

Technical Appendix 5.6

Viewpoint Assessment

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1 Appendix 5.6 Viewpoint Assessment

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 This Technical Appendix provides an assessment of the visual effects of the Proposed Development from each of the 15 Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) viewpoints. For each of the assessment viewpoints a short description is given of the baseline view followed by a description of the features of the Proposed Development which would be visible from that viewpoint. For each viewpoint there is a comment on how vegetation, buildings or topography would affect the visibility of the Proposed Development, as well as a comment on the sensitivity of the viewpoint, the magnitude of change experienced and the significance of visual impacts. Finally, a judgement is provided regarding whether the overall effect for each viewpoint is considered to be significant or not in terms of the EIA Regulations.

1.1.2 A summary of the sensitivity of the viewpoint, magnitude of change in the view and significance of effect is provided in **Table 1** of this appendix and replicated at **Table 5.6** of **Chapter 5** within the EIA Report. Where a viewpoint is representative of more than one type of visual receptor, the significance rating represents the most sensitive receptor group represented by the viewpoint. Each assessment viewpoint is illustrated in **Volume 3** of the EIA Report.

Viewpoint 1 - Drumclog

Baseline			
Grid Reference:	263993, 638833	Elevation (m AOD)	192 m
Nearest Infrastructure:	3,858 m (T1) in the northern development area	Direction to Proposed Development:	South-east
LCT:	South Lanarkshire LCT 5 i Plateau Farmland Western Plateau: East Kilbride/Strathaven/Drumclog		
Designations:	N/A	Receptor:	Residents
Description of Baseline			
<p>The viewpoint is representative of views available from the settlement of Drumclog and of views in a south-easterly direction. It is also broadly representative of views that would be experienced by walkers on Core Path EK/5604/3 and EK/5604/2 that follows the old railway and of views experienced by road users travelling in a south-easterly direction on the B745. From this location views extend across the old railway and across open farmland in the middleground. Views are directed up the gently sloping agricultural fields towards Hawkwood Hill and Dungavel Hill that provide the backdrop to the view, flanked by extensive forestry plantation.</p> <p>The existing Dungavel Wind Farm is a prominent feature on the horizon towards the centre of the view, while the existing Kype Muir (and Extension) and Bankend Rig wind farms are also seen on the horizon towards the lefthand and righthand edges of the view respectively.</p>			
Receptor	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity
Residents	The viewpoint is not located within a designated landscape but it is acknowledged that pleasant rural views are available. On balance the value of the view is considered to be medium .	<p>During daylight hours, receptors are considered to be of high susceptibility to changes in views. There are existing views of operational turbines which moderates their susceptibility slightly.</p> <p>During the hours of darkness, residents are considered to be of medium susceptibility.</p>	<p>During daylight hours residents in this location are assessed as high sensitivity.</p> <p>During the hours of darkness residents are assessed as medium sensitivity.</p>
Magnitude of Change during daylight hours			
<p>With reference to the wireline at Figure 5.28, parts of all 18 turbines would be visible. The towers, hubs and blades of turbines T1 to T5, T8 and T9 would be visible on the lower slopes of Dungavel Hill, with their bases screened by existing forestry plantation while the lower tower sections of the remaining turbines would be screened by the gently rolling landform that provides the backdrop to the view.</p> <p>The alternative (backup) substation, BESS and tracks within the northern development area would be screened by remaining forestry plantation and no views would be available of any of the infrastructure located in the southern development area.</p> <p>The proposed turbines would be sited adjacent to the existing Dungavel Wind Farm and, despite their taller height, turbines T14 to T18 would appear within the lateral extent of this existing wind farm and would appear similar in scale to the existing Dungavel turbines. Turbines T1 to T5, T8 and T9 appear larger in scale given their closer proximity to the viewpoint.</p> <p>The proposed turbines occupy a medium to large lateral extent of the view and introduce a large scale of change with part of the group partially set back beyond the ridgeline and integrating with the existing Dungavel turbines. This would result in a high magnitude of change.</p>			

Magnitude of Change during hours of darkness

During the hours of darkness, with reference to the lit turbine ZTV at **Figure 5.8** and the wireline at **Figure 5.28**, up to six of the aviation lights would be visible from this location.

With reference to the turbine lighting intensity ZTV at **Figure 5.9**, the lower elevation of the viewpoint in comparison with the turbine lights would lead to the intensity of the lights being perceived at a much lower intensity, so the lights would appear as faint red dots against the backdrop of the sky.

This change would occur in a part of the landscape where existing light sources tend to be lights at existing properties and transient lights of road users as well as the existing turbine lighting at Kype Muir Extension. This would result in a **medium** magnitude of change.

Significance of Effect

During daylight hours the Proposed Development would result in a **major significant** effect on views experienced by receptors at this location.

During the hours of darkness, the Proposed Development would result in a **moderate** effect that would be considered **not significant**.

Viewpoint 2 - Victory Park, Muirkirk

Baseline			
Grid Reference:	269413, 627270	Elevation (m AOD)	230 m
Nearest Infrastructure:	1,994 m to the solar array in the southern development area	Direction to Proposed Development:	North north-west
LCT:	East Ayrshire LCT 10 Upland River Valleys - Ayrshire		
Designations:	N/A	Receptor:	Residents/Visitors
Description of Baseline			
<p>This viewpoint is located on the western edge of Victory Park to allow for views of the immediate built form towards the southern development area. The immediate view comprises the public open space with dwellings located on Glasgow Road, Park Avenue, Wellwood Avenue and Burns Avenue located immediately beyond. The horizon has a simple, uniform profile with an extensive belt of trees to the north of the park.</p> <p>With reference to the wireline on Figure 5.29, the turbines of the currently under construction Cumberhead West Wind Farm will soon be seen on the horizon and form notable vertical features in the distance towards the righthand edge of the view.</p>			
Receptor	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity
Residents/Visitors	The viewpoint is not located within a designated landscape but as it is a public park it will be valued as amenity space. On balance the value of the view is considered to be medium .	<p>During daylight hours, receptors are considered to be of high susceptibility to changes in views. There are existing views of operational turbines which moderates their susceptibility slightly.</p> <p>During the hours of darkness, receptors are considered to be of low susceptibility.</p>	<p>During daylight hours receptors in this location are assessed as high sensitivity.</p> <p>During the hours of darkness receptors are assessed as low sensitivity due to existing lights around properties within the settlement.</p>
Magnitude of Change during daylight hours			
<p>With reference to the wireline at Figure 5.29, parts of 10 turbines would be visible in theory with views mostly limited to blade tips with the hubs of T13 and T14 appearing very close to the horizon.</p> <p>The alternative (backup) substation, BESS and tracks within the northern development area would be screened by remaining forestry plantation and no views would be available of any of the infrastructure located in the southern development area.</p> <p>The proposed turbines occupy a small to medium lateral extent of the view but due to the level of intervening screening the magnitude of change is assessed as very low.</p>			
Magnitude of Change during hours of darkness			
<p>During the hours of darkness, with reference to the lit turbine ZTV at Figure 5.8, none of the aviation lights would be visible from this location.</p> <p>As such the magnitude of change during the hours of darkness would be very low.</p>			

Significance of Effect

During daylight hours the Proposed Development would result in **no effects** on views experienced by receptors at this location.

During the hours of darkness, the Proposed Development would result in **no effects** on views experienced by receptors at this location.

Viewpoint 3 – River Ayr Way

Baseline			
Grid Reference:	269859, 626680	Elevation (m AOD)	235 m
Nearest Infrastructure:	2,733 m to the solar array in the southern development area	Direction to Proposed Development:	North north-west
LCT:	East Ayrshire LCT 10 Upland River Valleys - Ayrshire		
Designations:	N/A – Viewpoint is taken from the River Ayr Way Long Distance Walking Route	Receptor:	Walkers
Description of Baseline			
<p>This viewpoint is located on the River Ayr Way long distance walking route as it passes through the Ayr Valley to the south of Muirkirk. Views north across the Ayr Valley extend across grazing fields, scrub and small pockets of woodland towards the settlement of Muirkirk in the middleground. Houses and commercial buildings can be seen to the north of the river, flanked by extensive woodland cover. The prominent hill and form of Middlefield Law can be seen on the horizon, along with Black Hill towards the right hand edge of the view.</p> <p>With reference to the wireline on Figure 5.30, the turbine blade tips of the presently under construction Cumberhead West Wind Farm will soon be seen on the horizon towards the righthand edge of the view.</p>			
Receptor	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity
Walkers	The viewpoint is not located within a designated landscape but is located on a promoted walking route. The value of the view is considered to be high .	<p>During daylight hours, receptors are considered to be of high susceptibility to changes in views.</p> <p>During the hours of darkness, receptors are considered to be of low susceptibility due to the presence of lights within Muirkirk.</p>	<p>During daylight hours receptors in this location are assessed as high sensitivity.</p> <p>During the hours of darkness receptors are assessed as medium sensitivity due to existing lights around properties within Muirkirk and that walkers would be likely to be carrying some form of light to see their route.</p>
Magnitude of Change during daylight hours			
<p>With reference to the wireline at Figure 5.30, parts of 14 turbines would be visible in theory with views mostly limited to the upper parts of towers, the hubs of eight turbines and blade tips that would be seen on the horizon to the north of the valley.</p> <p>The alternative (backup) substation, BESS and tracks within the northern development area would be screened by topography and no views would be available of any of the infrastructure located in the southern development area.</p> <p>The proposed turbines occupy a medium lateral extent of the broad, panoramic views that are available across the Ayr Valley, with the turbines appearing set behind the hills that border the northern valley side. The magnitude of change is assessed as low medium.</p>			

Magnitude of Change during hours of darkness

During the hours of darkness, with reference to the lit turbine ZTV at **Figure 5.8** and the wireline at **Figure 5.30**, up to four of the eight lit turbines would be visible from this location. Referring to the lit turbine lighting intensity ZTV at **Figure 5.9**, due to the difference in elevation between the turbine lights and the viewpoint, the lights would be perceived at a much lower intensity. However, views during the hours of darkness are already influenced by the amount of lights around properties in Muirkirk and by street lighting. As such the magnitude of change during the hours of darkness would be **low**.

Significance of Effect

During daylight hours the Proposed Development would result in a **moderate effect** on views experienced by receptors at this location that is considered to be **not significant**.

During the hours of darkness, the Proposed Development would result in a **minor moderate effect** on views experienced by receptors at this location that is considered to be **not significant**.

Viewpoint 4 – Cairn Table

Baseline			
Grid Reference:	272426, 624226	Elevation (m AOD)	586 m
Nearest Infrastructure:	6,165 m to the solar array in the southern development area	Direction to Proposed Development:	North north-west
LCT:	East Ayrshire LCT 18a Plateau Moorlands - Ayrshire		
Designations:	East Ayrshire Uplands and Moorlands LLA	Receptor:	Walkers
Description of Baseline			
<p>The viewpoint is located at the summit of Cairn Table. At the summit is a trig point, a cairn, a war memorial (appearance of an intact stone cairn) and a 360 degree compass viewshed to enable receptors to orientate themselves when at the summit.</p> <p>Cairn Table is accessed via a footpath that leaves Muirkirk and travels in a southerly direction and thus whilst walking to the summit the Proposed Development is located directly behind the receptor. From the summit there are panoramic and far reaching views in all directions, and the landscape in which the site is located forms a small part of the overall view available.</p> <p>The view in the direction towards the site would be experienced by receptors at the summit and by those walking back in a northerly direction to the car park at Muirkirk. The view comprises an undulating landscape in which wind energy development is already a feature comprising numerous existing wind farms that include Cumberhead and Nutberry, soon to be extended by the under construction Cumberhead West, in the middle distance and the more distant Auchrobert, Kype Muir wind farms and the Whitelee Cluster near the left hand edge of the view. Upland landform forms the middle ground view with long distance views experienced as far as the Pentland Hills.</p>			
Receptor	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity
Walkers	The viewpoint is located within a designated landscape and is a popular summit that attracts many visitors. The value of the view is considered to be high .	<p>During daylight hours, receptors are considered to be of very high susceptibility to changes in views.</p> <p>During the hours of darkness, receptors are considered to be of low susceptibility due to the presence of lights within the landscape below.</p>	<p>During daylight hours receptors in this location are assessed as very high sensitivity.</p> <p>During the hours of darkness receptors are assessed as medium sensitivity due to existing lights in the wider landscape below and that walkers would be likely to be carrying some form of light to see their route.</p>
Magnitude of Change during daylight hours			
<p>With reference to the wirelines accompanying Figure 5.31, the towers, hubs and blades of all 18 turbines would be visible in theory on the upland landscape that forms the middleground of the view.</p> <p>The alternative (backup) substation, BESS and tracks within the northern development area would be potentially visible but due to their relative low height and being sited over 11 km from the viewpoint they</p>			

would be barely perceptible. The solar array, BESS and substations would also be visible in the southern development area and would introduce a notable change to the landscape to the north of Muirkirk.

The combined development comprising the infrastructure in the northern and southern development areas would occupy a medium lateral extent of the view and introduce a medium size and scale of change. The magnitude of change during daylight hours is assessed as **medium**.

Magnitude of Change during hours of darkness

During the hours of darkness, with reference to the lit turbine ZTV at **Figure 5.8** and the wireline at **Figure 5.31** all eight lit turbines would be visible from this location. Referring to the lit turbine lighting intensity ZTV at **Figure 5.9**, due to the comparable elevation between the turbine lights and the viewpoint, their intensity would not be reduced due to the difference in elevation between the turbine lights and the viewpoint. However, their intensity would be reduced due to the distance of the viewpoint from the lit turbines. There would also be views available of security lighting within the southern development area but these would be configured to minimise light spill and would be PIR activated and as such would not be permanently switched on.

However, views during the hours of darkness are already influenced by the amount of lights around properties in Muirkirk and in the valley below and also in the wider landscape to the north. Furthermore, it is considered that few walkers would venture to the summit of Cairn Table during the hours of darkness and that if they did so, they would be using a torch to light their route.

As such the magnitude of change during the hours of darkness would be **low**.

Significance of Effect

During daylight hours the Proposed Development would result in a **moderate major effect** on views experienced by receptors at this location that is considered to be **significant**.

During the hours of darkness, the Proposed Development would result in a **minor moderate effect** on views experienced by receptors at this location that is considered to be **not significant**.

Viewpoint 5 – Nether Wellwood (A70)

Baseline			
Grid Reference:	264525, 625344	Elevation (m AOD)	220 m
Nearest Infrastructure:	3,152 m to the solar array in the southern development area	Direction to Proposed Development:	North north-east
LCT:	East Ayrshire LCT 18a Plateau Moorlands - Ayrshire		
Designations:	East Ayrshire Uplands and Moorlands LLA	Receptor:	Road users
Description of Baseline			
<p>This viewpoint is representative of views experienced by road users travelling primarily in an easterly direction towards Muirkirk along the A70.</p> <p>The landscape is large-scale with a relatively clear, simple form, composed mainly of rough and managed grassland. The backdrop of the view is formed by the smooth rounded hills to the north of the road comprising Middlefield Law, Starpet Rig, Nutberry Hill and Broomerside and Common Hill. These hilltops are mainly open but woodland blocks can be seen on some slopes.</p> <p>The road winds its way through a heavily modified landscape at this location. The land to the south of the road has been subject to opencast mining with bunding and former spoil heaps creating variation in the landform. An area of open water can be seen to the south of the road. The route of the A70 is relatively well treed with belts and blocks of mixed and coniferous trees located along the roadside. This vegetation interrupts the overall visual experience from the road. Larger areas of coniferous plantation can be seen in the middle ground view.</p> <p>Man-made features can be seen in the near view including numerous overhead lines. Wind farm development is an established part of the existing visual baseline experienced in north-easterly and easterly views from the viewpoint, with the existing Cumberhead, and Nutberry wind turbines visible on the distant hills, with the under construction Cumberhead West wind farm soon to join them.</p>			
Receptor	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity
Road users	The viewpoint is located within a designated landscape but is located on a main arterial transport route. The value of the view is considered to be medium .	<p>During daylight hours, receptors are considered to be of medium susceptibility to changes in views as views would be generally glimpsed and screened intermittently while travelling along the route.</p> <p>During the hours of darkness, receptors are considered to be of low susceptibility due to the lights of vehicles travelling along the route.</p>	<p>During daylight hours receptors in this location are assessed as medium sensitivity.</p> <p>During the hours of darkness receptors are assessed as low sensitivity due to vehicular lights.</p>
Magnitude of Change during daylight hours			
<p>With reference to the wireline at Figure 5.32, parts of all 18 turbines would be visible in theory above the upland landscape that forms the backdrop to the view. However, views would be mainly limited to blade tips with only four hubs visible above the horizon. The turbines appear as small scale elements set behind the horizon. As such they do not encroach into the valley landscape.</p> <p>The western extent of the solar array would be visible from this location but the BESS and substations in the southern development area would not be visible, nor would the alternative (backup) substation, BESS and</p>			

tracks within the northern development area. Due to the low height of the solar panels they would appear as small-scale components of the view and would be partly screened by intervening trees within the valley. The proposed turbines located in the northern development area and the proposed solar array in the southern development area would occupy a medium lateral extent of the view and introduce a low medium size and scale of change. The magnitude of change during daylight hours is assessed as **low**.

Magnitude of Change during hours of darkness

During the hours of darkness, with reference to the lit turbine ZTV at **Figure 5.8**, up to two of the eight lit turbines would be visible from this location in theory. However, referring to the wireline at **Figure 5.32**, only one of the eight lit turbines would be visible. Referring to the lit turbine lighting intensity ZTV at **Figure 5.9**, the turbine lights would be perceived at a much lower intensity. The intensity of the turbine lights would also be further reduced due to the distance from the proposed turbines.

However, views during the hours of darkness are already influenced by the lights of vehicles travelling along the route.

As such the magnitude of change during the hours of darkness would be **very low**.

Significance of Effect

During daylight hours the Proposed Development would result in a **minor moderate effect** on views experienced by receptors at this location that is considered to be **not significant**.

During the hours of darkness, the Proposed Development would result in a **negligible effect** on views experienced by receptors at this location that is considered to be **not significant**.

Viewpoint 6 – B743 (east of Nethershield)

Baseline			
Grid Reference:	258725, 626946	Elevation (m AOD)	219 m
Nearest Infrastructure:	7,660 m to the solar array in the southern development area	Direction to Proposed Development:	East north-east
LCT:	East Ayrshire LCT 9 Lowland River Valley		
Designations:	River Ayr Valley LLA	Receptor:	Road users
Description of Baseline			
<p>The viewpoint looks east north-east from the B743 between Sorn and Muirkirk, from a high point on the road and is representative of views from the elevated sections of the B743 and from and some elevated locations in the vicinity of Sorn / Nethershield and is also representative of views from within the LLA. The elevated sections of the B743 offers wide panoramic views to the south, south-west and south-east that are already influenced by existing wind development, but for much of its length, views are partially restricted by roadside vegetation and blocks of woodland.</p> <p>Distant views of turbines from this location comprise the operational wind farms at Dungavel, Kype Muir and Cumberhead /Nutberry.</p>			
Receptor	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity
Road users	The viewpoint is located within a designated landscape but is located on a transport route. The value of the view is considered to be medium .	During daylight hours, receptors are considered to be of medium susceptibility to changes in views as views would be generally glimpsed and screened intermittently while travelling along the route. During the hours of darkness, receptors are considered to be of low susceptibility due to the lights of vehicles travelling along the route.	During daylight hours receptors in this location are assessed as medium sensitivity. During the hours of darkness receptors are assessed as low sensitivity due to the presence of vehicular lights.
Magnitude of Change during daylight hours			
<p>With reference to the wireline at Figure 5.33, parts of all 18 turbines would be visible in theory above the upland landscape that forms the backdrop to the view. However, views of some turbines would be partially screened by landform. The turbines appear as small to medium scale elements that occupy a medium large lateral extent of the view and introduce a medium size and scale of change with part of the group partially set back beyond the ridgeline and integrating with the existing Dungavel turbines.</p> <p>The alternative (backup) substation, BESS and tracks within the northern development area would be screened by remaining forestry plantation and no views would be available of any of the infrastructure located in the southern development area.</p> <p>Overall, the Proposed Development would introduce a medium magnitude of change.</p>			
Magnitude of Change during hours of darkness			
<p>During the hours of darkness, with reference to the lit turbine ZTV at Figure 5.8 and wireline at Figure 5.33, up to six lit turbines would be visible from this location in theory. Referring to the lit turbine lighting intensity ZTV at Figure 5.9, the turbine lights would be perceived at a much lower intensity. The intensity of the turbine lights would also be further reduced due to the distance from the proposed turbines.</p>			

However, views during the hours of darkness are already influenced by the lights of vehicles travelling along the route.

As such the magnitude of change during the hours of darkness would be **low**.

Significance of Effect

During daylight hours the Proposed Development would result in a **moderate effect** on views experienced by receptors at this location that is considered to be **not significant**.

During the hours of darkness, the Proposed Development would result in a **minor effect** on views experienced by receptors at this location that is considered to be **not significant**.

Viewpoint 7 – B705 (Auchlinleck)

Baseline			
Grid Reference:	255085, 622539	Elevation (m AOD)	172 m
Nearest Infrastructure:	12,608 m to the solar array in the southern development area	Direction to Proposed Development:	North-east
LCT:	East Ayrshire LCT 7c East Ayrshire Lowlands		
Designations:	N/A	Receptor:	Residents Road users
Description of Baseline			
<p>This viewpoint is taken from the north of Auchlinleck, looking across part of the settlement. The foreground of the view comprises properties, with longer distance views of the wider landscape of gently rolling hills visible above their rooflines and extensive areas of forestry plantation to the north-east of the settlement. There are long-range views to distant prominent hills.</p> <p>With reference to the wireline at Figure 5.34, there are numerous operational wind farms located on the distant horizon. However, views are screened by intervening tree cover.</p>			
Receptor	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity
Residents Road users	The viewpoint is not located within a designated landscape but is likely to be valued by residents in the settlement. The value of the view is considered to be medium .	<p>During daylight hours, road users are considered to be of low susceptibility to changes in views as views would be generally glimpsed and screened intermittently while travelling along the route. Residents are considered to be of high susceptibility to changes in their view.</p> <p>During the hours of darkness, residents are considered to be of low susceptibility and road are considered to have very low susceptibility to changes in their view.</p>	<p>During daylight hours road users in this location are assessed as low sensitivity and residents as high sensitivity.</p> <p>During the hours of darkness road users are assessed as very low sensitivity due to the presence of vehicular lights and lights around properties within the settlement.</p> <p>Residents are assessed as having medium sensitivity due to the presence of other light sources within the settlement.</p>
Magnitude of Change during daylight hours			
<p>With reference to the wireline at Figure 5.34, parts of all 18 turbines would be visible in theory above the upland landscape that forms the backdrop to the view. However, views of some turbines would be partially screened by landform. The turbines appear as small-scale elements that occupy a small to medium lateral extent of the view and introduce a small size and scale of change with part of the group partially set back</p>			

beyond the ridgeline and integrating with the existing Dungavel turbines. However, views of the proposed turbines would be screened by the intervening forestry.

No views would be available of the alternative (backup) substation, BESS and tracks within the northern development area or of any of the infrastructure located in the southern development area.

The Proposed Development would introduce no change due to views being screened by forestry.

However, it is acknowledged that over time views may become available as intervening forestry is felled and replanted. If views become available, the Proposed Development would introduce a **low magnitude of change**.

Magnitude of Change during hours of darkness

During the hours of darkness, with reference to the lit turbine ZTV at **Figure 5.8**, up to all eight lit turbines would be visible from this location in theory. However, referring to the wireline at **Figure 5.34**, seven of the eight lit turbines would be visible. Referring to the lit turbine lighting intensity ZTV at **Figure 5.9**, the turbine lights would be perceived at a much lower intensity. The intensity of the turbine lights would also be further reduced due to the distance from the proposed turbines.

Existing views during the hours of darkness at this location are already strongly influenced by the lights of vehicles travelling along the road and by street lighting and lights of properties within the settlement.

Currently, due to the level of intervening screening, there would be **no change** during the hours of darkness. If the intervening forestry was felled the magnitude of change during the hours of darkness would be **low**.

Significance of Effect

During daylight hours the Proposed Development would result in **no change** on views experienced by receptors at this location. If intervening forestry was felled and views become available road users would experience a **minor effect** and residents would experience a **minor moderate effect**. These effects are considered to be **not significant**.

During the hours of darkness, the Proposed Development would result in no change on views experienced by receptors at this location. If intervening forestry was felled and views become available road users would experience a **negligible effect** and residents would experience a **minor moderate effect**. These effects are considered to be **not significant**.

Viewpoint 8 – Loudoun Hill

Baseline			
Grid Reference:	260890, 637904	Elevation (m AOD)	309 m
Nearest Infrastructure:	5,993 m (T1)	Direction to Proposed Development:	South-east
LCT:	East Ayrshire LCT 10 Upland River Valley		
Designations:	N/A	Receptor:	Walkers
Description of Baseline			
<p>This viewpoint represents views experienced by visitors to this nationally important battlefield which was the scene of the Battle of Loudon Hill in 1307 between Scottish forces led by King Robert the Bruce who defeated the English. The hill formation and the landscape to its immediate south-west, south and south-east is included on the Inventory of Historic Battlefields (BTL 36). It is also the site of the Spirit of Scotland sculpture set at the foot of the hill. The hill is a granite, volcanic plug that protrudes above the lower lying farmland that surrounds it.</p> <p>The viewpoint is situated at top of the hill that rises on the northerly edge of the River Irvine. Its elevation above the surrounding landscape allows sweeping and panoramic views in all directions across parts of East Ayrshire and South Lanarkshire. Views in a south-easterly direction from the hill are characterised by a combination of the pastoral fields in the foreground, stretching along the southern side of the River Irvine, with large-scale fields bordered by post and wire fencing, occasional belts of trees and scattered properties dotted across the landscape. The foreground grazing fields give way to areas of rougher grassland and moorland which gradually rise towards the distant hills that form the backdrop to the view, with their smooth rounded, gently rolling form partly covered by coniferous plantations. Dungavel Hill at 457 m AOD forms a notable high point in the centre of the view, while in the right hand part of the view there are longer range views towards higher ground to the south.</p> <p>A number of wind farms are present in the existing visual baseline experienced in south-easterly views from the viewpoint. The Dungavel turbines, situated approximately 6.2 km to the east, are noticeable vertical elements that extend above the hillside on the horizon of the view, while to the left hand part of the view the existing turbines of Kype Muir Wind Farm (and Extension), situated approximately 9.7 km to the east, are visible and form noticeable elements on the distant horizon. In the right hand part of the view the existing Bankend Rig turbines are visible, sat between higher ground and back-clothed against the surrounding landform.</p>			
Receptor	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity
Visitors	The viewpoint is not located within a designated landscape but is a historically significant location. The value of the view is considered to be high .	<p>During daylight hours visitors are considered to be of high susceptibility to changes in their view, although this is moderated slightly by the presence of existing wind farms.</p> <p>During the hours of darkness, receptors are considered to be of low susceptibility due to the presence of other light sources within the valley landscape.</p>	<p>During daylight hours receptors in this location are assessed as high sensitivity.</p> <p>During the hours of darkness receptors are assessed as having medium sensitivity.</p>

Magnitude of Change during daylight hours

With reference to the wireline at **Figure 5.35**, parts of all 18 turbines would be visible in theory above the upland landscape that forms the backdrop to the view. However, views of some turbines would be partially screened by landform.

The alternative (backup) substation, BESS and tracks within the northern development area would be screened by remaining forestry plantation and no views would be available of any of the infrastructure located in the southern development area.

The turbines appear as medium-scale elements that occupy a medium lateral extent of the view and introduce a medium to large size and scale of change with part of the group partially set back beyond the ridgeline and partly integrating with the existing Dungavel turbines but also introducing turbines into a part of the landscape where none are currently sited. This would result in a **medium magnitude of change**.

Magnitude of Change during hours of darkness

During the hours of darkness, with reference to the lit turbine ZTV at **Figure 5.8** and the wireline at **Figure 5.35**, all eight lit turbines would be visible from this location. Referring to the lit turbine lighting intensity ZTV at **Figure 5.9**, the turbine lights would be perceived at a lower intensity. The intensity of the turbine lights would also be further reduced due to the distance from the proposed turbines.

Existing views during the hours of darkness at this location are already influenced by the lights within the valley below the viewpoint.

As such, the magnitude of change during the hours of darkness would be **low**.

Significance of Effect

During daylight hours the Proposed Development would result in a **moderate effect** on views experienced by receptors at this location that is considered to be **significant**.

During the hours of darkness, the Proposed Development would result in a **minor moderate effect** on views experienced by receptors at this location that is considered to be **not significant**.

Viewpoint 9 – A71, bridge crossing Calder Water

Baseline			
Grid Reference:	266379, 641901	Elevation (m AOD)	185 m
Nearest Infrastructure:	5,954 m (T1)	Direction to Proposed Development:	South south-east
LCT:	South Lanarkshire LCT 8 i Upland River Valley		
Designations:	N/A	Receptor:	Road users
Description of Baseline			
<p>The viewpoint is taken from the southern parapet of the bridge over Calder Water as the watercourse flows towards the confluence between it and Avon Water. The former railway line embankments and extensive roadside vegetation restrict visibility and direct views towards the medium to large scale regular-shaped, managed grazing fields, bordered by a mix of post and wire fencing and hedgerow boundaries in the middle ground of the view. This pastoral landscape is interspersed with occasional isolated farmhouses and farm buildings. The smooth landform and managed fields on the southern side of Avon Water rise gradually towards the higher ground to the south and the open moorland that blankets the distant hills. These hills also have a smooth gently rounded form and to the south-west are open moorland, while to the south-east they gradually slope down and become covered with coniferous forest plantation.</p> <p>Wind farm development is an established component of the existing visual baseline experienced in southerly views from this viewpoint. In the centre of the view the existing turbines of Dungavel turbines are prominent vertical elements that extend above the low hills on the horizon of the view, while to the left of the view the existing turbines of Kype Muir, Kype Muir Extension, Cumberhead and Nutberry are visible and form noticeable elements on the higher ground to the south-west on the north-facing slopes of the hills.</p>			
Receptor	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity
Road users	The viewpoint is not located within a designated landscape but is located on a main arterial transport route that allows views across the surrounding rural landscape. The value of the view is considered to be medium .	<p>During daylight hours, receptors are considered to be of low susceptibility to changes in views as views would be generally glimpsed and screened intermittently while travelling along the route.</p> <p>During the hours of darkness, receptors are considered to be of low susceptibility due to the lights of vehicles travelling along the route.</p>	<p>During daylight hours receptors in this location are assessed as low sensitivity.</p> <p>During the hours of darkness receptors are assessed as very low sensitivity.</p>
Magnitude of Change during daylight hours			
<p>With reference to the wireline at Figure 5.36, parts of all 18 turbines would be visible in theory above the upland landscape that forms the backdrop to the view. However, views of some turbines would be partially screened by landform with the hubs of 13 turbines visible above the horizon.</p> <p>No views would be available of the alternative (backup) substation, BESS and tracks within the northern development area or any of the infrastructure located in the southern development area.</p> <p>The turbines appear as medium-scale elements that occupy a medium to large lateral extent of the view and introduce a medium to large size and scale of change with part of the group partially set back beyond the ridgeline and partly integrating with the existing Dungavel turbines but also introducing turbines into a part of the landscape where none are currently sited. This would result in a medium magnitude of change.</p>			

The changes would be experienced at an oblique angle to the direction of travel and as intermittent glimpsed views whilst travelling along the route.

Magnitude of Change during hours of darkness

During the hours of darkness, with reference to the lit turbine ZTV at **Figure 5.8** and the wireline at **Figure 5.36**, six of the eight lit turbines would be visible from this location.

Referring to the lit turbine lighting intensity ZTV at **Figure 5.9**, the turbine lights would be perceived at a much lower intensity. The intensity of the turbine lights would also be further reduced due to the distance from the proposed turbines.

Existing views during the hours of darkness at this location are already influenced by the lights at properties and farms within the valley, by the lights of the lit Kype Muir Extension turbines that also include intermediate tower lighting and by the lights of vehicles travelling along the route.

As such, the magnitude of change during the hours of darkness would be **medium**.

Significance of Effect

During daylight hours the Proposed Development would result in a **minor moderate effect** on views experienced by receptors at this location that is considered to be **not significant**.

During the hours of darkness, the Proposed Development would result in a **minor effect** on views experienced by receptors at this location that is considered to be **not significant**.

Viewpoint 10 – Strathaven War Memorial

Baseline			
Grid Reference:	270455, 644639	Elevation (m AOD)	199 m
Nearest Infrastructure:	9,204 m (T16)	Direction to Proposed Development:	South
LCT:	South Lanarkshire LCT 5 i Plateau Farmland Western Plateau: East Kilbride/Strathaven/Drumclog		
Designations:	N/A	Receptor:	Residents Visitors
Description of Baseline			
<p>This viewpoint has been selected to represent the worst-case views that would be experienced by residents in Strathaven and views experienced by people visiting this landmark for remembrance that also allows sweeping views over the town and beyond. However, it should be noted within the settlement views towards the Proposed Development will be largely restricted by the surrounding built form and intervening vegetation.</p> <p>Its elevated position almost at the centre of the town allows panoramic views across the rooftops of the lower-lying town in the immediate foreground, with views partially filtered by extensive tree cover on the slope down towards the town. The built form of the town comprises a mix of more traditional stone-built properties with grey slate roofs, interspersed with some modern steel commercial buildings and more recently built residential properties further south towards the southern edge of the town, with streets lined with lighting columns.</p> <p>Regular-shaped grazing fields with hedgerow field boundaries border the southern edge of the town extending across the lower valley sides of Avon Water. This managed pastoral landscape continues to extend southwards and gradually rises in elevation towards Middle Rig, Kypes Rig and Hawkwood Hill that provide the backdrop to the view.</p> <p>Wind farm development is an established component of the existing visual baseline experienced in southerly views from the viewpoint. The existing turbines of Kype Muir, Kype Muir Extension and Dungavel wind farms are prominent vertical elements that extend above the horizon of the view.</p>			
Receptor	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity
Residents Visitors	The viewpoint is not located within a designated landscape but is located at a culturally important location within the centre of the town. The value of the view is considered to be high .	<p>During daylight hours, receptors are considered to be of medium susceptibility to the proposed change that would be experienced at distance and introduced into a part of the landscape with numerous existing turbines.</p> <p>During the hours of darkness, receptors are considered to be of low susceptibility due to the presence of existing lights in the settlement within the immediate foreground.</p>	<p>During daylight hours receptors in this location are assessed as high sensitivity.</p> <p>During the hours of darkness receptors are assessed as low sensitivity.</p>

Magnitude of Change during daylight hours

With reference to the wireline at **Figure 5.37**, parts of all 18 turbines would be visible in theory above the upland landscape that forms the backdrop to the view. However, views of some turbines would be partially screened by landform with the hubs of 13 turbines visible above the horizon.

No views would be available of the alternative (backup) substation, BESS and tracks within the northern development area or any of the infrastructure located in the southern development area.

The turbines appear as small-scale elements that occupy a large lateral extent of the view and introduce a small size and scale of change. The proposed turbines would be contained within the extent of existing wind farms present on the view horizon. This would result in a **low** magnitude of change.

Magnitude of Change during hours of darkness

During the hours of darkness, with reference to the lit turbine ZTV at **Figure 5.8**, up to six of the eight lit turbines would be visible from this location. However, referring to the wireline at **Figure 5.37** there would be actual visibility of 5 lit turbines.

Referring to the lit turbine lighting intensity ZTV at **Figure 5.9**, the turbine lights would be perceived at a much lower intensity. The intensity of the turbine lights would also be further reduced due to the distance from the proposed turbines.

Existing views during the hours of darkness at this location are already influenced by the lights within the town below the viewpoint. As such, the magnitude of change during the hours of darkness would be **low**.

Significance of Effect

During daylight hours the Proposed Development would result in a **minor moderate effect** on views experienced by receptors at this location that is considered to be **not significant**.

During the hours of darkness, the Proposed Development would result in a **minor effect** on views experienced by receptors at this location that is considered to be **not significant**.

Viewpoint 11 – Minor road south-west of Lesmahagow

Baseline			
Grid Reference:	279087, 638708	Elevation (m AOD)	310 m
Nearest Infrastructure:	8,862 m (T18)	Direction to Proposed Development:	South-west
LCT:	South Lanarkshire LCT 5 ii Plateau Farmland Western Plateau: Larkhall/Lemahagow/Coalburn		
Designations:	N/A	Receptor:	Road users
Description of Baseline			
<p>Views across the gently rolling rural landscape comprising regular-shaped managed grassland fields bordered by a mix of drystone walls and managed hedgerows. Individual properties, farms and larger farm buildings are dotted across the landscape with occasional tree belts and woodland blocks extending up the distant rising landform. These elements combine to give the view a settled rural character. Distant hills provide the backdrop to the view, consisting of Tod Law, Standingstone Hill, Grouse Hill and Dunside Rig. These hills are covered in part by coniferous woodland plantation. An overhead steel lattice pylon line crosses through the view and further woodpole lines cross through the rural landscape.</p> <p>Wind farm development is an established component of existing views experienced from this viewpoint. The existing wind farms of Cumberhead, Dungavel, Kype Muir (and Extension) and Auchrobert are prominent vertical elements extending above the skyline in views. With reference to the wireline in Figure 5.38, the Cumberhead West turbines which are presently under construction will soon be added to the baseline landscape in westerly views from this location. Several single wind turbines are also dotted through the landscape.</p>			
Receptor	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity
Road users	The viewpoint is not located within a designated landscape but allows views across the wider rural landscape. The value of the view is considered to be medium .	<p>During daylight hours, receptors are considered to be of medium susceptibility to the proposed change that would be experienced at distance and introduced into a part of the landscape with numerous existing turbines.</p> <p>During the hours of darkness, receptors are considered to be of low susceptibility due to the presence of existing lights around properties scattered across the landscape including some existing wind turbine lights.</p>	<p>During daylight hours receptors in this location are assessed as medium sensitivity.</p> <p>During the hours of darkness receptors are assessed as low sensitivity.</p>
Magnitude of Change during daylight hours			
<p>With reference to the wireline at Figure 5.38, parts of all 18 turbines would be visible in theory above the upland landscape that forms the backdrop to the view. However, views of some turbines would be partially screened by landform with the hubs of nine turbines visible above the horizon, with views of the remaining turbines limited to blade tips.</p>			

No views would be available of the alternative (backup) substation, BESS and tracks within the northern development area or any of the infrastructure located in the southern development area.

The turbines appear as small-scale elements that occupy a medium lateral extent of the view and introduce a small to medium size and scale of change. The proposed turbines would be contained within the extent of existing wind farms present on the view horizon once the construction of Cumberhead West is complete. This would result in a **low** magnitude of change.

Magnitude of Change during hours of darkness

During the hours of darkness, with reference to the lit turbine ZTV at **Figure 5.8**, up to six of the eight lit turbines would be visible from this location. However, referring to the wireline at **Figure 5.38**, four lit turbines would be visible in practice with the remaining nacelle lights screened by topography.

Referring to the lit turbine lighting intensity ZTV at **Figure 5.9**, the turbine lights would be perceived at a lower intensity. The intensity of the turbine lights would also be further reduced due to the distance from the proposed turbines.

Existing views during the hours of darkness at this location are already influenced by the lights at properties and farms within the valley and by the lights of vehicles travelling along the route, and from some wind farms in the distance.

As such, the magnitude of change during the hours of darkness would be **low**.

Significance of Effect

During daylight hours the Proposed Development would result in a **minor moderate effect** on views experienced by receptors at this location that is considered to be **not significant**.

During the hours of darkness, the Proposed Development would result in a **minor effect** on views experienced by receptors at this location that is considered to be **not significant**.

Viewpoint 12 – Black Hill

Baseline			
Grid Reference:	283196, 643556	Elevation (m AOD)	288 m
Nearest Infrastructure:	14,869 m (T18)	Direction to Proposed Development:	South-west
LCT:	South Lanarkshire LCT 4 ii Rolling Farmland: West of Lanark/Clyde Valley		
Designations:	Middle Clyde Valley LLA	Receptor:	Walkers
Description of Baseline			
<p>This viewpoint is representative of the views from the top of Black Hill, a scheduled monument which is a National Trust for Scotland specified viewpoint. Black Hill is the location of a fort and settlement, and its elevated position allows extensive views across the Clyde Valley.</p> <p>From the top of Black Hill, panoramic views of the surrounding landscape are available. The top of the fort includes limited vegetation and is covered by managed grassland. Clear views towards the Clyde Valley consist of primarily undulating pastoral farmland. Field boundaries comprise hedgerows and deciduous tree belts. In the distance, the undulating hills are clearly visible, some of which are covered in coniferous plantations. Other human influences also occur within the landscape such as large electricity pylons and overhead lines which cross the land to the north. It is also possible to gain glimpses of the M74 motorway traffic as it passes to the west of this location.</p> <p>Wind farm development is an established component of the existing visual baseline experienced in views in all directions from this viewpoint. There are views towards the Hagshaw Cluster, Cumberhead, and Nutberry towards the lefthand edge of the view. The existing Auchrobert, Dungavel and Kype Muir (and Extension) wind farms are noticeable vertical elements that extend above the hills on the horizon in the central part of the view. Whitelee and its two extensions are visible on the distant horizon towards the righthand edge of the view. In addition to these wind farms there are also numerous smaller wind turbines situated in the middle ground in closer proximity to the viewpoint.</p>			
Receptor	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity
Walkers	The viewpoint is not located within a designated landscape but is located at a recognised view and is a historically important location. The value of the view is considered to be high .	<p>During daylight hours, receptors are considered to be of medium susceptibility to the proposed change that would be experienced at distance and introduced into a part of the landscape with numerous existing turbines.</p> <p>During the hours of darkness, receptors are considered to be of low susceptibility due to the presence of existing lights around properties scattered across the landscape, and a number of existing wind turbine lights.</p>	<p>During daylight hours receptors in this location are assessed as high sensitivity.</p> <p>During the hours of darkness receptors are assessed as medium sensitivity.</p>
Magnitude of Change during daylight hours			
With reference to the wireline at Figure 5.39 , parts of all 18 turbines would be visible in theory above the upland landscape that forms the backdrop to the view. However, views of some turbines would be partially			

screened by landform with the hubs of 11 turbines visible above the horizon, with views of the remaining turbines limited to blade tips.

No views would be available of the alternative (backup) substation, BESS and tracks within the northern development area or any of the infrastructure located in the southern development area.

The turbines appear as small-scale elements that occupy a small to medium lateral extent of the view and introduce a small to medium size and scale of change. The proposed turbines would largely be contained within the extent of existing wind farms present on the view horizon. This would result in a **low to very low** magnitude of change.

Magnitude of Change during hours of darkness

During the hours of darkness, with reference to the lit turbine ZTV at **Figure 5.8**, up to all eight lit turbines would be visible from this location. However, referring the wireline at **Figure 5.39**, six of the lit turbines would be visible in practice with the remaining nacelle lights screened by topography.

Referring to the lit turbine lighting intensity ZTV at **Figure 5.9**, the turbine lights would be perceived at a slightly lower intensity. The intensity of the turbine lights would also be further reduced due to the distance from the proposed turbines.

Existing views during the hours of darkness at this location are already influenced by the lights at properties and farms and wind turbines dotted across the landscape.

As such, the magnitude of change during the hours of darkness would be **very low**.

Significance of Effect

During daylight hours the Proposed Development would result in a **minor moderate effect** on views experienced by receptors at this location that is considered to be **not significant**.

During the hours of darkness, the Proposed Development would result in a **minor effect** on views experienced by receptors at this location that is considered to be **not significant**.

Viewpoint 13 – A70 Rigside

Baseline			
Grid Reference:	287706, 635188	Elevation (m AOD)	240 m
Nearest Infrastructure:	16,665m (T18)	Direction to Proposed Development:	West
LCT:	South Lanarkshire LCT 10 i Foothills: Carmichael/Roberton		
Designations:	N/A	Receptor:	Residents Road users
Description of Baseline			
<p>This viewpoint is representative of the views from the properties located on the north-western side of Rigside. The viewpoint has been taken from the nearest publicly accessible place to the properties which is on the A70 as it travels through Rigside village. In reality, views from the properties towards the Proposed Development would be oblique, partially filtered and interrupted by vegetation in the immediate intervening view.</p> <p>From this elevated viewpoint, views extend along the urban edge of the A70 towards the undulating agricultural land and pronounced ridgeline. In terms of existing structures, there is a 48.5 m tall wind turbine at Newtonhead Farm in the foreground and a line of large pylons and overhead lines can also be seen crossing the landscape in the distance. In general, farmsteads are scattered across the landscape, with large associated outbuildings. An area of large storage/distribution warehouses are also visible in the middle distance at Poniel.</p> <p>The existing Douglas West, Galawhistle, Nutberry, Cumberhead, Hagshaw Extension, and the more distant Auchrobert, Dungavel and Kype Muir turbines can be seen from this location. With reference to the wireline in Figure 5.40, the under construction Cumberhead West, Douglas West Extension and Hagshaw Repowering schemes will soon be added to the baseline view from this location.</p>			
Receptor	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity
Residents Road users	The viewpoint is not located within a designated landscape but is likely to be valued by residents in the settlement. The value of the view is considered to be medium .	<p>During daylight hours, road users are considered to be of low susceptibility to changes in views as views would be generally glimpsed and screened intermittently while travelling along the route. Residents are considered to be of high susceptibility to changes in their view.</p> <p>During the hours of darkness, receptors are considered to be of low susceptibility.</p>	<p>During daylight hours road users in this location are assessed as low sensitivity and residents as high sensitivity.</p> <p>During the hours of darkness road users are assessed as very low sensitivity due to the presence of vehicular lights. Residents are assessed as having medium sensitivity due to the presence of other light sources within the settlement.</p>

Magnitude of Change during daylight hours

With reference to the wireline at **Figure 5.40**, parts of 16 turbines would be visible in theory above the upland landscape that forms the backdrop to the view. However, views of some turbines would be partially screened by landform with the hubs of nine turbines visible above the horizon, with views of the remaining turbines limited to blade tips.

No views would be available of the alternative (backup) substation, BESS and tracks within the northern development area or any of the infrastructure located in the southern development area.

The turbines appear as small-scale elements that occupy a small lateral extent of the view horizon and introduce a small size and scale of change. The proposed turbines will be fully contained within the extent of existing wind farms present on the view horizon once Cumberhead West has completed construction. This would result in a **low to very low** magnitude of change.

Magnitude of Change during hours of darkness

During the hours of darkness, with reference to the lit turbine ZTV at **Figure 5.8** and the wireline at **Figure 5.40**, up to four of the eight lit turbines would be visible from this location.

Referring to the lit turbine lighting intensity ZTV at **Figure 5.9**, the turbine lights would be perceived at a lower intensity. The intensity of the turbine lights would also be further reduced due to the distance from the proposed turbines.

Existing views during the hours of darkness at this location are already influenced by the lights at properties within the settlement, along the road, by vehicles and by the lights of other lit turbines.

As such, the magnitude of change during the hours of darkness would be **very low**.

Significance of Effect

During daylight hours the Proposed Development would result in a **minor effect** on views experienced by residents and a **negligible effect** to road user views at this location. These effects are considered to be **not significant**.

During the hours of darkness the Proposed Development would result in a **minor effect** on views experienced by residents and **no effect** to road user views at this location. These effects are considered to be **not significant**.

Viewpoint 14 – Tinto Hill

Baseline			
Grid Reference:	295331, 634373	Elevation (m AOD)	709 m
Nearest Infrastructure:	24,296 m (T18)	Direction to Proposed Development:	West
LCT:	South Lanarkshire LCT 11 Prominent Isolated Hills		
Designations:	Upper Clyde Valley and Tinto LLA	Receptor:	Walkers
Description of Baseline			
<p>This viewpoint is representative of the views from the vantage point of Tinto Hill offering clear panoramic views across the gently undulating rural landscape.</p> <p>In the direction towards the site, a large patchwork of plantation covers extensive areas of land in the surrounding landscape. Substantial tree belts also form boundaries to some of the fields. It is evident that some field hedgerows have been removed to create larger fields. There are farmsteads scattered across the landscape, some with large agricultural sheds. There is a significant sense that surrounding Tinto Hill, the wider area is formed by a combination of rolling moorland as well as a working and productive landscape.</p> <p>Within the view to the west, there are numerous existing wind farms that include Hagshaw, Douglas West, Cumberhead, Nutberry, Galawhistle, Broken Cross, Auchrobert, Kype Muir (and Extension), and Dungavel, and it is possible to see other existing wind farms in the far distance including Whitelee. There are also numerous single small scale wind turbines scattered across the rural landscape.</p>			
Receptor	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity
Walkers	The viewpoint is located within a designated landscape and is a recognised vantage point. The value of the view is considered to be high .	<p>During daylight hours walkers to this upland location are considered to be of very high susceptibility to changes in their view, although this is moderated due to the extensive presence of existing wind farms.</p> <p>During the hours of darkness, receptors are considered to be of low susceptibility due to the presence of other light sources within the intervening landscape.</p>	<p>During daylight hours receptors in this location are assessed as very high sensitivity.</p> <p>During the hours of darkness receptors are assessed as having medium sensitivity.</p>
Magnitude of Change during daylight hours			
<p>With reference to the wireline at Figure 5.41, parts of all 18 turbines would be visible in theory above the distant horizon to the view. However, views of some turbines would be partially screened by landform with the hubs of 16 turbines visible above the horizon, with views of the remaining turbines limited to blade tips.</p> <p>No views would be available of the alternative (backup) substation, BESS and tracks within the northern development area or any of the infrastructure located in the southern development area.</p> <p>The turbines appear as small-scale elements that occupy a small lateral extent of the view in this direction and introduce a small size and scale of change. The proposed turbines would be contained within the extent of existing wind farms present on the view horizon, this especially being the case upon completion of construction of Cumberhead West. This would result in a very low magnitude of change.</p>			

Magnitude of Change during hours of darkness

During the hours of darkness, with reference to the lit turbine ZTV at **Figure 5.8** and the wireline at **Figure 5.41**, up to all eight lit turbines would be visible from this location.

Referring to the lit turbine lighting intensity ZTV at **Figure 5.9**, there would be no reduction in intensity due to the differences in elevation between the viewpoint and the turbine lights. However, on account of the distance the lights would be barely perceptible.

As such, the magnitude of change during the hours of darkness would be **very low**.

Significance of Effect

During daylight hours the Proposed Development would result in a **minor moderate effect** on views that would be **not significant**.

During the hours of darkness the Proposed Development would result in a **minor effect** on views that would be **not significant**.

Viewpoint 15 – Auchensaugh Hill

Baseline			
Grid Reference:	285342, 627202	Elevation (m AOD)	388 m
Nearest Infrastructure:	16,082 to the solar array in the southern development area m (T18)	Direction to Proposed Development:	North-west
LCT:	South Lanarkshire LCT 7 Rolling Moorland		
Designations:	Immediately adjacent to the Douglas Valley LLA	Receptor:	Walkers
Description of Baseline			
<p>Views stretch out across a smooth, open landscape, which then falls into the Douglas Valley before rising again to Common Hill, which forms the backdrop to the view. The landscape is large-scale with a relatively clear, simple form, composed mainly of rough grassland.</p> <p>Views towards the village of Douglas are screened by Pagie Hill while the coniferous plantation of Townhead Wood combine to reduce the visibility in this direction. To the north-west, there are numerous existing wind farms that include Hagshaw, Douglas West, Cumberhead, Nutberry and Galawhistle.</p>			
Receptor	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity
Walkers	The viewpoint is located adjacent to a designated landscape. The value of the view is considered to be high .	<p>During daylight hours walkers to this upland location are considered to be of high susceptibility to changes in their view, although this is moderated due to the extensive presence of existing wind farms.</p> <p>During the hours of darkness, receptors are considered to be of low susceptibility due to walkers being likely to be using a torch to light their route.</p>	<p>During daylight hours receptors in this location are assessed as high sensitivity.</p> <p>During the hours of darkness receptors are assessed as having medium sensitivity.</p>
Magnitude of Change during daylight hours			
<p>With reference to the wireline at Figure 5.42, parts of 16 turbines would be visible in theory above the distant horizon to the view. However, views of some turbines would be partially screened by landform with the hubs of seven turbines visible above the horizon, with views of the remaining turbines limited to blade tips.</p> <p>No views would be available of the alternative (backup) substation, BESS and tracks within the northern development area or any of the infrastructure located in the southern development area.</p> <p>The turbines appear as small-scale elements that occupy a small lateral extent of the distant horizon and introduce a small size and scale of change. The proposed turbines would be contained within the extent of existing wind farms present on the view horizon. This would result in a very low magnitude of change.</p>			
Magnitude of Change during hours of darkness			
<p>During the hours of darkness, with reference to the lit turbine ZTV at Figure 5.8, up to four lit turbines would be visible from this location.</p>			

Referring to the lit turbine lighting intensity ZTV at **Figure 5.9**, the turbine lights would be perceived at a slightly lower intensity. The intensity of the turbine lights would also be further reduced due to the distance from the proposed turbines.

As such, the magnitude of change during the hours of darkness would be **very low**.

Significance of Effect

During daylight hours the Proposed Development would result in a **minor effect** on views that would be **not significant**.

During the hours of darkness the Proposed Development would result in a **minor effect** on views that would be **not significant**.



1.2 Summary of Effects

Table 1 – Summary of Operational Effects on Representative Viewpoints

Viewpoint	Daylight Hours				Hours of Darkness			
	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Level of Effect	Significant	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Level of Effect	Significant
1 – Drumclog (N)	High	High	Major	Yes	Medium	Medium	Moderate	No
2 - Victory Park, Muirkirk	High	Very low	No effects	No	Low	Very low	No effects	No
3 - River Ayr Way, Muirkirk (N)	High	Low medium	Moderate	No	Medium	Low	Minor moderate	No
4 - Cairn Table	Very high	Medium	Moderate major	Yes	Medium	Low	Minor moderate	No
5 - Nether Wellwood (A70)	Medium	Low	Minor moderate	No	Low	Very low	Negligible	No
6 - B743 (east of Nethershead) (N)	Medium	Medium	Moderate	No	Low	Low	Minor	No
7 - B705 (Auchlinleck) (Effects reported are based on residents)	High	No change Low if forestry felled	No change Minor moderate if forestry felled	No	Medium	No change Low if forestry felled	No change Minor moderate if forestry felled	No
8 - Loudoun Hill	High	Medium	Moderate	Yes	Medium	Low	Minor moderate	No
9 - A71, bridge crossing Calder Water (N)	Low	Medium	Minor moderate	No	Very low	Medium	Minor	No
10 - Strathaven War Memorial	High	Low	Minor moderate	No	Low	Low	Minor	No



Viewpoint	Daylight Hours				Hours of Darkness			
	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Level of Effect	Significant	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Level of Effect	Significant
11 - Minor road south-west of Lesmahagow	Medium	Low	Minor moderate	No	Low	Low	Minor	No
12 - Black Hill	High	Low to very low	Minor moderate	No	Medium	Very low	Minor	No
13 - A70 Rigside (Effects reported are based on residents)	High	Low to very low	Minor	No	Medium	Very low	Minor	No
14 - Tinto Hill	Very high	Very low	Minor moderate	No	Medium	Very low	Minor	No
15 - Auchensaugh Hill	High	Very low	Minor	No	Medium	Very low	Minor	No

Bold text indicates a significant effect

(N) – Night-time visualisation produced from this viewpoint in addition to day-time visualisation.