

Hagshaw Energy Cluster Western Expansion | Phase 1

Landscape & Visual Impacts

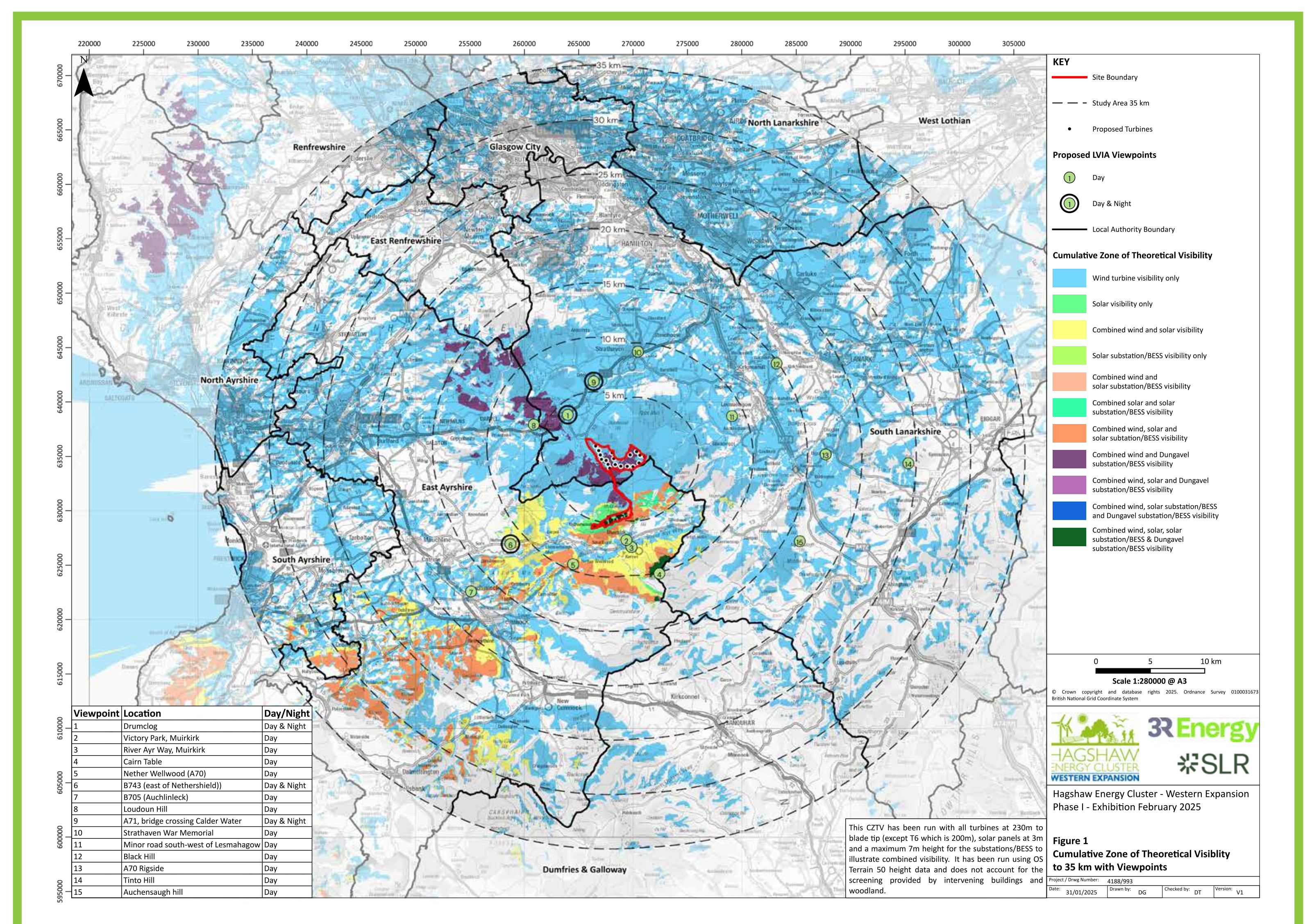
It is acknowledged from the outset that, in common with almost all commercial wind energy developments, some landscape and visual effects would occur as a result of the proposals, including some significant effects. A key principle of the European Landscape Convention is that all landscapes matter and should be managed appropriately. It is also acknowledged that landscapes provide the surroundings for people's daily lives and often contribute positively to the quality of life and economic performance of an area. The EIA will therefore consider what impacts there will be on the local landscape and key viewpoints from the proposed development.

Selected Viewpoint Locations & ZTV

A series of key representative viewpoint locations around the local area have been identified and agreed with the Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit, South Lanarkshire Council, East Ayrshire Council and NatureScot for use in the landscape and visual assessment.

A zone of theoretical visibility (ZTV) map was created as a starting point to illustrate the geographical area within which views of development on site are theoretically possible. The ZTV and selected viewpoint locations are shown on the figure to the right.

Turbines over 150 m are required by the Civil Aviation Authority to be fitted with visible aviation warning lighting. The Landscape & Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) will therefore also include an assessment of the effects which would arise from this during low light conditions.

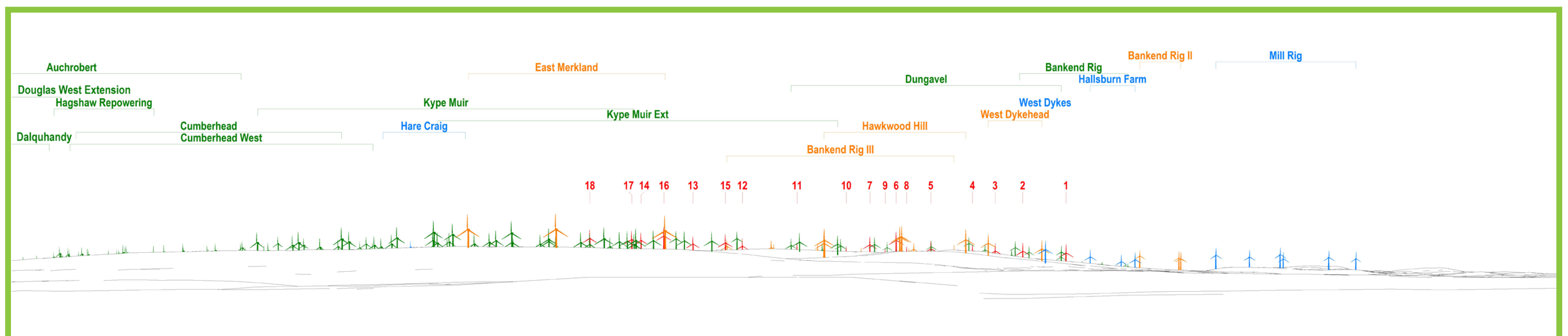


View from Strathaven

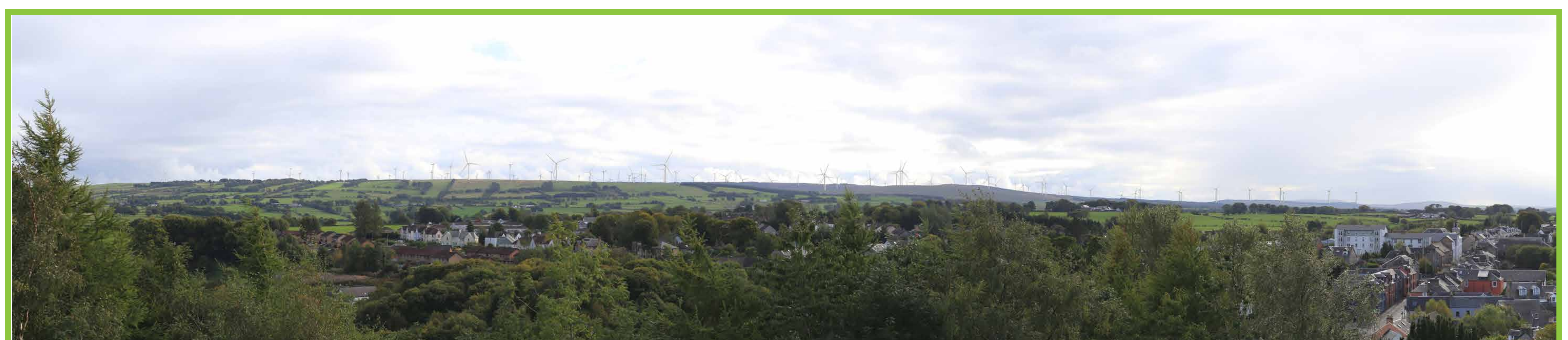
Although the final specification of the turbines is not known at this time, they are likely to be up to 230 m maximum tip height (except T6, 200m), each with a generating capacity of up to approximately 7.2 MW. A visualisation (Viewpoint 10) has been prepared from the Strathaven War Memorial to show how the proposed development layout (shown on the figure on the Proposed Development Board) would look.



Baseline photograph showing the current view looking south from the Strathaven War Memorial.



Cumulative bare-earth wireline view looking south from the Strathaven War Memorial showing the proposed development turbines in dark red, consented but not yet built turbines in light blue, operational/under construction turbines in green, in-planning turbines in orange, and Scoping stage turbines in purple.



Photomontage showing how the proposed development would look, in combination with all other cumulative projects (except those in Scoping) shown on the wireline above, when looking south from the Strathaven War Memorial.