

# **Technical Appendix 5.5**

## **Preliminary Assessment of Visual Receptors**

# Contents

1	Appendix 5.5 Preliminary Assessment of Visual Receptors	4
1.1	<i>Introduction</i>	4

This page is intentionally blank.



# 1 Appendix 5.5 Preliminary Assessment of Visual Receptors

## 1.1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 With the exception of roads, an initial filtering exercise has been undertaken to identify which visual receptors identified in the baseline (**Section 5.6 of Chapter 5**) have the potential to be significantly affected by the Proposed Development. Roads within 10 km of the Proposed Development have been identified in **Section 5.6 of Chapter 5** and the key roads of relevance to the LVIA have been assessed in detail in **Section 5.8 of Chapter 5**.
- 1.1.2 The intention has been to ensure that the level of assessment given to each visual receptor is proportionate to the likelihood of significant effects arising. The tables below list the principal visual receptors identified in the baseline study and summarises the initial assessment carried out to determine which have the potential to experience significant effects and require detailed assessment.
- 1.1.3 The principal visual receptors within the detailed 20 km LVIA study area overlaid with the combined development ZTV are illustrated on **Figure 5.19**.



**Table 1 – Preliminary Assessment of Settlements within the Detailed 20 km LVIA Study Area**

Receptor	Location relative to the Proposed Development	Comments	Detailed Assessment Required
<b>Settlements within 5 km</b>			
Muirkirk	Located approximately 1.4 km to the south of the southern development area	<p>Very limited theoretical visibility of the solar array only from the southern part of the settlement at Kames. Actual visibility would be restricted by tree cover on the hills to the immediate north of the settlement.</p> <p>Any effects would result from views of the proposed turbines in the northern development area.</p> <p>Given the proximity of the settlement it is considered there is potential for significant effects.</p>	<b>Yes</b>
Drumclog	Located approximately 3.8 km to the north-west of the northern development area proposed turbines	<p>No theoretical visibility of the solar/BESS/substation components in the southern development area.</p> <p>Any effects would result from views of the proposed turbines in the northern development area, with no views of the alternative substation/BESS available from the settlement.</p> <p>Given the proximity of the settlement and the number of turbines theoretically visible it is considered there is potential for significant effects.</p>	<b>Yes</b>
Gilmourton	Located approximately 4.1 km to the north of the northern development area proposed turbines.	<p>No theoretical visibility of the solar/BESS/substation components in the southern development area.</p> <p>Any effects would result from views of the proposed turbines in the northern development area, with no views of the alternative substation/BESS available from the settlement.</p> <p>Given the proximity of the settlement and the number of turbines theoretically visible it is considered there is potential for significant effects.</p>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Settlements within 5 to 10 km</b>			
Sandford	Located approximately 7.6 km to the north of the northern development area	No theoretical visibility of the solar/BESS/substation components in the southern development area.	<b>No</b>



Receptor	Location relative to the Proposed Development	Comments	Detailed Assessment Required
		<p>Any effects would result from views of the proposed turbines in the northern development area, with no views of the alternative substation/BESS available from the settlement.</p> <p>Theoretical visibility of a limited number of turbine hubs and blades. Potential for effects but given the proximity of the intervening schemes of Kype Muir, Kype Muir Extension and Dungavel effects would be limited and would not be considered significant.</p>	
Strathaven	Located approximately 8.4 km to the north of the northern development area	<p>No theoretical visibility of the solar/BESS/substation components in the southern development area.</p> <p>Any effects would result from views of the proposed turbines in the northern development area, with no views of the alternative substation/BESS available from the settlement.</p> <p>Potential for effects but given the presence of the intervening operational wind farms at Kype Muir, Kype Muir Extension and Dungavel on the hills to the south of the settlement effects would be limited and would not be considered significant.</p>	No
Darvel	Located approximately 8.6 km to the west of the northern development area	Theoretical visibility of proposed turbines only, with views of a limited number of hubs, with a large proportion of the settlement experiencing no theoretical visibility. Coupled with the distance from the Proposed Development any effects would be limited and would not be considered significant.	No
Boghead	Located approximately 9.6 km to the north-east of the northern development area	Theoretical visibility of proposed turbines only, with views of a limited number of hubs, with a large proportion of the settlement experiencing no theoretical visibility. Due to the distance from the Proposed Development and intervening operational wind farms at Auchrobert and Kype Muir any effects would be very limited and would not be considered significant.	No
Lugar & Logan	Located approximately 9.3 km to the south-west of the northern development area	Very limited theoretical visibility of proposed turbines only with the majority of the settlement experiencing no visibility. Considered with the distance from the Proposed Development any effects would be very limited and would not be considered significant.	No



Receptor	Location relative to the Proposed Development	Comments	Detailed Assessment Required
Coalburn	Located approximately 9.9 km to the west of the northern development area	Very limited theoretical visibility of proposed turbines only with a large proportion of the settlement experiencing no visibility. Considered with the distance from the Proposed Development and presence of intervening operational wind farms any effects would be very limited and would not be considered significant.	No
<b>Settlements within 10 to 15 km</b>			
Sorn	Located approximately 10.3 km to the west of the southern development area	No theoretical visibility	No
New Trows	Located approximately 10.2 km to the north-east of the northern development area	No theoretical visibility	No
Stonehouse	Located approximately 10.4 km to the north-east of the northern development area	Theoretical visibility of proposed turbines only, with views of a limited number of hubs. Due to the distance from the Proposed Development and intervening operational wind farms at Kype Muir and Dungavel any effects would be very limited and would not be considered significant.	No
Lesmahagow	Located approximately 10.4 km to the north-east of the northern development area	Very limited theoretical visibility of proposed turbines with the majority of the settlement experiencing no visibility. Considered with the distance from the Proposed Development and presence of intervening operational wind farms any effects would be barely perceptible and would not be considered significant.	No
Brocketsbrae	Located approximately 10.4 km to the north-east of the northern development area	Very limited theoretical visibility of proposed turbines with views limited to mainly to blade tips. Considered with the distance from the Proposed Development and presence of intervening operational wind farms any effects would be barely perceptible and would not be considered significant.	No
Glespin	Located approximately 10.8 km to the south-east of the southern development area	No theoretical visibility	No



Receptor	Location relative to the Proposed Development	Comments	Detailed Assessment Required
Newmilns	Located approximately 11.2 km to the west of the northern development area	Theoretical visibility of proposed turbines only, with views of a limited number of hubs, with a large proportion of the settlement experiencing no theoretical visibility. Coupled with the distance from the Proposed Development any effects would be limited and would not be considered significant.	No
Kirkmuirhill and Blackwood	Located approximately 11.2 km to the north of the northern development area	Theoretical visibility of proposed turbines only, with views of a limited number of hubs, with a proportion of the settlement experiencing no theoretical visibility. Coupled with the distance from the Proposed Development and the presence of intervening wind farms, any effects would be limited and would not be considered significant.	No
Glassford	Located approximately 11.4 km to the north of the northern development area	Theoretical visibility of proposed turbines only, with views of a limited number of hubs. Considered with the distance from the Proposed Development any effects would be limited and would not be considered significant.	No
Cumnock	Located approximately 11.8 km to the south-west of the southern development area	Theoretical visibility of proposed turbines only, with views of a limited number of hubs, with a large proportion of the settlement experiencing no theoretical visibility. Coupled with the distance from the Proposed Development any effects would be limited and would not be considered significant.	No
Chapelton	Located approximately 12.1 km to the north of the northern development area	Theoretical visibility of proposed turbines only. Considered with the distance from the Proposed Development any effects would be limited and would not be considered significant.	No
Auchinleck	Located approximately 12.1 km to the south-west of the southern development area	Theoretical visibility of proposed turbines only, with views of a limited number of hubs, with a large proportion of the settlement experiencing no theoretical visibility. Coupled with the distance from the Proposed Development any effects would be limited and would not be considered significant.	No
Devonburn	Located approximately 12.5 km to the north-east of the northern development area	Theoretical visibility of proposed turbines only, with views of a limited number of hubs, with a large proportion of the settlement experiencing no theoretical visibility. Coupled with the distance from the Proposed Development and the presence of intervening wind farms, any effects would be limited and would not be considered significant.	No





Receptor	Location relative to the Proposed Development	Comments	Detailed Assessment Required
Catrine	Located approximately 12.8 km to the south-west of the southern development area	No theoretical visibility	No
Auchenheath	Located approximately 12.9 km to the north-west of the northern development area	Theoretical visibility of proposed turbines only, with views of a limited number of hubs. Considered with the distance from the Proposed Development and the presence of intervening wind farms, any effects would be limited and would not be considered significant.	No
Douglas	Located approximately 12.9 km to the north-east of the northern development area	No theoretical visibility	No
Dillarburn	Located approximately 13 km to the north-east of the northern development area;	Very limited theoretical visibility of proposed turbines with views limited to mainly to blade tips. Considered with the distance from the Proposed Development and presence of intervening operational wind farms any effects would be barely perceptible and would not be considered significant.	No
Hawkland	Located approximately 14.4 km to the north-east of the northern development area	Theoretical visibility of proposed turbines only, with views of a limited number of hubs. Considered with the distance from the Proposed Development and the presence of intervening wind farms, any effects would be limited and would not be considered significant.	No
Larkhall	Located approximately 14.5 km to the north-east of the northern development area.	Theoretical visibility of proposed turbines only, with views of a limited number of hubs. Considered with the distance from the Proposed Development and the presence of intervening wind farms, any effects would be limited and would not be considered significant.	No
<b>Settlements within 15 to 20 km</b>			
Auldhouse	Located approximately 15 km to the north-west of the northern development area	Very limited theoretical visibility of proposed turbines with views limited to mainly to blade tips. Considered with the distance from the Proposed Development and presence of intervening Dungavel Wind Farm any effects would be very limited and would not be considered significant.	No



Receptor	Location relative to the Proposed Development	Comments	Detailed Assessment Required
Netherburn	Located approximately 15.2 km to the north-east of the northern development area	Theoretical visibility of proposed turbines only, with views of a limited number of hubs. Considered with the distance from the Proposed Development any effects would be limited and would not be considered significant.	No
Galston	Located approximately 15.5 km to the west of the northern development area	Theoretical visibility of proposed turbines only, with views of a limited number of hubs, with a large proportion of the settlement experiencing no theoretical visibility. Coupled with the distance from the Proposed Development any effects would be very limited and would not be considered significant.	No
Quarter	Located approximately 15.7 km to the north of the northern development area	Theoretical visibility of proposed turbines only, with views of a limited number of hubs. Considered with the distance from the Proposed Development any effects would be limited and would not be considered significant.	No
Mauchline	Located approximately 15.7 km to the south-west of the southern development area	No theoretical visibility from the majority of the settlement with only a very small proportion of the northern part of the settlement experiencing views of a limited number of hubs and blade tips only. No potential for significant effects.	No
Hazelbank	Located approximately 15.9 km to the north-east of the northern development area	No theoretical visibility	No
Crossford	Located approximately 16 km to the north-east of the northern development area	Practically no theoretical visibility. No potential for significant effects.	No
Rigside	Located approximately 16.1 km to the north-west of the northern development area	Theoretical visibility of proposed turbines only. Considered with the distance from the Proposed Development and the presence of intervening wind farms, any effects would be limited and would not be considered significant.	No
Douglas Water	Located approximately 16.2 km to the east of the northern development area	Theoretical visibility of limited number of blade tips and hubs. Considered with the distance from the Proposed Development and the presence of intervening wind farms any effects would be limited and would not be considered significant.	No



Receptor	Location relative to the Proposed Development	Comments	Detailed Assessment Required
Lanark and Kirkfieldbank	Located approximately 16.6 km to the north-east of the northern development area	Theoretical visibility of limited number of blade tips and hubs. Considered with the distance from the Proposed Development and the presence of intervening wind farms any effects would be limited and would not be considered significant.	No
East Kilbride	Located approximately 16.9 km to the north of the northern development area	Very limited, intermittent theoretical visibility of limited number of blade tips and hubs. Considered with the distance from the Proposed Development and the presence of intervening wind farms any effects would be limited and would not be considered significant.	No
Rosebank	Located approximately 17.4 km to the north-east of the northern development area	No theoretical visibility	No
Eaglesham	Located approximately 17.9 km to the north-west of the northern development area	No theoretical visibility	No
Garrion Bridge	Located approximately 18 km to the north-east of the northern development area	No theoretical visibility	No
Carluke	Located approximately 18.3 km to the north-west of the northern development area	Theoretical visibility of proposed turbines only, with views of a limited number of hubs. Considered with the distance from the Proposed Development and the presence of intervening wind farms, any effects would be very limited and would not be considered significant.	No
Cartland	Located approximately 18.8 km to the north-west of the northern development area	Theoretical visibility of proposed turbines only, with views of a limited number of hubs. Considered with the distance from the Proposed Development and the presence of intervening wind farms, any effects would be very limited and would not be considered significant.	No
Overtown	Located approximately 19.6 km to the north-east of the northern development area	Theoretical visibility of proposed turbines only, with views of a limited number of hubs. Considered with the distance from the Proposed Development any effects would be very limited and would not be considered significant.	No



Receptor	Location relative to the Proposed Development	Comments	Detailed Assessment Required
Law	Located approximately 19.7 km to the north-east of the northern development area	Theoretical visibility of proposed turbines only, with views of a limited number of hubs. Considered with the distance from the Proposed Development any effects would be very limited and would not be considered significant.	No

**Table 2 – Preliminary Assessment of Core Paths and Long Distance Walking Routes**

Receptor	Location relative to the Proposed Development	Comments	Detailed Assessment Required
<b>Core Paths crossing through the Northern and Southern Development Areas</b>			
South Lanarkshire core paths EK/1456/1, EK/1457/1, EK/1458/1, EK/5844/1 – Dungavel, EK/5841/1, EK/5852/1, EK/5843/1 crossing through the northern development area	Within the northern development area	Extensive theoretical visibility in close proximity of the proposed turbines. Receptors would also experience combined visibility of the alternative substation and BESS location in addition to the proposed turbines from some sections of some of the routes. Potential for significant effects.	<b>Yes</b>
East Ayrshire Core Path B19: Burnfoot	Within the southern development area	Extensive theoretical visibility of the solar array with a section of the route where receptors would also experience combined visibility of the substation and BESS. Receptors would not experience views of any of the proposed turbines within the northern development area. Potential for significant effects.	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Other Core Paths near the Northern Development Area</b>			
East Ayrshire EK/5848/1 South Lanarkshire EK/5604/3, EK/5604/2, EK/1455/1, EK/5624/1, EK/5604/1, EK/5624/1, EK/5624/2	3 km to the north-west	Theoretical visibility of the proposed turbines in the northern development area with no predicted visibility of the solar/BESS/substation in the southern development area or the alternative substation/BESS in the northern development area. With reference to <b>Viewpoint 1</b> , potential for significant effects.	<b>Yes</b>



Receptor	Location relative to the Proposed Development	Comments	Detailed Assessment Required
East Ayrshire EK/3780/1	Approximately 900 m to the north-east of the northern development area	Theoretical visibility of the proposed turbines in the northern development area with no predicted visibility of the solar/BESS/substation in the southern development area or the alternative substation/BESS in the northern development area. Potential for some effects to occur but due to this route passing through the operational Kype Muir and Kype Muir Extension wind farms the majority of the route would not experience significant effects, with only the section of the route near Auchengilloch which has potential to experience significant effects.	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Core Paths near the Southern Development Area</b>			
East Ayrshire B15 and B16	1.7 km to the south of the southern development area	Theoretical visibility of the proposed turbines in the northern development area with no predicted visibility of the solar/BESS/substation in the southern development area. With reference to <b>Viewpoint 2</b> actual visibility would be restricted due to intervening vegetation. No potential for significant effects.	No
East Ayrshire Core Path B1 and CL/5916/2	Approximately 2.6 km to the south of the southern development area	These routes form part of the River Ayr Way. Effects on these routes are considered as part of the effects on the River Ayr Way long distance walking route.	See below
Core paths to the south-east of Muirkirk leading towards Cairn Table comprising EK/5855/1, SCD68, CL/3691/1, CL/5848/1, SCD66, CL/5845/1, SCD66, SCD67 EK/5854/1, B14, B17	Approximately 3.2 km and beyond to the south of the southern development area	Combined theoretical visibility of the proposed turbines in the northern development area and solar/substation/BESS components in the southern development area. The upper sections of these routes would also experience combined theoretical visibility of the alternative substation/BESS in the northern development area along with the proposed turbines and southern development area components. Receptors have the potential to experience significant effects to views from these routes.	<b>Yes</b>



Receptor	Location relative to the Proposed Development	Comments	Detailed Assessment Required
<b>Long Distance Walking Routes</b>			
River Ayr Way	Approximately 2.5 km to the south of the southern development area	Limited theoretical visibility from the route with many sections experiencing no visibility. Combined theoretical visibility of the proposed turbines in the northern development area and the solar array in the southern development area in the vicinity of Muirkirk. Potential for significant effects.	<b>Yes</b>