

APPENDIX 11.1

11.1a Visual Receptor Sensitivity

11.1b Magnitude of Visual Impacts at Representative Viewpoint Locations

11.1a Visual Receptor Sensitivity

Visual sensitivity is a two-sided analysis of receptor susceptibility (people or groups of people) versus the value of the view on offer at a particular location. To assess the susceptibility of viewers and the amenity value of views, the assessor uses a range of criteria and provides a four point weighting scale to indicate how strongly the viewer/view is associated with each of the criterion identified in **Section 11.2.6.1** of Chapter 11.

Table A11.1: Visual Receptor Sensitivity

Scale of Value for each criterion

Strong association	Moderate association	Mild association	Negligible association

Values associated with the view	VP1	VP2	VP3	VP4	VP5	VP6	VP7	VP8	VP9	VP10	VP11	VP12	VP13	VP14	VP15
Susceptibility of viewers to changes in views															
Recognised scenic value of the view															
Views from within highly sensitive landscape areas															
Primary views from residences															
Intensity of use, popularity (number of viewers)															
Viewer connection with the landscape															
Provision of vast, elevated panoramic views															
Sense of remoteness / tranquillity at the viewing location															
Degree of perceived naturalness															
Presence of striking or noteworthy features															
Sense of Historical, cultural and / or spiritual significance															
Rarity or uniqueness of the view															
Integrity of the landscape character within the view															
Sense of place at the viewing location															
Sense of awe															
Overall sensitivity assessment	M	M	HM	HM	M	H	ML	M	HM	H	M	ML	M	ML	M

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

Values associated with the view	VP16	VP17	VP18	VP19	VP20	VP21	VP22	VP23	VP24	VP25	VP26	VP27	VP28	VP29	VP30
Susceptibility of viewers to changes in views															
Recognised scenic value of the view															
Views from within highly sensitive landscape areas															
Primary views from residences															
Intensity of use, popularity (number of viewers)															
Viewer connection with the landscape															
Provision of vast, elevated panoramic views															
Sense of remoteness / tranquillity at the viewing location															
Degree of perceived naturalness															
Presence of striking or noteworthy features															
Sense of Historical, cultural and / or spiritual significance															
Rarity or uniqueness of the view															
Integrity of the landscape character within the view															
Sense of place at the viewing location															
Sense of awe															
Overall sensitivity assessment	ML	M	M	HM	M	M	H	HM	M	M	HM	ML	HM	M	H

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

11.1b Magnitude of Visual Effects at Viewshed Reference Points

The assessment of visual impacts at each of the selected viewpoints is aided by spatially accurate wireframe images and photomontages that have been produced in accordance with Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) Visual representation of wind farms: Best Practice Guidelines (version 2.2 - 2017). The presented images for each viewpoint include;

1. Existing View (Contextual 90° included angle)
2. Wireframe view - proposed and cumulative turbines (Contextual 90° included angle)
3. Wireframe view (53.5° included angle)
4. Montage View (53.5° included angle)

VP No.	Existing View	VP Sensitivity	Visual Impact Magnitude	Significance / Quality / Duration of Impact
VP1	N24 at Kilmolash Lower – This is a view afforded from the N24 national primary route that extends across a low section of roadside vegetation northwest of Clonmel. The view extends across a landscape interspersed with hedgerows and stacked mature vegetation. In the distance, rolling ridgelines carpeted in extensive areas of conifer forest and moorland contain the view's background.	Medium	Up to 6 of the proposed turbines have the potential to be viewed at a distance of c.18km in the distant background of this broad sweeping view. Two of the proposed turbines will be partially revealed and are viewed at a small scale in the distance, whilst partial views of the blade sets of several other turbines have the potential to be afforded rotating along the distant rolling ridge. The proposed turbines will marginally increase the intensity of built development along this broad rolling ridge, however, due to the viewing distances involved, they will have little impact on the visual amenity of this working scene. Thus, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Low-negligible .	Slight-imperceptible / Negative / Long Term
VP2	Local Road South of Ardfinnian at Gortnalower – This is a view afforded from the settlement of Ardfinnian, adjacent to a fallow agricultural field on the southern outskirts of the settlement. The depicted view is oriented to the southeast and is partially contained by stacked vegetation and surrounding residential dwellings in the near foreground to the south. In the distance, the foothills and main ridgeline of the Knockmealdown Mountains contain the view.	Medium	Two of the proposed turbines will be partially visible along the rolling foothill of the Knockmealdown Mountains at a distance of over just over c. 12km. The turbines will be viewed as modest-scale background features and have a small visual envelope in the context of the broad underlying ridgeline. They are viewed to the west of the principal Knockmealdown ridgeline and do not appear out of scale or out of place in the context of this rural working scene. On balance of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Low-negligible .	Slight-imperceptible / Negative / Long Term
VP3	Local road at Sillaheens - This is an elevated view from a local road within an area of coniferous forestry on Curraheenavoher Hill that extends across a valley carved by tributaries of the River Suir. The view of the intervening valley is partially contained by areas of roadside vegetation in the immediate foreground. Filtered views across the working river	High-medium	Whilst a large majority of the proposed turbines are screened by the near-roadside vegetation in this view, clear views of the distant wind farm will likely be afforded from the sloping hillsides in this landscape context. Nonetheless, the turbines will be viewed at a distance of just over 10km and are considered to have a subdominant visual presence in the context of these broad upland views.	Slight / Negative / Long Term

VP No.	Existing View	VP Sensitivity	Visual Impact Magnitude	Significance / Quality / Duration of Impact
	corridor context in the middle ground are afforded, whilst in the distance, the view is contained by rolling elevated terrain cloaked in extensive areas of mountain moorland and pockets of conifer forestry.		In terms of aesthetics, the proposed turbines will be viewed in a relatively clear and legible manner along the sloping foothill landscape in the distance and do not appear over-scaled or out of place in this broad landscape context. Whilst the turbines will increase the intensity of built development along the distant rolling ridgeline, they are viewed offset from the principal Knockmealdown Mountain ridgeline, which is one of the main aspects of visual amenity in this broad upland view. On balance of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Low .	
VP4	<p>Viewing Point at Glendalough - This is a pleasant designated scenic route afforded from a layby north of Glendaloughin. The channelled view extends along a broad valley context enclosed by sloping terrain to the east and west. Several large blocks of coniferous forestry are visible in the middle ground, whilst the rolling ridgelines of the Knockmealdown Mountains and their surrounding foothills contain the view's background.</p> <p>It is important to note that this view is representative of a static scenic view (Scenic View 2) in the current Waterford CDP. Nonetheless, the designated scenic view is oriented to the northwest in the opposite direction to the proposed development.</p>	High-medium	<p>All 12 of the proposed turbines will be visible along the sloping foothills of the Knockmealdown Mountains at a distance of just over 14km. The turbines are viewed at a modest scale in the distance and have a subdominant visual presence in this broad channelled view.</p> <p>Whilst there will be some minor instances of turbine overlap and turbine blade sets rotating along the distant ridge, any negative aesthetic effects are heavily diluted by the viewing distances involved. The proposed turbines will increase the intensity of built development along the distant ridge, however, they do not appear incongruous in this broad landscape which is characterised by an array of broad working land uses such as large blocks of commercial conifer forestry and pastoral farmland. On balance of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Low.</p>	Slight / Negative / Long Term
VP5	Molough New Cemetery north of Newcastle - This is a locally elevated view afforded north of the River Suir corridor from a cemetery in the townland of	Medium	Turbine T13 and the partial blade tip of turbine T12 will be visible at a relatively modest scale along the distant rolling ridgeline in the view's background. The partially revealed turbines will be viewed along the rolling foothills of the	Slight-imperceptible / Negative / Long Term

VP No.	Existing View	VP Sensitivity	Visual Impact Magnitude	Significance / Quality / Duration of Impact
	Moloughnewtown. The middle ground of the view is contained in patchwork of rolling pastoral farmland and is backed by rolling terrain carpeted in extensive areas of mountain moorland and small blocks of conifer forestry.		Knockmealdown Mountains and are viewed rising just beyond a small block of conifer forestry at a distance of just over 8km. The partial view of the proposed turbines will have little impact on the visual amenity of this broad sweeping view and are well offset from the most elevated sections of the Knockmealdown Mountains, which are the principal viewing aspect of this broad panorama. On balance of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Low-negligible .	
VP6	Kilclooney Mountain (Fauscoum) west of Coumshingaun Lake - This is an elevated broad panoramic view afforded from the summit of Kilclooney Mountain. The depicted view is oriented to the west and looks across a series of elevated rolling ridges cloaked entirely in mountain moorland. The elevated nature of the terrain in the immediate landscape provides for a distant view the Knockmealdown Mountains, which rise in the distance and contain the view's background.	High	Up to three of the proposed turbines have the potential to be viewed from this elevated mountain summit at a considerable distance of over 17km. The turbines will present as small-scale background features and are considered to have a minimal visual presence in this broad sweeping panoramic view. Due to atmospheric perspective (fading of distant objects), the proposed turbines will be difficult to discern here and will only likely be viewed in the clearest of viewing conditions. Overall, this partial distant view of the proposed development will have no notable effect on the visual amenity of this upland context. Thus, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Low-negligible .	Slight-imperceptible / Negative / Long Term
VP7	R762 at Boolavonteen - This is a view afforded from the R762 Regional Road in the townland of Boolavonteen. The view depicts small pockets of mixed vegetation which are interspersed throughout the fore-to-middle ground. In the distance, the view is contained by rolling elevated terrain cloaked predominantly in conifer forestry and areas of mountain moorland.	Medium-low	The proposed turbines are viewed along the rolling foothills of the Knockmealdown Mountains at a distance of just over 4km and will be a noticeable feature along this section of the regional road. The proposed turbines present at a notable scale and are principally viewed backed by the sky with a low degree of contrast. Whilst a broad view of the turbines is afforded here, they do not appear over-scaled in the context of the surrounding broad land uses and landscape features and are considered to have a co-dominant visual presence. Whilst there will be some stacked views of turbines afforded which can generate a slight sense of visual clutter, the	Moderate-slight / Negative / Long Term

VP No.	Existing View	VP Sensitivity	Visual Impact Magnitude	Significance / Quality / Duration of Impact
			proposed turbine array generally presents in a legible manner with clear spacing characteristics, allowing for visual permeability through the scheme. The proposed turbines will not block the view of the more distant uplands further to the east and do not appear incongruous in this working transitional landscape. On balance of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Medium-low .	
VP8	Local road at Boolahallagh - This is an uphill view afforded from a local road in the townland of Boolahallagh oriented south. The southern aspect of the view is partially truncated by Broemountain, whilst a broad long distant view is afforded to the southeast. It is important to note that the main aspect of visual amenity here relates to views oriented to east towards the Comeragh and Monavullagh Mountains.	Medium	The proposed turbines are visible here at a relatively near distance of just under 2km and are viewed atop Broemountain and along its sloping southeast-facing hillside. Turbine T13 is viewed along the summit of Broemountain and presents at a notable scale alongside turbine T08, which is viewed to the east slightly further downslope. Whilst the proposed turbines will be a noticeable feature from here, they do not appear over-scaled or with any sense of overbearing and are considered to have a co-dominant visual presence in this view. Whilst the scale of both turbines T13 and T08 is slightly accentuated as a result of their elevated location, a strong sense of perspective is generated by the variation in the scale of the turbines in the view, which highlights the depth and dispersion of the proposed development across this foothill landscape. There will be some negative aesthetic effects generated by the stacked views of turbines' further downslopes, however, it is important to note that the proposed turbines will not block or obstruct the view towards the uplands to the east, which is the main aspect of visual amenity in this view. Overall, the turbines will notably increase the intensity of built development in this transitional foothill landscape, and the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Medium .	Moderate / Negative / Long Term
VP9	Local road at Meoul - This is a pleasant and partially enclosed view, afforded from	High-medium	The blade set of turbine T13 is viewed here, rotating just above a small block of conifer forest along the near rolling ridge to the east at a distance of over 3km. The partially visible turbine	Slight-imperceptible / Negative / Long Term

VP No.	Existing View	VP Sensitivity	Visual Impact Magnitude	Significance / Quality / Duration of Impact
	<p>a scenic designation along the L1025 adjacent to the Waterford – Tipperary county bounds. The depicted view is oriented to the southeast and extends towards sloping terrain blanketed in moorland that contains this aspect of the view at a near distance. It is important to note that the main aspect of visual amenity here relates to the down valley views to the south/southwest, whilst the scenic view designation is oriented to the west, in the opposite direction of the depicted view, towards elevated upland terrain.</p>		<p>blade set is viewed backed by the sky with a low degree of visual contrast and is viewed in the opposite direction to the main aspect of visual amenity, which is to the south. The partial view of the turbines will have little impact on the visual amenity of this transitional foothill landscape which is characterised by other working land uses such as commercial conifer forestry and agricultural farmlands. Thus, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Low-negligible.</p>	
VP10	<p>Knockmealdown Summit – This is a pleasant panoramic view afforded from the summit of Knockmealdown. The depicted view looks across an elevated rolling landscape cloaked in moorland. A broad sweeping panorama is afforded in the distance to the east and south across the lowlands between the Knockmealdown Mountains and elevated uplands of the Comeragh and Monavullagh Mountains, which contain the background of the view.</p>	High	<p>A partial view of the proposed development is visible in the distance and is heavily screened by the rolling ridges east of Knockmealdown summit. Only turbine T2 will be fully revealed, whilst partial views of blade sets of up to 8 other turbines are also afforded, where they are viewed backed by the distant terrain with a notable degree of contrast. Nonetheless, the turbines present as relatively modest-scale features in this broad sweeping panorama and have a visual envelope of fewer than 20 degrees. Due to the broad elevated nature of the view, the visual presence of the proposed development is deemed to be in the order of sub-dominant to minimal.</p> <p>There will be some visual clutter and visual irritation generated by the partial views of turbine blade sets rotating against the distant ridge. Furthermore, the proposed development generates a slight degree of visual ambiguity as to the actual location of the proposed wind farm development. Nonetheless, the overall development is heavily screened from this elevated location and will not block or obstruct the views of the distant landscape. Whilst the view of turbines will result in a marginal increase in the intensity of built development in this broad view,</p>	Slight / Negative / Long Term

VP No.	Existing View	VP Sensitivity	Visual Impact Magnitude	Significance / Quality / Duration of Impact
			they will not appear out of place and are viewed in conjunction with an existing wind farm further in the distance to the south. Therefore, on balance of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Low-negligible .	
VP11	Local road at Doon – An uphill view is afforded along this sloping local road to the north of the site. The depicted view is of an undulating transitional foothill landscape and is partially enclosed by a dense roadside hedgerow in the foreground. Broemountain is briefly visible in the background to the southwest. It is important to note that the main aspect of visual amenity along this local road relates to the elevated views of the lowlands to the southeast and the broad panorama of the Comeragh and Monavullagh Mountains to the east and north.	Medium	<p>This is a near-distant view of the proposed development afforded from the northeast-facing slopes of Broemountain. The northernmost turbines in the array will be clearly visible here at a large scale, where they are viewed along the summit of Broemountain and along the sloping lands to the east. Whilst the turbines will be a prominent feature along this section of the local road, they are not viewed in the most scenic aspects of the views afforded from this section of the local road, which are to the southeast and east toward the distant Comeragh and Monavullagh Uplands. Nevertheless, due to the near clear near-distant view of the turbines, they are considered to have a dominant visual presence.</p> <p>The nearest of the proposed turbines appear partially stunted as their towers are heavily screened by a combination of the near ridge and hedgerow vegetation. There will be some minor instances of turbine overlap, which can cause a slight sense of visual clutter, and a slight sense of visual ambiguity is generated with regard to the actual location of the partially screened turbines. Nevertheless, the proposed turbines generally present well-spaced and do not intrude on the main aspect of visual amenity. The turbines will notably increase the intensity of built development in this foothill context, however, they will not appear out of place, as wind farm developments are a common feature of transitional foothill landscapes. On balance of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed High-medium.</p>	Substantial-moderate / Negative / Long Term
VP12	Local road at Corradoon - This is a pleasant view afforded from a gateway	Medium-low	A filtered view of the proposed development is afforded from this section of the local road, where the nearest turbines	Substantial-moderate / Negative / Long Term

VP No.	Existing View	VP Sensitivity	Visual Impact Magnitude	Significance / Quality / Duration of Impact
	<p>along a local road adjacent to a linear cluster of residential dwellings and farmsteads. The view is oriented to the west and extends across rolling pastoral farmland, and is contained in the distance by Broemountain and the Knockmealdown Mountains foothills.</p>		<p>present some c.1km to the west at a notable scale. All 12 of the proposed turbines will be revealed and are viewed through a veil of mature vegetation located in the near foreground. The proposed turbines will present at a considerable scale here, however, they do not present with any strong sense of overbearing, nor do they appear over-scaled in the context of the broad underlying land use patterns and surrounding broad landscape features. Overall, it is considered that the proposed development will have a dominant visual presence.</p> <p>Despite the partially filtered views of the proposed turbines, they present here in a relatively legible manner, albeit with some stacked views of the proposed turbines. Due to the variation in the scale of the turbines from furthest to nearest, there is a strong sense of perspective generated by the proposed wind farm, highlighting the depth and dispersion of the proposed development across this rolling foothill landscape. There is also a strong sense of visual permeability through the proposed development due to the turbine's spacing characteristics. Nonetheless, the proposed turbines will contribute to a considerable increase in the intensity of built development in this transitional landscape context characterised by other working land uses such as forestry and agriculture. On balance of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed High-medium.</p>	
VP13	<p>Local road at Tooraneena – This is a partially contained vista afforded from the village of Tooraneena. The depicted view is oriented to the west across the broad River Finisk valley, where the landscape and is contained in sloping pastoral fields and networks of hedgerow vegetation. The view is contained in the distance by the</p>	Medium	<p>The proposed turbines will be visible along rolling transitional lands at a notable scale from this locally elevated location. All of the turbines will be revealed here and are viewed backed by the sky with a low degree of contrast. Whilst the moving turbine components will likely draw the eye here; there is a strong sense of visual separation generated by the broad River Finisk valley that occurs to the west of the settlement of Touraneena. The proposed turbines are considered to have a co-dominant visual presence from this distance of c.3km and are viewed in</p>	<p>Moderate / Negative / Long Term</p>

VP No.	Existing View	VP Sensitivity	Visual Impact Magnitude	Significance / Quality / Duration of Impact
	rolling foothills of the Knockmealdown Mountains.		<p>the context of the broad foothill landscape of the Knockmealdown Mountains.</p> <p>Whilst the turbines present with a broad visual envelope in this aspect of the view, their notable spacing characteristic allows for a strong sense of visual permeability through the scheme. There will be some instances of visual clutter and visual irritation generated by stacked views of the proposed turbines, however, these negative aesthetic effects will be slightly offset by the clearer views of the turbines on the periphery of the development. Furthermore, the scale of the proposed turbines is not considered inappropriate in this landscape context that comprises broad underlying land uses and landscape features. On balance of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Medium.</p>	
VP14	<p>Local road at Dyrick - This is a contained view from a local road that falls within the site boundary, in the townland of Dyrick. A brief near distant view of Broemountain is afforded to the north, whilst a low ridge that extends south from Broemountain contains the view to the west. The dense roadside vegetation and an immature are of woodland contains the view to the east.</p>	Medium-low	<p>A clear, near-distant view of the proposed turbines is afforded from this local road laneway that traverses the central parts of the proposed development site. The proposed turbines will be viewed in all directions from this local road context, the nearest of which is turbine T4, located just over 400m to the east of the local road. Nonetheless, turbine T10 presents in the most prominent manner and is viewed uphill to the west. Turbines T6, T8 and T13 will also be clearly visible to the north, whilst the more distant turbines in the eastern half of the array will be partially screened by the vegetation immediately east of the road carriageway. Overall, it is considered that the proposed turbine will present in a highly-dominant manner from this near distance.</p> <p>In terms of aesthetics, the proposed turbines generally present in a clear and legible manner from this near distance, some of which are entirely screened along this section of the local road laneway. Nonetheless, the turbines to the west appear slightly stunted as the near ridge line heavily screens their towers.</p>	Substantial-moderate / Negative / Long Term

VP No.	Existing View	VP Sensitivity	Visual Impact Magnitude	Significance / Quality / Duration of Impact
			<p>These turbines also generate a notable sense of visual irritation as they are viewed rotating against the near ridgeline and slightly dwarf the near dwelling due to their scale, which is accentuated by the uphill nature of the view. Nonetheless, it is important to note that this dwelling is uninhabited and will form part of the proposed development. Furthermore, whilst this view is representative of the local community, the nearest dwelling receptors are located on the opposite side of a low hill, some 900m south of this viewpoint. Overall, the proposed rotating turbines will be one of the most notable features of this section of the local road and will considerably increase the intensity of development in this foothill landscape context. On balance of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed High.</p>	
VP15	<p>Local road at Coolagortboy – This is a contained view from the L1027 local road. The road is designated as a scenic route and is afforded a view overlooking the River Glensheelane valley to the west. The depicted view is oriented to east in the opposite direction to the main aspect of scenic amenity, and contained at a near distance by a residential dwelling and surrounding mature vegetation.</p>	Medium	<p>The proposed turbines are heavily screened from here by a combination of the terrain and the dense vegetation at the rear of this dwelling. Nonetheless, as per the wireframe view, there is potential for partial views of turbine blade sets to be afforded at a relatively near distance of just over 1.6km. It is important to note that the main aspect of visual amenity along this section of the scenic route relates to views to the west across the Glenshelane River valley in the opposite direction to the proposed development. Therefore, even if partially viewed from this section of the scenic route, the turbine blade sets will only be partially visible in the opposite direction to the main aspect of scenic amenity and are deemed to have a visual presence in the order of sub-dominant to co-dominant.</p> <p>In terms of aesthetics, it is not an ideal scenario to have partial turbine blade sets rotating along a ridge as it can generate a sense of visual tension and visual irritation. Nevertheless, the majority of the proposed turbines are entirely screened for here, and many of the surrounding residential dwellings benefit from some screening at their rear, which will diminish the potential for clear views to be afforded of the turbine blade</p>	<p>Moderate-slight / Negative / Long Term</p>

VP No.	Existing View	VP Sensitivity	Visual Impact Magnitude	Significance / Quality / Duration of Impact
			sets. Furthermore, the proposed turbines will not appear out of place in this robust transitional landscape that comprises broad working land uses such as commercial conifer forestry. On balance of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Medium-low .	
VP16	<p>Local road at Ballynaguilkee Upper – This is a locally elevated view afforded from a local road in the townland of Ballynaguilkee Upper. The view extends across a small pastoral field in the foreground and is partially contained by stacked mature tree-lined hedgerows. A brief view of the rolling foothill landscape is afforded through gaps in the intervening vegetation.</p>	Medium-low	<p>The proposed turbines are visible rotating above the near-stacked vegetation and along the distant rolling terrain. Whilst the nearest of the proposed turbines is viewed at a notable scale from this distance of just over 1.3km, the proposed turbines do not present with any strong sense of overbearing. Furthermore, it is important to note that the furthest of the proposed turbines is viewed here at a distance of just under 4km, highlighting the depth of the proposed development across this rolling foothill landscape. Nonetheless, due to the near distance of the turbines in the eastern extent of the site, the proposed development is deemed to have a visual presence in the order of dominant to co-dominant in this local landscape context.</p> <p>In terms of aesthetics, this is a relatively cluttered and stacked view of the proposed turbines. The overlapping of the rotating turbine blade sets will create a notable sense of visual clutter in this view, whilst the varied vertical extent of the proposed development presents a slight sense of visual ambiguity as to the actual landscape context of the proposed turbines. Nonetheless, the proposed turbines will not appear as incongruous features in the robust foothill landscape. Furthermore, the main aspect of visual amenity along this section of the local road is to the east, in the opposite direction to the proposed development. On balance of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed High-Medium.</p>	Substantial-moderate / Negative / Long Term

VP No.	Existing View	VP Sensitivity	Visual Impact Magnitude	Significance / Quality / Duration of Impact
VP17	<p>Local road at Lyrattin - This is an elevated uphill view afforded from a local road in the townland of Lyrattin. Dyrick Hill contains the view to the north and is cloaked in coniferous forestry, with a brief view of the rolling upland landscape is afforded in the distance to the east.</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>The proposed turbines are viewed to the east and west of the rolling hilltop summit located directly north of this view. To the west, the turbines are viewed slightly further uphill, whilst a downhill view of the turbines is afforded to the east. The nearest turbine, T2, is viewed at a distance of c.800m downslope to the east, whilst turbine T09 is viewed at a slightly greater distance of c.1km uphill to the east. However, due to the uphill nature of the view of turbine T09, the perceived scale of the turbine is similar to that of T2. Overall, the proposed turbines will be a prominent feature of this sloping foothill landscape and are deemed to have a dominant visual presence.</p> <p>Aesthetically, some stacked views of turbines are afforded to the west, generating a degree of visual clutter and visual irritation. The turbines are also only partially visible, generating a slight sense of visual ambiguity as to their actual landscape context. Turbine T13 also presents as a slight outlier here and notably extends the vertical envelope of the scheme in the background. To the east, the turbines present in a relatively clear manner, albeit they appear slightly stunted as their towers are partially screened. Whilst the easternmost turbines will slightly impede on the distant views afforded of the Comeragh and Monavullagh Mountains to the east, due to their slender structure and notable spacing characteristics, they allow for visual permeability and will not block the view of the distant uplands. Overall, the proposed turbines will be one of the principal landscape features in this local foothill landscape context and will notably increase the intensity of built development here. As a result of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed High-medium.</p>	<p>Substantial-moderate / Negative / Long Term</p>
VP18	<p>Mount Mellary Monastery – This is an elevated view afforded the grounds of Mount Mellary Monastery. The depicted</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Up to 5 of the proposed turbines will be visible here to varying degrees along the rolling ridgelines in the distance. Turbine T13 will almost be fully revealed, whilst the remaining visible</p>	<p>Slight / Negative / Long Term</p>

VP No.	Existing View	VP Sensitivity	Visual Impact Magnitude	Significance / Quality / Duration of Impact
	<p>view looks across an open field bound by mixed vegetation. A brief view of rolling transitional foothills cloaked in moorland and conifer forestry contains the view in the distance. It is important to note the most sensitive viewing aspect in this instance is the view of Mount Mellary Abbey and the broad views to the south across the lowland landscape. The depicted view represents a brief view to the east adjacent to several outbuildings in the surrounds of the abbey.</p>		<p>turbines will only be partially and intermittently visible. The turbines will be viewed as relatively modest scale features from this distance of just under c. 5km and are viewed backed by the sky with a low degree of visual contrast. The turbines will not appear as conspicuous features in this working foothill landscape context. Furthermore, this view is afforded to the east of Mount Mellary Abbey, where the main aspect of visual amenity is the abbey itself and the broad view across the lowland landscape to the south in the opposite direction to the proposed development. It is important to note that there will be no clear intervisibility of the proposed development and Mount Mellary Abbey. On balance of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Medium-low.</p>	
VP19	<p>Local road at Knocknafrehan - This is view from a local road laneway in the townland of Knocknafrehan. The road is designated as a scenic route, leading toward Knocknascullog and is afforded a view overlooking the broad River Glensheelane valley to the east. The central valley corridor is heavily screened mature coniferous vegetation in the foreground. Broemountain a broad ridge cloaked in conifer forestry contain the background of the view, whilst a brief view of the Comeragh and Monavullagh Mountains is afforded in the distance to the east.</p>	High-medium	<p>The proposed development will be clearly visible rising just beyond a distant ridge east of the Glenshelane River valley. The proposed development will be one of the most notable built features from this open section of the local road scenic route. However, they do not appear over-scaled, nor do they present with any sense of overbearing along this broad working ridge and are considered to have a co-dominant visual presence.</p> <p>In terms of aesthetics, this is a relatively clear and comprehensible view of a wind farm development, albeit there are some minor aesthetic issues relating to turbine blade sets rotating along the vegetated skyline ridge. Whilst this can generate a sense of visual irritation, these effects are strongly offset by the clear and legible views of the nearest turbines. Furthermore, the proposed turbines present with relatively even spacing characteristics generating a slight sense of rhythm and allowing for visual permeability through the scheme towards the distant elevated uplands. Nonetheless, the proposed development will contribute to a notable increase in the intensity of built development in this transitional foothill</p>	<p>Moderate / Negative / Long Term</p>

VP No.	Existing View	VP Sensitivity	Visual Impact Magnitude	Significance / Quality / Duration of Impact
			setting. On balance of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Medium .	
VP20	Local road at Coolnacreena - An uphill view is afforded here from a local road scenic route on the southwest of Broemountain. The route is afforded a pleasant intermittent views across the Glenshelane River valley to the west and towards the Knockmealdown uplands. The depicted view extends across rolling terrain cloaked in extensive conifer forest and is backdropped Broemountain and its surrounding rolling hills.	Medium	<p>A clear view of the westernmost turbines is afforded here, whilst a near-mature conifer tree line heavily screens the eastern parts of the turbine array area. The proposed turbines are viewed at a notable scale from this distance of c.2.4km but do not appear over-scaled in the context of the broad underlying land use patterns and the broad rolling foothill context. The proposed turbines will be prominent built features in this aspect of the view, however, it is important to note that the principal aspect of scenic amenity along this scenic route designation relates to views to the west across the Glenshelane River valley and towards the Knockmealdown Mountain uplands in the opposite direction to the proposed development. Overall, it is considered that the proposed development will have a co-dominant visual presence in this local landscape context.</p> <p>The visible turbines present here in a highly legible manner where they are primarily viewed in silhouette against the sky. Nonetheless, as highlighted in the wireframe view, there is potential to afford views of stacked turbines, and partial turbine blade sets rotating along the skyline ridge further north and south along this route. Overall, the moving turbine components will notably increase the quantum of built development in this transitional foothill setting. However, it is not considered that the proposed turbines will appear out of place in this robust landscape context that is heavily influenced by extensive areas of commercial conifer forestry. On balance of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Medium.</p>	Moderate / Negative / Long Term
VP21	Local road at Farnane Upper - A slightly uphill view is afforded from this section of	Medium	The proposed turbines are viewed here in two relatively condensed clusters to the east and west of a rolling hill in the	Moderate / Negative / Long Term

VP No.	Existing View	VP Sensitivity	Visual Impact Magnitude	Significance / Quality / Duration of Impact
	<p>the local road in the townland of Farnane Upper. The view looks across low rolling terrain cloaked in rough grazing and mixed hedgerow vegetation. The view is contained in the distance by the rolling ridges cloaked in a mix of forestry and moorland.</p>		<p>distance. The turbines to the east are viewed at a slightly nearer distance of just over 1.8km and present at a marginally larger scale than their counterparts to the west. Whilst the turbines will be a noticeable feature of this northern view, one of the principal aspects of visual amenity here relates to views across the rolling landscape to the south and views of the elevated Comeragh and Monavullagh uplands to the east and southeast. Overall, the proposed turbines are considered to have a visual presence in the order of co-dominant to dominant.</p> <p>The condensed and stacked view of the proposed turbines will generate a notable degree of visual clutter in this view. There will also be a slight sense of visual ambiguity as to the actual location of the eastern turbine cluster, which is partially screened by layers of stacked intervening vegetation. Nonetheless, the proposed turbines are not considered to be an inappropriate form of built development in this robust transitional foothill landscape that is influenced by commercial forestry and agriculture. The proposed turbines will considerably increase the quantum of built development, however, they do not appear over-scaled in this broad landscape context. On balance of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Medium.</p>	
VP22	<p>Local road at Coumaraglin – This is a pleasant, broad sweeping panoramic view afforded from a scenic route on the western slopes of the Monavullagh Mountains. This route is afforded a broad view of the working lowlands to the southwest and is contained in the distance by the Knockmealdown Mountains to the west.</p>	High	<p>All 12 of the proposed turbines are visible along the foothills of the Knockmealdown Mountains at a distance of just over 9km. The turbines present as relatively modest scale features in the distant landscape and do not appear over-scaled in the context of the broad upland landscape in the background of the view. Whilst the turbines will likely catch the eye of the casual observer from this elevated location, in the context of this broad panoramic view, the proposed development is considered to have a sub-dominant visual presence.</p>	<p>Moderate-slight / Negative / Long Term</p>

VP No.	Existing View	VP Sensitivity	Visual Impact Magnitude	Significance / Quality / Duration of Impact
			<p>The proposed turbines are viewed in a relatively legible manner from this distance and present with good spacing characteristics limiting the potential for any notable negative aesthetic effects. The proposed turbines are viewed in the context of working transitional foothills and will not appear out of place. However, they will contribute to a notable increase in the intensity of built development along these transitional foothills. On balance of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact in this broad sweeping view is deemed Low.</p>	
VP23	<p>R669 at Boherboyrea – This is a view afforded from the R669 scenic route in the townland of Boherboyrea. The depicted view overlooks a rolling landscape cloaked in pastoral fields and conifer plantations. A view of the Comeragh and Monavullagh uplands is afforded in the distance to the northeast. It is important to note that one of the main aspects of visual amenity along this scenic route is to the north towards the Knockmealdown Mountains rugged ridgeline.</p>	<p>High-medium</p>	<p>The proposed turbines are partially and intermittently visible rotating along a distant vegetated ridgeline. The proposed turbines are revealed here to varying degrees ranging from partial views of blade sets to fully revealed turbines, and predominately present backed by the sky with a low degree of visual contrast. From this distance of just under 6km, the proposed turbines are considered to have a sub-dominant visual presence.</p> <p>In terms of aesthetics, the partial views of turbines rotating along the vegetated ridgeline will generate a slight sense of visual tension and visual irritation. Nonetheless, these impacts are slightly diluted by the viewing distances involved and the clearer and more legible views of the proposed turbines. Furthermore, one of the principal aspects of scenic amenity along this scenic route relates to the clear views of the Knockmealdown Uplands to the north and west. Therefore, whilst the turbines will contribute to an increase in the intensity of built development along this scenic route designation, they will not notably detract from the scenic amenity afforded from here, which is influenced by a range of other working land uses. Therefore, as a result of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Medium-low.</p>	<p>Moderate-slight / Negative / Long Term</p>

VP No.	Existing View	VP Sensitivity	Visual Impact Magnitude	Significance / Quality / Duration of Impact
VP24	Redgate Cross Roads at Newtown – This is a contained view oriented to the north, overlooking an agricultural field bordered by hedgerows interspersed with mature trees. Filtered views of rolling transitional terrain blanketed in a mix of moorland and conifer plantations contains the views background.	Medium	This locally elevated landscape context affords a partial, filtered view of the proposed turbines. Whilst the moving turbine components will likely catch the eye of the casual observer from this distance of just over c. 3.3km, the proposed turbines do not appear over-scaled in this landscape context that comprises broad transitional rolling hills and ridges cloaked in blocks of conifer forestry. Whilst the partially visible turbines will generate a slight sense of ambiguity as to the actual landscape context of the proposed development, the turbines do not present as incongruous features in this relatively robust foothill landscape. Furthermore, some of the principal aspects of visual amenity along this sloping landscape context relate to the views to the south towards Dungarvan and to the east towards the Comeragh and Monavullagh Mountains, in the opposite direction to the proposed development. On balance of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact in this filtered view is deemed Medium-low .	Moderate-slight / Negative / Long Term
VP25	R672 at Colligan – This is a contained westward view afforded from the R672 at Colligan. Stacked hedgerow vegetation contains the depicted westward view at a near distance. However, broad open views of the Comeragh and Monavullagh Mountains are afforded to the east in the opposite direction to the depicted view.	Medium	The proposed turbines will be heavily screened from here by a combination of the intervening vegetation and the near-low ridge. Even if partially viewed from surrounding sections of the R672, the partial view of turbine blade sets will have little notable effect on the visual amenity of this section of the scenic route. Indeed, the main aspect of scenic amenity is opposite to the depicted view. Thus, on balance of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Low-negligible .	Slight-imperceptible / Negative / Long Term
VP26	Local road east of Lismore – This is a pleasant pastoral view afforded from a local road east of Lismore. The view extends across the broad Blackwater River valley and is partially contained by a broad low rolling ridge cloaked in agricultural	High-medium	Brief glimpses of the proposed turbine blade sets will be visible in the background rotating along the broad vegetation skyline ridge. The majority of the turbines will be heavily screened from here, and those visible will present backed by the sky with a very low degree of visual contrast and are deemed to have a minimal visual presence in this broad view. Whilst the partially	Slight-imperceptible / Negative / Long Term

VP No.	Existing View	VP Sensitivity	Visual Impact Magnitude	Significance / Quality / Duration of Impact
	farmland and dense mature vegetation. Glimpses of the Knockmealdown Mountains are afforded to the north whilst the Comeragh and Monavullage Mountains and briefly visible in the distance to the east.		visible blade sets rotating along the distant ridge will generate a slight degree of visual irritation, these effects are heavily diluted by the notable viewing distance and the heavily screened view of the turbines. On balance of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Low-negligible .	
VP27	N72 at Kilcogher - This is a view afforded across a pastoral field from a section of the N72 national secondary route. The view extends across the near landscape but is interrupted by dense, mature mixed vegetation. Filtered views of the rugged upland terrain are afforded through gaps in the near stacked vegetation.	Medium-low	Filtered views of the proposed turbines will be afforded here, where they present along the rolling foothills of the Knockmealdown Mountains. The turbines will only be intermittently visible along this section of the N72 as they are heavily screened by existing mature vegetation. However, where visible, the turbines will generally present in a clear and comprehensive manner and will be viewed back by the sky with a low degree of contrast. From this distance of over 7km, the proposed turbine will not present with any sense of overbearing, nor will they appear over-scale in the context of the surrounding broad landscape features. Thus, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Low .	Slight / Negative / Long Term
VP28	Local road northeast of Dromana House – This is a pleasant sweeping panoramic view afforded to the east of the River Blackwater at Dromana. The depicted view is oriented north across a low rolling landscape cloaked in pastoral farmland and pockets of dense vegetation in the surround of the Blackwater River Valley. In the distance, the Knockmealdown Mountains and their surrounding foothills contain the background of the view.	High-medium	The proposed turbines are viewed atop the summit of Broemountain and along the sloping lands to its east. Whilst the westernmost turbines are fully revealed and rise in silhouette against the sky, the easternmost turbines are heavily screened by a low ridge situated to the south of the proposed development. Although the turbines are likely to be noticed in this open view, they are viewed in the context of a broad panorama and will have a sub-dominant visual presence from this distance of just over 10km. Whilst the blade sets of easternmost turbines are viewed rotating along the vegetated skyline ridge and will generate a slight sense of visual irritation, these negative aesthetic effects are strongly diluted by the clearer views of the turbines to the west and the notable viewing distances. The proposed turbines	Slight / Negative / Long Term

VP No.	Existing View	VP Sensitivity	Visual Impact Magnitude	Significance / Quality / Duration of Impact
			are also well offset from some of the most scenic landscape features within the view – the Knockmealdown Mountains and the Comeragh and Monavullageh Mountains. The proposed turbines will generate a slight increase in the intensity of built development in this view. However, they will not appear incongruous in this foothill landscape, which is characterised by other working land uses such as forestry and pastoral farmland. On balance of the reason outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Low .	
VP29	Strandside South road at Dungarvan – This is a pleasant view across Dungarvan Harbour, afforded from a public car park along Strandside South road in Dungarvan. The view is dominated by the built-up town of Dungarvin. In the distance, the elevated mountainous terrain further inland backdrops the view to the northwest.	Medium	Brief glimpses of the proposed turbine blade sets have the potential to be afforded along the distant vegetated skyline. However, the partially visible blade sets are unlikely to draw the eye of the casual observer due to the considerable viewing distances involved (c.16.3km). Even if viewed from here, the proposed turbines will have little impact on the visual amenity of this highly anthropogenic view from Dungarvan Harbour. On balance of the reasons outlined above, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Low-negligible .	Slight-imperceptible / Negative / Long Term
VP30	N72 at Barranalira (Viewing point) - This is a pleasant broad sweeping view afforded from a scenic designation along the N25. The depicted view is oriented to the north/northwest and extends across a working lowland landscape backdropped by elevated uplands. It is important to note that the scenic view designation is oriented toward Dungarvan Harbour, to the northeast, in the opposite direction to the proposed development.	High	The proposed turbines will be visible rotating along the Knockmealdown Mountain foothills at a distance of just under 17km. The turbines will present as small-scale distant background features and are primarily viewed backed by the sky with a very low degree of visual contrast. They are deemed to have a visual presence in the order of sub-dominant to minimal in this broad panoramic view and do not block or obstruct the view of the upland parts of the Knockmealdown Mountains. On balance of the reasons outlined above and the viewing distances involved, the magnitude of visual impact is deemed Low-negligible .	Slight-imperceptible / Negative / Long Term