## Document history

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|---|---|---|
| Author | Graeme Glencorse | 24/01/2022 |
| Checked | Ruth Paterson | 02/02/2022 |
| Approved | Emily Galloway | 02/02/2022 |

| Client Details | |
|---|---|
| Contact | Julie Aitken |
| Client Name | Fred. Olsen Renewables Limited |
| Address | c/o Fred. Olsen Renewables, 64-65 Vincent Square, London, SW1P 2NU |

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# Appendix 6.5

## Viewpoint Assessment

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## A6.5.1 INTRODUCTION

A6.5.1.1 This Appendix of the EIAR identifies and assesses the Viewpoints agreed through consultation.

A6.5.1.2 Viewpoints were selected to take account of the viewing experience (such as static views from settlements and sequential views from routes) cumulative views of other developments and as far as possible are representative, illustrative, and specific of the range of key visual receptors and view types (including panoramas, vistas, glimpsed views), as well as being located at varying distances, elevations and orientations from the Proposed Development.

A6.5.1.3 This Appendix should be read in conjunction with the following appendices and figures:

- Appendix 6.1: LVIA Methodology;
- Figure 6.2a: ZTV to Tip Height (A3 Size);
- Figure 6.2b: ZTV to Tip Height (A0 Size);
- Figure 6.3: ZTV to Hub Height (A3 Size);
- Figure 6.4: ZTV of Aviation Lighting (Worst Case);
- Figure 6.5a -h: ZTV of Aviation Lighting – Individual Turbines;
- Figure 6.6: Landscape Character with ZTV;
- Figure 6.7: Protected & Designated Landscapes with ZTV;
- Figure 6.8 Visual Receptors;
- Figures 6.10a – i: Sequential Routes; and
- Figures 6.17a – 6.39f: Viewpoints.

A6.5.1.4 The selected viewpoints assessed in the LVIA are as follows:

Table A6.5.1: Selected Viewpoints

| VP No. | Viewpoint Name | Coordinate | | Distance to the Proposed Development (km) | Direction to the Proposed Development |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Easting | Northing | | |
| 1 | Dewar Gill | 334745 | 646359 | 4.1 | South east |
| 2 | Lauder Common | 348682 | 643448 | 11.8 | South west |
| 3 | Core Path 41 near Scroof Hill | 341018 | 643481 | 3.9 | South west |
| 4 | The Meldons | 321934 | 642837 | 13.9 | East |
| 5 | Priesthope Hill | 335067 | 639957 | 1.2 | North east |
| 6 | The Sware | 323719 | 639737 | 12.2 | East |
| 7 | A7 road, near Buckholm | 347028 | 639005 | 9.6 | West |
| 8 | Lee Pen | 332591 | 638606 | 4.0 | North east |
| 9 | Bonnington Road, Peebles | 325107 | 638321 | 11.1 | North east |
| 10 | A72 road, East of Hoylee | 339730 | 637092 | 4.8 | North west |
| 11 | Innerleithen, car park | 332900 | 636696 | 5.0 | North east |
| 12 | Minor road/NCR1 (The Batta) | 340207 | 636182 | 5.8 | North west |
| 13 | Traquair | 332674 | 635209 | 6.3 | North east |
| 14 | Peel | 343488 | 635066 | 8.9 | North west |
| 15 | Hundleshope Heights | 324998 | 633883 | 12.9 | North east |
| 16 | SUW/B709 road near Kirkhouse | 332258 | 633752 | 7.8 | North east |
| 17 | SUW, Minch Moor | 335871 | 633059 | 7.6 | North |
| 18 | Eildon Hills | 354819 | 632291 | 20.0 | North west |
| 19 | Three Brethren | 343273 | 631930 | 11.1 | North west |
| 20 | Selkirk Common | 348957 | 627553 | 18.1 | North west |
| 21 | Clovenfords | 345053 | 636256 | 9.5 | North west |
| 22 | Cairn Hill Cairn | 3364499 | 638655 | 2.0 | North |
| 23 | SUW, Blake Muir | 330248 | 630747 | 11.4 | North east |

Table A6.5.2: Viewpoint 1: Dewar Gill - Assessment

| Viewpoint 1: | Dewar Gill (B709 road/NCR1) (Figures 6.17a-f) | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Grid Coordinate:** | 334745, 646359 | **Distance to nearest turbine:** | 4.1 km (Turbine 8, not visible)) | **Direction to the Proposed Development:** | South east |
| **Landscape Character Type:** | LCT 90: Dissected Plateau Moorland | **Landscape Designation:** | None | **Visual Receptors:** | Road users |
| | **Baseline** | | | | |
| **Location:** | This location represents one of the few stretches of the road where theoretical visibility of the Proposed Development is predicted and is located 2.3 km north of Blackhopebyres. | | | | |
| **Sensitivity:** | This road is popular for recreational users and is one of the longest B roads in Scotland, value is High. Susceptibility is also considered to be High as road users on this route are expected to appreciate the views of the surrounding landscape. Overall sensitivity is **High**. | | | | |
| **Existing View:** | Views from this location tend to be focussed along the glen to the north and south framed by the steep-sided hillsides to the east and west of the road. Due to the winding nature of the road, visibility is short to medium range as a result of the sides of the glen converging.<br>No operational wind farms are visible from this location.<br>Sources of artificial lighting are limited to roadside properties and vehicles travelling along the road. | | | | |
| | **Assessment** | | | | |
| **Predicted View:** | The Proposed Development would largely be screened by the landform of Eastside Heights to the south east. Turbine 3 (located 5.0 km) would be visible breaking the skyline to the south east where the hub and blades would be seen when travelling in a southerly direction with the tower being screened by foreground landform. During construction this would include crane operations as the nacelle and blades were installed, and during operation the turning of blades of Turbine 3.<br>During hours of darkness, the aviation light on Turbine 3 would be visible appearing as a faint light to the south east experienced in the context of vehicle lighting. | | | | |
| **Scenario 1 - Magnitude of Change:** | The size and scale of the change would be small comprising the hub and turbine blades. This would occupy a very small part of the overall view where the change would be long-term and reversible. Magnitude of change would be **Slight** during construction and operation. | | | | |
| **Scenario 1 – Visual Effects** | **Minor** adverse and not significant due to the very small extent of the Proposed Development visible during both construction and operation. | | | | |
| **Cumulative Magnitude of Change** | No Scenario 2 and 3 wind farms would be visible from this location. | | | | |
| **Cumulative Effects** | **No Change**. | | | | |

**Table A6.5.3: Viewpoint 2: Lauder Common - Assessment**

| Viewpoint 2: | Lauder Common (Figures 6.18a – g) | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Grid Coordinate:** | 348682, 643448 | **Distance to nearest turbine:** | 11.8 km (Turbine 8) | **Direction to the Proposed Development:** | South west |
| **Landscape Character Type:** | LCT 91: Plateau Grassland - Borders | **Landscape Designation:** | None | **Visual Receptors:** | Road users |
| **Baseline** | | | | | |
| **Location:** | This viewpoint is located on the B6362 road linking Lauder and Stow, north east of Tanwell. | | | | |
| **Sensitivity:** | This Road is popular for recreational users, value is High. Susceptibility is also considered to be High as road users on this route are expected to appreciate the views of the surrounding landscape. Overall sensitivity is **High**. | | | | |
| **Existing View:** | Open 360-degree views across Lauder Common and surrounding moorland and farmland can be obtained from this location. Due to the undulating nature of the surrounding landscape, foreground landform reduces the extent of views to the north, east and south.<br>The blade tips of Longpark (2.8 km to the south west) and Black Hill (26.0 km to the north east) are theoretically visible but, screened by intervening woodland and vegetation. Bowbeat (18.5 km to the west) is visible in the distance in clear visibility breaking the horizon.<br>Artificial lighting is limited to vehicles travelling along the road as well as sky glow from nearby Stow and Lauder. | | | | |
| **Assessment** | | | | | |
| **Predicted View:** | The Proposed Development would be viewed to the south west above the Windlestraw Law ridgeline and appear as a consistently spaced array with some overlapping of turbine blades occurring between Turbines 1 and 5, as well as 2 and 4. During construction all 8 turbines would be seen and include crane operations during their installation. The ridgeline extending along Windlestraw Law would screen the infrastructure along with turbine bases which are positioned further to the south. All 8 aviation lights (see Figure 6.18g) would be visible from this location at angles of -1° to -2° resulting in lighting intensities between 750 to 80 ca (poor visibility) and 75 to 80 ca (clear visibility). These would appear as faint red lights to the south west. | | | | |
| **Scenario 1 - Magnitude of Change:** | The addition of the Proposed Development to the baseline would introduce turbines to a view where wind turbines are currently absent forming a new feature along the ridgeline. A combination of distance, partial landform screening and the open and large-scale landscape contribute to reducing the size and scale of the change which would cover a small extent of the overall view obtained. Magnitude of change is **Low**, long-term, and reversible and remain as **Slight** at night-time due to the distance between the viewpoint and Proposed Development where 8 aviation lights at reduced intensities will occupy a small part of the overall view. | | | | |
| **Scenario 1 – Visual Effects** | **Moderate** adverse and **significant** effect during both daytime and night-time due to distance from the Proposed Development combined with the small extent of the overall view affected during both construction and operation. | | | | |
| **Cumulative Magnitude of Change** | No Scenario 2 wind farms would be visible from this location.<br>Views of Scenario 3 wind farms would be limited to Greystone Knowe which would be seen to the north west (8.9 km) and would be more prominent due to its closer proximity and number of turbines. The addition of the Proposed Development to this baseline would increase the extent of turbines seen in combination with Greystone Knowe, although both developments would appear quite separate due to the distance and angle of view. There would be a slight increase to the magnitude of change due to viewing the Proposed Development alongside Greystone Knowe which would result in visibility of more wind turbines viewed from this location as well as an increase in aviation lights from both schemes. This would increase the scale and size of the change, but at a distance of 11.8 km occupying a small part of the overall view. It is not considered that it would increase the effect to a Major level and would remain as **Slight**.. | | | | |
| **Cumulative Effects** | **Moderate** adverse and **significant** due to the slight increase in extent of turbines when viewed in combination with the Greystone Knowe application site. | | | | |

**Table A6.5.4: Viewpoint 3: Core Path 41 near Scroof Hill - Assessment**

| Viewpoint 3: | Core Path 41 near Scroof Hill (Figures 6.19a-f) | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Grid Coordinate:** | 341018, 643481 | **Distance to nearest turbine:** | 3.9 km (Turbine 8) | **Direction to Proposed Site:** | South west |
| **Landscape Character Type:** | LCT 90: Dissected Plateau Moorland | **Landscape Designation:** | None | **Visual Receptors:** | Walkers |
| **Baseline** | | | | | |
| **Location:** | This viewpoint is located on Core Path 41 and is situated between Scroof Hill to the north west and Dunlee Hill located to the south and was requested by SBC. Access is via the minor road leading to Scroof located 750 to the south west. | | | | |
| **Sensitivity:** | This viewpoint is a popular walking route accessed by walkers; value is High. Susceptibility is also considered to be High as walkers' attention will be focussed on the views of the surrounding landscape. Overall, visual sensitivity is **High**. | | | | |
| **Existing View:** | Open 360-degree views of the surrounding uplands can be obtained from this location. The undulating nature of the landform limits the distance of views obtained and screens nearby valleys. Operational wind farms are visible from this location with Toddleburn (9.6 km) being the most prominent to the north east and includes the distant large cluster comprising Dun Law (12.9 km), Pogbie (15.6 km), as well as distant views of Fallago Rig (22.3 km), Aikengall (34.7 km), and the isolated Black Hill (33.9 km) to the north east.<br>Dark-skies mapping shows that this viewpoint falls within the darkest categories of night-time lighting. Light pollution is limited to sources in the Tweed Valley to the south where some light glow associated with settlements can be seen. | | | | |
| **Assessment** | | | | | |
| **Predicted View:** | The Proposed Development would be seen to the west occupying the ridgeline extending southwards from Windlestraw Law. Turbines would appear consistently spaced with some overlapping of turbine blades occurring between Turbines 2 and 4. During construction, all 8 turbines would be seen during their installation and include crane operations. The ridgeline extending from Windlestraw Law would screen the infrastructure along with turbine bases.<br>7 of the aviation lights would be visible, these would be viewed at angles of -1° to -4° resulting in light intensities between 750 to 40 ca (poor visibility) and 75 to 4 ca (clear visibility). | | | | |
| **Scenario 1 - Magnitude of Change:** | The addition of the Proposed Development to the baseline would introduce turbines and turbine lighting to a view where they are currently absent, forming a new feature which would be relatively close. A combination of distance, landform screening the turbine bases and the openness of the view contribute to reducing the size and scale of the change covering a medium extent of the overall view obtained. Magnitude of change is **Substantial**, long term and reversible for both daytime and night-time. | | | | |
| **Scenario 1 – Visual Effects** | **Major** adverse and **significant** due to the viewpoints proximity where all 8 turbines would be visible during both construction and operation and include views of 7 aviation lights. | | | | |
| **Cumulative Magnitude of Change** | Crystal Rig IV (33.8 km) would be visible from this viewpoint on a clear day but barely perceptible.<br>Scenario 3 wind farms would be limited to Greystone Rig which would be partially seen to the north west above the foreground ridgeline which would screen the lower half of the turbines. The addition of the Proposed Development to this baseline would increase the number of turbines viewed to the west, although both developments would appear quite separate due to the distance and angle of view. There would be a slight increase to the magnitude of change due to seeing the Proposed Development alongside Greystone Knowe successively . The aviation lights of both schemes would also be visible during hours of darkness. Magnitude of change would remain as **Substantial**, long-term and reversible at both daytime and night-time. | | | | |
| **Cumulative Effects** | **Major** adverse and **significant** due to the proximity of the viewpoints location to the Proposed Development and the increase in numbers of turbines viewed in combination with the Greystone Knowe application site over a medium extent of the view. | | | | |

**Table A6.5.5: Viewpoint 4: The Meldons - Assessment**

| Viewpoint 4: | The Meldons (Figures 6.20a-f) | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Grid Coordinate:** | 321934, 642837 | **Distance to nearest turbine:** | 13.9 km (Turbine 3) | **Direction to the Proposed Development:** | East |
| **Landscape Character Type:** | LCT 92: Plateau Outliers | **Landscape Designation:** | Tweed Valley SLA | **Visual Receptors:** | Walkers |
| **Baseline** | | | | | |
| **Location:** | This viewpoint is located 2.9 km to the north west of Peebles and can be accessed from nearby minor roads and footpaths. | | | | |
| **Sensitivity:** | This viewpoint is a popular walking route accessed by walkers; value is High. Susceptibility is also considered to be High as walkers' attention will be focussed on the views of the surrounding landscape. Overall, visual sensitivity is **High**. | | | | |
| **Existing View:** | Open 360-degree views of the surrounding uplands and partial views of the Tweed Valley can be obtained from this location. The undulating nature of the landform limits the distance of views obtained and provides a degree of screening to nearby valleys. Operational wind farms are visible from this location in distant views and include Glenkerrie (18.6 km) and Clyde (27.4 km)to the south west, and Bowbeat (7.3 km) to the north east.<br>Dark-skies mapping shows that this viewpoint falls within the darkest categories of night-time lighting. Light pollution is limited to sources in the Tweed Valley to the south and Peebles to the south east. | | | | |
| **Assessment** | | | | | |
| **Predicted View:** | The Proposed Development would be seen to the east occupying the ridgeline above the intervening hill sides. Turbines would appear consistently spaced with some overlapping of turbine blades occurring between Turbines 2 and 5. During construction all 8 turbines would be seen and include crane operations during their installation. The turbines would be located further to the east of the ridgeline which would combine with intervening forestry in screening the lower sections of the turbine towers and supporting infrastructure.<br>All 8 of the aviation lights would be visible, these would be viewed at angles of 0° to -4° resulting in light intensities between 2,000 to 40 ca (poor visibility) and 200 to 4 ca (clear visibility) forming faint lights in the distance. | | | | |
| **Scenario 1 - Magnitude of Change:** | The addition of the Proposed Development to the baseline would extend turbines further east from Bowbeat but retain a visual separation due to the angle of view. A combination of distance, landform screening of the lower components of the Proposed Development and the open large-scale landscape contribute to reducing the size and scale of the change which would cover a small extent of the overall view obtained. All 8 aviation lights would be seen occupying a small part of the overall view and at distance. Magnitude of change during both daytime and night-time is **Slight**, long-term, and reversible. | | | | |
| **Scenario 1 – Visual Effects** | **Moderate** adverse and **significant** due to the viewpoints higher sensitivity combined with proximity and the small part of the overall view affected. | | | | |
| **Cumulative Magnitude of Change** | Scenario 2 wind farms visible from this location include Glenkerrie (19.5 km) to the south west, Longhill Burn (28.1 km) to the north east which is barely perceptible and the more prominent Cloich (3.2 km) to the north west. Scenario 3 wind farms would be limited to the Cloich Variation and would be similar to the baseline experienced for Scenario 2. The addition of the Proposed Development to this baseline would increase the number of turbines viewed successively where Cloich would be the most prominent due to proximity, whilst the Proposed Development would appear less concentrated than the Scenario 1, 2 and 3 schemes.<br>It is not considered that the introduction of the Proposed Development would increase the magnitude of change assessed for Scenario 1 as **Slight**. | | | | |
| **Cumulative Effects** | No Change | | | | |

**Table A6.5.6: Viewpoint 5: Priesthope Hill - Assessment**

| Viewpoint 5: | Priesthope Hill (Figures 6.21a-f) | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Grid Coordinate:** | 335067, 639957 | **Distance to nearest turbine:** | 1.2 km (Turbine 1) | **Direction to the Proposed Development:** | North east |
| **Landscape Character Type:** | LCT 90: Dissected Plateau Moorland | **Landscape Designation:** | None | **Visual Receptors:** | Walkers |
| **Baseline** | | | | | |
| **Location:** | This viewpoint is located to the north east of Innerleithen and north west of Walkerburn and can be accessed via paths through the Tweed Valley Forest Park from both settlements. | | | | |
| **Sensitivity:** | This viewpoint is accessed by walkers; value is High. Susceptibility is also considered to be High as walkers' attention will be focussed on the views of the surrounding landscape. Overall, visual sensitivity is **High**. | | | | |
| **Existing View:** | Open 360-degree views across the adjacent hill sides can be obtained from the summit of this hill with lower slopes providing a degree of screening to the surrounding valleys.<br>Several operational wind farms are visible from the summit, these include to the north west, Bowbeat (8.5 km) is partially breaking the skyline. To the north east, operational wind farms including Fallago Rig (29.0 km), Aikengall (43.1 km), Black Hill (40.8 km) and Longpark (11.9 km) break the skyline in places but are barely visible from this location due to a combination of screening and distance. To the south east, Langhope Rig (20.0 km) is barely perceptible due to landform screening and backdrop.<br>Dark-skies mapping shows that this viewpoint falls within the darkest categories of night-time lighting. Light pollution is limited to sources in the Tweed Valley such as Innerleithen to the south. | | | | |
| **Assessment** | | | | | |
| **Predicted View:** | Close views of all 8 turbines would be seen from this location which would form a distracting element within the view. Supporting infrastructure such as access tracks would in the majority be screened by the foreground ridgeline although the viewer would be aware of the hardstandings at the closest turbines.<br>The aviation lights of Turbines 4, 5, 7 and 8 would be visible, these would be viewed at angles between -2° to -4° resulting in light intensities of 80 to 40 ca (poor visibility) and 8 to 4 ca (clear visibility). Although the aviation lights on the remaining turbines would not be directly seen due to the horizontal angle, a slight reflection would be seen each time the blade passes the vertical position where a slight reflection would briefly be seen along the base of the blade. | | | | |
| **Scenario 1 - Magnitude of Change:** | The addition of the Proposed Development to the baseline would introduce turbines to a view where wind turbines and artificial lighting are currently absent forming a new and close feature. The size and scale and extent of view affected would be large resulting in a **Substantial** magnitude of change, long-term and reversible. | | | | |
| **Scenario 1 – Visual Effects** | **Major** adverse and **significant** due to the viewpoints proximity where all 8 turbines and aviation lighting would be visible during both construction and operation. | | | | |
| **Cumulative Magnitude of Change** | Scenario 2 wind farms visible would be limited to distant views of Crystal Rig IV (40.6 km) located to the north east and Cloich (15.6 km) to the north west, both of which would mainly be screened by landform and difficult to see due to distance.<br>Scenario 3 wind farms include Faw Side (39.4 km) to the south east, and Cloich Variation (15.6 km), again developments would be distant and mostly screened by landform. It is not considered that the introduction of the Proposed Development would lead to an increase in magnitude assessed as **Substantial** for Scenario 1. | | | | |
| **Cumulative Effects** | No Change | | | | |

**Table A6.5.7: Viewpoint 6: The Sware - Assessment**

| Viewpoint 6: | The Sware (Figures 6.22a-g) | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Grid Coordinate:** | 323719, 639737 | **Distance to nearest turbine:** | 12.2 km (Turbine 3) | **Direction to the Proposed Development:** | East |
| **Landscape Character Type:** | LCT 116: Upland Valley with Woodlands | **Landscape Designation:** | Tweed Valley SLA | **Visual Receptors:** | Road users |
| **Baseline** | | | | | |
| **Location:** | This viewpoint is situated at The Sware Car Park located to the south west of Peebles where it can be accessed via a minor road. | | | | |
| **Sensitivity:** | This viewpoint is located within the Tweed Valley SLA and is a popular parking area with locals and visitors both for its elevated views along the Tweed Valley and to access a local circuit walk, value is High. Susceptibility is also considered to be High as people visiting this parking area are expected to appreciate the views of the Tweed Valley contained by surrounding hills sides. Overall sensitivity is **High**. | | | | |
| **Existing View:** | This viewpoint is noted on Ordnance Survey Maps and obtains open views extending between the north west and south east and includes Peebles nestled where the Eddileston Water meets the River Tweed and backdropped by the forested Mailingsland Hill. Views in other directions are influenced by foreground landform and to the north west and south west. To the north east beyond the forested Lamb Law, Bowbeat (8.2 km) operational wind farm is partially visible.<br>Dark-skies mapping shows that this viewpoint falls within the upper dark categories of night-time lighting. Light pollution is limited to sources in the Tweed Valley such as nearby Peebles. | | | | |
| **Assessment** | | | | | |
| **Predicted View:** | The Proposed Development would be seen to the east occupying the ridgeline. Turbines would appear consistently spaced with the bottom section of towers and hub of Turbine 5 being screened by the foreground ridgeline.<br>During construction all 8 turbines would be seen and include crane operations during their installation. No supporting infrastructure such as access tracks would be visible due to screening from the ridgeline.<br>7 of the aviation lights would be visible, these would be viewed at angles between -1° to -3° resulting in light intensities of 750 to 40 ca (poor visibility) and 75 to 4 ca (clear visibility) and appear as faint red lights above the hill tops. | | | | |
| **Scenario 1 - Magnitude of Change:** | The addition of the Proposed Development to the baseline would introduce turbines to a view where wind turbines are currently absent forming a new feature on the horizon. A combination of distance and the open and larger scale landscape contribute to reducing the size and scale of the change which would occupy a small extent of the overall view obtained. Magnitude of change is **Slight**, long-term and reversible. | | | | |
| **Scenario 1 – Visual Effects** | **Moderate** adverse and **significant** due to the viewpoints proximity where all 8 turbines would be visible during both construction and operation where they would occupy a small part of the overall view. 7 of the aviation lights would be visible at reduced intensities, distant and seen in the context of existing artificial lighting within the Tweed Valley and magnitude would result in a **Moderate** adverse effect but not significant for the reasons outlined. | | | | |
| **Cumulative Magnitude of Change** | No Scenario 2 or 3 wind farms are predicted to be visible from this location. | | | | |
| **Cumulative Effects** | No Change | | | | |

**Table A6.5.8: Viewpoint 7: A7 road, near Buckholm - Assessment**

| Viewpoint 7: | A7 road, near Buckholm (Figures 6.23a-f) | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Grid Coordinate:** | 347028, 639005 | **Distance to nearest turbine:** | 9.6 km (Turbine 10) | **Direction:** | West |
| **Landscape Character Type:** | LCT 114: Pastoral Upland Valley | **Landscape Designation:** | None | **Visual Receptors:** | Road users |
| **Baseline** | | | | | |
| **Location:** | This viewpoint represents views of the Proposed Development from a short section of the A7 road between Boreland and Buckholm and close The Whin. | | | | |
| **Sensitivity:** | This viewpoint is a main route through the Scottish Borders, value is Medium and is not located within a landscape designation. Susceptibility is also considered to be Medium as some travellers along this road are expected to appreciate the views of the surrounding hillsides. Overall sensitivity is **Medium**. | | | | |
| **Existing View:** | Views are contained by the surrounding valley slides which includes woodland cover and rising landform to the north. Views tend to be focussed on the direction of travel along the A7 road. No operational wind farms are visible from this location.<br>Artificial lighting is limited to vehicles travelling along the road as well as lights from nearby properties. | | | | |
| **Assessment** | | | | | |
| **Predicted View:** | All 8 turbines are predicted to be visible to the west occupying the ridgeline although screening from foreground landform and trees reduces this to 5 turbines. The ridgeline would screen the bottom portion of the towers reducing their vertical prominence in the view. During construction, the installation of 5 turbines, two of which would be seen at hub height with the remainder being largely screened reducing views to blades.<br>5 aviation lights are theoretically visible but in reality, due to screening, this would be reduced to the lights on Turbines 2, 3 and 6 would be visible at angles between -2° to -4° resulting in light intensities of 80 to 40 ca (poor visibility) and 8 to 4 ca (clear visibility) seen briefly when travelling along a short section of road. | | | | |
| **Scenario 1 - Magnitude of Change:** | The addition of the Proposed Development to the baseline would introduce turbines to a view where wind turbines are currently absent forming a new feature which would be partially screened by landform. The size and scale of the change would be small due to screening with the proposed turbines occupying a small part of the overall view where 5 turbines would seen at night at reduced lighting intensities and distant.. Magnitude of change is **Slight**, long-term, and reversible. | | | | |
| **Scenario 1 – Visual Effects** | **Moderate** adverse and **not significant** during both day and night-time due to the small part of the view affected from a short section of road combined with screening from landform and woodland. | | | | |
| **Cumulative Magnitude of Change** | No Scenario 2 and 3 wind farms would be visible from this location. | | | | |
| **Cumulative Effects** | No Change | | | | |

**Table A6.5.9: Viewpoint 8: Lee Pen - Assessment**

| Viewpoint 8: | Lee Pen (Figures 6.24a-g) | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Grid Coordinate:** | 332591, 638606 | **Distance to nearest turbine:** | 4.0 km (Turbine 1) | **Direction to the Proposed Development:** | North east |
| **Landscape Character Type:** | LCT 90: Dissected Plateau Moorland | **Landscape Designation:** | Tweed Valley SLA | **Visual Receptors:** | Walkers |
| **Baseline** | | | | | |
| **Location:** | This viewpoint is located on the summit of Lee Pen, a popular hill located to the north of Innerleithen. Access to the summit is via a path which leads north from the southern side of the village. | | | | |
| **Sensitivity:** | This viewpoint is located within the Tweed Valley SLA and is accessed by walkers, value is High. Susceptibility is also considered to be High as walkers' attention will be focussed on the views of the surrounding landscape. Overall, visual sensitivity is **High**. | | | | |
| **Existing View:** | From the summit, 360-degree open views of the surrounding landscape can be obtained with the main focus being on the surrounding uplands interspersed with views of short sections of the meandering Tweed Valley below where foreground landform allows. The blade tips of the operational Longpark Wind Farm (14.6 km) are | | | | |

| Viewpoint 8: | Lee Pen (Figures 6.24a-g) |
|---|---|
| | visible breaking to skyline to the north east but barely perceptible. To the north west, the cluster of turbines forming Bowbeat (8.5 km) is visible beyond Black Knowe.<br>Dark-skies mapping shows that this viewpoint falls within the darkest categories of night-time lighting. Light pollution is limited to sources in the Tweed Valley below to the south. |
| | **Assessment** |
| **Predicted View:** | The Proposed Development would be viewed to the north east where all 8 turbines would be seen occupying the upper reaches of Windlestraw Law and connecting ridgeline. Some of the supporting infrastructure would also be visible, reducing in prominence following construction as vegetation establishes.<br>All 8 of the aviation lights would be visible, these would be viewed at angles between -1° to -4° resulting in light intensities of 750 to 40 ca (poor visibility) and 75 to 4 ca (clear visibility) as shown on Figure 6.23g. |
| **Scenario 1 - Magnitude of Change:** | The addition of the Proposed Development to the baseline would introduce turbines into views currently unaffected by wind turbine development, forming a new feature during daytime and lit at night which would be relatively close and prominent. A combination of distance and the open view contribute to reducing the size and scale of the change covering a medium extent of the overall view obtained. Magnitude of change is **Substantial**, long term and reversible. |
| **Scenario 1 – Visual Effects** | **Major** adverse and **significant** due to the viewpoints proximity where all 8 turbines would be visible during both construction and operation and include views of lighting at night-time. |
| **Cumulative Magnitude of Change** | Cloich (14.1 km) (Scenario 2) and Cloich Variation (14.1 km) (Scenario 3) would be visible to the north west. Scenario 3 wind farms include partial views of the blades of three turbines of Greystone Knowe (3.9 km) to the north east, and distant views of Faw Side (38.6 km) to the south. It is not considered that the introduction of the Proposed Development would alter the assessment of Scenario 1. |
| **Cumulative Effects** | **No Change** |

Table A6.5.10: Viewpoint 9: Bonnington Road, Peebles - Assessment

| Viewpoint 9: | Bonnington Road, Peebles (Figures 6.25a-f) | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Grid Coordinate:** | 325107, 638321 | **Distance to nearest turbine:** | 11.1 km | **Direction to the nearest Turbine:** | North east (Turbine 2) |
| **Landscape Character Type:** | LCT 116: Upland Valley with Woodlands | **Landscape Designation:** | Tweed Valley SLA | **Visual Receptors:** | Walkers |
| | **Baseline** | | | | |
| **Location:** | Represents views from the south of Peebles. | | | | |
| **Sensitivity:** | This viewpoint is located within the Tweed Valley SLA and is a parking area popular with locals and visitors, value is High. Susceptibility is also considered to be High as people visiting the area are expected to appreciate the views of the surrounding landscape. Overall sensitivity is **High**. | | | | |
| **Existing View:** | Views from this location are restricted by surrounding woodland, trees and roadside hedgerow with the main focal point being to the east where the hillsides on the northern side of the Tweed River are visible.<br>No operational wind farms are visible from this location.<br>Dark-skies mapping shows that this viewpoint falls within the darkest categories of night-time lighting. Light pollution is limited to sources within the Tweed Valley such as nearby Peebles. | | | | |
| | **Assessment** | | | | |
| **Predicted View:** | The Proposed Development would be seen to the north east occupying the ridgeline. Turbines would appear consistently spaced with the ridgeline screening views of the hub of Turbines 5 and 8. During construction all 8 turbines would be seen and include crane operations during their installation. The foreground ridgeline would screen the infrastructure along with turbine bases.<br>Aviation lights on 6 turbines would be visible, these would be viewed at angles between -2° to -4° resulting in light intensities of 80 to 40 ca (poor visibility) and 8 to 4 ca (clear visibility) of faint red lights above the hillsides. | | | | |

| Viewpoint 9: | Bonnington Road, Peebles (Figures 6.25a-f) |
|---|---|
| **Scenario 1 - Magnitude of Change:** | The addition of the Proposed Development to the baseline would introduce turbines to a view where wind turbines are currently absent forming a new feature on the horizon and include turbine lighting at night-time seen within the context of artificial lighting within the Tweed Valley. A combination of landform screening, distance and the open and larger scale landscape contribute to reducing the size and scale of the change which would cover a small extent of the overall view obtained. Magnitude of change is **Slight**, long-term and reversible. |
| **Scenario 1 – Visual Effects** | **Moderate** adverse and **significant** due to the viewpoints proximity where all 8 turbines would be visible during both construction and operation occupying a small part of the overall view. |
| **Cumulative Magnitude of Change** | No Scenario 2 or 3 wind farms are predicted to be visible from this location. |
| **Cumulative Effects** | **No Change** |

Table A6.5.11: Viewpoint 10: A72 road, East of Hoylee - Assessment

| Viewpoint 10: | A72 road, East of Hoylee (Figures 6.26a-f) | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Grid Coordinate:** | 339730, 637092 | **Distance to nearest turbine:** | 4.8 km (Turbine 4) | **Direction to the Proposed Development:** | North west |
| **Landscape Character Type:** | LCT 116: Upland Valley with Woodlands | **Landscape Designation:** | Tweed Valley SLA | **Visual Receptors:** | Road users |
| | **Baseline** | | | | |
| **Location:** | This viewpoint is located on the A72 south east of Hoylee and represents views of road users travelling in a west direction. As shown on the ZTV (Figure 6.2b), there is limited coverage along the A72 road and SBC requested viewpoints travelling along this road. Due to the limited sections of road predicted to receive theoretical visibility combined with health and safety issues, no photography was undertaken for this viewpoint. | | | | |
| **Sensitivity:** | This viewpoint is located within the Tweed Valley SLA and is a main route through the Scottish Borders, value is High. Susceptibility is also considered to be High as some travellers along this road are expected to appreciate the views of the Tweed Valley and surrounding hillsides. Overall sensitivity is **High**. | | | | |
| | **Assessment** | | | | |
| **Existing View:** | Views from this location tend to be focused on the direction of travel due to the steep sided valley sides which are covered in woodland to the north, and Traquair Forest to the south of the River Tweed which combined with riparian woodland along the river provides a sense of containment. None of the supporting infrastructure would be visible.<br>No operational wind farms are visible from this location.<br>Artificial lighting is limited to vehicles travelling along the road as well as lights from nearby properties within the Tweed Valley. | | | | |
| **Predicted View:** | The Proposed Development would be viewed to the north west breaking the horizon and framed by surrounding forestry. The wireline predicts that 6 turbines would be visible with intervening landform screening the bottom sections of the turbine towers, and Turbines 7 and 8 which would include aviation lighting | | | | |
| **Scenario 1 - Magnitude of Change:** | The scale and size of the change would be small due to the limited extent of the proposed turbines and number of lights visible combined with screening by landform. Which would be seen from a short section of the road with a 60 mph speed limit. Magnitude of change would be **Slight** , long-term, and reversible during daytime and night-time hours. | | | | |
| **Scenario 1 – Visual Effects** | This would result in a **Moderate significant** effect due to the Proposed Development proximity to the viewpoint and the high sensitivity of the receptor combined with the small extent of the overall view affected and contribution of screening by landform. | | | | |

| Viewpoint 10: | A72 road, East of Hoylee (Figures 6.26a-f) |
|---|---|
| **Cumulative Magnitude of Change** | No Scenario 2 and 3 wind farms would be visible from this location. |
| **Cumulative Effects** | **No Change** |

Table A6.5.12: Viewpoint 11: Innerleithen Car Park - Assessment

| Viewpoint 11: | Innerleithen, car park (Figures 6.27a-f) | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Grid Coordinate:** | 332900, 636696 | **Distance to nearest turbine:** | 5.0 km (Turbine 1) | **Direction:** | North east |
| **Landscape Character Type:** | LCT 116: Upland Valley with Woodland | **Landscape Designation:** | Tweed Valley SLA | **Visual Receptors:** | Visitors |
| **Baseline** | | | | | |
| **Location:** | Located at the car park in the western side of the village of Innerleithen next to Victoria Park and can be accessed from Saint Ronan's Terrace. | | | | |
| **Sensitivity:** | This viewpoint is in the Tweed Valley SLA, value is High. Susceptibility is also considered to be High as walkers' attention will be focussed on the views of the surrounding landscape. Overall, visual sensitivity is **High**. | | | | |
| **Existing View:** | Semi-enclosed view by surrounding built form, woodland, and rising topography to the north with semi-open views across Victoria Park to Pirn Craig.<br>No operational wind farms are visible from this location.<br>Levels of darkness are influenced by nearby street and property lights within the settlement and falls within the lower categories of dark skies. | | | | |
| **Assessment** | | | | | |
| **Predicted View:** | The blades of four turbines are predicted to break the skyline of Pirn Craig and would be further screened by forestry on the slopes reducing the extent of the blade tips visible.<br>No aviation lighting would be visible from this location due to the hubs being screened by landform. | | | | |
| **Scenario 1 - Magnitude of Change:** | Magnitude of change would be **Slight** as a result of the majority of the Proposed Development being screened which would occupy a small part of the overall view resulting in a small change in terms of size and scale to the existing view. Changes would be long-term and reversible. | | | | |
| **Scenario 1 – Visual Effects** | This would result in a **Minor** not significant effect. | | | | |
| **Cumulative Magnitude of Change** | No Scenario 2 and 3 wind farms would not be visible from this location. | | | | |
| **Cumulative Effects** | **No Change** | | | | |

Table A6.5.13: Viewpoint 12: Minor Road / NCR1 (The Batta) - Assessment

| Viewpoint 12: | Minor road/NCR1 (The Batta) (Figures 6.28a-f) | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Grid Coordinate:** | 340207, 636182 | **Distance to nearest turbine:** | 5.8 km (Turbine 5) | **Direction to the Proposed Development:** | North west |
| **Landscape Character Type:** | LCT 116: Upland Valley with Woodlands | **Landscape Designation:** | Tweed Valley SLA | **Visual Receptors:** | Road users |
| **Baseline** | | | | | |
| **Location:** | Located on the minor road on the southern bank of the River Tweed, south west of Thornielee on the northern lower slopes of Elibank Craig. | | | | |
| **Sensitivity:** | This viewpoint is located within the Tweed Valley SLA and is a popular road recreationally, value is High. Susceptibility is also considered to be High as recreational users are expected to appreciate the views of the Tweed Valley. Overall sensitivity is **Hig**h. | | | | |
| **Existing View:** | Views at this location are relatively contained due to the Tweed Valley narrowing between Thornylee Craigs and Elibank, which when combined with the forested hill sides, riparian woodland along the River Tweed, and field boundary trees, reduces the extent of views. The main focus at this location is along the valley to the north east and north west where an opening in the tree cover allows views onto the River Tweed floodplain.<br>No operational wind farms are visible from this location.<br>Artificial lighting is limited to vehicles periodically travelling along the minor road as well as the A72 road to the north and lights from nearby properties within the Tweed Valley. | | | | |
| **Assessment** | | | | | |
| **Predicted View:** | The Proposed Development would be viewed to the north west and framed by foreground hillsides where it would appear prominent and skylined. Turbines 4 & 5 would overlap and there would be some heavy filtering by foreground trees of Turbines 1, 2 and 3. Crane operations during the installation of the turbines would be visible during construction. None of the supporting infrastructure would be visible from this location due to screening by landform.<br>No aviation lights would be visible due to the horizontal angle of the lights and elevation of the viewpoint location. | | | | |
| **Scenario 1 - Magnitude of Change:** | The addition of the Proposed Development to the baseline would introduce turbines closer to the viewpoint location, forming a new feature which would be relatively close. A combination of distance, screening by landform and trees and the open view at this location contribute to reducing the size and scale of the change covering a small extent of the overall view obtained. Magnitude of change is considered to be **Moderate**, long term and reversible. | | | | |
| **Scenario 1 – Visual Effects** | **Moderate** adverse and **significant** due to the viewpoints close proximity where 2 turbines would be clearly visible during both construction and operation and a further 5 turbines partially screened by existing tree cover. | | | | |
| **Cumulative Magnitude of Change** | No Scenario 2 and 3 wind farms would be visible from this location. | | | | |
| **Cumulative Effects** | **No Change** | | | | |

Table A6.5.14: Viewpoint 13: Traquair - Assessment

| Viewpoint 13: | Traquair (Figures 6.29a-f) | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Grid Coordinate:** | 332674, 635209 | **Distance to nearest turbine:** | 6.3 km (Turbine 1) | **Direction:** | North east |
| **Landscape Character Type:** | LCT 116: Upland Valley with Woodlands | **Landscape Designation:** | Traquair Garden & Designed Landscape<br>Tweed Valley SLA | **Visual Receptors:** | Visitors |
| **Baseline** | | | | | |
| **Location:** | Located on the main drive facing Traquair House, this viewpoint was requested by Historic Environment Scotland to represent the view from the historic avenue and approach towards the main house. | | | | |
| **Sensitivity:** | This viewpoint is located within Traquair Garden and Designed Landscape (GDL) and is considered to have a **High** value and susceptibility resulting in a **High** sensitivity on account of being included in the Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes maintained by Historic Environment Scotland under the terms of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. | | | | |
| **Existing View:** | Enclosed by an avenue of broadleaved trees, views from the gate are down the main drive towards Traquir House which sits at the end of the drive framed by trees. Views to the side of the drive are limited by mature | | | | |

| Viewpoint 13: | Traquair (Figures 6.29a-f) |
|---|---|
| | trees which allow heavily filtered to glimpses of the fields beyond the policies contained by the surrounding hillsides to the north and south of the Tweed Valley.<br>No operational wind farms are visible from this location.<br>Artificial lighting is limited to vehicles travelling along nearby minor roads, properties within the grounds, and sky glow from nearby Innerleithen. |
| | **Assessment** |
| **Predicted View:** | Heavily filtered by avenue trees, the proposed turbines would be glimpsed above the adjacent hillside of Kirnie Law but partially screened by landform reducing their vertical prominence and occupy a small extent of the overall view. Turbines 2, 3 and 6 would be visible at hub height and Turbines 1, 5 and 7 limited to blade tips and barely perceptible above the forested hill summits.<br>No aviation lights would be visible due to the horizontal angle of the lights and elevation of the viewpoint location which reduces the extent of theoretical visibility within the GDL grounds. |
| **Scenario 1 - Magnitude of Change:** | Magnitude of change would be **Slight** as a result of the small extent of the overall view affected combined with screening by landform and foreground avenue of trees. Changes occurring would be long-term and reversible. |
| **Scenario 1 – Visual Effects** | This would result in a **Moderate** and not significant effect due to the small extent that the Proposed Development would occupy which would not be in the main view and be partially screened by landform and foreground trees. |
| **Cumulative Magnitude of Change** | No Scenario 2 and 3 wind farms would be visible from this location. |
| **Cumulative Effects** | **No Change** |

Table A6.5.15: Viewpoint 14: Peel - Assessment

| Viewpoint 14: | Peel (Figures 6.30a-f) | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Grid Coordinate:** | 343488, 635066 | **Distance to nearest turbine:** | 8.5 km<br>(Turbine 5) | **Direction to the Proposed Development:** | North west |
| **Landscape Character Type:** | LCT 116: Upland Valley with Woodland | **Landscape Designation:** | Tweed, Ettrick & Yarrow SLA | **Visual Receptors:** | Recreational Users |
| | **Baseline** | | | | |
| **Location:** | Located on the riverbank to the north of Peel, this viewpoint was moved from the minor road to the south due to the view being heavily filtered by roadside trees. | | | | |
| **Sensitivity:** | Both the value of views obtained, and susceptibility are High due to the viewpoint representing recreational users such as people fishing. Overall, visual sensitivity is **High**. | | | | |
| **Existing View:** | Views from this location are relatively well contained due to a narrowing of the Tweed Valley where valley sides and woodland cover limit the extent of visibility to the immediate river and surrounding fields.<br>No operational wind farms are visible from this location.<br>Artificial lighting is limited to vehicles travelling along the nearby minor road to the south as well as the A72 to the north and lights from nearby properties. | | | | |
| | **Assessment** | | | | |
| **Predicted View:** | Landform and forestry would limit views to the blade tips of three turbine blades to the north west above the horizon. No aviation lighting would be visible due to the screening of hubs by landform. | | | | |
| **Scenario 1 - Magnitude of Change:** | Magnitude of change would be **Slight** as a result of the very small extent of the overall view affected combined with screening by landform and foreground forestry. | | | | |

| Viewpoint 14: | Peel (Figures 6.30a-f) |
|---|---|
| **Scenario 1 – Visual Effects** | This would result in a **Minor** not significant effect. |
| **Cumulative Magnitude of Change** | No Scenario 2 and 3 wind farms would be visible from this location. |
| **Cumulative Effects** | **No Change** |

Table A6.5.16: Viewpoint 15: Hundleshope Heights - Assessment

| Viewpoint 15: | Hundleshope Heights (Figures 6.31a-f) | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Grid Coordinate:** | 324998, 633883 | **Distance to nearest turbine:** | 12.9 km<br>(Turbine 1) | **Direction to the Proposed Development:** | North east |
| **Landscape Character Type:** | LCT 95: Southern Uplands - Borders | **Landscape Designation:** | Upper Tweeddale NSA<br>Tweedsmuir Uplands SLA | **Visual Receptors:** | Walkers |
| | **Baseline** | | | | |
| **Location:** | This viewpoint is located on the eastern extent of the Upper Tweeddale NSA and is a hill popular with walkers, sometimes included as part of the Glensax Circuit. Access to the summit is via a path connecting Dead Side to the north east of the summit which joins the minor road to Glensax | | | | |
| **Sensitivity:** | This viewpoint is located within the Tweeddale NSA and the Tweedsmuir Uplands SLA and is a summit frequently visited by walkers. The value of views is High on account of being designated at a national level. Susceptibility is also considered to be High as walkers' attention will be focussed on the surrounding landscape. Overall, visual sensitivity is **High**. | | | | |
| **Existing View:** | Extensive open 360-degree views can be obtained of the surrounding upland landscape which is also interspersed with sections of the surrounding valleys which dissect the hill ranges.<br>Several operational wind farms can be observed from the summit during clear weather, these include Bowbeat (13.2 km) to the north, Dun Law (29.8 km), Fallago Rig (40.7 km), Black Hill (52.3 km) and Longpark (23.3 km) all to the north east are visible on clear days forming distant features. To the north west, distant views of Harburnhead (32.0 km), Peatie Law (34.3 km) Pates Hill (34.1 km), Muirhall (29.0 km) and Tormywheel (37.8 km) form distant clusters that are barely perceptible. To the south east is Langhope Rig (20.6 km), and Clyde 1 & 2 (26.3 km) to the south west visible on a clear day.<br>Dark-skies mapping shows that this viewpoint falls within the darkest categories of night-time lighting. Light pollution is limited to sources in the Tweed Valley to the north. | | | | |
| | **Assessment** | | | | |
| **Predicted View:** | The Proposed Development would be viewed to the north east on Windlestraw Law and connecting ridgelines and appear as a linear arrangement evenly spaced in two sets of four turbines.<br>All 8 aviation lights would be experienced from the summit, these would be viewed at angles between 3° to -1° resulting at light intensities of 2,000 to 750 ca (poor visibility) and 200 to 75 ca (clear visibility), but at 12.9 km, form a very faint red light during periods of clear visibility. on the horizon. | | | | |
| **Scenario 1 - Magnitude of Change:** | The addition of the Proposed Development would be more prominent than the existing baseline view of wind turbines which are set further back forming distant features. A combination of distance and the open and larger scale landscape contribute to reducing the size and scale of the change which would cover a small extent of the overall view obtained. Aviation lights would be visible of all 8 turbines but distant and seen within the context of sky glow from nearby settlements. Magnitude of change is **Slight**, long-term and reversible during daytime and night-time. | | | | |
| **Scenario 1 – Visual Effects** | **Moderate** adverse and **significant** due to the viewpoints higher sensitivity combined with the open and elevated views obtained for effects during daytime and night-time.. | | | | |

| Viewpoint 15: | Hundleshope Heights (Figures 6.31a-f) |
|---|---|
| **Cumulative Magnitude of Change** | Scenario 2 wind farms are limited to Cloich (12.6 km to the north west, and distant views of Heathland (35.3 km), Longhill Burn (35.9 km) and Tormywheel II (37.8 km) to the north west, and Pine Burn (39.8 km) to the south east which would be barely perceptible.<br>Scenario 3 wind farms include Greystone Knowe (20.0) to the north east, Heathland (35.3 km) and Cloich (12.6 km) Variations to the north west all of which are partially visible above midground ridges. It is not considered that the addition of the Proposed Development to Scenarios 2 and 3 would alter the magnitude of change predicted for Scenario 1 as the developments mentioned are all set further back from the viewpoint location. The Cloich Scenario 2 and 3 developments would be seen at similar distances but would clearly define as separate developments seen successively from the summit. |
| **Cumulative Effects** | No change |

### Table A6.5.17: Viewpoint 16: SUW/B709 road near Kirkhouse - Assessment

| Viewpoint 16: | SUW/B709 road near Kirkhouse (Figures 6.32a-g) | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Grid Coordinate:** | 332258, 633752 | **Distance to nearest turbine:** | 7.8 km<br>(Turbine 1) | **Direction to the Proposed Development:** | North east |
| **Landscape Character Type:** | LCT 116: Upland Valley with Woodlands | **Landscape Designation:** | Tweed Valley & Tweedsmuir Uplands SLA | **Visual Receptors:** | Walkers / Road users |
| | **Baseline** | | | | |
| **Location:** | This viewpoint is located on the B709 road between Traquir and Kirkhouse. | | | | |
| **Sensitivity:** | This viewpoint is located on the edge of the Tweed Valley and Tweedsmuir Uplands SLA and located on the SUW; value is High. Susceptibility is also considered to be High as walkers' attention will be focussed on the views of the surrounding landscape. Overall, visual sensitivity is **High**. | | | | |
| **Existing View:** | Views from this location are focussed on the foreground undulating farmland and generally contained by the surrounding landform and larger hillsides beyond, combined with hedgerows, trees, and woodland. No operational wind farms are visible from this location.<br>Dark-skies mapping shows that this viewpoint falls within the upper categories of darkness. Light pollution is limited to sources within the Tweed Valley to the north. | | | | |
| | **Assessment** | | | | |
| **Predicted View:** | The Proposed Development would be viewed to the north east where all 8 turbines would be seen above the horizon at various elevations occupying a small part of the overall view, but prominent.<br>All 8 of the aviation lights would be visible, these would be viewed at angles between -3° to -4° resulting in light intensities of 40 to 10 ca (poor visibility) and 4 to 1 ca (clear visibility) forming faint red lights above the horizon (see Figure 6.32g). | | | | |
| **Scenario 1 - Magnitude of Change:** | The addition of the Proposed Development to the baseline would introduce turbines closer to the viewpoint location, forming a new feature which would be relatively close as well as night-time aviation lighting. A combination of distance, landform screening of the lower sections of turbine towers, open views, and reduced lighting intensities due to mitigation, contribute to reducing the size and scale of the change. Magnitude of change is considered to be **Moderate**, long term and reversible. | | | | |
| **Scenario 1 – Visual Effects** | **Moderate** adverse and **significant** due to the viewpoints proximity where all 8 turbines would be visible during both construction and operation. | | | | |
| **Cumulative Magnitude of Change** | No Scenario 2 or 3 wind farms are visible from this location. | | | | |
| **Cumulative Effects** | **No Change** | | | | |

### Table A6.5.18: Viewpoint 17: SUW, Minch Moor - Assessment

| Viewpoint 17: | SUW, Minch Moor (Figures 6.33a-g) | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Grid Coordinate:** | 335871, 633059 | **Distance to nearest turbine:** | 7.6 km<br>(Turbine 1) | **Direction to the Proposed Development:** | North |
| **Landscape Character Type:** | LCT 93: Southern Uplands with Scattered Forest - Borders | **Landscape Designation:** | Tweedsmuir Uplands SLA | **Visual Receptors:** | Walkers |
| | **Baseline** | | | | |
| **Location:** | This viewpoint is located on the summit of Minch Moor, a highpoint on the SUW located to the south of Innerleithen. The closest access point is from Traquair to the north west where the SUW and Cross Borders Drove Road can be followed in a south east direction, on reaching the northern slopes of Minch Moor, there are several paths that lead off the main route to the south towards the summit. | | | | |
| **Sensitivity:** | This viewpoint is located within the Tweedsmuir Uplands SLA, on the SUW and is a popular recreational route. The value of views is High. Susceptibility is also considered to be High as walkers' attention will be focussed on the views of the surrounding landscape. Overall, visual sensitivity is **High**. | | | | |
| **Existing View:** | Open 360-degree views of the surrounding uplands can be obtained from the summit with nearby forestry providing some foreground screening to the Tweed Valley to the north.<br>The operational Bowbeat Wind Farm (14.9 km) can be viewed to the north, Longpark (14.3 km) to the north east, and Langhope Rig (13.2 km) to the south. On clear days it is also possible to see the larger clusters of Dun Law (25.4 km), Keith Hill, Pogbie (27.2 km), Toddleburn (21.5 km), Fallago Rig (33.5 km), Aikengall (45.8 km) to the north east, and Muirhall (38.7 km), and Tormywheel (46.3 km)to the north west.<br>Dark-skies mapping shows that this viewpoint falls within the darkest categories of night-time lighting. Light pollution is limited to sources within the Tweed Valley to the north. | | | | |
| | **Assessment** | | | | |
| **Predicted View:** | The Proposed Development be prominent on the skyline of Windlestraw Law and connecting ridgelines to the north and appear as a tight cluster of turbines at various elevations with minimal overlap between blades and would be more prominent than operational sites due to it's proximity to the viewpoint location and lack of landform screening. Some of the supporting infrastructure would also be visible, reducing in prominence following construction as vegetation establishes.<br>All 8 of the aviation lights would be visible, these would be viewed at angles between 0° to -2° resulting in light intensities of 2,000 to 80 ca (poor visibility) and 200 to 8 ca (clear visibility) comprising faint red lights experienced within the context of sky glow from artificial lighting at Innerleithen (see Figure 6.33g). | | | | |
| **Scenario 1 - Magnitude of Change:** | The open and large scale of the landscape contributes to reducing the size and scale of the change which would cover a small extent of the overall view obtained and include turbines during daytime and all 8 aviation lights at night-time. This would be long-term and reversible and magnitude of change is considered to be **Moderate** during the daytime and at night-time. | | | | |
| **Scenario 1 – Visual Effects** | **Major** adverse and **significant** effect due to high sensitivity combined with proximity to the viewpoint location where all 8 turbines would form a prominent feature. | | | | |
| **Cumulative Magnitude of Change** | Scenario 2 wind farms would form distant elements within the view and include Crystal IV (44.8 km) to the north east, and the cluster of Heathland, Longhill Burn, Tormeywheel II (40.6 km) and Cloich (20.1 km) to the north west, the latter being more obvious in the view due to its proximity to the viewpoint and the larger cluster beyond barely perceptible.<br>Scenario 3 wind farms include Greystones Knowe (15.6 km) to the north, and Faw Side (32.5 km) to the south. Greystone Knowe would be seen partially visible above the skyline to the right of the Proposed Development but largely screened by landform. Both Scenarios would result in an increase in turbines viewed from this viewpoint in the surrounding area. However, the developments identified would be set further back from the viewpoint and partially screened by landform. The addition of the Proposed Development to both baselines would result in turbines becoming more prominent within the view but would not lead to an increase in magnitude of change assessed for Scenario 1 for the reasons given. | | | | |

| Viewpoint 17: | SUW, Minch Moor (Figures 6.33a-g) |
|---|---|
| **Cumulative Effects** | **No Change** |

Table A6.5.19: Viewpoint 18: Eildon Hills - Assessment

| Viewpoint 18: | Eildon Hills (Figures 6.34a-f) | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Grid Coordinate:** | 354819, 632291 | **Distance to nearest turbine:** | 20.0 km | **Direction to the Proposed Development:** | North west |
| **Landscape Character Type:** | LCT 102: Upland Fringe with Prominent Hills | **Landscape Designation:** | Eildon & Leaderfoot NSA | **Visual Receptors:** | Walkers |
| | **Baseline** | | | | |
| **Location:** | This viewpoint is located on the summit of Eildon Mid Hill situated to the south of Melrose and accessed via footpaths to the east or west, the latter joining the SUW as it passes between Eildon Mid Hill and Eildon Hill North. | | | | |
| **Sensitivity:** | This viewpoint is located within the Eildon Hills NSA and the Tweedsmuir Uplands SLA and is a summit frequently visited by walkers. The value of views is High on account of being designated at a national level. Susceptibility is also considered to be High as walkers' attention will be focussed on the surrounding landscape. Overall, visual sensitivity is **High**. | | | | |
| **Existing View:** | Obtains elevated 360-degree views across the surrounding lowland valleys as well as nearby uplands and includes extensive views to the south.<br>Several operational wind farms can be seen from this location, the most noticeable being Longpark (11.5 km) to the north west, and Langhope Rig (17.4 km) to the south west. Beyond the closest operational sites, it is possible to see Toddleburn (22.4 km), Pogbie (26.1 km) and Dun Law (24.9 km) to the north west, Fallago Rig (26.0 km), Crystal Rig 36.2 km) cluster and Black Hill (29.1 km) to the north east which form distant features on clear days.<br>Dark-skies mapping shows that this viewpoint falls within the upper categories of darkness but is influenced by nearby artificial lighting from Melrose and surrounding settlements. | | | | |
| | **Assessment** | | | | |
| **Predicted View:** | The Proposed Development would form a distant feature on the skyline to the north west covering broadly the same horizontal extent as Longpark with an increase in spacing between turbines.<br>All 8 of the aviation lights would be visible, these would be viewed at angles between 0° to -2° resulting in light intensities of 2,000 to 80 ca (poor visibility) and 200 to 8 ca (clear visibility) but would be very faint and viewed within the context of intervening light pollution within the Tweed Valley. | | | | |
| **Scenario 1 - Magnitude of Change:** | The Proposed Development would occupy a small part of the overall view and the scale and size of the change would be small at the distance between the Proposed Development and viewpoint location. All 8 aviation lights are predicted to be visible but at a considerable distance and viewed within the context of skyglow from nearby settlements. Magnitude of change would be **Slight** , long-term and reversible. | | | | |
| **Scenario 1 – Visual Effects** | This would result in a **Minor** not significant effect due to distance and the small part of the overall view affected. | | | | |
| **Cumulative Magnitude of Change** | Scenario 2 wind farms would be barely perceptible from this location due to distance and screening by landform and include Crystal Rig IV (35.9 km) to the north east and Pines Burn (25.5 km) to the south west.<br>Scenario 3 wind farms include Greystones Knowe (21.9 km) to the north, and Faw Side(36.1 km) to the south. Greystone Knowe would be seen behind and to the left side of Longpark giving the impression of one larger wind farm and extend turbines west. The addition of the Proposed Development would further extend turbines westwards but there would be a sufficient space between Greystone Knowe and the view would not become dominated by wind turbines. Cumulative magnitude of change would remain similar to that assessed in Scenario 1 due to the small part of the overall view occupied by the Proposed Development and distance from the viewpoint. | | | | |
| **Cumulative Effects** | **No Change** | | | | |

Table A6.5.20: Viewpoint 19: Three Brethen - Assessment

| Viewpoint 19: | Three Brethren (Figures 6.35a-f) | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Grid Coordinate:** | 343273, 631930 | **Distance to nearest turbine:** | 11.1 km | **Direction to the Proposed Development:** | North west |
| **Landscape Character Type:** | LCT 93: Southern Uplands with Scattered Forest - Borders | **Landscape Designation:** | Tweed, Ettrick & Yarrow SLA | **Visual Receptors:** | Walkers |
| | **Baseline** | | | | |
| **Location:** | Located on the SUW to the west of Fernilee GDL and accessed from the A707 road at Yair. | | | | |
| **Sensitivity:** | This viewpoint is located within the Tweed, Ettrick & Yarrow and is a popular summit for walkers, value is High. Susceptibility is also considered to be High as walkers' attention will be focussed on the views of the surrounding landscape. Overall, visual sensitivity is **High**. | | | | |
| **Existing View:** | Obtains extensive views across the surrounding uplands in all directions.<br>Several operational wind farms can be viewed from the summit, the most noticeable of these is Longpark (10.4 km) to the north, and Langhope Rig (11.03 km) to the south west. Thereafter, operational wind farms become more distant features visible on a clear day and include the large cluster of Dun Law (3.8 km), Toddleburn (20.4 km), Pogbie (26.1 km), Fallago Rig (30.2 km), Aikengall (44.0 km) and Black Hill (37.6 km) to the north east, and Bowbeat (20.0 km) to the north west,<br>Dark-skies mapping shows that this viewpoint falls within the darkest categories of night-time lighting. Light pollution is limited to sources in the more settled valleys to the north and north east. | | | | |
| | **Assessment** | | | | |
| **Predicted View:** | The Proposed Development would be viewed to the north west on Windlestraw Law and the connecting ridges and appear as a consistently spaced array, the exception being the overlap between Turbines 4 and 5. Some short sections of access track will be visible during construction but would be less apparent during operation once restoration has been completed and disturbed soil revegetated.<br>All 8 of the aviation lights would be visible, these would be viewed at angles between 0° to -2° resulting in light intensities of 2,000 to 80 ca (poor visibility) and 200 to 8 ca (clear visibility) resulting in faint red lights seen above the hillsides. | | | | |
| **Scenario 1 - Magnitude of Change:** | The open and large scale of the landscape contributes to reducing the size and scale of the change which would cover a small extent of the overall view obtained and include 8 aviation lights . This would be long-term and reversible resulting in a Slight magnitude of change. | | | | |
| **Scenario 1 – Visual Effects** | **Moderate** adverse and **significant** due to distance between the Proposed Development and viewpoint location, the high sensitivity of the receptor where all 8 turbines would be prominent features. | | | | |
| **Cumulative Magnitude of Change** | Scenario 2 wind farms would be barely perceptible from this location due to distance and screening by landform and include Crystal Rig IV (41.2 km) to the north east and Cloich (26.7 km) to the north west.<br>Scenario 3 wind farms include Cloich Variation (26.7 km) and Greystones Knowe (17.0 km) to the north, and Faw Side (32.3 km) to the south west. Greystone Knowe would be partially visible above the skyline in combined visibility with the Proposed Development but not to a degree that would increase the assessment undertaken for Scenario 1. | | | | |
| **Cumulative Effects** | **No Change** | | | | |

Table A6.5.21: Viewpoint 20: Selkirk Common - Assessment

| Viewpoint 20: | Selkirk Common (Figures 6.36a-f) | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Grid Coordinate:** | 348957, 627553 | **Distance to nearest turbine:** | 18.1 km (Turbine 5) | **Direction:** | North west |

| Viewpoint 20: | Selkirk Common (Figures 6.36a-f) | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Landscape Character Type:** | LCT 102: Upland Fringe with Prominent Hills | **Landscape Designation:** | None | **Visual Receptors:** | Walkers |
| | **Baseline** | | | | |
| **Location:** | This viewpoint is located on Selkirk Common to the east of the town and accessed via network of local footpaths. | | | | |
| **Sensitivity:** | This viewpoint is popular for walkers, value is High. Susceptibility is also considered to be High as walkers' attention will be focussed on the views of the surrounding landscape. Overall, visual sensitivity is **High**. | | | | |
| **Existing View:** | From this location views are across rolling farmland interspersed with woodland and shelterbelt planting resulting in open extensive to semi-enclosed views to the north and north west. Elsewhere, foreground landform curtails views. Several operational wind farms are visible for this location and include Bowbeat (27.1 km) to the north west, and Toddleburn (25.1 km), Longpark (13.9 km) and Dun Law (28.2 km) to the north, Langhope Rig (9.8 km) is partially visible to the south east.<br>Dark-skies mapping shows that this viewpoint falls within the upper categories of darkness. Light pollution is limited to sources to the north around Selkirk and individual properties in the surrounding farmland. | | | | |
| | **Assessment** | | | | |
| **Predicted View:** | The Proposed Development would form a distant feature on the skyline forming a cluster of turbines and would be more prominent than the operational developments seen further to the north beyond the midground hillside.<br>All 8 of the aviation lights would be visible, these would be viewed at angles of -1° to -2° resulting in light intensities of 750 to 80 ca (poor visibility) and 75 to 8 ca (clear visibility) but would be very faint and viewed within the context of intervening light pollution from the Tweed Valley. | | | | |
| **Scenario 1 - Magnitude of Change:** | The size and scale of the change in view would be small due to the distances involved and the small extent that the Proposed Development occupies within the view which would include 8 aviation lights during night-time. Magnitude of change would be **Slight** , long-term and reversible during both daytime and night-time.. | | | | |
| **Scenario 1 – Visual Effects** | This would result in a **Minor** not significant effect due to the small part of the view occupied combined with distance. | | | | |
| **Cumulative Magnitude of Change** | One Scenario 3 wind farm would be visible in combined visibility with the Proposed Development. Greystone Knowe would be partially visible above the skyline to the north but not to a degree that would alter the assessment undertaken for Scenario 1. | | | | |
| **Cumulative Effects** | **No Change** | | | | |

Table A6.5.22: Viewpoint 21: Clovenfords - Assessment

| Viewpoint 21: | Clovenfords (Figures 6.37a-f) | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Grid Coordinate:** | 345053, 636256 | **Distance to nearest turbine:** | 9.5 km (Turbine 5) | **Direction to the Proposed Development:** | North west |
| **Landscape Character Type:** | LCT 103: Undulating Upland Fringe | **Landscape Designation:** | Tweed, Ettrick & Yarrow SLA | **Visual Receptors:** | Residents |
| | **Baseline** | | | | |
| **Location:** | This viewpoint is located within the settlement of Clovenfords and was requested during consultation with the Community Council. The viewpoint location was chosen following a review of the ZTV and verification on site to ensure it was taken from the most elevated area with a clear view towards the Proposed Development. | | | | |
| **Sensitivity:** | The sensitivity of the settlement is judged to be High as residential receptors represent High value receptors with a **High** susceptibility to visual change owing to their fixed position. | | | | |
| **Existing View:** | Views from this location are contained by a combination of foreground housing and adjacent hill sides, resulting in framed views of the surrounding agricultural land. | | | | |

| Viewpoint 21: | Clovenfords (Figures 6.37a-f) |
|---|---|
| | The wireline predicts that the blade tips of Longpark would be visible from the north western periphery of the settlement (screened on visualisations by foreground building). Otherwise, no operational wind farms are visible from this location.<br>As the viewpoint is located within the settlement, levels of darkness are affected by street lighting and lights from adjacent properties. |
| | **Assessment** |
| **Predicted View:** | The Proposed Development would be partially visible to the north west but heavily filtered by intervening woodland on the foreground ridgeline.<br>The aviation lights on Turbine 1 would be visible, these would be viewed at angles between -2° to -4° resulting in light intensities of 80 to 40 ca (poor visibility) and 8 to 4 ca (clear visibility) and barely visible above the ridgeline. |
| **Scenario 1 - Magnitude of Change:** | Magnitude of change would be **Slight** due to the small extent of the overall view affected where one turbine would be lit and seen at night-time combined with screening by landform and woodland. |
| **Scenario 1 – Visual Effects** | This would result in a **Minor** not significant effect due to screening and the small extent of the view affected during day and night-time. |
| **Cumulative Magnitude of Change** | No Scenario 2 or 3 wind farms are visible from this location. |
| **Cumulative Effects** | **No Change** |

Table A6.5.23: Viewpoint 22: Cairn Hill Cairn - Assessment

| Viewpoint 22: | Cairn Hill Cairn (Figures 6.38a-f) | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Grid Coordinate:** | 3364499, 638655 | **Distance to nearest turbine:** | 2.0 km (Turbine 1) | **Direction:** | North |
| **Landscape Character Type:** | LCT 116: Upland Valley with Woodland | **Landscape Designation:** | TWEED Valley SLA | **Visual Receptors:** | Walkers |
| | **Baseline** | | | | |
| **Location:** | Located on a local summit directly to the north of Walkerburn and accessed from a Core Path leading from the village. | | | | |
| **Sensitivity:** | This viewpoint is a popular summit for walkers, value is High. Susceptibility is also considered to be High as walkers' attention will be focussed on the views of the surrounding landscape. Overall, visual sensitivity is **High**. | | | | |
| **Existing View:** | Obtains open views to the north onto adjacent uplands, and to the south across the Tweed Valley towards Minch Moor. Views in other directions limited by foreground forestry.<br>The operational wind farms of Bowbeat (10.4 km), Fallago Rig (28.9 km)and Black Hill (39.9 km) are shown on the wirelines to be visible, but in reality, Bowbeat would be visible breaking the horizon to the north west and the other wind farms would be barely perceptible due to distance and screening by landform.<br>Dark-skies mapping shows that this viewpoint falls within the darkest categories of night-time lighting. Light pollution is limited to sources in the Tweed Valley to the south such as sky glow from nearby Walkerburn. | | | | |
| | **Assessment** | | | | |
| **Predicted View:** | The Proposed Development would be viewed to the north where all 8 turbines would be seen occupying the upper reaches of Windlestraw Rig and connecting ridges. Five of the turbines would be spaced evenly apart at slightly different elevations whilst Turbines 1, 2 and 3 would overlap considerably from this direction. Sections of access tracks would be visible, more so during construction, becoming less visible once disturbed ground has revegetated.<br>Aviation lights on Turbines 4 and 5 as well as 7 and 8 would be visible at angles between -3° to -4° resulting in light intensities of 40 to 10 ca (poor visibility) and 4 to 1 ca (clear visibility). A reflection of the lights on the | | | | |

| Viewpoint 22: | Cairn Hill Cairn (Figures 6.38a-f) |
|---|---|
| | remaining turbines would be experienced when the bottom of the blade passes the vertical position due to the viewpoints proximity to the Proposed Development. |
| **Scenario 1 - Magnitude of Change:** | The size and scale of the change in view would be large where the proposed turbines would be prominent features to the north and include partial views of the supporting infrastructure, and close views of all 8 of the aviation lights at night-time in an area currently with reduced artificial lighting. Magnitude of change is **Substantial**, long-term, and reversible. |
| **Scenario 1 – Visual Effects** | **Major** adverse and **significant** due to the viewpoints proximity where all 8 turbines would be visible during both construction and operation and include all 8 aviation lights at night-time. |
| **Cumulative Magnitude of Change** | Views of Scenario 2 and 3 sites would be limited by a combination of distance and screening from landform and would not increase the effects predicted for Scenario 1. |
| **Cumulative Effects** | **No Change** |

**Table A6.5.24: Viewpoint 23: SUW, Blake Muir - Assessment**

| Viewpoint 23: | SUW, Blake Muir (Figures 6.39a-f) | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Grid Coordinate:** | 330248, 630747 | **Distance to nearest turbine:** | 11.4 km (Turbine 1) | **Direction to the Proposed Development:** | North east |
| **Landscape Character Type:** | LCT 93: Southern Uplands with Scattered Forest - Borders | **Landscape Designation:** | Tweedsmuir Uplands SLA | **Visual Receptors:** | Walkers |
| | **Baseline** | | | | |
| **Location:** | This viewpoint is located on an elevated point on the SUW to the south west of Traquair House. The path can be accessed from the B709 road to the north east close to Kirkhouse. | | | | |
| **Sensitivity:** | This viewpoint is within the Tweedsmuir Uplands SLA and on the SUW, value is High. Susceptibility is also considered to be High as walkers' attention will be focussed on the views of the surrounding landscape. Overall, visual sensitivity is **High**. | | | | |
| **Existing View:** | Obtains elevated views mainly looking north towards Innerleithen which lies nestled between the lower slopes of Lee Pen and Priesthope Hill. Includes extensive views across the surrounding uplands including the forested slopes of Minch Moor and the lowland farmland surrounding Traquair House.<br>Views of operational wind farms are limited to turbines breaking the horizon to the north and include Bowbeat (15.8 km), and Longpark (20.2 km) to the north east.<br>Dark-skies mapping shows that this viewpoint falls within the darkest categories of night-time lighting. Light pollution is limited to sources in the Tweed Valley to the north including Innerleithen. | | | | |
| | **Assessment** | | | | |
| **Predicted View:** | The proposed turbines would be viewed to the north east along the ridgeline above the settlement of Innerleithen. Turbines would form a tight cluster with some blade overlap occurring but broadly follow the contours of the landform and prominent within the view. Some of the supporting infrastructure would also be visible, reducing in prominence following construction as vegetation establishes.<br>Aviation lights on all 8 turbines would be visible at angles between -0° to -2° resulting in light intensities of 2,000 to 80 ca (poor visibility) and 200 to 8 ca (clear visibility) appearing as faint red lights experienced in the context of sky glow from the street lights of Innerleithen. | | | | |
| **Scenario 1 - Magnitude of Change:** | The addition of the Proposed Development to the baseline would introduce turbines to a view currently limited to the blade tips of Bowbeat forming a new feature which would be relatively close. A combination of distance and the open and larger scale landscape contribute to reducing the size and scale of the change which would cover a small extent of the overall view obtained and include views of 8 turbines. Magnitude of change is **Slight** during both day-time and night-time.. | | | | |
| **Scenario 1 – Visual Effects** | **Moderate** adverse and **significant** due to the viewpoints proximity where all 8 turbines would be visible and prominent during both construction and operation. | | | | |

| Viewpoint 23: | SUW, Blake Muir (Figures 6.39a-f) |
|---|---|
| **Cumulative Magnitude of Change** | No Scenario 2 or 3 wind farms are visible from this location. |
| **Cumulative Effects** | No Change |