**APPENDIX 12.1** 

12.1a Visual Receptor Sensitivity

12.1b Magnitude of Visual Impacts at Representative Viewpoint Locations

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## 12.1a Visual Receptor Sensitivity

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 12.2.9.1** of Chapter 12.

**Table A12.1: Visual Receptor Sensitivity** 

## Scale of Value for each criterion

| Strong association | Moderate association | Mild association | Negligible association |
|--------------------|----------------------|------------------|------------------------|
|                    |                      |                  |                        |

| Values associated with the view                               | VP1 | VP2 | VP3 | VP4 | VP5 | VP6 | VP7 | VP8 | VP9 | VP10 |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| 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                                | М   | НМ  | НМ  | ML  | ML  | ML  | ML  | М   | ML  | ML   |

**N** = Negligible; **L** = low sensitivity; **ML** = medium-low sensitivity **M** = medium sensitivity; **HM** = High-medium sensitivity; **H** = high sensitivity; **VH** = very high sensitivity

Values associated with the **VP11** view 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 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 ML ML ML ML ML ML М ML ML НМ НМ Overall sensitivity assessment

**N** = Negligible; **L** = low sensitivity; **ML** = medium-low sensitivity **M** = medium sensitivity; **HM** = High-medium sensitivity; **H** = high sensitivity; **VH** = very high sensitivity

## 12.1b Magnitude of Visual Effects at Viewshed Reference Points

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)

October 2023

**Existing View VP Sensitivity** Visual Impact Magnitude Significance / Quality / **Duration of Impact** No. VP1 N16 at Cornastauk, west of the River Bonet -Although the wireframe view indicated the potential for visibility < of the proposed turbine blade tips, they will be completely This is a view afforded across the broad River Bonet valley from a section of the N16 in the screened from here by the dense layers of intervening townland of Cornastauk. The depicted view vegetation in the direction of the site. Even if partially glimpsed Imperceptible / Neutral / extends across flat pastoral fields situated from this considerable viewing distance of over 14km, they will Medium **⊘**ng Term have no notable effect on the visual amenity of the local adjacent to the river corridor and is contained in the distance by a broad elevated ridgetop landscape context. Thus, the magnitude of visual impact is plateau. deemed Negligible. All four of the proposed turbines will be partially revealed to VP2 varying degrees in the distance along the broad ridge. The view Local road at Carrigeencor, north of of the turbines is partially screened by dense vegetation along Carrigeencor Lough – This is a pleasant the lake-side edge in the middle ground of the view. The designated scenic view afforded from a local proposed turbines present at a slightly larger scale than the road adjacent to Carrigeencor Lough. The existing distant turbines, albeit they are further offset along the depicted view extends across the lake and is broad ridge. The proposed turbines present in a relatively Slight-imperceptible / partially contained on the opposite side by **High-medium** condensed cluster with some overlapping of the blade sets. **Negative / Long Term** dense stacked vegetation. In the distance, a Nonetheless, the turbines only represent a marginal increase in broad low ridge contains the view and where a the intensity of wind energy development along this distant ridge considerable number of existing wind turbines where more than 20 existing turbines are visible. On balance of are visible along the skyline. the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Low-negligible. The proposed turbines will be briefly visible, rising above the VP3 distant rolling terrain at upwards of 14km. All four turbines will be R286 at Corwillick north of Lough Gill – This visible to varying degrees and present in silhouette against the is a broad sweeping view of Lough Gill afforded sky with a very low degree of visual contrast. They are viewed to from a viewing area along the R268 regional the east of two similar-sized wind farm development that are road. The view takes in the broad Lough Gill Slight-imperceptible / High-medium also discernible in the distance. Whilst the turbines will generate context and is enclosed by low rolling hills and **Negative / Long Term** a marginal increase in the intensity of wind energy development ridges principally cloaked in dense mature in this view, they will not notably detract from the visual setting of vegetation. the lake. Therefore, on balance of the reasons outlined above. the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Low-negligible. The proposed development will be entirely screened here by the VP4 Residential Housing Estate at Dromahair – This is a partially contained view afforded from dense mature intervening vegetation in the direction of the site. Thus, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed **Negligible** by Imperceptible / Neutral / a residential area on the southern outskirts of **Medium-low** the settlement of Dromahair. The depicted view default. Long Term is oriented to the southeast and is partially contained by an area of mature vegetation

|     | located only a short distance beyond the residential housing estate. Further to the south, a view of a broad distant elevated ridge contains the background of the view.   |                    | CEIL  |  |
|-----|--|--------------------|---|--|
| VP5 | R289 at Drumkeel – This is a partially contained view afforded from a section of the R289 regional road in the townland of Drumkeel. The view is oriented south from the regional road and extends across a small pastoral field contained in rough grazing. Beyond the near field, stacked mature vegetation partially contains the landscape beyond. Several low rolling hills and ridges principally cloaked in conifer forest rise in the distance and contain the view's background. Several existing wind turbines are visible along the skyline ridge to the southwest. | <b>M</b> edium-low | The proposed turbines are visible along the vegetated skyline ridge at a distance of c.4km. The turbines present with a relatively brief lateral extent, with only the partial blade sets of the more distant turbines visible. The proposed turbines are viewed at a larger scale than their existing counterparts to the southwest and are deemed to have a sub-dominant visual presence in this view. Whilst partially visible turbines will generate a slight degree of visual ambiguity as to their actual location, the clearer views of the two nearer turbines will marginally offset any such negative aesthetic effects. The principal visual effect here relates to the intensification of wind energy development along this skyline ridge. Nonetheless, the turbines do not appear over-scaled or out of place. Therefore, on balance of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed <b>Low</b> . | Slight / Negative Long<br>Term                 |
| VP6 | Residential Housing Estate at Ballintogher – This is a locally elevated view afforded from a residential housing estate on the southern outskirts of Ballintogher. The depicted view extends across a rolling landscape cloaked in a mix of pastoral fields, scrubby vegetation and blocks of conifer forest. Partial views of more distant elevated lands are briefly visible and are cloaked in conifer forest, moorland and existing wind farm development.   | Medium-low         | Whilst only one of the proposed turbines is visible in the depicted view, the wireframe identifies that all four of the proposed turbines have the potential to be viewed to varying degrees from this locally elevated landscape context. The turbines have the potential to be viewed as small-scale distant background features some c.11km from the settlement of Ballintogeher. Nonetheless, even if viewed from here, the proposed turbines will present with a sub-dominant to minimal visual presence and will have little notable impact on the visual amenity of the surrounding landscape, which is currently influenced by other existing wind farm developments. Overall, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed <b>Low-negligible</b> .   | Slight-imperceptible /<br>Negative / Long Term |
| VP7 | Local road at Drumcashlagh – This is a heavily contained view afforded from a local road in the townland of Drumcashlagh. The depicted view is oriented south along the local road corridor, which is contained to the east by steep vegetated embankments and to the west by dense roadside vegetation.   | Medium-low         | As per the wireframe view, there is potential for visibility of all four proposed turbines, with only the blade sets of the furthest two turbines partially visible (turbines T3 & T4). Nonetheless, the existing mixed vegetation along the adjacent embankment will heavily veil the view of the turbines, with only partial visibility of turbine T1 afforded. As a result of the contained nature of this intricated landscape, the proposed development is considered to have a visual presence in the order of sub-dominant to codominant in this local landscape context, where small low rolling hills topped in vegetation heavily screen the proposed   | Slight / Negative / Long<br>Term               |

|      |  |   | development. Even if partially viewed from this distance of just over 2.5km, the proposed turbines will not appear incongrueus in this working transitional landscape that comprises extensive commercial conifer forest plantations and other existing wind energy developments. On balance of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed <b>Low</b> .   | Ö.  |
|------|--|---|---|---|
| VP8  | R207 at Dowra - This is a heavily contained view from the R207 River Shannon overbridge at the settlement of Dowra. A mix of the dense vegetation along the river corridor and the built surrounds of the settlement enclose this aspect of the view at a near distance.   | Medium  | The proposed development will not be visible from here; therefore, the magnitude of visual impact is <b>Negligible</b> by default.  | Imperceptible / Neutral /<br>Long ferm    |
| VP9  | R280 at Lavagh - This is a pleasant rural vista afforded from the entrance to a residential dwelling located along the R280 regional road in the townland of Lavagh. The depicted view is oriented to the west towards the nearby dwelling, which is backed by rolling terrain carpeted in dense conifer forest plantations. Several partially visible turbines are viewed, rotating along the vegetated skyline ridge in the distance.  | Medium-low  | The proposed turbines are clearly visible, rising well above the vegetated skyline ridge in the view's background. The turbines present here in a highly legible manner in silhouette against the sky. From this viewing distance of just under 2.5km, the proposed turbines are deemed to have a co-dominant visual presence. Nonetheless, the turbines do not appear overscale in this landscape context that comprises broad landscape features and land uses patterns. The turbines present with a notable sense of rhythm due to their even spacing characteristics. However, the proposed turbines generate a notable sense of scale conflict when viewed in combination with the existing smaller turbines. Overall, the proposed turbines will generate a notable increase in the quantum of built development in this view. Thus, on balance of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed <b>Medium</b> . | Moderate-slight /<br>Negative / Long Term |
| VP10 | contained at Turpaun – This is a view of two aspects. To the south (the depicted viewing aspect), this is a heavily contained view truncated by a dense conifer forest plantation immediately south of the local road corridor. The viewing aspect to the north/northeast represents a broad sweeping elevated view that extends across a working rural landscape towards a distant broad elevated ridge cloaked in a mix of pastoral farmland, conifer forest plantations, mountain moorland and existing wind energy development. Overall, the most sensitive and visually pleasing viewing aspect relates to the broad view to the north/northeast, | Medium-low<br>(southern<br>aspect)<br>Medium<br>(north/northeast<br>aspect) | Whilst the wireframe view identifies the potential for visibility of all four turbines, only the blade sets of up to two of the turbines will be visible here, as the near conifer forest plantation will heavily screen the two nearest turbines (turbines T1 and T2) and entirely screen turbines T3 and T4. This viewing location represents one of the nearest afforded views of the proposed turbines to the north of the site, where partial views of the turbine blade sets are afforded from a distance of less than 1km. Nonetheless, even from this near distance, the proposed turbines are only considered to have a sub-dominant visual presence. Indeed, the main aspect of visual amenity from this local landscape context relates to the broad views afforded in the opposite direction to the proposed development.   | Slight / Negative / Long<br>Term          |

| VP13 | R280 at Drumkeeran – This is a pleasant view of rolling transitional lands afforded from the  | Medium-low | Up to three of the proposed turbines will be clearly visible rising in silhouette against the sky, whilst turbine T1 is heavily   | Moderate-slight /<br>Negative / Long Term |
|------|---|------------|---|---|
| VP12 | Residential Housing Estate south of Collooney – This is a view afforded from a residential area south of the settlement of Collooney and adjacent to a local GAA club. The depicted view extends across the local sports pitches in the foreground, backed by dense layers of intervening vegetation that screen much of the middle-ground landscape context. Several broad elevated ridges are visible in the distant background of the view.  | Medium-low | Whilst the wireframe view identifies the potential for partial visibility of the proposed turbines, the proposed turbines will be barely discernible from this considerable viewing distance of over 19km. Moreover, even if briefly glimpsed from this distance, the turbines will have no effect on the visual amenity of this view. As a result, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Negligible.  | Imperceptible / Neutral /<br>Long Term    |
| VP11 | Local road at Beagh – This is a view afforded from a relatively remote local road located along locally elevated lands in the townland of Beagh. The principal viewing aspect from this elevated local road relates to extensive views across the wider Leitrim and Sligo landscape to the north and northwest. In contrast, the depicted view is oriented to the east and southeast across a relatively nondistinctive rolling upland plateau. The view is contained at a near distance to the east by a mature conifer forest plantation, whilst to the southeast, the view extends towards the summit of a near rolling ridge where several existing turbines are visible. | Medium-low | The blade sets of up to two of the proposed turbines are partially visible, rotating along the vegetated skyline to the east. The partially visible turbines are viewed at a distance of just under 3km and are considered to have a sub-dominant visual presence in this working upland plateau. Aesthetically, the partial view of turbine blade sets rotating along the skyline can generate a sense of visual irritation and visual ambiguity. Nonetheless, the turbines are viewed opposite to the main aspect of visual amenity, which is to the north and northwest. Furthermore, the clearer and more legible views of the existing turbines further to the south will slightly diminish any negative aesthetic effects generated by the partially visible proposed turbines. Overall, the proposed turbines will have little notable effect on the visual amenity of this elevated ridgetop plateau, which is currently influenced by existing wind energy development. As a result of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed <b>Low</b> . | Slight / Negative / Long<br>Term          |
|      | reinforced by the orientation of many of the nearest residential dwellings along the surrounding sloping lands.   |            | In terms of aesthetics, it is not an ideal scenario to have only partial views of blade sets rotating along the near-vegetated skyline, as this can generate a notable sense of visual ambiguity as to the actual location of the proposed turbines. In addition, the partially visible turbine blade sets will increase the intensity of wind energy development in the local landscape and generate some negative aesthetic effects. However, the partially visible turbines will not appear incongruous in this working upland landscape that is currently influenced by numerous other existing wind energy development. Therefore, on balance of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed <b>Medium-low</b> .  | O. 79/07/2028                             |
|      | I maintaine at the state of many (1)  |            | In terms of earth stire it is not as ideal according to   | T   |

|      | R280 regional road north of Drumkeeran. The depicted view extends across the regional road carriageway towards sloping terrain cloaked in a mix of scrubby vegetation, forestry and some pastoral fields. The view is contained in the distance by a rolling ridge where several existing wind turbines are discernible.   |            | screened by a mature conifer forest plantation located along a near-rolling ridge. Whilst the proposed turbines present at much more notable scale than the other existing turbines, they do not appear over-scaled in the context of the broad underlying ridge. Overall, the proposed turbines are considered to have a co-dominant visual presence in this view. Aesthetically, this is a highly legible view of the proposed development where the turbines present evenly spaced across the ridge. There will be some minor instances of turbine overlap with the turbines and the existing smaller turbines located further in the distance. However, any negative aesthetic effects are strongly diluted by the clear and comprehensible view of the other proposed turbines. Whilst the proposed development will generate a notable increase in the intensity of wind energy development at the settlement of Drumkeeran, the proposed turbines do not appear out of place in terms of their scale or function in this robust transitional working context. Therefore, on balance of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed <b>Medium-low</b> .   | D. 79/07/2024                      |
|------|--|------------|--|------------------------------------|
| VP14 | Local road Corloughcahill – This is a pleasant rural view of rolling terrain cloaked in a mix of pastoral fields, low scrubby vegetation and existing conifer forest plantation. The view is contained at a relatively near distance by a low broad ridge where several turbines area partially visible, rotating along the skyline ridge. It is also important to note that a large number of existing turbines are also visible along the ridges to the south and southwest. | Medium-low | All four of the proposed turbines are visible, rotating above the near broad ridgeline where they are viewed in silhouette against the sky. The proposed turbines are viewed here at a distance of c. 1.5km and will be a prominent feature of this westward view. Whilst the proposed turbines will be a prominent feature of this view, they do not appear over-scaled or with any sense of overbearing. Nonetheless, the proposed turbines will generate a slight sense of scale conflict when viewed in combination with the existing smaller turbine. In the context of this working rural view, the proposed turbines are considered to have a codominant visual presence.  Aesthetically, the proposed turbines are viewed in a clear and comprehensible manner, where they rotate well above the nearbroad ridgeline. The proposed turbines present with even spacing characteristics and generate a notable sense of rhythm in this relatively uncomplicated rural vista. Overall, whilst the turbines will generate a notable increase in the intensity of wind energy development along this ridge, they will not appear out of place in this transitional foothill context where existing wind turbines are a familiar feature. On balance of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Medium. | Moderate / Negative /<br>Long Term |

| VP15 | Local road at Greaghnadarragh – This is a brief uphill view afforded from an agricultural gateway along a relatively enclosed local road in the townland of Greaghnadarragh. The depicted view is oriented to the west from the local road and is contained at a relatively near distance by a rolling ridgetop summit. However, it is important to note that this local road's most sensitive viewing aspect relates to brief views afforded in the distance to the east/southeast, where Lough Allen is visible.                 | Medium-low | The proposed turbines are viewed at a notable scale from this distance of just under 1km. The nacelles of all four propose 1 turbines will be partially and intermittently visible along this section of the local road, where the turbines will be viewed with a dominant visual presence uphill to the west. The blade sets of all four turbines are visible, rotating against the near ridgeline, which is not an ideal scenario as it can generate a sense of visual tension. Nonetheless, the turbines are evenly spaced, albeit they appear notably stunted, as the near ridge screens a large proportion of their towers. Overall, the proposed turbines will notably increase the intensity of built development in this transitional landscape setting. However, they are viewed opposite to the main aspect of visual amenity, which is to the east and southeast. As a result of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed <b>Medium</b> .                                 | Moderate / Negative /<br>Long Term     |
|------|--|------------|--|--|
| VP16 | Local road at Letter – This is a partially contained view afforded from the L4284 local road in the townland of Letter. The depicted view is oriented to the north of the local road corridor and is contained at a near distance by dense roadside vegetation. Further to the west, a partial view of more distant upland ridges is afforded, where several existing wind turbines are visible. Furthermore, the most sensitive aspect of visual amenity along this local road corridor relates to down-valley views to the east. | Medium-low | Only two of the proposed turbines are visible here and will be heavily veiled by the near-dense roadside vegetation. Turbine T4 will be the most prominently visible turbine and is visible rising above the near vegetation at a notable scale at a distance of 710m. Despite the heavily veiled nature of the turbines, from this near viewing distance, they will have a visual presence in the order of co-dominant to dominant, depending on the degree of roadside screening along the local road carriageway. Whilst there is a slight degree of visual ambiguity associated with the actual locations of the turbines, they do not appear over-scaled in the context of this broad transitional upland landscape, nor will they appear incongruous in this landscape setting that comprises numerous other existing wind farm developments, some of which a visible only a short distance further to the west. On balance of the above reasons, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed <b>Medium</b> . | Moderate / Negative /<br>Long Term     |
| VP17 | Local road at Ballinagleragh – This is a contained view afforded from a local road in the centre of the small village settlement of Ballinagleragh. The depicted view is oriented to the west in the direction of Lough Allen, which is just over 1km from the settlement. Nonetheless, the view of the lake and the landscape beyond is truncated by a low-rolling hill cloaked in dense vegetation located a short distance to the west of this settlement.  | Medium     | The proposed development will be entirely screened here by the dense mature intervening vegetation in the direction of the site. Thus, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed <b>Negligible</b> by default.  | Imperceptible / Neutral /<br>Long Term |

|      | <u> </u>   |            |   |  |
|------|--|------------|---|--|
|      |  |            | C   |  |
| VP18 | Local road at Bargowla - This is a relatively contained view afforded from a local road in the townland Ballinagleragh, west of the Owengar River. The depicted view is oriented along the local road corridor to the north, contained by dense vegetation to the east and west. The view is contained at a relatively near distance to the north by a low ridge cloaked in scrubby vegetation, conifer forests and small pastoral fields. Several existing wind turbines are visible uphill to the west of the local road and further along more distant rolling ridges to the south. | Medium-low | All four of the proposed turbines will be visible here at a considerable scale from this near distance of just under 600m. This is one of the nearest and clearest views that will be afforded of all four of the turbines, albeit turbine T4 is partially screened here by the near roadside vegetation. The proposed turbines will have a highly dominant visual presence in this view, where their scale is further accentuated by the uphill and partially contained nature of this view.  Despite their considerable perceived scale, the turbines generally present in a relatively unambiguous manner here and with little notable negative aesthetic effects. A strong sense of perspective is generated by the variation in the scale of the turbines from furthest to nearest, highlighting the linear nature of the array across the near-elevated ridgeline. The proposed turbines will generate a notable increase in the intensity of wind farm development in this local landscape and will result in a slightly increased sense of enclosure from wind farm development in this local landscape context, as turbines now have the potential to be viewed to the north, west and south. Nevertheless, wind turbines are characteristic features of this upland landscape, and therefore the proposed development will not appear out of place. On balance of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed High-medium. | Substantial-Moderate /<br>Negative / Long Term |
| VP19 | Local road at Liscuillew Lower – This is a locally elevated view afforded from the rolling foothills of Corry Mountain along a local road in the townland of Liscuillew Lower. The depicted view is oriented to the west across sloping lands cloaked in pastoral farmland and blocks of conifer forest. It is important to note that the main aspect of visual amenity from these sloping lands relates to views to the east across Lough Allen and more distant uplands.   | Medium-low | An uphill view of all four of the proposed turbines is afforded from this locally elevated location. The proposed turbines are visible here, rotating along the vegetated skyline ridge at a distance of just over 3km and present backed by the sky with a low degree of visual contrast. Whilst the turbines are likely to be noticed from here, they do not present with any sense of overbearing, nor do they appear over-scaled in the context of the broad underlying ridge and are considered to have a subdominant visual presence. Aesthetically, the proposed turbines present here in a clear and comprehensible manner with little notable negative aesthetic effects. The proposed turbines appear slightly stunted as conifer forest plantations partially screen their towers. The turbines also generate a minor sense of sense conflict in relation to the partially visible but more distant turbines further to the west. The proposed development will generate an increase in the intensity of wind energy development along this part of the rolling ridge, however, they do  | Moderate-slight /<br>Negative / Long Term      |

5969 Letter Wind Farm EIAR 11 October 2023

|      |   |             | not appear as incongruous features in this working transitional landscape context. On balance of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed <b>Medium-low</b> .  |  |
|------|---|-------------|--|--|
| VP20 | R207 at Cleighran More – This is a pleasant designated scenic view afforded from a section of the R207 regional road in the townland of Cleighran More, immediately east of the Lough Allen shoreline. The view extends west across Lough Allen and is contained in the distance by a series of elongated ridgelines cloaked in moorland, conifer forest plantations and numerous existing wind farm developments.  | High-medium | All four of the existing turbines will be visible along a broad underlying ridgeline at a distance of over c. 11km. Whilst the turbines will present as relatively small-scale features in this broad view and are deemed to have a sub-dominant visual presence, the proposed turbines present at a notably larger scale than all other existing wind turbines along the ridge to the south. Nonetheless, due to the viewing distances involved, the proposed turbines will have limited effect on the visual amenity of the surrounding Lough Allen context and this scenic designation. Overall, the proposed development will generate a marginal increase in the intensity of wind energy development along elevated ridgelines to the west of Lough Allen, which are currently characterised by a large number of existing wind turbines, albeit many of which are viewed further in the distance and/or are much smaller in scale. On balance of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Lownegligible.  | Slight-imperceptible /<br>Negative / Long Term |
| VP21 | Local road at Ballynashee - This is a pleasant elevated upland view afforded from a scenic route designation along a local road in the townland of Ballinagleragh. The depicted view extends north across a broad upland plateau that is principally cloaked in moorland and blocks of conifer forest and comprises a linear array of existing wind turbines throughout the middle ground of the view. The view is contained in the background by distant upland terrain similarly cloaked in a mix of moorland, conifer forest and existing wind energy development. | High-medium | All four proposed turbines will be visible at a distance of c. 5.5km, just beyond the existing linear array of wind turbines. The proposed turbines are viewed in a similar context to the existing turbines; however, they are located at a slightly lower elevation on the east-facing side of this upland ridge. Whilst the proposed turbines present at a slightly larger scale than their existing counterparts, they do not extend the vertical extent of wind energy development in this view due to their lower elevation. The proposed turbines will generate a marginally increased sense of visual clutter in the view as the present stacked in combination with some of the nearer existing turbines. There is also a slight degree of scale conflict generated by the proposed turbines as they appear at a larger scale than existing turbines yet are viewed beyond the existing turbines. Overall, the proposed turbines will generate an increase in the intensity of wind farm development along this upland ridge but only to a relatively minor extent. On balance of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed <b>Low</b> . | Slight / Negative / Long<br>Term               |

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