foreground. The view or the character of the landscape is altered but in a manner that is consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends.

**Significant Effects:** Effects which, by their character, magnitude, duration or intensity alter a sensitive aspect of the landscape/ view.

**Very Significant Effects:** Effects which, by their character, magnitude, duration or intensity alter most of a sensitive aspect of the landscape/view.

**Profound Effects:** Effects which obliterate sensitive characteristics of the landscape and/or view.

### Quality of effects

The quality of potential visual and landscape effects are assessed according to EPA guidelines as follows:

Positive Effects:	Changes which improve the quality of the landscape/view.
Neutral Effects:	Changes which do not affect the quality of the landscape/view.
Negative Effects:	Changes which adversely affect the character of the landscape or reduce the quality of the visual environment.

### Duration of effects

Potential effects arising from a proposed development may also be considered in terms of duration as described in the EPA Guidelines:

Momentary/Brief:	Effects lasting less than a day
Temporary:	Effects lasting less than one year
Short-term:	Effects lasting one to seven years
Medium-term:	Effects lasting seven to fifteen years
Long-term:	Effects lasting fifteen to sixty years
Permanent:	Effects lasting over sixty years