



Appendix 10.1 Visual Impact Assessment at Viewpoints

EIAR – Volume 3

Knockanarragh Wind Farm

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CONTENTS

APPENDIX 10.1 VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AT VIEWPOINTS..... 1
Visual Receptor Sensitivity.....1
Magnitude of Visual Effects at Viewshed Reference Points.....5

TABLES

Table A10-1: Visual Receptor Sensitivity – Scale of Value for each criterion..... 1
Table A10-2: Visual Receptor Sensitivity – Viewpoint Sensitivity VP1 – VP10 2
Table A10-3: Visual Receptor Sensitivity – Viewpoint Sensitivity VP1 – VP10 3
Table A10-4: Visual Receptor Sensitivity – Viewpoint Sensitivity VP21 – VP27 4
Table A10-5: Visual Receptor Sensitivity – Viewpoint Sensitivity SB VP1 – SB VP4 5

Appendix 10.1 Visual Impact Assessment at Viewpoints

Visual Receptor Sensitivity

A10.1 Visual sensitivity is a two-sided analysis of receptor susceptibility (people or groups of people) versus the value of the view on offer at a particular location. To assess the susceptibility of viewers and the amenity value of views, the assessor uses a range of criteria and provides a four-point weighting scale to indicate how strongly the viewer/view is associated with each of the criterion identified in Section 10.23 of Chapter 10.

Table A10-1: Visual Receptor Sensitivity – Scale of Value for each criterion

Strong Association	Moderate association	Mild association	Negligible association
<p>N = Negligible; L = low sensitivity; ML = medium-low sensitivity M = medium sensitivity; HM = High-medium sensitivity; H = high sensitivity; VH = very high sensitivity</p>			

Table A10-2: Visual Receptor Sensitivity – Viewpoint Sensitivity VP1 – VP10

Values associated with the view	VP01	VP02	VP03	VP04	VP05	VP06	VP07	VP08	VP09	VP10	VP11
Susceptibility of viewers to changes in views											
Recognised scenic value of the view											
Views from within highly sensitive landscape areas											
Primary views from residences											
Intensity of use, popularity (number of viewers)											
Viewer connection with the landscape											
Provision of vast, elevated panoramic views											
Sense of remoteness / tranquillity at the viewing location											
Degree of perceived naturalness											
Presence of striking or noteworthy features											
Sense of Historical, cultural and / or spiritual significance											
Rarity or uniqueness of the view											
Integrity of the landscape character within the view											
Sense of place at the viewing location											
Sense of awe											
Overall sensitivity assessment	VH	VH	ML	ML	H	M	ML	ML	ML	ML	ML
<p>N = Negligible; L = low sensitivity; ML = medium-low sensitivity M = medium sensitivity; HM = High-medium sensitivity; H = high sensitivity; VH = very high sensitivity</p>											

Table A10-3: Visual Receptor Sensitivity – Viewpoint Sensitivity VP1 – VP10

Values associated with the view	VP12	VP13	VP14	VP15	VP16	VP17	VP18	VP19	VP20	VP21	VP22	VP23	VP24
Susceptibility of viewers to changes in views													
Recognised scenic value of the view													
Views from within highly sensitive landscape areas													
Primary views from residences													
Intensity of use, popularity (number of viewers)													
Viewer connection with the landscape													
Provision of vast, elevated panoramic views													
Sense of remoteness / tranquillity at the viewing location													
Degree of perceived naturalness													
Presence of striking or noteworthy features													
Sense of Historical, cultural and / or spiritual significance													
Rarity or uniqueness of the view													
Integrity of the landscape character within the view													
Sense of place at the viewing location													
Sense of awe													
Overall sensitivity assessment	ML	ML	ML	ML	ML	ML	ML	HM	ML	ML	ML	ML	ML
<p>N = Negligible; L = low sensitivity; ML = medium-low sensitivity M = medium sensitivity; HM = High-medium sensitivity; H = high sensitivity; VH = very high sensitivity</p>													

Table A10-4: Visual Receptor Sensitivity – Viewpoint Sensitivity VP21 – VP27

Values associated with the view	VP25	VP26	VP27	VP28	VP29	VP30	VP31	VP32	VP33	VP34	VP35
Susceptibility of viewers to changes in views											
Recognised scenic value of the view											
Views from within highly sensitive landscape areas											
Primary views from residences											
Intensity of use, popularity (number of viewers)											
Viewer connection with the landscape											
Provision of vast, elevated panoramic views											
Sense of remoteness / tranquillity at the viewing location											
Degree of perceived naturalness											
Presence of striking or noteworthy features											
Sense of Historical, cultural and / or spiritual significance											
Rarity or uniqueness of the view											
Integrity of the landscape character within the view											
Sense of place at the viewing location											
Sense of awe											
Overall sensitivity assessment	M	ML	H	ML	ML	M	ML	VH	M	HM	HM
<p>N = Negligible; L = low sensitivity; ML = medium-low sensitivity M = medium sensitivity; HM = High-medium sensitivity; H = high sensitivity; VH = very high sensitivity</p>											

Table A10-5: Visual Receptor Sensitivity – Viewpoint Sensitivity SB VP1 – SB VP4

Values associated with the view	SB VP1	SB VP2	SB VP3	SB VP4
Susceptibility of viewers to changes in views				
Recognised scenic value of the view				
Views from within highly sensitive landscape areas				
Primary views from residences				
Intensity of use, popularity (number of viewers)				
Viewer connection with the landscape				
Provision of vast, elevated panoramic views				
Sense of remoteness / tranquillity at the viewing location				
Degree of perceived naturalness				
Presence of striking or noteworthy features				
Sense of Historical, cultural and / or spiritual significance				
Rarity or uniqueness of the view				
Integrity of the landscape character within the view				
Sense of place at the viewing location				
Sense of awe				
Overall sensitivity assessment	ML	ML	ML	ML
<p>N = Negligible; L = low sensitivity; ML = medium-low sensitivity M = medium sensitivity; HM = High-medium sensitivity; H = high sensitivity; VH = very high sensitivity</p>				

Magnitude of Visual Effects at Viewshed Reference Points

A10.2 The assessment of visual impacts at each of the selected viewpoints is aided by spatially accurate wireframe images and photomontages that have been produced in accordance with Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) Visual representation of wind farms: Best Practice Guidelines (version 2.2 - 2017). The presented images for each viewpoint include:

1. Existing View (Contextual 90° included angle)
2. Wireframe view - proposed and cumulative turbines (Contextual 90° included angle)
3. Wireframe view (53.5° included angle)
4. Montage View (53.5° included angle)