

Assessment of Visual Impacts at Viewshed Receptor Points

VP No.	Existing View	VP Sensitivity	Visual Impact Magnitude	Significance / Quality / Duration of Impact
VP1	R461 at Main Street Scarriff – This is a pleasant, locally elevated view afforded from the Main Street at Scarriff. The view is representative of the centre of population, surrounding local dwellings and the scenic route designation. The depicted view is oriented southwest back along the main street towards the outskirts of the town, which is heavily screened by mature vegetation in the middle ground of the view. In the distance, broad elevated ridges contain the background of the view.	High-medium	Whilst the wireframe view identifies the potential for turbine visibility from this locally elevated context, the proposed development is unlikely to be viewed from the central parts of the town due to the surrounding built development and mature layers of vegetation. Notwithstanding, even if viewed from this considerable distance of over c. 15km, the proposed turbines will have little notable effect on the visual amenity afforded from here. Thus, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Low-negligible.	Slight-imperceptible / Negative / Long Term
VP2	Tulla Church and Graveyard – This is a view from the elevated Tulla Graveyard located immediately east of Tulla Main Street. The view is representative of this heritage receptor, the settlement of Tulla and its surrounding dwellings that afford elevated views across the landscape. A pleasant view is afforded of rolling hills and pastoral fields to the southeast and is contained in the distance by the elongated ridge in the Broadford Hills.	High-medium	All eleven turbines will be visible to varying degrees along the distant skyline ridge. The turbines occupy a notable lateral extent in this aspect of the view, albeit they are viewed as small-scale distant features from this distance of over 11km and have a sub-dominant visual presence. Whilst some turbines are only partially visible rotating along the vegetated skyline ridge, which can generate a slight sense of visual clutter and visual irritation, the proposed development does not appear out of place in terms of scale or function, especially in the context of the distant broad ridge that is cloaked in considerable areas of conifer forestry. Thus, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Low-negligible.	Slight / Negative / Long Term
VP3	R466 regional road east of O’Callaghsmills – This is a view afforded from a section of the R466 east of the settlement of O’Callaghsmills and adjacent to a linear cluster of residential dwellings. The	High-medium	The proposed turbines are revealed to varying degrees along the distant broad ridge, some of which are partially and intermittently screened by the near mature trees. The wireframe identifies the potential for visibility of all eleven turbines, however, only	

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	viewpoint has also been selected as a representative view from the scenic route designation, which commences slightly further south of the depicted view. In the foreground, the view extends across a low rolling pastoral field bound by low hedgerows and intervening mature trees. The layers of mature trees partially contain this aspect of the view, however, visibility is still afforded towards the Boadford Hills in the distance, which contain the background of the view.		partial views of the blade sets of several of these will be revealed. Overall, the rotating turbine components are considered to have a sub-dominant visual presence in this locally elevated view. There will be some notable sense of visual clutter generated in this view as two turbines in the eastern and westernmost extents of the array will be viewed stacked in front of one another. The development also presents slightly disjointed from here due to the irregular spacing of the turbines, some of which are only partially revealed. Nonetheless, the turbines do not appear out of place or over-scaled here and are considered to generate a magnitude of visual effect in the order of Low.	Slight / Negative / Long Term
VP4	R462 at Ballyblood north of Lough Cullaunyeeda – This is a view afforded from a partially open section of the R462 regional road corridor. The view is representative of local residential receptors, users of the regional road and the scenic route designation. Nonetheless, it is important to note that the main aspect of amenity likely relates to views towards the neighbouring lake along this scenic route, which is located in the opposite direction to the proposed development. The depicted view is oriented across several pastoral fields and layers of hedgerow vegetation in the fore-to-middle ground, whilst in the distance, the view is contained by the Broadford Hills.	High-medium	The proposed turbines will be visible rising from the distant broad ridge where they present at a modest scale backed by the sky with a low degree of visual contrast. Whilst the rotating turbine components do not appear over-scaled here, they have the potential to draw the eye in this aspect of the view as one of the only forms of built development. Notwithstanding, they are only considered to have a subdominant visual presence in this view. In terms of aesthetics, the turbines present clearly and legibly in this brief view, albeit the array presents slightly disjointed, with turbines revealed irregularly along the distant ridge. Nonetheless, whilst they will generate an increase in the intensity of built development in this view, they will not strongly detract from the visual amenity afforded here. Thus, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Low.	Slight / Negative / Long Term
VP5	Quin Village Playground – This is a view afforded from a children playground located	Medium	The proposed turbines will be viewed in two clusters along the elevated terrain in the view's background	Slight-imperceptible / Negative / Long Term

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	<p>along the R469 regional road south of the settlement of Quin. The view is representative of the centre of population and users of the regional road corridor. The depicted view extends across a broad area of flat to low rolling terrain in the fore-to-middle ground, whilst the more distant Broadford Hills rise up in the background and are cloaked in a mix of farmland and extensive areas of conifer forestry.</p>		<p>from this distance of just under c. 12km. The turbines will be viewed as distant small-scale features and have a subdominant visual presence in this view. Whilst the distant array presents slightly disjointed with some notable instances of turbine overlap, any negative aesthetic effects are heavily diluted by the limited visual presence of the turbines in this distant view. Thus, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Low-negligible.</p>	
<p>VP6</p>	<p>Clonlea Cemetery – This is a pleasant rural view afforded from Clonlea Cemetery, situated to the south of Kilkishen. The view has been selected as a representative view of the settlement of Kilkishen and the adjacent local heritage feature. It extends to the south towards Clonlea Lough and the surrounding pastoral landscape and is partially contained at a near distance by a neighbouring water treatment facility. The view is contained in the distance by a broad rolling ridge cloaked in extensive areas of conifer forestry and areas of pastoral farmland.</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>The proposed turbines will be revealed to varying degrees along the distant vegetated ridge and present at a noticeable scale from this distance of c. 4.5km. The turbines will be viewed backed by the sky with a low degree of visual contrast, with many of the turbine blade sets only partially visible. Whilst the rotating turbine components will be a discernible built feature in the distance, they are considered to have a sub-dominant visual presence in this view. The proposed development presents slightly disjointed here as the turbines are viewed with irregular spacings characteristics across the full extent of the distant ridge. Although the proposed wind farm will increase the intensity of development in this rural view, the proposed turbines do not appear out of place in terms of their scale or function along the broad underlying ridge carpeted in extensive forestry plantations. Overall, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Low.</p>	<p>Slight / Negative / Long Term</p>
<p>VP7</p>	<p>St. Peter's Church, Broadford – This is a pleasant, locally elevated view across the settlement of Broadford from St. Peter's Church. It is representative of the settlement</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>All four of the turbines in the north-easternmost extent of the proposed development will be almost fully revealed here along the elevated sloping lands in the eastern extent of the Broadford Hills. The</p>	<p>Moderate / Negative / Long Term</p>

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	<p>of Broadford, and this heritage feature, albeit the centre of the settlement, is located at a lower elevation and will afford additional screening in the form of built development and existing vegetation. The depicted view looks out over Broadford, which is contained in a low valley and surrounded by dense mature vegetation, which screens much of the middle-ground context. In the distance, the easternmost extent of the Broadford Hill rises up and is cloaked in a mix of pastoral fields, mature vegetation and blocks of forestry.</p>		<p>western extent of the proposed development is entirely screened from here by the intervening terrain. The visible turbines present at a notable scale from this distance of just over c.2km and will be prominent features of this view. Thus, the visual presence of the proposed turbines is deemed co-dominant.</p> <p>Aesthetically, the turbines present in a highly legible manner along the elevated lands in the background, albeit two of the turbines present slightly stunted as their towers are partially screened. Nonetheless, the turbines are well accommodated across this broad ridgetop and present with little notable negative aesthetic effects. Overall, the turbines will contribute to a notable increase in the intensity of development in the view, and thus, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Medium.</p>	
VP8	<p>St. Mary's Church, Kilbane – This is a locally elevated view afforded from a local road immediately adjacent to St. Mary's Church and Graveyard. The view has been selected to represent the neighbouring heritage feature, which is partially contained by dense layers of mature vegetation along its western boundary. Nonetheless, pleasant views are afforded here to the west towards the rolling lands in the surrounds of the Broadford Hills. It is important to note that this view is has been selected as a representative of the adjacent heritage receptor and not the settlement of Kilbane. The settlement of Kilbane is located at a slightly higher elevation, and thus has the</p>	Medium	<p>The proposed development will not be visible from this heritage receptor due to the intervening terrain in the direction of the proposed development. Thus, the magnitude of impact is deemed Negligible by default.</p>	<p>Imperceptible / Neutral / Long Term</p>

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	potential to afford some visibility of the proposed turbines.			
VP9	<p>L3080 at Druminarela - This is a near-distance view afforded of the Broadford Hills from a section of the L3030 at Druminarela. The view represents the local community located in the rural lands to the north of the Broadford Hills. The depicted view is oriented south from the local road, where the foreground is partially screened by the roadside hedgerow. In the middle ground, the terrain ascends swiftly towards the broad ridgetop and is contained in a mix of pastoral fields dense intervening mature tree-lined hedgerows. Block of plantation forestry cloak the summit of the broad ridges, whilst existing overhead cable corridors also traverse the elevated terrain.</p>	Medium	<p>The proposed development will be only partially and intermittently visible from here, with only the partial blade tips of the north-eastern aspect of the array visible. Furthermore, only two turbines in the western array will be fully revealed, whilst the blade tips of two other turbines are partially revealed, rotating along the vegetated skyline. Nonetheless, the two turbines to the west will be viewed at a prominent but not overbearing scale, where they rise from an extensive block of conifer forestry. Overall, the visual presence of the proposed development will range between sub and co-dominant in this local landscape context.</p> <p>Aesthetically, the development presents as slightly disjointed, with turbine blade tips presenting in an irregular pattern along the ridge, which has the potential to generate some sense of visual ambiguity as to the actual location of the proposed wind turbines. Nevertheless, the turbines will not appear incongruous along this broad ridge, which is cloaked in extensive areas of commercial conifer forestry and is thematically linked to the existing electrical infrastructure development that traverses the elevated terrain. On balance, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Medium-low</p>	Moderate-slight / Negative / Long Term
VP10	<p>Kilmurry Graveyard – This is a pleasant view afforded from a locally elevated graveyard north of the village of Kilmurry. It is representative of this local heritage feature, the R469 regional road and the settlement of Kilmurry. The depicted view extends across a</p>	Medium	<p>The proposed turbines are visible, rising from the elevated terrain in the background of the view at a distance of over c. 5.7km. The rotating turbines will be a noticeable distant feature in this view, where some of the more distant turbines are only partially visible. In the context of this broad view, the</p>	Slight / Negative / Long Term

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	<p>pleasant open rural context of pastoral lands and hedgerow vegetation. In the distance, the Broadford Hills rise and are predominately cloaked in extensive areas of conifer forest. Further to the north, views of the Slieve Bearnagh Uplands are afforded.</p>		<p>proposed development is considered to have a sub-dominant visual presence. In terms of aesthetics, the more prominently visible turbines in the western extents of the array present here with some sense of visual clutter and visual irritation due to the overlapping of turbine blade sets and blade sets rotating along the vegetated ridge line. Similarly, the turbines in the eastern extent of the array will generate a slight sense of visual ambiguity as to their actual location as they are heavily screened by the elevated ridge. Overall, the turbines will generate an increase in the quantum of built development in this view, however, they do not appear as an inappropriate form of development along the distant ridge. As a result, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Low.</p>	
VP11	<p>Local road at Pollagh – This is a view from a contained section of local road located immediately northwest of the Broadford Hills. The view represents local community receptors in the surrounding local landscape. The depicted view and much of this local road context are afforded a notable degree of containment by the surrounding dense mature vegetation. In the distance, the western extents of the Broadford Hills, cloaked in extensive areas of plantation forestry, rise and contain the background of the view.</p>	<p>Medium-low</p>	<p>As per the wireframe view, the nacelles of four turbines and the partial blade sets of two other turbines have the potential to be viewed here. Nonetheless, due to the combination of foreground vegetation and vegetation along the distant ridge, only the three turbines with nacelles revealed will be visible, rotating along the vegetated ridgeline. The turbines will be noticeable features from this distance of just over c. 2.6km and are considered to have a visual presence in the order of sub to co-dominant within this local landscape context. The visible turbines will generate a slight sense of visual irritation as they present rotating against the vegetated skyline, whilst a slight sense of visual ambiguity is generated in relation to the actual location of these turbines as their towers are heavily screened. Overall, the turbines appear well accommodated in this elevated landscape context, albeit they will</p>	<p>Moderate-slight / Negative / Long Term</p>

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			generate an increase in the intensity of development along the distant ridge. As a result of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Medium-low.	
VP12	<p>Local road at Drumsillagh east of the Drumsillagh River – This is a view from an elevated section of local road that traverses the eastern extent of the Broadford Hills. The view is representative of local community receptors travelling along this elevated road carriageway and several remote rural dwellings located to the north and south of this viewpoint. The depicted view extends west and north from the local road across a valley containing the Drumsillagh River towards an elevated upland plateau cloaked in extensive areas of commercial conifer forestry.</p>	Medium	<p>The four turbines in the easternmost extent of the development will be clearly visible here at a prominent scale where the rise from the extensive areas of forestry below. Whilst two of the four nearest turbines will be partially screened by a nearby hedgerow in the depicted view, they have the potential to be viewed along adjacent sections of the local road. Only two of the turbines in the western extent of the array will be briefly visible at a distance over 2.5km and present as modest scale features backed by the sky with a low degree of visual contrast. Overall, the proposed turbines will present with a dominant visual presence along this elevated local road where the nearest turbines are located just over c. 1km away.</p> <p>Whilst the development presents slightly disjointed here, the nearest turbines are viewed in a highly legible manner and do not appear out of place in terms of their scale or function in this elevated landscape that is characterised by broad-scale land uses and landscape features. Indeed, the turbines will generate a marked increase in the intensity of development in this elevated context, however, they are well offset from the local road and are afforded loose spacing characteristics, which diminishes the potential for any notable negative aesthetic effects to occur. On balance of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed High-medium.</p>	<p>Substantial-moderate / Negative / Long Term</p>

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VP13	<p>Local road at Springmount - This is a pleasant elevated view afforded of the surrounding rolling rural landscape from a local road in the townland of Springmount. The view represents the local community receptors travelling along this local road and several isolated rural dwellings in its immediate surroundings. The depicted view is oriented to the west along the local road corridor where the roadside hedgerow contains any clear visibility north of the local road. To the east, a view is afforded of the Broadford Hills, which transition from a patchwork of farmland to extensive areas of commercial conifer forestry along their upper reaches. It is important to note that broad views are afforded across the surrounding pastoral landscape and towards the distant Slieve Bearnagh Uplands to the south and east of this local road.</p>	Medium	<p>Whilst the wireframe view identifies the potential for relatively clear visibility of the turbines in the eastern aspect of the turbine array, a neighbouring ridge cloaked in conifer forestry will heavily screen these turbines. There will be some residual visibility of the turbines from this locally elevated location, albeit in the form of partial views of blade sets rotating along the vegetated skyline. Partial visibility of the turbine blade sets in the western extents of the array is also afforded along the more distant skyline to the west. Overall, the visual presence of the development is deemed subdominant in this sweeping panoramic view.</p> <p>Although the partial views of turbine blade sets rotating along the ridge can generate some sense of visual clutter, the turbines are viewed offset from the main aspect of visual amenity in this instance, which is the broad views to the south and east across the rolling pastoral landscape. Nonetheless, the visible turbines will generate a very marginal increase in the intensity of development along the elevated ridge to the east, and thus, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Low-negligible.</p>	Slight-imperceptible / Negative / Long Term
VP14	<p>Gleann Cora Residential Estate, Newmarket on Fergus – This is a heavily contained view afforded from a residential housing estate on the eastern outskirts of the settlement of Newmarket on Fergus. The view has been selected as a representative view of the settlement, which is generally afforded a notable degree of containment from surrounding built development and</p>	Medium-low	<p>The proposed development is entirely screened from this view by the layers of dense vegetation and existing built development in the direction of the site. Thus, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Negligible by default.</p>	Imperceptible / Neutral / Long Term

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	vegetation, as highlighted in the depicted view.			
VP15	<p>Local access lane at Cloontra – This is a partially contained view afforded from a local access road in the townland of Cloontra on sloping south-facing terrain. The view represents the local community situated along these south-facing hills, many of which afford views across the landscape in the southern extent of the central study area. The depicted view is oriented to the north from this access lane and is situated adjacent to a local residential dwelling. A neighbouring mature conifer plantation contains the western aspect of the view, whilst, to the northeast, the view extends towards a neighbouring residential dwelling backed by a mature conifer plantation, which contains this aspect of the view.</p>	Medium	<p>Despite the near distance of this view to the turbine array (turbine T7 located 848m to the north), the surrounding conifer forestry results in a heavily screened view of the proposed development. Indeed, only a partial view of the turbine T7 is afforded from here, where it is partially revealed rotating along the near-vegetated skyline. All other turbines in the western extent of the array will be entirely screened from this section of the local access lane. Nonetheless, two of the turbines in the eastern extent of the array will be visible to the northeast, where they are also partially revealed, rotating along the vegetated skyline. Despite the heavily screened nature of the depicted view, there is potential for some surrounding residential dwellings, such as the neighbouring dwelling to the northeast, to afford clearer visibility of the nearest turbines, which have the potential to present at a prominent scale. The partial views of the turbines rotating along the vegetated skyline also generate some sense of visual ambiguity as to their actual location in this contained landscape context. Overall, whilst the nearest turbines are afforded a notable degree of screening in the depicted view, there is potential for some clearer views to be afforded from surrounding residential receptors. Although the turbines will not appear out of place rising from the extensive conifer forestry plantation, they will result in a marked increase in the intensity of built development in this elevated local landscape context. Thus, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Medium.</p>	Moderate / Negative / Long Term

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VP16	<p>Local access lane at Oatfield – This is a view afforded from the end of a local access lane adjacent to a residential dwelling on sloping locally elevated lands in the townland of Oatfield. The view is representative of local community receptors situated along the surrounding south-facing sloping land. North and east of the access lane, the view is contained at an immediate distance by a dense roadside hedgerow. In contrast to the west/northwest, an open view is afforded across the neighbouring sloping lands, which are cloaked in a mix of small pastoral fields and intervening hedgerow vegetation. Further in the distance, the view is contained by extensive conifer forest plantations, which cloak the surrounding elevated ridges.</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Six of the turbines in the western extents of the array will be visible here and present in a prominent manner, the nearest of which is viewed at a distance of just over c. 600m. Whilst the turbines will be one of the defining features in this landscape context and are viewed at a relatively near distance, they present with little notable sense of overbearing in this open aspect of the view. Nonetheless, the visual presence of the proposed wind farm development is deemed dominant.</p> <p>Aesthetically, the turbines are viewed here in a highly legible manner, with loose spacing characteristics allowing for a degree of visual permeability through the proposed development. Furthermore, the variation in the perceived scale of the turbines from furthest to nearest highlights the depth and dispersion of the proposed layout across this sloping landscape context. Overall, the proposed development will generate a marked increase in the quantum of built development in this relatively remote rural context, albeit the turbines appear well accommodated in terms of their scale and function. On balance of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed High.</p>	<p>Substantial-moderate / Negative / Long Term</p>
VP17	<p>R471 at Cloughoolia – This is a pleasant view of a sloping hillside afforded from the R471 regional road corridor. The view represents local community receptors and the regional road corridor and is one of the more open views afforded from this section of the regional. The depicted view extends north across the sloping landscape, which is contained in a mix of pastoral farmland, rural</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>All seven of the turbines in the western extent of the development are clearly visible here and present at a considerable scale on the elevated lands to the north. The turbines present here with a dominant visual presence and will be one of the principal features from this viewing context. Nonetheless, whilst the turbines will be one of the principal built features in this local landscape context, they are well offset from the regional road corridor and the nearest</p>	<p>Substantial-moderate / Negative / Long Term</p>

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	residential dwellings, layers of mature vegetation and blocks of conifer forestry.		<p>surrounding receptors and do not generate any notable sense of overbearing.</p> <p>Aesthetically, the turbines are viewed in a highly legible manner from this near distance, whilst the uphill nature of the view slightly accentuates their scale. The turbines also benefit from loose spacing characteristics, reducing the potential for negative aesthetic effects. Notwithstanding, the proposed development will result in a marked intensification of development in this local landscape context and will be one of the defining features along this open section of the regional road. Thus, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed High-medium.</p>	
VP18	<p>Local road intersection of the R471 at Oatfield – This is a contained view afforded from the crossroads adjacent to Oatfield Church. The view is representative of the local community, users of the regional road and the adjacent heritage feature. The depicted view extends uphill to the north along the local road towards its intersection with the R741. The view is contained shortly after that by the vegetation surrounding the crossroads and in the neighbouring lands.</p>	<p>Medium-low</p>	<p>Several of the nearest turbines in the western extents of the array will be partially and intermittently visible through a brief gap in vegetation at this intersection. Turbines T2, T3 and T4 will be briefly visible from this viewing context, where they present at a prominent scale. Turbine T4 is the most prominent of the three turbines and is just over c. 1km from the depicted view. Whilst the visible turbines do not generate any sense of overbearing, they will contribute to some sense of visual ambiguity as to their actual location, as the turbine towers' footings are entirely screened. The proposed turbines represent a clear increase in the intensity of development along this otherwise contained local landscape context, and as a result of their rotating blade sets, they will be one of the predominant built features in this brief view. It is important to note that beyond this cross roads the turbines have the potential to be further screened by the dense roadside hedgerow. On balance of the</p>	<p>Substantial-moderate / Negative / Long Term</p>

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			reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed High-medium.	
VP19	<p>Local road at Drumsillagh – This is a pleasant view afforded from a local road at Drumsillagh. The view represents local community receptors in the wider southern half of the study area that afford views to the north in the direction of the Broadford Hills. The depicted view extends north across a typical rolling rural context and is partially contained by a nearby dense mature tree-lined hedgerow. In the distance, the elevated Broadford Hills rise up and are cloaked in a mix of pastoral farmland and blocks of plantation forestry.</p>	<p>Medium-low</p>	<p>As highlighted in the wireframe view, all eleven turbines have the potential to be viewed from this local landscape context, albeit the surrounding layers of dense vegetation will partially and intermittently screen some turbines in the array. The proposed turbines will be viewed at a distance of just over c. 4km and present at a modest but noticeable scale. The turbines are viewed in their two distinct groups here; the four turbines to the east and the remaining turbines located further to the west. Notwithstanding, the turbines in both groups are viewed at a very similar scale. Overall, the proposed development is considered to have a subdominant visual presence in this view. Whilst the turbines are generally viewed in a clear and legible manner, there are some notable instances of stacked turbines, which will contribute to some sense of visual clutter. Nevertheless, the turbines are well accommodated in this landscape, which comprises broad landscape features and underlying land uses. On balance of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Medium-low.</p>	<p>Moderate-slight / Negative / Long Term</p>
VP20	<p>Sixmilebridge GAA – This is a view afforded from Sixmilebridge GAA club in the centre of the settlement of Sixmilebridge. The view represents the centre of population, surrounding major routes, and amenity features such as the GAA club. The depicted view extends east across the GAA pitch, contained by surrounding residential development and dense layers of mature</p>	<p>Medium-low</p>	<p>Seven of the proposed turbines will be viewed at a modest but noticeable scale along the elevated lands in the background of the view at a distance of c. 5.6km. The turbines present backed by the sky with a low degree of visual contrast and do not appear over-scaled in the context of the broad underlying ridge. Although the rotating turbine components have the potential to draw the eye, they will have a subdominant visual presence from this viewing</p>	<p>Slight / Negative / Long Term</p>

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	<p>vegetation. In the distance, the western extent of the Broadford Hills rises and has the view's background.</p>		<p>context. Aesthetically, the turbines present in a comprehensible manner from this distance, albeit with some instances of turbine overlap. Nonetheless, the clear views of the remaining visible turbines will offset any notable negative aesthetic effects.</p> <p>Overall, the turbines will increase the intensity of development in this anthropogenic scene. It is also important to note that much of the central and surrounding areas of Sixmilebridge will afford limited visibility of the proposed development as a result of the high degree of containment provided by the surrounding built development and areas of mature vegetation. As a result of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Low.</p>	
<p>VP21</p>	<p>Local road at Corlea – This is a locally elevated pleasant view afforded from a bend in a local road in the townland of Corlea. The depicted view represents local community receptors located along the sloping hillside facing north in the direction of the site. The depicted view extends north and northwest, taking in a broad valley and the Broadford Hills. The elevated lands to the north comprise a patchwork of farmland at their lower level, which transitions to extensive areas of plantation forestry along the more elevated ridges and hilltop summits.</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>As per the wireframe montage, all eleven turbines have the potential to be viewed from this locally elevated location. Whilst a mature section of roadside hedgerows heavily screen the easternmost turbines in the array, the wireframe view identifies the potential for visibility from the surrounding locally elevated context. The proposed turbines will be clearly visible from this viewing context and will have a co-dominant visual presence.</p> <p>In terms of aesthetics, the proposed turbines present here in a legible manner, whilst the variation in the perceived scale of the turbines generates a strong sense of perspective, highlighting the depth and dispersion of the proposed turbine array across the Broadford Hills. The two nearest turbines will generate a slight sense of visual clutter as they present stacked. Overall, the proposed development will generate a marked increase in the intensity of built development in this local landscape context,</p>	<p>Moderate / Negative / Long Term</p>

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			however, in terms of their scale and function, the proposed turbines are not considered to present as an inappropriate form of development. As a result, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Medium.	
VP22	<p>R504 overbridge of the M7 at Touknockane – This is a locally elevated view from the R504 regional road overbridge of the M7. The view has been selected to represent the scenic route that passes along the nearest sections of the M7 motorway corridor. It is important to note that the overbridge represents a higher degree of visibility in the direction of the site than the motorway corridor, which is afforded some roadside screening in the form of hedgerows and pockets of woodland. The depicted view is oriented across the overbridge to the northwest, where the surrounding layers of mature vegetation contain much of the middle distant landscape context. In the distance, the rolling Broadford Hills and Slieve Bearnagh Uplands contain the view's background.</p>	Medium	The proposed turbines will be visible along the elevated lands in the distance background, where they are primarily viewed backed by the sky with a very low degree of visual contrast. Whilst the turbines have the potential to be viewed from this locally elevated location, there will be limited visibility of the development from the contained corridor of the M7 motorway below. Indeed, even if viewed from this considerable distance of over c. 14km, the turbines will have little notable effect on the visual amenity afforded here, and thus, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Low-negligible.	Slight-imperceptible / Negative / Long Term
VP23	<p>Woodcock Hill Radar – This is an elevated view from a local walking trail at Woodcock Hill. The view is representative of users of the local walk and viewpoint, which affords a broad elevated panoramic view across Limerick City and the wide landscape. The viewpoint was also selected as a representative view from the scenic route that traverses the elevated local road north of this</p>	High-medium	All eleven turbines will be revealed here, rising along the Broadford Hills to the north of the view at a distance of just under c. 5km. The proposed turbines will be notable features in this view's northern aspect, albeit they present slightly stunted as the nearby plantation forestry screens their towers. This will also result in a slight sense of visual ambiguity as to the actual location of the proposed wind farm development. Notwithstanding, the turbines will	Moderate-slight / Negative / Long Term

VP No.	Existing View	VP Sensitivity	Visual Impact Magnitude	Significance / Quality / Duration of Impact
	<p>viewpoint. The depicted view is oriented to the north in the opposite direction of the broad view out over Limerick City. In the foreground, the view extends across an area of moorland backed by conifer forest plantations and existing telecommunication structures. Beyond the plantation forestry, the Broadford Hills and the more distance and elevated Slieve Bearnagh Uplands contain the view's background. It is important to note that whilst a pleasant view is afforded from here, there are several notable anthropogenic built features in the form of Woodcock Hill Radar and surrounding telecommunication structures along this hilltop summit that impart a strong utilitarian character on the local landscape.</p>		<p>generate a notable increase in the quantum of built development in this aspect of the view, albeit they are viewed offset from the Slieve Bearnagh Uplands, which represent one of the more sensitive viewing aspects in this elevated panoramic view. Furthermore, this elevated area already comprises a notably utilitarian character in the form of the existing radar and surrounding telecommunications masts. On balance of the above reasons, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Medium-low.</p>	
<p>VP24</p>	<p>R463 overbridge of the Headrace Canal – This is a view from the R463 overbridge of the Headrace Canal southeast of Ardnacrusha. The view is representative of users of the regional road corridor, the settlement of Ardnacrusha and sections of the Lough Derg way, which pass along the corridor of this waterway to the northeast of this view. The depicted view is oriented north across the overbridge, where layers of mature vegetation screen much of the near landscape context. Low rolling terrain cloaked in a mix of pastoral farmland and conifer forestry contains the view to the northwest. It is important to note that whilst this view has been selected to represent the settlement of Ardnacrusha, there is a strong</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Up to six proposed turbines will be visible to varying degrees along the vegetated skyline at a distance of c. 8.4km. Only the blade tips of two turbines will be revealed, whilst the nacelles and blade sets of the remaining four turbines present just above the dense stacked vegetation. Although the turbines do not present in a prominent manner from this viewing context, their rotating components have the potential to draw the eye along this brief section of the overbridge. The proposed development will also generate a slight sense of visual ambiguity as to the actual location of the development, which is not clearly apparent in this contained viewing aspect. Notwithstanding, the turbines will have a limited effect on the visual amenity of this section of the canal corridor as they are viewed as modest-scale</p>	<p>Slight / Negative / Long Term</p>

VP No.	Existing View	VP Sensitivity	Visual Impact Magnitude	Significance / Quality / Duration of Impact
	sense of containment in the centre of the settlement due to the dense vegetation in its surroundings.		background features. Thus, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Low.	
VP25	<p>Bridge over the Owengarney River adjacent to Bunratty Castle – This is a pleasant view that extends across the corridor of the Owenagrney River adjacent to Bunratty Castle and the historic settlement of Bunratty. The view is representative of the heritage settlement of Bunratty, which encompasses several notable heritage features, the most famous of which is Bunratty Castle. The view is also representative of users of the neighbouring N18 corridor. The depicted view extends northeast across the river corridor bound by riparian vegetation and a nearby dwelling. The layers of vegetation throughout the middle ground screen much of the immediate landscape beyond, however, in this distance, the Broadford Hills rise and contain the view's background.</p>	High	<p>All eleven turbines have the potential to be viewed along the ridge in the background of the view at a distance of c. 10.7km. The turbines will present as relatively modest scale features from this considerable viewing distance, where they are viewed backed by the sky with a low degree of visual contrast. Whilst the turbines have the potential to draw the eye, they will not appear overscaled, nor will they appear out of place on the distant elevated terrain cloaked in extensive areas of commercial conifer forest. Indeed, while they will marginally increase the intensity of built development in this view, the settlement of Bunratty and Bunratty Castle are heavily influenced by the adjacent N18 national primary route located less than c. 150m south of this view. On balance of the reasons outlined above, it is not considered that the proposed development will notably detract from the visual amenity afforded from Bunratty and Bunratty Castle. It is also important to note that this view represents one of the only clear views in the direction of the site from Bunratty, aside from the views afforded from the top of the Castle. There will be no visibility of the proposed development afforded from the centre of the town, nor will there be visibility afforded from Bunratty Folk Park. Thus, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Low-negligible.</p>	Slight-imperceptible / Negative / Long Term
VP26	<p>Thomond Bridge – This is a pleasant view afforded along the River Shannon corridor</p>	High	<p>Whilst the wireframe identifies the potential for visibility of the blade tips of up to six turbines, in</p>	Imperceptible / Negative / Long Term

VP No.	Existing View	VP Sensitivity	Visual Impact Magnitude	Significance / Quality / Duration of Impact
	<p>from Thomond Bridge, immediately west of King Johns Castle. The view is representative of the settlement of Limerick City, King Johns Castle and other sensitive tourism and amenity receptors within Limerick City. The view extends north across the Shannon corridor towards the suburban context of Limerick city, which is partially screened by the dense vegetation that lines the river corridor. In the distance, a broad, low, elongated ridge rises and is cloaked in a mix of pastoral farmland and forestry.</p>		<p>reality, visibility of any of the turbine blade tips will be difficult to discern from this distance due to the conifer plantations that cloak the tops of the distant ridge combined with the low degree of visual contrast of the turbine blade tips when viewed against the sky. Even if viewed from here, the brief glimpses of the turbine blade tips will have little notable effect on the visual amenity afforded in this urban scene, where existing telecommunication towers are already visible along the distant skyline to the northwest. Thus, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Negligible.</p>	