Section 6
LANDSCAPE AND VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

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Glossary

Term	Definition
Core paths	The basic framework of key routes that provide for the main needs of users. Core paths are identified by local authorities according to Scottish access legislation
Cumulative effects	The additional changes caused by a proposed development in conjunction with other similar developments or as the combined effect of a set of developments, taken together
Elements	Individual parts which make up the landscape, such as, for example, trees, hedges and buildings
Land cover	The surface cover of the land, usually expressed in terms of vegetation cover or lack of it. Related to but not the same as land use
Land use	What land is used for, based on broad categories of functional land cover, such as urban and industrial use and the different types of agriculture and forestry
Landform	The shape and form of the land surface which has resulted from combinations of geology, geomorphology, slope, elevation and physical processes
Landscape character	A distinct, recognisable and consistent pattern of elements in the landscape that makes one landscape different from another, rather than better or worse
Landscape effects	Effects on the landscape as a resource in its own right
Landscape quality (condition)	A measure of the physical state of the landscape. It may include the extent to which typical character is represented in individual areas, the intactness of the landscape and the condition of individual elements
Landscape receptors	Defined aspects of the landscape resource that have the potential to be affected by a proposal
Landscape value	The relative value that is attached to different landscapes by society. A landscape may be valued by different stakeholders for a whole variety of reasons
Magnitude of change/effect	A judgement that combines judgements about the size and scale of the effect, the extent over which it occurs, whether it is reversible or irreversible and whether it is short or long term in duration
Mitigation	Any process, activity or design intended to avoid, reduce, remedy or compensate for adverse landscape and visual effects of a development
Perception	Combines the sensory (that we receive through our senses) with the cognitive (our knowledge and understanding gained from many sources and experiences)
Photomontage	A visualisation which superimposes an image of a proposed development upon a photograph or series of photographs
Sensitivity	A term applied to specific receptors, combining judgements of the susceptibility of the receptor to the specific type of change or development proposed and the value related to that receptor
Significance	A measure of the importance or gravity of the environmental effect, defined by significance criteria specific to the environmental topic
Susceptibility	The ability of a defined landscape or visual receptor to accommodate the specific proposed development
Visual amenity	The overall pleasantness of the views people enjoy of their surroundings, which provides an attractive visual setting or backdrop for the enjoyment of activities of the people living, working, recreating, visiting or travelling through an area
Visual effects	Effects on specific views and on the general visual amenity experience by people
Visual receptor	Individuals and/or defined groups of people who have the potential to be affected by a proposal
Visualisation	A computer simulation, photomontage or other technique illustrating the predicted appearance of a development
ZTV	A map, usually digitally produced, showing areas of land within which a development is theoretically visible

Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Description
AOD	Above Ordnance Datum
AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
D&GC	Dumfries and Galloway Council
GDL	Garden and Designed Landscape
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
GLVIA3	Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment: Third Edition
LCA	Landscape Character Area
LDP	Local Development Plan
LCT	Landscape Character Type
LCU	Landscape Character Unit
LVIA	Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
NCR	National Cycle Route
NNP	Northumberland National Park
NSA	National Scenic Area
OS	Ordnance Survey
RSA	Regional Scenic Area
RPG	Registered Park and Garden
SBC	Scottish Borders Council
SLA	Special Landscape Area
SLC	South Lanarkshire Council
SNH	Scottish Natural Heritage
WHS	World Heritage Site
WLA	Wild Land Area
ZTV	Zone of Theoretical Visibility

Section 6: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 This Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) evaluates the effects of the proposed development on the landscape and visual resource. The assessment has been undertaken by landscape architects at Optimised Environments Limited (OPEN) on behalf of the Applicant. It considers the effect on the landscape resource - both direct effects and effects on how the landscape is perceived - and the effect on visual amenity (views) within the study area (Figure 6.1). Cumulative effects arising from the addition of the proposed development to other wind farms are also considered.

6.1.2 This LVIA contains the following sections:

- Introduction;
- Assessment methodology;
- Baseline conditions and preliminary assessment;
- Potential effects;
- Design mitigation;
- Assessment of physical effects;
- Assessment of effects on landscape character;
- Assessment of effects on views; and
- Summary of effects and conclusions.

6.1.3 There are four technical appendices to this section. These are:

- Appendix 6.1: Methodology, a detailed description of the methodology used in the landscape and visual assessment. A summary of the methodology is provided in Section 6.2;
- Appendix 6.2: Residential Visual Amenity Assessment, which includes consideration of individual properties that lie within a 2km radius of the nearest turbine in the proposed development;
- Appendix 6.3: Viewpoint Table, which sets out all of the viewpoints that have been considered for inclusion in the LVIA and the reasons for the non-inclusion of certain views: and
- Appendix 6.4: Assessment of Effects on Wild Land, which assesses the effects of the proposed development on the Talla – Hart Fell Wild Land Area.

Scope of Assessment

6.1.4 The assessment covers the construction, operational and decommissioning phases of the proposed development. The proposed wind farm will consist of 75 turbines and associated long-term and short-term infrastructure, including access tracks (upgraded and new), three meteorological masts, four substation and control rooms, nine temporary construction compounds, fourteen borrow pits, and four energy storage facilities. Some areas of forestry will be removed along access track routes and for turbine keyholing.

6.1.5 The proposed development incorporates four maximum hub height dimensions, resulting in four maximum blade tip heights.. EIAR Figure 2.1 indicates the location of the various turbine heights.

- Four turbines (9, 10, 11 and 15) have a maximum hub height of 105m, and a maximum height of 180m to blade tip;
- Forty-seven turbines have a maximum hub height of 125m, and a maximum height of 200m to blade tip;
- Two turbines (16 and 73) have a maximum hub height of 150m, and a maximum height of 225m to blade tip; and
- Twenty-two turbines have a maximum hub height of 175m, and a maximum height of 250m to blade tip.

Definition of Study Area

6.1.6 The initial step in the LVIA is the establishment of the study area to be considered in the assessment. Guidance developed by Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) (Visual Representation of Wind Farms Version 2.2, February 2017) indicates that an area with a radius of 45km from the nearest turbine is appropriate for turbines of the size proposed at this wind farm. This study area is shown in Figure 6.1, and a Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) analysis has been carried out for this area.

6.1.7 Within this wider study area, the assessment focuses on a local study area that covers a 20km radius from the nearest turbine (shown on Figure 6.1). This 20km radius has been ascertained through a preliminary assessment of effects on landscape character and visual receptors, which indicated that significant effects on landscape character are unlikely to arise beyond approximately 11.5km while significant effects on visual receptors are unlikely to arise beyond around 18km.

6.1.8 Mapping of the various characteristics and features of the study area that are relevant to the assessment (i.e. landform, landscape character types, principal visual receptors and landscape-planning designations) is presented with both 45km and 20km study areas in order that the wider context can be seen at a broad scale while the local context can be seen at a more detailed scale.

Consultation

6.1.9 Scoping advice provided by Dumfries & Galloway Council (D&GC) and Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) and local Community Councils has been incorporated into the LVIA. This includes advice on viewpoint locations, study area radii, and the approach to the assessment.

6.2 Assessment Methodology

6.2.1 This section summarises the methodology used to carry out the LVIA, which is described in full in Appendix 6.1.

Methodological Guidance

6.2.2 The following sources have been utilised in the formulation of methodology for the assessment and the presentation of graphics:

- Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment: Third Edition (Landscape Institute and IEMA, 2013) (GLVIA3);
- Landscape Institute (2019). Visual Representation of Development Proposals: Landscape Institute Technical Guidance Note 06/19;
- Landscape Institute (2019). Technical Guidance Note 2/19 Residential Visual Amenity Assessment;
- SNH (2012). Assessing the Cumulative Impact of Onshore Wind Energy Developments;
- SNH (2017). Assessing Impacts on Wild Land Areas - Technical Guidance-Consultation Draft;

- SNH (2017). Siting and Designing Wind Farms in the Landscape Version 3a;
- SNH (2017). Visual Representation of Wind Farms, Version 2.2; and
- SNH (June 2014). Map of Wild Land Areas.

Categories of Effects

6.2.3 The LVIA is intended to determine the effects that the proposed development will have on the landscape and visual resource. For the purpose of assessment, the potential effects on the landscape and visual resource are grouped into five categories:

Effects on physical elements

6.2.4 Physical effects are restricted to the area within the proposed development red line site boundary, and are the direct effects on the existing fabric of the site, such as the removal of forestry and alteration to ground cover. This category of effects is made up of landscape elements, which are the components of the landscape, such as forestry that may be directly and physically affected by the proposed development.

Effects on landscape character

6.2.5 Landscape character is the distinct and recognisable pattern of elements that occurs consistently in a particular type of landscape, and the way that this pattern is perceived. Effects on landscape character arise either through the introduction of new elements that physically alter this pattern of elements, or through visibility of the proposed development, which may alter the way in which the pattern of elements is perceived. This category of effects is made up of landscape character receptors, which fall into two groups; landscape character types and landscape-related designated areas.

Effects on wild land areas

6.2.6 The assessment of effects on wild land areas (WLAs) is carried out in accordance with draft SNH guidance (Assessing impacts on Wild Land Areas – technical guidance, January 2017).

Effects on views

6.2.7 The assessment of effects on views is an assessment of how the introduction of the proposed development will affect views throughout the study area. The assessment of effects on views is carried out in two parts:

- An assessment of the effects that the proposed development will have on a series of viewpoints; and
- An assessment of the effects that the proposed development will have on views from principal visual receptors, which are relevant settlements and routes found throughout the study area.

Cumulative effects

6.2.8 Cumulative effects arise where the study areas for two or more wind farms overlap so that both of the wind farms are experienced at proximity where they may have a greater incremental effect, or where wind farms may combine to have a sequential effect.

Significance of Effects

6.2.9 The previous section of this chapter describes how the landscape and visual assessment is carried out in five parts: the assessment of physical effects; the assessment of effects on landscape character; the assessment of effects on wild land; the assessment of effects on views; and the assessment of cumulative effects. The broad principles used in the assessment of significance of these parts are the same (other than the assessment of effects on wild land) and are described below. The detailed methodology for the assessment of significance does, however, vary, and the specific criteria used are described in Appendix 6.1.

6.2.10 The objective of the assessment of the proposed development is to predict the likely significant effects on the landscape and visual resource. In accordance with the Environmental Impact Assessment (Scotland) Regulations 2017, the LVIA effects are assessed to be either significant or not significant. The LVIA does not define intermediate levels of significance as the Regulations do not provide for these.

6.2.11 The significance of effects is assessed through a combination of two considerations; the sensitivity of the landscape receptor or view and the magnitude of change that will result from the addition of the proposed development. While this methodology is not reliant on the use of a matrix to arrive at the conclusion of a significant or not significant effect, a matrix is included below to illustrate how combinations of sensitivity and magnitude of change ratings can give rise to significant effects. The matrix also gives an understanding of the threshold at which significant effects may arise.

Table 6.1 – Illustrative Significance Matrix

Magnitude Sensitivity	High	Medium-High	Medium	Medium-Low	Low	Negligible
High	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant/ Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
Medium-High	Significant	Significant	Significant/ Not Significant	Significant/ Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
Medium	Significant	Significant/ Not Significant	Significant/ Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
Medium-Low	Significant/ Not Significant	Significant/ Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
Low	Significant/ Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant

6.2.12 Effects within the dark grey boxes in the matrix are considered to be significant in terms of the EIA Regulations. Effects within the light grey boxes may be significant or not significant depending on the specific relevant factors that arise at a particular landscape or visual receptor. In accordance with GLVIA3, experienced professional judgement is applied to the assessment of all effects and reasoned justification is presented in respect of the findings of each case.

6.2.13 A significant effect occurs where the proposed development will provide a defining influence on a landscape element, landscape character receptor or view. A not significant effect occurs where the effect of the proposed development is not material, and the baseline characteristics of the landscape element, landscape character receptor, view or visual receptor continue to provide the definitive influence. In this instance the proposed development may have an influence but this influence will not be definitive. A significant cumulative effect may arise where a 'landscape with wind farms' is created as a result of the addition of the proposed development to other existing or proposed wind farms, resulting in wind turbines becoming sufficiently prolific that they become a prevailing or key landscape and visual characteristic.

6.2.14 This assessment assumes clear weather and optimum viewing conditions. This means that effects that are assessed to be significant may be not significant under different, less clear conditions.

Sensitivity

6.2.15 Sensitivity is an expression of the ability of a landscape receptor or view to accommodate the proposed development. The sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value of the receptor and its susceptibility to the proposed development. The factors that determine these criteria are described in Appendix 6.1.

6.2.16 Levels of sensitivity - high, medium, and low - are applied in order that the judgement used in the process of assessment is apparent. As shown in Table 6.1, intermediate levels – medium-high and medium-low - may also be applied where the particular combination of value and susceptibility results in an intermediate definition.

Magnitude of change

6.2.17 Magnitude of change is an expression of the extent of the effect on landscape receptors and views that will result from the introduction of the proposed development. The magnitude of change is assessed in terms of a number of variables, including the size and scale of the impact and the extent of the affected area. The factors that determine these criteria are described in Appendix 6.1.

6.2.18 Levels of magnitude of change - high, medium, low and negligible - are applied in order that the judgement used in the process of assessment is apparent. As shown in Table 6.1, intermediate levels – medium-high, medium-low and low-negligible - may also be applied where the particular combination of variables results in an intermediate definition.

Assessment of Cumulative Effects

6.2.19 The objective of the assessment of cumulative effects is to describe, illustrate and assess the ways in which the proposed development will interact with other relevant existing, consented or proposed wind farms. The outcome of this is the identification of any significant cumulative effects that may arise from the addition of the proposed development to the cumulative situation, in accordance with SNH guidance (Assessing the Cumulative Impact of Onshore Wind Energy Developments, 2012), which states that cumulative assessment should "*focus on the likely significant effects and in particular those which are likely to influence the outcome of the consenting process*."

6.2.20 The LVIA assesses the incremental effect arising from the addition of the proposed development to the cumulative situation, and not the overall accumulation of wind farms across the study area. This accords with GLVIA3, which notes (para 7.18):

"*Some of those involved may tend to favour a limited view focussed on the additional effects of the project being assessed, on top of the cumulative baseline. Some stakeholders may however be more interested in the combined effects of all the past, present and future proposals, including the proposed scheme…Assessing combined effects of different proposals at different stages in the planning process can be very complex. Furthermore the assessor will not have assessed the other schemes and cannot therefore make a fully informed judgement. A more comprehensive overview of the cumulative effects must rest with the competent authority*."

6.2.21 The cumulative development of wind farms within a particular area may build up to create different types of landscape or visual context. Significant cumulative landscape or visual effects may arise where a 'landscape with wind farms' is created as a result of the addition of the proposed development to other existing or proposed wind farms, resulting in wind turbines becoming sufficiently prolific that they become a prevailing or key landscape and visual characteristic.

6.2.22 The significance of the cumulative landscape effect from the addition of the proposed development reflects the intensification of wind farms within the landscape, which is considered as follows:

- The proposed development forms a separate isolated feature from other wind farms within the landscape, too infrequent and of insufficient significance to be perceived as a characteristic of the area. The cumulative effect of the proposed development is unlikely to be significant;
- The addition of the proposed development results in wind farms forming a key characteristic of the landscape and/ or visual context, exerting sufficient presence so as to establish or increase the extent of a 'landscape with wind farms'. The cumulative effect of the proposed development may be significant or not significant, depending on the sensitivity of the receptor and magnitude of the change: and
- The addition of the proposed development results in wind farms forming the prevailing characteristic of the landscape and/ or visual context, seeming to define it as a 'wind farm landscape'. The cumulative effect of the proposed development is likely to be significant.

Assessing Night-Time Effects on Views

6.2.23 The nature of the daytime and night-time visual effects arising from wind farms differs considerably, as during daylight hours visibility of the large-scale moving turbines gives rise to effects that are very different to the pinpoint effects of lighting at night. As a result, the assessment of sensitivity and magnitude of change for night-time effects is carried out using different criteria/definitions than those for daytime views. These are described in Appendix 6.1.

Nature of Effects

6.2.24 The 'nature of effects' relates to whether the effects of the proposed development are positive/beneficial or negative/adverse. Effects may also be neutral. Guidance provided in GLVIA3 states that "*thought must be given to whether the likely significant landscape and visual effects are judged to be positive (beneficial) or negative (adverse) in their consequences for landscape or for views and visual amenity*". The nature of effect is therefore one that requires interpretation and reasoned professional opinion.

6.2.25 In relation to many forms of development, the EIAR will identify positive and negative effects under the term 'nature of effect'. The landscape and visual effects of wind farms are difficult to categorise in either of these brackets as, unlike other disciplines, there are no definitive criteria by which these effects can be measured as being categorically positive or negative. For example, in disciplines such as noise or ecology it is possible to identify the nature of the effect of a wind farm by objectively quantifying its effect and assessing the nature of that effect in prescriptive terms. However, this is not the case with landscape and visual effects, where the approach combines quantitative and qualitative assessment.

6.2.26 In this assessment, positive, neutral and negative effects are defined as follows:

- Positive effects contribute to the landscape and visual resource through the enhancement of desirable characteristics or the introduction of new, beneficial attributes. The removal of undesirable existing elements or characteristics can also be beneficial, as can their replacement with more appropriate components;
- Neutral effects occur where the proposed development neither contributes to nor detracts from the landscape and visual resource and is accommodated with neither beneficial nor adverse effects, or where the effects are so limited that the change is hardly noticeable. A change to the landscape and visual resource is not considered to be adverse simply because it constitutes an alteration to the existing situation; and
- Negative effects are those that detract from or weaken the landscape and visual resource through the introduction of elements that contrast, in a detrimental way, with the existing characteristics of the landscape and visual resource, or through the removal of elements that are key in its characterisation.

6.2.27 A precautionary approach has been adopted which assumes that significant landscape and visual effects will be weighed on the negative side of the planning balance, although positive or neutral effects may arise in certain situations. Unless it is stated otherwise, the effects of the proposed development on landscape and visual amenity are therefore considered to be negative.

Duration and Reversibility

6.2.28 The effects of the proposed development are of variable duration, and are assessed as short-term or long-term, and permanent or temporary/reversible. It is anticipated that the operational life of the proposed development will be 40 years. The turbines, met mast, site access tracks, substation and adjacent energy storage facility will be apparent during this time, and these effects are considered to be long-term.

6.2.29 Other infrastructure and operations such as the construction processes and plant (including tall cranes for turbine erection) and construction and storage compounds will be apparent only during the initial construction period of the proposed development (approximately 18 months) and are considered to be short-term effects. Borrow pit excavation will also be short-term as borrow pits will be restored at the end of the construction process, although a permanently altered ground profile may remain evident.

6.2.30 The reversibility of effects is variable. The most apparent effects on the landscape and visual resource, which arise from the presence of the turbines, are temporary/reversible as the turbines will be removed on decommissioning, as will the substation and permanent met mast. The effects of the tall cranes and heavy machinery used during the construction and decommissioning periods are also temporary.

6.2.31 The commercial forestry on site will be keyhole felled, reducing the visual impact of forestry removal. Whilst the keyhole areas will not be restocked during the operational life of the wind farm, there will be off-site compensatory planting as part of the scheme to replace the felled areas.

6.2.32 The access tracks are likely to be left in situ at decommissioning. Turbine foundations (except for the top 1m which would be removed) and underground cabling will be left in-situ below ground with no residual landscape and visual effects.

6.2.33 In order to avoid repetition, the duration and reversibility of effects are not reiterated throughout the assessment.

Limitations to the Assessment

6.2.34 There are limitations in the theoretical production of ZTVs, and these should be borne in mind in their consideration and use:

- The ZTVs illustrate the 'bare ground' situation, and do not take into account the screening effects of vegetation, buildings, or other local features that may prevent or reduce visibility;
- The ZTVs do not indicate the decrease in visibility that occurs with increased distance from the proposed development. The nature of what is visible from 3km away will differ markedly from what is visible from 10km away, although both are indicated on the ZTVs as having the same level of visibility; and
- It is important to remember that there is a wide range of variation within the visibility shown on the ZTV. For example, an area shown on the blade tip ZTV as having visibility of all of the turbines, may gain views of the smallest extremity of blade tips, or of full turbines. This can make a considerable difference in the effects of the proposed development on that area.

6.2.35 These limitations mean that while the ZTVs are used as a starting point in the assessment, providing an indication of where the proposed development will theoretically be visible, the information drawn from the ZTVs is not completely relied upon to accurately represent visibility of the proposed development.

6.2.36 SNH guidance (Visual Representation of Wind Farms, February 2017) provides the following information on the limitations of visualisations in Annex A:

"*Visualisations of wind farms have a number of limitations which you should be aware of when using them to form a judgement on a wind farm proposal. These include:*

- *A visualisation can never show exactly what the wind farm will look like in reality due to factors such as: different lighting, weather and seasonal conditions which vary through time and the resolution of the image;*
- *The images provided give a reasonable impression of the scale of the turbines and the distance to the turbines, but can never be 100% accurate;*
- *A static image cannot convey turbine movement, or flicker or reflection from the sun on the turbine blades as they move;*
- *The viewpoints illustrated are representative of views in the area, but cannot represent visibility at all locations;*
- *To form the best impression of the impacts of the wind farm proposal these images are best viewed at the viewpoint location shown;*
- *The images must be printed at the right size to be viewed properly (260mm by 820mm);*
- *You should hold the images flat at a comfortable arm's length. If viewing these images on a wall or board at an exhibition, you should stand at arm's length from the image presented to gain the best impression.*
- *It is preferable to view printed images rather than view images on screen. If you do view images on screen you should do so using a normal PC screen with the image enlarged to the full screen height to give a realistic impression. Do not use a tablet or other device with a smaller screen to view the visualisations described in this guidance*."

6.2.37 The assessment itself is carried out from observations in the field and therefore may include elements that are not visible in the photographs.

6.3 Baseline Conditions and Preliminary Assessment

6.3.1 The baseline section of the LVIA records the existing conditions of the study area. Establishing a baseline helps to gain an understanding of what makes the landscape distinctive and what its important components or characteristics are. The baseline is instrumental in the identification of the landscape character receptors, visual receptors and viewpoints that are included in the assessment. This section is presented in the following headings:

- Strategic context;
- Preliminary assessment;
- Landscape character;
- Landscape planning designations;
- Wild land areas;
- Principal visual receptors;
- Viewpoints; and
- Cumulative wind farm developments.

Strategic context

6.3.2 The site selection process for the proposed development (see Chapter 3) has regard to a range of environmental and commercial factors. In relation to landscape and visual considerations, it is relevant to cite here aspects of the strategic context that relate to the site, that were afforded some considerable priority in the selection process. This provides a context to the landscape and visual impact assessment.

Dumfries & Galloway Local Development Plan 2 (October 2019)

6.3.3 The Local Development Plan 2 (LDP2) sets out, on page 68, the Council's spatial framework to identify those areas that are likely to be most appropriate for onshore wind farms, following the requirements of the SPP, Paragraph 161. It sets out in Table 5 on page 68 the three groups of elements or constraints that are advised in SPP, with Group 3 relating to "Areas with potential for wind farm development.".

6.3.4 In paragraph 4.109 of LDP2, it advises that "*Different landscapes will have a different capacity to accommodate new development, and the scale, siting and design of development should be informed by local landscape character. The Dumfries and Galloway Wind Farm Landscape Capacity Study (DGWLCS) is a supportive study and is attached as an appendix to the supplementary guidance. It assesses landscape sensitivity, the capacity of individual landscape units to accommodate change and provides advice on how the scale, siting and design of development should be informed by local landscape character. Consideration of the DGWLCS does not replace the need to assess the landscape or visual impacts of individual wind energy proposals.*"

6.3.5 On page 70, LDP2 notes that "*The Spatial Framework Map** (Map 8) provides strategic guidance. However, it must be read in conjunction with the supplementary guidance and its Appendix, the Dumfries and Galloway Wind Farm Landscape Capacity Study.*" It reiterates the advice above that *"The landscape capacity study is a supportive study, the consideration of which does not replace the need to assess the landscape or visual impacts of individual proposals."*

6.3.6 The Spatial Framework (Map 8 in LDP2) indicates on page 71 that the proposed development site is located within an "*Areas with potential for wind farm development*", shaded yellow on the map. This indicates that subject to satisfying the acceptability criteria outlined in Policy IN2: Wind Energy, on page 69, the site is located in an area where the principle of commercial wind energy development is supported. Landscape and visual effects are acknowledged as one of the acceptability criteria underpinning the policy whereby the following aspects are relevant:

- *The extent to which the landscape is capable of accommodating the development without significant detrimental landscape or visual impacts, including effects on wild land; and*
- *That the design and scale of the proposal is appropriate to the scale and character of its setting, respecting the main features of the site and the wider environment and that it addresses fully the potential for mitigation.*

6.3.7 The landscape and visual impact assessment provides objective analysis of these considerations.

Dumfries and Galloway Wind Farm Landscape Capacity Study (May 2017)

6.3.8 The Dumfries and Galloway Wind Farm Landscape Capacity Study (DGWLCS) was adopted in June 2017. The DGWLCS revises and updates the 2011 study of the same name, in response to changes in baseline conditions and to reflect current planning policy and guidance. The DGWLCS represents the most recent characterisation study in the area and has therefore been used as the basis for identifying Landscape Character Areas within Dumfries and Galloway.

6.3.9 The majority of the footprint of the proposed development is located within the Southern Uplands with Forest (19a) LCT, within the Eskdalemuir unit (Figure 6.3c). The DGWLCS has assessed a High-Medium sensitivity to the very large typology development (>150 metres (m) high). Under section 25.3, DGWLCS provides the following Guidance for Development within LCT19a: "*There is some scope for the Very Large typology (turbines 150m+) to be accommodated in this character type but only in the Eskdalemuir unit which is undeveloped, very extensive in scale and distant from more settled areas.*"

6.3.10 In the Key Study Findings and Recommendations on page 27, DGWLCS summarises the key findings of the sensitivity assessment undertaken as part of the study. It sets out the conclusions reached on opportunities for further wind farm development in Dumfries and Galloway, while minimising landscape and visual impact, including scope for very large wind turbines over 150m high. It explains that an "*assessment has been undertaken to consider opportunities for repowering existing wind farms and for very large wind turbines (>150m high to blade tip)*". In relation to the "*Scope for very large turbines…",* section 3.2.3 provides the following conclusions:

- "*The extent of new visibility associated with increasing turbines to 150m and 200m within operational and under-construction wind farms within Dumfries and Galloway would not be substantial in most cases. However, in developments where the present turbines are relatively small, and also in some instances where they are particularly prominently sited, a more significant increase in the extent of visibility is displayed.*"
- "*The key effects in significantly increasing turbine size would mainly be experienced in elevation in the field, although the degree of impact will be greatly influenced by distance, turbine size and the context of the view. In general, the larger the extent and scale of upland landscape and its distance from more well-settled areas, the more scope there is for larger turbines to be accommodated."*

6.3.11 Importantly, DGWLCS concludes that "*Following a review of visualisations from key viewpoints in the field and additional sensitivity assessment of a Very Large typology (turbines >150m), it is concluded that* ***turbines towards 200m high to blade tip would be too large to accommodate as new developments in landscape and***

visual terms anywhere in Dumfries and Galloway apart from the Eskdalemuir unit of the Southern Uplands with Forest (19a)." [Emphasis added]

6.3.12 It goes on to advise that "*The Eskdalemuir area of the Southern Uplands with Forest does not accommodate any existing wind energy development. It also extends into adjacent Scottish Borders in the Craik Forest area (an area with similar character and sensitivity) thus increasing the extensiveness of this landscape and the distance from more sensitive landscape and visual receptors.*"

6.3.13 In the section on 'Scope for additional larger typologies' on page 41, DGWLCS explains that the sensitivity assessment found that the uplands and forested foothills within Dumfries and Galloway offered some limited scope to accommodate further larger wind farm development and it identifies the Southern Uplands with Forest (19a) as one such area. It goes on to say that "*There is some limited scope to consolidate the association of existing more successfully sited large wind farm development with extensive, sparsely settled landscapes with a predominantly simple landform and land cover by directing new wind farm developments to similar landscapes**. It is recommended that this clear pattern of wind farm development should not be muddled by locating Very Large and Large development typologies in more complex, smaller scale and/or settled landscapes as this will increase landscape and visual impacts but also dilute a clear strategy and association of a particular wind farm type with a particular landscape character***."

6.3.14 The proposed development site shares these expansive, sparsely settled, simple landforms and simple land cover landscape characteristics advocated as suitable for additional larger typologies by DGWLCS. While accepting that the DGWLCS is a strategic level study that does not replace the need for landscape and visual assessment of specific proposals, it is evident that some considerable support is found in relation to the host landscape character type for the proposed development.

Preliminary assessment

6.3.15 The folloiwng sections identify which of the landscape and visual receptors have potential to undergo significant effects or significant cumulative effects as a result of the proposed development, and therefore require to be assessed in detail. This is implemented through a two-stage filtering process.

6.3.16 Firstly, ZTV mapping is used to identify those receptors which will gain any theoretical visibility of the proposed development. Where there is no or negligible theoretical visibility, receptors are discounted from the assessment. Secondly, the receptors that are shown on the ZTV mapping to gain some visibility of the proposed development have a preliminary assessment to ascertain if they have potential to undergo a significant effect or a significant cumulative effect. This preliminary assessment considers various factors that contribute to the sensitivity of the receptor, the magnitude of change that will result from the addition of the proposed development, and the level of visibility and influence of cumulative wind farms. Various methods of verification are used in this second stage, including site visits, ZTVs, GIS mapping, wirelines and aerial photography.

6.3.17 In the case of some receptors, this preliminary assessment indicates that the landscape or visual receptor does not have potential to undergo a significant effect or significant cumulative effect as a result of the proposed development, despite gaining visibility of it. This is most frequently due to a combination of the limited predicted level of visibility and influence of the proposed development and/or other wind farms, and the limited sensitivity of the receptor. Where this is the case, the potential effects on the receptor do not need to be assessed in any further detail and at this stage they can be discounted from the assessment.

6.3.18 Where the preliminary assessment indicates that there is potential for the receptor to undergo a significant effect or cumulative effect as a result of the proposed development, this is assessed in detail subsequently in this Chapter.

Landscape Character

6.3.19 Landscape character information is drawn from the following sources:

- Cumbria Landscape Character Guidance (Cumbria County Council 2011);
- Dumfries and Galloway Landscape Character Assessment SNH Review No 94 (Land Use Consultants 1998);
- Dumfries and Galloway Windfarm Landscape Capacity Study (DGWLCS) (2017);
- Northumberland National Park Landscape Character Assessment (2011);
- Scottish Borders Council Wind Energy Consultancy Update of Wind Energy Landscape Capacity and Cumulative Impact Study (2016);
- South Lanarkshire Landscape Capacity Study for Wind Energy (2016);
- The Borders Landscape Assessment SNH Review No 112 (Ash Consulting Group, 1998).

6.3.20 These various sources divide the landscape into tracts that are referred to variously as landscape character types (LCTs), areas (LCAs) or units (LCUs). Landscape character across the study area is shown on Figures 6.3a (to a 45km radius), with the legend shown on 6.3b, and 6.3c (to a 20km radius), and is shown in relation to the blade tip ZTV on Figure 6.10 (20km radius). Many areas of landscape character are extensive, sometimes covering several areas that are geographically separate, and the effects of the proposed development can vary widely across a single landscape character type. Several of the landscape character types have therefore been divided into 'units', and these are shown on Figures 6.3a, 6.3c and 6.10. The landform of the site and study area is also of relevance in the survey of landscape character, and this is shown in Figure 6.2.

Landscape Character Types Included in the Detailed Assessment

6.3.21 Table 6.2 includes the preliminary assessment of all of the LCAs, LCTs and LCUs that are found in the 20km radius study area, and indicates which of them are considered to have potential to undergo a significant effect as a result of the proposed development (including cumulative effects), and which of them do not require further detailed assessment. The LCAs, LCTs and LCUs that do have potential to undergo a significant effect, or significant cumulative effect, as a result of the proposed development, are assessed in full subsequently in this Chapter.

Table 6.2 – Preliminary Assessment of Landscape Character Types within the 20km Study Area

Status	Landscape Character Type/ Area/ Unit	Comment
Included in detailed assessment due to level of influence and visibility of the proposed development	Foothills – Annandale (unit A) (shown on Figures 6.3a, 6.3c and 6.10 as Dumfries and Galloway area 18(i) and 18(ii))	A part of the proposed development lies within this unit.
	Foothills – Beattock (shown on Figures 6.3a, 6.3c and 6.10 as Dumfries and Galloway area 18(iii))	ZTV shows theoretical visibility from a minimum of approx. 4.6km away.

Status	Landscape Character Type/ Area/ Unit	Comment
	Foothills with forest– Ae (unit A) (shown on Figures 6.3a, 6.3c and 6.10 as Dumfries and Galloway area 18a(i))	ZTV shows theoretical visibility from a minimum of approx. 6.5km away.
	Foothills with forest – Castle O'er (shown on Figures 6.3a, 6.3c and 6.10 as Dumfries and Galloway area 18a(ii))	ZTV shows limited and/ or intermittent theoretical visibility adjacent to the site.
	Foothills with forest – Eskdale (shown on Figures 6.3a, 6.3c and 6.10 as Dumfries and Galloway area 18a(iii))	ZTV shows intermittent theoretical visibility from a minimum of approx. 5.7km away.
	Intimate pastoral valley – Dryfe (shown on Figures 6.3a, 6.3c and 6.10 as Dumfries and Galloway area 5(ii))	A small part of the proposed development lies within this unit.
	Middle dale – mid Annandale (shown on Figures 6.3a, 6.3c and 6.10 as Dumfries and Galloway area 7(i))	A part of the development site (not including any turbines) lies within this unit.
	Narrow wooded river valleys – Eskdale (unit A) (shown on Figures 6.3a, 6.3c and 6.10 as Dumfries and Galloway area 4(i))	ZTV shows very intermittent and limited theoretical visibility from a minimum of just under 2km away.
	Southern Uplands – East Moffat (shown on Figures 6.3a, 6.3c and 6.10 as Dumfries and Galloway area 19(i))	ZTV shows limited and intermittent theoretical visibility from a minimum of 300m away.
	Southern Uplands – North Langholm (unit A) (shown on Figures 6.3a, 6.3c and 6.10 as Dumfries and Galloway area 19(vi))	ZTV shows intermittent theoretical visibility from a minimum of approx. 6.5km away.
	Southern Uplands – North Moffat (shown on Figures 6.3a, 6.3c and 6.10 as Dumfries and Galloway area 19(vii))	ZTV shows limited and intermittent theoretical visibility from a minimum of approx. 4.5km away.
	Southern Uplands forest covered – Craik (unit A) (shown on Figures 6.3a, 6.3c and 6.10 as Scottish Borders area 5(i))	ZTV shows very intermittent and limited theoretical visibility from a minimum of approx. 3km away.
	Southern Uplands with forest – Eskdalemuir (shown on Figures 6.3a, 6.3c and 6.10 as Dumfries and Galloway area 19a(i))	The majority of the proposed development lies within this unit.
	Upland fringe – Annandale fringe (unit A) (shown on Figures 6.3a, 6.3c and 6.10 as Dumfries and Galloway area 16(i) and 16(ii))	A small part of the development site (not including any turbines) lies within this unit.
	Upland glens – Evan (shown on Figures 6.3a, 6.3c and 6.10 as Dumfries and Galloway area 10(iii))	ZTV shows limited and intermittent theoretical visibility from a minimum of approx. 6km away.
	Upland glens – Moffat (shown on Figures 6.3a, 6.3c and 6.10 as Dumfries and Galloway area 10(vi))	ZTV shows very limited and intermittent theoretical visibility from a minimum of approx. 1.5km away.
Not included in detailed assessment: limited and/or distant visibility of the proposed development	Foothills – Annandale (area outwith unit A) (shown on Figures 6.3a, 6.3c and 6.10 as Dumfries and Galloway area 18(i) and 18(ii))	ZTV shows limited and/ or intermittent theoretical visibility from a minimum of approx. 12km away. Extensive areas have no theoretical visibility. The proposed development affects a relatively limited part of the setting to the receptor as it is seen across its narrowest extent, and this reduces its influence on landscape character.
	Foothills with forest– Ae (area outwith unit A) (shown on Figures 6.3a, 6.3c and 6.10 as Dumfries and Galloway area 18a(i))	ZTV shows very intermittent theoretical visibility from a minimum of approx. 15km away.
	Lower dale – lower Annandale (shown on Figures 6.3a, 6.3c and 6.10 as Dumfries and Galloway area 6(i))	ZTV shows theoretical visibility from a minimum of approx. 12km away. This LCT is characterised by extensive woodland and hedgerow cover, which, combined with distance, limits the influence of the proposed development. The proposed development also affects a relatively limited part of the setting to the receptor as it is seen across its narrowest extent, and this further reduces its influence on landscape character.
	Middle dale with hills (shown on Figures 6.3a, 6.3c and 6.10 as Dumfries and Galloway area 7a)	ZTV shows theoretical visibility from a minimum of approx. 16km away. The proposed development affects a relatively limited part of the setting to the receptor as it is seen across its narrowest extent,

Status	Landscape Character Type/ Area/ Unit	Comment
		and this reduces its influence on landscape character.
	Narrow wooded river valleys – Eskdale (area outwith unit A) (shown on Figures 6.3a, 6.3c and 6.10 as Dumfries and Galloway area 4(i))	ZTV shows very limited/ intermittent visibility from a minimum of approx. 11km away.
	Southern Uplands – Lowthers (shown on Figures 6.3a, 6.3c and 6.10 as Dumfries and Galloway area 19(iii) and 19(iv))	ZTV shows very intermittent theoretical visibility from a minimum of approx. 12km away. Extensive areas have no theoretical visibility.
	Southern Uplands – North Langholm (area outwith unit A) (shown on Figures 6.3a, 6.3c and 6.10 as Dumfries and Galloway area 19(vi))	ZTV shows very intermittent theoretical visibility from a minimum of approx. 13km away. Extensive areas have no theoretical visibility.
	Southern Uplands forest covered – Craik (area outwith unit A) (shown on Figures 6.3a, 6.3c and 6.10 as Scottish Borders area 5(i))	ZTV shows very intermittent and limited theoretical visibility from a minimum of approx. 12km away.
	Upland fringe – Annandale fringe (area outwith unit A) (shown on Figures 6.3a, 6.3c and 6.10 as Dumfries and Galloway area 16(i) and 16(ii))	ZTV shows intermittent theoretical visibility from a minimum of approx. 13km away. Extensive areas have no theoretical visibility. The proposed development affects a relatively limited part of the setting to the receptor as it is seen across its narrowest extent, and this reduces its influence on landscape character.
	Upland fringe – Torthorwald fringe and Ae fringe (shown on Figures 6.3a, 6.3c and 6.10 as Dumfries and Galloway area 16(viii))	ZTV shows intermittent theoretical visibility from a minimum of approx. 12km away. Extensive areas have no theoretical visibility.
Not included in detailed assessment: no or negligible and/or distant visibility of the proposed development	Flow plateau – Annandale flow plateau; intimate pastoral valley – pastoral Eskdale; narrow wooded river valleys – Kirtle Water; Southern Uplands (South Lanarkshire); Southern Uplands forestry (South Lanarkshire); Southern Uplands windfarm (South Lanarkshire); Southern Uplands – Ewe Hill; Southern Uplands – Tarras; Southern Uplands with scattered forest – Broad Law group; Southern Uplands with scattered forest – Caldcleuch Head group; Southern Uplands with scattered forest – Dun Knowe group; glens – Ewes; upland glen (South Lanarkshire); upland valley with pastoral floor – upper Ettrick	

Landscape Planning Designations

6.3.22 The site itself is not covered by any known international, national or regional landscape-related planning designations. Various designations are, however, found elsewhere in the study area. These have been considered in the assessment and are shown on Figures 6.4a (45km radius) and 6.4b (20km radius) and in conjunction with the blade tip ZTV on Figure 6.11.

6.3.23 There are three ways in which such designations are relevant to the LVIA:

- Designated areas may be included as landscape character receptors so that the effects of the proposed development on these features of the landscape that have been accorded particular value can be specifically assessed;
- The presence of a designation can give an indication of a recognised value that may increase the sensitivity of a landscape character receptor, viewpoint or visual receptor, and may therefore affect the significance of the effect on that receptor;
- The presence of a relevant designation can lead to the selection of a representative viewpoint within the designated area, as the viewpoint will provide a representative outlook from that area.

<u>World Heritage Sites</u>

6.3.24 The Frontiers of the Roman Empire (Hadrian's Wall) World Heritage Site (WHS) lies a minimum of approximately 31km to the south and south-east of the proposed development. While the ZTV does show some visibility from parts of the WHS, this effect will not be significant due to the distance from which the proposed development would be seen. The WHS is therefore discounted from the assessment and is not assessed in any further detail.

<u>National Scenic Areas</u>

6.3.25 National Scenic Areas (NSAs) are areas of land considered to be important on a national level. The Town and Country Planning (National Scenic Areas) (Scotland) Designation Directions 2010 defines a National Scenic Area as an area "*of outstanding scenic value in a national context*."

6.3.26 Paragraph 212 of Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) (Scottish Government, 2014) states that:

"*proposed development that affects a National Park, National Scenic Area, Site of Special Scientific Interest or a National Nature Reserve should only be permitted where:*

- *the objectives of designation and the overall integrity of the area will not be compromised; or*
- *any significant adverse effects on the qualities for which the area has been designated are clearly outweighed by social, environmental or economic benefits of national importance*."

6.3.27 There are three NSAs within the study area; the East Stewartry Coast NSA, Nith Estuary NSA and Upper Tweeddale NSA, all of which lie over 25km from the proposed development and are shown on the ZTV to have no visibility, intermittent/ limited visibility, and negligible visibility respectively. The proposed development is unlikely to have influence on the NSAs and they are therefore discounted from the assessment and not assessed in any further detail.

<u>Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty</u>

6.3.28 There is one Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) partially within the study area; the Solway Coast AONB, which is approximately 31km to the south of the proposed development. While the ZTV does show some visibility from the AONB, this effect will not be significant due to the distance from which the proposed

development would be seen. The Solway Coast AONB is therefore discounted from the assessment and is not assessed in any further detail.

Gardens and Designed Landscapes

6.3.29 The effects on Gardens and Designed Landscapes (GDLs) are assessed in Chapter 9, Cultural Heritage.

Non-Inventory Gardens

6.3.30 The effects on Non-Inventory Gardens and Designed Landscapes are assessed in Chapter 9, Cultural Heritage.

Regional Scenic Areas

6.3.31 There are six Regional Scenic Areas (RSAs) within or partially within the study area, all within the Dumfries and Galloway Council area. The closest of these is the Moffat Hills RSA, which lies approximately 600m to the north of the proposed development.

6.3.32 The remaining five RSAs are a minimum of over 12km away and are shown on the ZTV to have limited and/ or intermittent visibility. The proposed development may have some influence on these five RSAs but this will not be significant due to the generally limited level of visibility and the distance from which the proposed development would be seen.

6.3.33 The effect of the proposed development on the Moffat Hills RSA is assessed in full subsequently in this Section, while the five other RSAs are discounted from the assessment and are not assessed in any further detail.

Special Landscape Areas

6.3.34 There are eight Special Landscape Areas (SLAs) within, or partially within, the study area, of which four are in the Scottish Borders Council area and four are within the South Lanarkshire Council area. These all lie a minimum of approximately 12km from the proposed development and are shown on the ZTV to have very limited and intermittent visibility. The proposed development may have some influence on parts of several SLAs but this will not be significant due to the limited level of visibility and the distance from which the proposed development would be seen. The SLAs are therefore discounted from the assessment and are not assessed in any further detail.

Wild Land Areas

6.3.35 Wild Land Areas (WLAs) are shown on SNH's 2014 wild land mapping. This mapping is referred to in SPP 2014 and the National Planning Framework for Scotland and is supported by a document titled 'Advice to Government' (June 2014) which includes information about the evolution of the map, the consultation process that proposed WLAs were subject to, and advice as to how the mapping is to be used.

6.3.36 There is one WLA within the study area – WLA 2. Talla - Hart Fell - as shown on Figure 6.5 and in conjunction with the blade tip ZTV on Figure 6.12. This WLA lies a minimum of approximately 8km from the proposed development and is shown on the ZTV to gain very intermittent visibility. A wild land assessment that assesses the effects of the proposed development on this WLA is included in Appendix 6.4.

Principal Visual Receptors

6.3.37 A number of visual receptors such as settlements, travel routes and tourism features are considered in the assessment as views from them may be affected by the proposed development. It is not possible to consider every potential visual receptor in the study area due to the extent of ground that it covers and the assessment therefore concentrates on the 'principal' visual receptors that may gain visibility of the proposed development. Principal visual receptors are shown on Figure 6.6a (45km radius) and 6.6b (20km radius), and in conjunction with the blade tip ZTV on Figure 6.13a (45km radius) and 6.13b (20km radius).

Settlements

6.3.38 Settlements considered in the assessment are those that lie within a 20km radius of the site and are classified as settlements/ towns/ villages in the D&GC LDP (2019), SLC LDP (2015), and SBC LDP (2016). Settlements are shown on Figure 6.6b and in relation to the ZTV on Figure 6.13b.

6.3.39 The closest settlement to the site is Boreland, just over 3.5km to the south of the proposed development, while Moffat and Beattock are just under 5km away to the north-west. Between 5km and 10km away are Johnstonebridge, Eskdalemuir and Corrie Common. Between 10km and 20km away the majority of settlements lie to the south and south-west of the site, with just several villages – Ettrick, Bentpath, Eskdalemuir and Langholm – found to the east, north-east and south-east of the site.

6.3.40 Table 6.3 describes settlements in relation to the ZTV of the proposed development.

Table 6.3 – Preliminary Assessment of Settlements within the 20km Study Area

Status	Settlement	Comment
Included in detailed assessment due to level of influence and visibility of the proposed development	Bankshill	ZTV shows visibility from a minimum of just under 13km away.
	Beattock	ZTV shows visibility from a minimum of just under 5km away.
	Boreland	ZTV shows visibility from a minimum of just over 3.5km away.
	Corrie Common	ZTV shows intermittent visibility from a minimum of just under 8.5km away.
	Johnstonebridge	ZTV shows visibility from a minimum of approximately 5.7km away.
	Lochmaben	ZTV shows visibility from a minimum of just under 14km away.
	Lockerbie	ZTV shows visibility from a minimum of approx. 12.5km away.
	Moffat	ZTV shows visibility from a minimum of approximately 4.8km away.
Not included in detailed assessment: limited and/or distant visibility of the proposed development	Bentpath	ZTV shows very limited and intermittent visibility from a small part of Bentpath, a minimum of just under 12km away. In reality, theoretical visibility would be largely screened by vegetation and buildings and peripheral to the local skyline setting of the hamlet.
	Eskdalemuir	ZTV shows very limited and intermittent visibility from a minimum of approx. 6km away. In reality, theoretical visibility would be largely screened by vegetation and buildings.
	Hightae	ZTV shows visibility from part of the village, from a minimum of just under 18km away. The majority of the village will gain no visibility due to screening by buildings on the north-eastern edge. Views may be gained from the north-eastern edge, but at just under 18km away and with filtering by intervening vegetation, the effect will be not significant.

Not included in detailed assessment: no or negligible and/or distant visibility of the proposed development	Amisfield, Auchencairn, Ecclefechan, Ettrick, Langholm, Middlebie, Templand, Torthorwald, Waterbeck,

6.3.41 Table 6.3 indicates that a number of the settlements will not have potential to undergo a significant effect as a result of the proposed development and are therefore discounted from the assessment. Effects on eight settlements are, however, assessed subsequently in this Section due to visibility of the proposed development and other wind farms.

Routes

6.3.42 Routes considered in the assessment include roads, walking routes, railways, and cycle routes. Routes included as principal visual receptors in the assessment are determined by four criteria:

- The extent to which the route traverses the study area or extends across a notable part of it;
- The proximity of the route to the proposed development;
- The importance of the route in terms of recognition, traffic volume and usage; and
- The potential for the proposed development to contribute to cumulative effects along the route.

6.3.43 Table 6.4 describes the routes that are considered as principal visual receptors, due to various combinations of the criteria listed above, in relation to the ZTV of the proposed development.

Table 6.4 – Preliminary Assessment of Routes

Status	Route	Comment
Included in detailed assessment due to level of influence and visibility of the proposed development	M6/ A74 (M)	ZTV shows visibility from a minimum of approx. 2.5km away.
	A701	ZTV shows visibility from a minimum of just under 4.3km away.
	A708	ZTV shows limited visibility from a minimum of 4km away.
	A709	ZTV shows visibility from a minimum of just under 14km away.
	B709	ZTV shows visibility from a minimum of approx. 6km away.
	B723	ZTV shows visibility from a minimum of just under 1km away.
	B7020	ZTV shows visibility from a minimum of just under 4km away.
	B7076	ZTV shows visibility from a minimum of approx. 2.6km away.
	Annandale Way	ZTV shows visibility from a minimum of approximately 4.75km away.
	Romans and Reivers Route	ZTV shows visibility from a minimum of approx. 300m away.
	Southern Upland Way	ZTV shows visibility from a minimum of approx. 1.3km away.
	West Coast mainline railway	ZTV shows visibility from a minimum of approx. 1.8km away.
	National Cycle Route 74	ZTV shows visibility from a minimum of approx. 2.6km away. This route follows the B7076 through the study area
Not included in detailed assessment: limited and/ or distant visibility of the proposed development	A7	ZTV shows very intermittent and limited visibility from a minimum of approx. 32km away
	A75	ZTV shows intermittent and limited visibility from a minimum of approx. 24km away
	A76	ZTV shows very intermittent and limited visibility from a minimum of approx. 25km away
	A701	ZTV shows negligible visibility from a minimum of approx. 30km away
	Gretna – New Cumnock railway line	ZTV shows very intermittent and limited visibility from a minimum of approx. 24km away
Not included in detailed assessment: no or negligible and/or distant visibility of the proposed development	n/a	

6.3.44 The assessment also considers **core paths** that are shown on local authority mapping within 20km of the nearest turbine in the proposed development. These paths are shown on Figure 6.6b, and in conjunction with the ZTV on Figure 6.13b. It is not possible to assess the effects on views from all of the paths individually, but broad conclusions can be drawn from the viewpoint assessment as to the level of visibility and effect that the proposed development will have.

Viewpoints

6.3.45 The assessment of landscape and visual effects is informed by a series of 22 viewpoints which are selected to represent visibility from landscape character types, landscape planning designations and principal visual receptors around the study area. These include points of specific importance such as recognised viewpoints, designated landscapes, settlements, important routes and attractions. A variety of landscape character types and points from different directions and distances have also been represented. It should be noted that the majority of the viewpoints are chosen to represent receptors that are of a relatively high sensitivity and have potential to undergo a significant effect. The list of viewpoints for the landscape and visual assessment has taken into consideration comments made at scoping stage by D&GC, SNH, Mountaineering Scotland, Scotways, and North Milk Community Council.

6.3.46 The viewpoint assessment is used to inform and illustrate the assessment of effects on landscape character as well as the assessment of effects on views and principal visual receptors. The viewpoints used in the assessment are described in Table 6.5, which also includes a preliminary assessment to identify which viewpoints have potential to undergo significant effects. These potential significant effects are assessed subsequently in this Chapter.

6.3.47 The viewpoint locations are shown in conjunction with the blade tip ZTV on Figures 6.7a (A3 size, 45km radius), 6.7b (A3 size, 20km radius), 6.7c (A1 size, 45km radius) and 6.7d (A0 size, 20km radius) and the hub height ZTV on Figures 6.8a (A3 size, 45km radius), 6.8b (A3 size, 20km radius), 6.8c (A1 size, 45km radius) and 6.8d (A0 size, 20km radius).

Table 6.5 – Viewpoints

Viewpoint	Grid reference/ approx. distance to nearest turbine	Comments	Included in detailed assessment?
1. Southern Upland Way near Gateshaw Rig	315412/604383 1.83km	Located on long-distance Southern Upland Way walking route, close to the northern end of the site.	Yes
2. Romans and Reivers Route	317061/604079 917m	View from the long-distance Romans and Reivers Route, close to the northern end of the site.	Yes
3. Sandyford	320503/593675 1.10km	View from the hamlet of Sandyford, on the B723.	Yes
4. Waterhead of Dryfe	318942/594293 1.09km	Located to represent nearby residential properties and the nearby core path that links Boreland to Southern Upland Way	Yes
5. Rangecastle Hill	319015/593690 1.44km	Elevated location close to south of site, overlooking the Dryfe Water valley. Not accessed by a core path but it is the site of a fort and prehistoric roundhouse.	Yes
6. Boreland Church	317045/590840 4.37km	Elevated location on the edge of the village of Boreland and just within the Dryfe water valley, to the south of the site.	Yes
7. Annandale Water Services, J16 A74(M)	310376/592693 5.26km	Viewpoint from open elevated terrace to rear of the motorway services.	Yes
8. Southern Upland Way near Beattock Hill	306454/601839 6.33km	View from important long-distance route, looking towards the site across Annandale.	Yes
9. Moffat High Street	308483/605250 6.01km	View seen between buildings from Moffat High Street. Within the Moffat Hills RSA and Moffat Conservation Area, and on the SW Coastal 300 Route.	Yes
10. Moffat A701 on northern edge	307998/605753 6.71km	View from the A701 scenic route showing the settlement of Moffat in the foreground. On the SW Coastal 300 route and within the Moffat Conservation Area.	Yes
11. A701 north of Moffat	306530/608771 9.85km	View from the A701 scenic route to the north of Moffat, between Moffat and the Devil's Beef Tub. Within the Moffat Hills RSA.	Yes
12. A701 near Devil's Beef Tub	306360/612198 12.67km	View from the A701 scenic route near the Devil's Beef Tub. Within the Moffat Hills RSA.	Yes
13. Ettrick Pen	319987/607634 5.30km	The highest of the Ettrick Hills, a known destination and part of the 'Ettrick Horseshoe' walking route. Cultural heritage value in the summit cairn.	Yes
14. B709 north of Eskdalemuir	324212/605967 7.60km	There are limited visual receptors to the north-east of the site, and this stretch of the B709 provides some clear and open views.	Yes
15. Castle O'er Forest Hill Fort	324181/592818 4.53km	View from historic signposted visitor attraction/ walking destination with waymarked trail. On the Eskdale Prehistoric Trail.	Yes
16. Corrie Common	320345/586214 8.47km	View from the minor road at the western end of Corrie Common.	Yes
17. Burnswark Hill Fort	318546/578636 16.12km	Elevated location on distinctive hill. Core path circles the lower slopes of the hill. Cultural heritage value in cairn, fort, settlement, and earthworks.	Yes
18. A709 west of Lockerbie (bridge over River Annan)	310559/580717 15.35km	Visibility from Lockerbie is limited by landform, buildings and vegetation, and this location on the A709 to the west provides a more open, clear view.	Yes
19. B7020 north of Lochmaben	308691/584037 13.03km	Visibility within Lochmaben is limited due to screening by buildings/ vegetation and this location on the B7020 (which is also followed by the Annandale Way at this point) to the north of the settlement provides a nearby view.	Yes
20. Queensberry	298906/599752 13.70km	Distinctive and well-known high point, southernmost of the Lowther Hills and within the Thornhill Uplands RSA.	Yes
21. Hart Fell	311350/613566 11.64km	View from within the WLA and on the boundary between the Moffat Hills RSA and Tweedsmuir Uplands SLA. Well-known walking destination.	Yes
22. Malcolm Monument, Whita Hill, Langholm	337937/584692 20.48km	Popular elevated walking destination near Langholm, on D&G core path. Within the Langholm Hills RSA.	Yes

6.3.48 In the process of viewpoint selection, some viewpoints have been suggested by various parties but have not been included in the assessment for various reasons. These are described in Appendix 6.3.

Cumulative Wind Farm Developments

6.3.49 Cumulative effects are defined in the SNH guidance Assessing the Cumulative Impact of Onshore Wind Energy Developments (SNH, 2012) as "*the additional changes caused by a proposed development in conjunction with other similar developments*" and may arise where a landscape receptor, visual receptor or view is affected by more than one wind farm (or other relevant development). This occurs where the study areas for two or more wind farms overlap so that both are experienced at proximity where they may have a greater incremental effect, or where wind farms may combine to have a sequential effect, irrespective of any overlap in visibility.

Wind Farm Sites Included in the Cumulative Assessment

6.3.50 In accordance with best practice guidance, the cumulative assessment initially covers a radius of 60km from the proposed development, and includes wind farms that are operational, consented, and planning or Section 36 applications. Scoping stage wind farms are not generally included unless they are in close proximity to the proposed development and therefore of notable relevance, or if their application date is anticipated to be prior to or around the same time as the application for the proposed development. In this case, no scoping sites are considered to be relevant for inclusion in the cumulative assessment.

6.3.51 The cumulative situation changes frequently as applications are made, refused or withdrawn, and the layouts of submitted application wind farms are changed. It is therefore necessary to decide on a cut-off date when the sites and layouts to be included are fixed. The 10th December 2019 has been used as a cut-off for this cumulative assessment, and any changes in the cumulative situation after this date are not incorporated in the assessment.

6.3.52 Wind farm sites that lie within a 60km radius of the proposed development are shown on Figure 6.14a. Before the cumulative assessment is carried out, it is necessary to ascertain which of these sites will be relevant to the cumulative assessment. A wind farm is considered to be relevant if the addition of the proposed development to this and other wind farms could result in a significant cumulative effect on a landscape character receptor, view or visual receptor. SNH guidance on cumulative assessment (SNH, 2012) suggests that the study area for detailed cumulative assessment will generally extend to a "*35km radius from the outer boundary of proposal but may be extended due to the nature of likely cumulative effects identified above*." In the case of the proposed development, this radius has been increased to 45km due to the study area radius of the proposed development itself being 45km. Wind farm sites outwith the 45km radius may be included where, for example, a more distant wind farm may contribute to a cluster that lies partly within the 45km radius, or where a more distant wind farm would be seen from the same route as the proposed development and the visibility of both sites could lead to significant cumulative effects. In the case of the proposed development, several wind farms that lie beyond 45km away have been included as they have potential to be seen as part of a larger cluster that lies partly within the 45km radius.

6.3.53 Table 6.6 lists the wind farms that are included in the detailed cumulative assessment, within 45km of the proposed development (as shown on Figure 6.14b).

Table 6.6 – Wind Farms included in the Cumulative Assessment (45km radius)

Wind Farm	Status	Approx. Distance from the proposed development	Description
Andershaw	Operational	35km	14 turbines 140m tip height
Barrel Law	Nb. Barrel Law was refused at appeal in December 2019, subsequent to the cumulative cut-off date. Barrel Law is shown on the figures but is not included in the written assessment.		
Beck Burn	Operational	29km	9 turbines 126.5m tip height
Birkhill	Consented	46km Nb. this development; lies outwith the 45km radius but has been included in the assessment as it forms part of a cluster that lies partly within 45km	2 turbines 99.9m tip height
Black Brow	Consented	43km	1 turbine 74m tip height
Blackcraig	Operational	42km	23 turbines 110m tip height
Broken Cross	Consented	45km	7 turbines 126.5m tip height
Broken Cross Resubmission	Application	45km	10 turbines 149.9m tip height
Broken Cross Surface Mine	Consented	44km	2 turbines 55.7m tip height
Cloich Forest	Consented	43km	18 turbines 115m tip height
Clyde and Extension	Operational	15km	206 turbines 125/125.5/142m tip height
Craig and Extension	Operational	14km	6 turbines (5 operational) 99.5m tip height
Crookedstane	Consented	21km	4 turbines 126.5m tip height
Crossdykes	Consented	8km	10 turbines 176.5m tip height
Cumberhead	Application	49km	14 turbines 149.9/180m tip height
Dalswinton	Operational	19km	15 turbines 125m tip height
Dalquhandy	Application	48km	15 turbines 131/149.9m tip height
Douglas West	Consented	43km	13 turbines 126.5m tip height

Wind Farm	Status	Approx. Distance from the proposed development	Description
Douglas West Extension	Application	44km	13 turbines 200m tip height
Eastertown	Operational	46km Nb. this development; lies outwith the 45km radius but has been included in the assessment as it forms part of a cluster that lies partly within 45km	1 turbine 67m tip height
Ewe Hill	Operational	10km	22 turbines 109.6m tip height
Faw Side	Application	12km	45 turbines 175/200m tip height
Galawhistle	Operational	45km	22 turbines 121.2m max. tip height
Glenkerie	Operational	25km	11 turbines 105/120m tip height
Glenkerie Extension	Consented	25km	6 turbines 100m tip height
Glenmuckloch	Consented	44km	8 turbines 149.9m tip height
Glentaggart	Application	38km	5 turbines 132m tip height
Great Orton	Operational	42km	6 turbines 68.5m tip height
Hagshaw Hill & Extension	Operational	44km	46 turbines 55/80m tip height
Hagshaw Hill Repowering	Application	44km	14 turbines 200m tip height
Hallburn	Operational	34km	6 turbines 126.5m tip height
Harestanes	Operational	10.5km	68 turbines 125m tip height
Hazelside Farm	Under construction	43km	2 turbines 74m tip height
Hellrigg	Operational	44km	4 turbines 121m tip height
Hopsrig	Consented	10km	12 turbines 140m tip height
JJ's Farm	Consented	46km Nb. this development; lies outwith the 45km radius but has been included in the assessment as it forms part of a cluster that lies partly within 45km	1 turbine 99m tip height
Kennoxhead	Consented	43km	19 turbines 180m tip height
Langhope Rig	Operational	29km	10 turbines 121.2m tip height
Lethans	Consented	44km	22 turbines 136/149.9/152/176m tip height
Lethans Resubmission	Application	44km	22 turbines 176/200/220m tip height
Lion Hill	Consented	17km	4 turbines 126.5m tip height
Little Hartfell	Consented	6km	9 turbines 160m tip height
Loganhead	Consented	11km	8 turbines 135m tip height
Lorg	Consented	44km	9 turbines 130/149.9m tip height
Lorg Variation	Application	44km	9 turbines 149.9m tip height
Middle Muir	Operational	35km	15 turbines 136/152m tip height
Midtown Farm	Operational	42km	1 turbine 74m tip height
Minnygap	Operational	9km	10 turbines 125m tip height
Minsca	Operational	13km	16 turbines 120m tip height
Nether Fauldhouse	Consented	44km	1 turbine 77m tip height
Netherhall Farm	Operational	46km Nb. this development; lies outwith the 45km radius but has been included in the assessment as it forms part of a cluster that lies partly within 45km	1 turbine 67m tip height

Wind Farm	Status	Approx. Distance from the proposed development	Description
North Lowther	Application	29km	30 turbines 149m tip height
Nutberry	Operational	48km	6 turbines 125m tip height
Orton Grange Farm	Operational	45km	1 turbine 67m tip height
Orton Park	Operational	45km	2 turbines 86.5m tip height
Penbreck	Consented	44km	9 turbines 145m tip height
Pines Burn	Consented	35km	12 turbines 130/149.9m tip height
Pines Burn variation	Application	35km	12 turbines 149.9m tip height
Plascow Farm	Operational	42km	3 turbines 76.5m tip height
Plascow Farm Extension	Consented	42km	1 turbine 86.5m tip height
Poniel	Consented	42km	3 turbines 100m tip height
Priestgill	Consented	29km	7 turbines 145m tip height
Sandy Knowe	Consented	43km	24 turbines 125m tip height
Sanquhar	Operational	42km	9 turbines 126.5m tip height
Sanquhar 'Six'	Consented	44km	6 turbines 130m tip height
Sanquhar II	Application	38km	50 turbines 149/200m tip height
Solwaybank	Under construction	17km	15 turbines 126.5m tip height
Spital Sykes Farm	Operational	43km	1 turbine 67m tip height
Sunnyside Farm	Operational	38km	2 turbines 62m tip height
Tempest Tower	Operational	42km	1 turbine 54.7m tip height
Todhills, Blackford	Consented	37km	1 turbine 67.5m tip height
Troston Loch	Application	43km	14 turbines 149.9m tip height
Twenty Shilling	Under construction	34km	9 turbines 125m tip height
Twenty Shilling Resubmission	Application	34km	9 turbines 140m tip height
Wether Hill	Operational	43km	14 turbines 91m tip height
Whitelaw Brae	Consented	17km	14 turbines 133.5m tip height
Whiteside Hill	Operational	40km	10 turbines 121.2m tip height
Windy Edge	Consented	28km	9 turbines 110/125m tip height
Windy Edge variation	Application	28km	9 turbines 110/149.9m tip height

6.3.54 Cumulative ZTVs that show the visibility of the relevant sites along with the visibility of the proposed development have been included for each of these relevant wind farms (Figures 6.15(i) to 6.15(xxxiii)). The relevant cumulative sites are also shown in the wirelines for each of the representative viewpoints. In these wirelines, the proposed development turbines are shown in red, operational wind farms are indicated in black, under-construction wind farms are shown in purple, consented wind farms are shown in green, and proposed wind farms that are in planning or at appeal stage are coloured blue. The wirelines are produced in increments of 90-degrees and cover a variable width of the view, ranging from 90-degrees to 360-degrees, dependent on the horizontal field of view that has been used for each viewpoint.

6.3.55 In some instances, wind farms appear in the wirelines although they are beyond their own study area radius (i.e. the radius that is appropriate for the turbine tip height of the wind farm in accordance with SNH guidance). Where this occurs, the wind farm is not included in the assessment as it is considered to lie beyond the radius within which it may contribute to a significant cumulative effect.

6.4 Potential Effects

6.4.1 Potential effects are those which could result from the construction, operation and decommissioning of a wind farm. Table 6.7 describes the typical landscape and visual effects that can arise from the construction, operation and decommissioning of a wind farm; it should be noted that their inclusion does not imply that they will occur, or be significant, in the case of the proposed development.

Table 6.7 – Potential Landscape and Visual Effects

Activity	Elements	Potential Impacts	Potential Sensitive Receptors

Construction	Construction plant (which will include a concrete batching plant) Borrow pit excavation and extraction Construction of tracks and crane hardstands (including cut and fill earthworks) Temporary construction facilities (i.e. compounds, fencing) Forestry removal for keyholing/ access track buffers Excavation and laying of turbine foundations Turbine erection (including tall cranes) Construction of substation and control rooms Construction of Energy Storage Facilities	Temporary, short-term physical effects on physical landscape fabric Permanent effects on physical landscape fabric (i.e. forestry removal) Temporary, short-term effects on landscape character Temporary, short-term effects on views	Physical landscape features e.g. forestry, ground cover Landscape character receptors: landscape character types, landscape designations Views experienced by different receptors e.g. residents, road users, walkers
Operation	Turbines Access tracks Borrow pits under restoration/ restored Substation and control rooms and Energy Storage Facilities	Temporary, long-term effects on landscape character Temporary, long-term effects on views Temporary, long-term cumulative effects with other wind farms on landscape character and views Ongoing permanent effects on physical landscape fabric (i.e. forestry removal)	
Decommissioning	Plant for turbine and infrastructure removal Top of foundations and infrastructure removal operations Temporary facilities (i.e. compounds, fencing) Turbine removal (including tall cranes)	Temporary, short-term physical effects on landscape fabric Temporary, short-term effects on landscape character Temporary, short-term effects on views Ongoing permanent effects on physical	
	Restoration of ground cover/ other vegetation	landscape fabric (i.e. forestry)	

6.4.2 It is anticipated that construction of the proposed development will take approximately 18 months and the construction effects identified will occur during this period, ending at the start of the operational stage. The proposed development will then be in operation for 40 years. On completion of its operational life the site will be decommissioned.

6.5 Mitigation

6.5.1 The layout design of the proposed development is an important part of the EIA process and is a stage where a notable contribution can be made to the mitigation of potential landscape and visual effects, creating a wind farm which is appropriate for the landscape and visual environment of an area. The LVIA has been carried out in conjunction with the design iteration of the proposed development and has informed the final layout and design. Landscape and visual mitigation measures have been incorporated through the iterative design process in order to reduce potential adverse landscape and visual effects caused by the proposed development. This has included the removal of turbines and variation to turbine heights. The design process is described in Section 3: Site Selection, Design and Evolution of the EIAR.

6.6 Assessment of Physical Effects

6.6.1 The first category of effects covered in the assessment is physical effects, which are direct effects on the fabric of the site, such as the removal of ground cover vegetation. Physical effects are found only on the site, where existing landscape elements may be removed or altered by the proposed development. This category of effects is made up of landscape elements, and in this case, there are two elements involved; rough grassland/ moorland ground cover and coniferous forestry. The methodology for the assessment of physical effects is described in full in Appendix 6.1. It should be noted that these landscape elements are assessed with reference to their contribution to the landscape context and not in ecological terms which are assessed in Chapters 7 and 8, Ornithology and Ecology respectively.

Rough Grassland/ Moorland Ground Cover

6.6.2 The construction of turbine bases, crane pads, the substations and compounds, access tracks and other infrastructure will require the removal of areas of rough grassland and moorland ground cover.

<u>Baseline and sensitivity</u>

6.6.3 Rough grassland and moorland is one of the two predominant landcovers across the site, with the other being commercial coniferous forestry. This type of landcover is typical throughout much of the uplands of Dumfries and Galloway and the adjoining Scottish Borders. The value of this landscape element is medium; it is a relatively widespread landscape element that is not rare or specifically recognised for its value but it is a highly characteristic element of the Southern Uplands and its foothills, and contributes notably to the open, upland character of this landscape. There is also value in the contrast that rough grassland and moorland have with the improved grassland and arable land that is found in the valley, glen and dale landscapes that lie to the

south and east of the site, as this variation in ground cover is one of the indicators of the difference between the upland and lower-lying character types.

6.6.4 The sensitivity of the landscape element is determined through a combination of the value attached to it, as described above, and its susceptibility to the proposed development. The susceptibility to change of this landscape element is low due to the potential for reinstatement and restoration of the ground cover following construction and at the end of the lifetime of the proposed development.

6.6.5 The combination of the low susceptibility to change of the landscape element and the medium value of the landscape element results in a **medium-low** sensitivity for rough grassland and moorland ground cover.

Magnitude of change

6.6.6 The area of rough grassland and moorland to be removed or disturbed in the development and operation of the proposed development is limited in relation to the total area found on the site and beyond, and the magnitude of change of this removal is considered to be **medium-low**.

Significance of the Effect

6.6.7 The effect of the proposed development on rough grassland and moorland will be **not significant**. This is due to a combination of the factors that lead to the medium-low sensitivity of the landscape element and the medium-low magnitude of change upon it. This change will be long-term and reversible.

Coniferous Forestry

6.6.8 The construction of the proposed development will require the removal of approximately 293 hectares (ha) of commercial coniferous forestry, where turbines will be key holed into existing forestry. Felling will also be required for the construction of access tracks, with a 10m wide access track corridor cleared of forestry.

Baseline and sensitivity

6.6.9 Coniferous forestry is a predominant landcover across northern and eastern parts of the site that are covered by the *Southern Uplands with forest* and *foothills* LCTs. The value of this landscape element is medium; it is a widespread and commercially-grown landscape element that is not rare or specifically recognised for its value but it is a characteristic element of this area of the Southern Uplands, as evidenced in the naming of one of the LCTs.

6.6.10 The sensitivity of the landscape element is determined through a combination of the value attached to it, as described above, and its susceptibility to the proposed development. The susceptibility to change of this landscape element is medium due to the proposed offsite compensatory planting and the potential for restocking and restoration of forestry at the end of the lifetime of the proposed development.

6.6.11 The combination of the medium susceptibility to change of the landscape element and the medium value of the landscape element results in a **medium** sensitivity for coniferous forestry.

Magnitude of change

6.6.12 A total area of 293ha of forestry will be removed for the construction and operation of the proposed development. This constitutes a relatively small proportion of the overall extent of forestry on the site and its vicinity, and the magnitude of change will be **low** as it will result in the removal of a small part of this landscape element.

Significance of the Effect

6.6.13 The effect of the proposed development on coniferous forestry will be **not significant**. This is due to a combination of the factors that lead to the medium sensitivity of the landscape element and the low magnitude of change upon it.

Summary of Physical Effects

6.6.14 The proposed development will affect two landscape elements; rough grassland and moorland ground cover, and coniferous forestry. The effect on both of these landscape elements will be **not significant**.

6.7 Effects on Landscape Character

6.7.1 Landscape character is the distinct and recognisable pattern of elements that occurs consistently in a particular type of landscape, and the way that this pattern is perceived. Effects on landscape character arise either through the introduction of new elements or removal of existing elements that physically alter this pattern of elements, or through visibility of the proposed development, which may alter the way in which the pattern of elements is perceived. For example, if the proposed development is visible from an area of *narrow wooded river valleys* LCA, the perceived experience of this area may be altered as visibility of the turbines introduces different contextual characteristics despite its physical location in another, separate area.

6.7.2 It should be noted that levels of magnitude of change on landscape character receptors are generally found to be lower than the magnitude of change on viewpoints that lie within these LCAs. This means that if a viewpoint is assessed to undergo a medium-high magnitude of change it does not necessarily follow that the LCA within which it lies would also undergo a medium-high magnitude of change, but may undergo a lower magnitude of change instead.

6.7.3 This is because the effects on viewpoints are assessed within the context of a specific outlook of the proposed development and are usually specifically selected to gain a direct view over the site. The landscape character of a receptor is not necessarily determined so specifically by the outlook over the proposed development and there are many other considerations, both visual and perceptual, that may combine to give an area its landscape character. This means that the proposed development may have a lesser degree of influence on landscape character than on a specific view. This is particularly true of areas that lie slightly further away from the site. In the close vicinity of the site, up to around 3km away, the magnitude of change on viewpoints and landscape character is likely to be similar, but beyond this, the magnitude of change on landscape character is found to often diminish more rapidly as the influence of the turbines is subsumed in the many other influences on landscape character.

6.7.4 Viewpoints are referred to in this assessment as they give a useful indication of the appearance of the proposed development from specific locations within the various landscape receptors, but, as described above, the level of magnitude of change may vary between the viewpoint assessment and the landscape character assessment.

6.7.5 The detailed methodology for the assessment of effects on landscape character is described in Appendix 6.1.

6.7.6 The assessment of effects on landscape character covers two groups of receptors, landscape character types and units, and landscape planning designations. Table 6.2 of this Chapter, Baseline Conditions and Preliminary Assessment, identifies the landscape character receptors which have the potential to undergo significant effects (including cumulative effects), and the effect on each of these receptors is assessed below. These are as follows:

- Foothills – Annandale (unit A) and Beattock;
- Foothills with forest– Ae (unit A), Castle O'er and Eskdale;
- Intimate pastoral valley – Dryfe;
- Middle dale – mid Annandale;
- Narrow wooded river valleys – Eskdale (unit A);
- Southern Uplands – East Moffat, North Langholm (unit A) and North Moffat;
- Southern Uplands forest covered – Craik (unit A);
- Southern Uplands with forest – Eskdalemuir;
- Upland fringe – Annandale fringe (unit A);
- Upland glens – Evan and Moffat; and
- Moffat Hills RSA.

6.7.7 The other landscape character types and units and designated areas within the study area were found through the initial filtering process to not have the potential to undergo a significant effect and have therefore not been assessed in any further detail.

6.7.8 All of the landscape character receptors included in the detailed assessment below lie within Dumfries and Galloway or the Scottish Borders, with the site itself lying fully within Dumfries and Galloway. The baseline descriptions of the receptors are drawn from two sources:

- The Dumfries and Galloway Windfarm Landscape Capacity Study (2017) (DGWLCS); and
- Scottish Borders Update of Wind Energy Landscape Capacity and Cumulative Impact Study (2016).

6.7.9 The information in DGWLCS, which covers the site itself, includes a 'sensitivity' rating (para 2.5.1), stating that:

"*The sensitivity assessment considers the following criteria in assessing the potential effects of wind energy development on landscape character types/areas:*

- *Landscape scale;*
- *Landform;*
- *Land cover pattern;*
- *Settlement and archaeology;*
- *Perceptual qualities;*
- *Landscape context;*
- *Views and visibility;*
- *Landscape values*."

6.7.10 It should be noted that this LVIA assesses sensitivity according to the methodology described in GLVIA3 and thus utilises a different methodology to that used in DGWLCS, although there are a number of similarities between the criteria considered in ascertaining the sensitivity of each receptor. It is also important to note that the LVIA assesses the specific sensitivity of each landscape area to the proposed development, and not to generic wind energy development of various typologies, as is the case with DGWLCS. The sensitivity of each receptor as assessed in the LVIA may therefore differ from that assessed in DGWLCS.

Foothills – Annandale (unit A) (areas 18(i) and 18(ii)) and Beattock (area 18(iii))

6.7.11 There are seven units of *foothills* in Dumfries and Galloway, of which two – *Annandale* and *Beattock* - have potential to be significantly affected by the proposed development. DGWLCS assesses each of the seven units separately due to their diverse character. *Annandale* and *Beattock* are therefore described separately below. *Annandale* is divided into two areas in this assessment, with *unit A* considered to have potential to undergo a significant effect while the remainder of *Annandale* has been discounted from the assessment.

Baseline and sensitivity: Annandale (unit A) (areas 18(i) and 18(ii))

6.7.12 *Annandale*, which covers the *foothills* on the eastern side of Annandale, falls into two areas in DGWLCS, separated by the Dryfe Water valley. The area that lies to the north of the Dryfe Water is the smaller of the two, approximately 15km from north to south, while the southern area extends in a broad swathe, around 21km long, from Boreland in the north-west to Langholm in the south-east.

6.7.13 *Unit A* covers the full area of the smaller, northern area of *foothills – Annandale* and the north-western part of the larger, southern, area. DGWLCS includes the following descriptions of the *foothills - Annandale* areas of landscape (page 240-243):

- "*This landscape comprises rolling hills, generally rising between 250-300m, tapering in the north to form a narrow band between the upland fringe (16) and the extensively forested higher uplands to the east. Occasional broad-topped ridges have a larger scale than areas of more complex smaller hills and the narrow valleys that wind their way through these foothills. Operational and consented wind farm developments already occupy some of these larger scaled areas in the south* [outwith unit A].
- *Landform varies considerably with occasional broader hills with flatter gently undulating tops interspersed with more defined steep-sided knolly hills and irregular landform, often found close to main valleys and sometimes on the fringes with the foothills with forest (18a). Narrow, incised river valleys cut often convoluted courses through these foothills, or more dramatic gorges through steep-sided hills such as the Wamphray Water.*
- *These foothills are farmed with pastures enclosed by stone dykes. More expansive areas of semi-improved and rough grazing and conifer plantations occur on broader hill tops. Broadleaved shelterbelts and clumps form rare, but distinctive, features around more settled valleys. Small angular conifer shelterbelts consistently pattern these smooth, rolling hills.*
- *Small settlements and dispersed farms are located in narrow sheltered valleys and lower hill slopes although occasional settlements such as Corrie Common* [which lies within unit A] *are more elevated. These foothills are rich in archaeology with numerous hill forts and settlements and occasional stone circles. Operational and consented wind farms influence character in the southern part of these foothills* [outwith unit A]. *A high voltage transmission line is routed through the south-western part of these foothills* [partly within unit A].
- *These foothills merge seamlessly with the upland fringe (16) to the west, although a more pronounced edge occurs to the south. The well-settled broad dale of Annandale (LCTs 6+7) lies to the west and the edge of these foothills (together with the upland fringe) provides a backdrop to settlements such as Lockerbie and Lochmaben. These foothills also provide prominent skylines to the intimate pastoral valley (5) of the Dryfe valley* [within unit A]. *The more extensive and largely unsettled foothills with forest (18a) and Southern Uplands with forest (19a) lie to the north- east.*
- *The farmed and settled character of these foothills limits the sense of naturalness and remoteness experienced although the rich archaeology and traditional rural character of parts of this landscape can instil a sense of timelessness.*
- *Small settlements and dispersed farms are mainly associated with the narrow valleys that cut through these foothills but with some settlements and farms more elevated. A network of minor roads provides access through these foothills and even small hills offer vantage points with views over much of this landscape unit…The well-settled lowlands of Annandale lie to the west and these foothills (together with…Upland Fringe 16) form a low backdrop and fairly even long skyline to this landscape, with the higher uplands of LCT 19a more prominent further east beyond these foothills…There are elevated*

views of these foothills from the Torthorwald Ridge and from key elevated viewpoints, such as Burnswark Hill Fort [Viewpoint 17]..."

6.7.14 These points are generally relevant to *Annandale (unit A).* However, it should also be noted that the western edge of this receptor – particularly that of the narrower area to the north of the Dryfe Water - is influenced by development (including the high-voltage transmission line, the A74(M) corridor and the west coast mainline railway) within the *middle dale – mid Annandale*, which lies close to the west. The remainder of *unit A* has considerably greater separation from the developed Annandale landscapes, and displays a more rural, peaceful character.

6.7.15 It is also the case that the eastern part of the receptor, covered by the site area, is characterised and influenced by upland land uses (including extensive coniferous forestry) and open, unenclosed landform rather than the more settled dale landscapes. The eastern areas are, in many respects, closer in character to the *Southern Uplands with forest* that they abut to the north than the more settled, developed lower parts of the *foothills*.

6.7.16 Viewpoints 5 and 16 are within this receptor, while Viewpoint 6 lies on the southern edge of the Dryfe Water valley and thus gains a view of the proposed development across the northern part of *unit A*.

6.7.17 While there are no baseline wind farms within *(unit A)* of *foothills – Annandale,* Minsca, Solwaybank and part of Ewe Hill (which is immediately adjacent to *unit A*) Wind Farms lie in the southern part of *Annandale*, outwith *unit A*. Little Hartfell, Crossdykes, Hopsrig and Loganhead all lie outwith but close to the eastern edge of *Annandale*, while Harestanes and Minnygap are a minimum of around 9km to the west of the northern part of *unit A.*

6.7.18 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the landscape character receptor and its susceptibility to the proposed development. The value of *foothills - Annandale (unit A)* is medium; it is not covered by any scenic designations and the receptor has, to varying degrees, been affected by the influence of adjacent development. Some areas do, however, retain intact inherent landscape patterns of smaller-scale field boundaries, woodland, hedgerows, settlement (primarily in western areas) and unenclosed upland moorland, and forestry (in eastern areas).

6.7.19 The susceptibility of *foothills – Annandale (unit A)* is medium-high. While in the eastern area, the underlying landform and the landscape patterns are of fairly broad scale, the superimposed landscape patterns of field boundaries, settlement, woodland and hedgerows in the western area are generally more complex, enclosed and smaller-scale, and the scale comparisons that can arise as a result of the proposed development lead to a medium-high level of susceptibility. There is also a visual and contextual association between the *foothills* and the adjacent, enclosing, *Southern Uplands with forest* landscape, within which a further part of the proposed development lies. Susceptibility is restricted to a medium-high level by the relatively large, open and simple scale of the part of the landscape that is covered by the site (the eastern area), and by the lack of the wild and remote landscape character that would be highly susceptible to the proposed development.

6.7.20 The combination of the medium value and medium-high susceptibility to change of *foothills - Annandale (unit A)* results in a **medium-high** sensitivity.

<u>Baseline and sensitivity: Beattock (area 18(iii))</u>

6.7.21 *Beattock* covers the *foothills* on the western side of Annandale, opposite *foothills – Annandale (unit A).* DGWLCS includes the following descriptions of the *foothills – Beattock* landscape (page 247-250):

- "*This foothill landscape comprises a broad and open moorland plateau on upper slopes although more complex landform and extensive woodland considerably reduces scale on lower slopes at the transition with the adjacent Middle Dale (7).* ***The under-construction Minnygap wind farm occupies much of the more expansively scaled upper slopes****.*
- *Gently undulating upper slopes are occasionally punctuated by well-defined knolly hills; these becoming more common on lower hill slopes on the western edge of the valley of the Kinnel Water and above Beattock where landform is generally more rolling, complex and small scale. The Kinnel cuts a narrow gorge through the Raehills Estate.*
- *Land cover varies from simple and expansive areas of upland pasture, coniferous forestry and open moorland on upper hill slopes to a more intricate pattern of policy woodlands and parkland within the Raehills designed landscape and wider estate. Distinctive clumps of Scots pine, larch and stone dykes occur above Beattock.*
- *This landscape is sparsely settled with dispersed farms located on lower and middle hill slopes and accessed by dead end tracks. Estate buildings and Raehill House are located close to the Kinnel Water. These foothills are rich in archaeology with numerous relict hill forts, cairns and settlements mainly sited on lower and middle slopes and with an ASA designated west of Beattock.*
- *These foothills form the wider landscape context for the Middle Dale of Annandale (7). The Ae Foothills with Forest (18a) to the west are extensively forested, sparsely populated and visually contained by the Southern Uplands (19) to the north-west.*
- *This landscape can feel secluded due to the absence of access roads and settlement. The open, less managed moorland of the upper slopes has some natural qualities especially where adjacent forestry is screened by higher ground. Lower slopes, which are largely covered by the extensive Raehills designed landscape, are more managed, although the rich archaeology characteristic of this area can instil a sense of timelessness.*
- *This landscape is sparsely populated with most settlement located on lower hill slopes where visibility of the more elevated reaches of these foothills is limited by extensive woodland and more complex landform. Views to these foothill landscapes are limited by their subtle plateau-like landform of upper slopes and by intervening vegetation and ridges within Annandale. Glimpsed views are possible from minor elevated roads which cross the Middle Dale of Annandale (7) and the Foothills (18) on the eastern edge of Annandale*."

6.7.22 These points are generally relevant to *Beattock.* However, it should be noted that the eastern part of this receptor is influenced to a notable degree by development within the *middle dale – mid Annandale*, which abuts it to the east, in a similar manner to the external effects on *Annandale (unit A)*, described above. The western part of *Beattock* is more distant from the development in the dale, and strongly characterised by its innate unsettled, upland moorland qualities, in addition to wind farm development both within and adjacent to the LCT (Harestanes/ Minnygap).

6.7.23 Viewpoint 8 (Southern Upland Way near Beattock Hill) is within this receptor.

6.7.24 Minnygap Wind Farm lies within this receptor, while Harestanes lies immediately to the west and Clyde is a minimum of 10km to the north. Dalswinton is a minimum of 9km to the south-west but has negligible theoretical influence on the receptor.

6.7.25 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the landscape character receptor and its susceptibility to the proposed development. The value of *foothills – Beattock* is medium; it is not covered by any scenic designations and the receptor has been affected by the influence of various types of development, both internal and external. Some areas do, however, retain intact inherent topography and landscape patterns of field boundaries, woodland, parkland, unenclosed upland moorland, settlement and so

on. The recreational aspects of the landscape, including the Annandale Way and Southern Upland Way, also contribute to the medium value as they are an important aspect of the landscape experience.

6.7.26 The susceptibility of *foothills – Beattock* is medium. The underlying landform and landscape patterns of the western part of the receptor are large scale and relatively simple, with the large-scale development of Minnygap Wind Farm. The eastern part is, however, smaller scale in both landform and landscape patterns, including the enclosure of fields, parkland and woodland, particularly around Raehills GDL. The scale comparisons that can arise as a result of proposed development in relation to this landscape lead to the medium level of susceptibility. There is also a visual and contextual association between the *foothills* and the enclosing eastern skyline of *Southern Uplands with forest* landscape, within which a part of the proposed development lies. Susceptibility is, however, restricted to a medium level by the settled and/ or developed nature of this landscape, including external influences, which ensures that it lacks the wild and remote landscape character that would be highly susceptible to the proposed development.

6.7.27 The combination of the medium value and medium susceptibility to change of *foothills - Beattock* results in a **medium** sensitivity.

Magnitude of change: foothills – Annandale (unit A) (areas 18(i) and 18(ii))

6.7.28 A number of turbines in the southern part of the proposed development are located in *foothills – Annandale (unit A)* and this landscape will therefore undergo direct physical effects from the construction and operation of the turbines, access tracks and hardstands, as well as perceived effects that arise through visibility of the proposed development. This landscape is also directly affected by keyhole deforestation, new borrow pits, substation and control room, substation and control room construction compound (which will also be utilised for the energy storage facility), met masts, and temporary construction compounds.

6.7.29 The magnitude of change on the site area itself will be **high** due to both direct physical effects on the landscape and perceived effects that rise through visibility of the proposed development. The high magnitude of change arises from the following considerations:

- The receiving landscape of the site area is currently characterised by extensive coniferous forestry (the eastern part of *unit A*) and upland moorland/ rough grazing (the western part of *unit A*) and has few other notable human activities or features;
- The presence of the proposed development will result in a direct effect to this baseline character through the addition of new, unfamiliar features, primarily the turbines but also construction operations and short-term and long-term infrastructure, providing a highly visible, prevailing influence and introducing uncharacteristic elements in terms of movement, materials, colour, and structures;
- Forestry removal for turbine keyholing, access tracks and other infrastructure will also lead to changes in the landscape patterns of parts of the site, affecting a key characteristic of the landscape;
- In addition to the physical effects, there will be a perceptual alteration to the character of the *foothills* landscape setting, arising from visibility of the colour, movement, scale, texture and form of the turbines and other infrastructure, which are uncharacteristic of the landscape;
- This perceived alteration will be emphasised in the smaller-scale, more complex and settled western parts of the receptor, outwith the site itself;
- The appearance of the proposed development on the skyline that encloses the edge of *foothills – Annandale* is likely to heighten its influence on landscape character; and
- The introduction of wind energy development into a landscape that has no internal baseline influence of wind energy development (there is no wind energy development within *unit A*) will increase the influence of the proposed development.

6.7.30 While the magnitude of change on and in the immediate vicinity of the site will be **high**, there are factors that mitigate the level of change to some extent, although these are not sufficient to reduce the level of magnitude of change:

- Forestry removal is limited to keyholing and minor felling for other infrastructure features, and this key landscape characteristic will largely be retained;
- The construction and operational activities associated with the proposed development infrastructure such as access tracks and compounds are not out of place in this landscape due to existing forestry operations;
- The large scale, simplicity and lack of enclosure that characterise the more upland areas of the receptor that are covered by the site prevent the occurrence of uncomfortable scale comparisons and provide an appropriate receiving environment for the proposed development;
- While a number of turbines lie within this receptor, the ZTV shows that visibility of the proposed development is relatively limited from parts of the site area and its close environs due to landform screening and the orientation of landform away from the site. This will reduce the level of perceived change to landscape character;
- The location of the proposed development in the more upland part of *foothills – Annandale (unit A)* ensures that the scale of the site landform and landscape patterns is more appropriate for large-scale development;
- The pattern of settlement, forestry and, in western areas, the external influence of human elements mean that it lacks the unspoilt remote, wildness characteristics with which the proposed development would have the greatest contrast;
- In views from beyond the site, the upland setting in which the proposed development is seen provides a simple, large-scale and unenclosed context for the turbines; and
- The merging of these upland areas of *foothills* with the adjacent *Southern Uplands with forest* ensures that the proposed development does not appear to extend up to the boundary of the receptor, but appears in an extensive area of a similar landscape types.

6.7.31 A **high** or **medium-high** magnitude of change will cover the site and extend intermittently to the northern, western and eastern boundaries of *foothills – Annandale (unit A)*, a maximum of approximately 2km away from the proposed development. The area that lies beyond the site itself in the western part of Annandale has a more complex landscape pattern than the area of the site and is more settled and less upland in character. Here, the proposed development will not have direct effects, but the perceived effects will be increased to a degree by the scale comparisons between the turbines and the landscape from which they are seen.

6.7.32 The only direction in which *foothills – Annandale (unit A)* extends beyond the site and its close vicinity (i.e. beyond approximately 2km) is the south. The area that lies beyond approximately 1-2km to the south of the site in both the western and eastern parts of *Annandale unit A* also has a more complex, settled landscape pattern and here too the proposed development will not have direct effects, but the perceived effects will be increased to a degree by the scale comparisons between the turbines and the landscape from which they are seen.

6.7.33 To the south, an intermittent **high** to **medium** magnitude of change will theoretically extend up to the southern end of the western area of *Annandale*, and up to the Corrie Water valley in the eastern area of *Annandale*, where there is a natural break in visibility that starts approximately 4km (to the south-east) to 9km (to the south) from the proposed development. Viewpoint 5 lies within this area, 1.44km to the south of the proposed development, and Viewpoint 6 lies on the edge of the receptor in this area. Both of these viewpoints illustrate the higher type of visibility that may be gained.

6.7.34 Beyond the break in visibility, there is a further band of theoretical visibility in the eastern area of *Annandale*, again from a relatively settled and developed landscape, which extends up to between approximately 7km and 11km away. Here, the ZTV shows a fairly consistent high level of theoretical visibility with the majority of landform orientated towards the site, and a **medium** magnitude of change will extend into this area of visibility. Viewpoint 16 (Corrie Common) lies in this area and this viewpoint illustrates the higher type of visibility that will be gained from this area. At around 9-10km away from the nearest turbine, the landform of the areas that gain theoretical visibility no longer faces directly towards the proposed development (e.g. areas to the south of Corrie Common and Penlaw) and the magnitude of change will drop to a maximum **medium-low** level due to a combination of increased distance, which results in reduced influence, and the landform orientation.

6.7.35 Beyond around 9-10km away, theoretical visibility in *unit A* is very intermittent, and the magnitude of change on the areas of the landscape that do gain theoretical visibility of the proposed development will be a maximum of **medium-low** due to the increased distance and reduced influence of the proposed development. The boundary of *unit A* lies approximately 12km from the proposed development.

Magnitude of change: foothills – Beattock (area 18(iii))

6.7.36 The magnitude of change on *Beattock* will follow a similar pattern to that of the more distant areas of *Annandale (unit A)*. *Beattock* lies between approximately 4.6km and 11km away from the proposed development, and will undergo only perceived effects rather than direct effects.

6.7.37 The landscape pattern of *Beattock* is the reverse of *Annandale (unit A)* in that the large-scale, upland areas of moorland lie further away from the proposed development and the smaller-scale, more complex and settled landscape are in closer proximity, whereas in *Annandale* the landscape patterns become increasingly enclosed, small-scale and settled as distance from the site increases.

6.7.38 The ZTV shows areas of fairly consistent high theoretical visibility from *Beattock* with intermittent areas of no, or very limited, visibility along watercourses, including the Kinnel Burn, around which Raehills GDL is focussed. Much of the landform in *Beattock* is orientated eastwards, towards the site, and the proposed development will be seen at its full north-south extent. Minnygap Wind Farm lies at the western side of *Beattock* and exerts a strong baseline influence on this part of the landscape.

6.7.39 In this receptor, the orientation of landform and relatively high level of theoretical visibility will specifically contribute to the magnitude of change. In the lower, eastern parts of the landscape, scale contrasts with landscape patterns and elements will also contribute to the magnitude of change, although the presence of large-scale infrastructure development in the adjacent *dale* will conversely temper the level of change. Viewpoint 8 illustrates the type of setting and higher level of visibility that may be gained.

6.7.40 The presence of Minnygap and Harestanes will affect magnitude of change in two ways; first, the addition of the proposed development to this baseline wind farm influence may lead to a perception that Annandale is bordered to the west and east by wind energy development, thus enclosing the landscape and increasing the magnitude of change. However, the presence of baseline wind energy development can also reduce the magnitude of change as the proposed development will not introduce an entirely new and unfamiliar influence on the landscape.

6.7.41 Between around 4.6km and 9.5-10km away, the maximum magnitude of change on *Beattock* will be **medium**, diminishing with distance and the resultant reducing influence of the proposed development. This will extend to a maximum of approximately 9.5-10km away due to the high level of theoretical visibility, orientation of landform towards the site and the proximity of Minnygap, and will drop to a maximum **medium-low** level beyond this distance due to the orientation of landform away from the site, reduced theoretical visibility and the presence of Minnygap Wind Farm (which is a minimum of around 9.5km away from the proposed development). The boundary of *Beattock* is a maximum of approximately 11km from the proposed development.

Significance of the effect

6.7.42 The effect of the proposed development on the landscape character of *foothills – Annandale (unit A)* and *Beattock* will vary. The effect on parts of the receptors that gain no or very limited visibility, such as the Corrie Water and Kinnel Water valleys, will be **not significant** due to the lack of influence of the proposed development. However, there are likely to be **significant** effects on the character of the site itself and those parts of the landscape that gain visibility of the proposed development up to a distance of approximately 9-10km away in both *Annandale* and *Beattock,* arising from a combination of the medium-high (Annandale) and medium (Beattock) sensitivity of the landscapes and the high to medium magnitude of change upon them.

Cumulative effects: foothills - Annandale (unit A) (areas 18(i) and 18(ii))

6.7.43 The cumulative effect on *unit A* of *foothills - Annandale* is assessed in its two geographical parts. The northern part, north of the Dryfe Water, is affected primarily by the proposed development and Harestanes/ Minnygap, which has theoretical intermittent visible from a minimum of around 9km away to the west. There is also some intermittent theoretical visibility of Little Hartfell (a minimum of around 6.5km away), Minsca (a minimum of around 11km away), and wind farms in the Ewe Hill group (a minimum of approximately 10km away), from the southern part of the northern area. There are no relevant application-stage wind farms in the cumulative assessment of the northern area as Faw Side, which is the closest application site, is over 14km away to the east and is shown on the ZTV to have very intermittent visibility from the northern part of *unit A* of *foothills – Annandale.*

6.7.44 The addition of the proposed development to the northern part of *unit A*, south of the Dryfe Water, will have a maximum **medium** cumulative magnitude of change. This will arise only where the proposed development is clearly visible in conjunction with very readily apparent visibility of Harestanes/ Minnygap and readily apparent visibility of Little Hartfell and/ or turbines in the Ewe Hill group and/ or Minsca. This is due to the following considerations:

- The addition of the influence of the proposed development – a wind farm that lies partly within the receptor and will have a significant effect itself –to a landscape that has external baseline wind farm influence;
- The location of the proposed development in a part of the setting to the receptor that is not affected by baseline wind farms, so that it extends wind farm influence around this context; and
- The location of the proposed development in the northern part of the receptor while cumulative wind farms lie to the west and south-east, so that wind farm influence lies around the receptor.

6.7.45 The following considerations limit the cumulative magnitude of change to a maximum **medium** level:

- The relatively distant influence of Harestanes/ Minnygap and the south-eastern wind farms;
- The grouping together of the cumulative wind farms so that they do not appear as a number of separate developments distributed around the receptor;
- The limited number of groups of baseline wind energy development and their distribution around the receptor;
- This ensures that the southern and western aspects remain unaffected by readily apparent wind farm influence;

- The separation of the proposed development from baseline wind farms, so that coalescence is avoided;
- The external nature of cumulative wind farm influence;
- The similarity in the landscape settings of the proposed development and the cumulative wind farms; and
- The intermittent nature of the theoretical influence of the cumulative wind farms on the receptor.

6.7.46 The southern part of *unit A*, south of the Dryfe Water, gains an intermittent/ very intermittent theoretical level of influence from Little Hartfell (adjacent), the Ewe Hill group (adjacent), Minsca (a minimum of approximately 2.5km to the south-east), and Solwaybank (6.5km to the south-east). There is also very intermittent and distant influence from Harestanes/ Minnygap (a minimum of over 14.5km away).

6.7.47 As with the northern part of unit A, the maximum cumulative magnitude of change will be **medium**, which will arise when the proposed development is clearly visible in conjunction with very readily apparent visibility of Little Hartfell and turbines in the Ewe Hill group and/ or Minsca and some visibility of Harestanes/ Minnygap. Solwaybank is of limited relevance due to its very intermittent visibility. This is due to the following considerations:

- The addition of the influence of the proposed development – a wind farm that lies partly within the receptor and will have a significant effect itself – to a landscape that has close-proximity external baseline wind farm influence;
- The location of the proposed development in a part of the setting to the receptor that is not affected by baseline wind farms, so that it extends wind farm influence around this context; and
- The location of the proposed development in the northern part of the receptor while cumulative wind farms lie to the west, east and south, so that wind farm influence lies around the receptor.

6.7.48 The following considerations limit the cumulative magnitude of change to a maximum **medium** level:

- The extent of this receptor and the location of the cumulative wind farms at its north-western and south-eastern ends, which ensures that where the southern/ south-eastern wind farms have theoretical influence, the influence of Harestanes/ Minnygap is extremely limited, and vice-versa;
- The separation of the proposed development from baseline wind farms, so that coalescence is avoided;
- The external nature of all influence from cumulative wind farms; and
- The limited and relatively distant influence of the proposed development at the southern end of the receptor.

6.7.49 For the southern part of *unit A* of *foothills – Annandale* one application-stage wind farm - Faw Side - is considered in the **baseline plus application-stage scenario**. Faw Side lies a minimum of approximately 11km to the east/ north-east of the receptor, which gains intermittent/ very intermittent visibility of it.

6.7.50 While the consideration of Faw Side would slightly increase the cumulative magnitude of change, the level would not change from a **medium** level. This is due to the relatively distant and intermittent/ very intermittent nature of influence from Faw Side; the location of Faw Side to the east/ north-east, where it will be seen in conjunction with Little Hartfell and the Ewe Hill group in the setting of the southern part of the receptor; and the nature of visibility of Faw Side, which ensures that its area of highest theoretical influence is within the proposed development site, where its additional level of influence will be limited.

6.7.51 The cumulative effect on the majority of *foothills – Annandale (unit A)* will be **not significant**. There will, however, be an intermittent or very intermittent **significant** cumulative effect in the baseline scenario as follows:

- In the northern part of *unit A*, north of the Dryfe Water, on areas where the proposed development is clearly visible in conjunction with very readily apparent visibility of Harestanes/ Minnygap and readily apparent visibility of Little Hartfell and/ or turbines in the Ewe Hill group and/ or Minsca; and
- In the southern part of *unit A*, south of the Dryfe Water, on areas where the proposed development is clearly visible in conjunction with very readily apparent visibility of Little Hartfell and turbines in the Ewe Hill group and/ or Minsca and some visibility of Harestanes/ Minnygap.

6.7.52 In both areas the intermittent/ very intermittent significant cumulative effect will arise due to a combination of the factors that lead to the maximum medium cumulative magnitude of change and the medium-high sensitivity of the landscape.

6.7.53 When the application-stage site at Faw Side is also considered, the addition of the proposed development to the baseline plus application-stage cumulative scenario will remain intermittently or very intermittently **significant**, with the cumulative magnitude of change remaining medium.

<u>Cumulative effects: foothills – Beattock (area 18(iii))</u>

6.7.54 There is one potential cumulative scenario at this receptor; the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites (operational, under-construction and consented). In this **baseline scenario**, the relevant cumulative wind farms at *foothills with forest – Ae (unit A)* are Minnygap (which lies within the receptor); Harestanes (which lies adjacent to the west of the receptor); and Clyde/ Lion Hill (a minimum of 10km away to the north.

6.7.55 The addition of the proposed development to this **baseline scenario** will have a maximum **medium** cumulative magnitude of change, which will arise only where the proposed development is clearly visible in conjunction with very readily apparent visibility of Harestanes/ Minnygap and some visibility of Clyde/ Lion Hill. This results from the following considerations:

- The addition of the influence of the proposed development – a readily apparent wind farm that will have a significant effect itself - to a landscape that has internal and external baseline wind farm influence;
- The location of the proposed development in a part of the setting to the receptor that is not affected by readily apparent baseline wind farms;
- The location of the proposed development to the east of the receptor while cumulative wind farms are, internally and externally, to the north and west, so that it extends wind farm influence around this context;
- The proportion of the setting to the receptor that will be affected by the proposed development in addition to the baseline wind farms and the resultant increase in the developed skyline; and
- The direct presence of wind farm influence within the receptor.

6.7.56 The following considerations limit the cumulative magnitude of change to a **medium** level:

- The grouping together of the baseline cumulative wind farms so that they affect two aspects of the receptor (north and north-west) and do not appear as a number of separate developments distributed around the receptor;

- The limited number of groups of baseline wind energy developments (one internal/ external group – Harestanes/ Minnygap) and one external group – Clyde/ Lion Hill);
- This also ensures that the southern and north-eastern aspects remain unaffected by wind farm influence;
- The separation of the proposed development from baseline wind farms, so that coalescence is avoided;
- The similarity in the landscape settings of the proposed development and the cumulative wind farms; and
- The relatively distant and intermittent nature of the theoretical influence of Clyde/ Lion Hill.

6.7.57 The cumulative effect on the majority of *foothills – Beattock* will be **not significant**. There will, however, be a very intermittent **significant** cumulative effect arising from the addition of the proposed development to the baseline cumulative scenario due to a combination of the factors that lead to the maximum medium cumulative magnitude of change and the medium sensitivity of the landscape. This will arise only where the proposed development is clearly visible in conjunction with very readily apparent visibility of Harestanes/ Minnygap and some visibility of Clyde/ Lion Hill, generally in the northern part of the receptor, where Clyde has a higher level of influence. An effect arising from a medium sensitivity and medium cumulative magnitude of change can be assessed as either significant or not significant. In this case, the effect has been assessed as **significant** due to the level of influence of the proposed development and cumulative wind farms (both internal and external) on the receptor and the extent of development within and around the receptor.

Foothills with Forest – Ae (area 18a(i)), Castle O'er (area 18a(ii)) and Eskdale (area 18a(iii))

6.7.58 There are nine areas of *foothills with forest* in Dumfries and Galloway, three of which – *Ae, Castle O'er* and *Eskdale* - have potential to be significantly affected by the proposed development. DGWLCS groups the latter two of these areas together in its sensitivity assessment (together with a third area – *Tinnisburn* - which is considered to not have potential to undergo a significant effect as a result of the proposed development) while the *Ae* area is assessed separately in DGWLCS.

Baseline and sensitivity

6.7.59 DGWLCS includes the following descriptions of the *Castle O'er, Eskdale* and *Tinnisburn* areas of landscape (page 321-323):

- "*These landscape units of the Foothills with Forest form an expansive undulating upland plateau lying between 290-330m high. Scale is reduced in more contained valleys and where the landform is more complex on the western boundaries of the O'er unit. Openness is limited by dense forestry.*
- *These foothills are generally smooth with subtle rounded summits and elongated ridges. Extensive forestry masks the underlying landform although more complex interlocking ridges and valleys are evident particularly close to the western boundary of the O'er unit at the transition with the Annandale Foothills (18). More defined rounded hills border Eskdale in places.*
- *Extensive commercial forestry covers much of this landscape. There is some open space, most notably in the upper Water of Milk valley [which lies at the southern end of the Castle O'er area] and also along other water courses. Small areas of hill pasture fringe lower hill slopes.*
- *There is little settlement within this character type. However, a number of Iron Age hill forts and other archaeological features occur on the edge of these foothills adjacent to Eskdale (4) and the Annandale Foothills (18).*
- *Although the interior of these landscapes can feel remote due to the distance from settlement and public roads, the presence of extensive commercially managed forestry precludes a sense of naturalness.*
- *Views within these landscape units are restricted by extensive forestry. It is very sparsely settled and there are few public roads. The B723 is aligned through O'er Forest and allows some views into the forested interior (and long glimpsed views to Craig wind farm). There are footpaths to the hill forts of Castle O'er and Bessie on the fringes of O'er Forest and these provide vantage points over parts of these landscapes.*
- *These landscape units comprise gently undulating plateaux uplands set back from settled valleys and glens. Views to these areas are generally very limited. Views from settlement and roads within the Esk valley (4) to the Eskdale and O'er units are limited by the perimeter hills which contain the valley*."

6.7.60 The *Eskdale* and *Castle O'er* areas of *foothills with forest* both lie to the east of the site. *Foothills with forest – Castle O'er* abuts the eastern edge of the proposed development site and lies to the west of *foothills with forest – Eskdale*, divided from it by *narrow wooded river valleys – Eskdale*. This irregularly-shaped area measures a maximum of approximately 14km from north to south and approximately 5km across, and is something of a transitional landscape, surrounded to the north and south-east by *Southern Uplands with forest*, to the west and south-west by *foothills*, and to the east by *narrow wooded river valleys – Eskdale.* The *Castle O'er* area has very little development with the only public roads being the B723, which cuts across high ground at the centre of the area, and an unclassified road at its southern extremity, although there is a wide network of forestry tracks. Castle O'er hill fort and settlement (Viewpoint 15) are within this landscape. Viewpoint 3 (Sandyford) is also within this LCT, close to the western edge where it borders the *foothills – Annandale* landscape.

6.7.61 *Foothills with forest – Eskdale* is smaller than the *Castle O'er* area, measuring approximately 6.3km from north to south at its longest point by several kilometres across, and lies closer to the site. This area is bounded to the north and east by the *Southern Uplands – north Langholm* landscape and to the south and west by *narrow wooded river valleys – Eskdale.* There is very little built development in this heavily-forested landscape, and the only public road is a stretch of the B709 that cuts across the south-western corner at Shaw Rig. There is, however, a comprehensive network of forest tracks, and felling is underway in some areas. There are no viewpoints in this landscape.

6.7.62 *Foothills with forest – Ae* lies to the west of the *Castle O'er* and *Eskdale* areas and to the west of the site. In this assessment, the wider *Ae* area has been subdivided, with *unit A* covering the northern and central part of the full *Ae* area, including the Harestanes Wind Farm site. *Unit A* is approximately 25km long in a north-south direction and 7km across at its widest point. While there are no LVIA viewpoints in *Ae*, Viewpoint 20 (Queensberry) lies close to its western edge and gains a view across the landscape.

6.7.63 DGWLCS includes the following descriptions of the *foothills with forest – Ae* landscape (page 288-292). Points that are of particular relevance to *unit A* are emboldened:

- "*This landscape unit forms an expansive undulating upland plateau generally lying between 290-400m above and west of Annandale.* ***It has a large scale although this is significantly reduced in tightly contained valleys*** *such as the Water of Ae and its tributaries* ***plus the Evan Water*** [which lies adjacent to the eastern edge of unit A]. *Smaller well-defined hills occur on the southern and western edges of this landscape.*
- *The hills are generally smooth with rounded summits. There are few pronounced peaks although some more well-defined small hills occur on the southern and western edges of this landscape.* ***The landform***

***is more subtly undulating to the north where broad wet basins are interspersed with more defined rounded ridges**. Extensive forestry masks the underlying landform although **steeply incised burns and more complex interlocking landform is evident particularly the Evan valley** and the south of this unit.*

- *Extensive commercial forestry covers much of this landscape. There is little open ground within the forest although this unit includes some fringing hill pastures and wetter moorland areas which are important in providing diversity.*
- *There is little settlement within this largely forested landscape. The settlement of Ae sits on the southern boundary of the unit and **some buildings are associated with the valley of the Evan Water which cuts through the 'pinch point' formed by these foothills north-west of Moffat**. **The M74, electricity transmission lines and West Coast railway are aligned through this valley.** Archaeological and historic features occur on the open hill fringes of this landscape, a relict of past land-use.*
- *These foothills lie adjacent to open Foothills (18), and near to the Middle Dale (7) of Annandale although views of the interior plateau are restricted from the more sensitive valley. The dramatic and open Lowther Hills (Southern Uplands 19) abut this character type. The conical summit of Queensberry Hill is a landmark feature seen across Annandale. This landscape also abuts the smaller scale Upland Fringe (16) LCT covering the Torthorwald Ridge and the eastern side slopes of Nithsdale.*
- ***While the interior of these landscapes can feel remote due to the distance from settlement and public roads, the presence of extensive commercially managed forestry and operational wind farm development in much of this area precludes a strong sense of wildness. Rare open areas of moorland lying close to the Lowther Hills have more natural qualities*** [few open areas are found adjacent to unit A].
- ***Views within this character type are restricted by extensive forestry**. It is very sparsely settled and there are few public roads. **The Southern Upland Way is aligned through the northern part of this unit. Ae Forest is popular for recreation with promoted paths and cycle routes particularly well-used in the southern part of this unit.***
- *These landscapes comprise gently rolling foothills surrounded by Nithsdale and Annandale and the 'Torthorwald' Upland Fringe (16). **Views are restricted by the Lowther Hills to the north, although Queensberry Hill*** [Viewpoint 20] ***has panoramic views over the unit**. **These foothills are surrounded by well-settled landscapes but visibility is reduced in Annandale where they are set well back, separated by the Foothills (18) and where woodland cover, intermediate ridges and rising slopes contain views. The subdued plateau-like landform of this landscape unit also serves to restrict visibility**."*

6.7.64 *Foothills with forest* generally has a rather exposed and sometimes bleak character due to a combination of their large scale, upland characteristics, extensive coniferous forestry cover (as well as the felling operations and recently-felled ground that are apparent in some places), and very limited domestic development.

6.7.65 Harestanes Wind Farm lies within *unit A* of the *Ae* area and the consented Little Hartfell Wind Farm and several turbines of the consented Crossdykes Wind Farm lie within the *Castle O'er* area. There are no baseline wind farms within the *Eskdale* area.

6.7.66 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the landscape character receptor and its susceptibility to the proposed development. The *foothills with forest – Ae (unit A), Eskdale* and *Castle O'er* areas all have a medium value; other than a very small part of the eastern edge of *unit A* of *Ae* that lies within the Moffat Hills RSA, they are not covered by any scenic designations but do have some quality in the enclosure that the landscape provides to *narrow wooded river valleys, upland glens* and *Annandale* and the distinctive and consistent upland, forested character of the landscape. The recreational and cultural heritage aspects of the landscape, including the Southern Upland Way and features of the Eskdale Prehistoric Trail such as King Schaw's grave and Castle O'er Hill Fort, also contribute to the medium value as they are an important aspect of the landscape experience.

6.7.67 The susceptibility of *foothills with forest – Ae (unit A), Eskdale* and *Castle O'er* areas is medium-low. These are generally relatively undeveloped upland landscapes with little domestic-scale development, which gives some sensitivity. However, the extensive forestry ensures that the landscape has notable human influence and does not display the natural or wildness characteristics with which the proposed development would have the greatest contrast. The operational Harestanes Wind Farm and, once constructed, the consented wind farms introduce large-scale, moving development into parts of the *Ae (unit A)* and *Castle O'er* areas. The large scale and simplicity of the landform and landscape patterns, especially the uniformity of extensive forest cover, also restrict susceptibility to a medium-low level as the introduction of the external influence of the proposed development will not lead to scale comparisons between the landscape and the turbines.

6.7.68 The combination of the medium value and medium-low susceptibility to change of the *foothills with forest – Ae (unit A), Eskdale* and *Castle O'er* areas results in a **medium** sensitivity.

<u>Magnitude of change: foothills with forest – Ae (unit A) (area 18a(i))</u>

6.7.69 The *foothills with forest – Ae (unit A)* landscape gains theoretical visibility of the proposed development from a minimum of approximately 6.5km away up to approximately 15km away. Visibility throughout the receptor is gained consistently from higher areas and east-facing slopes, with enclosed valleys (including parts of the A74(M) corridor) and west-facing ground gaining no visibility or limited visibility.

6.7.70 Internal and external influence of baseline wind energy development on *unit A* arises primarily from Harestanes/ Minnygap and Clyde (largely at the northern end of the receptor).

6.7.71 As noted in DGWLCS, this landscape is characterised by extensive forestry, which screens visibility from many areas. There are, however, some unforested areas and visibility towards the proposed development is intermittently available. Forestry is therefore a factor that can consistently and extensively preclude visibility from the landscape, but a scenario without forestry is also considered.

6.7.72 The highest magnitude of change on the landscape character of *foothills with forest – Ae (unit A)* will be **medium**; this will arise on those parts of the eastern edges of the receptor that gain moderate to high visibility of the proposed development and lie between approximately 6.5km and 10km away. This level of change arises from the following factors:

- The landscape of the receptor is characterised by forestry and exposed upland rough grazing and moorland with few notable human activities other than forestry operations (Harestanes Wind Farm lies outwith this area), and the external influence of the proposed development will contrast with this character in terms of colour, movement, scale, texture and form;
- The proposed development will add wind energy influence to a part of the context – the eastern setting - to the receptor that is not currently affected by wind energy development (the closest baseline wind farms, Harestanes and Clyde lie to the south and north), thus extending wind energy influence around the receptor;
- Where other wind farms are not visible, the addition of the proposed development will lead to the introduction of a new perceptual influence on landscape character; and
- When seen from this receptor, looking eastwards, the proposed development is seen at its full extent and will affect a relatively extensive proportion of the setting to the receptor.

6.7.73 The factors that limit the magnitude of change to a maximum **medium** level are as follows:

- There will be no direct physical effects on this receptor, and effects are perceived only;
- The distance of the receptor from the proposed development;
- Many of the characteristics that are important in the creation of the distinctive character of this landscape (e.g. ground cover, landform, lack of settlement) will not be affected by visibility of the proposed development;
- Where it is visible, the existing influence of wind farm development as an external influence on this area means that it lacks the remote, wildness characteristics with which the proposed development would have the greatest contrast, and ensures that the proposed development will not add a new, uncharacteristic influence;
- Annandale creates visual and perceived separation from the proposed development, so that it remains as a clearly external influence and does not appear to be encroaching into the receptor;
- The large scale, simplicity and lack of enclosure that strongly characterise the receptor prevent the occurrence of uncomfortable scale comparisons with the external influence of the proposed development; and
- The large scale, simple and open setting in which the proposed development is seen provides an appropriate receiving context for the turbines.

6.7.74 Parts of this edge are covered by extensive forestry and will not currently gain views of the proposed development.

6.7.75 Beyond around 9-10km away, theoretical visibility of the proposed development reduces due to landform screening and beyond this, the magnitude of change on areas of the landscape that do gain moderate to high visibility of the proposed development will decrease to **medium-low** and then **low** due to the increased distance and reduced influence of the proposed development.

6.7.76 The parts of the receptor that gain no, or very limited, theoretical visibility of the proposed development will have a maximum **low** magnitude of change. Areas that gain theoretical visibility but are forested will currently have a **negligible** or **low** magnitude of change; if forestry is felled during the lifetime of the proposed development, the magnitude of change will be as assessed above for areas that currently do gain actual visibility.

Magnitude of change: foothills with forest - Castle O'er (area 18a(ii))

6.7.77 The *foothills with forest – Castle O'er* landscape gains visibility of the proposed development from a minimum of approximately 100m away up to approximately 9km away. Visibility throughout the receptor is intermittent with higher visibility gained from high points and west-facing slopes and areas of no or limited visibility found on south and east-facing slopes and in the minor valleys that run through the foothills.

6.7.78 Internal influence of baseline wind energy development arises from Little Hartfell and part of Crossdykes in the southern part of the receptor, with external influence from Ewe Hill, Hopsrig, and Loganhead Wind Farms within the *Southern Uplands– Ewe Hill* landscape, which abuts the southern end of this receptor.

6.7.79 As noted in DGWLCS, this landscape is characterised by extensive forestry, which screens visibility from many areas. There are, however, some unforested areas and visibility towards the proposed development is intermittently available. Forestry is therefore a factor that can consistently and extensively preclude visibility from the landscape, but a scenario without forestry is also considered.

6.7.80 While none of the turbines in the proposed development are located in *foothills with forest – Castle O'er*, the site boundary extends slightly into this LCT and the site entrance and approximately 500m of upgraded existing access track will affect this landscape during the construction and operational phases. This part of the *foothills with forest* landscape will therefore undergo some limited direct physical effects as well as perceived effects that arise through visibility of the proposed development.

6.7.81 The magnitude of change on the site area and its immediate vicinity will be **high** due to both direct physical effects on the landscape and perceived effects that rise through visibility of the proposed development. The high magnitude of change arises from the following considerations:

- The receiving landscape is currently characterised by forestry and upland rough grazing and moorland with a sense of remoteness and few notable human activities or features;
- The presence of the proposed development will result in both direct (albeit limited) and perceived effect on this baseline character through the removal of vegetation, and the addition of new, unfamiliar features, primarily the turbines, providing a highly-visible, prevailing influence and introducing uncharacteristic elements in terms of movement, materials, colour, and structures; and
- The introduction of wind energy development into a landscape that has internal and external baseline influence of baseline turbines, thus increasing wind farm influence.

6.7.82 While the magnitude of change on the site will be **high**, there are factors that mitigate the level of change to some extent, although these are not sufficient to reduce the level of magnitude of change:

- Direct effects will affect only a small part of the landscape, and the majority of the effect will be a perceived one;
- The direct effects – upgraded access track, site entrance and some associated vegetation removal - are familiar features in this landscape due to its forestation;
- Many of the characteristics that are important in the creation of the distinctive character of this landscape will not be affected by the operational wind farm; these include the scale and simple nature of the plateau landform, the lack of settlement and domestic development, and, outwith the site boundary, the simple land cover;
- The large-scale simplicity that strongly characterises the receptor prevents the occurrence of uncomfortable scale comparisons and provide an appropriate receiving environment for the presence and influence of the proposed development;
- The association of the proposed development with the upland landscape (as seen, for example, at Viewpoint 3) so that it does not appear to encroach into the more complex and smaller-scale landscapes found in some parts of the *Castle O'er* landscape; and
- The continuation of other variants of the upland landscape to the north and west of the *Castle O'er* area, so that the proposed development appears in a wider area of a similar landscape types.

6.7.83 To the east, south-east and north-east of the site, a **high** to **medium** magnitude of change is likely to extend up to the boundary of the *Castle O'er* landscape (around 4.5-5.5km from the site) due to the continuing level of influence of the turbines on the perception of landscape character. Viewpoint 15 lies in this area, to the south-east of the site, and illustrates the higher type of visibility that may be gained from this part of the receptor.

6.7.84 South-south-east of the site, a narrow ribbon of the *Castle O'er* area extends beyond the eastern and north-eastern boundaries, and here a maximum **high** to **medium-high** magnitude of change will extend up to around 4km from the site, where there is a break in visibility due to landform screening by The Knock.

6.7.85 To the south-south-east, theoretical visibility commences again around 5km from the nearest turbine, and the maximum magnitude of change will be **medium-high** and then **medium** due to the reduction in the extent of the setting that will be affected by the proposed development so that the turbines become a less notable

external influence on landscape character; the increased distance between the proposed development and these parts of the receptor; the increasingly intermittent visibility of the proposed development; and the increasing importance of other influences on landscape character (including Little Hartfell Wind Farm, which covers this area) as the proposed development decreases in influence. The presence of the Little Hartfell site leads to both a reduction in the magnitude of change as wind farm influence is already highly prevalent, and an increase in magnitude of change as wind farm influence is concentrated.

6.7.86 From between around 7km away and the boundary of the receptor, which is a maximum of approximately 9km away, theoretical visibility is very intermittent, and the highest magnitude of change will continue to be **medium**. Several turbines of Crossdykes Wind Farm are in this area.

6.7.87 There are areas of *foothills with forest – Castle O'er*, particularly to the south-east, that gain no or limited theoretical visibility of the proposed development, and the magnitude of change on these areas will be **low** or **negligible**. Areas that gain theoretical visibility but are forested will also currently have a **negligible** or **low** magnitude of change; if forestry is felled during the lifetime of the proposed development, the magnitude of change will be as assessed above for areas that currently do gain actual visibility.

Magnitude of change: foothills with forest - Eskdale (area 18a(iii))

6.7.88 The *foothills with forest – Eskdale* landscape gains visibility of the proposed development from a minimum of approximately 5.7km away up to approximately 9.3km away. Visibility is gained consistently from higher areas and west-facing slopes, with several enclosed valleys and east-facing ground gaining no visibility or limited visibility.

6.7.89 There is external influence of baseline wind energy development from Crossdykes, Ewe Hill, Hopsrig, Little Hartfell and Loganhead Wind Farms within the *Southern Uplands– Ewe Hill* landscape, which lies to the south, separated from the receptor by Eskdale.

6.7.90 As noted in DGWLCS, this landscape is characterised by extensive forestry, which screens visibility from many areas. There are, however, some unforested areas and visibility towards the proposed development is intermittently available. Forestry is therefore a factor that can consistently and extensively preclude visibility from the landscape, but a scenario without forestry is also considered.

6.7.91 The maximum magnitude of change on the landscape character of *foothills with forest – Eskdale* will be **medium**; this will arise on those parts of the receptor that gain moderate to high visibility of the proposed development. This level of change arises from the factors as described above for *foothills with forest – Ae (unit A).* Parts of the receptor will, however, gain no or very limited visibility of the proposed development, and the maximum magnitude of change on these areas will be **medium-low/ low**. Areas that gain theoretical visibility but are forested will currently have a **negligible** or **low** magnitude of change; if forestry is felled during the lifetime of the proposed development, the magnitude of change will be as assessed above for areas that currently do gain actual visibility.

Significance of the effect

6.7.92 The effect of the proposed development on the landscape character of *foothills with forest* will vary between areas:

- *Foothills with forest – Ae (unit A)*: the effect on the majority of *Ae (unit A)* – including its northern and western parts - will be **not significant** due to the maximum medium-low or low magnitude of change on these areas. However, there is likely to be a **significant** effect on the character of the closer eastern parts of the receptor that gain moderate to high visibility of the proposed development from between approximately 6.5km and 9-10km away, due to a combination of the medium sensitivity of the landscape and the maximum medium magnitude of change upon it;
- *Foothills with forest – Castle O'er*: the effect on the areas of *Castle O'er* that lie within approximately 4.5-5.5km of the proposed development to the east and north-east (i.e. to this boundary of the Castle O'er landscape) and to the south-south-eastern boundary (approximately 9km away) are likely to be intermittently **significant** due to the medium sensitivity of the receptor and the high to medium magnitude of change on these areas. Where there is no visibility or limited visibility (these areas are found primarily to the south-east of the site) the effect will be **not significant** due to a maximum medium-low/ low magnitude of change; and
- *Foothills with forest – Eskdale*: the effect on parts of *Eskdale* will be **not significant** due to the maximum medium-low/ low magnitude of change on these areas. However, there is likely to be a **significant** effect on the character of the parts of the receptor that gain moderate to high visibility of the proposed development (from between 5.7km and 9.3km away) due to a combination of the medium sensitivity of the landscape and the medium magnitude of change upon it.

6.7.93 Extensive parts of these three areas of *foothills with forest* are currently covered by coniferous forestry. The effect of the proposed development on areas that gain theoretical visibility but are currently forested will be **not significant** as long as the forestry remains in place. If forestry is felled during the lifetime of the proposed development, the effect may become **significant**, dependent on the part of the receptor affected, as described above in relation to magnitude of change.

Cumulative effects: foothills with forest – Ae (unit A) (area 18a(i))

6.7.94 There is one potential cumulative scenario at this receptor; the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites (operational, under-construction and consented).

6.7.95 In this **baseline scenario**, the most relevant cumulative wind farms at *foothills with forest – Ae (unit A)* are Harestanes (which lies within the receptor, at its southern end), Minnygap (which lies adjacent to the east of the receptor) and Clyde/ Lion Hill (a minimum of 1.4km away from the northern end of the receptor, and with some very intermittent theoretical visibility from the northern end. Dalswinton is within *foothills with forest – Ae*, but outwith *unit A*, and has some intermittent theoretical visibility from the southern end of *unit A*, across the Harestanes site.

6.7.96 The addition of the proposed development to this **baseline scenario** will have a maximum **medium** cumulative magnitude of change, which will arise only where the proposed development is clearly visible in conjunction with readily apparent visibility of Harestanes/ Minnygap and/ or Clyde. This results from the following considerations:

- The addition of the proposed development – a readily apparent wind farm that will have a significant effect itself, albeit limited in extent, to a landscape that has internal and external baseline wind farm influence;
- The location of the proposed development in a part of the setting to the receptor that is not affected by readily apparent baseline wind farms, so that it extends wind farm influence around this context;
- The location of the proposed development to the east of the receptor while cumulative wind farms are, internally and externally, to the south and north, so that wind farm influence may be apparent around three sides of the receptor;
- The proportion of the setting to the receptor that will be affected by the proposed development in addition to the baseline wind farms and the resultant increase in the developed skyline; and

- The direct presence of wind farm influence within the receptor and the proximity of Clyde to the north of the receptor.

6.7.97 The following considerations limit the cumulative magnitude of change to a **medium** level:

- The grouping together of the baseline cumulative wind farms so that they affect two aspects of the receptor (north and south) and do not appear as a number of separate developments distributed around the receptor;
- The limited number of groups of baseline wind energy development (one internal/ external group – Harestanes/ Minnygap) and one external group – Clyde/ Lion Hill);
- This also ensures that the western and north-eastern aspects remain unaffected by readily apparent wind farm influence;
- The separation of the proposed development from baseline wind farms, so that coalescence is avoided;
- The similarity in the landscape settings of the proposed development and the cumulative wind farms, within the Southern Uplands; and
- The intermittent nature of the theoretical influence of the proposed development and cumulative wind farms on the receptor, and further screening of all wind farms by forestry.

6.7.98 The cumulative effect on the majority of *foothills with forest – Ae (unit A)* will be **not significant**. There will, however, be a very intermittent **significant** cumulative effect arising from the addition of the proposed development to the baseline cumulative scenario due to a combination of the factors that lead to the maximum medium cumulative magnitude of change and the medium sensitivity of the landscape. This will arise only where the proposed development is clearly visible in conjunction with readily apparent visibility of Harestanes/ Minnygap and/ or Clyde, and is thus most likely to arise in the central part of the unit, just north of Harestanes/ Minnygap, as the northern part of the receptor, where Clyde has a higher level of influence, gains very little influence from the proposed development. An effect arising from a medium sensitivity and medium cumulative magnitude of change can be assessed as either significant or not significant. In this case, the effect has been assessed as **significant** due to the level of influence of the proposed development and cumulative wind farms (both internal and external) on the receptor and the extent of development within and around the receptor.

6.7.99 As with the assessment of effects of the proposed development itself on *foothills with forest – Ae,* parts of this receptor are currently covered by coniferous forestry. The cumulative effect of the proposed development on areas that gain theoretical visibility but are currently forested will be **not significant** as long as the forestry remains in place. If forestry is felled during the lifetime of the proposed development, the cumulative effect on the felled area may become **significant**.

<u>Cumulative effects: foothills with forest – Castle O'er (area 18a(ii))</u>

6.7.100 There are two potential cumulative scenarios at this receptor; the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites (operational, under-construction and consented) and the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites plus application-stage sites (in which various combinations of wind farms are considered).

6.7.101 In the **baseline scenario**, the most relevant cumulative wind farms at *foothills with forest – Castle O'er* are Little Hartfell (which lies within the receptor) and those in the Ewe Hill group that have some influence on this receptor; Crossdykes (of which several turbines lie within the receptor), Craig and Extension, Ewe Hill, Hopsrig, and Loganhead. ZTVs indicate that there is intermittent visibility of these external wind farms, gained from a minimum of several hundred metres to the south-east of the receptor. There is also intermittent theoretical visibility of Minsca from a minimum of around 5.75km to the south.

6.7.102 The addition of the proposed development to this **baseline scenario** will have a maximum **medium** cumulative magnitude of change, which will arise only where the proposed development is clearly visible in conjunction with readily apparent visibility of Little Hartfell and/ or turbines in the Ewe Hill group (as seen at Viewpoint 15, for example). This is due to the following considerations:

- The addition of the proposed development – a very readily apparent wind farm that will have a significant effect itself – at close-proximity to a landscape that has internal and external baseline wind farm influence;
- The location of the proposed development in a part of the setting to the receptor that is not affected by baseline wind farms, so that it extends wind farm influence around this context;
- The location of the proposed development to the north-west of the receptor while cumulative wind farms are, internally and externally, to the south-east, so that wind farm influence lies on either side of the receptor;
- The proportion of the setting to the receptor that will be affected by the proposed development in addition to the baseline wind farms and the resultant increase in the developed skyline; and
- The direct presence of wind farm influence within the receptor and the proximity and generally high theoretical visibility of the external baseline wind farms and the proposed development.

6.7.103 The following considerations limit the cumulative magnitude of change to a **medium** level:

- The grouping together of the cumulative wind farms so that they affect one aspect of the receptor (the south-east) and do not appear as a number of separate developments distributed around the receptor;
- The limited number of groups of baseline wind energy development (one internal site, Little Hartfell, and one main external group, the Ewe Hill group);
- This also ensures that the northern, eastern and south-western aspects remain unaffected by readily apparent wind farm influence;
- The separation of the proposed development from baseline wind farms, so that coalescence is avoided;
- The similarity in the landscape settings of the proposed development and the cumulative wind farms; they lie partly within the same landscape type (*Southern Uplands with forest*); and
- The intermittent nature of the theoretical influence of the proposed development and cumulative wind farms on the receptor, and further screening of all wind farms by forestry.

6.7.104 One further wind farm - Faw Side - is considered in the **baseline plus application-stage** scenario. Faw Side lies a minimum of approximately 7.2km to the east of the receptor, which gains intermittent visibility of it.

6.7.105 The consideration of Faw Side would increase the cumulative magnitude of change to a maximum **medium-high** level, due to:

- The proximity of Faw Side to the receptor and its level of visibility;
- The location of Faw Side to the east of the receptor, so that the addition of the proposed development would lead to wind farm influence at reasonably close proximity to the south-east (the Ewe Hill group, several hundred metres away), east (Faw Side, 7.2km away) and west (the proposed development, adjacent) of the receptor as well as within the receptor;
- The further increase in the developed skyline to which the proposed development would be added, and
- The consideration of a further turbine group to which the proposed development would be added.

6.7.106 The cumulative effect on the majority of *foothills with forest – Castle O'er* will be **not significant**. There will, however, be an intermittent **significant** cumulative effect arising from the addition of the proposed development to the baseline cumulative scenario due to a combination of the factors that lead to the medium cumulative magnitude of change and the medium sensitivity of the landscape. This will arise only where the proposed development is clearly visible in conjunction with readily apparent visibility of Little Hartfell and/ or the Ewe Hill group, and is thus most likely to arise in the central and southern part of the unit, as the northern part of the receptor gains more limited and distant influence from Little Hartfell and the Ewe Hill group.

6.7.107 An effect arising from a medium sensitivity and medium cumulative magnitude of change can be assessed as either significant or not significant. In this case, the effect has been assessed as **significant** due to the proximity of the proposed development and cumulative wind farms (both internal and external) to the receptor and the extent of development that would arise to the south-east and north-west of the receptor.

6.7.108 When the application-stage site at Faw Side is also considered, the cumulative effect would remain intermittently **significant** due to the increase in the cumulative magnitude of change to a medium-high level.

6.7.109 As with the assessment of effects of the proposed development itself on *foothills with forest – Castle O'er,* parts of this receptor are currently covered by coniferous forestry. The cumulative effect of the proposed development on areas that gain theoretical visibility but are currently forested will be **not significant** as long as the forestry remains in place. If forestry is felled during the lifetime of the proposed development, the cumulative effect on the felled area may become **significant**.

<u>Cumulative effects: foothills with forest - Eskdale (area 18a(iii))</u>

6.7.110 There are two potential cumulative scenarios at this receptor; the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites (operational, under-construction and consented) and the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites plus application-stage sites (in which various combinations of wind farms are considered).

6.7.111 In the **baseline scenario**, the most relevant cumulative wind farms at *foothills with forest – Eskdale* are Little Hartfell and those in the Ewe Hill group; Craig and Extension, Crossdykes, Ewe Hill, Hopsrig, and Loganhead. ZTVs indicate that there is intermittent visibility of these wind farms, gained from a minimum of approximately 2.3km away to the south and south-west of the receptor.

6.7.112 The addition of the proposed development to this **baseline scenario** will have a maximum **medium** cumulative magnitude of change, arising where the proposed development is clearly visible in conjunction with readily apparent visibility of Little Hartfell and/ or the Ewe Hill group. This is due to the following considerations:

- The addition of the proposed development – a very readily apparent wind farm that will have a significant effect itself - to a landscape that has theoretical baseline wind farm influence;
- The location of the proposed development in a part of the setting to the receptor that is not affected by baseline wind farms (the west), so that it extends wind farm influence around this context;
- The proportion of the setting to the receptor that will be affected by the proposed development in addition to the baseline wind farms and the resultant increase in the developed skyline; and
- The proximity and generally high theoretical visibility of the baseline wind farms.

6.7.113 The following considerations limit the cumulative magnitude of change to a **medium** level:

- The grouping together of the cumulative wind farms so that they affect one aspect of the view, and do not appear as a number of separate developments distributed around the receptor;
- The limited number of groups of baseline wind energy development (one main group, with Little Hartfell slightly separate);
- The concentration of the proposed development and the cumulative wind farms within less than 180-degrees of the view, so that the full northern and eastern aspect remains unaffected by apparent wind farm influence;
- The separation of the proposed development from baseline wind farms, so that coalescence is avoided;
- The similarity in the landscape settings of the proposed development and the cumulative wind farms; they lie partly within the same landscape type (*Southern Uplands with forest*);
- The intermittent nature of the theoretical influence of the proposed development on the receptor, and further screening of all wind farms by forestry.

6.7.114 One further wind farm - Faw Side - is considered in the **baseline plus application-stage** scenario. Faw Side lies approximately 3.5km to the east of the receptor, which gains intermittent visibility of it.

6.7.115 The consideration of Faw Side would increase the cumulative magnitude of change to a **medium-high** level, due to:

- The proximity of Faw Side to the receptor and its level of visibility;
- The location of Faw Side to the east of the receptor, so that the addition of the proposed development would lead to wind farms being seen at reasonably close proximity to the south (the Ewe Hill group and Little Hartfell, a minimum of around 2.3km away), east (Faw Side, a minimum of around 3.5km away) and west (the proposed development, a minimum of 5.7km away) of the receptor;
- The further increase in the developed skyline to which the proposed development would be added, and
- The consideration of a further turbine group to which the proposed development would be added.

6.7.116 The cumulative effect on the majority of *foothills with forest – Eskdale* will be **not significant**. There will, however, be an intermittent **significant** cumulative effect arising from the addition of the proposed development to the baseline cumulative scenario due to a combination of the factors that lead to the medium cumulative magnitude of change and the medium sensitivity of the landscape. This will arise only where the proposed development is clearly visible in conjunction with readily apparent visibility of Little Hartfell and/ or the Ewe Hill group, and is thus most likely to arise in the central and southern part of the unit as the northern part of the receptor gains more limited influence from Little Hartfell and the Ewe Hill group.

6.7.117 An effect arising from a medium sensitivity and medium cumulative magnitude of change can be assessed as either significant or not significant. In this case, the effect has been assessed as **significant** due to the proximity of the proposed development and cumulative wind farms to the receptor and the extent of development that would arise to the south, west and south-west of the receptor.

6.7.118 When the application-stage site at Faw Side is also considered, the cumulative effect would remain **significant** due to the increase in the cumulative magnitude of change to a medium-high level.

6.7.119 As with the assessment of effects of the proposed development itself on *foothills with forest – Eskdale*, parts of this receptor are currently covered by coniferous forestry. The cumulative effect of the proposed development on areas that gain theoretical visibility but are currently forested will be **not significant** as long as the forestry remains in place. If forestry is felled during the lifetime of the proposed development, the cumulative effect on the felled area may become **significant**.

Intimate pastoral valley – Dryfe (area 5(ii))

6.7.120 There are four incidences of *intimate pastoral valley* in Dumfries and Galloway, of which one - *Dryfe* - has potential to be significantly affected by the proposed development.

Baseline and sensitivity

6.7.121 *Intimate pastoral valley – Dryfe* is a single valley that runs from north to south before joining the River Annan, in Annandale, near Lockerbie. The valley is narrow – a maximum of around 1.5km wide – and is linear other than a tight bend at its northern end where it passes around Peat Hill. Two turbines in the proposed development lie at the northern extremity of this receptor, beyond the Peat Hill bend.

6.7.122 DGWLCS includes the following descriptions of *intimate pastoral valley* (page 109-111):

- "*These relatively wide, often shallow and gently sinuous valleys are contained by low hills which form long undulating ridges with occasional higher and more pronounced summits along the edges of the valleys. There are occasional narrower 'pinch points' where steeper slopes either come together to form a 'pass' within the valley or constrict to form a narrower upper valley. The height of the valley sides is most pronounced when flanked by the Foothills character type, which can rise to about 350m [the majority of the Dryfe is flanked by foothills but these do not rise above 300m in the vicinity of the valley other than at its northern extremity].*
- *The valleys are relatively wide, described in the LCA as being similar to 'small dales'. While they often have flat valley floors, there can be moundy deposits along the lower side slopes which extend onto the floors of the valleys in places. The containing ridges are gently rolling, with very occasional more pronounced summits.*
- *Generally widely cultivated. Grassland and occasional arable as well as improved pasture fields. Sometimes hedged, but often enclosed in walls to create striking patterns, the fields extend across the valley floor and up onto the more fertile lower slopes. Within more upland areas, rough grassland and bracken moor extend over the ridges, often above a head dyke. Mature single trees, small broadleaved woodlands, trees associated with settlement, linear riparian woodland and shelterbelts as well as occasional conifer woods on the higher slopes form diverse but modest woodland cover. There are also occasional policy woodland and features associated with individual estates.*
- *Well settled with occasional small settlements located along the sides of the valleys often associated with river crossing points. Frequent scattered farms and individual houses, including larger estate houses, many with designed landscapes, as well as archaeological sites, are located elevated above the river flood plain and along the lower flanks of the hills. Occasional A class, but more often B-class roads, from which fork smaller, narrower roads, extend along these valleys.*
- *These relatively wide valleys often permit views into the Foothills (18) and Upland Fringe (16) character types which frequently form the containing ridges, upper slopes or backdrop to these valleys.*
- *These valleys are well settled and easily accessible. Therefore, while they are relatively quiet and tranquil, they are neither remote nor secluded.*
- ***Views from roads focus both along the length and across the width of the valleys. The often smooth and undulating rim of the valleys, seen in profile against the sky, is visually prominent. Key viewpoints are likely to include occasional accessible upland features such as hill forts*** **[e.g. Viewpoint 5 (Rangecastle Hill)]** ***and key summits****, some of which are on adjacent upland character types****, elevated roads which cross the ridges and elevated settlements from where there are long views across the valleys****. Low side light catching the strong pattern of dykes on some of the prominent side slopes creates some visual drama.* ***Woodland frequently interrupts views****."*

6.7.123 These points are generally relevant to the *Dryfe* valley as a whole; this is a shallow, enclosed valley (although it is not wide, and appears to be narrower than other incidences of *intimate pastoral valley*) that displays the typical patterns of development, settlement, landscape pattern and land use. It is accessed by the B723 and a minor road, and the small settlement of Boreland lies largely in the valley floor.

6.7.124 It is important to note, however, that the northern end of the valley, where two proposed turbines lie within *Dryfe* and several others are in reasonably close proximity, differs somewhat in character from the rest of the valley. This northern area is characterised by upland landscape patterns of unenclosed coniferous forestry and moorland rather than the enclosed field patterns and agricultural land use and settlement that is seen elsewhere in the valley. There is no public road access at the northern end, although a core path does continue northwards on a vehicular-standard track through the site from the valley. The landform also differs at this northern end, being more incised than the rest of the shallow valley, and more in keeping with the *Southern Uplands with forest* and *foothills* landscapes that lie to the north, east and west of the valley at this point. Overall, the northern end of *Dryfe* has a more remote, inaccessible, upland and less cultivated character than the majority of the valley.

6.7.125 There are two LVIA viewpoints within this receptor; Viewpoint 4 and Viewpoint 6. Viewpoint 5 lies on the cusp of this landscape and gives an elevated outlook across it.

6.7.126 There are no baseline wind farms within *intimate pastoral valley – Dryfe*. The closest baseline wind farms are Little Hartfell and Crossdykes, approximately 5km and 8km respectively to the east.

6.7.127 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the landscape character receptor and its susceptibility to the proposed development. *Intimate pastoral valley – Dryfe* has a medium value; while there are no landscape-related planning designations covering the area, the landscape has quality in the scenic qualities that arise from the enclosed valley landform and often textured topography and landscape patterns.

6.7.128 The susceptibility of *intimate pastoral valley – Dryfe* is high. The majority of the valley (other than the northern end) is overlaid with relatively small-scale patterns of settlement and agriculture, and the scale comparisons that can arise as a result of the influence of the proposed development lead to a high susceptibility. The landscape patterns at the northern end, where the turbines are located, are, as described above, larger-scale and more uniform and as a result direct scale contrasts will be less apparent here.

6.7.129 There is a visual and contextual association between the receptor and *Southern Uplands with forest – Eskdalemuir* and *foothills – Annandale* landscapes that lie at the head of the valley, which are also host to the proposed development, and this also increases susceptibility.

6.7.130 The combination of the medium value and high susceptibility to change of *intimate pastoral valley – Dryfe* results in a **medium-high** sensitivity.

Magnitude of change

6.7.131 Two of the turbines in the proposed development are located within *intimate pastoral valley – Dryfe*, at its northern extremity, and this small part of the landscape will therefore undergo direct physical effects from the construction and operation of the turbines, access tracks and hardstands, as well as perceived effects that arise through visibility of the proposed development. These turbines are positioned on the upper valley sides, at the transition of this landscape type with *foothills* and *Southern Uplands with forest*, rather than on the valley floor.

6.7.132 *Intimate pastoral valley – Dryfe* gains theoretical visibility of the proposed development from on the site itself up to approximately 12km away. This visibility is intermittent due to the enclosed valley landform and where there is theoretical visibility, it is often limited in terms of the number of turbines visible.

6.7.133 Magnitude of change will vary greatly within *Dryfe*. Parts of the receptor will have no change or a **low** magnitude of change due to lack or very limited visibility, and therefore influence, of the proposed development. This will particularly be the case towards the southern end of the valley, where the proposed development is seen from a greater distance (up to 12km away), and a very limited part of it is visible.

6.7.134 In some areas, however, the level of change will be greater. The site area itself will have a **high** magnitude of change due to both direct physical effects on the landscape and perceived effects that rise through visibility of the proposed development. The high magnitude of change arises from the following considerations:

- The receiving landscape of the site area is an upland landscape of coniferous forestry and small areas of rough grazing/ moorland with little evidence of built form, and a resulting sense of exposure and remoteness;
- The presence of the proposed development will result in a direct effect to this baseline character through the addition of new, unfamiliar features, primarily the turbines but also construction operations and long-term infrastructure, providing a highly-visible, prevailing influence and introducing uncharacteristic elements in terms of movement, materials, colour, and structures;
- There is potential for the scale of the turbines to result in scale comparisons with the incised landform at the northern end of the valley;
- In addition to the physical effects, there will be a perceptual alteration to the character of the upland landscape setting at the northern end of the valley, arising from visibility of the colour, movement, scale, texture and form of the turbines;
- In other more-settled and cultivated parts of the valley, where the landform is more gentle and shallow, the influence of the proposed development will provide a perceived scale contrast with the smaller-scale and more complex landscape patterns; and
- The location of the proposed development at the head of the valley, with landform channelled towards it, is likely to increase its influence.

6.7.135 While the magnitude of change on the site will be **high**, there are factors that mitigate the level of change to some extent, although these are not sufficient to reduce the level of magnitude of change:

- No key landscape features will be removed from the receptor, and direct physical effects on landscape elements are limited to areas of forestry and rough grassland/ moorland;
- Many of the characteristics that are important in the creation of the distinctive character of this landscape will not be affected by the operational wind farm; these include the nature of the landform, the topography around burns and more local features within the wider landscape, and the smaller-scale and more complex landscape patterns found outwith the northern extremity of the valley;
- The remote character and simplicity of the landscape patterns at the northern end of the valley reduce the occurrence of direct scale comparisons and provide an appropriate receiving environment for the proposed development; and
- The association of the proposed development with the upland landscape that is found at the northern end of the valley ensures that it does not appear in direct relation to the more characteristic *intimate pastoral valley* landscape that is found elsewhere in *Dryfe*, and does not encroach into these smaller-scale landscapes.

6.7.136 A maximum **high** and then **medium-high** magnitude of change is likely to extend approximately 4.5-5.5km down the valley on those parts of the landscape that gain clear visibility of the proposed development, due to the continuing level of influence of the turbines on the perception of landscape character. Viewpoint 4 lies in this area and illustrates the higher type of visibility that may be gained from this part of the receptor.

6.7.137 Beyond around 4.5-5.5km away, the magnitude of change will drop to a maximum **medium** level. This reduction in the level of change results from various factors including the reduction in the extent of the setting that will be affected by the proposed development (the proposed development is seen across its narrowest aspect in these views from the south) so that the turbines become a less notable external influence on landscape character; the increased distance between the proposed development and these parts of the receptor; the increasingly intermittent visibility of the proposed development; and the increasing importance of other influences on landscape character as the proposed development decreases in influence.

6.7.138 Between around 8-9.5km to the south of the site, south of Sibbaldbie, theoretical visibility reduces with screening by woodland also apparent, and the maximum magnitude of change is likely to be **medium-low.** The influence of the proposed development also reduces with distance, reduced visibility, and the reduced extent of the setting to the receptor that is affected by the proposed development. This will then reduce to a **low** level at the southern periphery of the receptor, around 11km from the proposed development.

Significance of the effect

6.7.139 The effect of the proposed development on the landscape character of *intimate pastoral valley – Dryfe* will vary. The effect on the small part of the receptor that lies over approximately 11km away from the proposed development will be **not significant**, as will the effect on areas that are closer but gain no or very limited visibility of the proposed development. However, there are likely to be intermittent direct and indirect **significant** effects on the character of the site and some areas that lie within approximately 11km of the proposed development. These **significant** effects will arise from a combination of the medium-high sensitivity of the landscape and the high to medium-low magnitude of change upon it.

Cumulative effects

6.7.140 There is very limited and/ or distant influence of baseline and application-stage cumulative wind farms on this receptor, due in part to the enclosed valley landform of the receptor, which precludes a high level of visibility from anything other than the closest features. Little Hartfell is the closest site at over 5km away and has very limited theoretical visibility. The cumulative magnitude of change will be a maximum of **low**, and cumulative effects are considered to be **not significant.**

Middle dale – mid Annandale (area 7(i))

6.7.141 There are three areas of *middle dale* in Dumfries and Galloway, of which one – *mid Annandale* - has potential to be significantly affected by the proposed development. In its appraisal, DGWLCS groups these three areas together with two areas of *lower dale*, neither of which are considered to have potential to undergo a significant effect as a result of the proposed development.

Baseline and sensitivity

6.7.142 *Middle dale – mid Annandale* is an extensive receptor that runs north-south along the valley of the River Annan to the west of the proposed development. Moffat lies at the northern end and Lockerbie is just outwith the southern edge. These settlements are broadly linked by the A74(M), which runs through the full length of the receptor, primarily along its eastern edge, as does the west coast mainline railway.

6.7.143 DGWLCS includes the following descriptions of *middle dale/ lower dale* (page 117-120):

- "*Broad, low-lying dales contained by higher character types which form a distinct 'rim' clearly defining the edges. Although gently undulating, these dales are expansive and relatively open, even more so along the wide floodplains and where large fields emphasise openness. Smaller scale landforms at the edge of the dales, where they meet the adjacent higher character types, and some more wooded areas increase enclosure and containment in places.*
- *The dales have generally flat or undulating relief, with some more irregular and complex landforms associated with glacial deposits where they can create 'pinch-points'…Floodplains, at times very wide, are flat and sometimes contained by river terraces and embankments. Smaller, more complex landform and broad terraces are often associated with the edges of the dales.*
- *The field pattern is emphasised by both arable and improved grassland crops extending across the floodplains, undulations and along well drained slopes. The dales are relatively well wooded, except along the floodplains and the occasional more open expanse of larger fields. Extensive bands of broadleaves, conifer woods, small woodlands and lines of single trees reinforce the field and settlement pattern. There are also occasional policy woodland and features associated with individual estates. Features include small lochs and the wide meanders of the rivers.*
- *Well settled, with numerous farms and individual houses as well as villages and small towns and archaeological sites. In addition, larger towns, including Dumfries and Lockerbie and their associated industrial estates, lie within the dales. Criss-crossed by an extensive network of minor and B-class roads, these dales are also traversed by A roads linking the main towns.*
- *These relatively wide and open dales permit extensive views to the Upland Fringe (16) and where present, the Foothills (18 and 18a) which often form the containing ridges. In addition, there are some views to the Southern Uplands (19) which lie beyond the Upland Fringe (16). The dales are widely visible from higher roads and settlement in surrounding types, especially from the Upland Fringe (16).*
- *These dales are well settled, easily accessible and relatively busy. They are therefore neither remote nor secluded.*
- *The area is highly visible from the extensive road and rail network and from settlement although views can be interrupted by the undulating landform and woodland.*
- *…The far northern tip of 'Mid Annandale' is included in the Moffat Hills RSA. Its importance is in providing the setting to the unspoilt borders town of Moffat where it nestles at the junction of the upper glens of Annan and Moffat."*

6.7.144 These points are generally relevant to *mid Annandale*; this is a broad, low-lying dale, enclosed to the east and west by *foothills*, which displays patterns of development, settlement, landscape features and land use that are typical to some degree.

6.7.145 It is important to note, however, that this receptor is influenced to a greater degree than is perhaps implied in the DGWLCS descriptions above by the A74(M) corridor and the west coast mainline railway. These major features, along with associated infrastructure such as service stations, lorry parks, slip roads, junctions, retaining structures, embankments, and overhead lines, have a defining effect on the character of *mid Annandale*. The route of these transport corridors along the bottom of the dale increases their influence as the eastern and western slopes of the landscape type look down onto them, thus gaining further influence. Where the A74(M) and railway are not visible, noise from traffic continues to be influential. The Beattock Gas Compressor Station also has an effect on landscape character, as does Steven's Croft Power Station near Lockerbie.

6.7.146 This receptor is therefore considered to have a greater baseline level of development and large-scale infrastructure than that acknowledged in DGWLCS. This is particularly notable in the narrower and more contained northern part of the receptor.

6.7.147 There are three LVIA viewpoints within this receptor; Viewpoint 7, Viewpoint 9 and Viewpoint 19.

6.7.148 There are no baseline wind farms within *middle dale – mid Annandale*. The closest baseline wind farms are Harestanes/ Minnygap, a minimum of approximately 4km to the west.

6.7.149 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the landscape character receptor and its susceptibility to the proposed development. The value of *middle dale – mid Annandale* is medium; the northern extremity of the receptor lies within the Moffat Hills RSA, reflecting "*its importance…in providing the setting to the unspoilt borders town of Moffat where it nestles at the junction of the upper glens of Annan and Moffat",* and this gives value to this part of the landscape. The remainder of *mid Annandale* is not covered by any scenic designations and the receptor has, to varying degrees, been affected by the major transport corridors that run through it as well as by other large-scale infrastructure, affecting its inherent landscape characteristics. Some areas do, however, retain intact inherent landscape patterns of field boundaries, woodland, hedgerows and so on. The Annandale Way and a short stretch of the Southern Upland Way pass through the receptor, contributing to the medium value as recreational usage is an important aspect of the landscape experience.

6.7.150 The susceptibility of *middle dale – mid Annandale* is medium. This is a contained valley landscape, albeit one of broad scale, overlaid with patterns of settlement and agriculture, and the scale comparisons that can arise as a result of the external influence of the proposed development lead to this level of susceptibility. There is also a visual and contextual association between the dale and the enclosing *foothills and Southern Uplands with forest* landscape, within which part of the proposed development lies. Susceptibility is, however, restricted to a medium level by the influence of the A74(M), railway line and other infrastructure, which have introduced large-scale development, movement and influence into the dale.

6.7.151 The combination of the medium value and medium susceptibility to change of *mid Annandale* results in a **medium** sensitivity.

Magnitude of change

6.7.152 While there are no turbines located within *middle dale – mid Annandale*, there is a stretch of new access track, a temporary construction compound and a site entrance within this landscape and it will therefore undergo some limited direct effects. In terms of indirect, perceived effects, *mid Annandale* gains visibility of turbines from a minimum of approximately 1.1km away up to approximately 15km away. Theoretical visibility throughout the receptor is fairly consistent, although the areas that lie in closer proximity to the site have visibility of fewer turbines due to the lower, more enclosed landform of the dale floor and eastern side, whereas the western valley side gains greater theoretical visibility due to its elevation and orientation towards the proposed development.

6.7.153 External influence of baseline wind energy development arises from Harestanes and Minnygap Wind Farms, which lie within the adjacent *foothills with forest* landscape.

6.7.154 The highest magnitude of change on the landscape character of *mid Annandale* will be **high** to **medium-high** dependent on the level of actual visibility; this will arise on those parts of the eastern edges of the receptor where the minor direct effects will be apparent and the more extensive eastern areas that gain moderate

visibility of the turbines and lie between approximately 1.1km and 5km away This level of change arises from the following factors:

- The presence of the proposed development will result in a direct effect (albeit limited) to this baseline character through the construction and operation of an access track, construction compound and site entrance;
- The turbines in the proposed development will appear in the context of the enclosing skyline of *foothills* and *Southern Uplands with forest* landscape, which provides a notable part of the setting to mid Annandale;
- The external influence of the turbines will contrast in terms of colour, movement, scale, texture and form with the contained, developed and settled valley landscape;
- The proposed development will add wind energy influence to a part of the context – the eastern setting - to the receptor that is not currently affected by wind energy development (the closest baseline wind farms, Harestanes and Minnygap, lie to the west), thus extending wind energy influence around the receptor;
- Where other wind farms are not visible, the addition of the proposed development will lead to the introduction of a new perceptual influence on landscape character;
- When seen from this receptor, looking eastwards, the proposed development is seen at its full extent and will affect a relatively extensive proportion of the setting to the receptor and
- The landform of the western valley side is orientated towards the proposed development, and this can increase the influence of the proposed development.

6.7.155 While the maximum magnitude of change will be **high**, there are factors that mitigate the level of change to some extent:

- Direct physical effects on this receptor are very limited and are in keeping with other infrastructure found in the relatively developed landscape of *mid Annandale*;
- The large-scale human elements in the landscape, including the A74(M) and railway line as well as other roads and industrial infrastructure, mean that it lacks the unspoilt remote, wildness characteristics with which a perception of the proposed development would have the greatest contrast;
- In terms of landscape patterns, the upland setting in which the proposed development is seen provides a simple context for the turbines;
- The proposed development lies adjacent to the dale rather than at its head or foot, and views towards it will therefore not be channelled by landform; and
- In close proximity views, the number of turbines visible is generally very limited in relation to the full extent of the proposed development.

6.7.156 This high or medium-high magnitude of change will extend intermittently from the part of the receptor that lies closest to the site up to a maximum of approximately 5km away. To the north, it is likely to extend to around 3.5-4km away, whereupon it will drop to a **medium** level due to a combination of continuing limited visibility and increasing distance, as well as the built form of Moffat, which screens views.

6.7.157 To the west, the high or medium-high magnitude of change will extend to the edge of the *middle dale – mid Annandale* landscape area, approximately 5km from the proposed development. In this direction, the more distant areas towards the edge of the dale (4.5-5km away) are shown to gain relatively high theoretical visibility and are orientated towards the proposed development, and hence the magnitude of change will remain at this level.

6.7.158 To the south and south-west, the maximum **high** or **medium-high** magnitude of change will also extend to approximately 5km from the proposed development, dependent on the level of visibility. These areas are also shown to gain relatively high theoretical visibility and south-western slopes are orientated towards the proposed development, and hence the magnitude of change will remain at this level. However, parts of this area are shown on the ZTV to gain very limited or no visibility, and the magnitude of change here will be a maximum of **low**.

6.7.159 Beyond this area within approximately 5km away, the magnitude of change on landscape character will drop to a maximum **medium** level due to the reduction in the extent of the setting that will be affected by the proposed development, so that the turbines become a less notable external influence on landscape character; the increased distance between the proposed development and these parts of the receptor; and the increasing importance of other influences on landscape character as the proposed development decreases in influence. This **medium** magnitude of change will be found on a small area at the north of the receptor (up to the northern boundary) and the part of the receptor that lies between around 5km and 10km to the south and south-west. Viewpoint 7 illustrates the higher type of visibility that is available in this area.

6.7.160 At around 10km to the south-west of the site, the maximum magnitude of change is likely to drop to a **medium-low** level (where there is moderate or high visibility of the proposed development). At this distance, *mid Annandale* opens out into a wider area and the influence of the proposed development on the setting of the landscape will be less focussed than it is within the more enclosed, narrower northern part of the dale. The influence of the proposed development also continues to diminish with distance and the increasing influence of other factors.

6.7.161 A **medium-low** and then **low** magnitude of change is likely to extend to the boundary of the receptor, which lies a maximum of around 15km from the nearest turbine. In these more distant areas, the proposed development is peripheral to the orientation of the landform, and distance ensures that it will constitute a relatively minor component in the setting of the receptor.

6.7.162 The medium level of change extends slightly further in this receptor than is seen in some other landscape character areas due to the high theoretical level of visibility, the orientation of the dale slope towards the proposed development, and the appearance of the proposed development on the dale skyline.

6.7.163 There are areas of *middle dale – mid Annandale*, particularly to the north, that gain no or limited theoretical visibility of the proposed development, and the magnitude of change on these areas will be considerably lower than those areas with higher visibility.

Significance of the effect

6.7.164 The effect of the proposed development on the landscape character of *middle dale – mid Annandale* will vary. The effect on the part of the receptor that lies over approximately 10km away from the proposed development will be **not significant**, as will the effect on areas that are closer but gain no or very limited visibility of the proposed development. However, there are likely to be intermittent **significant** effects on the character of areas that lie within approximately 10km of the proposed development. These **significant** effects will arise from a combination of the medium sensitivity of the landscape and the high to medium magnitude of change upon it.

Cumulative effects

6.7.165 There is one potential cumulative scenario at this receptor; the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites (operational, under-construction and consented). The closest application-stage site is Faw Side, which is shown on the ZTV to have very intermittent theoretical visibility from a minimum of 23km away.

6.7.166 In this **baseline scenario**, there is no development within the receptor, and the most relevant cumulative wind farms in *middle dale – mid Annandale* are Harestanes/ Minnygap (which has intermittent/ very intermittent theoretical visibility from a minimum of around 4.3km to the west and north-west); Clyde/ Lion Hill (intermittent/ very intermittent theoretical visibility from a minimum of around 8.5km to the north-west); Minsca (intermittent/ very intermittent theoretical visibility from a minimum of around 11.5km to the south-east); and Little Hartfell/ sites in the Ewe Hill group (which appear as a single group with intermittent/ very intermittent theoretical visibility from a minimum of around 11.5km to the east).

6.7.167 The addition of the proposed development to this **baseline scenario** will have a maximum **medium** cumulative magnitude of change, which will arise only where the proposed development is clearly visible in conjunction with readily apparent visibility of the following wind farms:

- Harestanes/ Minnygap; and
- Minsca and/ or turbines in the Ewe Hill group; and
- Potentially (but not necessarily) Clyde/ Lion Hill.

6.7.168 This results from the following considerations:

- The addition of the proposed development – a readily apparent wind farm that will have an intermittent significant effect itself on parts of the receptor - to a landscape that has external baseline wind farm influence;
- The location of the proposed development in a part of the setting to the receptor that is not affected by readily apparent baseline wind farms, so that it extends wind farm influence around this context;
- The location of the proposed development to the east of the receptor while cumulative wind farms lie to the west, north-west and south-east, so that wind farm influence may be apparent around the receptor (albeit relatively limited and distant to the north-west and south-east); and
- The location of Harestanes/ Minnygap on the western enclosing skyline of the dale opposite the proposed development on the eastern skyline, ensuring that at this point, the receptor has relatively close-proximity theoretical influence on both sides.

6.7.169 The following considerations limit the cumulative magnitude of change to a maximum **medium** level:

- The relatively distant and intermittent/ very intermittent influence of the cumulative wind farms (particularly to the north-west and south-east);
- The limited number of groups of baseline wind energy development (Harestanes/ Minnygap, Ewe Hill group; Minsca; and Clyde/ Lion Hill);
- This also ensures that the northern, southern, south-western and north-eastern aspects remain unaffected by readily apparent wind farm influence;
- The external nature of all wind farm influence, so that there will be no direct effects;
- The limited parts of the receptor that will be significantly affected by the proposed development itself;
- The separation of the proposed development from baseline wind farms, so that coalescence is avoided; and
- The similarity in the upland landscape settings of the proposed development and the cumulative wind farms.

6.7.170 The cumulative effect on the majority of *middle dale – mid Annandale (unit A)* will be **not significant**. There will, however, be a very intermittent **significant** cumulative effect arising from the addition of the proposed development to the baseline cumulative scenario due to a combination of the factors that lead to the maximum medium cumulative magnitude of change and the medium sensitivity of the landscape. This will arise only where the proposed development is clearly visible in conjunction with readily apparent visibility of Harestanes/ Minnygap and Minsca and/ or turbines in the Ewe Hill group and potentially (but not necessarily) Clyde/ Lion Hill, and is thus most likely to arise in the central and south-eastern part of the unit. An effect arising from a medium sensitivity and medium cumulative magnitude of change can be assessed as either significant or not significant. In this case, the effect has been assessed as significant due to the relationship between the receptor and the proposed development and Harestanes/ Minnygap, in particular.

Narrow Wooded River Valleys – Eskdale (unit A) (area 4(i))

6.7.171 There are nine areas of *narrow wooded river valleys* in Dumfries and Galloway, of which one - *Eskdale (unit A)* - has potential to be significantly affected by the proposed development. *Eskdale* has been divided into two areas in this assessment, with *unit A* considered to have potential to undergo a significant effect while the remainder of *Eskdale* has been discounted from the assessment.

Baseline and sensitivity

6.7.172 *Narrow wooded river valleys – Eskdale* is an extensive valley system that lies to the east and south-east of the site, encompassing the valleys of the Garwald Water, White Esk, Black Esk, and Meggat Water as well as the River Esk. The southernmost point of the area is at Langholm, and it extends well north of Eskdalemuir. *Unit A* covers the north-western parts of *Eskdale*, extending as far south as Bentpath.

6.7.173 DGWLCS includes the following descriptions of *narrow wooded river valleys /shallow flat-bottomed valley* (page 101-103):

- *"These valleys vary in terms of their narrowness, openness and degree of containment, ranging from shallow valleys which spill into the low relief of the surrounding uplands - for example…in the upper reaches of Eskdalemuir, to more incised and enclosed valleys strongly contained by high hills and also flat valley floors well defined by steep sided wooded slopes. There are occasional side valleys and more expansive areas of valley floor, which form larger scaled stretches of valley as well as narrower, heavily wooded, more intimate spaces. The height of the valley sides is most pronounced when flanked by the Foothills (18a) and Southern Uplands (19 and 19a) character types [as is the case in Eskdale], which can rise to about 350m.*
- *All the valleys are generally sinuous and varied in form. Key landform shapes include: flat bottomed valleys, low river terraces, steep sided but flat topped valley sides and occasional moundy deposits along the valley floors and lower side slopes; steep sided hills, undulating skylines, individual slightly rugged hills and more complex interlocking spurs; and long shallow side slopes which extend seamlessly into the low relief of undulating uplands.*
- *Overall, land cover pattern within these valleys varies from extensive conifer woodland combined with abandoned fields on the side slopes and with wetland along the valley floor…to widely cultivated valleys of arable/improved grassland fields defined by hedges and broadleaved woodland…Many of the longer valleys combine a range of different land cover patterns from simpler rough grazing, combined with unimproved fields defined by dykes and the semi-natural woodland of the upper reaches to more cultivated lowlands. Woodland features in all the valleys.*
- *Mature single trees, clumps of trees and small broadleaved woodlands, trees associated with settlement, both linear and more extensive and enclosing riparian woodland, numerous and varied shelterbelts as well as extensive conifer woods form diverse and often extensive woodland cover. There are also policy woodland and features associated with individual estates, generally in the lower reaches.*

- *Settlement pattern varies widely, from sparsely settled and relatively secluded upland valleys…to much more settled landscapes of scattered farms, small settlements located at bridging points and large estate houses in prominent positions. Dispersed farms are frequently rhythmically associated with side valleys, and can be located part way up hillsides, always avoiding any floodplains.*
- *Relatively narrow roads wind through these valleys…There are historic features which are identifiable as landmarks within the valleys…sites such as stone circles in Eskdale, as well as extensive historic and prehistoric settlement areas on the upper slopes.*
- *These valleys vary between well settled and easily accessible to much more secluded, verging on the remote.*
- *The sinuous shape of the valleys often limits long views, which are further contained or interrupted by woodland. Views therefore tend to be relatively short and intermittent. The varied rims, or containing horizons of the valleys seen in profile against the sky, are visually prominent. Key viewpoints include occasional accessible upland features such as hill forts and key summits, some of which are on adjacent upland character types overlooking the valleys*."

6.7.174 While these descriptions cover all incidences of *narrow wooded river valleys*, the points are broadly relevant to *Eskdale (unit A)*; this is an extensive landscape area that shows variations in landform, land cover, landscape patterns, enclosure, development and settlement along its length. The majority of *Eskdale (unit A)* is easily accessible, with the B709 utilising the valleys of the River Esk and White Esk to pass through the uplands from Bentpath to Eskdalemuir and beyond. Several smaller roads also follow the Esk valley and Meggat Water. The tributary valleys are less accessible; there are no public roads in the Black Esk and Garwald Water valleys although the Romans and Reivers Route follows a forest track through the Garwald Water valley.

6.7.175 Eskdalemuir is the only identified settlement in *Eskdale (unit A)*, along with a low-density pattern of individual farms and residential properties. *Eskdale* has important cultural heritage associations, including several sites on the Eskdale Prehistoric Trail such as Bessie Hill Fort and Settlement, Louping Stanes and Girdle Stanes.

6.7.176 *Narrow wooded river valleys – Eskdale* is an enclosed and contained landscape with textured and sometimes small-scale landscape patterns. While parts of it are cultivated and have domestic-scale development associated with farms and small settlements, there is often a sense of naturalness, although this is compromised in places by coniferous forestry, either within or adjacent to the valleys.

6.7.177 There are no LVIA viewpoints within this receptor due to the very limited theoretical visibility of the proposed development, as shown on the ZTVs. There are no baseline wind farms within *Eskdale (unit A)* but there is some intermittent influence from Little Hartfell and sites in the Ewe Hill group; Crossdykes, Ewe Hill, Hopsrig, and Loganhead.

6.7.178 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the landscape character receptor and its susceptibility to the proposed development. *Narrow wooded river valleys – Eskdale (unit A)* has a medium value; while there are no landscape-related planning designations covering the area, the landscape has quality in the scenic qualities that arise from the enclosed valley landform and often textured topography and landscape patterns. The cultural heritage aspects of the landscape, including the features of the Eskdale Prehistoric Trail, also contribute to the medium-high value as they are an important aspect of the landscape experience, as is recreational use of the Romans and Reivers Route.

6.7.179 The susceptibility of *narrow wooded river valleys – Eskdale* is high. This is a small-scale, contained valley landscape overlaid with patterns of settlement and agriculture, and the scale comparisons that can arise as a result of the external influence of the proposed development lead to a high susceptibility. There is also a visual and contextual association between the northern extremity of the receptor and the enclosing *Southern Uplands with forest – Eskdalemuir* landscape, within which part of the proposed development lies.

6.7.180 The combination of the medium value and high susceptibility to change of *narrow wooded river valleys – Eskdale (unit A)* results in a **medium-high** sensitivity.

Magnitude of change

6.7.181 *Narrow wooded river valleys – Eskdale (unit A)* gains theoretical visibility of the proposed development from a minimum of just under 2km away up to approximately 11km away. This visibility is extremely intermittent due to the enclosed valley landform and where there is theoretical visibility, it is often limited in terms of the number of turbines visible.

6.7.182 Magnitude of change will vary greatly within *Eskdale (unit A).* The great majority of the receptor will have no change due to lack of visibility, and therefore influence, of the proposed development. Elsewhere, the maximum magnitude of change will be **low** due to a combination of very limited visibility and distance from the proposed development. These areas include the majority of the Esk valley, Meggat Water valley, White Esk valley, and Garwald Water valley.

6.7.183 There are, however, some very small and intermittent areas in the Black Esk valley, the upper eastern and western slopes of the White Esk valley, parts of the Garwald Water valley, the south-western extremity of the Meggat Water valley and the slopes of the Esk valley where ZTVs show higher visibility and the proposed development is likely to have a higher level of influence.

6.7.184 The highest magnitude of change on these areas will be **medium-high**, which will arise very intermittently in the Black Esk valley and Garwald Water valley and on the very upper western slopes of the White Esk valley. This level of change results from the following factors:

- The influence of the turbines will contrast in terms of colour, movement, scale, texture and form with the enclosed, relatively complex valley landscape, and with the sense of place and relative 'naturalness' found particularly in the less developed Garwald Water and Black Esk valleys;
- The addition of the proposed development will lead to the introduction of a new perceptual influence on landscape character (other than those very limited locations where there may be baseline wind farm influence);
- Where they are visible, the relatively close-proximity visibility and influence of turbines; and
- In places, the orientation of the valley side is orientated towards the proposed development, which can increase its level of influence.

6.7.185 The factors that limit the magnitude of change on these areas to a **medium-high** level are as follows:

- There will be no direct physical effects on this receptor, and effects are perceived only;
- Many of the characteristics that are important in the creation of the distinctive character of this landscape (i.e. the local landform and textured landscape patterns) will not be affected by visibility of the proposed development;
- The human elements in the landscape, including roads, tracks and farm buildings, mean that it lacks the unspoilt remote, wildness characteristics with which the proposed development would have the greatest contrast;
- The sense of visual and perceptual separation between the proposed development and the receptor afforded by the intervening landform of valley sides and plateaux/ foothills prevents a perception of encroachment down into the more complex patterns of the valley landscape;

- In terms of landscape patterns, the upland setting in which the proposed development is seen provides a simple context for the turbines;
- In close proximity views, the number of turbines visible is generally limited in relation to the full extent of the proposed development; and
- The strong innate character of the valley landscape itself, which ensures that the baseline characteristics will remain.

6.7.186 Where there is very intermittent and often limited visibility from further away, as found on the upper eastern slopes of the White Esk valley, the Meggat valley and the Esk valley for example, the maximum magnitude of change will be a **medium** to **medium-low** due to reduced visibility of the proposed development and increased distance.

6.7.187 In many locations, forestry and woodland provides further screening of the proposed development.

Significance of the effect

6.7.188 The effect of the proposed development on the landscape character of *narrow wooded river valleys – Eskdale (unit A)* will vary. The effect on the great majority of the receptor will be **not significant** due to lack, or very limited, visibility of the proposed development. However, there are likely to be very intermittent **significant** effects on the character of very small areas in the Black Esk valley, the upper eastern and very upper western slopes of the White Esk valley, upper reaches of the Garwald Water valley, and some slopes of the Esk and Meggat valleys. These **significant** effects will arise from a combination of the medium-high sensitivity of the landscape and the medium-high to medium-low magnitude of change upon it.

Cumulative effects

6.7.189 There are two potential cumulative scenarios at this receptor; the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites (operational, under-construction and consented) and the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites plus application-stage sites (in which various combinations of wind farms are considered).

6.7.190 In the **baseline scenario**, the most relevant cumulative wind farms at *narrow wooded river valleys – Eskdale (unit A)* are Little Hartfell and sites in the Ewe Hill group; Crossdykes, Ewe Hill, Hopsrig, and Loganhead, which have some intermittent theoretical visibility from a minimum of around 1km away to the south. Influence from these wind farms is, however, limited by the enclosed nature of the valley landform and topography of *Eskdale*.

6.7.191 The addition of the proposed development to this **baseline scenario** will have a **medium-low** cumulative magnitude of change, arising from the following considerations:

- The addition of the influence of the proposed development, which will itself have a very intermittent significant effect, to a landscape that has theoretical baseline wind farm influence;
- The location of the proposed development in a part of the setting to the receptor that is not affected by baseline wind farms (the west and north-west), so that it extends wind farm influence around this context;
- In some locations (e.g. the Black Esk valley), the location of the proposed development to the north-west while baseline wind farms lie to the south and south-east, so that this part of the receptor potentially has wind farm influence on each side;
- The proportion of the setting to the receptor that will be affected by the proposed development in addition to the baseline wind farms and the resultant increase in the developed skyline; and
- The proximity of baseline wind farms to the south of the receptor.

6.7.192 The following considerations limit the cumulative magnitude of change to a **medium-low** level:

- The very limited visibility of baseline wind farms due to the enclosed valley landform of the receptor;
- The limited visibility of the proposed development and the very intermittent extent of the significant effect arising from it, and its distance from some parts of the receptor;
- The lack of wind farm influence within the receptor, so that there are no direct effects on its landscape character;
- The limited number of baseline groups of wind energy development (the Ewe Hill group, with Little Hartfell slightly separate) and the concentration of these in one aspect of the setting to the receptor (the south);
- This also ensures that the northern and eastern aspects of the setting of the majority of *Eskdale (unit A)* remain without wind farm influence;
- The separation of the proposed development from baseline wind farms, so that coalescence is avoided; and
- The similarity in the landscape settings of the proposed development and the cumulative wind farms.

6.7.193 One further wind farm - Faw Side - is considered in the **baseline plus application-stage** scenario. Faw Side lies a minimum of approximately 1.4km to the east of the receptor and has intermittent/ very intermittent visibility from *Eskdale (unit A)*.

6.7.194 The consideration of Faw Side would increase the cumulative magnitude of change to a maximum **medium** level due to:

- The proximity of Faw Side to the receptor and its intermittent visibility;
- The location of Faw Side to the east of *Eskdale (unit A),* so that the addition of the proposed development would lead to wind farm influence at reasonably close proximity to the south (the Ewe Hill group and Little Hartfell), east (Faw Side) and north-west (the proposed development) of the receptor;
- The further increase in the developed skyline to which the proposed development would be added, and
- The consideration of a further turbine group to which the proposed development would be added.

6.7.195 The cumulative effect arising from the addition of the proposed development to the baseline cumulative scenario will be **not significant**, due to a combination of the factors that lead to the maximum medium-low cumulative magnitude of change and the medium-high sensitivity of the landscape. An effect arising from a medium-high sensitivity and medium-low cumulative magnitude of change can be assessed as either significant or not significant. In this case, the effect has been assessed as **not significant** due to the limited and intermittent/ very intermittent visibility of all wind farms and the extent of the setting to the receptor that will remain without wind farm influence.

6.7.196 When the application-stage site at Faw Side is also considered, the cumulative effect would become very intermittently **significant** due to the increase in the maximum cumulative magnitude of change to a medium level. This will arise only where the proposed development is clearly visible in conjunction with readily apparent visibility of Little Hartfell and/ or the Ewe Hill group and Faw Side, and is most likely to arise in very limited parts of the White Esk valley.

Southern Uplands – East Moffat (area 19(i)), North Langholm (unit A) (area 19(vi)) and North Moffat (area 19(vii))

6.7.197 There are ten areas of *Southern Uplands* in Dumfries and Galloway, of which three – *east Moffat, north Langholm* and *north Moffat* - have potential to be significantly affected by the proposed development. The two Moffat areas are closely associated with one another, lying on either side of and enclosing the narrow *upland glen – Moffat* landscape. *North Langholm* lies further to the south-east, separated from *east Moffat* by an extensive area of *Southern Uplands with forest*. *North Langholm* and *north Moffat* will not be directly affected by the proposed development, and all effects on the landscape character of these areas will be perceived as a result of visibility of the proposed development. A very small part of *east Moffat* lies within the site boundary but this includes no proposed turbines or other infrastructure activities and is unlikely to undergo direct effects.

6.7.198 In its appraisal, DGWLCS groups these three areas together with five further areas of *Southern Uplands* under the heading '*rugged Southern Upland areas'*. The other five areas are considered to not have potential to undergo a significant effect as a result of the proposed development.

6.7.199 In this assessment, *east Moffat* and *north Moffat* are assessed as full landscape areas and are not divided into units. *North Langholm* has, however, been divided into *unit A* and remaining areas, with the latter not having potential to undergo a significant effect as a result of the proposed development and thus not included in the detailed assessment.

Baseline and sensitivity

6.7.200 DGWLCS includes the following descriptions of these areas of landscape (page 340-342). Specific references to the five areas that do not have potential to be significantly affected by the proposed development have not been included herein:

- "*These uplands generally range between 400 and 500m height. The Moffat and Lowther Hills within Dumfriesshire are distinctly higher with peaks between 500 and 700m and include some 'Corbetts' over 800m in the Moffat and Lowther Hills. These uplands have an open character although a reduced scale in narrow valleys.*
- *These hills are generally smooth with rounded summits although distinctive craggy and shapely peaks and deeply folded slopes, corries and dramatically incised valleys also occur, for example Cairnsmore of Carsphairn and some of the Moffat Hills…Dramatically steep slopes occur where the Langholm and Moffat Hills abut the trough-like Upland Glens (10) producing notable features such as the deep scoop of the Devil's Beef Tub...*
- *Land cover is simple, largely comprising grass moorland giving a bare smooth appearance where the landform is apparent. Heather moorland is notable in the Moffat, Lowther and Langholm Hills. There is little woodland or commercial forestry apart from native trees and shrubs within narrow valleys.*
- *While most of this character type is unsettled, the small settlement of Wanlockhead lies within the Lowther Hills…*
- *These uplands provide a distinctive backdrop to adjoining settled areas such as the upland glens of Moffat and Langholm and the broad dales of…Annandale where they contribute to the rich scenic diversity of the wider landscape…These open uplands are important in the wider Dumfries and Galloway context where extensive forestry covers much of the upland area and can reduce scenic interest.*
- *…Elsewhere [other than parts of the Lowther Hills], a general absence of built development within the majority of this upland area gives a strong sense of naturalness. A degree of seclusion can also be experienced in parts of these uplands although roads prevent a true sense of remoteness. Extensive forestry within adjacent upland areas within Dumfries and Galloway increases the value of these open, less modified hills.*
- *These uplands form a backdrop seen from the settled Nithsdale, upper Annandale and upland glens where the hills are distinctive and definable as individual named peaks. Roads such as the A701, A702 and A708 also provide views of dramatic features such as the Devil's Beef Tub and the scarp of the Lowthers. Footpaths provide access and views from these uplands with the area around Grey Mare's Tail and the Corbett of White Coomb being notably popular with walkers.*
- *RSA designations cover…all of the Moffat…units and part of the…West and North Langholm units. Technical Paper 6 describes the Langholm Hills RSA Southern Uplands as "smooth rounded multi-ridged peaks...covered with extensive areas of unenclosed heather moorland". The Southern Uplands within the Moffat Hills RSA are noted as being "…dramatic, sculptural examples of this landscape type in this otherwise extensively forested part of the uplands". Part of the North Moffat Hills falls within the Talla-Hart Wild Land Area*."

6.7.201 The *east Moffat* area lies immediately to the north of the site, abutting *Southern Uplands with forest* to the south and dropping into *upland glen – Moffat* to the north. The land cover of *east Moffat* differs somewhat from that described in DGWLCS; rather than having "*little woodland or commercial forestry apart from native trees and shrubs within narrow valleys*", this area has areas of coniferous forestry, particularly in its southern part. The area is also notable for its broadly single-aspect slope; as described above, it forms the transition between the elevated *Southern Uplands with forest* and the steeply-incised *upland glen – Moffat* that lies to the north, and the landform is orientated primarily to the north-west, where it encloses the *upland glen*. The boundary between *Southern Uplands* and *Southern Uplands with forest* runs roughly along the ridgeline that forms the southern edge of the *east Moffat* hills.

6.7.202 *North Moffat* lies to the north of *east Moffat*, divided from it by the deeply incised valley of *upland glens – Moffat*. *North Moffat* is bounded by another *upland glen – Evan* - to the west and by the Scottish Borders *Southern Uplands with scattered forest* to the north. This transition to the north merges two landscape types that are distinguished primarily by the presence or absence of forestry, similar to the transition of *east Moffat* and *Southern Uplands with forest* further to the south. *North Moffat* is a more extensive area of *Southern Uplands* than *east Moffat*, comprising a series of typical *Southern Uplands* rounded hills with some craggy, rocky peaks and slopes. There are some areas of coniferous forestry in *north Moffat*.

6.7.203 The *north Langholm* area of *Southern Uplands* lies to the east of the site and is an extensive, sinuous (especially in western parts), roughly V-shaped landscape area that abuts other *Southern Uplands* landscape types to the north and is bounded by valleys to the south-east (Ewes valley) and south-west (Eskdale). *Unit A* covers the western part of the full *north Langholm* area, including the west-facing slopes of Clerk Hill and Wisp Hill above Eskdalemuir, and the ridge that encloses the western side of the Meggat Water, with its boundary drawn at the fulcrum of the V-shape.

6.7.204 As with the other areas of Southern Uplands, the sinuous nature of this area means that when viewed on a plan, it appears very narrow in places, such as where Megdale and *foothills with forest – Eskdale* lie to the east and west respectively. Here too, this is not the case as the landscape types merge with each other, presenting a cohesive wider landscape of uplands, foothills and valleys.

6.7.205 LVIA Viewpoint 21 (Hart Fell) lies within the *north Moffat* area of *Southern Uplands.*

6.7.206 There are no baseline wind farms within these areas of *Southern Uplands*. Clyde, Clyde Extension and Whitelaw Brae Wind Farms lie a minimum of approximately 4km to the north-west of *north Moffat* area and have some

influence on the character of this area. Harestanes/ Minnygap is around 10km west of *east Moffat* but is unlikely to have a notable influence due to the considerable north-facing sloping landform of *east Moffat*. Little Hartfell, Crossdykes, Hopsrig, Loganhead, Craig and Ewe Hill Wind Farms lie between 2km and 6km to the south of *unit A* of *north Langholm* and have some influence on this landscape.

6.7.207 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the landscape character receptor and its susceptibility to the proposed development. *Southern Uplands – north Moffat* has a high value; it lies within the Moffat Hills RSA and is partly covered by the Talla – Hart Fell WLA. This area has notable scenic quality in its largely intact, consistent and distinctive Southern Uplands landscape. The enclosure provided by this area of uplands to the adjacent valleys is of value, as is the generally unforested nature of the landscape, in contrast to other parts of the Southern Uplands. Recreational use also contributes to the high value, with a short stretch of the Annandale Way lying within *north Moffat* as well as a number of other hillwalking routes.

6.7.208 *Southern Uplands – east Moffat* has a medium-high value. It lies within the Moffat Hills RSA and has scenic qualities that are consistent with the distinctive Southern Uplands landscape. The enclosure provided by the slopes to the adjacent *upland glen* is also of value, as is the recreational value arising from the stretch of the Southern Upland Way and Romans and Reivers Route that passes up the slopes. However, this landscape is more forested than other areas of *Southern Uplands*, and as a result it has lost some inherent characteristics and has less distinction from the adjacent *Southern Uplands with forest* and *Southern Uplands with scattered forest*. This reduces the value to a medium-high level.

6.7.209 *Southern Uplands - north Langholm (unit A)* has a medium value; this unit is not covered by any landscape-related planning designations, but does have scenic quality in the largely intact, consistent and distinctive Southern Uplands landscape. The enclosure provided to the adjacent valleys is also of value, as is the unforested nature of the landscape, in contrast to many other parts of the southern Uplands. Recreational use is, however, limited and there is no access via long-distance paths or core paths.

6.7.210 The susceptibility of *Southern Uplands – east Moffat, north Langholm (unit A)* and *north Moffat* is medium-high. These are distinctive and undeveloped upland landscapes with high relative naturalness - particularly where there is very limited or no forestry - and little apparent built or moving development within the areas. However, the large scale and simplicity of the landform and landscape patterns prevents a high susceptibility.

6.7.211 The combination of the high value and medium-high susceptibility to change of the *Southern Uplands –north Moffat* areas results in a **high** sensitivity; the combination of the medium-high value and medium-high susceptibility to change of *Southern Uplands – east Moffat* results in a **medium-high** sensitivity for this area; and the combination of the medium value and medium-high susceptibility to change of *Southern Uplands - north Langholm (unit A)* also results in a **medium-high** sensitivity for this area.

Magnitude of change: Southern Uplands – east Moffat (area 19(i))

6.7.212 The *Southern Uplands – east Moffat* landscape gains visibility of the proposed development from a minimum of approximately 300m away up to approximately 7.2km away. As described previously, the landform of this area slopes steeply to the north-west, down into the *upland glen – Moffat*, and the receptor is therefore strongly orientated away from the proposed development, which lies to the south-east. This ensures that the majority of the landscape gains no theoretical visibility of the proposed development, as shown on the ZTVs. Where there is theoretical visibility, almost all of this is limited to the smallest grouping of turbines shown on the ZTV; one to 11 turbines.

6.7.213 The key area of visibility is around the upper slopes of Gateshaw Rig (567m AOD) and Crofthead Hill (637m AOD), where the ZTV shows small, intermittent areas of the highest level of visibility (67 to 77 turbines). Other than this, visibility higher than the lowest band is found only on several hilltops such as Capel Fell (678m AOD), Bodesbeck Law (665m AOD), Big Hill (432m AOD) and Craig Fell (389m AOD).

6.7.214 The northern part of the receptor shows almost no visibility other than these elevated hilltops, while the southern part shows more extensive areas of the lowest visibility band.

6.7.215 As described above, *east Moffat* is characterised by some areas of coniferous forestry, which screens visibility from some parts, particularly towards the south of the receptor. There are, however, some unforested areas and visibility towards the proposed development is intermittently available. Forestry is therefore a factor that can consistently and extensively preclude visibility from the landscape, but a scenario without forestry is also considered.

6.7.216 The great majority of visibility from *east Moffat* lies within around 4km from the nearest turbine, and within this area the maximum magnitude of change (gained very intermittently) will be **high** due to the following considerations:

- The landscape is currently characterised by forestry and upland rough grazing and moorland with a sense of remoteness and few notable human activities or features;
- The presence of the proposed development at close proximity will result in perceived effects on this baseline character through the addition of new, unfamiliar features, primarily the turbines, providing a highly-visible, prevailing influence and introducing uncharacteristic elements in terms of movement, materials, colour, and structures;
- Where it is visible, the proposed development will be seen on the enclosing skyline of the Moffat valley, emphasising its influence; and
- The introduction of the turbines is likely to lead to scale comparison with the steeply sloped, incised and sometimes complex nature of the landform.

6.7.217 While the maximum magnitude of change will be **high**, there are factors that mitigate the level of change to some extent:

- There will be no direct physical effects on this receptor, and effects are only perceived;
- Visibility of the proposed development is limited in terms of the number of turbines seen, and it is seen across its shortest aspect, ensuring that when visible it will affect a limited part of the setting to the receptor;
- Many of the characteristics that are important in the creation of the distinctive character of this landscape will not be affected by visibility of the proposed development; these include the distinctive landform, the lack of settlement and domestic development, and the enclosure of the *upland glen*;
- The association of the proposed development with the upland landscape and the ridgeline nature of the division between the receptor and *Southern Uplands with forest* (within which the closest part of the proposed development lies) ensures that it does not appear to encroach into the receptor; and
- The strong orientation of the great majority of the landscape away from the proposed development ensures that it does not have a strong visual association with the site but gains external influences primarily from the north and north-west.

6.7.218 The potential for a maximum **high** or **medium-high** magnitude of change will extend over the majority of the areas of visibility in the receptor, which are almost all within approximately 4km from the nearest turbine. There will therefore be no change or a **low** magnitude of change on almost all areas beyond 4km due to lack of, or very limited, visibility.

6.7.219 There is, however, theoretical visibility at a very few high points outwith 4km such as Bodesbeck Law, which is 7.2km from the proposed development. At points such as this the maximum magnitude of change will be **medium**.

6.7.220 Areas that gain theoretical visibility but are forested will currently have a **negligible** or **low** magnitude of change; if forestry is felled during the lifetime of the proposed development, the magnitude of change will be as assessed above for areas that currently do gain actual visibility.

Magnitude of change: Southern Uplands - north Langholm (unit A) (area 19(vi))

6.7.221 The *Southern Uplands – north Langholm (unit A)* landscape gains visibility of the proposed development from a minimum of approximately 6.5km away up to approximately 13km away, where there is a break in visibility due to the screening landform of Great Hill. Visibility throughout the receptor is gained intermittently from higher areas and west-facing slopes, with enclosed valleys and east-facing ground gaining no visibility or limited visibility.

6.7.222 Little Hartfell, Crossdykes, Hopsrig, Loganhead, Craig and Ewe Hill Wind Farms lie between around 2.5km and 7km to the south and south-west of *unit A* of north Langholm and have some influence on this landscape although this is limited by their peripheral location in relation to the orientation of the landform.

6.7.223 The highest magnitude of change on the landscape character of *Southern Uplands – north Langholm (unit A)* will be **medium**; this will arise on those parts of the receptor that gain moderate to high visibility of the proposed development from within around 6.5km and 9-10km away due to the following factors:

- The landscape of the receptor is characterised by forestry and exposed upland rough grazing and moorland with few notable human activities, and the external influence of the proposed development will contrast with this character in terms of colour, movement, scale, texture and form;
- The relatively high level of theoretical visibility as shown on the ZTV and the orientation of landform towards the site ensures that where it is visible the proposed development will constitute an external influence on the receptor;
- It is also relevant that when seen from this receptor, looking westwards, the proposed development is seen at its full extent and will affect a relatively extensive proportion of the setting to the receptor.
- The proposed development will add wind energy influence to a part of the context – the western setting - to the receptor that is not currently affected by wind energy development (the closest baseline wind farms lie to the south), thus extending wind energy influence around the receptor;
- Where other wind farms are not visible, the addition of the proposed development will lead to the introduction of a new perceptual influence on landscape character; and
- At the periphery of the receptor, approximately 9-10km from the site, the level of influence of the proposed development will decrease due to its increased distance from the receptor, but this will be tempered to some degree by the increased level of influence that arises from the elevation of the landscape and its orientation towards the site.

6.7.224 The factors that limit the magnitude of change to a maximum **medium** level are as follows:

- There will be no direct physical effects on this receptor, and effects are perceived only;
- The distance of the receptor from the proposed development;
- The landscape patterns and characteristics that are important in the creation of the distinctive character of this landscape (e.g. ground cover, landform, lack of settlement) will not be altered by visibility of the proposed development;
- Where it is visible, the existing influence of wind farm development as an external influence on this area means that it lacks the remote, wildness characteristics with which the proposed development would have the greatest contrast, and ensures that the proposed development will not add a new, uncharacteristic influence;
- Eskdale creates visual and perceived separation from the proposed development, so that it remains as a clearly external influence and does not appear to be encroaching into the receptor;
- The large scale, simplicity and lack of enclosure that strongly characterise the receptor prevent the occurrence of uncomfortable scale comparisons with the external influence of the proposed development; and
- The large scale, simple and open setting in which the proposed development is seen provides an appropriate receiving context for the turbines.

6.7.225 At around 9-10km away, visibility becomes notably more intermittent due to the screening landform of Glendinning Heights, Hog Hill and Westerker Rig, and the maximum magnitude of change will reduce to a **medium-low** level. Towards the periphery of *unit A*, a maximum of approximately 13km away, the magnitude of change will decrease from its maximum **medium-low** to a **low** level due to the increased distance from and resultant reduced influence of the proposed development.

6.7.226 The parts of the receptor that gain no, or very limited, visibility of the proposed development will have a maximum **low** magnitude of change.

Magnitude of change: north Moffat (area 19(vii))

6.7.227 *Southern uplands – north Moffat* gains theoretical visibility of the proposed development from a minimum of approximately 4.5km away up to approximately 14.5km away. This visibility is intermittent or very intermittent and generally limited due to the steeply sloping landform in the southern part of the unit that encloses the intervening *upland glens – Moffat* landscape.

6.7.228 Magnitude of change will vary greatly within *north Moffat.* Much of the receptor will have no change or a **low** magnitude of change due to a combination of distance and lack of, or limited, visibility and therefore influence, of the proposed development.

6.7.229 There are, however, some intermittent areas of higher theoretical visibility from south-east-facing slopes and high points and ridgelines, such as Auldton Fell, Carrifran Gans, Greygill Head, Hart Fell (Viewpoint 21), Nether Coombe Craig, Swatte Fell and White Coomb, where the proposed development is likely to have a higher level of influence.

6.7.230 The separation of the proposed development from this landscape by a minimum of approximately 4.5km and the limited level of theoretical visibility from the closer areas ensure that the level of change is limited, and higher levels of magnitude of change will affect limited areas. The maximum magnitude of change will be **medium**, which will arise on the part of the receptor that lies in closer proximity to the proposed development – between approximately 4.5km and 9-10km away - due to the following factors:

- The landscape is currently characterised by upland rough grazing/ moorland with some forestry, and has a sense of remoteness and few notable human activities or features;
- The presence of the proposed development will result in perceived effects on this baseline character through the addition of new, unfamiliar features, primarily the turbines, providing a visible influence of uncharacteristic elements in terms of movement, materials, colour, and structures;
- In the southern part of the receptor, the valley side is orientated towards the proposed development, which can increase its level of influence;

- The proposed development will add wind energy influence to a part of the context – the southern setting - to the receptor that is not currently affected by wind energy development, thus extending wind energy influence around the receptor;
- Where other wind farms are not visible, the addition of the proposed development will lead to the introduction of a new perceptual influence on landscape character; and
- The introduction of the turbines may lead to scale comparison with the steeply sloped, incised nature of some of the landform within the receptor.

6.7.231 The factors that limit the magnitude of change on these areas to a **medium** level are as follows:

- There will be no direct physical effects on this receptor, and effects are perceived only;
- The distance of the receptor from the proposed development will reduce its level of external influence on landscape character;
- In the majority of areas that are shown to gain theoretical views of the proposed development, visibility is limited in terms of the number of turbines visible, and it is seen across a shorter aspect, ensuring that when visible it will affect a limited part of the setting to the receptor;
- Many of the characteristics that are important in the creation of the distinctive character of this landscape will not be affected by visibility of the proposed development; these include the distinctive landform, the lack of settlement and domestic development, and the enclosure of the *upland glen*; and
- The association of the proposed development with the upland landscape and the ridgeline nature of the division between the receptor and *Southern Uplands with forest* (within which the closest part of the proposed development lies) ensures that separation is maintained, and that it does not appear to encroach into the receptor.

6.7.232 At around 9-10km away, there is a band of high theoretical visibility between Greygill Head and Swatte Hill, and the magnitude of change here will remain **medium**. Beyond this, however, visibility is very intermittent and the maximum magnitude of change on those areas that gain visibility of the proposed development is likely to drop to a **medium-low** and then **low** level as the influence of the proposed development reduces with distance, reduced visibility and the reduced extent of the setting to the receptor that is affected by the proposed development.

6.7.233 Areas that gain theoretical visibility but are forested will currently have a **negligible** or **low** magnitude of change; if forestry is felled during the lifetime of the proposed development, the magnitude of change will be as assessed above for areas that currently do gain actual visibility.

Significance of the effect

6.7.234 The effect of the proposed development on the landscape character of *Southern Uplands* will vary between areas:

- *Southern Uplands – east Moffat*: the effect on the great majority of *east Moffat* will be **not significant** due to lack, or very limited visibility, of the proposed development. However, there is likely to be a **significant** effect on the character of the very limited parts of the receptor (between approximately 300m and 7.2km away) that do gain more than minimal visibility of the proposed development due to a combination of the medium-high sensitivity of the landscape and the high to medium magnitude of change upon it;
- *Southern Uplands –north Langholm (unit A)*: the effect on the areas of *north Langholm (unit A)* that gain high to moderate, open and clear visibility of the proposed development and lie within approximately 11km is likely to be intermittently **significant** due to the medium to medium-low magnitude of change and medium-high sensitivity. Towards the periphery of *unit A* (approximately 11km away) the effect will become **not significant** due to increased distance and reduced influence of the proposed development. over the extensive areas where there is no visibility or limited visibility of the proposed development the effect will be **not significant**; and
- *Southern uplands – north Moffat*: the effect on the great majority of *north Moffat* will be **not significant** due to lack, or very limited visibility, of the proposed development. However, there is likely to be a **significant** effect on the character of the limited parts of the receptor (between approximately 4.5km and a maximum of around 11.5km away) that do gain more than minimal visibility of the proposed development due to a combination of the high sensitivity of the landscape and the medium to medium-low magnitude of change upon it.

6.7.235 Some parts of *east Moffat* and *north Moffat* are currently covered by coniferous forestry. The effect of the proposed development on areas that gain theoretical visibility but are currently forested will be **not significant** as long as the forestry remains in place. If forestry is felled during the lifetime of the proposed development, the effect may become **significant**, dependent on the part of the receptor affected, as described above in relation to magnitude of change.

Cumulative effects: Southern Uplands – east Moffat (area 19(i))

6.7.236 There is one potential cumulative scenario at this receptor; the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites (operational, under-construction and consented). In this **baseline scenario**, the most relevant cumulative wind farms are Clyde and Extension, which has intermittent theoretical visibility from a minimum of around 13km to the north-west, and Harestanes/ Minnygap, which has intermittent theoretical visibility from a minimum of around 10km to the south-west.

6.7.237 The addition of the proposed development to the **baseline scenario** will have a maximum **medium-low** cumulative magnitude of change, arising from the very limited high points where the proposed development is clearly visible in conjunction with readily apparent visibility of Clyde and Extension and Harestanes/ Minnygap. This is due to the following considerations:

- The addition of the influence of the proposed development, which will itself have a very intermittent significant effect, to a landscape that has theoretical baseline wind farm influence;
- The location of the proposed development in a part of the setting to the receptor that is not affected by baseline wind farms (the south-east), so that it extends wind farm influence around this context; and
- The receptor will therefore lie between Clyde and Extension (which lies to the north-west) and the proposed development, with the influence of Harestanes/ Minnygap to the south-west.

6.7.238 The following considerations limit the cumulative magnitude of change to a **medium-low** level:

- The limited number of cumulative wind farms;
- The intermittent, limited and relatively distant visibility of cumulative wind farms;
- The separation of the proposed development from baseline wind farms, so that coalescence is avoided;
- The very intermittent visibility of the proposed development; and
- The retention of the northern and eastern aspects of the setting to the receptor (which include the Moffat Hills and Ettrick Hills) without wind farm influence.

6.7.239 The cumulative effect on the majority of *Southern uplands – east Moffat* will be **not significant**. There will, however, be a very intermittent **significant** cumulative effect arising from the addition of the proposed development to the baseline cumulative scenario due to a combination of the factors that lead to the maximum medium-low cumulative magnitude of change and the medium-high sensitivity of the landscape. This will arise only where the proposed development is clearly visible in conjunction with readily apparent visibility of Clyde and Extension and Harestanes/ Minnygap, and is thus most likely to arise at the high points in the receptor from where the three wind farm groups are readily apparent.

6.7.240 An effect arising from a medium-high sensitivity and medium-low cumulative magnitude of change can be assessed as either significant or not significant. In this case, the effect has been assessed as **significant** due to the proximity of the proposed development to the receptor and the location of the wind farms around the receptor.

6.7.241 As with the assessment of effects of the proposed development itself on *Southern Uplands – east Moffat*, parts of this receptor are currently covered by coniferous forestry. The cumulative effect of the proposed development on areas that gain theoretical visibility but are currently forested will be **not significant** as long as the forestry remains in place. If forestry is felled during the lifetime of the proposed development, the cumulative effect on the felled area may become **significant**.

Cumulative effects: Southern Uplands - north Langholm (unit A) (area 19(vi))

6.7.242 There are two potential cumulative scenarios at this receptor; the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites (operational, under-construction and consented) and the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites plus application-stage sites (in which various combinations of wind farms are considered).

6.7.243 In the **baseline scenario**, the most relevant cumulative wind farms are those in the Ewe Hill group that have some influence on this receptor (Craig and Extension, Crossdykes, Ewe Hill, Hopsrig, and Loganhead) and, to a lesser extent, Little Hartfell. ZTVs indicate that there is intermittent theoretical visibility of these wind farms from a minimum of around 2.5km away, most notably from elevated areas in the southern part of the receptor.

6.7.244 The addition of the proposed development to this **baseline scenario** will have a maximum **medium-low** cumulative magnitude of change, arising where the proposed development is clearly visible in conjunction with readily apparent visibility of Little Hartfell and parts of the Ewe Hill group. This is due to the following considerations:

- The addition of the influence of the proposed development, which will itself have an intermittent significant effect, to a landscape that has theoretical baseline wind farm influence;
- The location of the proposed development in a part of the setting to the receptor that is not affected by baseline wind farms (the west), so that it extends wind farm influence around this context;
- The proportion of the setting to the receptor that will be affected by the proposed development in addition to the baseline wind farms and the resultant increase in the developed skyline; and
- The proximity of baseline wind farms to the south of the receptor.

6.7.245 The following considerations limit the cumulative magnitude of change to a **medium-low** level:

- The grouping together of the cumulative wind farms so that they affect one aspect of the view (the south and south-west), and do not appear as a number of separate developments distributed around the receptor;
- This also ensures that the northern and eastern aspects of the setting of the majority of *north Langholm (unit A)* remain without wind farm influence;
- The intermittent visibility of the proposed development and its distance from some parts of the receptor;
- The separation of the proposed development from baseline wind farms, so that coalescence is avoided;
- The similarity in the landscape settings of the proposed development and the cumulative wind farms; and
- The intermittent nature of the theoretical influence of the proposed development on the receptor, and further screening of all wind farms by forestry.

6.7.246 One further wind farm - Faw Side - is considered in the **baseline plus application-stage** scenario. Faw Side lies in the eastern part of *north Langholm*, outwith *unit A*, where the proposed development has very little influence, and several turbines at Faw Side are adjacent to of *north Langholm (unit A)*. The consideration of Faw Side would increase the cumulative magnitude of change to a maximum **medium** level, due to:

- The close proximity of Faw Side to the receptor and its generally high level of influence;
- The location of Faw Side to the east of *north Langholm (unit A),* so that the addition of the proposed development would lead to wind farm influence at reasonably close proximity to the south (the Ewe Hill group and Little Hartfell), east (Faw Side) and west (the proposed development) of the receptor;
- The further increase in the developed skyline to which the proposed development would be added; and
- The consideration of a further turbine group to which the proposed development would be added.

6.7.247 The cumulative effect on the *Southern Uplands - north Langholm (unit A)* will be **not significant** in the baseline scenario due to the factors that lead to a maximum medium-low magnitude of change and the medium-high sensitivity of the receptor. An effect arising from a medium-high sensitivity and medium-low cumulative magnitude of change can be assessed as either significant or not significant. In this case, the effect has been assessed as not significant due to the extent of the setting to the receptor that will remain without wind farm influence and the limited, intermittent and often relatively distant visibility of wind farms.

6.7.248 When the application-stage site at Faw Side is also considered, however, the cumulative effect would become intermittently **significant** due to the increase in the cumulative magnitude of change to a medium level. This will arise only where the proposed development is clearly visible in conjunction with readily apparent visibility of Little Hartfell and/ or the Ewe Hill group and Faw Side.

6.7.249 As with the assessment of effects of the proposed development itself on *Southern Uplands – north Langholm (unit A)*, parts of this receptor are currently covered by coniferous forestry. The cumulative effect of the proposed development on areas that gain theoretical visibility but are currently forested will be **not significant** as long as the forestry remains in place. If forestry is felled during the lifetime of the proposed development, the cumulative effect on the felled area may become **significant**.

Cumulative effects: Southern Uplands – north Moffat (area 19(vii))

6.7.250 There is one potential cumulative scenario at this receptor; the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites (operational, under-construction and consented). In this **baseline scenario**, the most relevant cumulative wind farms are Clyde and Extension (very intermittent theoretical visibility from a minimum of around 3.7km away to the north-west), Whitelaw Brae (extremely intermittent theoretical visibility from a minimum of around 4.3km away to the north-west), Glenkerie and Extension (extremely intermittent theoretical visibility from a minimum of approximately 13km away to the north-west), and Harestanes/ Minnygap (very intermittent theoretical visibility from a minimum of around 10.3km to the south-west).

6.7.251 The addition of the proposed development to the **baseline scenario** will have a maximum **medium-low** cumulative magnitude of change, arising from the very limited high points where the proposed development is clearly visible in conjunction with readily apparent visibility of cumulative wind farms. This is due to the following considerations:

- The addition of the influence of the proposed development, which will itself have a very intermittent significant effect, to a landscape that has theoretical baseline wind farm influence;
- The location of the proposed development in a part of the setting to the receptor that is not affected by baseline wind farms (the south-east), so that it extends wind farm influence around this context; and
- The receptor will therefore lie between the proposed development and Clyde and Extension, Whitelaw Brae and Minnygap (which lie to the north-west), with the further influence of Harestanes/ Minnygap to the south-west.

6.7.252 The following considerations limit the cumulative magnitude of change to a **medium-low** level:

- The limited number of cumulative wind farms;
- The intermittent, limited and relatively distant visibility of cumulative wind farms;
- The location of three of the four cumulative wind farms to the north-west of the receptor, so that their influence is grouped together;
- The separation of the proposed development from baseline wind farms, so that coalescence is avoided;
- The very intermittent visibility of the proposed development; and
- The retention of northern and eastern aspects of the setting to the receptor (which include the Ettrick Hills) without wind farm influence.

6.7.253 The cumulative effect on the majority of *Southern uplands – north Moffat* will be **not significant**. There will, however, be a very intermittent **significant** cumulative effect arising from the addition of the proposed development to the baseline cumulative scenario due to a combination of the factors that lead to the maximum medium-low cumulative magnitude of change and the high sensitivity of the landscape. This will arise only where the proposed development is clearly visible in conjunction with readily apparent visibility of some or all of the north-western sites (Clyde and Extension, Whitelaw Brae, and Glenkerie and Extension) and Harestanes/ Minnygap, and is thus most likely to arise at the few high points in the receptor from where the three wind farm groups are readily apparent.

6.7.254 As with the assessment of effects of the proposed development itself on *Southern Uplands – north Moffat*, parts of this receptor are currently covered by coniferous forestry. The cumulative effect of the proposed development on areas that gain theoretical visibility but are currently forested will be **not significant** as long as the forestry remains in place. If forestry is felled during the lifetime of the proposed development, the cumulative effect on the felled area may become **significant**.

Southern Uplands forest covered – Craik (unit A) (area 5(i))

6.7.255 There are two areas of *Southern Uplands forest covered* in the Scottish Borders, of which one - Craik - has potential to be significantly affected by the proposed development. This is an extensive area of landscape, approximately 18km long and 10km wide, and this assessment covers the western part (referred to as *unit A*) as the remainder of the landscape has very limited and intermittent theoretical visibility of the proposed development from a minimum of approximately 12km away.

Baseline and sensitivity

6.7.256 *Southern Uplands forest covered - Craik (unit A)* extends from Broadgairhill at its western end to Black Knowe in the east, taking in Glenkerry Hill, Nether Craig and Nether Dalgleish Hope. The Borders LCA includes the following descriptions of *Southern Uplands forest covered*, with some specific references to Craik (pages 67-69):

- "*Distinctive variant of the Southern Uplands landscape type dominated by forest cover.*
- *Large scale rolling landform.*
- ***Dominant coniferous forest cover characterized by Sitka spruce plantations with occasional areas of pine and larch.***
- *Simple, uniform character.*
- *Visual horizons in this landscape type are mainly confined by trees. Where longer views can be gained visual orientation is often difficult due to the uniformity of much of the forest cover.*
- *The forestry is predominantly dark, green sitka spruce with occasional blue green pine and bright greens and browns of larch providing occasional diversity, most commonly on the lower hill slopes and forest edges.*
- *The pattern of felling coups and replanting adds further textural variety to the generally uniform forest cover. The dark expanses of forestry covering this landscape are often visually prominent when viewed from adjacent landscape types and in many areas straight forestry edges contrast with the curves of the hill landform and the surrounding grassland and moorland.*
- *Summits up to 500m* [Craik].
- *Stronger affinity with the central Southern Upland hills* [Craik]."

6.7.257 *Southern Uplands forest covered – Craik (unit A)* is effectively a northwards continuation of *Southern Uplands with forest – Eskdalemuir*, which abuts this landscape to the south, within Dumfries and Galloway. The two landscapes together form a very extensive area of heavily forested upland hills, although felling is currently underway. The northern, western and eastern edges of *Craik* are bounded by *Southern Uplands with scattered forest*, further extending this vast area of Southern Uplands landscape.

6.7.258 The scale of *Southern Uplands forest covered – Craik* means that this landscape has an enclosed interior, with very little visibility from surrounding areas. There is limited public access into *Craik*, although the B709 passes across *unit A* and there are several minor dead-end roads around the periphery of the area, including the road that accesses the hamlet of Craik and Craik Forest. The Southern Upland Way passes across *unit A* and forest tracks provide recreational access elsewhere.

6.7.259 LVIA Viewpoint 13 (Ettrick Pen) lies on the southern edge of *Southern Uplands forest covered – Craik (unit A).*

6.7.260 There are no baseline wind farms within *unit 1* of *Southern Uplands forest covered – Craik*. As noted in the Borders LCA, this landscape is characterised by extensive forestry, which screens visibility from many areas. There are, however, some unforested areas and visibility towards the proposed development is intermittently available. Forestry is therefore a factor that can consistently and extensively preclude visibility from the landscape, but a scenario without forestry is also considered.

6.7.261 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the landscape character receptor and its susceptibility to the proposed development. *Unit A* of *Southern Uplands forest covered – Craik* has a medium value. It is not covered by any scenic designations and the innate character of the landscape has been considerably altered by the forestry that blankets much of the landscape. The landscape does, however, have a sense of place, engendered by the forestry and, in unforested areas, its exposed, upland character.

Recreational use – including the Southern Upland Way - also contributes to the medium value as this is an important aspect of the landscape experience.

6.7.262 The susceptibility of *unit A* of *Southern Uplands forest covered – Craik* is medium. This is generally a tranquil, relatively undeveloped upland landscape with little apparent large-scale built or moving development. However, the extensive forestry ensures that the landscape has notable human influences and does not display the wildness characteristics with which the proposed development would have the greatest contrast. The large scale and simplicity of the landform and landscape patterns of the receptor also restrict susceptibility to a medium level as the introduction of the influence of the proposed development will not lead to scale comparisons between the landscape and the turbines.

6.7.263 The combination of the medium value and medium susceptibility to change of *unit A* of *Southern Uplands forest covered – Craik* results in a **medium** sensitivity.

Magnitude of change

6.7.264 *Southern Uplands forest covered – Craik (unit A)* gains theoretical visibility of the proposed development from a minimum of approximately 3km away up to approximately 12km away. This visibility is extremely intermittent due to screening by the intervening landform of *Southern Uplands with forest*, and where there is theoretical visibility, it is often limited in terms of the number of turbines visible.

6.7.265 Magnitude of change will vary greatly within *Craik (unit A).* The great majority of the receptor will have no change due to lack, or very limited, visibility and influence of the proposed development. Elsewhere, the magnitude of change will be **low** due to a combination of very limited visibility and distance from the proposed development.

6.7.266 There are, however, some very intermittent high points and south-west-facing upper slopes that are shown on the ZTV to gain higher visibility of the proposed development, including Bloodhope Head, Blue Cairn Hill, Cross Hill, Ettrick Pen (Viewpoint 13), Pentland Hill and Wind Fell, almost all of which are located along the southern edge of the receptor, on its border with *Southern Uplands with forest – Eskdalemuir*. Here, the proposed development is likely to have a higher level of influence and the highest magnitude of change on these areas will be **medium-high** to **medium**, dependent on distance and the level of visibility, due to the following factors:

- The landscape is currently characterised by forestry and upland rough grazing/ moorland that has a sense of remoteness and few notable elements of development;
- The presence of the proposed development will result in perceived effects on this baseline character through the addition of new, unfamiliar features, primarily the turbines, providing a visible influence of uncharacteristic elements in terms of movement, materials, colour, and structures;
- The proposed development will add wind energy influence to a part of the context – the south-western setting - to the receptor that is not currently affected by wind energy development (the closest baseline wind farms, Clyde and Whitelaw Brae, lie to the north-west), thus extending wind energy influence around the receptor;
- Where other wind farms are not visible, the addition of the proposed development will lead to the introduction of a new perceptual influence on landscape character;
- Where the proposed development is clearly visible it generally has a high level of visibility due to the elevated and open nature of these high points, thus increasing its level of influence; and
- Where other wind farms are not visible, the addition of the proposed development will lead to the introduction of a new perceptual influence on landscape character.

6.7.267 The factors that limit the magnitude of change on these areas to a **medium-high** to **medium** level are as follows:

- There will be no direct physical effects on this receptor, and effects are perceived only;
- The distance of the receptor from the proposed development will reduce its level of external influence on landscape character;
- The areas of the receptor that are affected by the proposed development are extremely limited and intermittent;
- The large scale, simplicity and lack of enclosure that strongly characterise the receptor prevent the occurrence of uncomfortable scale comparisons with the external influence of the proposed development;
- In some locations, the extensive forestry cover that characterises this landscape will screen visibility; and
- The large scale, simple and open setting in which the proposed development is seen provides an appropriate receiving context for the turbines.

6.7.268 Beyond around 9-10km away, visibility continues to be very intermittent and is generally limited in terms of the number of turbines that are theoretically visible, and the magnitude of change will reduce to a maximum **medium-low** level as the influence of the proposed development reduces with distance, reduced visibility and the reduced extent of the setting to the receptor that is affected by the proposed development.

6.7.269 Areas that gain theoretical visibility but are forested will currently have a **negligible** or **low** magnitude of change; if forestry is felled during the lifetime of the proposed development, the magnitude of change will be as assessed above for areas that currently do gain actual visibility.

Significance of the effect

6.7.270 The effect of the proposed development on the landscape character of *Southern Uplands forest covered – Craik (unit A)* will vary. The effect on the great majority of the receptor will be **not significant** due to lack, or very limited visibility, of the proposed development. However, there are likely to be **significant** effects on a very few high points, largely along the southern edge of the receptor, that gain a higher level of visibility due to their elevation. These very specific, localised significant effects, which result from the combination of a medium-high to medium magnitude of change and a medium sensitivity, may arise up to a maximum of approximately 9-10km from the proposed development, beyond which effects will be **not significant** due to the reduced magnitude of change.

6.7.271 Extensive parts of this receptor are currently covered by coniferous forestry. The effect of the proposed development on areas that gain theoretical visibility but are currently forested will be **not significant** as long as the forestry remains in place. If forestry is felled during the lifetime of the proposed development, the effect may become **significant**, dependent on the part of the receptor affected, as described above in relation to magnitude of change.

Cumulative effects

6.7.272 There is limited and distant influence of baseline and application-stage cumulative wind farms on this receptor. Clyde and its Extension and Langhope Rig, which lie over 15km away to the north-west and north-east respectively, are the two closest schemes with any theoretical visibility. This visibility is extremely intermittent, and the cumulative magnitude of change will be a maximum of **low**. Cumulative effects are considered to be **not significant**.

Southern Uplands with forest – Eskdalemuir (19a(i))

6.7.273 There are four areas of *Southern Uplands with forest* in Dumfries and Galloway, of which one – *Eskdalemuir* - has potential to be significantly affected by the proposed development. The *Eskdalemuir* area is an extensive landscape, approximately 23km long and 15km across at its widest point, and a large part of the proposed development lies within this landscape.

6.7.274 In its appraisal, DGWLCS groups all four areas of *Southern Uplands with forest* together.

Baseline and sensitivity

6.7.275 DGWLCS includes the following descriptions of *Southern Uplands with forest* (page 349-353). References to the areas that do not have potential to be significantly affected by the proposed development have not been included herein:

- "*The Southern Uplands with Forests generally forms an expansive undulating upland plateau generally between 350- 500m high although a few individual peaks exceed this height. The Eskdalemuir, Ken and Carsphairn units abut similar large-scale upland areas (some of these extending into neighbouring authorities) increasing the extensiveness of the landscape. Smaller hills occur on the western and southern edges of this landscape. Scale is significantly reduced within the narrow valleys which cut deeply into these uplands…*
- *The hills are generally smooth with rounded summits. There are few pronounced peaks although a distinct ridge of open-topped higher hills rising above 600m separates the Upland Glen (10) of Moffat and the lower, gently undulating upland plateau of Eskdalemuir…Extensive forestry generally masks the underlying landform although steeply incised burns, occasional crags and more complex interlocking landform are evident in some areas.*
- ***Extensive commercial forestry covers much of this landscape and this generally has a poor relationship with landform**…Rides, forest roads, compartment and ownership boundaries create a stark angular pattern highlighted by the strong contrast between pale grass moorland and dark conifers. Felling coupes and new planting add transitional textural contrasts across this landscape. There are few landmark features…*
- *There is little settlement within this character type but there is a range of archaeological sites often sited on the outer fringes of these uplands at the transition with valleys, including hillforts and settlements with extended views.*
- *While the interior of these landscapes can feel remote due to the distance from settlement and public roads, the presence of extensive commercially managed forestry and wind farms in some units precludes a strong sense of naturalness*."

6.7.276 *Southern Uplands with forest – Eskdalemuir* is effectively a southwards continuation of *Southern Uplands forest covered – Craik (unit A)*, which abuts this landscape to the north, within the Scottish Borders. The two landscapes together form a very extensive area of heavily-forested upland hills.

6.7.277 As with several of the other Southern Upland landscapes, the scale of *Southern Uplands with forest – Eskdalemuir* means that this landscape has an enclosed interior, with very little visibility from surrounding areas. The B709 runs through the area as does the Romans and Reivers Route and a very small section of the Southern Upland Way. A number of forest tracks provide recreational access elsewhere.

6.7.278 LVIA Viewpoints 1, 2, and 14 lie within this receptor, while Viewpoint 13 lies on its northern edge.

6.7.279 There are no baseline wind farms within *Southern Uplands with forest – Eskdalemuir*. There is, however, some external influence from Harestanes/ Minnygap, Clyde, Little Hartfell and wind farms in the Ewe Hill group (Craig and Extension, Crossdykes, Ewe Hill, Hopsrig, and Loganhead).

6.7.280 As noted in DGWLCS, this landscape is characterised by extensive forestry, which screens visibility from many areas. There are, however, some unforested areas and visibility towards the proposed development is intermittently available. Forestry is therefore a factor that can consistently and extensively preclude visibility from the landscape, but a scenario without forestry is also considered.

6.7.281 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the landscape character receptor and its susceptibility to the proposed development. *Southern Uplands with forest – Eskdalemuir* has a medium value; this area is not covered by any scenic designations and the innate character of the landscape has been considerably altered by the forestry (including felled and felled/ replanted areas) that covers much of the landscape. The landscape does, however, have a sense of place, engendered by the forestry and, in unforested areas, its exposed, upland character. Recreational use of the Romans and Reivers Route and the Southern Upland Way (albeit a very short stretch of this route) also contributes to the medium value of the *Eskdalemuir* area as this is an aspect of the landscape experience.

6.7.282 The susceptibility of *Southern Uplands with forest – Eskdalemuir* is medium. *Eskdalemuir* is generally a tranquil, relatively undeveloped upland landscape with little apparent large-scale built or moving development. However, the extensive forestry ensures that the landscape has notable human influences and does not display the wildness characteristics with which the proposed development would have the greatest contrast. The large scale and simplicity of the landform and landscape patterns also restrict susceptibility to a medium level as the introduction of the external influence of the proposed development will not lead to scale comparisons between the landscape and the turbines.

6.7.283 The combination of the medium value and medium susceptibility to change of *Southern Uplands with forest – Eskdalemuir* results in a **medium** sensitivity.

Magnitude of change

6.7.284 The majority of the proposed development is located in *Southern Uplands with forest – Eskdalemuir* and this landscape will therefore undergo direct physical effects from the construction and operation of the turbines, access tracks and hardstands, as well as perceived effects that arise through visibility of the proposed development. This landscape is also directly affected by keyhole deforestation and other localised felling for infrastructure features, which include new and existing borrow pits, substation and control rooms, temporary construction compounds, satellite energy storage and a met mast.

6.7.285 The proposed development is theoretically visible up to the eastern boundary of this receptor, approximately 16km away.

6.7.286 The magnitude of change on the site area itself will be **high** due to both direct physical effects on the landscape and perceived effects that rise through visibility of the proposed development. The high magnitude of change arises from the following considerations:

- The receiving landscape of the site area is currently characterised by extensive coniferous forestry and has few other notable human activities or features;
- The presence of the proposed development will result in a direct effect to this baseline character through the addition of new, unfamiliar features, primarily the turbines but also construction

operations and short-term and long-term infrastructure, providing a highly-visible, prevailing influence and introducing uncharacteristic elements in terms of movement, materials, colour, and structures;
- Forestry removal for turbine keyholing, access tracks and other infrastructure will also lead to changes in the landscape patterns on the site, affecting a key characteristic of the landscape;
- In addition to the physical effects, there will be a perceptual alteration to the character of the upland landscape setting, arising from visibility of the colour, movement, scale, texture and form of the turbines and other infrastructure, which are uncharacteristic of the landscape; and
- The introduction of wind energy development into a landscape that has no internal and limited external baseline influence of wind energy development will increase the influence of the proposed development.

6.7.287 While the magnitude of change on the site will be **high**, there are factors that mitigate the level of change to some extent, although these are not sufficient to reduce the level of magnitude of change:

- Forestry removal is limited to keyholing and minor felling for infrastructure features, and this key landscape characteristic will largely be retained;
- Some construction operations and infrastructure elements such as access track construction and upgrading, borrow pits and compounds are characteristic of the baseline character due to forestry operations in this landscape;
- The large scale, simplicity and lack of enclosure that strongly characterise the receptor prevent the occurrence of uncomfortable scale comparisons and provide an appropriate receiving environment for the proposed development;
- The blanket forestry that covers much of the receptor prevents a high level of visibility, and therefore influence, of the proposed development beyond the immediate site area; and
- The continuation of other variants of the *Southern Uplands* landscape to the north, south, east and west of the receptor, so that the proposed development does not appear to extend up to the boundary of the receptor, but appears in an extensive area of similar landscape types.

6.7.288 A **high** and then **medium-high** magnitude of change will cover the site and extend intermittently to the northern, western, eastern and southern/ south-eastern boundaries of *Eskdalemuir* (a maximum of approximately 3.5-4km away from the proposed development). Viewpoints 1 and 2 lie within this area. There are some small areas within this part of *Eskdalemuir* that will have no, or very limited, visibility of the proposed development due to landform screening, and the maximum magnitude of change on these areas will be **low**.

6.7.289 Much of the area around the site is currently forested and where this is the case, the magnitude of change will be **low** due to the lack of visibility, and therefore influence, of the proposed development. Should the forestry be felled during the lifetime of the proposed development, the magnitude of change would increase to a **high** or **medium-high** level.

6.7.290 The only direction in which *Eskdalemuir* extends beyond the site and its close vicinity (i.e. beyond approximately 3.5-4km) is the north-east and, further away, beyond the intervening valley of Eskdale and areas of *Southern Uplands* and *foothills with forest*, the east.

6.7.291 To the east and north-east, an intermittent **high** to **medium** magnitude of change will theoretically extend up to around 5.5km-6km from the site, where there is a natural break in visibility around the Glendearg Burn and Barr Burn valleys. Ettrick Pen (Viewpoint 13) lies within this area and illustrates the higher type of visibility that is available from here.

6.7.292 Around 7-8km away to the east and north-east, beyond the break in visibility, an intermittent higher level of theoretical visibility resumes. Where there is a moderate level of visibility, the magnitude of change on these areas will be a maximum of **medium** (where there is moderate or high visibility of the proposed development), which will extend up to around 9-10km from the proposed development. At around 9-10km, there is a break in theoretical visibility along the Aberlosk Burn valley, and when visibility resumes to the east of this, the maximum magnitude of change will be **medium-low** as the influence of the proposed development reduces with distance, reduced visibility, and the reduced extent of the setting to the receptor that is affected by the proposed development.

6.7.293 Areas that gain theoretical visibility but are forested will currently have a **negligible** or **low** magnitude of change; if forestry is felled during the lifetime of the proposed development, the magnitude of change will be as assessed above for areas that currently do gain actual visibility.

Significance of the effect

6.7.294 The effect of the proposed development on the landscape character of *Southern Uplands with forest – Eskdalemuir* will vary. The effect on parts of the receptor will be **not significant** due to lack/ very limited visibility of the proposed development and/ or its distance from the receptor. However, there are likely to be **significant** effects on the character of the site itself and those parts of the landscape that gain high or moderate visibility up to a distance of approximately 9-10km from the proposed development, arising from a combination of the medium sensitivity of the landscape and the high to medium magnitude of change upon it.

6.7.295 Extensive parts of this receptor are currently covered by coniferous forestry. The effect of the proposed development on areas that gain theoretical visibility but are currently forested will be **not significant** as long as the forestry remains in place. If forestry is felled during the lifetime of the proposed development, the effect may become **significant**, dependent on the part of the receptor affected, as described above in relation to magnitude of change.

Cumulative effects

6.7.296 There are two potential cumulative scenarios at this receptor; the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites (operational, under-construction and consented) and the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites plus application-stage sites (in which various combinations of wind farms are considered).

6.7.297 In the **baseline scenario**, the most relevant cumulative wind farms are Harestanes/ Minnygap (very intermittent theoretical visibility from a minimum of 9.5km to the west), Little Hartfell (intermittent visibility from a minimum of 8km to the south), and those in the Ewe Hill group (Craig and Extension, Crossdykes, Ewe Hill, Hopsrig, and Loganhead), which lies a minimum of around 5km to the south. ZTVs indicate that there is intermittent theoretical visibility of these wind farms from elevated areas in the receptor.

6.7.298 The addition of the proposed development to this **baseline scenario** will have a **low** cumulative magnitude of change on the majority of the receptor due to very limited and/or distant visibility of cumulative wind farms (as seen at Viewpoints 1, 2 and 14). There will, however, be a maximum **medium-low** cumulative magnitude of change on some limited elevated areas where Harestanes/ Minnygap, Little Hartfell and wind farms in the Ewe Hill group are readily apparent in conjunction with the proposed development. This level of change arises from the following considerations:

- The addition of the proposed development – which lies largely within this receptor - to a landscape that has baseline wind farm influence;

- The proportion of the receptor affected, internally and externally, by influence of the proposed development; and
- The location of the proposed development in the western area of the receptor where it will affect the western setting of the receptor, which is not affected by close proximity baseline wind farms, so that it will extend wind farm influence around the context.

6.7.299 The following considerations limit the cumulative magnitude of change to a **medium-low** level:

- The intermittent/ very intermittent and sometimes distant influence of baseline wind farm development and relatively limited extent of the skyline affected by baseline development;
- The parts of the setting to the receptor that will remain without wind farm influence, notably the northern and eastern context (including the Moffat Hills RSA);
- The grouping together of baseline wind energy development (the Ewe Hill group and Little Hartfell to the south, and the proposed development and Clyde to the west) so that the landscape setting is not characterised by a number of dispersed and disparate developments, but by focussed development;
- The lack of direct wind farm influence other than the proposed development; and
- The influence of the proposed development to the west of the receptor, where Clyde is already influential, so that it will not introduce a new influence.

6.7.300 One further wind farm - Faw Side - is considered in the **baseline plus application-stage** scenario. Faw Side lies partly within this receptor, a minimum of approximately 12km to the east of the proposed development.

6.7.301 The consideration of Faw Side would increase the cumulative magnitude of change to a **medium** level, due to:

- The location of part of Faw Side within the receptor, and the level of influence that arises from it;
- The location of Faw Side to the east of the receptor, so that the addition of the proposed development would lead to wind farms being seen to the south (the Ewe Hill group and Little Hartfell), east (Faw Side) and west (the proposed development) of the receptor; and
- The consideration of a further turbine group to which the proposed development would be added.

6.7.302 The cumulative effect on *Southern Uplands with forest – Eskdalemuir* arising from the addition of the proposed development to the baseline cumulative scenario will be **not significant**, due to a combination of the factors that lead to the maximum medium-low cumulative magnitude of change and the medium sensitivity of the landscape.

6.7.303 When the application-stage site at Faw Side is also considered, the cumulative effect would become very intermittently **significant** due to the increase in the maximum cumulative magnitude of change to a medium level. This will arise only where the proposed development is clearly visible in conjunction with readily apparent visibility of Little Hartfell and/ or the Ewe Hill group and Faw Side.

6.7.304 As with the assessment of effects of the proposed development itself on *Southern Uplands with forest – Eskdalemuir*, extensive parts of this receptor are currently covered by coniferous forestry. The cumulative effect of the proposed development on areas that gain theoretical visibility but are currently forested will be **not significant** as long as the forestry remains in place. If forestry is felled during the lifetime of the proposed development, the cumulative effect on the felled area may become **significant**.

Upland fringe – Annandale fringe (unit A) (areas 16(i) and 16(ii))

6.7.305 There are 12 units of *upland fringe* in Dumfries and Galloway, of which one – *Annandale fringe* - has potential to be significantly affected by the proposed development. DGWLCS assesses *upland fringe* in two groups; the 'hill fringes' (those that form hill slopes, fringing lowland and upland landscapes) and the 'standalone fringes', of which *Annandale fringe* falls into the former category. *Annandale fringe* is divided into two areas in this assessment, with *unit A* considered to have potential to undergo a significant effect while the remainder has been discounted from the assessment.

Baseline and sensitivity

6.7.306 *Annandale fringe*, which covers the *upland fringe* on the eastern side of Annandale, falls into two areas in DGWLCS, separated by the Dryfe Water valley. The area that lies to the north of the Dryfe Water is a long narrow band of landscape (approximately 14km long and a maximum of around 2km wide) that forms the transition between *middle dale – mid Annandale* to the west and *foothills – Annandale* to the east. The area to the south of the Dryfe Water is considerably larger, extending to Ecclefechan in the south and the A7 south of Langholm in the east. *Unit A* covers the whole of the northern area and the northern part of the southern area, with the Water of Milk valley forming the approximate southern boundary as there is a natural break in visibility here.

6.7.307 DGWLCS includes the following descriptions of the 'hill fringe' areas of the *upland fringe* landscape (page 195-199):

- *"These landscapes predominantly comprise a narrow band of hill slopes between lowland valleys/ dales and foothills/ uplands. Landscape scale is generally medium to small depending on the extent of enclosure by rolling landform and woodlands with scale increasing…*
- *These Upland Fringes comprise gently rolling lower hill slopes. In many units a complex furled landform of dips, narrow terraces, steep slopes and deeply cut valleys feature. Slacker slopes and broader ridges can occur at the transition with the Foothills (18)…character types.*
- *These landscapes commonly have a richly diverse land cover of enclosed pastures and often extensive broadleaved woodlands...A strong pattern of hedges, stone dykes, mature field trees and planted policies often occur on lower slopes at the transition with settled valleys and dales. The vegetation and enclosure pattern is less diverse at the transition with adjacent landscapes with a more open upland character where more extensive pasture and coniferous shelterbelts occur.*
- *These landscapes are generally well- settled with dispersed farms and occasional estate houses mainly located on lower slopes and set within narrow valleys. Main roads tend to be aligned at the foot of these hill slopes although occasional narrow non-through access roads weave up steep slopes. These upland fringes commonly feature a rich archaeological and historic heritage including old field systems, chambered cairns, numerous hill forts and castles, some being landmark features.*
- *These units of the Upland Fringe form generally narrow hill slopes, lying in close juxtaposition with adjacent foothills and upland landscapes. They also commonly contribute to wider landscape compositions seen from lowland and coastal areas. These landscapes form a backdrop to settlements such as Creetown, Lockerbie, Glenluce and Thornhill…Cairn, Ae, Annandale and Liddesdale form highly visible edge to populated valleys and dales.*
- *These are generally managed landscapes with little sense of remoteness or naturalness although more extensive broadleaved woodlands and scrub has a natural character.*
- *These landscapes are well settled with dwellings located within the upland fringes generally facing outwards, away from more sensitive skylines or in more contained valleys. Woodlands and landform can further contain views although minor roads and footpaths are often elevated and allow open views over the Upland Fringe and across adjacent valleys, dales and coasts. The Upland Fringe landscapes are highly visible from major roads and settlement within adjacent populated valleys, Nithsdale and Annandale…"*

6.7.308 These points are generally relevant to *Annandale fringe (unit A)*. However, it should be noted that this receptor – particularly the area to the north of the Dryfe Water - is influenced to a notable degree by the A74(M) corridor and the west coast mainline railway, which lie very close to the west.

6.7.309 Viewpoint 18 (Burnswark Hill Fort) is within *Annandale fringe* but outwith *unit A,* while Viewpoint 7 (Annandale Water Services, J16 A74(M)) lies in the adjacent *middle dale – mid Annandale* landscape and provides an aspect of the proposed development looking across a narrow band of *upland fringe – Annandale (unit A)*.

6.7.310 While there are no baseline wind farms within *Annandale fringe (unit A),* Minsca and Solwaybank lie a minimum of around 4km and 10km respectively to the south-east, Little Hartfell is a minimum of around 4.7km to the east, and the group of Crossdykes, Hopsrig, Ewe Hill and Loganhead are a minimum of around 6.9km away, also to the east. Harestanes/ Minnygap is a minimum of around 8km to the west.

6.7.311 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the landscape character receptor and its susceptibility to the proposed development. The value of *upland fringe – Annandale fringe (unit A)* is medium; it is not covered by any scenic designations and in some places the receptor has been affected by the influence of development both within and outwith the unit. Many areas do, however, retain intact inherent landscape patterns of settlement, field boundaries, woodland, hedgerows, and land use.

6.7.312 The susceptibility of *upland fringe – Annandale fringe (unit A)* is also medium. The relatively small-scale and sometimes complex landform and superimposed landscape patterns of field boundaries, settlement, woodland and hedgerows are likely to lead to scale comparisons with the proposed development, resulting in a medium level of susceptibility. There is also a visual and contextual association between the *upland fringe* and the enclosing *foothills/ Southern Uplands with forest* landscapes, within which part of the proposed development lies. Susceptibility is, however, restricted to a medium level by the settled and developed nature of this landscape, including external influences, which ensures that it lacks the wild and remote landscape character that would be highly susceptible to the proposed development.

6.7.313 The combination of the medium value and medium susceptibility to change of *upland fringe – Annandale fringe (unit A)* results in a **medium** sensitivity.

Magnitude of change

6.7.314 While none of the turbines in the proposed development are located in *upland fringe – Annandale fringe (unit A)*, the site boundary extends slightly into this LCT and approximately 200m of new access track will affect the northern extremity of this landscape during the construction and operational phases. This very small part of *upland fringe – Annandale fringe* landscape will therefore undergo direct physical effects as well as perceived effects that arise through visibility of the proposed development.

6.7.315 The magnitude of change on the site area will arise from both the direct effects of the access track on the landscape and perceived effects that rise through visibility of the proposed development. The *upland fringe – Annandale fringe (unit A)* landscape gains visibility of turbines from a minimum of approximately 300m away up to approximately 13km away. The landform of the closer, northern area of *unit A* slopes away from the site, and this part of the receptor is therefore orientated away from the proposed development but does have limited direct effects. As a result, theoretical visibility in this part of the receptor is quite limited in terms of the number of turbines seen but is quite consistent. The southern part of *unit A*, south of the Dryfe Water, shows a generally higher number of turbines theoretically visible, but more intermittent visibility, due to the more variable orientation of landform in this area.

6.7.316 The magnitude of change on this receptor will follow a similar pattern to that of the *foothills - Annandale* landscape that lies to the east of both parts of *upland fringe – Annandale fringe (unit A*). These landscapes have a number of similarities, although the landscape of *upland fringe* is generally more consistently and extensively settled, managed, complex and small-scale than *foothills,* and has a closer relationship with the settled valleys and dales.

6.7.317 As with the *foothills*, and for similar reasons (although the direct effects on *upland fringe – Annandale* are substantially less than those on the *foothills – Annandale* landscape), a **high** to **medium** magnitude of change will be found intermittently on the very narrow ribbon of *upland fringe* that lies to the north of the Dryfe Water, between approximately 300m and 9km away from the proposed development. This will also affect a small area in the southern part of *unit A*, south of the Dryfe water, extending up to around 9-10km away from the proposed development, whereupon theoretical visibility becomes more intermittent and limited due to landform screening.

6.7.318 Beyond around 9-10km away, the magnitude of change on the intermittent areas of the landscape that gain moderate to high theoretical visibility of the proposed development will decrease to **medium-low** and **low** due to the increased distance and reduced influence of the proposed development. The boundary of *unit A* lies a maximum of approximately 13km from the proposed development.

Significance of the effect

6.7.319 The effect of the proposed development on the landscape character of *upland fringe – Annandale fringe (unit A)* will vary. The effect on parts of the receptors that gain no or very limited visibility, or lie beyond approximately 9-10km away, will be **not significant** due to the limited influence of the proposed development. However, there are likely to be **significant** effects on the character of those parts of the landscape that gain visibility of the proposed development up to a distance of approximately 9-10km away, arising from a combination of the medium sensitivity of the landscapes and the high to medium magnitude of change upon them.

Cumulative effects

6.7.320 There are no relevant application-stage wind farms. Faw Side, which is the closest application site, is over 17km away to the east and is shown on the ZTV to have very intermittent visibility from *unit A* of *Annandale fringe*.

6.7.321 There is one potential cumulative scenario at this receptor; the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites (operational, under-construction and consented).

6.7.322 In the **baseline scenario**, *unit A* of *Annandale fringe* is assessed in its two geographical parts. The northern part, north of the Dryfe Water, is affected only by the proposed development and Harestanes/ Minnygap, which is theoretically visible from a minimum of around 8km away to the west. The smaller southern part of *unit A*, south of the Dryfe Water, gains intermittent theoretical visibility of Minsca at a minimum of 3.5km away; Little Hartfell at a minimum of around 4.7km to the east; Harestanes/ Minnygap a minimum of around 14.3km to the north-west; and the group of Crossdykes, Hopsrig, Ewe Hill and Loganhead at a minimum of around 6.9km away to the east.

6.7.323 The addition of the proposed development to the northern part of *unit A*, north of the Dryfe Water, will have a maximum **medium-low** cumulative magnitude of change. This will arise where there is readily apparent visibility of both the proposed development and Harestanes/ Minnygap, resulting from the following considerations:

- The addition of the proposed development – a very readily apparent wind farm that will have a significant effect itself – at close-proximity to a landscape that has external baseline wind farm influence;
- The location of the proposed development in a part of the setting to the receptor that is not affected by baseline wind farms, so that it extends wind farm influence around this context;
- The location of the proposed development to the east of the receptor while the cumulative wind farm influence from Harestanes/ Minnygap arises to the west, so that wind farm influence lies on either side of the receptor; and
- The proportion of the setting to the receptor that will be affected by the proposed development in addition to the baseline wind farm and the resultant increase in the developed skyline.

6.7.324 The following considerations limit the cumulative magnitude of change to a **medium-low** level:

- The very limited number of wind farm groups that will influence the receptor (two in total) so that they do not appear as a number of separate developments distributed around the receptor;
- This also ensures that extensive parts of the setting to the receptor remain unaffected by readily apparent wind farm influence;
- The external nature of all influence from turbines;
- The separation of the proposed development from baseline wind farms, so that coalescence is avoided;
- The relatively distant visibility of Harestanes/ Minnygap; and
- The similarity in the landscape settings of the proposed development and the cumulative wind farms.

6.7.325 The addition of the proposed development to the southern part of *unit A*, south of the Dryfe Water, will have a maximum **medium** cumulative magnitude of change. This will arise only where the proposed development is clearly visible in conjunction with apparent visibility of Harestanes/ Minnygap and readily apparent visibility of Little Hartfell and/ or turbines in the Ewe Hill group. This is due to the following considerations:

- The addition of the influence of the proposed development – a wind farm that will have a significant effect itself – to a landscape that has baseline wind farm influence;
- The location of the proposed development in a part of the setting to the receptor that is not affected by baseline wind farms, so that it extends wind farm influence around this context; and
- The location of the proposed development to the north of this part of the receptor while cumulative wind farms lie to the east and north-west, so that wind farm influence lies around the receptor.

6.7.326 The following considerations limit the cumulative magnitude of change to a maximum **medium** level:

- The relatively distant influence of Harestanes/ Minnygap and the proposed development itself from this southern part of *unit A*:
- The grouping together of the cumulative wind farms so that they do not appear as a number of separate developments distributed around the receptor;
- The limited number of groups of baseline wind energy development (Little Hartfell, the Ewe Hill group and Harestanes/ Minnygap);
- This also ensures that the southern and western aspects remain unaffected by readily apparent wind farm influence;
- The separation of the proposed development from baseline wind farms, so that coalescence is avoided;
- The external nature of all influence from turbines;
- The similarity in the landscape settings of the proposed development and the cumulative wind farms; and
- The intermittent nature of the theoretical influence of the proposed development and cumulative wind farms on the receptor.

6.7.327 The cumulative effect on the majority of *upland fringe – Annandale fringe (unit A)*, including the northern part of the receptor, will be **not significant**. There will, however, be an intermittent **significant** cumulative effect on the southern part of *unit A* arising from the addition of the proposed development to the baseline cumulative scenario due to a combination of the factors that lead to the maximum medium cumulative magnitude of change and the medium sensitivity of the landscape. This will arise only where the proposed development is clearly visible in conjunction with apparent visibility of Harestanes/ Minnygap and readily apparent visibility of Little Hartfell and/ or turbines in the Ewe Hill group.

6.7.328 An effect arising from a medium sensitivity and medium cumulative magnitude of change can be assessed as either significant or not significant. In this case, the effect has been assessed as **significant** due to the extent of development that would arise around the receptor.

Upland glens – Evan (area 10(iii)) and Moffat (area 10(vi))

6.7.329 There are eight areas of *upland glens* in Dumfries and Galloway, of which two – *Evan* and *Moffat* - have potential to be significantly affected by the proposed development. DGWLCS groups all of the *upland glens* together in its appraisal.

Baseline and sensitivity

6.7.330 *Upland glens – Evan* is a single, linear valley approximately 9km long and a maximum of around 1.5km wide that runs in a north-south direction immediately to the north and west of the settlement of Moffat, which lies at the foot of the glen. It should be noted that the *upland glens* area that is called *Evan* does not in fact incorporate the Evan Water (which runs further to the west) but rather the upper valley of the River Annan. *Upland glens – Moffat*, approximately 17km long and generally between 1.2km and 2km wide, lies to the east of *Moffat* and is the valley of the Moffat Water. The A708 runs through *Moffat*, which is also known as Moffat Dale.

6.7.331 DGWLCS includes the following descriptions of *upland glens* (page 150-152):

- *"These are often narrow, high sided valleys with flat floors. The steep valley sides create a high degree of enclosure. Containment is often further reinforced by the sinuous shape of several of the valleys, which limits long views. The height of the valley sides is most pronounced and dramatic when flanked by the Southern Upland Type (19) hills, which rise to over 600m* [as is the case with the Evan and Moffat glens].
- *The valleys are relatively narrow, with flat floors and steep side slopes rising to irregular ridgelines. The ridge between the valley sides and the surrounding uplands appears as an abrupt edge. There are regular side valleys. While the upper side slopes are relatively even and steep, the lower hillsides often have an irregular and relatively complex topography of 'slumped' landforms, rocky outcrops and terraces. These slopes contain the narrow river flats and occasional moundy deposits which extend along the valley floor. When located within the Southern Upland Character Type (19 and 19a), the dramatic hill forms of the upper slopes and ridges can appear sculptural and particularly prominent in side light.*
- *Rough grassland on the tops of the ridges extends down to head dykes located part way up the hillsides, separating the open grass moor on the upper slopes from fields of unimproved pasture along the lower*

slopes. The narrow valley floors are subdivided by dykes into small, improved pasture fields. Clumps of broadleaves associated with farms, some riparian woodland, conifer woods and occasional policy woodland in the lower reaches of the glens provide a sometimes sparse but otherwise diverse woodland cover.

- *Dispersed farms and cottages become sparser towards the heads of the glens. Occasional estate houses are set within the lower glens. Settlement is generally located as point features along the edge of the valley floor and is frequently associated with side valleys. Roads can be narrow and often winding, although the A7, A702 and the A708 pass through these glens. Extensive remains of historic land use, including traces of tracks, abandoned farms, field boundaries and varied prehistoric sites can be found on unimproved land generally along the side slopes.*
- *These narrow glens are visually cut off from other landscape types, with the exception of the immediate edges of the surrounding upland character types, which form the upper rim of the glen sides.*
- *When travelling to the heads of some of the glens on 'dead end' roads, settlement becomes sparse and there is a strong sense of seclusion. However, several of these glens have well used and busy through routes.*
- *Views from roads often focus along the length of the glens, if they are not too sinuous and if woodland does not obscure the view. The heads of the glens are often the focal point for key views, and the irregular shaped skyline around the rim of the valleys is visually prominent*."

6.7.332 These points are broadly relevant to *Evan* and *Moffat*; these are enclosed valleys that display the typical *upland glens* patterns of development, settlement, landscape pattern and land use. *Moffat* is notably influenced by the A708 road, with this influence emphasised by the narrow, contained nature of the landscape, while *Evan* is focussed on Moffat and, in places, is influenced by the A701 corridor which runs partly within the glen and partly along its upper western side. The Devil's Beef Tub is at the head of *Evan*, where it forms a notable landform feature.

6.7.333 These are enclosed and contained landscapes with quite complex, textured and sometimes small-scale landscape patterns. Parts of the landscape are cultivated and have domestic-scale development associated with farms. The A701, A708 and the settlement of Moffat ensure that parts of the glens lack a sense of naturalness, although there are pockets away from the road corridors where woodland and local landform create a more peaceful and secluded character.

6.7.334 There are two LVIA viewpoints within *Evan*; Viewpoint 10 and Viewpoint 12, which are on the western edge of *Evan* and gain long open views down the glen.

6.7.335 There are no baseline wind farms within the *upland glens.*

6.7.336 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the landscape character receptor and its susceptibility to the proposed development. *Upland glens – Evan* and *Moffat* both have a medium-high value; both are covered by the regional designation of the Moffat Hills RSA, and have quality in the scenic qualities and sense of place that arise from the distinctive, enclosed valley landform and often complex, textured topography and landscape patterns. Recreational use of the Annandale Way (which loops around the northern part of *Evan*) and Southern Uplands Way/ Romans and Reivers Route (which share a short stretch of route across *Moffat)*, along with several core paths, including promoted forest walks in *Moffat*, also contributes to the medium-high value as this is an important aspect of the landscape experience.

6.7.337 The susceptibility of *upland glens – Evan* and *Moffat* is also medium-high. These are contained and sometimes-complex valley landscapes overlaid with patterns of settlement and agriculture, and the scale comparisons that can arise as a result of the external influence of the proposed development lead to this level of susceptibility. There is also a visual and contextual association between the glens and the *Southern Uplands with forest* landscape, within which the northern part of the proposed development lies. Susceptibility is, however, restricted to a medium-high level by the internal influence of the 'A' roads, which have introduced large-scale infrastructure and movement into the glen and preclude a sense of remoteness in some areas.

6.7.338 The combination of the medium-high value and medium-high susceptibility to change of *upland glens – Evan* and *Moffat* results in a **medium-high** sensitivity.

Magnitude of change: upland glens – Evan (area 10(iii))

6.7.339 The *upland glens – Evan* landscape lies to the north-west of the site and gains visibility of the proposed development from between approximately 6km and 13km away. The ZTV indicates that this visibility is limited in terms of the number of turbines that are theoretically seen and is intermittent due to the enclosing eastern valley landform. There will therefore be no change on extensive parts of the area.

6.7.340 The nature of the landform ensures that there is no, or very limited, theoretical visibility from the eastern valley side and much of the valley floor, as shown on the ZTV. However, the western slopes and one area on the eastern slopes are shown on the ZTVs to gain higher theoretical visibility and the proposed development is likely to have a higher level of influence here. Viewpoint 10 is located towards the southern end of the glen in an area of higher visibility, while Viewpoint 12 is located at the northern extremity of the uppermost western slopes and also shows the higher type of visibility that is available from this area.

6.7.341 The highest magnitude of change on these areas will be **medium**, which will arise intermittently on areas that gain a moderate level of visibility within around 9km of the proposed development. On the western valley side, visibility becomes more limited at around 9km away while on the eastern side, the 9km radius covers the area of higher theoretical visibility on the upper slope. This **medium** level of change results from the following factors:

- The influence of the turbines will contrast in terms of colour, movement, scale, texture and form with the enclosed and in places relatively complex valley landscape (particularly the enclosed field boundaries);
- The proposed development will also contrast with the more naturalised rough grazing and moorland found in some upper areas of the glen;
- The proposed development will be seen on the elevated *Southern Uplands* skyline at the foot of the glen, with some views towards it channelled by landform, emphasising its influence;
- The introduction of the turbines is likely to lead to scale comparisons with the steeply sloped landform; and
- The addition of the proposed development will lead to the introduction of a new perceptual influence on the landscape character of parts of *Evan*, particularly the western slopes, where there is no baseline wind farm influence (Clyde is primarily visible from the eastern slopes).

6.7.342 The factors that limit the maximum magnitude of change on these areas to a **medium** level are as follows:

- There will be no direct physical effects on this receptor, and effects are perceived only;
- Visibility of the proposed development will not alter the characteristics that are important in the creation of the distinctive character of this landscape (i.e. the steeply sloping landform and textured landscape patterns);
- The human elements in the landscape, including roads, tracks and farm buildings, mean that it lacks the unspoilt remote, wildness characteristics with which the proposed development would have the greatest contrast;

- The proposed development is peripheral to the landform of the valley sides, ensuring that it is not seen in the direct orientation of the valley-side landform;
- The sense of visual and perceptual separation between the proposed development and the receptor afforded by the intervening landform of the *Southern Uplands* prevents a perception of encroachment into the more complex patterns of the valley landscape;
- In terms of landscape patterns, the upland setting in which the proposed development is seen provides a simple context for the turbines;
- The number of turbines visible is generally limited in relation to the full extent of the proposed development; and
- The strong innate character of the valley landscape itself ensures that the baseline characteristics will remain.

6.7.343 Beyond approximately 9km away, there is a natural reduction in the level of visibility on both valley sides, with theoretical visibility largely ceasing on the eastern side and reducing on the western side. and the magnitude of change will drop to a maximum **medium-low** level due to reduced influence and increasing distance. Several kilometres further to the north this will reduce to a **low** level, and this will extend to the boundary of *Evan*, approximately 13km away from the proposed development.

Magnitude of change: Moffat (area 10(vi))

6.7.344 The *upland glens – Moffat* landscape lies to the north of the site and gains visibility of the proposed development from a minimum of approximately 1.5m to 13km away. The ZTV indicates that this visibility is very limited in terms of the number of turbines that may be theoretically seen, being almost completely restricted to the smallest turbine grouping (one to 11 turbines), with just very small areas of 12 to 22 turbines, and is also extremely intermittent due to the steep enclosing slopes of the valley. There will therefore be no change on the great majority of the area.

6.7.345 The nature of the landform ensures that there is no theoretical visibility from the valley floor or the southern valley side, as shown on the ZTV. The northern valley side, which is orientated towards the site, is shown to gain an approximately 6km long stretch of very limited theoretical visibility (almost all restricted to a maximum of 11 turbines, with one small area of 12-22 turbines) between the north-western corner of the receptor and Capplegill. This area of visibility lies between approximately 4km and 7km from the nearest turbine.

6.7.346 A further small area of limited theoretical visibility (maximum 22 turbines) is found at the south-western end of the glen, where it opens out into *middle dale – mid Annandale*, between approximately 1.5km and 3.6km from the nearest turbine.

6.7.347 These two areas of theoretical visibility that lie in closer proximity to the proposed development - at the south-western end of the glen and the closer area on the north-western valley side – will have a maximum **medium-high** (south-western end of the glen) and **medium** (northern slope) magnitude of change**,** dependent on the level of visibility gained. This magnitude of change arises from the following considerations:

- The landscape is currently characterised by undeveloped, upland rough grazing and moorland (with some small areas of forestry);
- The presence of the proposed development at reasonably close proximity will result in perceived effects on this baseline character through the addition of new, unfamiliar features, primarily the turbines, providing a visible, prevailing influence and introducing uncharacteristic elements in terms of movement, materials, colour, and structures;
- The landform of the valley side is orientated towards the site, thus increasing potential influence;
- The proposed development will be seen on the enclosing skyline of the valley, emphasising its influence; and
- The introduction of the turbines is likely to lead to scale comparison with the steeply sloped, incised and sometimes complex nature of the landform.

6.7.348 The factors that reduce the level of change to a **medium-high** or **medium** level are as follows:

- There will be no direct physical effects on this receptor, and effects are perceived only;
- Visibility of the proposed development is very limited in terms of the number of turbines seen and the proportion of the turbines that is theoretically visible, and it is also seen across its shortest aspect, ensuring that when visible it will affect a limited part of the setting to the receptor;
- Visibility is also very intermittent, restricted to very small parts of the receptor, ensuring that the great majority of the glen will remain unaffected;
- Many of the characteristics that are important in the creation of the distinctive character of this landscape will not be affected by visibility of the proposed development; these include the distinctive landform, the relative lack of settlement and domestic development, and the enclosure of the *upland glen*;
- The proposed development will be seen adjacent to the glen, on its periphery, rather than at its head or foot, where landform would channel visibility towards it;
- The association of the proposed development with the upland landscape and the separation between the receptor and the proposed development by the *Southern Uplands – east Moffat* ensures that it does not appear to encroach into the receptor; and
- The strong innate character of the valley landscape itself ensures that the baseline characteristics will remain.

6.7.349 There are several small areas of theoretical visibility (limited to one to 11 turbines, and blades only) further up the north-western valley face, on the lower slopes of Carrifran Gans and White Coomb, between around 9.5km and 12km from the proposed development. This visibility, and the resultant level of influence, is very limited and the magnitude of change will be **low** to **negligible**.

Significance of the effect

6.7.350 The effect of the proposed development on the landscape character of *upland glens – Evan* will vary. The effect on much of the receptor will be **not significant** due to lack, or very limited visibility, of the proposed development. However, there are likely to be intermittent/ very intermittent **significant** effects on the character of the parts of the eastern and western slopes that gain moderate and clear theoretical visibility from up to approximately 11km, arising from a combination of the medium-high sensitivity of the landscape and the medium to medium-low magnitude of change upon it.

6.7.351 The effect of the proposed development on the landscape character of *upland glens – Moffat* will also vary. The effect on the great majority of the receptor will be **not significant** due to lack, or very limited visibility, of the proposed development. However, there are likely to be intermittent/ very intermittent **significant** effects on the character of an area of the landscape that lies at its south-western end, and a second area on the north-western valley side, arising from a combination of the medium-high sensitivity of the landscape and the medium-high to medium magnitude of change upon it. These areas lie between approximately 1.5km and 7km from the proposed development.

Cumulative effects: upland glens – Evan (area 10 (iii))

6.7.352 There is very limited and/ or distant influence of baseline and negligible influence from application-stage cumulative wind farms on this receptor, due in part to the enclosed valley landform of the receptor which precludes a high level of visibility from anything other than the closest features. The proposed development itself has a very limited and intermittent influence on the receptor. Harestanes/ Minnygap is the closest site at over 9km away, and as these sites lie to the west, their influence is reduced as the landform of the northern and southern valley sides is orientated away from them. There is some very intermittent theoretical visibility of Clyde and Extension from a small part of the glen, over 8km away, and of Harestanes/ Minnygap, also from a small part of the glen, from over 10km away. The cumulative magnitude of change will be a maximum of **low**, and cumulative effects are considered to be **not significant.**

Cumulative effects: Moffat (area 10 (vi))

6.7.353 There is very limited and/ or distant influence of baseline and negligible influence from application-stage cumulative wind farms on this receptor, due in part to the enclosed valley landform of the receptor, which precludes a high level of visibility from anything other than the closest features. Harestanes/ Minnygap is the closest site at over 9km away, and as these sites lie to the west, their influence is reduced as the landform of the northern and southern valley sides is orientated away from them. Clyde and Extension is around 11.7km to the north-west and has very limited theoretical visibility. The cumulative magnitude of change will be a maximum of **low**, and cumulative effects are considered to be **not significant.**

Moffat Hills RSA

Baseline and sensitivity

6.7.354 The southern boundary of the Moffat Hills RSA lies a minimum of approximately 600m to the north of the proposed development and extends to a maximum of approximately 14km away to the north. Viewpoints 1, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 21 lie within the RSA.

6.7.355 Regional Scenic Areas Technical Paper (Dumfries and Galloway Council, 2018) includes the following description of the RSA:

"*This area is based on the juxtaposition of Southern Upland of Hart Fell with the Moffat and upper Annandale Upland Glens south to and including Moffat. It derives from the previous Moffat Hills ARSS.*

The designated area was amended to include the visual envelopes of the upper Annan and Moffat glens as far as the ridge lines, and to include the outward facing ends of the ridges which are important to the views into and along the glens, plus the unspoilt borders town of Moffat at the junction of the two glens. To the north the area abuts a Special Landscape Area (locally designated landscape area) within the Scottish Borders.

The area centres on the Southern Uplands of Hart Fell, with their characteristic smooth, high, steep sided rounded hills, dissected by steep clefts and patterned with a mosaic of rough grassland, heather, scree, and montane vegetation on the high summits. Conifer plantations on the lower slopes combine with small scale valley woods to give an intermittently wooded character to the archetype long, straight, U shaped, glaciated Moffat Upland Glen. Plantations are also starting to encroach on the contrasting open character of upper Annandale, and the fine views across the valley from the A701. Both valleys have scattered farms with improved pastures enclosed by stone walls. Major roads run along both glens linking Moffat to the M74 to the east, making the area readily accessible from other parts of the country. Moffat forms an important tourist centre. Pressures for landscape change include forestry, tourism and residential expansion of the town."

6.7.356 The Regional Scenic Areas Technical Paper includes the following description of landscape types that are included in the RSA (please note that this list does not accord with OPEN's GIS mapping of designated areas and landscape character, and has been utilised instead of the GIS mapping as it is understood that RSA boundaries have been adapted by D&GC to follow the boundaries of specific landscape types):

- "*Upland Glen (10) – River Annan* [also referred to as Evan] and Moffat Water [also referred to as Moffat] - *Both strongly developed examples of the character type in this part of the region, juxtaposed with associated Southern Uplands;*
- *Southern Uplands (19) - North Moffat and East Moffat - Both dramatic, sculptural examples of their landscape type in this otherwise extensively forested part of the uplands, and which may provide containment to the two main glens.*
- *Middle Dale (7) - Mid Annandale (northern end) - Northern extremity where Moffat nestles at the junction of the two glens; and*
- *Foothills with forest (18a) - Ae (eastern fringes) Peripheral areas within visual envelope of Annan Upland Glen*."

6.7.357 The effects of the proposed development on the landscape character of all of these types are assessed in full in the previous sections of this Chapter.

6.7.358 There are no wind farms within the RSA. Clyde Wind Farm lies a minimum of approximately 3.6km to the north-west of the RSA while Whitelaw Brae is some 4.5km to the north and Harestanes/ Minnygap around 7.5km to the south-west.

6.7.359 The Moffat Hills RSA has a medium-high value. This is due to its regionally-important scenic designation and the overlap of the northern part of the RSA with the Talla – Hart Fell WLA (although it is important to note that the WLA is not a scenic designation). The quality of the landscape, which has a sense of place and scenic qualities, is also notable. The Moffat Hills RSA has a medium-high susceptibility to the proposed development, based on the factors that are considered in the assessment of the susceptibility of the various landscape types, as listed above, that have been fully assessed in this Chapter and lie within the RSA.

6.7.360 The combination of the medium-high susceptibility to change of the landscape and its high value results in a **medium-high** sensitivity for the Moffat Hills RSA.

Effects on the special qualities of the RSA

6.7.361 The Regional Scenic Areas Technical Paper does not provide specific descriptions of 'special qualities' or 'key qualities' of the Moffat Hills RSA. However, the overview of the RSA that is included in the Technical Paper, quoted above, does describe some characteristics of the RSA, and DGWLCS draws upon these in its appraisal of the sensitivity and capacity of landscape character types that lie within the RSA.

6.7.362 DGWLCS makes the following references to the Moffat Hills RSA, in relation to specific landscape types:

- Middle dale – "*The far northern tip of 'Mid Annandale' is included in the Moffat Hills RSA. Its importance is in providing the setting to the unspoilt borders town of Moffat where it nestles at the junction of the upper glens of Annan and Moffat."* (DGWLCS page 120);
- Upland glens – "*The Moffat and upper Annan/ Evan glens lie within the Moffat Hills RSA…Ewes, Moffat and upper Annan are described in Technical Paper 6 as archetypal...'long, straight-sided U shaped glaciated Upland Glens'*" (DGWLCS page 152); and

- Southern Uplands – "*The Southern Uplands within the Moffat Hills RSA are noted as being "..dramatic, sculptural examples of this landscape type in this otherwise extensively forested part of the uplands*"." (DGWLCS page 342).

6.7.363 Drawing on these descriptions and the overview of the RSA provided in the Technical Paper, the special or key qualities of the RSA may be summarised as follows:

- The juxtaposition of the Southern Uplands (specifically Hart Fell) with the *Moffat* and *Evan upland glens*;
- The 'unspoilt' borders town (and tourist centre) of Moffat in its setting of *mid Annandale*, and at the junction of the two *upland glens*;
- Views into and along the *upland glens*, including the upper ridgelines and the outward-facing ends of the enclosing ridges;
- The characteristic smooth, high, dramatic, steep sided and sculptural rounded hills of the Hart Fell Southern Uplands, dissected by steep clefts and patterned with a mosaic of rough grassland, heather, scree, and montane vegetation on the high summits;
- The lack of forestry on these hills, and the contrast they have with the surrounding extensively forested areas;
- The dramatic landform and scenery of the Devil's Beef Tub;
- The archetypal long, straight, U-shaped, glaciated form of *upland glens – Evan* and *Moffat*;
- The plantations on the lower slopes of *upland glen – Moffat*, which combine with small scale valley woods to give an intermittently wooded character;
- The readily accessible nature of the area from around the country; and
- Scattered farms with improved pastures enclosed by stone walls in the valleys.

6.7.364 These special qualities are listed in Table 6.8, where the effect of the proposed development on each of them is described. Special qualities that have been assessed as being affected by the proposed development are shown shaded in the table.

Table 6.8 – Assessment of Special Qualities of the Langholm Hills RSA

Special Quality	Effect of the proposed development
The juxtaposition of the Southern Uplands (specifically Hart Fell) with the *Moffat* and *Evan upland glens*	The proposed development will not affect this special quality as there will be no direct effects on the landscape types and their relationships with each other.
The unspoilt borders town (and tourist centre) of Moffat in its setting of mid Annandale and at the junction of the two *upland glens*	The proposed development will not directly affect Moffat, but will affect views from and of the town. The proposed development will not be seen in the mid Annandale or *upland glens* setting to Moffat, but will be seen in the wider setting to Moffat (the upland areas covered by *Southern Uplands with forest* and *foothills*).
Views into and along the *upland glens*, including the upper ridgelines and the outward-facing ends of the enclosing ridges	Views into the *upland glens* will not be affected by the proposed development. Some southwards views along *Evan* will be affected by visibility of the proposed development, which lies beyond the foot of the valley. Northwards views will not be affected.
	Effects on views along *Moffat* will be very limited and intermittent due to the very limited visibility of the proposed development from this glen, and will be peripheral as the proposed development lies adjacent to rather than at the head or foot of the glen.
The characteristic smooth, high, dramatic, steep sided and sculptural rounded hills of the Hart Fell Southern Uplands, dissected by steep clefts and patterned with a mosaic of rough grassland, heather, scree, and montane vegetation on the high summits	The proposed development will not affect this special quality
The lack of forestry on these hills, and the contrast they have with the surrounding extensively forested areas	The proposed development will not affect this special quality
The dramatic landform and scenery of the Devil's Beef Tub	The proposed development will not affect this special quality
The archetypal long, straight, U-shaped, glaciated form of *upland glens – Evan* and *Moffat*	The proposed development will not affect this special quality
The readily accessible nature of the area from around the country	The proposed development will not affect this special quality
Scattered farms with improved pastures enclosed by stone walls in the valleys	The proposed development will not affect this special quality

Significance of effects on the RSA in relation to landscape character

6.7.365 The effects that the proposed development will have on the landscape character of the RSA are assessed in terms of the landscape types that have been defined and assessed in this LVIA. Table 6.9 lists these landscape types and records the significance of the effects that have been assessed for each of them. The types that have been assessed as having significant effects are shown as shaded in the table.

Table 6.9 – Effects on Landscape Types within the Moffat Hills RSA

Landscape type	Effect of the proposed development
Foothills with forest - Ae (eastern fringes)	The effect on the eastern fringes of this receptor, which is covered by the RSA, will very. The effect on the southern part of the eastern fringes will be intermittently **significant** while the effect on the northern part, beyond approximately 9-10km away from the proposed development, will be **not significant.**
Middle dale - mid Annandale (northern end)	The effect on the northern end of this receptor, within the RSA, will be intermittently **significant**.
Southern Uplands - east Moffat	The effect on the great majority of *east Moffat* will be **not significant** due to lack, or very limited visibility, of the proposed development. However, there is likely to be a **significant** effect on the character of the very limited parts of the receptor (between approximately 300m and 7.2km away) that do gain more than minimal visibility of the proposed development due to a combination of the medium-high

Landscape type	Effect of the proposed development
	sensitivity of the landscape and the high to medium magnitude of change upon it.
Southern Uplands - north Moffat	The effect on the great majority of *north Moffat* will be **not significant** due to lack, or very limited visibility, of the proposed development. However, there is likely to be a **significant** effect on the character of the limited parts of the receptor (between approximately 4.5km and a maximum of around 11.5km away) that do gain more than minimal visibility of the proposed development due to a combination of the high sensitivity of the landscape and the medium to medium-low magnitude of change upon it.
Upland glen – River Annan/ Evan	The effect on much of the receptor will be **not significant** due to lack, or very limited visibility, of the proposed development. However, there are likely to be intermittent/ very intermittent **significant** effects on the character of the parts of the eastern and western slopes that gain moderate and clear theoretical visibility from up to approximately 11km, arising from a combination of the medium-high sensitivity of the landscape and the medium to medium-low magnitude of change upon it.
Upland glen – Moffat Water/ Moffat	The effect on the great majority of this receptor will be **not significant** due to lack, or very limited visibility, of the proposed development. However, there are likely to be intermittent/ very intermittent **significant** effects on the character of an area of the landscape that lies at its south-western end, and a second area on the north-western valley side, arising from a combination of the medium-high sensitivity of the landscape and the medium-high to medium magnitude of change upon it. These areas lie between approximately 1.5km and 7km from the proposed development.

6.7.366 Table 6.9 indicates that there are likely to be intermittent/ very intermittent **significant** indirect effects on the landscape character of the following central and southern areas of the RSA:

- The *Evan* and *Moffat upland glens*, up to a maximum of approximately 11km and 7km respectively from the proposed development (intermittent/ very intermittent);
- The *Southern Uplands east Moffat* and *north Moffat* areas up to a maximum of approximately 7.2km and 11.5km respectively from the proposed development (very intermittent);
- The northern extremity of *middle dale - mid Annandale* (intermittent); and
- The southern part of the eastern fringes of *foothills with forest – Ae*, up to a maximum of approximately 9-10km from the proposed development (intermittent).

6.7.367 The effect on all other areas of the RSA will be **not significant**, including the great majority of *upland glen – Evan*, *upland glen – Moffat*, *Southern Uplands - north Moffat*, *Southern Uplands - east Moffat*, and the northern part of the eastern fringes of *foothills with forest – Ae.*

6.7.368 There are likely to be effects on two of the special qualities of the RSA:

- *The unspoilt borders town (and tourist centre) of Moffat in its setting of mid Annandale and at the junction of the two upland glens*; and
- *Views into and along the upland glens, including the upper ridgelines and the outward-facing ends of the enclosing ridges*.

Cumulative effects

6.7.369 The cumulative assessment of the landscape character types that cover the RSA is summarised in Table 6.10.

Table 6.10 – Cumulative Effects on Landscape Types within the Moffat Hills RSA

Landscape type	Cumulative effect of the proposed development
Foothills with forest - Ae (eastern fringes)	The cumulative effect on the part of this receptor that lies within the RSA is likely to be **not significant**.
Middle dale - mid Annandale (northern end)	The cumulative effect on the part of this receptor that lies within the RSA is likely to be **not significant**.
Southern Uplands - east Moffat	The cumulative effect on the majority of this receptor will be **not significant**. There will, however, be a very intermittent **significant** cumulative effect arising from the addition of the proposed development to the baseline cumulative scenario, which will arise only where the proposed development is clearly visible in conjunction with readily apparent visibility of Clyde and Extension and Harestanes/ Minnygap, and is thus most likely to arise at the high points in the receptor from where the three wind farm groups are readily apparent.
Southern Uplands - north Moffat	The cumulative effect on the majority of this receptor will be **not significant**. There will, however, be a very intermittent **significant** cumulative effect arising from the addition of the proposed development to the baseline cumulative scenario, which will arise only where the proposed development is clearly visible in conjunction with readily apparent visibility of some or all of the north-western sites (Clyde and Extension, Whitelaw Brae, and Glenkerie and Extension) and Harestanes/ Minnygap, and is thus most likely to arise at the few high points in the receptor from where the three wind farm groups are readily apparent.
Upland glen – River Annan/ Evan	**Not significant**
Upland glen – Moffat Water/ Moffat	**Not significant**

6.7.370 Table 6.10 indicates that the cumulative effect on the great majority of the RSA will be **not significant**. There are, however, likely to be intermittent or very intermittent **significant** cumulative effects on the landscape character of:

- *Southern Uplands - east Moffat* where the proposed development is clearly visible in conjunction with readily apparent visibility of Clyde and Extension and Harestanes/ Minnygap; and
- *Southern Uplands - north Moffat* where the proposed development is clearly visible in conjunction with readily apparent visibility of some or all of the north-western sites (Clyde and Extension, Whitelaw Brae, and Glenkerie and Extension) and Harestanes/ Minnygap.

Summary of Effects on Landscape Character

6.7.371 Table 6.11 provides a summary of effects on landscape character.

Table 6.11 – Summary of Effects on Landscape Character

Landscape Character Receptor	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Significance of Cumulative Effect
Foothills – Annandale (unit A) (areas 18(i) and 18(ii))	Medium-high	Maximum high	Intermittent direct and indirect significant effects on the site and those parts of the landscape that gain visibility of the proposed development up to approx. 9-10km away	**Baseline scenario:** intermittent/ very intermittent significant cumulative effect **Baseline plus application-stage scenario:** intermittent/ very intermittent significant effect
Foothills – Beattock (area 18(iii))	Medium	Maximum medium	Intermittent indirect significant effects on those parts of the landscape that gain visibility of the proposed development from between approx. 4.6km and 9.5-10km away	**Baseline scenario:** intermittent/ very intermittent significant cumulative effect **Baseline plus application-stage scenario:** n/a
Foothills with forest – Ae (unit A) (area 18a(i))	Medium	Maximum medium	Intermittent indirect significant effects on those parts of the landscape that gain visibility of the proposed development from between approx. 6.5km and 9-10km away	**Baseline scenario:** intermittent/ very intermittent significant cumulative effect **Baseline plus application-stage scenario:** n/a
Foothills with forest – Castle O'er (area 18a(ii))	Medium	Maximum high	Intermittent direct and indirect significant effects on the site and those parts of the landscape that gain visibility of the proposed development up to approx. 9km away	**Baseline scenario:** intermittent/ very intermittent significant cumulative effect **Baseline plus application-stage scenario:** intermittent/ very intermittent significant effect
Foothills with forest – Eskdale (area 18a(iii))	Medium	Maximum medium	Intermittent indirect significant effects on those parts of the landscape that gain visibility of the proposed development from between approx. 5.7km and 9.3km away	**Baseline plus application-stage scenario:** intermittent/ very intermittent significant effect
Intimate pastoral valley – Dryfe (area 5(ii))	Medium-high	Maximum high	Intermittent direct and indirect significant effects on the site and those parts of the landscape that gain visibility of the proposed development up to approx. 11km away	Not significant
Middle dale – mid Annandale (area 7(i))	Medium	Maximum high	Intermittent direct and indirect significant effects on the site and those parts of the landscape that gain visibility of the proposed development up to approx. 10km away	**Baseline scenario:** intermittent/ very intermittent significant cumulative effect **Baseline plus application-stage scenario:** n/a
Narrow wooded river valleys – Eskdale (unit A) (area 4(i))	Medium-high	Maximum medium-high	Intermittent/ very intermittent indirect significant effects on those parts of the landscape that gain visibility of the proposed development from between approx. 2km and 11km away	**Baseline scenario:** not significant **Baseline plus application-stage scenario:** intermittent/ very intermittent significant effect
Southern Uplands – east Moffat (area 19(i))	Medium-high	High	Intermittent/ very intermittent indirect significant effects on those parts of the landscape that gain more than minimal visibility of the proposed development from between approx. 300m and 7.2km away	**Baseline scenario:** very intermittent significant cumulative effect **Baseline plus application-stage scenario:** n/a
Southern Uplands – north	Medium-high	Maximum medium-high	Intermittent indirect significant effects on those parts of the	**Baseline scenario:** not significant

Landscape Character Receptor	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Significance of Cumulative Effect
Langholm (unit A) (area 19(vi))			landscape that gain visibility of the proposed development from between approx. 6.5km and 9-10km away	**Baseline plus application-stage scenario:** intermittent significant effect
Southern Uplands – north Moffat (area 19(vii))	High	Maximum medium	Intermittent indirect significant effects on those parts of the landscape that gain visibility of the proposed development from between approx. 4.5km and 11.5km away	**Baseline scenario:** very intermittent significant effect **Baseline plus application-stage scenario:** n/a
Southern Uplands forest covered – Craik (unit A) (area 5(i))	Medium	Maximum medium-high	Very intermittent indirect significant effects on those parts of the landscape that gain visibility of the proposed development from between approx. 3km and 9-10km away	Not significant
Southern Uplands with forest – Eskdalemuir (area 19a(i))	Medium	Maximum high	Significant direct and indirect effect on the site itself and those parts of the receptor that gain high or moderate visibility of the proposed development from within approximately 10km	**Baseline scenario:** not significant **Baseline plus application-stage scenario:** very intermittent significant effect
Upland fringe – Annandale fringe (unit A) (areas 16(i) and 16(ii))	Medium	Maximum high	Significant direct and indirect effect on the site itself and those parts of the receptor that gain visibility of the proposed development from within approximately 10km	**Baseline scenario**: intermittent significant effect on the southern part of *unit A* **Baseline plus application-stage scenario**: n/a
Upland glens – Evan (area 10(iii))	Medium-high	Maximum medium	Very intermittent indirect significant effects on those parts of the landscape that gain visibility of the proposed development from between approx. 6km and 11km away	Not significant
Upland glens – Moffat (area 10(vi))	Medium-high	Maximum medium-high	Very intermittent indirect significant effects on those parts of the landscape that gain visibility of the proposed development from between approx. 1.5km and 7km away	Not significant
Moffat Hills RSA	Medium-high	Maximum high	**Special qualities:** significant effects on two special qualities **Landscape character:** intermittent/ very intermittent indirect significant effects on the landscape character of parts of the LCTs that cover the RSA as described above (see *Evan* and *Moffat upland glens*, the *Southern Uplands - east Moffat* and *north Moffat*, *middle dale - mid Annandale* and *foothills with forest – Ae*)	**Baseline scenario:** very intermittent significant effect on parts of *Southern Uplands - east Moffat* and *Southern Uplands - north Moffat* **Baseline plus application-stage scenario:** n/a

6.8 Assessment of Effects on Views

6.8.1 Effects on views are the changes to views that result from the introduction of the proposed development. The assessment of effects on views includes effects on the 25 viewpoints which represent visibility of the proposed development from around the study area and effects on principal visual receptors such as settlements and routes.

6.8.2 Section 6.3 (Baseline Conditions and Preliminary Assessment) identifies the viewpoints and principal visual receptors that have the potential to undergo significant effects (including significant cumulative effects) and therefore require further assessment. The effect on each of these viewpoints and principal visual receptors is assessed below. The other viewpoints and principal visual receptors were found through the initial filtering process to not have the potential to undergo a significant effect and have therefore not been assessed in any further detail.

6.8.3 The viewpoints and principal visual receptors that are assessed in more detail are as follows:

- Viewpoint 1: Southern Upland Way near Gateshaw Rig;
- Viewpoint 2: Romans and Reivers Route;
- Viewpoint 3: Sandyford;
- Viewpoint 4: Waterhead of Dryfe;
- Viewpoint 5: Rangecastle Hill;
- Viewpoint 6: Boreland Church;
- Viewpoint 7: Annandale Water Services, J16 A74(M);
- Viewpoint 8: Southern Upland Way near Beattock Hill;
- Viewpoint 9: Moffat High Street;
- Viewpoint 10: Moffat A701 on northern edge;
- Viewpoint 11: A701 north of Moffat;
- Viewpoint 12: A701 near Devil's Beef Tub;
- Viewpoint 13: Ettrick Pen;
- Viewpoint 14: B709 north of Eskdalemuir;
- Viewpoint 15: Castle O'er Forest Hill Fort;
- Viewpoint 16: Corrie Common;
- Viewpoint 17: Burnswark Hill Fort;
- Viewpoint 18: A709 west of Lockerbie (bridge over River Annan);
- Viewpoint 19: B7020 north of Lochmaben;
- Viewpoint 20: Queensberry;
- Viewpoint 21: Hart Fell;
- Viewpoint 22: Malcolm Monument, Whita Hill;
- Bankshill;
- Beattock;
- Boreland;
- Corrie Common;
- Johnstonebridge;
- Lochmaben;
- Lockerbie;
- Moffat;
- A74(M);
- A701;
- A709;
- B709;
- B723;
- B7020;
- B7076;
- Core paths;
- Annandale Way;
- Romans and Reivers Route;
- Southern Upland Way;
- West Coast mainline railway;
- National Cycle Route 74.

Viewpoint 1: Southern Upland Way near Gateshaw Rig

Baseline and sensitivity

6.8.4 The Southern Upland Way (paired with the Romans and Reivers Route at this point) passes to the north of the site after rising out of Moffat Dale.

6.8.5 This viewpoint is located within the *Southern Uplands with forest* landscape type, and provides a relatively rare view of the proposed development from this landscape type as many views are screened and enclosed by forestry and landform. This landscape is surrounded by an extensive area of the various Southern Uplands landscape types, covering both Dumfries and Galloway and the Scottish Borders, and Southern Uplands is the predominant landscape type seen in the views from here.

6.8.6 This view shows an example of the "*narrow valleys which cut deeply into these uplands…steeply incised burns…and more complex interlocking landform…"* (DGWLCS) that are found in parts of the *Southern Uplands with forest* landscape, with the incised valley of the Wamphray Water seen in the outlook towards the site.

6.8.7 In contrast to the surrounding upland slopes and hills, the valley is an enclosed landscape with more complex landform. However, the landscape patterns in the valley remain of a large and simple scale, showing the same forestry/ moorland cover and lack of small-scale elements (e.g. field boundaries, hedgerows and farms) as the more open, elevated upland hill landscapes of the Southern Uplands.

6.8.8 The landscape setting of this view is rather bleak due to the enclosing landform and forestry and it does not display the scenic qualities seen in more elevated upland views within and across the Southern Uplands.

6.8.9 There is no visibility of baseline (e.g. operational, consented or under construction) cumulative wind farms in this view.

6.8.10 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the view/viewpoint and the susceptibility of the viewer to the proposed development. The value of this view is medium-high. The Southern Upland Way and Romans and Reivers Route are both national long-distance walking routes, recognised as two of 'Scotland's Great Trails', and while the viewpoint itself is not indicated on OS maps, the landscape setting contributes to visitors' experience of this location. The viewpoint also lies just within the Moffat Hills RSA. It is not, however, a particularly scenic or dramatic outlook across the Southern Uplands, and the full extent of the Moffat Hills RSA lies to the north of the viewpoint (and is largely unseen due to foreshortening by landform) while the channelled valley landform leads to the south, towards the site, outwith the RSA.

6.8.11 The susceptibility to change of viewers at this viewpoint is high. People who gain the view will be walkers who are engaging in outdoor recreation and are likely to have a specific focus on the scenery and surrounding landscape.

6.8.12 The combination of the high susceptibility to change and the medium-high value of the view results in a **high** sensitivity for the viewpoint.

Magnitude of change

6.8.13 Twenty turbines of the proposed development are theoretically visible in this view, 13 seen as hubs and a further seven as blades only, from a minimum of 1.83km away. Several hubs and blades will in fact be screened by forestry that lines the valley sides, as can be seen in a comparison of the wireline and photomontage, and the actual visibility will be lower than the theoretical visibility. Should the forestry be felled during the lifetime of the proposed development, the parts of turbines that are currently screened would become visible.

6.8.14 The turbines will be the principal visible element of the proposed development, with the great majority of infrastructure such as access tracks being screened by landform. One meteorological mast will, however, be visible, as will a very small area of forestry removal to the left of turbine 20. Tall cranes will be seen during the construction and decommissioning phases.

6.8.15 The magnitude of change on this view will be **medium-high**, with the proposed development resulting in a major alteration to the baseline view and providing a prevailing influence. The factors that lead to this change are as follows:

- The introduction of turbines at close proximity into a view that is not currently affected by wind energy development;
- The introduction of movement and contrasting colour and texture into the forested upland landscape setting in which the proposed development is seen;
- The vertical impact of the turbines on the skyline;
- The proximity of the turbines to the viewpoint;
- The scale of the turbines in relation to the relatively small scale of the valley landform seen in the foreground of the view;
- The appearance of the proposed development across the most open part of the southwards view from the viewpoint; and
- The channelling of the valley landform towards the proposed development.

6.8.16 The following considerations limit the cumulative magnitude of change to a medium-high level:

- The relatively limited number of turbines that are visible (theoretically 20, with fewer likely to be visible in reality);
- The limited part of the view that is affected by the proposed development (theoretically approximately 40-degrees, but likely to be approximately 36-degrees due to forestry screening), which ensures that extensive parts of the view will remain unaffected;
- The containment of the proposed development on either side by landform, which reduces the perceived scale of the turbines and prevents 'straggling' across the skyline;
- The appearance of the proposed development as a single turbine group rather than appearing as several groups separated by intervening hill landforms, which increases cohesion and again prevents an impression of 'straggling';
- The large scale and simple nature of the upland skyline and setting, including landscape patterns, in which the turbines are seen, particularly the absence of small-scale, complex landform;
- The sense of separation between the viewpoint and the turbines, which results from the 'layering' of landform;
- The proposed development is seen across its relatively narrow east-west horizontal extent in this view, rather than its longer north-south axis; and
- The very limited visibility of site infrastructure, which ensures that the disruption and potential clutter of access tracks and other infrastructure is avoided.

Significance of the effect

6.8.17 The effect of the proposed development on this view will be **significant**. This is due to a combination of the factors that lead to the high sensitivity of the viewpoint and the medium-high magnitude of change on the view.

Cumulative effects

6.8.18 There is no visibility of operational, consented or application-stage cumulative wind farms in this view, and cumulative effects will therefore not arise. Cumulative effects are considered to be **not significant**.

Viewpoint 2: Romans and Reivers Route

Baseline and sensitivity

6.8.19 This viewpoint is located on the Romans and Reivers Route as it passes to the north of the site. This section of the Romans and Reivers Route is not paired with the Southern Upland Way, which runs north-eastwards from Viewpoint 1, whereas the Romans and Reivers Route runs south-eastwards.

6.8.20 This viewpoint lies just over 1.5km to the east of Viewpoint 1 and is similarly located within the *Southern Uplands with forest* landscape, but shows a quite different outlook in its open, upland view across unforested rounded hills, with elevated expanses of partially forested Southern Uplands seen around the viewpoint.

6.8.21 A number of baseline (e.g. operational, under construction and consented) cumulative wind farms are theoretically visible in this outlook, as shown on the wireline views. These form a group, south-east of the viewpoint, that includes the operational sites at Ewe Hill and Craig and Extension, along with the sites at Crossdykes (which is the closest, at a minimum of 17.5km away), Hopsrig and Loganhead. There is theoretical visibility of Little Hartfell and Solwaybank from a minimum of 15.7km and 26.7km away respectively, but this is currently screened by forestry. Should the forestry be felled, the limited visibility and distance of these two sites from the viewpoint ensure that they are unlikely to contribute to notable cumulative effects. There is also theoretical visibility of Hellrig, but this is seen from 52.8km away, beyond its study area.

6.8.22 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the view/viewpoint and the susceptibility of the viewer to the proposed development. The value of this view is medium-high. The Romans and Reivers Route is a national long-distance walking route, recognised as one of 'Scotland's Great Trails', and the landscape setting contributes notably to visitors' experience of this location. It also has value in its elevated, scenic outlook across the Southern Uplands, particularly given its open outlook in contrast to the forestry cover found over much of the landscape. It does not, however, lie within a designated area, and the viewpoint itself is not indicated on OS maps.

6.8.23 The susceptibility to change of viewers at this viewpoint is high. People who gain the view will be walkers who are engaging in outdoor recreation and are likely to have a specific focus on the scenery and surrounding landscape.

6.8.24 The combination of the high susceptibility to change and the medium-high value of the view results in a **high** sensitivity for the viewpoint.

Magnitude of change

6.8.25 The majority of turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible in this view, almost all of them as hubs, from a minimum of 917m away. The nature of the vegetation in the view ensures that all of these turbines are likely to be visible in reality. Several turbine bases are likely to be visible.

6.8.26 The turbines will be the principal visible element of the proposed development, with much of the infrastructure being screened by landform. Some sections of new access tracks and hardstands will be visible, most notably in the vicinity of turbines 17, 18 and 21, along with small areas of forestry removal. There is also theoretical visibility of three meteorological masts. Tall cranes will be seen during the construction and decommissioning phases.

6.8.27 The magnitude of change on this view will be **high**, with the proposed development resulting in a major alteration to the baseline view, providing a prevailing influence and introducing elements that are uncharacteristic in the view. The factors that lead to this change are as follows:

- The introduction of turbines at close proximity into an aspect of the view that is not currently affected by nearby wind energy development;
- The introduction of movement and contrasting colour and texture into the exposed, elevated upland landscape setting in which the proposed development is seen;
- The vertical impact of the turbines on the skyline;
- The proximity of the turbines to the viewpoint;
- The depth of the proposed development as seen from this location – the visible turbines range from less than 1km away to over 7km away – which reinforces its large scale and extent;
- This is emphasised by the apparent scale variation between the closest and most distant visible turbines;
- The horizontal extent of the view that will be affected by the proposed development (approximately 75-degrees) and the number of turbines that are visible in the proposed development;
- The variation in the landform and skylines against which the turbines are seen;
- The visibility of turbine bases, which reduces perceived separation between the viewpoint and the proposed development, and is emphasised by the location of much of the proposed development within the same landscape type as the viewpoint;
- The appearance of the proposed development in part of the most open aspect of the outlook;
- The addition of the proposed development to baseline wind farms, also seen to the south of the viewpoint (at a greater distance than the proposed development); and
- Visibility of site infrastructure, albeit limited.

6.8.28 The high magnitude of change is mitigated by the following factors, which are not sufficient to reduce the level of magnitude of change but do reduce the overall impact of the proposed development:

- The extent of the view that will remain unaffected by the proposed development (more than 75%);
- The appearance of the proposed development as a single turbine group rather than appearing as several groups, which increases cohesion and prevents an impression of 'straggling';
- The large scale and simple nature of the upland skyline and landscape setting in which the turbines are seen; and
- The proposed development is seen across its relatively narrow east-west horizontal extent in this view, rather than its longer north-south axis.

Significance of the effect

6.8.29 The effect of the proposed development on this view will be **significant**. This is due to a combination of the factors that lead to the high sensitivity of the viewpoint and the high magnitude of change on the view.

Cumulative effects

6.8.30 Visibility of cumulative wind farms is shown in the wirelines on Figure 6.18b and c. Two of the sites shown on the wirelines - Little Hartfell and Hellrig - are not considered in detail in the cumulative assessment due to very limited visibility and distance from the viewpoint respectively. The relevant cumulative wind farms are as follows:

- The group of baseline (operational, under construction and consented) sites that lies to the south-east of the viewpoint, between approximately 17.5km and 23.2km away; Craig and Extension, Crossdykes, Ewe Hill, Hopsrig, and Loganhead; and
- The application-stage site at Faw Side, which is 17.1km away, is east-south-east of the viewpoint.

6.8.31 There are two potential cumulative scenarios at this viewpoint; the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites (operational, under-construction and consented) and the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites plus the application-stage site at Faw Side.

6.8.32 The addition of the proposed development to the **baseline scenario** will have a **low** cumulative magnitude of change. This change will arise from the addition of the proposed development to the south-eastern group of baseline wind farms, and arises from the following considerations:

- The addition of the proposed development – a wind farm that will have a significant effect itself - to a view in which a group of baseline wind farms is theoretically visible;
- The location of the proposed development in a part of the view (the southern part) that is not affected by baseline wind farms, so that it extends wind farm influence around the view;
- The location of the proposed development and baseline wind farms across the open part of the view; and
- The variation between the proposed development and the more visible baseline wind farms in terms of proximity, scale, extent, layout and setting – the proposed development is of a larger scale and greater extent than other wind farms.

6.8.33 The following considerations limit the cumulative magnitude of change to a **low** level:

- The limited extent of the skyline that is affected by baseline development (approximately 15-degrees);
- The relatively distant visibility of cumulative wind farms and absence of close-proximity schemes other than the proposed development;
- The location of the proposed development in the same aspect of the view as the baseline wind farms, so that the viewpoint is not encircled by wind farms, and the resulting extensive parts of the outlook that will remain without wind farm influence (to the north and east);
- The grouping together of baseline wind energy development in one area so that the outlook is not characterised by a number of dispersed and disparate developments;
- The cohesive appearance of the proposed development, which ensures that it will be perceived as a single, unified development.

6.8.34 A scenario that includes the application site at Faw Side is also considered. The inclusion of Faw Side would lead to a **medium-low** cumulative magnitude of change arising from the addition of the proposed development, due to the following factors:

- The addition of another, discrete, wind farm to the outlook, so that the proposed development would create a third 'node' of development;
- The increase in the developed skyline to which the proposed development would be added (an additional 15-degrees, approximately, as a result of Faw Side); and
- The location of Faw Side across the open part of the view, along with the baseline group, to which the proposed development would be added.

6.8.35 The cumulative effect arising from the addition of the proposed development to the baseline cumulative scenario will be **not significant**, due to a combination of the factors that lead to the low cumulative magnitude of change despite the high sensitivity of the viewpoint. When the application-stage wind farm at Faw Side is also considered, the cumulative magnitude of change arising from the proposed development would become **medium-low** and the effect would become **significant**. This combination of high sensitivity and medium-low

cumulative magnitude of change can result in an effect that is either significant or not significant. In this case, the effect is assessed to be significant due to the appearance of the proposed development across the open part of the view, along with the baseline and application stage sites, creating three nodes of development.

Viewpoint 3: Sandyford

6.8.36 This viewpoint is located on the B723 as it passes through the hamlet of Sandyford, south-east of the site. The ZTV shows fairly consistent visibility of the proposed development from the B723, although this is often screened and filtered by forestry. This viewpoint is located on a stretch of consistent visibility, where the westbound road rounds a bend and gains views towards the site. Eastbound road-users will not gain this view.

6.8.37 Theoretical visibility of the proposed development that is higher than that shown in this view is gained from the road slightly further to the east of this location (although forestry will screen some visibility from that stretch too), and this viewpoint has been selected in order to show the cottages and their associated garden grounds in the setting of the Black Esk valley.

6.8.38 This viewpoint lies within the *foothills with forest* landscape and shows the typical characteristics of this type in both the "*expansive undulating upland plateau*" (DGWLCS) that forms the backdrop to the view and the more enclosed scale of the foreground "*contained valleys…where the landform is more complex on the western boundaries of the O'er unit"* (DGWLCA). The presence of houses, fields and fences in the foreground emphasises the more domestic scale of the landscape patterns in the valley.

6.8.39 There is no visibility of baseline (e.g. operational, consented or under construction) cumulative wind farms in this view.

6.8.40 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the view/viewpoint and the susceptibility of the viewer to the proposed development. The value of this view is medium. This is not a recognised or signposted outlook, facilities are not provided for the enjoyment of the view, and it does not lie within or overlook any scenic designation. The view does, however, have some scenic value in its rural aspect across the Black Esk valley and its open aspect in an area that is characterised by forestry.

6.8.41 The susceptibility to change of viewers is high as the view will be gained by local residents as they move around their environment, and similar views may be gained from the curtilage of residential properties.

6.8.42 The combination of the high susceptibility to change and the medium value of the view results in a **medium-high** sensitivity for the viewpoint.

Magnitude of change

6.8.43 In this specific view, five turbines of the proposed development will theoretically be seen, three as hubs and two as blades only, from a minimum of 1.10km away. The two blades and two of the hubs are likely to be substantially screened by forestry, with one hub and one blade visible in reality. However, as a higher level of visibility is likely to be gained from the B723 slightly further to the east, a higher level of visibility has been assumed in the magnitude of change. The turbines will be the only visible element of the proposed development during operation, with infrastructure being screened by landform. Tall cranes will be seen during the construction and decommissioning phases.

6.8.44 The magnitude of change on views from this stretch of the road will be **medium**, with the proposed development resulting in a moderate alteration to baseline views and providing a prevailing influence. The factors that lead to this change are as follows:

- The introduction of turbines into a view that is not currently affected by wind energy development;
- The proximity of the visible turbines to the viewpoint;
- The contrast of the turbines with the upland landscape setting in which they are seen in terms of form, texture, movement and colour;
- The scale of the turbines seen at close proximity in relation to the relatively small-scale landscape patterns and domestic-scale buildings that are seen in the valley foreground;
- The location of the proposed development in the orientation of views gained by westbound travellers on the B723;
- The introduction of the moving blades into a peaceful, remote landscape; and
- The potential appearance of blades only, which can lead to 'blade-tipping' on the skyline.

6.8.45 The factors that limit the magnitude of change to a **medium** level are as follows:

- Landform screening, which ensures that turbines have limited vertical impact;
- Further screening by forestry;
- The location of the turbine bases behind the skyline, which ensures that the proposed development does not appear to be encroaching towards the viewpoint or the houses, but has a sense of visual and physical separation; and
- The lack of visibility of site infrastructure, which ensures that the disruption and potential clutter of access tracks and other infrastructure is avoided.

6.8.46 Should the screening forestry be felled in future, it is likely that the magnitude of change would increase to a **high** level due to increased visibility of turbines.

Significance of the effect

6.8.47 The effect of the proposed development on this view will be **significant**. This is due to a combination of the factors that lead to the medium-high sensitivity of the viewpoint and the medium magnitude of change upon it. If screening forestry is felled during the lifetime of the proposed development, the effect would remain **significant**.

Cumulative effects

6.8.48 There is no visibility of operational, consented or application-stage cumulative wind farms in this view, and cumulative effects will therefore not arise. Cumulative effects are considered to be **not significant**.

Viewpoint 4: Waterhead of Dryfe

Baseline and sensitivity

6.8.49 This viewpoint is located on a track just to the north of Waterhead of Dryfe, close to a core path that leads northwards through the site before joining the Romans and Reivers Route near Viewpoint 2 and the Southern Upland Way near Viewpoint 1. This location has been chosen as it shows a reasonably clear outlook in the otherwise wooded and forested surroundings of Waterhead of Dryfe.

6.8.50 This viewpoint is located just within the eastern edge of *intimate pastoral valley* of the Dryfe Water, and this landscape type covers the foreground of the view, as can be seen in the relatively enclosed, complex valley landscape and birch woodlands. This gives way to *foothills* on the lower slopes of the hills that are seen in the view towards the site, where the landscape is considerably more elevated, exposed and upland in nature.

6.8.51 To the south of the viewpoint, the enclosed and settled landscape of the Dryfe Water valley can be seen carving through the *foothills*.

6.8.52 There is no visibility of baseline (e.g. operational, consented or under construction) cumulative wind farms in this view.

6.8.53 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the view/viewpoint and the susceptibility of the viewer to the proposed development. The value of this view is medium; it lies close to a core path and has scenic qualities in its transitional view from the valley out into the surrounding foothills. However, the viewpoint is not indicated on OS maps, there are no facilities provided specifically for the enjoyment of the view, and it does not lie within or overlook an area designated for its scenic qualities.

6.8.54 The susceptibility to change of viewers at this viewpoint is high. People who gain the view will be walkers who are engaging in outdoor recreation and are likely to have a specific focus on the scenery and surrounding landscape.

6.8.55 The combination of the high susceptibility to change and the medium value of the view results in a **medium-high** sensitivity for the viewpoint.

Magnitude of change

6.8.56 Thirteen turbines of the proposed development are theoretically visible in this view, seven seen as hubs and a further six as blades only, from a minimum of 1.09km away. Several hubs and blades will in fact be screened or filtered by forestry and woodland on the skyline, as can be seen in a comparison of the wireline and photomontage, and the actual visibility will be lower than the theoretical visibility. Should the forestry be felled during the lifetime of the proposed development, the parts of turbines that are currently screened are likely to become visible.

6.8.57 The turbines will be the only visible element of the proposed development during operation, with infrastructure being screened by landform. Tall cranes will be seen during the construction and decommissioning phases.

6.8.58 The magnitude of change on this view will be **medium**, with the proposed development resulting in a moderate alteration to the baseline view, providing a readily apparent influence and introducing prominent elements. The factors that lead to this change are as follows:

- The introduction of turbines at close proximity into a view that is not currently affected by wind energy development;
- The introduction of movement and contrasting colour and texture into the partially forested upland landscape setting in which the proposed development is seen;
- The proximity of the turbines to the viewpoint;
- The horizontal field of view theoretically affected by the proposed development, approximately 145-degrees, although currently much of this is screened by forestry and woodland;
- The appearance of the turbines in relation to differing skyline landforms and land uses;
- The scale of the turbines in relation to the relatively small scale of the valley landform and landscape patterns seen in the foreground of the view; and
- The appearance of the proposed development in the direction of travel for people walking along the path.

6.8.59 The following considerations limit the magnitude of change to a **medium** level:

- The limited number of turbines that are visible, particularly when screening by forestry is taken into consideration;
- Landform screening, which ensures that the turbines have limited vertical impact;
- The location of the turbine bases behind the skyline, which ensures that the proposed development does not appear to be encroaching towards the viewpoint, and has a sense of visual and physical separation;
- The location of turbine bases behind the skyline also ensures that the turbines have a clear association with the large-scale upland landscape rather than encroaching into the foreground valley landscape; and
- The lack of visibility of site infrastructure, which ensures that the disruption and potential clutter of access tracks and other infrastructure is avoided.

6.8.60 Should the screening forestry be felled in future, it is likely that the magnitude of change would increase to a **medium-high** level due to increased visibility of turbines.

Significance of the effect

6.8.61 The effect of the proposed development on this view will be **significant**. This is due to a combination of the factors that lead to the medium-high sensitivity of the viewpoint and the medium magnitude of change upon it. If screening forestry is felled during the lifetime of the proposed development, the effect would remain **significant**.

Cumulative effects

6.8.62 There is no visibility of operational, consented or application-stage cumulative wind farms in this view, and cumulative effects will therefore not arise. Cumulative effects are considered to be **not significant**.

Viewpoint 5: Rangecastle Hill

6.8.63 This viewpoint is located on Rangecastle Hill, to the south of the site, and has been included to represent a relatively close proximity and elevated outlook over the proposed development. Rangecastle Hill is not accessed by a core path or promoted route, but the remains of the fort on the hill provide cultural heritage interest.

6.8.64 This viewpoint is located just within the western edge of the *foothills – Annandale* landscape type and overlooks the proposed development in a setting of the *foothills* landscape and, in the foreground towards the left side of the view, the *intimate pastoral valley* of the Dryfe Water. The outlook shows the transition between these two landscape types, with the elevated, exposed and upland forested *foothills* forming the background, middle-ground and right hand foreground of the view, while the enclosed valley landform and birch woodland seen in the left foreground is characteristic of the fringes of *intimate pastoral valley.*

6.8.65 The Dryfe Water valley extends to the south of the viewpoint, where the farms and fields of the valley can be seen. *Foothills* extends some way to the north, while extensive areas of *foothills with forest* can be seen to the east and north-east, distinguished by the forestry cover.

6.8.66 A number of baseline (e.g. operational, under construction and consented) cumulative wind farms are theoretically visible in this outlook, as shown on the wireline views. These form three nodes, the closest of which is the south-eastern group that includes Ewe Hill, Crossdykes, Hopsrig, Little Hartfell (which is the closest, at a minimum of 5.5km away) and Loganhead. To the south is Minsca, visible at 12.6km away, while the third node is formed of Harestanes, partially visible at a minimum of 16.7km to the west of the viewpoint.

6.8.67 There is theoretical visibility of Craig and Extension from a minimum of 14.6km away, Solwaybank from a minimum of 16.8km and Minnygap from 15.8km away, but this is very limited and in the case of Solwaybank, currently partly screened by forestry. Should the forestry be felled, the limited visibility and distance of this

site from the viewpoint ensures that it is unlikely to contribute to notable cumulative effects. Dalswinton is theoretically visible to the west-south-west but at a minimum of 24.4km away, has limited influence on the view and while it may be visible, it will not have a material implication in cumulative effects. There is also theoretical visibility of Blackcraig, Hellrig, Mochrum Fell and Wether Hill, but these sites are seen from beyond their study areas.

6.8.68 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the view/viewpoint and the susceptibility of the viewer to the proposed development. The value of this view is medium; this location is not marked on maps or specifically recognised for the view, facilities for enjoying the view are not provided, and it is not accessed by a core path. It is, however, a destination with cultural heritage value and also has value in its sense of place and scenic qualities, although it does not lie within or overlook any scenic designations. The cultural heritage association of the Cairn also adds to the experience of the viewer.

6.8.69 The susceptibility to change of viewers at this viewpoint is high. People who gain the view will be walkers who are engaging in outdoor recreation, or visiting the fort, and are likely to have a specific focus on the scenery and surrounding landscape.

6.8.70 The combination of the high susceptibility to change and the medium value of the view results in a **medium-high** sensitivity for the viewpoint.

Magnitude of change

6.8.71 Seventy-four of the turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible in this view, almost all of them as hubs, from a minimum of 1.44km away. The nature of the vegetation in the view ensures that all of these turbines are likely to be visible in reality with the possible exception of several blade tips. Several turbine bases are likely to be visible.

6.8.72 The turbines will be the principal visible element of the proposed development, with much of the infrastructure being screened by landform and retained forestry. However, some sections of new access tracks and hardstands will be visible, along with one substation/ battery storage compound and areas of forestry removal. There is also theoretical visibility of three meteorological masts. Tall cranes will be seen during the construction and decommissioning phases.

6.8.73 The magnitude of change on this view will be **high**, with the proposed development resulting in a major alteration to the baseline view, providing a prevailing influence and introducing elements that are uncharacteristic in the view. The factors that lead to this change are as follows:

- The introduction of turbines at close proximity into an aspect of the view that is not currently affected by nearby wind energy development;
- The introduction of movement and contrasting colour and texture into the exposed, elevated upland landscape setting in which the proposed development is seen;
- The vertical impact of the turbines;
- The proximity of the turbines to the viewpoint;
- The depth of the proposed development as seen from this location – the visible turbines range from just over 1km away to over 9km away – which reinforces its large scale and extent;
- This is emphasised by the apparent scale variation between the closest and most distant visible turbines;
- The horizontal extent of the view that will be affected by the proposed development (approximately 115-degrees) and the number of turbines that are visible in the proposed development;
- The location of turbine bases in front of the skyline, which reduces perceived separation between the viewpoint and the proposed development, and is emphasised by the location of part of the proposed development within the same landscape type as the viewpoint; and
- Visibility of site infrastructure.

6.8.74 The high magnitude of change is mitigated by the following factors, which are not sufficient to reduce the level of magnitude of change but do reduce the overall impact of the proposed development:

- The panoramic nature of the view available, which ensures that the majority of the open view will remain unaffected by the proposed development;
- The appearance of the proposed development as a single turbine group rather than appearing as several groups, which increases cohesion and prevents an impression of 'straggling';
- The broad uniformity of the landscape within which the turbines are seen, which also increases the cohesion of the proposed development;
- The large scale and simple nature of the upland skyline and landscape setting in which the turbines are seen;
- The appearance of the turbines in the upland landscape also avoids the perception of encroachment down into the foreground valley landscapes, despite visibility of turbine bases;
- The proposed development is seen across its relatively narrow east-west horizontal extent in this view, rather than its longer north-south axis.

Significance of the effect

6.8.75 The effect of the proposed development on this view will be **significant**. This is due to a combination of the factors that lead to the medium-high sensitivity of the viewpoint and the high magnitude of change on the view.

Cumulative effects

6.8.76 Visibility of cumulative wind farms is shown on Figures 6.20b, c, d and e. A number of the sites shown on the wirelines are not considered in detail in the cumulative assessment due to very limited visibility or distance from the viewpoint, as described above; these include Blackcraig, Craig and Extension, Dalswinton, Hellrig, Mochrum Fell, Solwaybank and Wether Hill. The most relevant cumulative wind farms are as follows:

- The group of baseline (operational, under construction and consented) sites that lies to the south-east of the viewpoint, between approximately 5.5km and 10.3km away - Crossdykes, Ewe Hill, Hopsrig, Little Hartfell and Loganhead;
- The operational site at Minsca, 12.6km away to the south;
- The operational site at Harestanes, partially visible at a minimum of 16.7km to the west of the viewpoint; and
- The application-stage site at Faw Side, which is 13.1km away, east of the viewpoint.

6.8.77 There are two potential cumulative scenarios at this viewpoint; the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites (operational, under-construction and consented) and the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites plus the application-stage site at Faw Side.

6.8.78 The addition of the proposed development to the **baseline scenario** will have a **medium** cumulative magnitude of change. This change will arise primarily from the addition of the proposed development to the south-eastern group of baseline wind farms, although the influence of the more distant sites is also a consideration, and arises from the following considerations:

- The addition of the proposed development – an immediately apparent wind farm that will have a significant effect itself - to a view in which a group of baseline wind farms is clearly visible at reasonably close proximity (a minimum of approx. 5.5km away);
- The location of the proposed development to the north of the viewpoint while the main baseline group lies to the south-east, so that the viewpoint lies between wind energy developments;
- The location of the proposed development in a part of the view (the northern aspect) that is not affected by baseline wind farms, so that it extends wind farm influence around the view;
- The extent of the skyline that will be affected by the proposed development (approximately 115-degrees), added to the extent of the skyline already affected by baseline development;
- The variation between the proposed development and the baseline wind farms in terms of proximity, scale, extent, layout and setting; and
- The presence of other less notable but visible wind farms (Harestanes and Minsca) in the view, so that the proposed development will constitute a fourth node of development.

6.8.79 The following considerations limit the cumulative magnitude of change to a **medium** level:

- The lack of coalescence of wind farms around the view, so that each retains its distinct identity;
- The limited number of wind farms that are very readily apparent or visible at close proximity (two - the proposed development and the south-eastern group);
- The relatively limited extent of the skyline affected by baseline wind energy development (the south-eastern group covers approximately 38-degrees of the view, while Harestanes and Minsca affect approximately 10-degrees and 5-degrees respectively);
- The open, panoramic nature of the view and the extensive part of the view (more than 90-degrees) to the south and south-west that remains free of wind farm influence; and
- The similarity in the setting of the proposed development and the south-eastern group, both of which lie largely in *Southern Uplands with forest* LCT, aiding cohesion and recognition.

6.8.80 A scenario that includes the application site at Faw Side is also considered. The inclusion of Faw Side would result in the addition of the proposed development leading to a **medium-high** cumulative magnitude of change, due to the following factors:

- The addition of another, discrete, wind farm to the outlook, so that the proposed development would create a fifth node of development;
- The increase in the developed skyline to which the proposed development would be added (an additional 30-degrees, approximately, as a result of Faw Side); and
- The relatively large scale and level of visibility of Faw Side.

6.8.81 The cumulative effect arising from the addition of the proposed development to the baseline cumulative scenario will be **significant**, due to a combination of the factors that lead to the medium cumulative magnitude of change and the medium-high sensitivity of the viewpoint. When application-stage wind farms are also considered, the cumulative magnitude of change would become medium-high and the effect would remain significant.

Viewpoint 6: Boreland Church (Hutton and Corrie Church)

Baseline and sensitivity

6.8.82 This viewpoint is located in the kirkyard of Hutton and Corrie Church, which is on the south-eastern periphery of the village of Boreland. This location has been chosen to represent views from Boreland because of its elevated location on the upper eastern slope of the Dryfe Water valley.

6.8.83 This viewpoint is located just within the eastern edge of the *intimate pastoral valley* of the Dryfe Water, and this landscape type covers the majority of the foreground and middle-ground of the view. The characteristics of this type can be seen in the enclosed, complex valley landscape with its overlaid patterns of settlement, field boundaries, deciduous woodland, and general cultivation. The backdrop to the view and the hills at the right-hand side are covered by the *foothills* landscape type, evidenced by the more open, unenclosed upland character of the landscape.

6.8.84 This view clearly shows the transition between the *intimate pastoral valley* and the *foothills* landscapes that enclose it, with the characteristics of the two types blending together gradually across the view.

6.8.85 There is no visibility of baseline (e.g. operational, consented or under construction) cumulative wind farms in this view.

6.8.86 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the view/viewpoint and the susceptibility of the viewer to the proposed development. The value of this view is medium. This is not a recognised or signposted outlook and does not lie within an area that is designated for its scenic value. There is, however, a bench in the kirkyard near the viewpoint and there are scenic qualities in the view over Boreland and along the enclosed and settled Dryfe Water valley, with its upland backdrop. The susceptibility to change of viewers is high; people visiting the Church and kirkyard are likely to have some focus on the landscape and views around them, and similar views may be gained by local residents.

6.8.87 The combination of the high susceptibility to change and the medium value of the view results in a **medium-high** sensitivity for the viewpoint.

Magnitude of change

6.8.88 Fifty-four of the turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible in this view, 37 of them as hubs, from a minimum of 4.37km away. There is some limited filtering of visibility by foreground woodland which will vary seasonally, but the great majority of the turbines are likely to be visible.

6.8.89 The turbines will be the principal visible element of the proposed development, with all infrastructure other than one meteorological mast being screened by landform. Tall cranes will be seen during the construction and decommissioning phases.

6.8.90 The magnitude of change on this view will be **medium-high**, with the proposed development resulting in a major alteration to the baseline view and providing a prevailing influence. The factors that lead to this change are as follows:

- The introduction of turbines into an aspect of the view that is not currently affected by wind energy development;
- The introduction of movement and contrasting colour and texture into the transitional upland landscape setting in which the proposed development is seen;
- The appearance of the proposed development across the open aspect of the outlook from the church and in the direction of the view gained by people leaving the church;

- The scale of the turbines in relation to the relatively small scale of the valley landform and domestic settlement and landscape patterns seen in the foreground of the view;
- The vertical impact of the turbines;
- The depth of the proposed development as seen from this location – the visible turbines range from just under 4.5km away to over 11km away – which reinforces its large scale and extent; and
- The horizontal extent of the view that will be affected by the proposed development (approximately 67-degrees) and the number of turbines that are visible in the proposed development.

6.8.91 The following considerations limit the cumulative magnitude of change to a medium-high level:

- The appearance of the proposed development as a single turbine group rather than appearing as several groups, which increases cohesion and prevents an impression of 'straggling';
- The broad uniformity of the landscape within which the turbines are seen, which also increases the cohesion of the proposed development;
- The large scale and simple nature of the upland landscape setting in which the turbines are seen, which avoids uncomfortable scale comparisons with its landscape context;
- The location of turbine bases behind the skyline, which ensures that the proposed development has a strong association with the upland landscape and gives a notable sense of visual and physical separation between the proposed development and the viewpoint, so that it does not appear to encroach down into the settled valley landscape;
- The proposed development is seen across its relatively narrow east-west horizontal extent in this view, rather than its longer north-south axis; and
- The very limited visibility of site infrastructure, which ensures that the disruption and potential clutter of access tracks and other infrastructure is avoided.

Significance of the effect

6.8.92 The effect of the proposed development on this view will be **significant**. This is due to a combination of the factors that lead to the medium-high sensitivity of the viewpoint and the medium-high magnitude of change on the view.

Cumulative effects

6.8.93 There is no visibility of operational, consented, under construction or application-stage cumulative wind farms in this view, and cumulative effects will therefore not arise. Cumulative effects are considered to be **not significant**.

Viewpoint 7: Annandale Water Services, J16 A74(M)

Baseline and sensitivity

6.8.94 This viewpoint is located on the outdoor terrace of the café at Annandale Water Services on the A74(M), where seating is provided for customers. The lochan and grass areas in the foreground are available for users of the service station to walk around. Similar views are gained from other parts of the service station, including the hotel that abuts the service station. The A74(M) lies to the west of the viewpoint and is not visible but traffic on the road can be heard. This is, however a relatively peaceful location in the settled, developed landscape of Annandale.

6.8.95 This viewpoint lies within the *middle dale – mid Annandale* landscape type, typified by its broad, flat valley floor and areas of woodland. Beyond the dale landscape is a series of increasingly upland landscape types that enclose and contain the valley floor; *upland fringe*, *foothills*, and finally the *Southern Uplands with forest*. The gradual transition between these landscape types is apparent, culminating in the most exposed, elevated and remote *Southern Uplands with forest*, in the context of which the northern end of the proposed development is seen (e.g. the left-hand side of the proposed development).

6.8.96 There is no visibility of baseline (e.g. operational, consented or under construction) cumulative wind farms in this view.

6.8.97 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the view/viewpoint and the susceptibility of the viewer to the proposed development. The value of this view is medium. This is not a recognised or signposted outlook and does not lie within an area that is designated for its scenic value. This is, however, a designated outdoor seating area for the service station, and the view is pleasant and has scenic qualities. The susceptibility to change of viewers is medium; people visiting the service station (including hotel-users) will be travellers using the A74(M) and are unlikely to have high expectation of the views available to them. They are, however, likely to have some focus on the landscape and views around them.

6.8.98 The combination of the medium susceptibility to change and the medium value of the view results in a **medium** sensitivity for the viewpoint.

Magnitude of change

6.8.99 Sixty-four of the turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible in this view, 50 of them as hubs, from a minimum of 5.26km away. There is some limited filtering of visibility by foreground woodland which will vary seasonally, but the great majority of the turbines are likely to be visible.

6.8.100 The turbines will be the principal visible element of the proposed development, with the majority of infrastructure other than one meteorological mast and short sections of access tracks and hardstands being screened by landform and forestry. Tall cranes will be seen during the construction and decommissioning phases.

6.8.101 The magnitude of change on this view will be **medium-high**, with the proposed development resulting in a major alteration to the baseline view and providing a prevailing influence. The factors that lead to this change are as follows:

- The introduction of turbines into a view that is not currently affected by wind energy development;
- The introduction of movement and contrasting colour and texture into the upland landscape setting in which the proposed development is seen;
- The appearance of the proposed development across the open aspect of the outlook from the terrace and within the service station, and in the main orientation of viewers;
- The scale of the turbines in relation to the relatively complex landform and landscape patterns seen in the foreground of the view, emphasised by the visibility of turbine bases on the upper valley sides;
- The variation in the visible proportion of turbines, which ranges from full height (including turbine bases) to blades;
- The vertical impact of the turbines in relation to the hill landform on which they are seen;
- The horizontal extent of the view that will be affected by the proposed development (approximately 55-degrees), as it is seen along its longer north-south axis, and the number of turbines that are visible in the proposed development; and
- Visibility of site infrastructure, albeit limited.

6.8.102 The following considerations limit the cumulative magnitude of change to a **medium-high** level:

- The appearance of the proposed development as a single turbine group rather than appearing as several groups, which increases cohesion and prevents an impression of 'straggling';
- The large scale and simple nature of the upland landscape setting in which the turbines are seen, which avoids uncomfortable scale comparisons with its landscape context;
- The appearance of the turbines in the upland landscape also reduces the perception of encroachment downslope into the foreground landscape, despite visibility of turbine bases;
- The distinction between the foreground dale landscape and the uplands within which the turbines are seen, emphasised by the line of woodland that runs across the centre of the view, which gives a sense of visual and physical separation between the proposed development and the viewpoint; and
- The proposed development has a relatively shallow depth as seen from this angle as it is seen across its shorter east-west axis in this view, rather than its longer north-south axis.

Significance of the effect

6.8.103 The effect of the proposed development on this view will be **significant**. This is due to a combination of the factors that lead to the medium sensitivity of the viewpoint and the medium-high magnitude of change on the view.

Cumulative effects

6.8.104 There is no visibility of operational, consented, under construction or application-stage cumulative wind farms in this view, and cumulative effects will therefore not arise. Cumulative effects are considered to be **not significant.**

Viewpoint 8: Southern Upland Way near Beattock Hill

6.8.105 This viewpoint is located on the minor road that forms the route of the Southern Upland Way (and is also followed by the Romans and Reivers route at this point) to the west of Viewpoint 1, on the western side of Annandale, and has been selected due to the open, clear and elevated view that is gained towards the site.

6.8.106 This viewpoint is located at the northern end of the *foothills – Beattock* landscape type and looks eastwards towards the site across Annandale. The valley floor of Annandale is not visible due to foreground landform, and visibility is primarily of the upper valley slopes. As seen at Viewpoint 7, the view beyond the dale comprises a series of increasingly upland landscape types that enclose and contain the valley floor; *upland fringe*, *foothills*, and finally the *Southern Uplands with forest*. The transition between these landscape types is apparent, culminating in the most exposed, elevated and remote *Southern Uplands with forest*, in the context of which the northern end of the proposed development is seen (e.g. the left-hand side of the proposed development).

6.8.107 Screening by landform ensures that the development of Annandale has limited influence on this view, and the characters is generally one of remote uplands.

6.8.108 Several baseline (e.g. operational, under construction and consented) cumulative wind farms are theoretically visible in this outlook, as shown on the wireline views. However, three of these - Crossdykes, Ewe Hill and Loganhead - have very limited and/ or distant visibility. Minsca is theoretically visible from a minimum of 25.6km away but is screened by a belt of mature trees. Should these trees be felled, visibility would be increased, but at this distance Minsca is unlikely to contribute notably to cumulative effects.

6.8.109 The principal baseline visibility arises from Harestanes and Minnygap, seen to the south-west of the viewpoint at a minimum of 5.5km and 6.1km respectively.

6.8.110 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the view/viewpoint and the susceptibility of the viewer to the proposed development. The value of this view is medium-high. The Southern Upland Way and Romans and Reivers Route are national long-distance walking routes, recognised as 'Scotland's Great Trails', and while the viewpoint itself is not indicated on OS maps, the landscape setting across Annandale contributes to visitors' experience of this location. It is not, however, a marked location where facilities are provided for the enjoyment of the view and the viewpoint does not lie within or overlook an area designated for its scenic qualities.

6.8.111 The susceptibility to change of viewers at this viewpoint is high. People who gain the view will be walkers who are engaging in outdoor recreation and are likely to have a specific focus on the scenery and surrounding landscape.

6.8.112 The combination of the high susceptibility to change and the medium-high value of the view results in a **high** sensitivity for the viewpoint.

Magnitude of change

6.8.113 Sixty-eight of the turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible in this view, 58 of them as hubs, from a minimum of 6.33km away. Some turbine bases are visible.

6.8.114 The turbines will be the only clearly visible element of the proposed development during operation, with infrastructure and forestry removal either being screened by landform and forestry or not clearly visible due to a combination of distance and the angle of the view. Tall cranes will be seen during the construction and decommissioning phases.

6.8.115 The magnitude of change on this view will be **medium-high**, with the proposed development resulting in a major alteration to the baseline view and providing a prevailing influence. The factors that lead to this change are as follows:

- The introduction of turbines into an aspect of the view that is not currently affected by wind energy development;
- The introduction of movement and contrasting colour and texture into the upland landscape setting in which the proposed development is seen;
- The appearance of the proposed development across the open aspect of the outlook from the road and in the main orientation of eastbound walkers/ drivers;
- The scale of the turbines in relation to the relatively complex landscape patterns seen in the foreground of the view; and
- The variation in the visible proportion of turbines, which ranges from full height (including turbine bases) to blades.

6.8.116 The following considerations limit the cumulative magnitude of change to a medium-high level:

- The appearance of the proposed development as a single turbine group rather than appearing as several groups, which increases cohesion and prevents an impression of 'straggling';
- The large scale and simple nature of the upland landscape setting in which the turbines are seen, which avoids uncomfortable scale comparisons with its landscape context;
- The appearance of the turbines in the upland landscape also reduces the perception of encroachment downslope into the foreground landscape, despite visibility of turbine bases;

- The visual and physical separation that the distinctive landform of Annandale provides between the proposed development and the viewpoint, emphasised by the woodland seen across the centre of the view;
- The relatively shallow depth of the proposed development from this angle as it is seen across its shorter east-west axis, rather than its longer north-south axis; and
- The distance of the proposed development from the viewpoint, which ensures that the turbines occupy a relatively limited part of the outlook in comparison with closer viewpoints and that visibility of infrastructure is limited.

Significance of the effect

6.8.117 The effect of the proposed development on this view will be **significant**. This is due to a combination of the factors that lead to the high sensitivity of the viewpoint and the medium-high magnitude of change on the view.

Cumulative effects

6.8.118 Visibility of cumulative wind farms is shown in the wirelines on Figure 6.23b, c and d. Four of the sites shown on the wirelines - Crossdykes, Ewe Hill, Loganhead and Minsca - are not considered in detail in the cumulative assessment due to very limited visibility/ distance from the viewpoint. No application stage sites are visible and the relevant cumulative wind farms are the operational sites of Harestanes and Minnygap that lie to the south-west of the viewpoint, a minimum of 5.5km away. These two sites are adjacent to one another and effectively appear as a single wind farm, partly screened by a rising landform in the middle-ground of the view.

6.8.119 There is one potential cumulative scenario at this viewpoint; the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites (operational, under-construction and consented).

6.8.120 The addition of the proposed development to the **baseline scenario** will have a **medium-low** cumulative magnitude of change. This change will arise from the addition of the proposed development to Harestanes and Minnygap, due to the following considerations:

- The addition of the proposed development – an immediately apparent wind farm that will have a significant effect itself - to a view in which two adjoining baseline wind farms (which appear as a single wind farm) are clearly visible at reasonably close proximity;
- The location of the proposed development in a part of the view (the eastern part) that is not affected by visible baseline wind farms, so that it extends wind farm influence around the view;
- The location of the proposed development to the east of the viewpoint while the baseline sites are to the south-west, so that the viewpoint lies between two wind energy developments; and
- The variation between the proposed development and the visible baseline wind farms in terms of appearance, proximity, scale, extent, layout and setting.

6.8.121 The following considerations limit the cumulative magnitude of change to a **medium-low** level:

- The very limited number of wind farms that are visible (effectively two – the proposed development and Harestanes/ Minnygap);
- The relatively limited extent of the skyline that is affected by baseline development (approximately 47-degrees) and the extensive part of the view that remains free of wind farm influence;
- The lack of coalescence of wind farms, so that each retains its distinct identity;
- The elevation of the viewpoint, which ensures that the development at Harestanes/ Minnygap, in particular, has a somewhat recessive appearance with limited vertical impact (emphasised by its landform backclothing) and neither development appears to overshadow the viewpoint;
- The screening of part of Harestanes/ Minnygap by intervening landform reduces the visibility of this development and the perceived scale of the turbines; and
- The cohesive appearance of the proposed development, which ensures that it will be perceived as a single, unified development.

6.8.122 The cumulative effect arising from the addition of the proposed development to the baseline cumulative scenario will be **not significant**, due to a combination of the factors that lead to the medium-low cumulative magnitude of change despite the high sensitivity of the viewpoint. This combination of high sensitivity and medium-low cumulative magnitude of change can result in an effect that is either significant or not significant. In this case, the effect is assessed to be not significant due to the very limited number of visible wind farms and the relatively limited, recessive visibility of Harestanes/ Minnygap.

Viewpoint 9: Moffat High Street

6.8.123 This viewpoint is located towards the southern end of Moffat High Street (A701) where a view to the south-east, towards the site, is gained through a gap in the buildings that line the majority of the High Street. Partial views of the proposed development, similar to this view, are available at several points along the High Street.

6.8.124 Moffat lies at the northern end of the *middle dale – mid Annandale* landscape type, and its relatively low-lying, contained setting can be seen in this view. The hills of the *Southern Uplands with forest* landscape, with their bold skyline, provide enclosure at the left side of the gap through the buildings, whereas the *foothills – Annandale*, which form the skyline of the right hand side of the gap, are less prominent and appear in the context of foreground and middle-ground woodland.

6.8.125 There is no visibility of baseline (e.g. operational, consented or under construction) cumulative wind farms in this view.

6.8.126 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the view/viewpoint and the susceptibility of the viewer to the proposed development. The value of this view is medium-high. This is not a recognised or signposted outlook, and facilities are not provided for the enjoyment of the view. The view does, however, have value in its rural aspect gained in a channelled outlook from an urban location, and its location within the Moffat Hills RSA and the Moffat Conservation Area, which implies value to the viewpoint. It also lies on the SW Coastal 300 Route and this stretch of the A701, while not an official national tourist route, is signposted as a 'scenic route'.

6.8.127 The susceptibility to change of viewers is high as the view will be gained by local residents as they go about their daily business, and similar views may be gained from within residential properties. Tourists visiting Moffat, including those following the SW Coastal 300 Route and A701 scenic route, are also likely to gain the view.

6.8.128 The combination of the high susceptibility to change and the medium-high value of the view results in a **high** sensitivity for the viewpoint.

Magnitude of change

6.8.129 Thirty-four turbines of the proposed development will theoretically be seen in this view from a minimum of 6.01km away, but a number of these will be screened by the buildings that line Moffat High Street and, in reality, parts of 15 turbines are likely to be visible with some filtering by foreground vegetation. The turbines will be the only visible element of the proposed development, with infrastructure being screened by landform. Tall cranes will be seen during the construction and decommissioning phases.

6.8.130 The magnitude of change on this view will be **medium-low**, with the proposed development resulting in a moderate to low alteration to the baseline view, providing a readily apparent influence and introducing elements that may be prominent to the view. The factors that lead to this change are as follows:

- The introduction of turbines into a view that is not currently affected by wind energy development;
- The appearance of the proposed development across the most open aspect of the view, where the outlook is not restricted by buildings, to which the eye of the viewer is likely to be drawn;
- The appearance of the turbines in the rural setting of Moffat, currently characterised by upland and foothills landscape that contrasts with the built-up foreground;
- The framing of the view by buildings and gapping and clustering of turbines;
- The contrast of the turbines with the upland landscape setting in which they are seen in terms of form, texture, movement and colour;
- The variable landform on which the turbines are seen; and
- The scale of the turbines in relation to domestic development in the foreground.

6.8.131 The factors that limit the magnitude of change to a medium-low level are as follows:

- The limited number of turbines that are visible;
- The location of the turbine bases behind the skyline, which ensures that the proposed development does not appear to be encroaching towards the viewpoint or the built-up area, and has a sense of visual and physical separation;
- The large scale and simple nature of the upland landscape setting in which the turbines are seen, which avoids uncomfortable scale comparisons with the landscape context;
- The appearance of the turbines in the upland landscape and lack of visibility of turbine bases also reduces the perception of encroachment downslope into the foreground landscape;
- The visual and physical separation that the built form of the High Street provides between the proposed development and the viewpoint, emphasised by the woodland seen across the middle-ground of the view;
- The enclosure of the proposed development on each side by foreground buildings that rise considerably higher than the turbines, reducing their perceived scale;
- The distance of the proposed development from the viewpoint; and
- The lack of visibility of site infrastructure, which ensures that the disruption and potential clutter of access tracks and other infrastructure is avoided.

Significance of the effect

6.8.132 The effect of the proposed development on this view will be **significant**. This is due to a combination of the factors that lead to the high sensitivity of the viewpoint and the medium-low magnitude of change upon it.

Cumulative effects

6.8.133 There is no visibility of operational, consented or application-stage cumulative wind farms in this view, and cumulative effects will therefore not arise. Cumulative effects are considered to be **not significant**.

Viewpoint 10: Moffat A701 on northern edge

6.8.134 This viewpoint is located on the A701 on the northern periphery of Moffat, as the road enters the built-up area. The Annandale Way crosses the A701 at this point. This view shows the town, including the church, in its landscape setting, with the enclosing backdrop of *Southern Uplands with forest*.

6.8.135 This viewpoint lies within the *upland glens – Evan* landscape type, overlooking the *middle dale – mid Annandale* landscape within which Moffat lies. The relatively low-lying, contained, complex and developed nature of the glen and dale landscapes can be seen in this view, contrasting with the backdrop hills of the *Southern Uplands with forest* which, with their bold skyline, provide enclosure behind the town. The *foothills – Annandale*, which form the skyline to the right of the town, are less prominent and appear in the context of foreground and middle-ground woodland.

6.8.136 There is no visibility of baseline (e.g. operational, consented or under construction) cumulative wind farms in this view.

6.8.137 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the view/viewpoint and the susceptibility of the viewer to the proposed development. The value of this view is medium-high. This is not a recognised or signposted outlook, and facilities are not provided for the enjoyment of the view. The view does, however, have value in displaying the setting of Moffat, including its buildings as well as its landscape context. It is also located within the Moffat Hills RSA and Moffat Conservation Area, which implies value to the viewpoint, and lies on the SW Coastal 300 Route as well as the Annandale Way. This stretch of the A701, while not an official national tourist route, is also signposted as a 'scenic route'.

6.8.138 The susceptibility to change of viewers is medium-high as the view will be gained by local residents as they go about their daily business, and similar views may be gained from within residential properties. Walkers on the Annandale Way and tourists visiting Moffat, including those following the SW Coastal 300 Route and A701 scenic route, are also likely to gain the view.

6.8.139 The combination of the high susceptibility to change and the medium-high value of the view results in a **medium-high** sensitivity for the viewpoint.

Magnitude of change

6.8.140 Thirty-seven of the turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible in this view, 21 of them as hubs, from a minimum of 6.71km away. There is some limited filtering of visibility by foreground woodland which will vary seasonally, but the majority of the turbines are likely to be visible.

6.8.141 The turbines will be the only clearly visible element of the proposed development during operation, with infrastructure and forestry removal either being screened by landform and forestry or not clearly visible due to a combination of distance and the angle of the view. Tall cranes will be seen during the construction and decommissioning phases.

6.8.142 The magnitude of change on this view will be **medium**, with the proposed development resulting in a moderate alteration to the baseline view and providing a prevailing influence. The factors that lead to this change are as follows:

- The introduction of turbines into a view that is not currently affected by wind energy development;
- The introduction of movement and contrasting colour and texture into the upland landscape setting in which the proposed development is seen;
- The appearance of the proposed development across the open aspect of the outlook from the road and other nearby receptors, and in the main orientation of viewers using the southbound A701;
- The appearance of the proposed development in the context of the setting to Moffat, and particularly St Mary's church spire and St Andrew's church tower, which rise above the skyline at either end of the village;

- The scale of the turbines in relation to the domestic landscape patterns seen in the foreground of the view;
- The variation in the visible proportion of turbines, which ranges from full height (including turbine bases) to blades, and the variation in the elevation of turbines;
- The variable landform and landscape context in which the turbines are seen; and
- The vertical impact of the turbines towards the right-hand side of the view, which are seen at full height.

6.8.143 The following considerations limit the magnitude of change to a medium level:

- The large scale and simple nature of the upland landscape setting in which the majority of turbines are seen, which avoids uncomfortable scale comparisons with the landscape context;
- The limited vertical impact of the majority of the turbines, due to landform screening;
- The location of the turbine bases behind the skyline, which ensures that the proposed development does not appear to be encroaching towards the settlement or the glen landscape, and has a sense of visual and physical separation;
- The appearance of the turbines in the upland landscape and lack of visibility of turbine bases also reduces the perception of encroachment downslope into the foreground landscape;
- The visual and physical separation that the built form and woodland of Moffat provides between the proposed development and the viewpoint;
- The distance of the proposed development from the viewpoint;
- The relatively shallow depth of the proposed development as seen from this angle, so that it does not appear to extend substantially to the east, beyond the closest turbines; and
- The lack of clear visibility of site infrastructure, which ensures that the disruption and potential clutter of access tracks and other infrastructure is avoided.

Significance of the effect

6.8.144 The effect of the proposed development on this view will be **significant**. This is due to a combination of the factors that lead to the medium-high sensitivity of the viewpoint and the medium magnitude of change on the view.

Cumulative effects

6.8.145 There is no visibility of operational, consented or application-stage cumulative wind farms in this view, and cumulative effects will therefore not arise. Cumulative effects are considered to be **not significant**.

Viewpoint 11: A701 north of Moffat

6.8.146 This viewpoint is located in a layby beside the A701 to the north of Moffat, and the view will be gained by southbound travellers on the A701 as well as people stopped in the layby. The elevation and orientation of this stretch of road is such that an open and expansive view of the varied and attractive Annandale hill and glen landscape is gained, and Moffat can be seen in its landscape context.

6.8.147 This viewpoint lies on the elevated eastern edge of the *foothills with forest – Ae* landscape, looking across and along *upland glens – Evan*, which continues into *middle dale – mid Annandale*, within which Moffat lies. The relatively low-lying, contained, complex and developed nature of the glen and dale landscapes can be seen in this view, contrasting with the backdrop hills of the *Southern Uplands – north Moffat* and *Southern Uplands with forest* which, with their strong and simple skyline, provide enclosure of the eastern side of the upland glen and, further south, Annandale. The *foothills – Annandale*, which form the skyline behind Moffat and further south, are less prominent and provide more limited enclosure.

6.8.148 There is theoretical visibility of one baseline (operational, under construction and consented) cumulative wind farm – Minsca - in this view as shown on the wireline view in Figure 6.26b. Minsca has limited visibility and is seen from a minimum of 31.4km away, from where it is unlikely to contribute notably to cumulative effects.

6.8.149 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the view/viewpoint and the susceptibility of the viewer to the proposed development. The value of this view is medium-high. While this is not a recognised or signposted outlook, a layby is provided at this location, and the view has scenic qualities in its expansive outlook across the hills and glens of Annandale, including the landscape setting of Moffat. It lies within and overlooks the Moffat Hills RSA, which implies value to the viewpoint, and part of WLA 29 can be seen perpendicular to the left of the road, on the eastern side of *upland glen – Evan*. This stretch of the A701, while not an official national tourist route, is signposted as a 'scenic route'.

6.8.150 The susceptibility to change of viewers is medium-high as the view will be gained by people travelling on the road, which is signed as a scenic route, as well as people who may stop in the layby to enjoy the view.

6.8.151 The combination of the medium susceptibility to change and the high value of the view results in a **medium-high** sensitivity for the viewpoint.

Magnitude of change

6.8.152 Fifty of the turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible in this view, 36 of them as hubs, from a minimum of 9.85km away. There is some very limited screening of visibility by skyline forestry but the majority of these turbines are likely to be visible.

6.8.153 The turbines will be the only clearly visible element of the proposed development during operation, with infrastructure and forestry removal either being screened by landform and forestry or not clearly visible due to a combination of distance and the angle of the view. Tall cranes will be seen during the construction and decommissioning phases.

6.8.154 The magnitude of change on this view will be **medium**, with the proposed development resulting in a moderate alteration to the baseline view, providing a readily apparent influence and introducing elements that may be prominent to the view. The factors that lead to this change are as follows:

- The introduction of turbines into a view that is not currently affected by readily apparent wind energy development;
- The introduction of movement and contrasting colour and texture into the upland landscape setting in which the proposed development is seen;
- The appearance of the proposed development across the open part of the outlook from the road, and in the orientation of viewers using the southbound A701;
- The appearance of the proposed development in the context of the setting to Moffat;
- The scale of the turbines in relation to the domestic landscape patterns seen in the foreground of the view;
- The variation in the visible proportion of turbines, which ranges from full height (including turbine bases) to blades, and the variation in the elevation of turbines;
- The variable landform and landscape context in which the turbines are seen; and
- The appearance of four turbine bases in front of the skyline in the setting of Moffat, and the vertical impact of several turbines towards the right of the view.

6.8.155 The following considerations limit the magnitude of change to a **medium** level:

- The large scale and simple nature of the upland landscape setting in which the turbines are seen, which avoids uncomfortable scale comparisons with the landscape context;
- The limited vertical impact of the majority of the turbines, due to landform screening;
- The location of the majority of turbine bases behind the skyline, which ensures that other than at its right-hand side, the proposed development does not appear to be encroaching downwards into the glen landscape, and has a sense of visual and physical separation;
- The distance of the proposed development from the viewpoint;
- The relatively limited part of the full open view from this location that will be affected by the proposed development (approximately 34-degrees);
- The relatively shallow depth of the proposed development as seen from this angle, so that it does not appear to extend substantially to the east, beyond the closest turbines; and
- The lack of clear visibility of site infrastructure, which ensures that the disruption and potential clutter of access tracks and other infrastructure is avoided.

Significance of the effect

6.8.156 The effect of the proposed development on this view will be **significant**. This is due to a combination of the factors that lead to the medium-high sensitivity of the viewpoint and the medium magnitude of change on the view.

Cumulative effects

6.8.157 Visibility of cumulative wind farms is shown in the wireline on Figure 6.26b, and as discussed above, is restricted to very limited visibility of Minsca. The cumulative magnitude of change arising from the addition of the proposed development to Minsca will be low/negligible, and **not significant**.

Viewpoint 12: A701 near Devil's Beef Tub

6.8.158 This viewpoint is located beside the A701 just to the south of the Devil's Beef Tub, close to the memorial stone to John Hunter, and the view will be gained by southbound travellers on the A701. As with Viewpoint 11, the elevation and orientation of this stretch of road is such that an open and expansive view of the varied and attractive Annandale hill and glen landscape is gained, and Moffat can be seen in its landscape context.

6.8.159 This viewpoint lies on the elevated eastern edge of the *foothills with forest – Ae* landscape, looking across and along *upland glens – Evan*, which continues into *middle dale – mid Annandale*, within which Moffat lies. The relatively low-lying, contained, complex and developed nature of the glen and dale landscapes can be seen in this view, contrasting with the backdrop hills of the *Southern Uplands – north Moffat* and *Southern Uplands with forest* which provide enclosure of the eastern side of the upland glen and, further south, Annandale. The *foothills – Annandale*, which form the skyline of Annandale beyond the Southern Uplands, are less prominent and provide more limited enclosure.

6.8.160 There is visibility of Harestanes/ Minnygap wind farms from a minimum of approximately 13.5km away.

6.8.161 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the view/viewpoint and the susceptibility of the viewer to the proposed development. The value of this view is medium-high. This is not a recognised or signposted outlook and there is no opportunity for travellers to stop to gain the view in a static location. However, this stretch of the A701 is signposted as a 'scenic route', and the view has scenic qualities in its expansive outlook across the hills and glens of Annandale. The viewpoint also lies within and overlooks the Moffat Hills RSA, which implies value to the viewpoint, and part of WLA 29 can be seen to the left of the road, on the eastern side of *upland glen – Evan*.

6.8.162 The susceptibility to change of viewers is medium-high as the view will be gained by people travelling on the road, which while not a recognised national tourist route, is signposted as a 'scenic route'. The medium-high susceptibility also arises from the scenic nature of the view and the focus that southbound travellers are likely to have on the surrounding landscape, having just passed the dramatic landform of the Devil's Beef Tub.

6.8.163 The combination of the medium-high susceptibility to change and the medium-high value of the view results in a **medium-high** sensitivity for the viewpoint.

Magnitude of change

6.8.164 Fifty-five of the turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible in this view, 31 of them as hubs, from a minimum of 12.67km away.

6.8.165 The turbines will be the only clearly visible element of the proposed development during operation, with infrastructure and forestry removal either being screened by landform and forestry or not clearly visible due to a combination of distance and the angle of the view. Tall cranes will be seen during the construction and decommissioning phases.

6.8.166 The magnitude of change on this view will be **medium**, with the proposed development resulting in a moderate alteration to the baseline view, providing a readily apparent influence and introducing elements that may be prominent to the view. The factors that lead to this change are as follows:

- The introduction of turbines into an aspect of the view that is not currently affected by wind energy development;
- The introduction of movement and contrasting colour and texture into the upland landscape setting in which the proposed development is seen;
- The appearance of the proposed development across an open part of the outlook from the road, and in the orientation of viewers using the southbound A701;
- The appearance of the proposed development in the context of the landform that provides enclosure to the upland glen landscape;
- The scale of the turbines in relation to the domestic and relatively complex landscape patterns seen in the middle-ground of the view;
- The variation in the visible proportion of turbines, which ranges from full height (including turbine bases) to blades, and the variation in the elevation of turbines;
- The variable landform and landscape context in which the turbines are seen; and
- The appearance of several turbine bases and the vertical impact of several turbines towards the right of the view.

6.8.167 The following considerations limit the magnitude of change to a **medium** level:

- The large scale and simple nature of the upland landscape setting in which the turbines are seen, which avoids uncomfortable scale comparisons with the landscape context;
- The distance of the proposed development from the viewpoint;
- The very limited part of the full open view from this location that will be affected by the proposed development (less than 25-degrees);
- The limited vertical impact of the majority of the turbines, due to landform screening;
- The appearance of the proposed development in relation to the more developed, forested part of the upland landscape, outwith the RSA, rather than the more scenic, remote upland landscape of the RSA that is seen in the foreground to the east of the viewpoint;

- The location of the majority of turbine bases behind the skyline, which ensures that other than at its right-hand side, the proposed development does not appear to be encroaching downwards into the glen landscape, and has a sense of visual and physical separation;
- The relatively shallow depth of the proposed development as seen from this angle, so that it does not appear to extend substantially to the east, beyond the closest turbines; and
- The lack of clear visibility of site infrastructure, which ensures that the disruption and potential clutter of access tracks and other infrastructure is avoided.

Significance of the effect

6.8.168 The effect of the proposed development on this view will be **significant**. This is due to a combination of the factors that lead to the medium-high sensitivity of the viewpoint and the medium magnitude of change on the view.

Cumulative effects

6.8.169 Visibility of cumulative wind farms is shown in the wireline on Figure 6.27c. Two of the sites shown on the wireline - Hellrig and Minsca - are not considered in detail in the cumulative assessment due to very limited visibility/ distance from the viewpoint. No application stage sites are visible and the relevant cumulative wind farms are the operational sites of Harestanes and Minnygap that lie to the south-west of the viewpoint, a minimum of 13.5km away. These two sites are adjacent to one another and effectively appear as a single wind farm.

6.8.170 There is one potential cumulative scenario at this viewpoint; the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites (operational, under-construction and consented).

6.8.171 The addition of the proposed development to the baseline scenario will have a **low** cumulative magnitude of change due to the very limited number of wind farms that are visible (effectively two – the proposed development and Harestanes/ Minnygap), the limited extent of the skyline that is affected by baseline development and the extensive part of the view that remains free of wind farm influence (most notably the dramatic hills to the east), the distance of Harestanes/ Minnygap from the viewpoint, and the retention of separation and resultant lack of coalescence between wind farms, so that each retains its distinct identity.

6.8.172 The cumulative effect arising from the addition of the proposed development to the baseline cumulative scenario will be **not significant**, due to a combination of the factors that lead to the low cumulative magnitude of change and the medium-high sensitivity of the viewpoint.

Viewpoint 13: Ettrick Pen

6.8.173 Ettrick Pen (692m AOD) is on the border between Dumfries and Galloway and Scottish Borders and is topped with an historic cairn. This hill is the highest point of the 'Ettrick Horseshoe' walking route, a well-known circuit around the hills at the head of the Ettrick valley, which is promoted on the Ettrick and Yarrow website, although it is not a core path or national trail.

6.8.174 This elevated viewpoint lies within and overlooks various *Southern Uplands* landscape types in all directions, the characteristics of which are clearly apparent in the massive extent of large-scale, simple landform and landscape patterns, with intermittent areas of forestry, that are seen around the viewpoint. The site area lies within the same *Southern Uplands with forest* landscape type as the viewpoint, and the continuity of this landscape can be seen between the viewpoint and the site.

6.8.175 To the left of the site, the *narrow wooded river valley – Eskdale* landscape is clearly discernible, distinguished by its relatively small-scale, complex and enclosed valley landscape of improved grassland, field boundaries and tracks. *Upland glen – Moffat* interrupts the Southern Uplands to the west of the viewpoint but is not visible due to the intervening hill landform.

6.8.176 A number of baseline (e.g. operational, under construction and consented) cumulative wind farms are theoretically visible in this outlook, as shown on the wireline views. These include the south-eastern group of Craig, Ewe Hill, Minsca, Solwaybank, Crossdykes, Hopsrig, Little Hartfell (which is the closest, at a minimum of 18.4km away) and Loganhead; Harestanes (a minimum of just over 20km away); Clyde and Clyde Extension (which is seen as two groups, divided by intervening landform), a minimum of 18.5km away; Crookedstane, which has very limited visibility and is seen in the context of Clyde; Langhope Rig, a minimum of 24km away; and limited visibility of Pines Burn a minimum of 33.6km away. There is also theoretical visibility of a number of other baseline sites that are seen from beyond their study areas.

6.8.177 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the view/viewpoint and the susceptibility of the viewer to the proposed development. The value of this view is medium-high. The viewpoint is accessed by a well-known promoted route and the landscape setting has high scenic qualities, overlooking the Moffat Hills RSA, the Tweedsmuir Uplands SLA, and WLA 29. However, the route is not a core path, national trail or Right of Way, the viewpoint itself is not indicated on OS maps, and it does not lie within an area designated for its scenic qualities.

6.8.178 The susceptibility to change of viewers at this viewpoint is high. People who gain the view will be walkers who are engaging in outdoor recreation and are likely to have a specific focus on the scenery and surrounding landscape, gained from a static viewpoint.

6.8.179 The combination of the high susceptibility to change and the medium-high value of the view results in a **high** sensitivity for the viewpoint.

Magnitude of change

6.8.180 Sixty-nine of the turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible in this view, 67 of them as hubs, from a minimum of 5.30km away.

6.8.181 The turbines will be the principal visible element of the proposed development, with much of the infrastructure being screened by landform and retained forestry. However, some sections of new access tracks and hardstands will be visible, along with areas of forestry removal. There is also theoretical visibility of three meteorological masts. Tall cranes will be seen during the construction and decommissioning phases.

6.8.182 The magnitude of change on this view will be **medium-high**, with the proposed development resulting in a major alteration to the baseline view and providing a prevailing influence. The factors that lead to this change are as follows:

- The introduction of turbines at close proximity into an aspect of the view that is not currently affected by nearby wind energy development;
- The introduction of movement and contrasting colour and texture into the upland landscape setting in which the proposed development is seen;
- The depth of the proposed development as seen from this location – the visible turbines range from just over 5km away to approximately 13km away – which reinforces its large scale and extent;
- This also results in an appearance of dense turbine spacing, as the proposed development is seen across its narrowest extent and is therefore concentrated in a relatively narrow aspect of the view;
- The number of turbines that are visible in the proposed development; and
- Visibility of site infrastructure, albeit limited.

6.8.183 The following considerations limit the magnitude of change to a medium-high level:

- The appearance of the proposed development as a single turbine group rather than appearing as several groups, which increases cohesion and prevents an impression of 'straggling';
- The relatively small proportion of the full 360-degree outlook that is affected by the proposed development despite its scale (approximately 45-degrees), because it is seen across its relatively narrow east-west horizontal extent in this view, rather than its longer north-south axis;
- The broad uniformity of the landscape within which the turbines are seen, which also increases the cohesion of the proposed development;
- The large scale and simple nature of the upland landscape setting in which the turbines are seen, and which largely surrounds the viewpoint, which avoids uncomfortable scale comparisons with the landscape context;
- The folds of landform between the viewpoint and the turbines, which give a sense of visual and physical separation between the proposed development and the viewpoint despite the visibility of turbine bases.

Significance of the effect

6.8.184 The effect of the proposed development on this view will be **significant**. This is due to a combination of the factors that lead to the high sensitivity of the viewpoint and the medium-high magnitude of change on the view.

Cumulative effects

6.8.185 Visibility of cumulative wind farms is shown on Figures 6.28b, c, d and e. A number of the sites shown on the wirelines are not considered in detail in the cumulative assessment as they are seen from outwith their study areas or because they have negligible visibility. The most relevant cumulative wind farms are as follows:

- The group of baseline (operational, under construction and consented) sites that lies to the south-east of the viewpoint, between 18.4km and 28.9km away – Craig, Crossdykes, Ewe Hill, Hopsrig, Little Hartfell, Loganhead, Minsca and Solwaybank;
- The operational site at Harestanes, partially visible at a minimum of just over 20km to the south-west of the viewpoint;
- The operational sites of Clyde and Clyde Extension (seen as two groups, divided by intervening landform) a minimum of 18.5km away to the north-west, and behind Clyde, a very small part of the consented site at Crookedstane;
- The operational site at Langhope Rig, a minimum of 24km away to the north-east;
- Limited theoretical visibility of the consented site at Pines Burn and slightly higher visibility of the application-stage Pines Burn resubmission, both a minimum of 33.6km away to the east; and
- The application-stage site at Faw Side, a minimum of 16.7km away to the south-east.

6.8.186 There are two potential cumulative scenarios at this viewpoint; the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites (operational, under-construction and consented) and the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites plus the application-stage sites at Faw Side and Pines Burn Resubmission.

6.8.187 The addition of the proposed development to the **baseline scenario** will have a **medium** cumulative magnitude of change. This change will arise from the addition of the proposed development to the overall baseline cumulative scenario, and is due to the following considerations:

- The addition of the proposed development – an immediately apparent wind farm that will have a significant effect itself - to a view in which a number of grouped and separate baseline wind farms are already visible;
- The location of the proposed development in a part of the view (the southern aspect) that is not directly affected by baseline wind farms, so that it extends wind farm influence around the view;
- The distribution of wind farms as features around the view rather than in one concentrated area, so that the aspects of the view that remain unaffected by wind energy development are generally narrow bands, one of which will be occupied by the proposed development;
- The limited separation between the proposed development and the western edge of the south-eastern group (Minsca), so that some perception of coalescence may arise (although this is limited by the differing appearance and proximity of the two sites);
- The variation between the proposed development and the baseline wind farms in terms of scale, extent, layout and setting; and
- The closer proximity of the proposed development in comparison with the baseline wind farms, which draws wind farm influence closer to the viewpoint.

6.8.188 The following considerations limit the cumulative magnitude of change to a **medium** level:

- The relatively distant visibility of the baseline wind farms (the closest is a minimum of 18.4km away);
- The separation between the proposed development and Harestanes, which ensures no coalescence between these sites;
- The relatively limited extent of the overall 360-degree skyline that is affected by baseline wind energy development (approx. 70-degrees) and the proposed development (approx. 45-degrees);
- The extensive part of the north-facing view – covering approximately 100-degrees – that remains free of wind farm influence and gains a spectacular open outlook across the Moffat Hills RSA and WLA XX; and
- The similarity in the upland setting of the proposed development and other wind farms.

6.8.189 Scenarios that include various combinations of application sites are also considered:

- The consideration of Pines Burn Resubmission rather than the consented Pines Burn scheme would have a very limited effect on the cumulative magnitude of change, which would remain **medium**;
- A scenario that includes application site at Faw Side is also considered. The inclusion of Faw Side would result in the addition of the proposed development leading to a **medium-high** cumulative magnitude of change, due to the following factors:
    - The consideration of another, discrete, wind farm in the outlook, so that the proposed development would create a further node of development;
    - The increase in the developed skyline to which the proposed development would be added (an additional 30-degrees, approximately, as a result of Faw Side);
    - The relatively close proximity and level of visibility of Faw Side; and
- The additional consideration of both Pines Burn Resubmission and Faw Side would lead to a **medium-high** cumulative magnitude of change, due to the consideration of Faw Side.

6.8.190 The cumulative effect arising from the addition of the proposed development to the baseline cumulative scenario will be **significant,** due to a combination of the factors that lead to the medium cumulative magnitude of change and the high sensitivity of the viewpoint. Consideration of the application-stage site of Pines Burn Resubmission will not result in any change to this. However, when the application-stage wind farm at Faw Side

is considered, the cumulative magnitude of change arising from the proposed development would become medium-high and the effect would remain **significant**.

Viewpoint 14: B709 north of Eskdalemuir

Baseline and sensitivity

6.8.191 This viewpoint is located on the B709 approximately 8km to the north of Eskdalemuir and the view will be gained by southbound travellers on the B709. This viewpoint has been selected as the B709 is one of the few visual receptors to the north-east of the site and the elevation and orientation of this stretch of road is such that it gains a view towards the site across the White Esk valley.

6.8.192 This viewpoint lies at the centre of *Southern Uplands with forest – Eskdalemuir* (where this specific landscape type is theoretically very narrow, being just over 2km wide), which extends from the viewpoint to the northern part of the site. To the north (to the right of the view) the massive, smooth hills and forestry of the Southern Uplands continue into the Scottish Borders. The distinctive summit of Ettrick Pen (Viewpoint 13), which lies on the boundary of the Dumfries and Galloway and Scottish Borders Southern Uplands, can be seen to the right of the road. *Narrow wooded river valley – Eskdale* can be seen extending southwards from the centre of the view, with its characteristic small-scale features and enclosure. The western side of Eskdale is enclosed by *Southern Uplands with forest – Eskdalemuir* and, further to the south, by *foothills with forest – Castle O'er*.

6.8.193 There is theoretical visibility of one baseline (operational, under construction and consented) cumulative wind farm – Little Hartfell - in this view as shown on the wireline view. This site has very limited visibility (two blade tips) and is seen at a minimum of 16.7km away, from where it is unlikely to contribute notably to cumulative effects.

6.8.194 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the view/viewpoint and the susceptibility of the viewer to the proposed development. The value of this view is medium. This is not a recognised or signposted outlook, no facilities are provided for the enjoyment of the view, and it does not lie within or overlook any areas that are designated for their scenic value. However, the view has a remote sense of place and scenic qualities in its elevated outlook across Eskdale and the Southern Uplands.

6.8.195 The susceptibility to change of viewers is medium-low as the view will be gained by people travelling on the 'B' road, which is not a recognised tourist route. The medium-low susceptibility arises from the focus that southbound travellers are likely to have on the surrounding landscape, given the expansive view across Eskdale that opens up as the road rounds a bend.

6.8.196 The combination of the medium-low susceptibility to change and the medium value of the view results in a **medium** sensitivity for the viewpoint.

Magnitude of change

6.8.197 Forty-one of the turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible in this view, 21 of them as hubs, from a minimum of 7.60km away. No turbine bases are visible.

6.8.198 The turbines will be the only clearly visible element of the proposed development during operation, with infrastructure and forestry removal either being screened by landform or not clearly visible due to a combination of distance and the angle of the view. Tall cranes will be seen during the construction and decommissioning phases.

6.8.199 The magnitude of change on this view will be **medium**, with the proposed development resulting in a moderate alteration to the baseline view, providing a readily apparent influence and introducing elements that may be prominent to the view. The factors that lead to this change are as follows:

- The introduction of turbines into a view that is not currently affected by wind energy development;
- The proximity of the proposed development to the viewpoint;
- The introduction of movement and contrasting colour and texture into the upland landscape setting in which the proposed development is seen;
- The appearance of the proposed development across the open aspect of the outlook from the road and in the main orientation of southbound drivers;
- The scale of the turbines in relation to the relatively complex landscape patterns seen in the foreground of the view;
- The extent of the proposed development across the view (approximately 50-degrees), as it is seen along its longer north-south axis; and
- The variation in the visible proportion of turbines, which ranges from full height (including turbine bases) to blades.

6.8.200 The following considerations limit the cumulative magnitude of change to a medium level:

- The large scale and simple nature of the upland landscape setting in which the turbines are seen, which avoids uncomfortable scale comparisons with its landscape context;
- The location of turbine bases behind the skyline, which ensures that the proposed development does not appear to be encroaching downwards into the relatively small-scale landscape of Eskdale and has a sense of visual and physical separation;
- The limited vertical impact of the majority of turbines due to landform screening and the low density of the visible turbines, which are seen ranged across the skyline;
- The relatively shallow depth of the proposed development from this angle as it is seen across its shorter east-west axis, rather than its longer north-south axis;
- The distance of the proposed development from the viewpoint; and
- The lack of visibility of site infrastructure, which ensures that the disruption and potential clutter of access tracks and other infrastructure is avoided.

Significance of the effect

6.8.201 The effect of the proposed development on this view will be **significant**. This is due to a combination of the factors that lead to the medium sensitivity of the viewpoint and the medium magnitude of change on the view.

Cumulative effects

6.8.202 Visibility of cumulative wind farms is shown in the wireline on Figure 6.29b, and as discussed above, is restricted to very limited visibility of Little Hartfell. The cumulative magnitude of change arising from the addition of the proposed development to Little Hartfell will be low/ negligible, and **not significant**.

Viewpoint 15: Castle O'er Forest Hill Fort

Baseline and sensitivity

6.8.203 Castle O'er Hill Fort is approximately 5km south of Eskdalemuir, located in a defensive position on a narrow spit of high ground (*foothills with forest* landscape) that allows it to overlook the Black Esk valley to the south and west and the Esk valley to the east.

6.8.204 Castle O'er was probably the base for an important branch of the Selgovae tribe, who ruled much of south west Scotland in the Iron Age. This is a popular recreational destination, accessed by a waymarked path and with parking provided.

6.8.205 *Foothills with forest* is the predominant landscape type seen in the view, covering the foreground and middle-ground in the direction of the site, where it foreshortens the view. Towards the north (right-hand side) of the site, the *Southern Uplands with forest* can be seen rising above the forested slope of *foothills with forest*. The Black Esk valley is seen in the left-hand middle-ground of the view, with its more cultivated, enclosed landscape of semi-improved grassland. The western side of the Black Esk valley is enclosed by the continuation of *foothills with forest* that surrounds the valley on the three sides, distinguished by its forestry cover and relatively low, gentle hills.

6.8.206 There are a number of cumulative wind farms visible in this outlook, as shown on the wireline views. The principal group is that of the operational site at Ewe Hill along with the consented sites at Crossdykes, Hopsrig, and Loganhead, which lie a minimum of 4.2km away to the south-east of the viewpoint. The consented site at Little Hartfell lies slightly separate from this group, 3.7km away to the south of the viewpoint. There is also theoretical visibility of Harestanes and Minnygap, a minimum of 21.1km to the west of the viewpoint, although this is limited by landform and forestry screening.

6.8.207 There is very limited theoretical visibility of Dalswinton and Minsca, currently screened by forestry. If the forestry is felled, visibility of these sites would not be sufficient to make a notable contribution to cumulative effects.

6.8.208 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the view/viewpoint and the susceptibility of the viewer to the proposed development. The value of this view is high. This is a recognised visitor attraction, accessed by a waymarked path, and while the viewpoint itself is not indicated on OS maps, the landscape setting contributes notably to both the cultural heritage and visitors' experience of this location. Parking and interpretation are provided. The view also has value in its scenic outlook across the uplands, although it does not lie within an area that is designated for its scenic qualities.

6.8.209 The susceptibility to change of viewers at this viewpoint is high. People who gain the view will be walkers or visitors to the Fort who are engaging in outdoor recreation and are likely to have a specific focus on the scenery and surrounding landscape, gained from a static viewpoint.

6.8.210 The combination of the high susceptibility to change and the high value of the view results in a **high** sensitivity for the viewpoint.

Magnitude of change

6.8.211 The seventy-five turbines in the proposed development are all theoretically visible in this view, 67 of them as hubs, from a minimum of 4.53km away. Intervening forestry currently provides screening of a number of towers, hubs and blades.

6.8.212 The turbines will be the principal visible element of the proposed development, with the great majority of the infrastructure being screened by landform and forestry. However, some short sections of new access tracks and hardstands will be visible at some distance, along with one energy storage facility and areas of forestry removal. There is also theoretical visibility of three meteorological masts. Tall cranes will be seen during the construction and decommissioning phases.

6.8.213 The magnitude of change on this view will be **medium-high**, with the proposed development resulting in a major alteration to the baseline view and providing a prevailing influence. The factors that lead to this change are as follows:

- The introduction of turbines at close proximity into an aspect of the view that is not currently affected by wind energy development;
- The introduction of movement and contrasting colour and texture into the upland landscape setting in which the proposed development is seen;
- The appearance of the proposed development in relation to different landforms and skylines;
- The depth of the proposed development as seen from this location – the visible turbines range from just over 4.5km away to approximately 12.5km away – which reinforces its large scale and extent;
- This also results in an appearance of dense turbine spacing, as the proposed development is seen across its narrowest extent and is therefore concentrated in a relatively narrow aspect of the view; and
- The number of turbines that are visible in the proposed development.

6.8.214 The following considerations limit the magnitude of change to a medium-high level:

- The appearance of the proposed development as a single turbine group rather than appearing as several groups, which increases cohesion and prevents an impression of 'straggling';
- The relatively small proportion of the full 360-degree outlook that is affected by the proposed development despite its scale (approximately 41-degrees);
- The appearance of the proposed development in a relatively unremarkable, forested part of the view
- The very large scale and simple nature of the upland landscape setting in which the turbines are seen, which prevents uncomfortable scale comparisons;
- The screening of turbine bases by forestry, which ensures that there is a sense of visual and physical separation between the viewpoint and the proposed development and avoids encroachment towards the viewpoint (forestry felling could lead to visibility of turbine bases, thus reducing the consideration of this factor); and
- The limited and relatively distant visibility of site infrastructure, which ensures that the disruption and potential clutter of access tracks and other infrastructure is avoided.

Significance of the effect

6.8.215 The effect of the proposed development on this view will be **significant**. This is due to a combination of the factors that lead to the high sensitivity of the viewpoint and the medium-high magnitude of change on the view.

Cumulative effects

6.8.216 Visibility of cumulative wind farms is shown on Figure 6.30b, c, d and e. Two of the sites shown on the wirelines – Dalswinton and Minsca - are not considered in detail in the cumulative assessment due to their very limited visibility and distance from the viewpoint. The relevant cumulative wind farms are as follows:

- The group of baseline (operational, under construction and consented) sites that lies to the south-east of the viewpoint, between approximately 4km and 10km away; Craig and Extension, Crossdykes, Ewe Hill, Hopsrig, and Loganhead;
- The consented site at Little Hartfell, 3.7km away; and
- The application-stage site at Faw Side, which lies a minimum of 8.2km to the east of the viewpoint.

6.8.217 There are two potential cumulative scenarios at this viewpoint; the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites (operational, under-construction and consented) and the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites plus the application-stage site at Faw Side.

6.8.218 The addition of the proposed development to the baseline scenario will have a **medium/ medium-high** cumulative magnitude of change. This change will arise primarily from the addition of the proposed development to the Ewe Hill group of baseline wind farms and Little Hartfell. This level of change arises from the following considerations:

- The addition of the proposed development – a wind farm that will have a significant effect itself - to a view in which a number of grouped and separate baseline wind farms are theoretically visible;
- The level of visibility and proximity of the baseline wind farms as well as the proposed development;
- The location of the proposed development in a part of the view (the north-western aspect) that is not notably affected by baseline wind farms, so that it extends wind farm influence around the view;
- Additional, more distant and limited, visibility of Harestanes and Minnygap; and
- The location of the proposed development to the north-west and baseline wind farms to the south and south-east, so that the viewpoint lies between wind energy developments.

6.8.219 The following considerations limit the cumulative magnitude of change to a **medium/ medium-high** level:

- The grouping together of readily apparent baseline wind energy development in one area (plus Little Hartfell, which is in the same aspect of the view as the south-eastern group) so that the outlook is not characterised by a number of dispersed and disparate developments, but by focussed development;
- The limited number of groups of baseline wind energy development;
- The separation between the proposed development and clearly visible baseline sites, which ensures no coalescence between wind farms;
- The extensive north and east-facing parts of the view that remain free of wind farm influence; and
- The similarity in the upland setting of the proposed development and other wind farms.

6.8.220 A scenario that includes the application site at Faw Side is also considered. The inclusion of Faw Side would result in the addition of the proposed development leading to a **medium-high** cumulative magnitude of change, due to the following factors:

- The addition of another, discrete, wind farm to the outlook, so that the proposed development would create a further node of development;
- The location of Faw Side to the east of the viewpoint, so that the viewpoint would have wind farms to the south, east and north-west;
- The increase in the developed skyline to which the proposed development would be added (an additional 43-degrees, approximately, as a result of Faw Side); and
- The relatively close proximity and level of visibility of Faw Side.

6.8.221 The cumulative effect arising from the addition of the proposed development to the baseline cumulative scenario will be **significant**, due to a combination of the factors that lead to the medium/ medium-high cumulative magnitude of change and the high sensitivity of the viewpoint. When the application-stage wind farm at Faw Side is also considered, the cumulative magnitude of change would become medium-high and the effect would remain **significant.**

Viewpoint 16: Corrie Common

Baseline and sensitivity

6.8.222 This viewpoint is located on the north-western edge of Corrie Common, on the minor road that provides access through the village. While the ZTV shows high theoretical visibility of the proposed development from parts of Corrie Common, much of this is screened and filtered by vegetation and houses within the village. The location of this viewpoint on the more open and elevated edge of the village means that it has a higher level of visibility due to the lack of screening elements.

6.8.223 Corrie Common lies within the *foothills – Annandale* landscape, and views towards the site are gained across further areas of this landscape type as well as areas of *foothills with forest* towards the left side of the view. The large scale, simple landform of the Southern Uplands is seen on the skyline to the north of the viewpoint.

6.8.224 There are a number of cumulative wind farms visible in this outlook, as shown on the wireline views. The closest site is Little Hartfell, 3km away to the north-east. With lower visibility and further to the east is the group of the operational site at Ewe Hill along with the consented sites at Crossdykes, Hopsrig, and Loganhead, which lie a minimum of 5.1km away, and to the south is Minsca, 5km away. Harestanes and Minnygap are seen at a minimum of 19.5km away to the north-west, and part of Clyde is theoretically seen north-north-west of the viewpoint at 31.8km away.

6.8.225 There is limited theoretical visibility of Dalswinton (25.6km away) and of Solwaybank (10.3km), although this latter site is screened by vegetation and telegraph poles on the skyline. A number of other sites are also theoretically visible as shown on the wirelines but are seen from beyond their own study areas.

6.8.226 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the view/viewpoint and the susceptibility of the viewer to the proposed development. The value of this view is medium-low; this viewpoint lies on a minor road, is not a recognised or signposted outlook, and facilities are not provided for the enjoyment of the view. The view does, however, have some value in its open rural aspect.

6.8.227 The susceptibility to change of viewers is high as this view will be gained by local residents going about their daily business, and a similar view may be gained by some local residents from the curtilage of their properties.

6.8.228 The combination of the high susceptibility to change and the medium-low value of the view results in a **medium-high** sensitivity for the viewpoint.

Magnitude of change

6.8.229 The seventy-five turbines in the proposed development are all theoretically visible in this view, 67 of them as hubs, from a minimum of 8.47km away. There is some very limited screening of visibility by skyline forestry but the majority of these turbines are likely to be visible.

6.8.230 The turbines will be the only clearly visible element of the proposed development during operation, with infrastructure and forestry removal either being screened by landform or not clearly visible due to a combination of distance and the angle of the view. Tall cranes will be seen during the construction and decommissioning phases.

6.8.231 The magnitude of change on this view will be **medium**, with the proposed development resulting in a moderate alteration to the baseline view and providing a prevailing influence. The factors that lead to this change are as follows:

- The introduction of turbines into an aspect of the view that is not currently affected by readily apparent wind energy development;
- The introduction of movement and contrasting colour and texture into the upland landscape setting in which the proposed development is seen;
- The appearance of the proposed development across an open part of the outlook from the road, and in the orientation of northbound road-users;
- The scale of the turbines in relation to the domestic landscape patterns seen in the foreground and middle-ground of the view;
- The variation in the visible proportion of turbines, which ranges from full height (including turbine bases) to blades, and the variation in the elevation of turbines;
- The depth of the proposed development as seen from this location – the visible turbines range from just under 8.5km away to approximately 17km away – which reinforces its large scale and extent;
- This also results in an appearance of dense turbine spacing, as the proposed development is seen across its narrowest extent and is therefore concentrated in a relatively narrow aspect of the view; and
- The number of turbines that are visible in the proposed development.

6.8.232 The following considerations limit the magnitude of change to a medium level:

- The appearance of the proposed development in relation to a notable area of more upland landform, which increases cohesion and prevents an impression of 'straggling';
- The relatively small proportion of the outlook that is affected by the proposed development (approximately 33-degrees), as it is seen across its shorter east-west axis;
- The exposed and elevated nature of the outlook, which ensures that open views are available in all directions and thus the proposed development will not affect the only open part of the view;
- The large scale and simple nature of the upland landscape setting in which the turbines are seen, which prevents uncomfortable scale comparisons; and
- The lack of clear visibility of site infrastructure, which ensures that the disruption and potential clutter of access tracks and other infrastructure is avoided.

Significance of the effect

6.8.233 The effect of the proposed development on this view will be **significant**. This is due to a combination of the factors that lead to the medium-high sensitivity of the viewpoint and the medium magnitude of change on the view.

Cumulative effects

6.8.234 Visibility of cumulative wind farms is shown on Figures 6.31b, c, d and e. A number of the sites shown on the wirelines are not considered in detail in the cumulative assessment due to very limited visibility and/ or distance, as they are theoretically visible from outwith their own study areas. The relevant cumulative wind farms are as follows:

- The consented site at Little Hartfell, 3km away to the north-east;
- The group of baseline sites at Ewe Hill, Crossdykes, Hopsrig, and Loganhead, between 5.1km and 8.3km away;
- The operational site at Minsca, 5km to the south of the viewpoint; and
- The operational sites at Harestanes and Minnygap, a minimum of 19.5km away, and part of Clyde, theoretically visible at 31.8km away.

6.8.235 There is one potential cumulative scenario at this viewpoint; the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites (operational, under-construction and consented).

6.8.236 The addition of the proposed development to the baseline scenario will have a **medium** cumulative magnitude of change. This level of change arises from the following considerations:

- The addition of the proposed development – a wind farm that will have a significant effect itself - to a view in which a number of grouped and separate baseline wind farms are theoretically visible;
- The level of visibility and proximity of baseline wind farms (Little Hartfell and Minsca, in particular) as well as the proposed development;
- The location of the proposed development in a part of the view (the north-western aspect) that is not notably affected by baseline wind farms, so that it extends wind farm influence around the view;
- Additional, more distant and limited, visibility of Harestanes, Minnygap and Clyde; and
- The location of the proposed development to the north-west and clearly visible baseline wind farms to the south and east, so that the viewpoint lies between wind energy developments.

6.8.237 The following considerations limit the cumulative magnitude of change to a **medium** level:

- The relatively limited number of groups of baseline wind energy development;
- The separation between the proposed development and clearly visible baseline sites, which ensures no coalescence between wind farms;
- The extensive west and south-west-facing parts of the view that remain free of wind farm influence; and
- The similarity in the upland setting of the proposed development and other wind farms.

6.8.238 The cumulative effect arising from the addition of the proposed development to the baseline cumulative scenario will be **significant**, due to a combination of the factors that lead to the medium cumulative magnitude of change and the medium-high sensitivity of the viewpoint.

Viewpoint 17: Burnswark Hill Fort

Baseline and sensitivity

6.8.239 Burnswark Hill Fort is just over 5km south-east of Lockerbie, located on the distinctive landform of Burnswark Hill, which rises to 287m AOD from the gentle *Annandale fringe* landscape. Burnswark is a Roman hill fort, and other archaeological features, including a cairn and earthworks, are also found on the hill. The hilltop is not accessed by a core path, although there is a core path around the foot of the hill and a path has been worn up the hillside to the fort.

6.8.240 Burnswark Hill is a distinctive landform feature in the *upland fringe – Annandale fringe* landscape and extensive tracts of this type are seen to the north and south of the viewpoint, characterised by the gentle lower hill slopes, managed fields, shelterbelts and low-density settlement that are typical of this landscape. To the north, the Dryfe Water valley is seen beyond the *upland fringe*, dividing two areas of *foothills – Annandale*, and beyond the *foothills* is the skyline of the Southern Uplands.

6.8.241 To the east and west the *upland fringe* quickly gives way to *foothills – Annandale* (where Minsca Wind Farm is clearly visible) and *middle dale/ lower dale with hills* landscape types, respectively. The Solway Firth can be seen to the south.

6.8.242 There are a number of cumulative wind farms visible in this outlook, as shown on the wireline views. The closest site is Minsca, 3.3km away to the north-east. Behind Minsca, and also extending slightly further to the

north, is the group of operational and consented sites that includes Ewe Hill, Craig, Crossdykes, Hopsrig and Loganhead, a minimum of 11.2km away. Slightly separate from this group to the north-west is Little Hartfell, a minimum of 10.6km away, while Solwaybank lies to the south of Minsca, a minimum of 9.9km away.

6.8.243 Other baseline wind farms theoretically seen in the view are further away, including Beck Burn and Hallburn, 18km and 24.7km respectively to the south-east; Harestanes/ Minnygap, a minimum of 22.6km to the north-west; Dalswinton, 25.9km to the north-west; and Hellrigg, 27.7km to the south. A number of other wind farms shown in the wirelines are seen from outwith their study areas.

6.8.244 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the view/viewpoint and the susceptibility of the viewer to the proposed development. The value of this view is medium. This is a distinctive location and the cultural heritage interest gives value to the viewpoint. The view also has value in its scenic outlook across Annandale as well as the wider landscape. It is not, however, a recognised and promoted visitor attraction, is not accessed by a formal or waymarked path, facilities are not provided for the enjoyment of the view, and the viewpoint does not lie within or closely overlook an area that is designated for its scenic qualities.

6.8.245 The susceptibility to change of viewers at this viewpoint is high. People who gain the view will be walkers or visitors to the fort who are engaging in outdoor recreation and are likely to have a specific focus on the scenery and surrounding landscape, gained from a static viewpoint.

6.8.246 The combination of the high susceptibility to change and the medium value of the view results in a **medium-high** sensitivity for the viewpoint.

Magnitude of change

6.8.247 The 75 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible in this view, all of them as hubs, from a minimum of 16.12km away.

6.8.248 The turbines will be the only clearly visible element of the proposed development during operation, with infrastructure and forestry removal either being screened by landform or not clearly visible due to a combination of distance and the angle of the view. Tall cranes will be seen during the construction and decommissioning phases.

6.8.249 The magnitude of change on this view will be **medium/medium-low**, with the proposed development resulting in a moderate alteration to the baseline view, providing an apparent influence. The factors that lead to this change are as follows:

- The introduction of turbines into an aspect of the view that is not currently affected by wind energy development;
- The introduction of movement and contrasting colour and texture into the upland landscape setting in which the proposed development is seen;
- The scale of the turbines in relation to the relatively complex landscape patterns seen in the middle-ground of the view;
- The depth of the proposed development as seen from this location – the visible turbines range from just over 16km away to approximately 24.5km away;
- This results in an appearance of dense turbine spacing, as the proposed development is seen across its narrowest extent and is therefore concentrated in a relatively narrow aspect of the view;
- Visibility of turbine bases; and
- The number of turbines that are visible in the proposed development.

6.8.250 The following considerations limit the magnitude of change to a **medium/ medium-low** level:

- The appearance of the proposed development as a single turbine group rather than appearing as several groups, separated by landform;
- The large scale and simple nature of the upland landscape setting in which the turbines are seen, which avoids uncomfortable scale comparisons with the landscape context;
- The distance of the proposed development from the viewpoint;
- The relatively small proportion of the full 360-degree outlook that is affected by the proposed development despite its scale (just over 20-degrees);
- The appearance of the proposed development in a part of the outlook that is characterised by an upland, elevated landscape;
- The screening of turbine bases by forestry, which ensures that there is a sense of visual and physical separation between the viewpoint and the proposed development and avoids encroachment towards the viewpoint (forestry felling could lead to visibility of turbine bases, thus reducing the consideration of this factor); and
- The lack of clear visibility of site infrastructure, which ensures that the disruption and potential clutter of access tracks and other infrastructure is avoided.

Significance of the effect

6.8.251 The effect of the proposed development on this view will be **significant**. This is due to a combination of the factors that lead to the medium-high sensitivity of the viewpoint and the medium/medium-low magnitude of change on the view. This combination of medium-high sensitivity and medium/ medium-low magnitude of change can result in an effect that is either significant or not significant. In this case, the effect is assessed to be significant due primarily to the introduction of turbines into an aspect of the 360-degree view that is not currently affected by wind energy development (of which there are a number around the view).

Cumulative effects

6.8.252 Visibility of cumulative wind farms is shown on Figures 6.32b, c, d and e. A number of the sites shown on the wirelines are not considered in detail in the cumulative assessment due to very limited visibility and/ or distance, as they are theoretically visible from outwith their own study areas. The relevant cumulative wind farms are as follows:

- The operational site at Minsca, 3.3km away to the north-east;
- The group of baseline sites at Craig, Ewe Hill, Crossdykes, Hopsrig, and Loganhead, a minimum of 11.2km away;
- The consented site at Little Hartfell, 10.6km to the north-east of the viewpoint;
- The under-construction site at Solwaybank, a minimum of 9.9km away to the east;
- The operational sites at Beck Burn and Hallburn, 18km and 24.7km respectively to the south-east; Harestanes/ Minnygap, a minimum of 22.6km to the north-west; Dalswinton, 25.9km to the north-west; and Hellrigg, 27.7km to the south; and
- The application-stage site at Faw Side, which is visible behind the baseline north-eastern group, a minimum of 19.6km away to the north-east.

6.8.253 There are two potential cumulative scenarios at this viewpoint; the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites (operational, under-construction and consented) and the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites plus the application-stage site at Faw Side.

6.8.254 The addition of the proposed development to the baseline scenario will have a **medium** cumulative magnitude of change. This level of change arises from the following considerations:

- The addition of the proposed development – a wind farm that will have a significant effect itself - to a view in which a number of grouped and separate baseline wind farms are theoretically visible;
- The number of wind farms that are theoretically visible around the view;
- The level of visibility and proximity of baseline wind farms (Little Hartfell and Minsca, in particular) as well as the proposed development; and
- The location of the proposed development in a part of the view (the north) that is not notably affected by baseline wind farms, so that it extends wind farm influence around the view.

6.8.255 The following considerations limit the cumulative magnitude of change to a **medium** level:

- The separation between the proposed development and clearly visible baseline sites, which ensures no coalescence between wind farms;
- The location of the proposed development between baseline developments in the northern aspect of the view, where it will not affect the relatively undeveloped southern and south-western aspect of the view;
- The limited additional aspect of the view that will be affected by the proposed development (just over 20-degrees) and its distance from the viewpoint;
- The extensive south and south-west-facing parts of the view (approximately 170-degree field of view) that overlook several RSAs and remain free of wind farm influence, other than Hellrigg, which is 27.7km away; and
- The similarity in the upland setting of the proposed development and other wind farms.

6.8.256 A scenario that includes the application site at Faw Side is also considered. The inclusion of Faw Side would not lead to an increase in the level of cumulative magnitude of change, due to the relatively distant visibility of Faw Side and its location behind a number of baseline wind farms where it will not increase the developed skyline or extent wind farm influence around the view.

6.8.257 The cumulative effect arising from the addition of the proposed development to the baseline cumulative scenario will be **significant**, due to a combination of the factors that lead to the medium cumulative magnitude of change and the medium-high sensitivity of the viewpoint. When the application-stage wind farm at Faw Side is also considered, the cumulative magnitude of change would remain medium and the effect would remain **significant**.

Viewpoint 18: A709 west of Lockerbie (bridge over River Annan)

6.8.258 This viewpoint is located on the A709 approximately 2.5km to the west of Lockerbie, immediately to the west of the road bridge over the River Annan. While the ZTVs show visibility from Lockerbie, the publicly-accessible potential viewpoint locations investigated by OPEN within the settlement all displayed screening and filtering of views by landform, buildings and vegetation, and were not considered to represent the highest level of visibility that may be gained from specific locations in the town. This viewpoint has therefore been included as it illustrates a clear and open view towards the site that will be gained by a high number of people.

6.8.259 The bridge crossing is controlled by traffic lights and the view may therefore be gained by static viewers who have stopped to wait before they are signalled to cross the bridge. The view will be gained by eastbound travellers only.

6.8.260 This viewpoint lies within the *lower dale – lower Annandale* landscape type, and the foreground and middle-ground of the view clearly shows the expansive, flat floodplain, large, regular field patterns and settled nature of this landscape type and the *middle dale – mid Annandale* that lies beyond it. The dale is enclosed by an elevated 'rim' of hills covered by *foothills* and, more prominently, the massive landform of *Southern Uplands with forest*.

6.8.261 There are several cumulative wind farms visible in this outlook, as shown on the wireline views. The closest site is Minsca, 10.7km away to the east, which is partially screened by woodland. Harestanes and Minnygap are a minimum of 15.6km to the north-west and are partially visible in clear conditions, albeit with some screening by woodland.

6.8.262 Other baseline wind farms theoretically seen in the view are further away and/ or screened by buildings and woodland. These include Ewe Hill (16.5km away), Dalswinton (17.8km away), Loganhead (19.3km away), Clyde and Extension (32.1km away), and Whitelaw Brae (37.9km away).

6.8.263 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the view/viewpoint and the susceptibility of the viewer to the proposed development. The value of this view is medium. This is not a recognised or signposted outlook, no facilities are provided for the enjoyment of the view, and it does not lie within or overlook areas that are designated for their scenic value. However, this stretch of the A709 is on the SW Coastal 300 Route.

6.8.264 The susceptibility to change of viewers is medium; this part of the A709 is on the SW Coastal 300 Route and some road-users will have a specific focus on the scenery and surrounding landscape. The viewpoint does not, however, lie on any designated walking or cycling routes.

6.8.265 The combination of the medium susceptibility to change and the medium value of the view results in a **medium** sensitivity for the viewpoint.

Magnitude of change

6.8.266 The 75 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible in this view, all of them as hubs, from a minimum of 15.35km away.

6.8.267 The turbines will be the only clearly visible element of the proposed development during operation, with infrastructure and forestry removal either being screened by landform or not clearly visible due to a combination of distance and the angle of the view. Tall cranes will be seen during the construction and decommissioning phases.

6.8.268 The magnitude of change on this view will be **medium-low**, with the proposed development resulting in a moderate to low alteration to the baseline view, providing a readily apparent influence and introducing elements that may be prominent to the view. The factors that lead to this change are as follows:

- The introduction of turbines into an aspect of the view that is not currently affected by wind energy development;
- The introduction of movement and contrasting colour and texture into the upland landscape setting in which the proposed development is seen;
- The location of the proposed development in a part of the view that is relatively elevated and upland in comparison to the surrounding landform/ landscape;
- The variable turbine spacing and variation in base elevations that is seen to the left-hand side of the proposed development;

- The visibility of turbine bases on the foothill slopes, also to the left-hand side of the proposed development;
- The appearance of the proposed development in the orientation of views gained by eastbound road-users, albeit at an angle from the main direction of the road; and
- The number of turbines that are visible in the proposed development and the extent of the view that it affects (approx. 30-degrees), despite its distance from the viewpoint.

6.8.269 The following considerations limit the magnitude of change to a **medium-low** level:

- The large scale and upland landscape setting in which the turbines are seen;
- The distance of the proposed development from the viewpoint;
- The open and expansive nature of the view available, which ensures that the proposed development will not affect the only open part of the view, and extensive parts will remain unaffected;
- The appearance of the proposed development in a part of the outlook that is characterised by an upland, elevated landscape rather than by a low-lying and developed valley landscape; and
- The lack of clear visibility of site infrastructure, which ensures that the disruption and potential clutter of access tracks and other infrastructure is avoided.

Significance of the effect

6.8.270 The effect of the proposed development on this view will be **significant**. This is due to a combination of the factors that lead to the medium sensitivity of the viewpoint and the medium-low magnitude of change on the view. This combination of medium sensitivity and medium-low magnitude of change can result in an effect that is either significant or not significant. In this case, the effect is assessed to be significant due to the location of the proposed development in the orientation of views gained by eastbound road-users, particularly those stopped at the traffic lights, and in a part of the view that is relatively elevated and upland in comparison to the surrounding landform/ landscape.

Cumulative effects

6.8.271 Visibility of cumulative wind farms is shown in the wirelines on Figure 6.33b, c and d. Five of the sites shown on the wirelines - Ewe Hill, Dalswinton, Loganhead, Clyde and Extension, and Whitelaw Brae - are not considered in detail in the cumulative assessment due to very limited visibility/ distance from the viewpoint. No application stage sites are visible and the relevant cumulative wind farms are the operational sites of Minsca, partially screened at 10.7km away to the east, and Harestanes and Minnygap, also partially screened, a minimum of 15.6km to the north-west. These latter two sites are adjacent to one another and effectively appear as a single wind farm, partly screened by rising landform.

6.8.272 There is one potential cumulative scenario at this viewpoint; the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites (operational, under-construction and consented).

6.8.273 The addition of the proposed development to the **baseline scenario** will have a **medium-low** cumulative magnitude of change. This change will arise from the addition of the proposed development to Minsca, Harestanes and Minnygap, due to the following considerations:

- The addition of the proposed development – a readily apparent wind farm that will have a significant effect itself - to a view in which three baseline wind farms (two of which appear as a single wind farm) are potentially visible;
- The location of the proposed development in a part of the view (the northern part) that is not affected by visible baseline wind farms, so that it extends wind farm influence around the view; and
- The variation between the proposed development and the visible baseline wind farms in terms of appearance, proximity, scale, extent, layout and setting.

6.8.274 The following considerations limit the cumulative magnitude of change to a **medium-low** level:

- The very limited number of wind farms that are visible (effectively three – the proposed development, Minsca, and Harestanes/ Minnygap);
- The limited and relatively distant visibility of the baseline sites;
- The relatively limited extent of the skyline that is affected by baseline development the extensive part of the view that remains free of wind farm influence; and
- The lack of coalescence of wind farms (other than the conjoined sites of Harestanes and Minnygap), so that each retains its distinct identity.

6.8.275 The cumulative effect arising from the addition of the proposed development to the baseline cumulative scenario will be **not significant**, due to a combination of the factors that lead to the medium-low cumulative magnitude of change and the medium sensitivity of the viewpoint.

Viewpoint 19: B7020 north of Lochmaben

6.8.276 This viewpoint is located in a layby beside the B7020 approximately 600m to the north of Lochmaben. While the ZTVs show visibility from Lochmaben, the publicly-accessible potential viewpoint locations investigated by OPEN within the settlement all displayed screening and filtering of views by landform, buildings and vegetation, and were not considered to represent the higher level of visibility that may be gained from specific locations in the village. This viewpoint has therefore been included as it illustrates a relatively clear nearby view towards the site from a stretch of the northbound road that is orientated towards the proposed development, and the view may be gained from vehicles that have stopped in the layby. This stretch of the road is also the route of the Annandale Way.

6.8.277 This viewpoint lies just on the cusp of the *lower dale – lower Annandale* and *middle dale – mid Annandale* landscape types, and the foreground and middle-ground of the view show the regular field patterns, woodland and hedgerows, and settled nature of these landscape types. The dale is enclosed by an elevated 'rim' of hills covered by *foothills* and the massive landform of *Southern Uplands with forest*.

6.8.278 There are several cumulative wind farms visible in this outlook, as shown on the wireline views. The closest sites are Harestanes and Minnygap, a minimum of 11.8km to the north-west, with extensive screening by woodland. Minsca is 13.1km away to the east, with some woodland screening.

6.8.279 Two other baseline wind farms theoretically seen in the view are further away and/ or screened by woodland; these are Little Hartfell (14.2km away), Clyde and Extension (28.3km away).

6.8.280 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the view/viewpoint and the susceptibility of the viewer to the proposed development. The value of this view is medium-high. The Annandale Way is a national long-distance walking route, recognised as one of 'Scotland's Great Trails', and while the viewpoint itself is not indicated on OS maps, the landscape setting across Annandale contributes to visitors' experience of this location. It is not, however, a marked location where facilities are provided for the enjoyment of the view and the viewpoint does not lie within or overlook an area designated for its scenic qualities.

6.8.281 The susceptibility to change of viewers at this viewpoint is medium-high. Some of the people who gain the view will be walkers on the Annandale Way who are engaging in outdoor recreation and are likely to have a specific focus on the scenery and surrounding landscape.

6.8.282 The combination of the medium-high susceptibility to change and the medium-high value of the view results in a **medium-high** sensitivity for the viewpoint.

Magnitude of change

6.8.283 The 75 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible in this view, 71 of them as hubs, from a minimum of 13.03km away. Visibility of a number of these turbines will be filtered or screened by foreground hedgerow vegetation.

6.8.284 The turbines will be the only clearly visible element of the proposed development during operation, with infrastructure and forestry removal either being screened by landform or not clearly visible due to a combination of distance and the angle of the view. Tall cranes will be seen during the construction and decommissioning phases.

6.8.285 The magnitude of change on this view will be **medium-low**, with the proposed development resulting in a moderate alteration to the baseline view, providing a readily apparent influence and introducing elements that may be prominent to the view. The factors that lead to this change are as follows:

- The introduction of turbines into an aspect of the view that is not currently affected by wind energy development;
- The introduction of movement and contrasting colour and texture into the upland landscape setting in which the proposed development is seen;
- The appearance of the proposed development across the open part of the view as gained by northbound road-users, and its framing by trees;
- The foreshortening of the view by middle-ground landform, so that the extent of landscape between the proposed development and the viewpoint is not readily apparent;
- The appearance of the proposed development in relation to different landforms and skylines; and
- The variable turbine spacing and variation in base elevations, including visibility of turbine bases on the foothill slopes.

6.8.286 The following considerations limit the magnitude of change to a **medium-low** level:

- The large scale and upland landscape setting in which the turbines are seen;
- The distance of the proposed development from the viewpoint;
- For drivers on the road, the relatively brief view of the proposed development;
- The limited part of the proposed development that is visible, due to screening by trees and hedgerows;
- The appearance of the proposed development in a part of the outlook that is characterised by an upland, elevated landscape rather than by a low-lying and developed valley landscape; and
- The lack of clear visibility of site infrastructure, which ensures that the disruption and potential clutter of access tracks and other infrastructure is avoided.

Significance of the effect

6.8.287 The effect of the proposed development on this view will be **significant**. This is due to a combination of the factors that lead to the medium-high sensitivity of the viewpoint and the medium-low magnitude of change on the view.

Cumulative effects

6.8.288 Visibility of cumulative wind farms is shown in the wirelines on Figure 6.34b, c and d. Two of the baseline sites shown on the wirelines - Little Hartfell and Clyde and Extension - are not considered in detail in the cumulative assessment due to very limited visibility/ distance from the viewpoint. The application-stage site at Faw Side is also discounted from the assessment due to its negligible and relatively distant (25.3km) theoretical visibility.

6.8.289 The relevant cumulative wind farms are therefore the operational sites of Harestanes and Minnygap, a minimum of 11.8km to the north-west with extensive screening by woodland and Minsca, 13.1km away to the east.

6.8.290 There is one potential cumulative scenario at this viewpoint; the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites (operational, under-construction and consented).

6.8.291 The addition of the proposed development to the **baseline scenario** will have a **medium-low** cumulative magnitude of change. This change will arise from the addition of the proposed development to Minsca, Harestanes and Minnygap, due to the following considerations:

- The addition of the proposed development – a readily apparent wind farm that will have a significant effect itself - to a view in which three baseline wind farms (two of which appear as a single wind farm) are potentially/ theoretically visible;
- The location of the proposed development in a part of the view (the northern part) that is not affected by visible baseline wind farms, so that it extends wind farm influence around the view; and
- The variation between the proposed development and the visible baseline wind farms in terms of appearance, proximity, scale, extent, layout and setting.

6.8.292 The following considerations limit the cumulative magnitude of change to a **medium-low** level:

- The very limited number of wind farms that are theoretically visible (effectively three – the proposed development, Minsca, and Harestanes/ Minnygap);
- The limited/ very limited and relatively distant visibility of the baseline sites;
- The relatively limited extent of the skyline that is affected by baseline development the extensive part of the view that remains free of wind farm influence; and
- The lack of coalescence of wind farms (other than the conjoined sites of Harestanes and Minnygap), so that each retains its distinct identity.

6.8.293 The cumulative effect arising from the addition of the proposed development to the baseline cumulative scenario will be **not significant**, due to a combination of the factors that lead to the medium-low cumulative magnitude of change despite the high sensitivity of the viewpoint. This combination of high sensitivity and medium-low cumulative magnitude of change can result in an effect that is either significant or not significant. In this case, the effect is assessed to be not significant due to the very limited number of visible wind farms and the very limited and distant visibility of Harestanes/ Minnygap.

Viewpoint 20: Queensberry

Baseline and sensitivity

6.8.294 Queensberry (697m AOD) is the southernmost of the Lowther Hills and lies to the west of the site, on the opposite side of Annandale. The hilltop is not accessed by a core path but there are several well-known routes up the hill.

6.8.295 This viewpoint is located in an extensive area of *Southern Uplands* landscape that extends, in various unit types, across Dumfries and Galloway, South Lanarkshire and the Scottish Borders. *Southern Uplands* is the predominant landscape type seen in the view, resulting in an exposed and elevated outlook across a massive area of large-scale, simple, upland landscape.

6.8.296 To the east of the viewpoint, however, is Annandale, where the landscape can be seen dropping firstly into *foothills with forest* (where Harestanes Wind Farm is clearly visible), and *foothills* (Minnygap Wind Farm), and then down into the more developed, enclosed and linear *middle dale* of Annandale, through which the A74(M) runs. Beyond Annandale, the landform rises again through the *upland fringe* and *foothills* landscapes, culminating in a backdrop of the Southern Uplands (including the Moffat Hills).

6.8.297 Despite its proximity to Annandale, and Harestanes Wind Farm, the outlook from this viewpoint is remote and upland in nature, engendered by the character of the Southern Uplands and the lack of nearby road access.

6.8.298 There are a number of cumulative wind farms visible in this outlook, as shown on the wireline views. The closest site is Minnygap/ Harestanes, a minimum of 1.4km away to the south-east. Behind the left-hand side of Harestanes, and considerably further away, is the group of operational and consented sites that includes Ewe Hill, Crossdykes, Hopsrig, Little Hartfell and Loganhead, a minimum of 25.7km away. Minsca is also visible behind Harestanes/ Minnygap, 29.3km away to the south-east. To the south-west is Dalswinton, 10.9km away and, further away at 30.8km, is Blackcraig.

6.8.299 To the west are several discrete and distant developments; Glenshimmeroch (33.7km away), Wether Hill (29.4km away), and Lorg (30km away), and then a group formed of Twenty Shilling, Whiteside Hill, Sanquhar, the Sanquhar Six and Sandy Knowe (a minimum of 20.2km away). To the north is a large group formed of Clyde and Extension, Crookedstane and Lion Hill (a minimum of 10.6km away) and, further away, Priestgill, Glenkerie and Extension and Whitelaw Brae.

6.8.300 Other baseline wind farms theoretically seen in the view are further away, some outwith their study areas, and/ or have very limited visibility, and are not considered in the assessment.

6.8.301 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the view/viewpoint and the susceptibility of the viewer to the proposed development. The value of this view is high. This is not a specific recognised viewpoint and is not accessed by a core path, but is a well-known walking destination with some signage provided. The viewpoint lies within the Thornhill Uplands RSA and overlooks both the Thornhill Uplands and Moffat Hills RSA, and has value in its expansive scenic outlook across the uplands and the contrasting valley of Annandale.

6.8.302 The susceptibility to change of viewers at this viewpoint is high. People who gain the view will be walkers who are engaging in outdoor recreation and are likely to have a specific focus on the scenery and surrounding landscape, gained from a static viewpoint.

6.8.303 The combination of the high susceptibility to change and the high value of the view results in a **high** sensitivity for the viewpoint.

Magnitude of change

6.8.304 The 75 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible in this view, all of them as hubs, from a minimum of 13.70km away.

6.8.305 The turbines will be the only clearly visible element of the proposed development during operation, with infrastructure and forestry removal either being screened by landform or not clearly visible due to a combination of distance and the angle of the view. Tall cranes will be seen during the construction and decommissioning phases.

6.8.306 The magnitude of change on this view will be **medium**, with the proposed development resulting in a moderate alteration to the baseline view, providing a readily apparent influence and introducing elements that may be prominent to the view. The factors that lead to this change are as follows:

- The introduction of turbines into an aspect of the view that is currently affected by close-proximity wind energy development;
- The introduction of movement and contrasting colour and texture into the upland landscape setting in which the proposed development is seen;
- The variation in turbine base elevations that is seen at the centre of the proposed development;
- The visibility of turbine bases on the *foothill* slopes, also at the centre of the proposed development; and
- The number of turbines that are visible in the proposed development and the extent of the view that it affects (approx. 26-degrees), despite its distance from the viewpoint.

6.8.307 The following considerations limit the cumulative magnitude of change to a medium level:

- The generally balanced, regular and cohesive appearance of the proposed development as a single turbine group;
- The very large scale and simple upland landscape setting in which the turbines are seen and that largely surrounds the viewpoint, preventing uncomfortable scale comparisons;
- The distance of the proposed development from the viewpoint;
- The panoramic nature of the view and the resultant relatively small proportion of the full 360-degree outlook that will be affected by the proposed development despite its scale;
- The presence of Annandale between the viewpoint and the turbines, which give a sense of visual and physical separation between the proposed development and the viewpoint despite the visibility of turbine bases; and
- The lack of clear visibility of site infrastructure, which ensures that the disruption and potential clutter of access tracks and other infrastructure is avoided.

Significance of the effect

6.8.308 The effect of the proposed development on this view will be **significant**. This is due to a combination of the factors that lead to the high sensitivity of the viewpoint and the medium magnitude of change on the view.

Cumulative effects

6.8.309 Visibility of cumulative wind farms is shown on Figures 6.35b, c, d and e. A number of the sites shown on the wirelines are not considered in detail in the cumulative assessment as they are seen from considerable distance (in some cases from outwith their study areas) and/ or because they have very limited or negligible visibility. The most relevant cumulative wind farms are as follows:

- The operational sites at Minnygap and Harestanes, extensively visible at a minimum of just over 1.4km to the south-east of the viewpoint;
- The operational and consented sites at Clyde and Extension, Crookedstane and Lion Hill, a minimum of 10.6km away to the north of the viewpoint;
- The operational site at Dalswinton, 10.9km to the south-west;

- Relatively distant operational and consented sites to the west and south-west, including Blackcraig, Glenshimmeroch, Wether Hill, Lorg, Twenty Shilling, Whiteside Hill, Sanquhar, Sanquhar Six and Sandy Knowe;
- Relatively distant operational and consented sites to the south-east, including Ewe Hill, Crossdykes, Hopsrig, Little Hartfell and Loganhead, and Minsca;
- Relatively distant operational and consented sites to the north, including Glenkerie and Extension and Whitelaw Brae;
- Application-stage sites at Troston Loch, Sanquhar II, Twenty Shilling Resubmission and Lorg Variation, a minimum of 20.2km to the west; and
- The application-stage site at Faw Side, a minimum of 33.4km away to the east, behind the proposed development.

6.8.310 There are two potential cumulative scenarios at this viewpoint; the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites (operational, under-construction and consented) and the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites plus various combinations of application-stage sites (Troston Loch, Sanquhar II, Twenty Shilling Resubmission, Lorg Variation and Faw Side).

6.8.311 The addition of the proposed development to the **baseline scenario** will have a **medium-high** cumulative magnitude of change. This change will arise from the addition of the proposed development to the overall baseline cumulative scenario, and is due to the following considerations:

- The addition of the proposed development – a readily apparent wind farm that will have a significant effect itself - to a view in which a number of grouped and separate baseline wind farms are visible;
- The location of the proposed development in a part of the view (the eastern aspect) that is already affected by close proximity visibility of Harestanes/ Minnygap, so that wind farm influence in this aspect is emphasised;
- The number of baseline wind farms around the view and the extent of the outlook that is developed by wind farms, to which the proposed development will be added; and
- The appearance of the proposed development behind Harestanes/ Minnygap so that wind farms are seen in the foreground and middle ground of this part of the view, leading to a degree of enclosure of the landform of Annandale, which is seen in the view, by wind farms.

6.8.312 The following considerations limit the cumulative magnitude of change to a **medium-high** level:

- The appearance of the proposed development in an aspect of the view that is already affected by the immediately apparent Harestanes/ Minnygap turbines, so that wind farm influence is not extended around the view to otherwise unaffected areas;
- This also ensures that the addition of the proposed development will not lead to the viewpoint being encircled by wind farms;
- The separation in distance between the proposed development and Harestanes/ Minnygap, which ensures no coalescence between these sites;
- The retention of the currently wind farm-free aspects of the view (to the north-west, across the Thornhill Uplands RSA and Leadhills and Lowther Hills SLA, and to the north-east, across the WLA and Moffat Hills RSA); and
- The similarity in the upland setting of the proposed development and other wind farms.

6.8.313 Scenarios that include various combinations of application sites are also considered:

- The consideration of Lorg Variation and/ or Twenty Shilling Resubmission in place of the consented/ under construction developments at these sites would have a very limited effect on the cumulative magnitude of change, which would remain **medium-high**;
- The consideration of Troston Loch would have a limited effect on the cumulative magnitude of change due to the distant visibility of this site, and would not be sufficient to increase it from a **medium-high** level;
- The consideration of Sanquhar II would lead to an increase in the cumulative magnitude of change due to the scale of this proposal, but would not be sufficient to increase it from a **medium-high** level as Sanquhar II is seen in an aspect of the view that is affected by baseline wind energy development;
- The consideration of Faw Side would also lead to an increase in the cumulative magnitude of change, but again would not be sufficient to increase it from a **medium-high** level as the proposed development is seen in front of Faw Side, ensuring no further increase in the development aspects of the view, and also due to the relatively distant visibility of Faw Side; and
- Should any combination of application-stage wind farms be considered, the cumulative magnitude of change would remain as **medium-high** for the reasons described above in relation to each site.

6.8.314 The cumulative effect arising from the addition of the proposed development to the baseline cumulative scenario will be **significant**, due to a combination of the factors that lead to the medium-high cumulative magnitude of change and the high sensitivity of the viewpoint. Consideration of application-stage sites would not result in any change to this, and cumulative effects would remain **significant.**

Viewpoint 21: Hart Fell

<u>Baseline and sensitivity</u>

6.8.315 Hart Fell (808m AOD) is part of a horseshoe of hills around the Blackhope Burn, a tributary of the Moffat Water that lies to the north of Moffat Dale. This viewpoint is located in an extensive area of *Southern Uplands* landscape that extends, in various unit types, across Dumfries and Galloway, South Lanarkshire and the Scottish Borders. *Southern Uplands* is the predominant landscape type seen in the view, resulting in an exposed and elevated outlook across a massive area of large-scale, simple, upland landscape. Valley and dale landscape types are not clearly visible from this point, and the overriding character is one of exposed upland remoteness. The Solway Firth can be seen in the distance to the south.

6.8.316 There are, however, a number of wind farms seen in the outlook, most notably Clyde, to the west, and these ensure that the outlook is not without influences of development. The presence of forestry and the fence lines that run across the summit add to the human influences.

6.8.317 To the east of the viewpoint, however, is Annandale, where the landscape can be seen dropping firstly into *foothills with forest* (where Harestanes Wind Farm is visible), and *foothills* (Minnygap Wind Farm), and then down into the more developed, enclosed and linear *middle dale* of Annandale. Clyde and Extension is clearly visible at a minimum of 8.2km away. Beyond Annandale, the landform rises again through the *upland fringe* and *foothills* landscapes, culminating in a backdrop of the Southern Uplands.

6.8.318 There are a number of cumulative wind farms visible in this outlook, as shown on the wireline views. These fall into four broad groups around the viewpoint. The closest cluster is Clyde and Extension, a minimum of 8.2km away to the west and north-west. Behind Clyde, considerably further away, is distant visibility of Andershaw and Middle Muir (a minimum of 27.5km away), and Douglas West, Glenmuckloch, Lethans, Penbreck and Kennoxhead (a minimum of 35.9km away). Just to the left of Clyde is Twenty Shilling, 34km away.

6.8.319 To the south-west is the second cluster, Harestanes/ Minnygap, a minimum of 17.2km away, behind which Dalswinton is theoretically visible at 29.1km away. The third cluster, to the south-east, is more distant, consisting of the operational and consented sites Ewe Hill, Crossdykes, Hopsrig, Little Hartfell, Loganhead and Minsca, a minimum of 26.6km away. The final cluster is to the north-north-east, where Glenkerie and Extension lie a minimum of 14km away.

6.8.320 Other baseline wind farms theoretically seen in the view are further away, some outwith their study areas, and/ or have very limited visibility, and are not considered in the assessment.

6.8.321 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the view/viewpoint and the susceptibility of the viewer to the proposed development. The value of this view is high. This is not a specific recognised viewpoint and is not accessed by a core path but is a well-known walking destination with some path access. The viewpoint lies on the boundary of the Moffat Hills RSA and Tweedsmuir Uplands SLA as well as lying within the Talla – Hart Fell WLA, and overlooks the RSA/SLA and WLA, and has high scenic qualities in its elevated and expansive outlook across the Southern Uplands.

6.8.322 The susceptibility to change of viewers at this viewpoint is high. People who gain the view will be walkers who are engaging in outdoor recreation and are likely to have a specific focus on the scenery and surrounding landscape, gained from a static viewpoint.

6.8.323 The combination of the high susceptibility to change and the high value of the view results in a **high** sensitivity for the viewpoint.

Magnitude of change

6.8.324 The 75 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible in this view, 74 of them as hubs, from a minimum of 11.64km away.

6.8.325 The turbines will be the only clearly visible element of the proposed development during operation, with infrastructure and forestry removal either being screened by landform or not clearly visible due to a combination of distance and the angle of the view. Tall cranes will be seen during the construction and decommissioning phases.

6.8.326 The magnitude of change on this view will be **medium**, with the proposed development resulting in a moderate alteration to the baseline view, providing a readily apparent influence and introducing elements that may be prominent to the view. The factors that lead to this change are as follows:

- The introduction of turbines into an aspect of the view that is not currently affected by close-proximity wind energy development;
- The introduction of movement and contrasting colour and texture into the upland landscape setting in which the proposed development is seen;
- The foreshortening of the view by landform, so that the extent of landscape between the proposed development and the viewpoint is not readily apparent;
- The variation in turbine blade tip elevations in the proposed development;
- The number of turbines that are visible in the proposed development and the depth of the proposed development as seen from this location – the visible turbines range from just over 11.5km away to approximately 20.5km away – which reinforces its scale and extent;
- The appearance of the proposed development in relation to different landforms and skylines; and
- The density of turbine spacing.

6.8.327 The following considerations limit the magnitude of change to a medium level:

- The lack of visibility of turbine bases, which reduces any perception of encroachment towards the viewpoint;
- The very large scale and simple upland landscape setting in which the turbines are seen and that largely surrounds the viewpoint, preventing uncomfortable scale comparisons;
- The distance of the proposed development from the viewpoint;
- The panoramic nature of the view and the resultant relatively small proportion of the full 360-degree outlook that will be affected by the proposed development (approximately 26-degrees) despite its scale; and
- The lack of clear visibility of site infrastructure, which ensures that the disruption and potential clutter of access tracks and other infrastructure is avoided.

Significance of the effect

6.8.328 The effect of the proposed development on this view will be **significant**. This is due to a combination of the factors that lead to the high sensitivity of the viewpoint and the medium magnitude of change on the view.

Cumulative effects

6.8.329 Visibility of cumulative wind farms is shown on Figures 6.36b, c, d and e. A number of the sites shown on the wirelines are not considered in detail in the cumulative assessment as they are seen from outwith their study areas or because they have negligible visibility. The most relevant cumulative wind farms are as follows:

- The operational sites of Clyde and Clyde Extension (seen as two groups due to the turbine layout) a minimum of 8.2km away to the west and north-west;
- The operational sites of Harestanes/ Minnygap, a minimum of 17.2km away to the south-west;
- The relatively distant operational and consented sites of Ewe Hill, Crossdykes, Hopsrig, Little Hartfell, Loganhead and Minsca, a minimum of 26.6km away to the south-east;
- The operational and consented sites of Glenkerie and Extension, a minimum of 14km away to the north-north-east;
- Distant operational and consented sites at Dalswinton, Andershaw and Middle Muir (a minimum of 27.5km away), and Twenty Shilling, Douglas West, Glenmuckloch, Lethans, Penbreck and Kennoxhead (a minimum of 34km away);
- Distant application-stage sites at Glentaggart, Cumberhead, Douglas West Extension, Hagshaw Hill Repowering, Dalquhandy, Lorg Variation, Twenty Shilling Resubmission and Lethans Resubmission (a minimum of 30.1km away);
- The application-stage site at Faw Side, a minimum of 27.2km away to the south-east; and
- The application-stage site at Sanquhar II, a minimum of 38.6km away to the west.

6.8.330 There are two potential cumulative scenarios at this viewpoint; the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites (operational, under-construction and consented) and the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites plus various scenarios of application-stage sites.

6.8.331 The addition of the proposed development to the **baseline scenario** will have a **medium-high** cumulative magnitude of change. This change will arise from the addition of the proposed development to the overall baseline cumulative scenario, and is due to the following considerations:

- The addition of the proposed development – a readily apparent wind farm that will have a significant effect itself - to a view in which a number of grouped and separate baseline wind farms are visible;

- The location of part of the proposed development in a part of the view that is affected by distant visibility of Ewe Hill, Crossdykes, Hopsrig, Little Hartfell, Loganhead and Minsca, so that wind farm influence in this aspect is emphasised;
- Some perceived coalescence may also arise between the proposed development and these wind farms;
- The number of baseline wind farms around the view and the extent of the outlook that is developed by wind farms, to which the proposed development will be added;
- The distribution of wind farms as features around the view rather than in one concentrated area;
- The reduced separation between Minnygap and Minsca that will result from the proposed development.

6.8.332 The following considerations limit the cumulative magnitude of change to a **medium-high** level:

- The appearance of the proposed development in the southern aspect of the view, which is already affected by several baseline wind energy developments, albeit that some of them are relatively distant;
- This ensures the retention of the extensive and important part of the view to the east and north-east, across the WLA and Moffat Hills RSA, that is currently wind farm-free;
- The overlap of the proposed development with baseline development, so that it is not affecting a part of the view that is otherwise unaffected;
- The relative distance from the viewpoint of a number of the cumulative wind farms that have theoretical visibility;
- The addition of the proposed development will not lead to the viewpoint being encircled by wind farms; and
- The elevation of the viewpoint which reduces the perceived scale and vertical impact of all wind farms.

6.8.333 Scenarios that include various combinations of application sites are also considered:

- The consideration of various combinations of distant application-stage sites at Glentaggart, Cumberhead, Douglas West Extension, Hagshaw Hill Repowering, Dalquhandy, Lorg Variation, Twenty Shilling Resubmission and Lethans Resubmission would have a minor effect on the cumulative magnitude of change due to a combination of distance, limited visibility, and visibility in the context of baseline wind farms, and this would remain **medium-high**;
- The consideration of Sanquhar II would lead to an increase in the cumulative magnitude of change due to the scale of this proposal, but would not be sufficient to increase it from a **medium-high** level due to the distance of Sanquhar II from the viewpoint and because the majority of Sanquhar II is seen in an aspect of the view that is affected by baseline wind energy development;
- The consideration of Faw Side would lead to an increase in the cumulative magnitude of change to a **high/ medium-high** level due to the following factors:
    - The consideration of another (relatively extensive) wind farm in the outlook, to which the proposed development would add a further extent of development;
    - The increase in the developed skyline to which the proposed development would be added (an additional 20-degrees, approximately, as a result of Faw Side); and

6.8.334 The cumulative effect arising from the addition of the proposed development to the baseline cumulative scenario will be **significant,** due to a combination of the factors that lead to the medium-high cumulative magnitude of change and the high sensitivity of the viewpoint. Consideration of application-stage sites other than Faw Side would not result in any change to this. However, when the application-stage wind farm at Faw Side is considered, the cumulative magnitude of change arising from the proposed development would become high/ medium-high and the effect would remain **significant**.

Viewpoint 22: Malcolm Monument, Whita Hill

Baseline and sensitivity

6.8.335 The Malcolm Monument is in an elevated location on Whita Hill, several kilometres to the east of Langholm, and is a popular walking destination, accessed by core path 282 (D&GC). This monument is a memorial to Major Sir John Malcolm, a Scottish soldier and diplomat who was born in Eskdale, for his service to the country. He died in 1833 and the monument was built in 1835-36. This viewpoint gains an open, elevated view of the site as seen from the south-west across the Ewes valley.

6.8.336 This viewpoint is located in an extensive area of Southern Uplands landscape that covers both Dumfries and Galloway and the Scottish Borders, and Southern Uplands is the predominant landscape type seen in the view to the north, east, north-east and north-west, resulting in an exposed and elevated outlook across a massive area of large-scale, simple, upland landscape. In the middle-ground of the outlook to the north of the viewpoint, however, is the distinctive form of the Ewes valley, and this view clearly shows the relationship of the *upland glens – Ewes* landscape with the Southern Uplands that enclose it to the west and east. In contrast to the surrounding uplands, the valley is a relatively complex and cultivated landscape with small-scale landscape patterns of field boundaries, farms and woodland, as well as the route of the A7.

6.8.337 Due west of the viewpoint is the town of Langholm, its sheltered and accessible valley position clearly apparent. Beyond the town to the north-west is the distinctive wooded valley of Eskdale, through which the B709 runs.

6.8.338 There are a number of cumulative wind farms visible in this outlook, as shown on the wireline views. The principal group is that of the operational sites at Ewe Hill and Craig and Extension, along with the consented sites at Crossdykes, Hopsrig and Loganhead, which lie a minimum of 5.6km away to the west and north-west of the viewpoint. The operational site at Minsca (16km away) is slightly separate from this western group, as is the under-construction site at Solwaybank (9.4km away). Hallburn and Beck Burn, both of which are screened in this specific view by the Monument but will be seen in nearby views, lie to the south, a minimum of 15.6km away.

6.8.339 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the view/viewpoint and the susceptibility of the viewer to the proposed development. The value of this view is high. This is a recognised visitor attraction, accessed by a core path, and while the viewpoint itself is not indicated on OS maps, the landscape setting contributes notably to the visitors' experience of this location. It also has value in its scenic outlook across the uplands and the contrasting Ewes valley, and its location within, and outlook over, the Langholm Hills RSA.

6.8.340 The susceptibility to change of viewers at this viewpoint is high. People who gain the view will be walkers who are engaging in outdoor recreation and are likely to have a specific focus on the scenery and surrounding landscape, gained from a static viewpoint.

6.8.341 The combination of the high susceptibility to change and the high value of the view results in a **high** sensitivity for the viewpoint.

Magnitude of change

6.8.342 The 75 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible in this view, 69 of them as hubs, from a minimum of 20.48km away.

6.8.343 The turbines will be the only clearly visible element of the proposed development during operation, with infrastructure and forestry removal either being screened by landform or not clearly visible due to a combination of distance and the angle of the view. Tall cranes will be seen during the construction and decommissioning phases.

6.8.344 The magnitude of change on this view will be **medium-low**. The factors that lead to this change are as follows:

- The introduction of turbines into an aspect of the view that is currently partly affected by wind energy development, resulting in potential for coalescence;
- The location of some turbine bases in front of the skyline, on the *foothill* slopes, reducing the perceived separation between the proposed development and the viewpoint;
- The number and scale of turbines that are visible in the proposed development; and
- The static nature of viewers, who are visiting the Monument and may be reading the interpretation panel.

6.8.345 The following considerations limit the magnitude of change to a **medium-low** level:

- The generally balanced, regular and cohesive appearance of the proposed development as a single turbine group;
- The presence of baseline wind energy development in the same aspect of the view, which ensures that the proposed development will not be a new influence;
- This also mitigates the contrast of the proposed development with the upland landscape in which it is seen;
- The visual and perceived separation between the viewpoint and the landscape in which the proposed development is seen, which recedes the proposed development into the backdrop, giving a sense of being 'over there';
- The perception that the proposed development is at a lower elevation than the viewpoint due to its distance and the presence of higher landform around the viewpoint, which reduces the perceived influence of the turbines;
- The very large scale and simple upland landscape setting in which the turbines are seen, which prevents uncomfortable scale comparisons;
- The distance of the proposed development from the viewpoint;
- The panoramic nature of the view and the relatively small proportion of the full outlook that will be affected by the proposed development (approximately 17-degrees); and
- The lack of clear visibility of site infrastructure, which ensures that the disruption and potential clutter of access tracks and other infrastructure is avoided.

Significance of the effect

6.8.346 The effect of the proposed development on this view will be **not significant**. This is due to a combination of the factors that lead to the high sensitivity of the viewpoint and the medium-low magnitude of change on the view. This combination of high sensitivity and medium-low magnitude of change can result in an effect that is either significant or not significant. In this case, the effect is assessed to be **not significant** due to the very small proportion of the 360-degree view that will be affected by the proposed development and its distance from the viewpoint, the recessive appearance of the proposed development in the view, and its appearance in a part of the view that is already affected by wind energy development.

Cumulative effects

6.8.347 Visibility of cumulative wind farms is shown on Figure 6.37b, c, d and e. it should be noted that while not all of these sites are visible from the specific viewpoint shown in the viewpoint photograph due to screening by the Monument, it has been assumed that visitors to the viewpoint will move around and are therefore likely to gain views in all directions on their visit.

6.8.348 A number of the sites shown on the wirelines are not considered in detail in the cumulative assessment due to very limited visibility or distance from the viewpoint. The relevant cumulative wind farms are as follows:

- The group of baseline (operational, under construction and consented) sites that lies to the west of the viewpoint, between approximately 5km and 12km away; Craig and Extension, Ewe Hill, Crossdykes, Hopsrig, and Loganhead;
- The operational site at Minsca (16km away) and the under-construction site at Solwaybank (9.4km away), both of which are slightly separate from the western group;
- The operational sites to the south of the viewpoint at Beck Burn (15.6km) and Hallburn (16.7km); and
- The application-stage site at Faw Side, 7.4km to the north and north-west.

6.8.349 There are two potential cumulative scenarios at this viewpoint; the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites (operational, under-construction and consented) and the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites plus the application-stage site at Faw Side.

6.8.350 The addition of the proposed development to the baseline scenario will have a **medium-low** cumulative magnitude of change. This change will arise from the addition of the proposed development to the western group of baseline wind farms along with Minsca, Hallburn, Beck Burn and Solwaybank and arises from the following considerations:

- The addition of the proposed development to a view in which a number of grouped and separate baseline wind farms are visible;
- The location of part of the proposed development in a part of the view that is affected by closer-proximity visibility of development, so that wind farm influence in this aspect is emphasised; and
- This may also lead to the perception of coalescence between the proposed development and baseline wind farms.

6.8.351 The following considerations limit the cumulative magnitude of change to a **medium-low** level:

- The relatively limited extent of the skyline affected by baseline wind energy development;
- The limited extent of the full 360-degree view that will be affected by the proposed development itself (approximately 17-degrees);
- The location of the proposed development in a part of the view that is affected by baseline wind energy development, so that its additional wind farm influence will be limited to around 14-degrees;
- The extensive parts of the view that are without baseline wind farm influence – the northern, southern and south-eastern aspects - will remain without wind farm influence;
- The relatively distant visibility and not significant effect of the proposed development itself; and
- The cohesive appearance of the proposed development, and its location in a uniform landscape setting, which ensures that it will be perceived as a single, unified development.

6.8.352 A scenario that includes the application site at Faw Side is also considered. The inclusion of Faw Side would result in the addition of the proposed development leading to a **medium** cumulative magnitude of change, due to the following factors:

- The addition of a close-proximity, large-scale wind farm to the outlook, so that the proposed development would create a further node of development;
- The increase in the developed skyline to which the proposed development would be added (an additional 35-degrees, approximately, as a result of Faw Side); and
- The location of the proposed development between the western group of baseline sites and Faw Side, where it would reduce separation and increase the perception of coalescence.

6.8.353 The cumulative effect arising from the addition of the proposed development to the baseline cumulative scenario will be **not significant**, due to a combination of the factors that lead to the medium-low cumulative magnitude of change and the high sensitivity of the viewpoint. This combination of high sensitivity and medium-low cumulative magnitude of change can result in an effect that is either significant or not significant. In this case, the effect is assessed to be not significant due to the very limited additional field of view that will be affected by the proposed development, and the extensive parts of the 360-degree outlook that will remain unaffected by wind farm influence.

6.8.354 When the application-stage wind farm at Faw Side is also considered, the cumulative magnitude of change would become **medium** and the effect would become **significant**.

6.8.355 The following sections cover the assessment of effects on views from settlements, as identified in Table 6.3.

Bankshill

Baseline and sensitivity

6.8.356 Bankshill, a small cluster of properties based along the B7068, lies just under 13km to the south of the proposed development. Bankshill is in an elevated position in the *upland fringe* landscape, rising on the southern side of the Water of Milk valley. There are no viewpoints within or in the vicinity of Bankshill.

6.8.357 When considered as visual receptors, settlements are accorded a high sensitivity in the assessment due to the residential nature of viewers and thus Bankshill is considered to have a **high** sensitivity.

Magnitude of change and significance of the effect

6.8.358 The blade tip ZTV indicates a high level of theoretical visibility from parts of Bankshill, including the B7068 to the west and east of the village and the properties that lie to the north of the B7068. In the centre of the village, however, where a minor road runs up from the south to join the B7068, visibility is screened by landform that lies immediately to the north of the B7068. Elsewhere, vegetation and buildings provide screening and filtering of views towards the proposed development.

6.8.359 Where there are clear and open views towards the proposed development, the maximum magnitude of change will be **medium**, with the proposed development resulting in a moderate alteration to the baseline views, providing a readily apparent influence and introducing elements that may be prominent to the view. The factors that lead to this change are as follows:

- The introduction of turbines into an aspect of the view that is not currently affected by wind energy development;
- The scale and extent of the wind farm;
- The introduction of movement and contrasting colour and texture into the upland landscape setting in which the proposed development is seen;
- The appearance of the proposed development across an open part of the outlook from parts of the settlement, and in the orientation of some properties in the village; and
- The vertical impact of the turbines that are seen at full height.

6.8.360 The following considerations limit the magnitude of change to a medium level:

- The large scale and simple nature of the upland landscape setting in which the turbines are seen, which avoids uncomfortable scale comparisons with the landscape context;
- The distance of the proposed development from the settlement;
- The very limited part of the full open view from this location that will be affected by the proposed development (less than 25-degrees); and
- The distance of the proposed development from the settlement (just under 13km).

6.8.361 The effect of the proposed development on much of Bankshill will be **not significant** due to lack of, or limited, visibility of the turbines. However, the maximum **medium** magnitude of change combined with the high sensitivity of the receptor will lead to a **significant** effect on views from some limited parts of the northern edge of the settlement. This effect is most likely to arise in winter when the screening effects of woodland are less apparent.

Cumulative effects

6.8.362 Cumulative wind farms that are theoretically visible from Bankshill include baseline sites at Minsca (approx. 2.5km to the south-east), Little Hartfell (approx. 8.5km to the north-east), the group of Ewe Hill, Loganhead, Crossdykes and Hopsrig (a minimum of approx. 8.5km to the north-east), Solwaybank (approx. 9.5km to the east), and Harestanes (approx. 21km to the north-west). The application-stage site at Faw Side is also theoretically visible from a minimum of approximately 18km to the north-east (behind the baseline group of sites at Ewe Hill).

6.8.363 There are two potential cumulative scenarios with regard to views from Bankshill; the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites (operational, under-construction and consented) and the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites plus the application-stage site at Faw Side.

6.8.364 The addition of the proposed development to the baseline scenario will have a maximum **medium** cumulative magnitude of change, which will arise where the proposed development is clearly visible in views from the village along with other wind farms. This maximum level of change arises from the following considerations:

- The addition of the proposed development – a wind farm that will have a significant effect itself on some views from the village - to views in which a number of grouped and separate baseline wind farms are theoretically visible;
- The number of wind farms that are theoretically visible around the village;
- The level of theoretical visibility and proximity of baseline wind farms (Minsca, in particular) as well as the proposed development; and
- The location of the proposed development in an aspect of views from the village (the north) that is not notably affected by baseline wind farms, so that it extends wind farm influence around the view.

6.8.365 The following considerations limit the cumulative magnitude of change to a maximum **medium** level:

- The separation between the proposed development and baseline sites, which ensures no coalescence between wind farms;
- The relative distance of the proposed development from the village and the limited extent of the view that it occupies;
- The extensive south and south-west-facing aspects that remain free of wind farm influence; and
- The similarity in the upland setting of the proposed development and other wind farms.

6.8.366 A scenario that includes the application site at Faw Side is also considered. The inclusion of Faw Side would not lead to an increase in the level of cumulative magnitude of change, due to the relatively distant visibility of Faw Side and its location behind a number of baseline wind farms where it will not increase the developed skyline or extent wind farm influence around the view.

6.8.367 In the majority of views from Bankshill, the cumulative effect arising from the addition of the proposed development to the baseline cumulative scenario will be **not significant**, due to intermittent and limited visibility of the proposed development in conjunction with other wind farms. However, where the proposed development is clearly visible in views from the village along with other wind farms, a **significant** cumulative effect may arise due to a combination of the factors that lead to the maximum medium cumulative magnitude of change and the high sensitivity of the receptor. These findings would not be altered when the application-stage wind farm at Faw Side is also considered.

Beattock

Baseline and sensitivity

6.8.368 The settlement of Beattock lies just under 5km away to the west of the proposed development. Beattock is a linear settlement that lies immediately to the west of the A701 and A74(M). The West Coast main line railway runs through the village, but there is no longer a station here.

6.8.369 When considered as visual receptors, settlements are accorded a high sensitivity in the assessment due to the residential nature of viewers and thus Beattock is considered to have a **high** sensitivity.

Magnitude of change and significance of the effect

6.8.370 Viewpoint 8 is approximately 1.5km to the west of Beattock and, due to its elevated location, illustrates a slightly higher level of visibility than is likely to be gained from the settlement itself. The assessment for Viewpoint 8 concludes that the magnitude of change on this view will be medium-high and the effect on the view will be significant.

6.8.371 Views towards the proposed development from the majority of Beattock will be very limited due to screening by intervening buildings and vegetation, particularly the woodland that lines along the western side of the A701. There are, however, some houses on the eastern edge of the village, particularly towards its southern end, that are likely to gain some visibility, particularly in winter when the trees are bare and the screening effects of woodland are less apparent. Where there is clear visibility from houses in Beattock, the proximity of the proposed development and its level of visibility – albeit more limited than is seen in Viewpoint 8 - will result in a maximum **medium-high** magnitude of change on views from the settlement. This level of change is unlikely to be widespread, and the effects on views from the great majority of houses will be considerably more limited due to screening and filtering by buildings and vegetation.

6.8.372 The effect of the proposed development on the great majority of Beattock will be **not significant** due to lack of, or very limited, visibility of the turbines. However, the maximum **medium-high** magnitude of change combined with the high sensitivity of the receptor will lead to a **significant** effect on views from some very limited parts of the eastern edge of the settlement. This effect is most likely to arise in winter when the screening effects of woodland are less apparent.

Cumulative effects

6.8.373 There is negligible visibility of operational, under-construction, consented or application-stage cumulative wind farms from Beattock. Cumulative effects are therefore considered to be **not significant**.

Boreland

Baseline and sensitivity

6.8.374 The settlement of Boreland, a small, dispersed and generally low-lying village, lies a minimum of just over 3.5km to the south of the proposed development. Boreland lies on the valley floor and lower eastern valley side of the *intimate pastoral valley* of the Dryfe Water and is accessed by the B723 and an unclassified road that leads south-eastwards from Boreland to Corrie Common.

6.8.375 The DGC LDP2 does not provide a settlement boundary for Boreland and this assessment of effects on views from the village is therefore based on the boundaries as set by the 30mph speed limit, which is generally taken to indicate a 'built-up area'. Travelling into Boreland on the B723 from the west, the 30mph speed limit commences on the bend just before the road crosses the Dryfe Water; travelling on the B723 from the east, it commences just south of the turn-off to Boreland House and the unclassified road that leads up the Dryfe Water. On the unclassified road that runs south-eastwards from Boreland to Corrie Common, the 30mph zone commences to the west of the church (Viewpoint 6), shortly before the junction with the B723. Properties in the general vicinity of the roads that lie within these points are taken to lie within the village.

6.8.376 Viewpoint 6 is located in the kirkyard of Hutton and Corrie Church on the eastern edge of Boreland, outwith the 30mph zone and, due to its elevation, represents the higher type of visibility of the proposed development that is likely to be gained from the settlement.

6.8.377 When considered as visual receptors, settlements are accorded a high sensitivity in the assessment due to the residential nature of viewers and Boreland is therefore considered to have a **high** sensitivity.

Magnitude of change and significance of the effect

6.8.378 The ZTVs indicate visibility of varying levels across Boreland. The majority of the settlement, including central and eastern parts, falls into the theoretical visibility category of 31-45 turbines' blade tips and 16-30 hubs. The western area, which is enclosed in the lowest part of the valley floor, adjacent to the Dryfe Water, has more limited visibility, with theoretical visibility of 16-30 blades and 1-15 hubs. The highest level of theoretical visibility – 46-60 turbines' blade tips and 31-45 hubs - arises in a very small area at the more elevated north-eastern edge of the village, just before the B723 leaves the settlement and rises out of the valley. In reality, extensive areas of this theoretical visibility are screened and filtered by the woodland that characterises the village and the wider *intimate pastoral valley* landscape. In some areas, visibility is also screened by intervening buildings.

6.8.379 Viewpoint 6 is in a more elevated location than much of the settlement, on the upper valley side of the Dryfe Water, outwith the 30mph zone. This viewpoint has a higher level of theoretical visibility than the great majority of the village – 46-60 turbines' blade tips – and is assessed to have a medium high magnitude of change and a significant effect as a result of the proposed development.

6.8.380 Where clear and open views are available from the village, similar to those seen at Viewpoint 6, the magnitude of change will be a maximum of **medium-high**, as seen at Viewpoint 6. This level of change on views will be very limited due to screening by landform, vegetation, and buildings. Elsewhere, where there is actual visibility

of the proposed development, the magnitude of change is likely to be limited to a maximum **medium-low** or **medium** level. Many parts of the village will have no change or a **negligible** magnitude of change due to lack of, or very limited, visibility of the proposed development.

6.8.381 The effect of the proposed development on the majority of Boreland will be **not significant** due to lack of, or very limited, visibility of the turbines. However, the maximum **medium-high** magnitude of change combined with the high sensitivity of the receptor will lead to a **significant** effect on some limited locations from where clear views are available, as seen in Viewpoint 6.

Cumulative effects

6.8.382 There is negligible visibility of operational, under-construction, consented or application-stage cumulative wind farms from Boreland. Cumulative effects are therefore considered to be **not significant**.

Corrie Common

Baseline and sensitivity

6.8.383 The settlement of Corrie Common, a small, linear village of dispersed properties, lies a minimum of just under 8.5km to the south-east of the proposed development. Viewpoint 16 is located on the western edge of Corrie Common and represents the higher type of visibility of the proposed development that is likely to be gained from the settlement.

6.8.384 When considered as visual receptors, settlements are accorded a high sensitivity in the assessment due to the residential nature of viewers and Corrie Common is therefore considered to have a **high** sensitivity.

Magnitude of change and significance of the effect

6.8.385 The blade tip ZTV indicates visibility of varying levels across Corrie Common. The majority of the village is shown to have no visibility, and there is one narrow band towards the eastern end of the village with theoretical visibility of 1-15 turbines. The western end of the village gains the highest theoretical visibility, with 61-75 turbines theoretically visible, and it is in this area that Viewpoint 16 is located. The maximum magnitude of change here will be **medium-high**, as assessed at Viewpoint 16.

6.8.386 There is a further area of theoretical visibility of 61-75 turbines at the eastern extremity of the village. Here, however, theoretical visibility is more limited due to landform screening and vegetation, including woodland and hedgerows, which will also screen views. The maximum magnitude of change here will be **medium**, and this is likely to arise only in very limited locations.

6.8.387 The effect of the proposed development on the majority of Corrie Common will be **not significant** due to lack of, or very limited, visibility of the turbines. However, the maximum **medium** magnitude of change combined with the high sensitivity of the receptor will lead to a **significant** effect on views from the western part of the village, as seen in Viewpoint 16. Some very limited parts of the eastern edge of the settlement may also have a **significant** effect as a result of the maximum medium magnitude of change.

Cumulative effects

6.8.388 The cumulative assessment for the baseline scenario at Viewpoint 16 concludes that the cumulative effect of the proposed development on the view will be **significant**, resulting from a combination of the factors that lead to a medium-high sensitivity for the viewpoint and a medium cumulative magnitude of change. This significant cumulative effect will also apply to the western part of the village, around Viewpoint 16, where the proposed development is clearly and readily apparent. The cumulative effect on the parts of the village that do not gain visibility of the proposed development will be **not significant**.

6.8.389 No application-stage wind farms are theoretically visible at Viewpoint 16, and a baseline plus application-stage scenario was therefore not considered in the assessment for Viewpoint 16. There are, however, parts of the village from where the application-stage site at Faw Side is theoretically visible, and where this coincides with visibility of the proposed development, the cumulative magnitude of change will increase to a **medium-high** level and the effect will remain **significant**.

6.8.390 It is important to note that visibility of both the proposed development and the majority of other wind farms from much of the village is more limited than that seen in Viewpoint 16, and the cumulative magnitude of change will generally be lower than the medium or medium-high levels described above.

Johnstonebridge

Baseline and sensitivity

6.8.391 The settlement of Johnstonebridge lies approximately 5.7km to the south-west of the proposed development. Johnstonebridge is formed of two parts; to the north, a linear arrangement of houses along the B7076 and to the south, a cluster of houses. The A74(M) passes immediately to the east of Johnstonebridge, and Annandale Water Services lies on the other side of the A74(M), several hundred metres north-east of the village.

6.8.392 When considered as visual receptors, settlements are accorded a high sensitivity in the assessment due to the residential nature of viewers and thus Johnstonebridge is considered to have a **high** sensitivity.

Magnitude of change and significance of the effect

6.8.393 Viewpoint 7 is located at Annandale Water Services, approximately 450m to the north-east of Johnstonebridge and illustrates a similar level of visibility to that likely to be gained from the settlement. The assessment for Viewpoint 7 concludes that the magnitude of change on this view will be medium-high and the effect on the view will be significant.

6.8.394 Views towards the proposed development from the majority of Johnstonebridge will be very limited due to screening by intervening buildings and vegetation, particularly the woodland that lines the western side of the A74(M) and its slip road as it passes the northern part of the village. The easternmost of the southern cluster of houses are, however, likely to gain a more open and slightly elevated view to the east, towards the proposed development, as are some of the eastern houses in the northern part of the village that are not screened by woodland.

6.8.395 Where there is clear visibility from houses in Johnstonebridge the nature of visibility of the proposed development, similar to that seen in Viewpoint 7, will result in a maximum **medium-high** magnitude of change on views from the settlement. This level of change is unlikely to be widespread, and the effects on views from the great majority of houses will be considerably more limited due to screening and filtering by buildings and vegetation.

6.8.396 The effect of the proposed development on the great majority of Johnstonebridge will be **not significant** due to lack of, or very limited, visibility of the turbines. However, the maximum **medium-high** magnitude of change combined with the high sensitivity of the receptor will lead to a **significant** effect on views from some limited parts of the eastern edge of the settlement. This effect is most likely to arise in winter when the screening effects of woodland are less apparent.

Cumulative effects

6.8.397 There is negligible visibility of operational, under-construction, consented or application-stage cumulative wind farms from Johnstonebridge. Cumulative effects are therefore considered to be **not significant**.

Lochmaben

Baseline and sensitivity

6.8.398 The settlement of Lochmaben lies a minimum of just under 14km to the south-west of the proposed development. Lochmaben is situated in a slightly elevated location on the lower western valley side of the River Annan and is accessed by the A709 and B7020.

6.8.399 Viewpoint 19 is located on the B7020 approximately 700m to the north of Lochmaben and represents the higher type of visibility of the proposed development that is likely to be gained from the settlement. Viewpoint 19 was selected to represent visibility from Lochmaben, as a clear and open representative outlook from a publicly accessible location in Lochmaben could not be identified.

6.8.400 When considered as visual receptors, settlements are accorded a high sensitivity in the assessment due to the residential nature of viewers and Lochmaben is therefore considered to have a **high** sensitivity.

Magnitude of change and significance of the effect

6.8.401 The ZTVs indicate a generally high level of theoretically visibility across Lochmaben, other than a few areas to the north, south and centre where there is no visibility due to landform screening. In reality, extensive areas of this theoretical visibility are screened and filtered by the woodland that characterises the setting of the village and by intervening buildings within the settlement.

6.8.402 Viewpoint 19 illustrates a broadly similar type of visibility to that which is likely to be apparent from some points within Lochmaben from where the proposed development is visible. This viewpoint is assessed to have a medium-low magnitude of change and a significant effect as a result of the proposed development.

6.8.403 Where reasonably clear views are available from Lochmaben, similar to those seen at Viewpoint 19, the magnitude of change will be a maximum of **medium-low**, as seen at Viewpoint 19. This level of change on views is likely to be limited in extent due to screening by landform, vegetation, and buildings. Many parts of the settlement will have no change or a **negligible** magnitude of change due to lack of, or very limited, visibility of the proposed development.

6.8.404 The effect of the proposed development on the majority of Lochmaben will be **not significant** due to lack of, or very limited, visibility of the turbines. However, the maximum **medium-low** magnitude of change combined with the high sensitivity of the receptor will lead to a **significant** effect on some limited locations from where clear views are available, as represented by Viewpoint 19.

Cumulative effects

6.8.405 The cumulative assessment for the baseline scenario at Viewpoint 19 concludes that the cumulative effect of the proposed development on the view will be not significant, resulting from the factors that lead to a medium-low cumulative magnitude of change despite the high sensitivity of the viewpoint. This **not significant** cumulative effect will also apply to the settlement of Lochmaben, from where theoretical visibility of cumulative wind farms is very similar to that seen at Viewpoint 19.

6.8.406 The application-stage wind farm at Faw Side has very limited theoretical visibility at Viewpoint 19 and has a very similar level of visibility in views from Lochmaben. A baseline plus application-stage scenario was therefore not considered in the assessment for Viewpoint 19 and is also not relevant for the assessment of cumulative effects on Lochmaben.

Lockerbie

Baseline and sensitivity

6.8.407 The settlement of Lockerbie lies a minimum of approximately 12.5km to the south of the proposed development. Lockerbie is situated on the eastern side of Annandale, on the cusp of the *lower dale* and *upland fringe* landscapes and is accessed by the A709 and several B roads. The A74(M) passes along the western edge of the town.

6.8.408 Viewpoint 18 is located on the A709 just under 3km to the west of Lockerbie and was selected to represent visibility from the Lockerbie area, due to the difficulty in identifying a clear and open representative outlook from a publicly accessible location in Lockerbie.

6.8.409 When considered as visual receptors, settlements are accorded a high sensitivity in the assessment due to the residential nature of viewers and Lockerbie is therefore considered to have a **high** sensitivity.

Magnitude of change and significance of the effect

6.8.410 The ZTVs indicate a generally high level of theoretically visibility across Lockerbie. In reality, extensive areas of this theoretical visibility are screened and filtered by buildings within the settlement and the woodland that characterises its setting, particularly to the east.

6.8.411 Viewpoint 18 illustrates a broadly similar type of visibility to that which is likely to be apparent from some points within Lockerbie from where the proposed development is visible. This viewpoint is assessed to have a medium-low magnitude of change and a significant effect as a result of the proposed development.

6.8.412 Where reasonably clear views are available from Lockerbie, the magnitude of change will be a maximum of **medium-low**, as seen at Viewpoint 18. This level of change on views is likely to be very limited in extent due to screening by buildings, landform and vegetation. Many parts of the village will have no change or a **negligible** magnitude of change due to lack of, or very limited, visibility of the proposed development.

6.8.413 The effect of the proposed development on the great majority of Lockerbie will be **not significant** due to lack of, or very limited, visibility of the turbines. However, the maximum **medium-low** magnitude of change combined with the high sensitivity of the receptor will lead to a **significant** effect on some limited locations from where clear views are available.

Cumulative effects

6.8.414 The cumulative assessment at Viewpoint 18 for the baseline scenario and baseline plus application-stage wind farm scenario concludes that the cumulative effect of the proposed development on the view will be not significant, resulting from the factors that lead to a maximum medium-low cumulative magnitude of change and the medium sensitivity of the viewpoint. This **not significant** cumulative effect will also apply to the settlement of Lockerbie, from where theoretical visibility of cumulative wind farms is very similar to that seen at Viewpoint 18.

Moffat

Baseline and sensitivity

6.8.415 The southern edge of the town of Moffat lies a minimum of approximately 4.8km to the north-west of the proposed development, while the High Street is around 6km away. Moffat is located at the head of the *middle dale – mid Annandale* LCT, several kilometres to the north of the convergence of the Evan Water, Moffat Water and River Annan. The A701 and A708, which run through the *Evan* and *Moffat upland glens*, converge in Moffat while the A74(M) passes less than 2km away to the west.

6.8.416 Viewpoint 9 is located on Moffat High Street while Viewpoint 10 is on the A701 on the north-western edge of the town. These viewpoints are both assessed as having a significant effect, with a medium-low and medium magnitude of change respectively.

6.8.417 When considered as visual receptors, settlements are accorded a high sensitivity in the assessment due to the residential nature of viewers and Moffat is therefore considered to have a **high** sensitivity.

Magnitude of change and significance of the effect

6.8.418 The blade tip ZTV indicates visibility of varying levels across Moffat: 31-45 turbines in the western and northern central parts of the town; 16-30 in the southern central, southern and eastern parts and along the River Annan valley in the northern part of the town; and 1-15 in the eastern and southern fringes of the town and along the River Annan valley in the northern part of the town. The land outwith the settlement boundary on the western periphery of the town, including the Golf Club, has higher theoretical visibility – 46-60 turbines – due to its increased elevation. There are some small areas in the River Annan valley that have no theoretical visibility.

6.8.419 In reality, visibility from Moffat is considerably more limited than this due to screening by intervening buildings and vegetation, and the majority of the town will gain no or very limited visibility of the proposed development. There are, however, more open and sometimes elevated locations such as those shown in Viewpoints 9 and 10 where views will be gained and the magnitude of change will be a maximum of **medium**, as seen at Viewpoint 10. **Medium** magnitude of change may also arise on those parts of the southern and eastern parts of the settlement where there is limited vegetation screening and are no buildings to screen views or low-density buildings that allow longer views to be gained.

6.8.420 The effect of the proposed development on the great majority of Moffat will be **not significant** due to lack of, or very limited, visibility of the turbines. However, the maximum **medium** magnitude of change combined with the high sensitivity of the receptor will lead to a **significant** effect on views from some limited parts of the southern and eastern areas of the settlement as well as from more open locations within the town, as seen at Viewpoints 9 and 10.

Cumulative effects

6.8.421 There is negligible visibility of operational, under-construction, consented or application-stage cumulative wind farms from Moffat. Cumulative effects are therefore considered to be **not significant**.

6.8.422 The following sections cover the assessment of effects on views from routes, as identified in Table 6.4.

A74(M) (including M74 and M6)

Baseline and sensitivity

6.8.423 The M74/ A74(M)/ M6 runs across the study area from north-west to south-east, passing a minimum of approximately 2.5km to the west of the proposed development. The northern part of this route is called the M74, the central part the A74(M) and the southern part the M6; the full route is referred to as the A(74)M in this assessment.

6.8.424 Viewpoint 7 is located in the Annandale Water Services, adjacent to the A74(M).

6.8.425 There are a number of operational, under-construction and consented cumulative wind farms along the A74(M) corridor (i.e. within approximately 15km of the road). These include, most notably, Clyde and Clyde Extension, which is very clearly visible at a minimum of less than 1km from the A74(M) over a stretch of the road between Abington in the north and Harthope in the south, along with other wind farm sites at Andershaw, Beck Burn, Crookedstane, the Ewe Hill group, Glenkerie and Extension, Great Orton and others in its group, Hallburn, Harestanes/ Minnygap, Lion Hill, Middle Muir, Minsca, Priestgill, Solwaybank, Whitelaw Brae, and a group of developments on the north-western edge of the study area, around Hagshaw Hill and Broken Cross.

6.8.426 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the views from the route and the susceptibility of the viewer to the proposed development. The value of views from the A74(M) is medium-high as it overlooks a number of areas that are designated for their scenic value and the SW Coastal 300 Route follows a section of the road between Beattock and Lockerbie. Views from the road are often scenic and representative of the Southern Uplands landscape, resulting in a sense of place.

6.8.427 The susceptibility to change of viewers is medium as there are sections of the route where travellers are likely to have a specific focus on the landscape, particularly where it forms the SW Coastal 300 Route.

6.8.428 The combination of the medium susceptibility to change and the medium-high value of the views results in a **medium-high** sensitivity for the A74(M).

Magnitude of change

6.8.429 The A74(M) has a varied route through accessible valleys and across higher parts of the Southern Uplands, leading to variable levels of openness and visibility. It is the part of the route that passes through Annandale, west of the proposed development, that gains the higher levels of visibility as the turbines are seen on the hills that enclose the eastern side of the dale.

6.8.430 The assessment of effects on views from the A74(M) focusses on the stretch of the road that lies within a 20km radius of the proposed development as it is considered that there is not potential for a significant effect on views from over 20km away due to lack of visibility and/ or distance.

6.8.431 The magnitude of change on views from the A74(M) will vary dependent on the direction of travel, and the southwards and northwards routes are therefore described separately.

6.8.432 Travelling **southwards**, the ZTV shows very intermittent and limited theoretical visibility over several kilometres at the north-western edge of the 20km study area. This is, however, unlikely to be readily apparent due to the nature of the visibility and the cutting and forestry through which the road passes, and the maximum magnitude of change will be **low** to **medium-low**. Clyde Wind Farm is immediately apparent from the road over this stretch and for several further kilometres.

6.8.433 The next stretch of visibility is just within 10km of the proposed development, several kilometres north-west of Moffat, where the ZTV shows theoretical visibility of up to 45 blades over a stretch of just over 1km. Visibility here will be limited by roadside vegetation and by the angle of the view, as well as by distance (a minimum of approximately 9km) and the limited level of theoretical visibility, and views are likely to be restricted to brief glimpses over a very short stretch of the road. As a result, the maximum magnitude of change here will be **medium-low.**

6.8.434 Just north of Beattock, the ZTV shows the start of a long stretch of higher theoretical visibility (46-60 blades) as the A74(M) enters the *middle dale* landscape of Annandale. This level of theoretical visibility continues over approximately 12.5km as the road passes the proposed development, with visibility increasing to 61-75 turbines for the final few kilometres, until the proposed development passes behind the southbound traveller and views towards the site will no longer be available. Viewpoint 7 lies at the approximate point where the proposed development will pass out of view and illustrates the higher type of visibility that will be gained from the southbound road.

6.8.435 Over this stretch of theoretical visibility between Beattock and Viewpoint 7, visibility is in many places screened and filtered by roadside vegetation, cuttings and buildings and visibility of the proposed development, which lies between approximately 2.5km and 6km away, will be intermittent. The magnitude of change over this stretch will range from a maximum **medium-high**, as assessed at Viewpoint 7, to negligible where there is no or very limited visibility.

6.8.436 Travelling **northwards**, the ZTV shows limited theoretical visibility commencing approximately 3.5km north of Ecclefechan, around 17.5km to the south of the proposed development. This continues over approximately 2km of the road with varying levels of theoretical visibility. This visibility is unlikely to be readily apparent due to the limited nature of parts of the theoretical visibility, distance from the proposed development, and screening/ filtering by intervening planting, and the maximum magnitude of change will be **low** to **medium-low**. Visibility then ceases for around 1km as the road drops into the Water of Milk valley.

6.8.437 Theoretical visibility then commences again on the southern side of Lockerbie, just over 16km from the proposed development, and continues fairly consistently with varying levels of visibility (from 1-75 turbines but largely within the 46-75 brackets) until around Beattock, where the northbound traveller passes the northern edge of the proposed development and views towards the turbines will no longer be available.

6.8.438 This theoretical visibility is not, however, consistently gained in reality, and a combination of cuttings, buildings, roadside woodland and other intervening vegetation will screen the majority of visibility as the road passes Lockerbie and continues towards Johnstonebridge and the Annandale Water Services (Viewpoint 7). This will be particularly notable in summer, when deciduous woodland is in leaf. Between Lockerbie and the Services, over approximately 13km, visibility will be very intermittent and the maximum magnitude of change will be **medium**.

6.8.439 Around the Services, clearer visibility is gained from around 5.5km away and will continue with intermittent screening and filtering by cuttings and woodland until around Beattock, where the northbound traveller passes the northern edge of the proposed development. This stretch of intermittent visibility between the Services and Beattock is approximately 11km long and the proposed development will be seen from between approximately 2.5km and 6km away. The magnitude of change over this stretch will range from a maximum **medium-high**, as assessed at Viewpoint 7, to **negligible** where there is no or very limited visibility due to screening.

Significance of the effect

6.8.440 The effect of the proposed development on the majority of views from the A74(M) will be **not significant**. There are, however, stretches where an intermittent or very intermittent **significant** effect is likely to arise for southbound and northbound travellers:

- For **southbound** travellers, an intermittent **significant** effect is likely to arise on a stretch of approximately 12.5km between a point just north of Beattock in the north and the Annandale Water Services in the south; and
- For **northbound** travellers, a very intermittent **significant** effect may arise on a stretch of approximately 13km between Lockerbie and the Annandale Water Services, and an intermittent **significant** effect is likely to arise on a stretch of approximately 11km between the Annandale Water Services and just to the south of Beattock.

6.8.441 These potential significant effects will be gained intermittently by road-users. There is extensive roadside woodland along the A74(M), and visibility will be higher in winter when deciduous trees are bare and the screening effects of woodland are less apparent.

Cumulative effects

6.8.442 The most relevant cumulative wind farms along the A74(M) corridor that theoretically (i.e. not taking local screening by vegetation etc. into account) may be clearly seen in views from the road are as follows:

- The operational sites of Hagshaw Hill and Extension, Middle Muir, Andershaw, Clyde and Extension, Harestanes and Minnygap, Ewe Hill, Minsca, Solwaybank, Beck Burn, and Hallburn;
- The consented sites around Broken Cross/Poniel, at Priestgill, Lion Hill, Little Hartfell, Crossdykes, Hopsrig, Loganhead and Todhills, Blackford; and
- The application-stage sites at Broken Cross and Hagshaw Hill Repowering.

6.8.443 The operational site with the highest visibility is Clyde and Extension, which is visible at from extensive parts of the route from a minimum of around 800m. Middle Muir/ Andershaw and Beck Burn are also seen at close proximity (a minimum of approximately 2.2km and 2km respectively) but affect a more limited length of the road. Harestanes/ Minnygap, Minsca and Ewe Hill are also clearly visible, albeit from slightly further away and primarily for northbound travellers.

6.8.444 The under construction and consented sites around Broken Cross/ Poniel and at Priestgill, Crookedstane, Lion Hill, Little Hartfell, Crossdykes, Hopsrig, Loganhead, Solwaybank, Todhills and Blackford are likely to add to the extent of development along the road. It is not possible to accurately predict the actual level of visibility of the consented wind farms as while the ZTVs and working wirelines show theoretical visibility, this is screened and filtered by woodland, forestry, and roadside planting. However, the proximity of consented turbines to the road (particularly around Broken Cross/ Poniel, and at Priestgill, Crookedstane and Todhills, Blackford) suggests that where there is visibility, these turbines are likely to be very readily apparent.

6.8.445 Overall the baseline wind farm sites along the A74(M) as it passes through the study area broadly fall into eight groups; the cluster at Hagshaw Hill, Broken Cross and Poniel (east and west of the road); Middle Muir/ Andershaw (west of the road); Clyde and Extension (east and west of the road); Crookedstane and Lion Hill (east and west of the road); Harestanes/ Minnygap (west of the road); the Ewe Hill group – Ewe Hill, Crossdykes, Hopsrig and Loganhead (east of the road); Minsca (east of the road); Solwaybank (east of the road); and Beck Burn and Hallburn (east of the road).

6.8.446 As a result of their patterns of visibility, these sites will be experienced in different ways by northbound and southbound travellers. Northbound travellers will be affected primarily by Beck Burn/ Hallburn; Solwaybank; Minsca; the Ewe Hill group; Harestanes/ Minnygap; Clyde and Extension/ Crookedstane/ Lion Hill; Andershaw/ Middle Muir; and the Hagshaw Hill cluster. Southbound travellers will be affected primarily by the Hagshaw Hill cluster; Andershaw/ Middle Muir; Clyde and Extension/ Crookedstane/ Lion Hill; and Beck Burn/ Hallburn.

6.8.447 The proposed development will lie to the east of the road, a minimum of around 2.5km away, and in a part of the eastern setting to the road that is not otherwise affected by baseline or application-stage wind farms, although Harestanes/ Minnygap lies slightly further away to the west of the road at roughly the same point. The baseline group at Ewe Hill lies a minimum of 8km to the south of the proposed development, while Clyde is considerably further away to the north.

6.8.448 The proposed development itself has been assessed as having an intermittent significant effect on a stretch of approximately 12.5km between a point just north of Beattock and the Annandale Water Services (for **southbound** travellers) and, for **northbound** travellers a very intermittent/ intermittent significant effect on a stretch of approximately 13km between Lockerbie and the Annandale Water Services and approximately 11km between the Annandale Water Services and around Beattock.

6.8.449 For northbound travellers in the **baseline scenario**, over these stretches where a significant effect is likely to arise from the proposed development itself, the theoretical cumulative magnitude of change will be a maximum of **medium**, arising from the following considerations:

- The addition of the proposed development – an immediately apparent wind farm that will have a significant effect itself - to views in which baseline wind farms are sequentially visible;
- People travelling northbound gain theoretical visibility of the eight groups of cumulative wind energy development;
- The addition of a further group of development along the route, as the proposed development will affect an aspect of the road that is not currently affected by wind energy development;
- And, as a result, the visibility of the proposed development from stretches of the road that are not affected by baseline wind farms, so that it extends wind farm influence along the route; and
- The number, level of theoretical visibility and proximity of baseline wind farms (particularly Clyde and Extension and Middle Muir).

6.8.450 The following considerations limit the theoretical cumulative magnitude of change to a maximum **medium** level:

- The length of the road as it passes through the study area (105km), which ensures that there are stretches with no wind farm influence despite the level of theoretical visibility;
- The peripheral and perpendicular nature of some visibility of cumulative wind farms and the proposed development, so that they are not always seen in the field of view of travellers on the road;
- The baseline presence of wind farms on both the eastern and western sides of the road, so that there is precedent for development to the east, ensuring that the proposed development will not introduce a new influence in this aspect of views;
- The retention of stretches of the road without wind farm influence, notably between Clyde and the proposed development; and
- The intermittent visibility of the proposed development and cumulative wind farms.

6.8.451 For southbound travellers in the **baseline scenario**, over these stretches where a significant effect is likely to arise from the proposed development itself, the theoretical cumulative magnitude of change will be a maximum of **medium-low**. This is reduced from the level gained by northbound travellers due to the more limited theoretical visibility of wind farms, with only four of the groups having influence, and the more extensive stretches of the road that will remain unaffected by wind farm influence. The long length of the route is also relevant, as the cumulative wind farms are spread out between the northern and southern edges of the 45km study area.

6.8.452 Scenarios that include the application-stage sites at Hagshaw Hill Repowering and Broken Cross as well as baseline sites are also considered. Either or both of these sites would not alter the **medium-high** (northbound) or **medium-low** (southbound) cumulative magnitude of change arising from the proposed development as they are both seen in the context of other wind farms, and would not introduce further wind farm groups to views, or introduce wind farm influence to otherwise unaffected areas.

6.8.453 The cumulative effect on the majority of the A74(M), including all of the southbound route, will be **not significant** in both the baseline and baseline plus application-stage scenarios. There will, however, be an intermittent or very intermittent **significant** cumulative effect over the stretches of the northbound road where the proposed development itself will have an intermittent significant effect, due to the factors that lead to the maximum medium cumulative magnitude of change and the medium-high sensitivity of the route. These stretches are a very intermittent/ intermittent significant cumulative effect on a stretch of approximately 13km between Lockerbie and the Annandale Water Services and approximately 11km between the Annandale Water Services and around Beattock.

6.8.454 It should be noted that these significant cumulative effects only have potential to arise when travellers are following the full route of the A74(M) through the study area; visibility of all of the relevant wind farms will not be available to people using a shorter part of the road, and cumulative effects would in that case either be more limited or not arise at all.

A701

Baseline and sensitivity

6.8.455 The A701 runs from Edinburgh in the north to Dumfries in the south, passing across the study area to the west of the proposed development, a minimum of approximately 4.3km away from the nearest turbine. Viewpoints 9, 10, 11 and 12 are located on the A701.

6.8.456 There are several operational and consented cumulative wind farms along the A701 corridor (i.e. within approximately 15km of the road). These include Cloich Forest, Clyde and Extension, Crookedstane, Dalswinton, Glenkerie and Extension, Harestanes/ Minnygap, Lion Hill and Whitelaw Brae.

6.8.457 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the views from the route and the susceptibility of the viewer to the proposed development. The value of views from the A701 is medium-high. There is one mapped viewpoint on the road (the Devil's Beef Tub) and a short section around Moffat is on the SW Coastal 300 Route. Whilst the A701 is not a recognised national tourist route, parts of it are signposted as a 'scenic route'. It also passes through the Upper Tweeddale NSA, the Tweedsmuir Uplands SLA, and the Moffat Hills and Torthorwald Ridge RSAs, and views from the road are often scenic and representative of the Southern Uplands and Borders landscapes, resulting in a sense of place. The road, however, is not part of long-distance walking routes or cycle routes (although it is crossed by several walking routes).

6.8.458 The susceptibility to change of viewers is medium-high as there are sections of the route where travellers are likely to have a specific focus on the landscape, particularly around the Devil's Beef Tub and around Moffat, where it forms the SW Coastal 300 Route, and is signposted as a scenic route.

6.8.459 The combination of the medium-high susceptibility to change and the medium-high value of the views results in a **medium-high** sensitivity for the A701.

Magnitude of change

6.8.460 The A701 takes a varied route through accessible valleys (including the Tweed, Annan and Nith valleys) and across higher parts of the Southern Uplands and fringe landscapes, leading to variable levels of openness and visibility. As with the A74(M), it is the part of the route that passes along the Annan and its upland fringes that gains the higher levels of visibility.

6.8.461 The assessment of effects on views from the A701 focusses on the stretch of the road that lies within a 20km radius of the proposed development as it is considered that there is not potential for a significant effect on views from over 20km away due to lack of visibility.

6.8.462 The magnitude of change on views from the A701 will vary dependent on the direction of travel, and the southwards and northwards routes are therefore described separately.

6.8.463 Travelling **southwards**, the ZTV shows a very short – approximately 1km long – stretch of limited theoretical visibility as the road passes Flecket Hill, approximately 14km north-west of the proposed development. Views from here would be very brief glimpses, with screening and filtering by forestry, but it is possible that the proposed development would be seen. If this is the case, the maximum magnitude of change would be **medium-low**.

6.8.464 Higher visibility commences several kilometres further on, as the road turns sharply to the south, south of the Devil's Beef Tub viewpoint. Viewpoint 12 is located on this first stretch of visibility, 12.67km to the north of the proposed development. This viewpoint is assessed as having a **medium** magnitude of change, and this will apply to the stretch of road – just under 4km long – that runs between Viewpoints 12 and 11. The magnitude of change at Viewpoint 11 is also assessed as medium. There is limited screening along this stretch of the road and views will generally be open, although some views will be perpendicular or peripheral to the main direction of travel.

6.8.465 Slightly reduced theoretical visibility continues between Viewpoint 11 and Viewpoint 10, which is just over 3.5km to the south of Viewpoint 11. Viewpoint 10 is assessed as having a medium magnitude of change, and the magnitude of change along the stretch between Viewpoints 11 and 10 will gradually increase to **medium**. There is, however, screening and filtering by vegetation along this stretch as the road drops down into the more settled dale, and visibility of the proposed development will be intermittent.

6.8.466 Shortly after Viewpoint 10, the road enters the built-up area of Moffat and for just over 1km visibility is restricted to partial views such as those seen at Viewpoint 9, as a small part of the proposed development may be seen on the skyline looking southwards down the A701 where it forms the High Street. Viewpoint 9 is assessed to have a **medium-low** magnitude of change, and this will also apply to the parts of the road from where a similar outlook of the proposed development is gained.

6.8.467 Theoretical visibility of 16-45 turbines continues as the A701 leaves the southern edge of Moffat, but screening and filtering by woodland again ensures that visibility is intermittent. Where the proposed development is clearly visible, the magnitude of change will vary from **medium** to **medium-high** due to the level and proximity (between 5km and 6km away) of visibility. This continues for approximately 2km, whereupon the A701 passes underneath the A74(M) and then, for approximately 1km as the A701 runs around the eastern edge of Beattock, very close to the A74(M), visibility is largely screened by motorway infrastructure and by dense woodland that lies between the two main roads. There are several glimpses of visibility as the road crosses bridges, and here the magnitude of change will be a maximum of **medium**, as the proposed development would be seen in a brief view perpendicular to the southbound direction of travel.

6.8.468 Beyond Beattock, theoretical visibility of between 46 and 75 turbines continues for around 7km. There is extensive screening by woodland and forestry over this stretch, and visibility of the proposed development will be intermittent and gained perpendicular to the direction of travel. Where the proposed development is clearly visible, the magnitude of change will be a maximum of **medium** due to a combination of the perpendicular nature of views, the moving nature of viewers, and distance from the proposed development (4.3-5.5km away approximately).

6.8.469 Theoretical visibility ceases as the road passes Oldshields Wood, and while visibility commences again to the south of here, the proposed development will have passed behind the southbound traveller and views will no longer be available.

6.8.470 Travelling **northwards**, the ZTV shows visibility commencing several kilometres to the south of Parkgate, around 17km to the south-west of the proposed development. This theoretical visibility continues over approximately 9.5km until just before the road reaches St Ann's (just over 7km away from the proposed development). Theoretical visibility is fairly consistent over this 9.5km stretch and is largely of 61-75 turbines but with short stretches of lower or no visibility. There is also extensive screening and filtering of views by woodland and other vegetation, so that in reality views of the proposed development are intermittent or very intermittent, and brief glimpses. The maximum magnitude of change over the first part of this stretch will be **medium-low** due to a combination of limited visibility and distance, increasing to **medium** at around 15-16km away, north of Parkgate, and then to **medium-high** as the road approaches closer to the proposed development at St Ann's. This level of change will arise where there is clear visibility of the proposed development and will arise for similar reasons to those assessed at Viewpoints 18 and 8, which are not on the A701 but view the site in fairly similar circumstances.

6.8.471 North of St Ann's, there is no visibility for just over 2.5km, and then theoretical visibility commences again just south of Oldshields Wood. Between Oldshields Wood and the southern edge of Moffat the level of visibility and change is very similar to that described for the southbound route as the A701 passes by the western side of the proposed development. As assessed for the southbound route, there will be an intermittent maximum **medium** or **medium-high** magnitude of change over approximately 10km.

6.8.472 Beyond the southern edge of Moffat the proposed development will pass behind the northbound traveller and views will no longer be available.

<u>Significance of the effect</u>

6.8.473 The effect of the proposed development on the majority of views from the A701 will be **not significant**. There are, however, stretches where intermittent **significant** effects are likely to arise for southbound and northbound travellers:

- For **southbound** travellers, an intermittent/ very intermittent **significant** effect is likely to arise on a stretch of approximately 18.5km between around Viewpoint 12 in the north and the Oldshields Wood (south of Beattock) in the south; and
- For **northbound** travellers, an intermittent/ very intermittent **significant** effect is likely to arise on two stretches; approximately 8km between a point south of Parkgate and the southern edge of St Ann's, and approximately 10km between Oldshields Wood and the southern edge of Moffat.

6.8.474 These potential significant effects will be gained intermittently or very intermittently by road-users. There is extensive roadside woodland along the A701 and visibility will be higher in winter when deciduous trees are bare and the screening effects of woodland are less apparent.

<u>Cumulative effects</u>

6.8.475 The relevant cumulative wind farm sites along the A701 as it passes through the study area fall into four groups: Glenkerie and Extension (west of the road); Clyde and Extension/ Crookedstane/ Lion Hill (west of the road) plus Whitelaw Brae (east of the road); Harestanes/ Minnygap (west of the road); and Dalswinton (west of the road). Whitelaw Brae lies to the east of the road where Clyde lies to the west and they have a similar pattern of theoretical visibility from the road, and hence have been grouped together. There are no relevant application-stage sites along the road.

6.8.476 As a result of their patterns of visibility, these sites will be experienced in different ways by northbound and southbound travellers. Northbound travellers will theoretically be affected by the four groups of development: Dalswinton, Harestanes/ Minnygap, Clyde and Extension/ Crookedstane/ Lion Hill/ Whitelaw Brae, and Glenkerie and Extension. Southbound travellers will be affected primarily by Glenkerie and Extension, and

Clyde and Extension/ Crookedstane/ Lion Hill/ Whitelaw Brae, with some very limited and intermittent visibility of Harestanes/ Minnygap and Dalswinton over short stretches.

6.8.477 The proposed development lies to the east of the road, a minimum of around 4.3km away, and in a part of the eastern setting to the road that is not otherwise affected by baseline or application-stage wind farms, although Harestanes/ Minnygap lies a similar distance away to the west of the road at roughly the same point. Whitelaw Brae also lies to the east of the road, approximately 17km to the north of the proposed development.

6.8.478 The proposed development itself has been assessed as having an intermittent or very intermittent significant effect on a stretch of approximately 18.5km between around Viewpoint 12 and Oldshields Wood (for southbound travellers) and on two stretches for northbound travellers - approximately 8km between a point south of Parkgate and the southern edge of St Ann's, and approximately 10km between Oldshields Wood and the southern edge of Moffat.

6.8.479 For northbound travellers in the **baseline scenario**, over these stretches where a significant effect is likely to arise from the proposed development itself, the theoretical cumulative magnitude of change will be a maximum of **medium**, arising from the following considerations:

- The addition of the proposed development – an apparent wind farm that will have an intermittent significant effect itself - to views in which baseline wind farms are sequentially visible;
- The addition of a further group of development along the route, as the proposed development will affect an aspect of the road that is not currently affected by wind energy development;
- And, as a result, the visibility of the proposed development from stretches of the road that are not affected by baseline wind farms, so that it extends wind farm influence along the route;
- The introduction of a second wind farm to the east of the road; and
- The level of theoretical visibility and proximity of baseline wind farms.

6.8.480 The following considerations limit the theoretical cumulative magnitude of change for northbound travellers to a maximum **medium** level:

- The length of the road as it passes through the study area (85km), which ensures that there are stretches with no wind farm influence despite the level of theoretical visibility;
- The limited total number of wind farm groups that will affect the northbound route (five in total);
- The peripheral and perpendicular nature of some visibility of cumulative wind farms and the proposed development, so that they are not always seen in the field of view of travellers on the road;
- The baseline presence of wind farms on both the eastern and western sides of the road, so that there is precedent for development to the east (Whitelaw Brae), ensuring that the proposed development will not introduce a new influence in eastern views;
- The retention of stretches of the road without wind farm influence; and
- The intermittent visibility of the proposed development and cumulative wind farms.

6.8.481 For southbound travellers in the **baseline scenario**, over these stretches where a significant effect is likely to arise from the proposed development itself, the theoretical cumulative magnitude of change will be a maximum of **medium-low**. This is reduced from the level gained by northbound travellers due to the notably more limited theoretical visibility of wind farms and the more extensive stretches of the road that will remain unaffected by readily apparent wind farm influence. The limited extent of cumulative effects on the southbound route is exemplified by Viewpoints 9, 10, 11 and 12, where no other wind farms are seen in the views.

6.8.482 The cumulative effect on the majority of the A701, including all of the southbound route, will be **not significant** in the baseline scenario. There will, however, be an intermittent or very intermittent **significant** cumulative effect over the stretches of the northbound road where the proposed development itself will have an intermittent significant effect, due to the factors that lead to the maximum medium cumulative magnitude of change and the medium-high sensitivity of the route. These stretches are approximately 9.5km between a point south of Parkgate and the southern edge of St Ann's, and approximately 10km between Oldshields Wood and the southern edge of Moffat.

6.8.483 It should be noted that these significant cumulative effects only have potential to arise when northbound travellers are following the full route of the A701 through the study area; visibility of all of the relevant wind farms will not be available to people using a shorter part of the road, and cumulative effects would in that case either be more limited or not arise at all.

A708

Baseline and sensitivity

6.8.484 The A708 links Moffat in the south-west to Selkirk in the north-east, passing to the north of the site. While the majority of the road in the 20km study area is enclosed within the steep-sided glen of the Moffat Water and thus gains no visibility of the proposed development, its western end, on the eastern edge of Moffat, gains theoretical visibility over a stretch of approximately 2.25km.

6.8.485 There are four baseline wind farms within the A708 corridor (i.e. within approximately 15km of the road); Clyde and Extension, Harestanes/ Minnygap, Langhope Rig and Whitelaw Brae.

6.8.486 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the views from the route and the susceptibility of the viewer to the proposed development. The value of views from the A708 is medium-high. There are no mapped viewpoints on the road itself, but the Grey Mare's Tail viewpoint is close to the road, and views of the waterfall can also be gained from the road itself. The entire length of the road is also within or on the edge of regionally designated areas (SLA and RSA), and views from the road are often scenic and representative of Southern Uplands landscape, resulting in a sense of place. The road, however, is not part of long-distance walking routes or cycle routes.

6.8.487 The susceptibility to change of viewers is medium as while there are no walking or cycle routes that use the road, views from the road are scenic and travellers are likely to have an awareness of the landscape through which they are passing.

6.8.488 The combination of the medium susceptibility to change and the medium-high value of the views results in a **medium-high** sensitivity for the A708.

Magnitude of change

6.8.489 The proposed development will theoretically affect views over a single stretch of the A708, around 2.25km long, on the eastern edge of Moffat, and will affect only eastbound travellers.

6.8.490 Theoretical visibility commences at the western extremity of the road, in the centre of Moffat but in reality will only be seen in brief glimpse views until the road has passed through the more densely built-up area of Moffat. As views from the road open out, the proposed development will be seen in the direction of travel of the eastbound road-user with between one and 30 turbines theoretically visible. Over a stretch of around 1.5km, the proposed development is likely to be visible from between 4km and 5km away, with intermittent screening by roadside vegetation. It will be seen on the skyline, with theoretical visibility dropping to one to 15 turbines fairly soon after it leaves the built-up area of Moffat.

6.8.491 Over this stretch, the maximum magnitude of change will be **medium-high** due to the proximity of the road to the proposed development, the orientation of the eastbound road towards the proposed development, and the vertical impact of turbines on the skyline.

6.8.492 After this 1.5km long stretch, visibility of the proposed development ceases as the road enters Moffat Dale and landform screens views. There is then no further visibility of the proposed development.

Significance of the effect

6.8.493 The effect of the proposed development on all westbound views and the great majority of eastbound views from the A708 will be **not significant**. There is, however, potential for intermittent **significant** effects to arise for eastbound travellers on a stretch approximately 1.5km long on the eastern edge of Moffat.

Cumulative effects

6.8.494 There are four baseline wind farms within the A708 corridor (i.e. within approximately 15km of the road); Clyde and Extension, Harestanes/ Minnygap, Langhope Rig and Whitelaw Brae. Clyde and Extension and Harestanes/ Minnygap are only theoretically visible to westbound travellers, and from some distance away (over 10km) so will not affect those road-users who are affected by the proposed development. Whitelaw Brae has no theoretical visibility from the road at all, and Langhope Rig has several very short stretches of theoretical visibility considerably further to the east.

6.8.495 The cumulative magnitude of change arising from the addition of the proposed development will be **negligible**, due to the very limited visibility of cumulative wind farms.

6.8.496 The theoretical cumulative effect arising from the addition of the proposed development to the baseline cumulative scenario will be **not significant**. This is due to the factors that lead to the negligible cumulative magnitude of change and the medium-high sensitivity of the route.

A709

Baseline and sensitivity

6.8.497 The A709 is a relatively short road that runs from between Dumfries and Lockerbie, to the south-west of the proposed development, a minimum of approximately 14km away from the nearest turbine. Viewpoint 18 is located on the A709.

6.8.498 There are several operational and consented cumulative wind farms along the A709 corridor (i.e. within approximately 15km of the road). These include Dalswinton, Harestanes/ Minnygap, Little Hartfell, Crossdykes, Ewe Hill, and Minsca.

6.8.499 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the views from the route and the susceptibility of the viewer to the proposed development. The value of views from the A709 is medium-high. There are no mapped viewpoints on the road, but the full length of the route is part of the SW Coastal 300 Route. It also passes through the Torthorwald Ridge RSA, and views from the road are often scenic and representative of the Annandale and Southern Uplands landscape, resulting in a sense of place. The road, however, is not part of long-distance walking routes or cycle routes.

6.8.500 The susceptibility to change of viewers is medium-high as while there are no walking or cycle routes that use the road, it does form part of the SW Coastal 300 Route where some travellers are likely to have a specific focus on the landscape.

6.8.501 The combination of the medium-high susceptibility to change and the medium-high value of the views results in a **medium-high** sensitivity for the A709.

Magnitude of change

6.8.502 The assessment of effects on views from the A709 focusses on the stretch of the road that lies within a 20km radius of the proposed development as it is considered that there is not potential for a significant effect on views from over 20km away due to lack of visibility. The proposed development will affect only the eastbound route of the A709.

6.8.503 Theoretical visibility from the A709 is clearly defined by the landform of the Torthorwald Ridge; to the west of the ridge, visibility is negligible due to landform screening, while to the eastern side of the ridge the ZTV shows generally high theoretical visibility. This level of theoretical visibility commences several kilometres to the north-east of Torthorwald and continues for approximately 11km, with some stretches of no visibility around Lochmaben, to Lockerbie. Over this 11km stretch, the proposed development lies between around 20km and 14.5km away from the road. Viewpoint 18, just over 15km away, lies on this stretch and illustrates the higher type of visibility that is gained from the road.

6.8.504 This stretch of the A709 and its setting, is characterised by woodland and hedgerows that provide extensive screening and filtering of views towards the proposed development from the road, particularly the stretch between Lochmaben and Lockerbie. The built form of Lochmaben, through which the road passes, also screens visibility. Visibility from the road is, therefore, intermittent or very intermittent.

6.8.505 The more distant part of the road, between around 20km and 17-18km away, will have a maximum **low** magnitude of change due to a combination of distance and the very intermittent visibility of the proposed development. At around 18-17km away, the maximum magnitude of change will increase to **medium-low,** when there is clear visibility of the proposed development from between around 16 and 14.5km away, as assessed at Viewpoint 18, as the proposed development is seen at closer proximity. Clear views will, however, arise very intermittently due to the level of screening and filtering, as well as the perpendicular nature of many views, and Viewpoint 18 illustrates the higher type of visibility that may be gained.

6.8.506 Visibility ceases as the road enters Lockerbie due to screening by buildings, and the A709 subsequently terminates in Lockerbie town centre.

Significance of the effect

6.8.507 The effect of the proposed development on all westbound views and the majority of eastbound views from the A709 will be **not significant**. There is, however, potential for intermittent/ very intermittent **significant** effects to arise for eastbound travellers on the stretch (approximately 8km long) that runs between a point several kilometres to the west of Lochmaben and Lockerbie.

Cumulative effects

6.8.508 The most relevant cumulative wind farms along the A709 corridor that theoretically (i.e. not taking local screening by vegetation, for example, into account) may be seen in views from the road are as follows:

- The operational sites of Harestanes/ Minnygap, Ewe Hill, and Minsca; and
- The consented sites at Little Hartfell and Crossdykes.

6.8.509 There are no relevant application-stage sites along the road.

6.8.510 The relevant wind farm sites along the A709 as it passes through the study area fall into three groups: Harestanes/ Minnygap (north of the road); Ewe Hill, Crossdykes and Little Hartfell (east of the road); and

Minsca (east of the road). None of these sites are seen at close proximity, with Minsca being the closest to the road at a minimum of over 8km away, and all have intermittent or very intermittent visibility. Ewe Hill, Little Hartfell and Crossdykes in particular, are likely to have a very limited influence on views.

6.8.511 The proposed development lies to the north-east of the road, a minimum of around 14.5km away.

6.8.512 The proposed development itself has been assessed as having an intermittent or very intermittent significant effect on a stretch of approximately 8km between a point west of Lochmaben and Lockerbie (for eastbound travellers only).

6.8.513 In the **baseline scenario**, over these stretches where a significant effect is likely to arise from the proposed development itself, the theoretical cumulative magnitude of change will be a maximum of **medium-low**, arising from the following considerations:

- The addition of the proposed development – a wind farm that will have an intermittent significant effect itself - to views in which baseline wind farms are sequentially visible; and
- Visibility of the proposed development from stretches of the road that are not affected by baseline wind farms, so that it extends wind farm influence along the route.

6.8.514 The following considerations limit the theoretical cumulative magnitude of change to a maximum **medium-low** level:

- The limited, intermittent and distant visibility of cumulative wind farms, and the relatively small number of wind farms visible;
- The intermittent visibility of the proposed development and its distance from the road; and
- The peripheral and perpendicular nature of visibility of cumulative wind farms and the proposed development, so that they are not consistently seen in the field of view of travellers on the road.

6.8.515 The theoretical cumulative effect arising from the addition of the proposed development to the baseline cumulative scenario will be **not significant**. This is due to the factors that lead to the maximum medium-low cumulative magnitude of change and the medium-high sensitivity of the route. This combination of medium-high sensitivity and medium-low cumulative magnitude of change can result in an effect that is either significant or not significant. In this case, the effect is assessed to be not significant due to the limited number of visible wind farms and their intermittent and relatively distant visibility.

B709

Baseline and sensitivity

6.8.516 The B709 forms a loop off the A7 between Heriot in the north and Langholm in the south, passing a minimum of approximately 6km to the east of the proposed development. Viewpoint 14 is located on the B709.

6.8.517 There are a number of operational, under-construction and consented cumulative wind farms along the B709 corridor (i.e. within approximately 15km of the road). These include Langhope Rig, Little Hartfell, Crossdykes, Hopsrig, Ewe Hill, Loganhead, Craig and Extension, Solwaybank and Minsca.

6.8.518 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the views from the route and the susceptibility of the viewer to the proposed development. The value of views from the B709 is medium. There are no recognised or signposted viewpoints on the road and it is not a recognised tourist route, but it does pass through and overlook an SLA and an RSA, and views from the road are often scenic and representative of the Borders landscape, resulting in a sense of place. The susceptibility to change of viewers is medium-high as while the B709 does not have any recognition as a tourist route and the majority of the road is not a core path or part of a recognised long-distance walking or cycle route, a short stretch to the north of Eskdalemuir is a core path and a very short stretch is also part of the Romans and Reivers Route.

6.8.519 The combination of the medium-high susceptibility to change and the medium value of the views results in a **medium-high** sensitivity for the B709.

Magnitude of change

6.8.520 The route of much of the B709 through accessible and often enclosed valleys ensures that visibility of the proposed development is generally very limited. There are, however, points where visibility is higher, as represented in Viewpoint 14. The assessment of effects on views from the B709 focusses on the stretch of the road that lies within a 20km radius of the proposed development as it is considered that there is not potential for a significant effect on views from over 20km away due to lack of visibility.

6.8.521 The magnitude of change on views from the B709 will vary dependent on the direction of travel, and the southwards and northwards routes are therefore described separately.

6.8.522 Travelling **southwards**, the ZTV shows very intermittent and very limited theoretical visibility from the B709 over several kilometres just beyond 10km from the proposed development. These views will have a **low** magnitude of change due to the very limited level of visibility and further screening and filtering by woodland and forestry.

6.8.523 The only stretch of notable theoretical visibility from the southbound B709 arises around 2.5km north-east of Viewpoint 14 as the road passes the western end of Loch Tima and continues, intermittently and with varying degrees of visibility, for around 5km, where the road drops down into the White Esk valley near Fingland and visibility ceases. Over this 5km stretch there are some points of higher visibility, as seen at Viewpoint 14, and other locations where visibility is negligible. There is also screening by forestry and other vegetation in some places. The highest magnitude of change on this stretch will be **medium**, as assessed at Viewpoint 14, which illustrates the higher type of visibility available.

6.8.524 The next stretch of the road follows the White Esk and, due to its low-lying and enclosed nature, gains only very brief and very limited theoretical visibility. The Samye-Ling Tibetan Buddhist Monastery lies adjacent to the road on this stretch, several kilometres north of Eskdalemuir, and is shown on the ZTV to gain no theoretical views other than several very small areas of limited visibility (1-15 turbines, partly blade only) at the northern and south-eastern edges of the grounds.

6.8.525 Several kilometres to the south of Eskdalemuir, the B709 turns south-eastwards and views of the proposed development will no longer be available to southbound travellers.

6.8.526 Travelling **northwards**, the ZTV shows a very short stretch of very limited visibility several kilometres east of Bentpath. The next stretch of visibility arises as the road passes to the south of Bentpath, where 1-30 turbines are theoretically visible over around 800m of the road from just under 12km away. This visibility will potentially lead to a maximum **medium** magnitude of change, with this limited by the limited number of turbines theoretically visible, the distance from the proposed development, and further screening by intervening vegetation.

6.8.527 The next theoretical visibility is gained from a short section near the Enzieholm Bridge, but this is negligible and is likely to be screened by the woodland in this area. Several further points of very limited theoretical visibility as shown on the ZTV are also of a negligible level.

6.8.528 As the road rises out of the Esk valley, up Shaw Rig, theoretical visibility increases again and a stretch of around 3km has intermittent and variable visibility of between 1 and 75 turbines. There is screening by forestry here and consistent open and clear views are unlikely to be readily available. Where views are gained, the maximum magnitude of change will be **medium-high** due to the level of theoretical visibility and the proximity of the proposed development (a minimum of around 5.5km away). Should deforestation take place, this maximum magnitude of change is likely to be more widespread. However, even with deforestation, the extent of theoretical visibility is limited and the full 3km stretch will not be affected by the proposed development.

6.8.529 As with the southbound route, the next stretch of the road follows the White Esk and gains only very brief and very limited theoretical visibility. Where the road crosses the White Esk near Fingland, the road turns to the north-east and views of the proposed development will no longer be available to northbound travellers.

Significance of the effect

6.8.530 The effect of the proposed development on the majority of views from the B709 will be **not significant**. There are, however, several stretches where a **significant** effect is likely to arise.

- For **southbound** travellers, an intermittent/ very intermittent **significant** effect is likely to arise on a stretch of approximately 5km between Loch Tima and the White Esk valley, in the area of Viewpoint 14; and
- For **northbound** travellers, an intermittent/ very intermittent **significant** effect is likely to arise on two stretches; approximately for 800m as the road passes to the south of Bentpath and approximately for 3km as the road rises up Shaw Rig.

6.8.531 The great majority of these potential significant effects are brief views of the proposed development and will be gained very intermittently by road-users. There is extensive roadside woodland along the B709, and visibility will be higher in winter when deciduous trees are bare and the screening effects of woodland are less apparent.

Cumulative effects

6.8.532 The relevant cumulative wind farms are as follows:

- The group of operational/ consented sites of Craig and Extension, Ewe Hill, Little Hartfell, Crossdykes, Hopsrig and Loganhead; and
- The application-stage site of Faw Side.

6.8.533 The operational Craig Wind Farm has high visibility from some sections of the road, and Ewe Hill is also visible at some points. It is not possible to accurately predict the actual level of visibility of the consented wind farms in views from the road as while the ZTVs show theoretical visibility, this is screened and filtered to a great extent by woodland, forestry, and roadside planting. However, the proximity of consented turbines to the road (particularly at Hopsrig which lies a minimum of 150m from the road) suggests that where there is visibility, the turbines are likely to be immediately or very readily apparent. It has been assumed that there will be some high visibility, albeit intermittent, of baseline cumulative wind farms from the stretch of the B709 that runs to the north-east of the Ewe Hill group.

6.8.534 The proposed development itself has been assessed as having an intermittent or very intermittent significant effect on a stretch of approximately 5km between Loch Tima and the White Esk valley, in the area of Viewpoint 14 (for southbound travellers) and on two stretches for northbound travellers – for approximately 800m as the road passes to the south of Bentpath and approximately 3km as the road rises up Shaw Rig.

6.8.535 In the **baseline scenario**, over these stretches where a significant effect is likely to arise from the proposed development, the theoretical cumulative magnitude of change will be a maximum of **medium-low**, arising from the following considerations:

- The addition of the proposed development – a readily apparent wind farm that will have a significant effect itself - to views in which baseline wind farms (in the Ewe Hill group) are theoretically visible;
- The visibility of the proposed development from stretches of the road that are not affected by baseline wind farms, so that it extends wind farm influence northwards along the route; and
- The level of theoretical visibility and proximity of baseline wind farms.

6.8.536 The following considerations limit the theoretical cumulative magnitude of change to a maximum **medium-low** level:

- The peripheral and perpendicular nature of some visibility of cumulative wind farms, so that they are not always seen in the field of view of travellers on the road;
- The extensive full length of the route within the study area and the relatively short stretch of it that is affected by wind farm influence, with the full length of the road north of Loch Tima remaining unaffected by visibility;
- The location of the proposed development to the west of the B709, in common with the cumulative wind farms;
- The intermittent visibility of the proposed development and cumulative wind farms; and
- The grouping together of the Ewe Hill baseline sites so that they appear as one large development rather than a number of smaller schemes dispersed along the route.

6.8.537 A scenario that includes the application site at Faw Side, which lies to the east of the B709 and will itself have an intermittent significant effect on some parts of the road, is also considered. The inclusion of Faw Side would result in the addition of the proposed development leading to a **medium** cumulative magnitude of change, due to the following factors:

- The consideration of another, discrete, wind farm in the outlook, so that the proposed development would create a further node of development;
- The location of Faw Side to the east of the B709, so that the situation to which the proposed development is added displays a more widespread wind farm influence than the baseline only scenario; and
- The relatively close proximity and level of visibility of Faw Side.

6.8.538 The cumulative effect on the majority of the B709 will be **not significant** in the baseline and baseline plus application-stage scenarios. There will, however, be an intermittent or very intermittent **significant** cumulative effect over the stretches of the road where the proposed development itself will have an intermittent significant effect. This is due to the factors that lead to the maximum medium-low or medium cumulative magnitude of change and the medium-high sensitivity of the route. A combination of medium-high sensitivity and medium-low cumulative magnitude of change can result in an effect that is either significant or not significant. In this case, the effect is assessed to be significant primarily due to the proximity of the cumulative wind farms to the route.

6.8.539 These stretches are as follows:

- For **southbound** travellers, an intermittent/ very intermittent **significant** cumulative effect is likely to arise on a stretch of approximately 5km between Loch Tima and the White Esk valley, in the area of Viewpoint 14; and
- For **northbound** travellers, an intermittent/ very intermittent **significant** cumulative effect is likely to arise on two stretches; approximately 800m as the road passes to the south of Bentpath and approximately 3km as the road rises up Shaw Rig.

6.8.540 The intermittent nature of the cumulative effects is exemplified by Viewpoint 14, where there is negligible visibility of other wind farms.

B723

Baseline and sensitivity

6.8.541 The B723 links Annan and Eskdalemuir, passing a minimum of just over 1km to the south of the proposed development. Viewpoint 3 is located on the B723, at Sandyford. The route of the B723 runs through a varied landscape setting, including some elevated upland stretches while elsewhere it follows a more enclosed valley context, including the *intimate pastoral valley* of the Dryfe Water.

6.8.542 There are a number of operational, under-construction and consented cumulative wind farms along the B723 corridor (i.e. within approximately 15km of the road). These include Harestanes/ Minnygap, Minsca, Solwaybank, and the cluster of wind farms at Ewe Hill, including Little Hartfell, Crossdykes, Hopsrig, Ewe Hill, Loganhead, and Craig and Extension. Visibility of these wind farms is discussed in the cumulative assessment below.

6.8.543 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the views from the route and the susceptibility of the viewer to the proposed development. The value of views from the B723 is medium-low. There are no recognised or signposted viewpoints on the road, and it does not pass through any areas that are designated for their scenic value. The susceptibility to change of viewers is medium as the B723 does not have any recognition as a scenic route and is not a core path or part of a recognised long-distance walking or cycle route.

6.8.544 The combination of the medium susceptibility to change and the medium-low value of the views available results in a **medium** sensitivity for the B723.

Magnitude of change

6.8.545 The assessment of effects on views from the B723 focusses on the stretch of the road that lies within a 20km radius of the proposed development as it is considered that there is not potential for a significant effect on views from over 20km away due to a combination of lack of/ limited visibility and distance.

6.8.546 The magnitude of change on views from the B723 will vary dependent on the direction of travel, and the southwards and northwards routes are therefore described separately.

6.8.547 Travelling **southwards**, the stretch of the B723 that may be affected by theoretical visibility of the proposed development is approximately 10km long; this runs from the northern end of the road at Eskdalemuir to a point just south of Fenton Yet, where the proposed development will pass behind the southbound traveller and views will no longer be available.

6.8.548 Over this 10km stretch, the proposed development lies between around 6km and just over 1km away from the road. The ZTV shows fairly consistent theoretical visibility, the majority of which is limited to relatively low bands of turbine numbers while theoretical visibility of the upper two brackets (46-75 turbines) is limited to very short stretches.

6.8.549 There is, however, extensive forestry along the B723 and between the B723 and the site, and this ensures that views of the proposed development will be very intermittent. Where there is visibility, this may vary from a very small part of the proposed development (as seen at Viewpoint 3), particularly in closer views, to a wider outlook across the site, which will generally be seen in more distant views from the eastern part of the road. Where there is clear visibility, the magnitude of change is likely be a maximum of **medium** (as seen at Viewpoint 3), due to the proximity of the proposed development to the route and its location in the broad direction of view for southbound travellers.

6.8.550 Should the forestry be felled, a **medium** magnitude of change is likely to arise more frequently.

6.8.551 Just beyond Fenton Yet, the B723 turns south-westwards, and views of the proposed development will no longer be available to southbound travellers.

6.8.552 Travelling **northwards**, the ZTV shows a short stretch – several kilometres – of high theoretical visibility commencing just within the 20km study area, near Middleshaw. There is, however, very unlikely to be any notable visibility over this stretch in reality due to the woodland and other vegetation along the sides of the road. The level of theoretical visibility reduces at Kettleholm and vegetation and buildings will continue to screen and filter many views over the next few kilometres as the road approaches Lockerbie. Where there is visibility of the proposed development, the magnitude of change is unlikely to be above a **medium-low** level due to a combination of limited visibility and distance.

6.8.553 On the southern edge of Lockerbie, theoretical visibility increases again, but the built form of the town will minimise visibility of the proposed development. Here too the maximum magnitude of change is likely to be **medium-low**. As the road leaves the northern edge of Lockerbie, vegetation screening continues for around 1km whereupon the view opens out and a longer outlook can be gained. From here until Sandyford (where the proposed development passes behind the northbound traveller), a distance of approximately 14km, the ZTV shows fairly consistent theoretical visibility, the majority of which is limited to relatively low bands of turbine numbers while theoretical visibility of the upper two brackets (46-75 turbines) is limited to very short stretches. Over this 14km stretch, the proposed development lies between around 12km and just over 1km away from the road. There is woodland along the road and on the skyline in many views from this stretch, and visibility of the proposed development is likely to be very intermittent. Where there is clear visibility, the magnitude of change is likely be a maximum of **medium** on the closer parts, due to the proximity of the proposed development to the route and its location in the broad direction of view for northbound travellers.

6.8.554 At Sandyford, around Viewpoint 3, the B723 continues eastwards and views of the proposed development will no longer be available to northbound travellers.

6.8.555 Travellers in either direction will gain close proximity views of the site entrance that accesses off the B723 to the west of Sandyford, utilising an existing track.

Significance of the effect

6.8.556 The effect of the proposed development on the majority of views from the B723 will be **not significant**. There are, however, several stretches where a **significant** effect is likely to arise.

- For **southbound** travellers, a very intermittent **significant** effect (which will become less intermittent if forestry is felled) is likely to arise on a stretch of approximately 10km between Eskdalemuir and just south of Fenton Yet; and

- For **northbound** travellers, a very intermittent **significant** effect is likely to arise on approximately 14km between the northern edge of Lockerbie and Sandyford.

Cumulative effects

6.8.557 The relevant cumulative wind farms are as follows:

- The group of operational/ consented sites of Ewe Hill, Little Hartfell, Crossdykes, Hopsrig and Loganhead (extremely intermittent and limited theoretical visibility from a minimum of around 5km away);
- The operational sites at Harestanes/ Minnygap (very intermittent and limited theoretical visibility from the Lockerbie area, a minimum of over 14.5km away) and Minsca (extremely intermittent and limited theoretical visibility from a minimum of around 7km away); and
- The application-stage site of Faw Side (very intermittent visibility from a minimum of around 7km away).

6.8.558 The Ewe Hill wind farms lie to the east/ south of the road, and are generally seen in conjunction with each other, as a group, although visibility of each individual site does vary. The minimum distance between the road and the closest of the cumulative wind farms is approximately 5km. Minsca is slightly separate from this group, also to the east of the road, while Harestanes/ Minnygap is to the west.

6.8.559 As a result of their patterns of visibility, these sites will be experienced in different ways by northbound and southbound travellers. Northbound travellers will theoretically be affected by Minsca, Harestanes/ Minnygap, the Ewe Hill group, and Faw Side. Southbound travellers will theoretically be affected by only the Ewe Hill group.

6.8.560 The proposed development itself has been assessed as having a very intermittent significant effect on a stretch of approximately 10km between Eskdalemuir and just south of Fenton Yet, in the area of Viewpoint 3 (for southbound travellers) and on approximately 14km between the northern edge of Lockerbie and Sandyford (for northbound travellers).

6.8.561 There are two potential cumulative scenarios at this viewpoint; the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites (operational, under-construction and consented) and the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites plus the application-stage site at Faw Side.

6.8.562 The baseline wind farms are currently frequently screened and filtered by forestry and woodland along the B723. This, combined with the very intermittent visibility of the proposed development and the frequently peripheral/ perpendicular nature of visibility of cumulative wind farms, ensures that in the baseline scenario the cumulative magnitude of change will be a maximum of **low** for people travelling in either direction.

6.8.563 For northbound travellers, if extensive parts of the forestry and woodland that screens and filters visibility are felled, the addition of the proposed development to the baseline scenario will increase to a maximum **medium-low** cumulative magnitude of change, arising from the following considerations:

- The addition of the proposed development – a wind farm that will have an intermittent/ very intermittent significant effect itself - to views from the road;
- The addition of a further group of development along the route, as the proposed development will affect an aspect of the road that is not currently affected by wind energy development; and
- And, as a result, the visibility of the proposed development from stretches of the road that are not affected by baseline wind farms, so that it extends wind farm influence along the route.

6.8.564 The following considerations limit the theoretical cumulative magnitude of change for northbound travellers to a maximum **medium-low** level:

- The distant, peripheral and perpendicular nature of some visibility of cumulative wind farms and the proposed development, so that they are not always seen in the field of view of travellers on the road;
- The baseline presence of wind farms on both sides of the road, ensuring that the proposed development will not introduce a new influence in the northern/ north-eastern aspect of views;
- The retention of stretches of the road without wind farm influence; and
- The intermittent visibility of the proposed development and cumulative wind farms.

6.8.565 For southbound travellers, the theoretical cumulative magnitude of change will remain a maximum of **low** if extensive parts of the forestry and woodland that screens and filters visibility are felled. This is reduced from the level gained by northbound travellers due to the more limited theoretical visibility of wind farms, with only the Ewe Hill group having influence, which is in itself intermittent, limited, perpendicular and largely relatively distant. Extensive stretches of the road will therefore remain unaffected by wind farm influence.

6.8.566 A scenario that includes the application site at Faw Side, which lies to the north-east of the B723 and will itself have an intermittent significant effect on some limited parts of the road is also considered, for northbound travellers only. The inclusion of Faw Side (with the current woodland screening in place) would result in the addition of the proposed development leading to a **medium** cumulative magnitude of change for northbound travellers, due to the following factors:

- The consideration of another, discrete, wind farm in the outlook, so that the proposed development would create a further node of development;
- The location of Faw Side to the east of the B723, so that the situation to which the proposed development is added displays a more widespread wind farm influence than the baseline only scenario; and
- The level of visibility of Faw Side.

6.8.567 The cumulative effect arising from the addition of the proposed development to the baseline cumulative scenario will be **not significant** for both northbound and southbound travellers due to the factors that lead to the maximum low (with forestry screening in place) cumulative magnitude of change and the medium sensitivity of the route. Should extensive areas of forestry and woodland be felled, leading to higher visibility of both the proposed development and cumulative wind farms, the effect for travellers in both directions would remain **not significant** in the baseline scenario, as the cumulative magnitude of change would remain low for southbound travellers and increase to a medium-low level for northbound travellers.

6.8.568 In a baseline plus application-stage scenario, with the current screening in place, the effect would remain **not significant** for southbound travellers, as the application-stage site at Faw Side is not visible when travelling in this direction. For northbound travellers, however, the consideration of Faw Side as well as baseline sites would lead to a medium cumulative magnitude of change and the effect would become **significant**. Should extensive felling take place, with a resultant increase in visibility, this effect would remain significant, with an increased magnitude of change.

B7020

Baseline and sensitivity

6.8.569 The B7020 runs to the south-west of the site, between Beattock in the north and Annan in the south. Viewpoint 19 is located on the B7020 just north of Lochmaben.

6.8.570 The operational, under-construction and consented cumulative wind farms along the B7020 corridor include Harestanes/ Minnygap, Little Hartfell and Minsca.

6.8.571 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the views from the route and the susceptibility of the viewer to the proposed development. The value of views from the B7020 is medium as it doesn't include any recognised viewpoints or pass through any areas that are designated for their scenic value, although it does run past the Torthorwald Ridge RSA at close proximity. Views from the road are attractive but not particularly scenic. The susceptibility to change of viewers is medium-high as there are three stretches where the Annandale Way runs along the road.

6.8.572 The combination of the medium-high susceptibility to change and the medium value of the views results in a **medium-high** sensitivity for the B7020.

Magnitude of change

6.8.573 The assessment of effects on views from the B7020 focusses on the stretch of the road that lies within a 20km radius of the proposed development as it is considered that there is not potential for a significant effect on views from over 20km away due to a combination of limited visibility and distance.

6.8.574 The magnitude of change on views from the B7020 will vary dependent on the direction of travel, and the southwards and northwards routes are therefore described separately.

6.8.575 Travelling **southwards**, the proposed development has potential to affect a very short stretch of the road – approximately 6km – due to the location of the northern start point of the road on the southern edge of Beattock. The ZTV shows generally high theoretical visibility over this stretch, although there are several short stretches of no visibility.

6.8.576 The maximum magnitude of change over this stretch will be **medium-high**, which will be gained intermittently/ very intermittently as there is considerable roadside planting, including dense screening at the Beattock Gas Compressor Station. The highest type of visibility gained will be similar to that seen in Viewpoint 7, although visibility from the B7020 will be perpendicular and gained by moving viewers, thus reducing the magnitude of change below that seen at this viewpoint.

6.8.577 As the road passes the southern end of the site, the proposed development will pass behind the southbound traveller and views will no longer be available.

6.8.578 Travelling **northwards**, there is high theoretical visibility from the B7020 as it passes into the 20km study area and this continues, with several notable stretches of no visibility near Hightae, Lochmaben and Templand, until the road terminates at Beattock. However, between the edge of the 20km study area and Lochmaben roadside vegetation will screen and filter views and the maximum magnitude of change will be **medium-low**.

6.8.579 As the road leaves the northern edge of Lochmaben, visibility opens out and intermittent views towards the proposed development are available. Viewpoint 19 is just north of Lochmaben and shows a typical view from this stretch, with filtering by trees and other vegetation. Similarly, intermittent/ very intermittent views will continue over approximately 18km between Lochmaben and Beattock, where the road terminates. There is extensive screening by woodland, hedgerows and local landform over this stretch, and clear visibility of the proposed development will be limited. Viewpoint 19 is assessed as having a **medium-low** magnitude of change, and this will also apply to those stretches of the road that gain a similar view from between around 15km and 10km away, dependent on the level of screening. As the road gets closer to the proposed development (it is a minimum of just under 4km away) the maximum magnitude of change will increase to **medium**, gained intermittently/ very intermittently as there is considerable roadside planting.

Significance of the effect

6.8.580 The effect of the proposed development on the majority of views from the B7020 will be **not significant**. There are, however, stretches where an intermittent or very intermittent **significant** effect is likely to arise for southbound and northbound travellers:

- For **southbound** travellers, an intermittent **significant** effect is likely to arise on a stretch of approximately 6km, commencing at the start of the road in Beattock; and
- For **northbound** travellers, an intermittent/ very intermittent **significant** effect is likely to arise on a stretch of approximately 18km between Lochmaben and the end of the road, in Beattock.

6.8.581 These potential significant effects will be gained intermittently or very intermittently by road-users. There is extensive roadside woodland along the B7020 and visibility will be further reduced in summer when deciduous trees are in leaf.

Cumulative effects

6.8.582 The baseline cumulative wind farms along the B7020 corridor (i.e. within approximately 15km of the road) are Harestanes/ Minnygap, Little Hartfell and Minsca. There are no relevant application-stage wind farms and there is one potential cumulative scenario on this route; the addition of the proposed development to baseline sites (operational, under-construction and consented).

6.8.583 Of these wind farms, Harestanes/ Minnygap has the highest theoretical visibility with some stretches of clear but intermittent visibility gained from a minimum of just over 5km away. There are several brief glimpses of Minsca but these are very limited and gained from over 11km away. Visibility of the consented site at Little Hartfell is unlikely to be apparent from the B7020 due to a combination of limited theoretical visibility, screening, and distance (a minimum of over 13km away).

6.8.584 The addition of the proposed development to the **baseline scenario** will have a **medium-low** cumulative magnitude of change for both northbound and southbound travellers. This change will arise from the addition of the proposed development to Minsca, Harestanes and Minnygap, due to the following considerations:

- The addition of the proposed development – a wind farm that will have an intermittent/ very intermittent significant effect itself - to views in which baseline wind farms are theoretically sequentially visible;
- The addition of a further group of development along the route, as the proposed development will affect an aspect of the road that is not currently theoretically affected by wind energy development; and
- And, as a result, the visibility of the proposed development from stretches of the road that are not affected by baseline wind farms, so that it extends wind farm influence along the route.

6.8.585 The following considerations limit the theoretical cumulative magnitude of change to a maximum **medium-low** level:

- The very limited number of cumulative wind farms that are theoretically visible from the road (effectively two – Minsca, and Harestanes/ Minnygap);
- The relatively distant, peripheral and perpendicular nature of visibility of Minsca and, sometimes, the proposed development;
- The baseline presence of wind farms on both the eastern and western sides of the road, so that there is precedent for development to the east, ensuring that the proposed development will not introduce a new influence in this aspect of views;

- The retention of stretches of the road without wind farm influence; and
- The intermittent/ very intermittent visibility of the proposed development and cumulative wind farms.

6.8.586 The cumulative effect arising from the addition of the proposed development to the baseline cumulative scenario will be **not significant** for both northbound and southbound travellers, due to a combination of the factors that lead to the maximum medium-low cumulative magnitude of change and the medium-high sensitivity of the route. This combination of medium-high sensitivity and medium-low cumulative magnitude of change can result in an effect that is either significant or not significant. In this case, the effect is assessed to be not significant due to the limited number of visible wind farms and the very limited/ intermittent and relatively distant visibility of one of them (Minsca).

B7076

Baseline and sensitivity

6.8.587 The B7076 is generally very close in alignment to the A74(M), following the same north-west to south-east route across the study area between Elvanfoot in the north and Gretna in the south, and in part follows the route of the former A74.

6.8.588 Viewpoint 7 is located in the Annandale Water Services, approximately 300m to the east of the B7076.

6.8.589 The operational, under-construction and consented cumulative wind farms along the B7076 corridor are similar to those considered in the assessment of the adjacent stretch of the A74(M), with fewer sites overall given the shorter extent of the route.

6.8.590 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the views from the route and the susceptibility of the viewer to the proposed development. The value of views from the B7076 is medium-high as it overlooks a number of areas that are designated for their scenic value and views from the road are often scenic and representative of the Southern Uplands landscape, resulting in a sense of place. The susceptibility to change of viewers is high as the road forms NCR 74, which runs between Glasgow and Gretna.

6.8.591 The combination of the high susceptibility to change and the medium-high value of the views results in a **high** sensitivity for the B7076.

Magnitude of change

6.8.592 The magnitude of change on views from the B7076 is very similar to that assessed for the stretch of the A74(M) that runs between Elvanfoot and Gretna. There are, however, several minor variations, and these are described below.

6.8.593 The magnitude of change on views from the B7076 will vary depending on the direction of travel, and the southwards and northwards routes are therefore described separately.

6.8.594 Travelling **southwards**, the ZTV shows very intermittent and limited theoretical visibility over several kilometres at the north-western edge of the 20km study area. This is, however, unlikely to be readily apparent due to the nature of the visibility and the cutting and the forestry through which the road passes, and the maximum magnitude of change will be **low** to **medium-low**, as assessed for the A74(M).

6.8.595 The next stretch of visibility is just within 10km of the proposed development, several kilometres north-west of Moffat, where the ZTV shows theoretical visibility over a stretch of just over 3km. Theoretical visibility here is greater than that seen from the A74(M) due to the elevation of this road, and the maximum magnitude of change here will be **medium**, which will be gained intermittently as there is considerable roadside planting. This visibility ceases as the road drops to run alongside the A74(M) and for the next approximately 12.5km, as far as the Annandale Water services, the effect on views from the B7076 is very similar to those on the A74(M) as the roads run close together. The magnitude of change over this stretch will range from a maximum **medium-high**, as assessed at Viewpoint 7, to **negligible** where there is no or very limited visibility. This will be an intermittent/ very intermittent effect due to screening by vegetation along the route; the B7076 lies to the west of the A74(M) and in places has a higher level of screening than the A74(M) due to screen planting between the roads.

6.8.596 Around the turn-off for the Annandale Water Services, the proposed development passes behind the southbound traveller and views of it will no longer be available.

6.8.597 Travelling **northwards**, visibility from the B7076 is broadly similar to that from the A74(M) and the assessment is the same; between Lockerbie and the Annandale Water Services, over a stretch of approximately 13km, visibility will be very intermittent and the maximum magnitude of change will be **medium**, and between Annandale Water Services and around Beattock, over approximately 11km, visibility will be intermittent and the maximum magnitude of change will be **medium-high**, as assessed at Viewpoint 7.

Significance of the effect

6.8.598 The effect of the proposed development on the majority of views from the B7076 will be **not significant**. There are, however, stretches where an intermittent or very intermittent **significant** effect is likely to arise for southbound and northbound travellers:

- For **southbound** travellers, an intermittent **significant** effect is likely to arise on a stretch of approximately 3km north-west of Moffat, and a further 12.5km between a point just north of Beattock in the north and the Annandale Water Services in the south; and
- For **northbound** travellers, a very intermittent **significant** effect may arise on a stretch of approximately 13km between Lockerbie and the Annandale Water Services, and an intermittent **significant** effect is likely to arise on a stretch of approximately 11km between the Annandale Water Services and just to the south of Beattock.

6.8.599 These potential significant effects will be gained intermittently by road-users. There is extensive roadside woodland along the B7076 and visibility will be further reduced in summer when deciduous trees are in leaf.

Cumulative effects

6.8.600 The most relevant cumulative wind farms along the B7076 corridor that theoretically (i.e. not taking local screening by vegetation etc. into account) may be clearly seen in views from the road are as follows:

- The operational sites of Clyde and Extension, Harestanes/ Minnygap, Ewe Hill, Minsca, Solwaybank, Beck Burn, and Hallburn; and
- The consented sites at Crookedstane/ Lion Hill, Little Hartfell, Crossdykes, Hopsrig, Loganhead.

6.8.601 There are no relevant application-stage wind farms.

6.8.602 The operational site with the highest visibility is Clyde and Extension, which is visible at close proximity from extensive parts of the route. Beck Burn is also seen at close proximity but affects a more limited length of the road. Harestanes/ Minnygap, Minsca and Ewe Hill are also visible, albeit from slightly further away and primarily for northbound travellers.

6.8.603 Overall the baseline wind farm sites along the B7076 as it passes through the study area broadly fall into six groups; Clyde and Extension/ Crookedstane/ Lion Hill (east and west of the road); Harestanes/ Minnygap (west

of the road); the Ewe Hill group (east of the road); Minsca (east of the road); Solwaybank (east of the road); and Beck Burn and Hallburn (east of the road).

6.8.604 As a result of their patterns of visibility, these sites will be experienced in different ways by northbound and southbound travellers. Northbound travellers will be affected primarily by Beck Burn/ Hallburn; Solwaybank; Minsca; the Ewe Hill group; Harestanes/ Minnygap; and Clyde and Extension/ Crookedstane/ Lion Hill. Southbound travellers will be affected primarily by Clyde and Extension/ Crookedstane/ Lion Hill; and Beck Burn/ Hallburn.

6.8.605 The proposed development will lie to the east of the road, a minimum of around 2.5km away, and in a part of the eastern setting to the road that is not otherwise affected by baseline or application-stage wind farms.

6.8.606 The proposed development itself has been assessed as having the following intermittent/ very intermittent significant effects:

- For southbound travellers, an intermittent significant effect is likely to arise on a stretch of approximately 3km north-west of Moffat, and a further 12.5km between a point just north of Beattock in the north and the Annandale Water Services in the south; and
- For northbound travellers, a very intermittent significant effect may arise on a stretch of approximately 13km between Lockerbie and the Annandale Water Services, and an intermittent significant effect is likely to arise on a stretch of approximately 11km between the Annandale Water Services and just to the south of Beattock.

6.8.607 For northbound travellers in the **baseline scenario**, over these stretches where a significant effect is likely to arise from the proposed development itself, the theoretical cumulative magnitude of change will be a maximum of **medium**, arising from the following considerations:

- The addition of the proposed development – a wind farm that will have a significant effect itself - to views in which baseline wind farms are sequentially visible;
- People travelling northbound gain theoretical visibility of the six groups of cumulative wind energy development;
- The addition of a further group of development along the route, as the proposed development will affect an aspect of the road that is not currently affected by wind energy development; and
- And, as a result, the visibility of the proposed development from stretches of the road that are not affected by baseline wind farms, so that it extends wind farm influence along the route.

6.8.608 The following considerations limit the theoretical cumulative magnitude of change for northbound travellers to a maximum **medium** level:

- The length of the road as it passes through the study area (74km), which ensures that there are stretches with no wind farm influence despite the level of theoretical visibility;
- The peripheral and perpendicular nature of some visibility of cumulative wind farms and the proposed development, so that they are not always seen in the field of view of travellers on the road;
- The baseline presence of wind farms on both the eastern and western sides of the road, so that there is precedent for development to the east, ensuring that the proposed development will not introduce a new influence in this aspect of views;
- The retention of stretches of the road without wind farm influence; and
- The intermittent visibility of the proposed development and cumulative wind farms.

6.8.609 For southbound travellers in the **baseline scenario** the theoretical cumulative magnitude of change will be a maximum of **medium-low**. This is reduced from the level gained by northbound travellers due to the more limited theoretical visibility of baseline wind farms, with only two of the groups having influence, and the more extensive stretches of the road that will remain unaffected by wind farm influence. The long length of the route is also relevant, as the cumulative wind farms are spread out between the northern and southern ends of the road.

6.8.610 The cumulative effect on the majority of the B7076, including all of the southbound route, will be **not significant**. There will, however, be an intermittent or very intermittent **significant** cumulative effect over the stretches of the northbound road where the proposed development itself will have an intermittent significant effect, due to the factors that lead to the maximum medium cumulative magnitude of change and the high sensitivity of the route. These stretches are a very intermittent significant effect on a stretch of approximately 13km between Lockerbie and the Annandale Water Services, and an intermittent significant effect on a stretch of approximately 11km between the Annandale Water Services and just to the south of Beattock.

6.8.611 It should be noted that these significant cumulative effects only have potential to arise when travellers are following the full route of the B7076 through the study area; visibility of all of the relevant wind farms will not be available to people using a shorter part of the road, and cumulative effects would in that case either be more limited or not arise at all.

Core Paths

Baseline and sensitivity

6.8.612 Two core paths run across the site itself – D&G 312 (Boreland to Southern Upland Way) and D&G 331 (Laverhay to Southern Upland Way) and there are a number of others in the 20km study area. The paths considered are those that are shown on DGC and SBC 'core paths' mapping, available online. Core paths that lie within 20km of the nearest turbine in the proposed development are shown on Figure 6.6b and in conjunction with the ZTV on Figure 6.13b.

6.8.613 It is not possible to accurately assess the effects on views from all of these routes individually, but broad conclusions can be drawn from the viewpoint assessment and assessment of effects on principal visual receptors as to the level of visibility and effect that the proposed development will have on the core path network within a 20km radius. Relevant considerations are as follows:

- Viewpoints 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15 and 16 lie within 10km of the proposed development;
- Viewpoints 12, 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21 are between 10km and 20km away;
- Viewpoint 22 is between 20km and 25km away; and
- Viewpoints 1, 2, 4, 8, 10, 19 and 22 are located on or close to core paths and represent views that will be gained by walkers.

6.8.614 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the views from the core paths and the susceptibility of viewers to the proposed development. The value of views from paths varies according to the specific views that are gained, as described in the viewpoint assessment. This is dependent on, for example, the presence of any landscape-related designations (i.e. RSA) and the level of scenic attraction seen in views from paths. However, for the purpose of this specific assessment of effects on views from core paths, it has been assumed that the value of views will be high as this reflects the highest possible level of value, which is appropriate for users of these recognised and nationally-documented routes.

6.8.615 The susceptibility to change of viewers is also high as views from core paths will be gained by walkers who are engaging in outdoor recreation and likely to have a specific focus on the views available.

6.8.616 The combination of the high susceptibility to change of viewers and the high value of the views results in a high sensitivity for views from the core path network.

Magnitude of change

6.8.617 The magnitude of change on views from the network of core paths that lie within 20km of the nearest turbine in the proposed development is considered to be broadly represented by the 21 viewpoints that are located within this 20km radius, and most specifically by the six viewpoints that are located on or near core paths within this radius.

6.8.618 There are 15 viewpoints within 10km of the proposed development, as listed above, of which two are assessed to have a high magnitude of change; six a medium-high magnitude of change, six a medium magnitude of change and one a medium-low magnitude of change.

6.8.619 The occurrence of the high and medium-high level of change at these viewpoints is due primarily to the proximity and level of visibility of the proposed development, and the extent of the view that it will affect. Where a medium magnitude of change arises, this is as a result of more limited visibility of the proposed development at various distances from the proposed development (between 1.09km and 9.85km away).

6.8.620 Beyond the 10km band, the magnitude of change drops. There are six viewpoints (Viewpoints 12, 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21) that lie between 10km and 20km from the nearest turbine in the proposed development, of which three have a medium magnitude of change, one has a medium/ medium-low magnitude of change and two have a medium-low magnitude of change. These varying levels of change arise from the differing levels of visibility of the proposed development that are gained at these more distant viewpoints, and the setting in which the proposed development is seen.

6.8.621 Bearing in mind that the viewpoints have generally been located so as to gain an open and clear view of the proposed development that represents its visibility from specific parts of the study area, it may be assumed that the pattern of visibility from core paths will be broadly similar to that seen at the viewpoints, and that the variables that affect the level of magnitude of change at viewpoints will also apply more widely to each distance band. It may therefore be concluded that where there is clear and open visibility of the proposed development from core path routes within approximately 10km of the nearest turbine, the magnitude of change is likely to be between medium-low and high. Where the proposed development is visible but visibility is more limited (due to screening by landform and vegetation for example), the magnitude of change is likely to be lower and there will be extensive locations where the magnitude of change is low or negligible, or there is no visibility at all, as shown on the ZTV.

6.8.622 Between 10km and 20km from the nearest turbine, the magnitude of change will generally be no greater than medium, and will often be lower than this (as seen at Viewpoints 17 and 18) due to a combination of landform and vegetation screening, distance, the context in which the proposed development is seen, and the relatively small proportion of views that will be affected by the proposed development.

6.8.623 Beyond 20km away it is relevant to look at Viewpoint 22, which is just over 20km away from the proposed development. Viewpoint 22, located on a core path, is assessed as having a high sensitivity, a medium-low magnitude of change and a not significant effect due to the very small proportion of the view that will be affected by the proposed development, its distance from the viewpoint, the recessive appearance of the proposed development in the view, and its appearance in a part of the view that is already affected by wind energy development. It is very unlikely that significant visual effects will arise beyond 20km from the proposed development, given that Viewpoint 22 (which is 20.48km away) has a high sensitivity and the proposed development is seen at its full extent of 75 turbines. Viewpoint 22 would thus present the highest level of sensitivity and visibility of the proposed development gained from just over 20km away, and is assessed as not significant.

6.8.624 It is also relevant to note that Viewpoint 17, which is over 15km from the proposed development, has a medium/ medium-low magnitude of change and is assessed as having a significant effect. This viewpoint is borderline significant/ not significant and has specific and individual reasons that result in the significant assessment. It is therefore entirely possible that not significant effects could arise at less than 20km away from the proposed development, even where there is clear and open high visibility of the proposed development.

6.8.625 Figure 6.13b shows core paths in relation to the ZTV out to a 20km radius. These figures show that there are a number of core paths within a 20km radius, including the long-distance footpaths that are assessed in greater detail elsewhere. Views from parts of these core paths that gain clear and open views of the proposed development are likely to undergo a high, medium-high or medium magnitude of change, while elsewhere the magnitude of change will be lower.

6.8.626 Beyond 10km from the proposed development, there are further networks of core paths. Where there is a clear and open outlook of the proposed development from these routes, the magnitude of change on views from the paths is likely to be a maximum of medium (between 10km and 15km away) and medium/ medium-low or medium-low (between 15km and 20km). Again, in many areas the magnitude of change will be lower due to limited, or lack of, visibility of the proposed development.

Significance of the effect

6.8.627 The effect of the proposed development on views from core paths within 20km of the nearest turbine in the proposed development will vary according to the level and type of visibility that is gained. The viewpoint assessment indicates that where a clear, open view with high visibility of the proposed development is available from within approximately 15km, the effect is likely to be significant due to a combination of the medium/ medium-low to high magnitude of change on views and the high sensitivity that has been attributed to core paths as visual receptors. This will apply, for example, to sections of the paths on or near to where Viewpoints 1, 2, 4, 8 and 10 are located. There are, however, considerable stretches of paths within a 10km radius where visibility of the proposed development is more limited and the effect will be not significant due to a magnitude of change that is medium-low or lower.

6.8.628 Between 10km and 20km from the nearest turbine, the viewpoint assessment indicates that the maximum magnitude of change on views is likely to be medium, and significant effects on views will arise where there is a medium (or in some cases, a medium-low) magnitude of change combined with the high sensitivity accorded to core paths as visual receptors. Significant effects will become notably fewer as distance from the proposed development increases, and from beyond around 17km away, are likely to arise only in very specific circumstances. Again, there are considerable stretches of paths between 10km and 20km away where visibility of the proposed development is more limited and the effect will be not significant.

6.8.629 Beyond 20km from the proposed development, significant effects are extremely unlikely to arise, as described above in relation to Viewpoint 22, although it is possible that borderline significant effects may be assessed in very specific circumstances.

Cumulative effects

6.8.630 The cumulative magnitude of change on views from the network of core paths that lie within 20km of the nearest turbine in the proposed development is considered to be broadly represented by the 21 viewpoints that are located within this 20km radius, and most specifically by the viewpoints that are located on or near core paths.

6.8.631 Of the 15 viewpoints (Viewpoints 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15 and 16) that lie within 10km of the proposed development, ten are assessed as having not significant cumulative effects in both the baseline and baseline plus application-stage scenarios, due to lack, or very limited, presence of cumulative wind farms. Of the remaining five, four are assessed as having a significant cumulative effect in both the baseline and baseline plus application-stage wind farm scenarios, while one is assessed as having a not significant cumulative effect in the baseline scenario and a **significant** effect in the baseline plus application-stage scenario.

6.8.632 Three of the significant effects arise at hilltop viewpoints that gain extensive views of surrounding wind energy development and gain high visibility of the proposed development, while the other two are at more local high points.

6.8.633 There are six viewpoints that lie between 10km and 20km away. Of these, three are assessed to have not significant cumulative effects, while the remaining three are assessed to have significant cumulative effects in both the baseline and baseline plus application-stage wind farm scenarios. All of these significant effects arise at hilltop viewpoints that gain extensive views of surrounding wind energy development as well as visibility of the proposed development.

6.8.634 The viewpoints have generally (but not always) been located so as to gain an open and clear view of the proposed development that represents its visibility from specific parts of the study area, and it may be assumed that the pattern of cumulative visibility from core paths will be generally similar to that seen at the viewpoints. However, core paths often run across high ground, where visibility of cumulative wind farms is likely to be higher (although there is extensive screening by forestry in some locations), and there may therefore be a tendency for cumulative effects to be more apparent in views from core paths.

6.8.635 Broadly, it may be concluded that where there is clear, open and reasonably high visibility of the proposed development and a number of cumulative wind farms from high points on core path routes within approximately 17-18km of the nearest turbine in the proposed development, there is potential for the cumulative effect to be significant.

6.8.636 There will, of course, be extensive parts of the core path network where there will be no cumulative effects due to lack of or limited visibility of the proposed development and/or cumulative wind farms, as seen at a number of the viewpoints.

Annandale Way

6.8.637 The Annandale Way, one of Scotland's Great Trails, is a 90km long distance walking route that follows the River Annan from its source near the Devil's Beef Tub, in the Moffat Hills, to the Solway Firth. The route begins at Moffat with a circuit to the north around the Devil's Beef Tub before looping back to Moffat and travelling southwards through Annandale. The route divides into two at Corncockle Wood, around 24km south of Moffat, where the more strenuous option continues south via Lochmaben whilst the easier branch goes south-east through Lockerbie. The two routes differ for around 19km and reunite just north of Hoddom Bridge, from where a single route continues to Annan before finishing on the Solway Firth coastline, where the River Annan enters the sea.

6.8.638 According to Scotland's Great Trails website, this route is traditionally walked from north to south, following the River Annan from source to sea, but reversing this direction is possible and can avoid walking into the prevailing wind.

6.8.639 Viewpoint 10 is located on the Annandale Way to the north of Moffat (at the point where it crosses the A701), and Viewpoint 19 is on the Lochmaben branch of the divided part of the route.

6.8.640 There are a number of operational, under-construction and consented cumulative wind farms along the Annandale Way corridor (i.e. within approximately 15km of the route) that may theoretically be seen in views from the path. These include, starting in the north; Clyde and Extension, Crookedstane, Lion Hill, Whitelaw Brae, Harestanes/ Minnygap, Dalswinton, Little Hartfell, the Ewe Hill group, and Minsca.

6.8.641 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the views from the route and the susceptibility of the viewer to the operational phase of the proposed development. The value of views from the Annandale Way is medium-high. The northern loop of the route travels through the Moffat Hills RSA, with a very short stretch also within WLA 29, and a short stretch also passes through the Torthorwald Ridge RSA. There are also some scenic stretches of the route, particularly on the northern loop, and the recognition of the route as one of Scotland's Great Trails also adds value.

6.8.642 The susceptibility to change of viewers will be high; walkers following the route are partaking in outdoor recreation on a recognised national trail and are likely to have a specific focus on the scenery and surrounding landscape.

6.8.643 The combination of the high susceptibility to change of the viewers and the medium-high value of the views available results in a **high** sensitivity for the Annandale Way.

Magnitude of change and the significance of the effect

6.8.644 At its closest point, the Annandale Way passes approximately 4.75km to the north-west of the proposed development. The assessment of effects on views from the Annandale Way focusses on the stretch that lies within a 20km radius of the proposed development as it is considered that there is not potential for a significant effect on views from over 20km away due to limited visibility and distance from the proposed development.

6.8.645 The magnitude of change is not assessed separately for northbound and southbound walkers on this route due to the geographical relationship of the proposed development with the route and the pattern of theoretical visibility, which ensures that the theoretical level of influence of the proposed development will be similar for people walking in either direction.

6.8.646 The ZTV shows intermittent theoretical visibility of various levels from much of the Annandale Way as it passes through the study area. Notable stretches where there is *no* theoretical visibility can be found, which include the following:

- At the northern end of the route, as it loops around the Devil's Beef Tub - approximately 2km to the south of Spout Crag, 1km to the west of the Devil's Beef Tub, 1.8km between Newton and Howslack,
- The central part of the route - approximately 3km, to the north of St Anns; and
- The southern part of the route – a number of shorter stretches, up to 1km long, near Templand, Millhousebridge, Lochmaben, Parkend, Hightae and west of Lockerbie.

6.8.647 Elsewhere, the actual visibility of the proposed development will vary widely dependent on the level of theoretical visibility (which ranges from 1-75 turbines) and screening by woodland, hedgerows, buildings and

other infrastructure along the route. In many sections, as with the roads, there will be very limited or no actual visibility due to screening despite high theoretical visibility. This is particularly true of the Annandale Way as it passes through countryside that is characterised by extensive woodland, forestry, hedgerows and other screening elements such as buildings in villages and towns.

6.8.648 Viewpoints 10 and 19 illustrate the higher level of visibility that may be gained from the route where open views are available. These viewpoints are assessed as having a **medium** and **medium-low** magnitude of change respectively, and these levels of change will also apply to the parts of the Annandale Way from where clear and open views of the proposed development are gained from within around 15-16km. A number of other viewpoints that lie between around 4.5km and 15-16km from the proposed development (e.g. Viewpoints 7, 8, 9, 11 and 18) provide an illustration of its possible appearance, as although they do not lie on the Annandale Way itself they do represent the type of visibility that may be gained from within Annandale.

6.8.649 Beyond around 15-16km, the magnitude of change on views from the Annandale Way will reduce to a **medium-low** and then **low** level due to a combination of reduced visibility, distancer, and increased layers of screening vegetation that lie between the route and the proposed development.

Significance of the effect

6.8.650 The effect of the proposed development on many views from the Annandale Way will be **not significant** due to lack of theoretical visibility or screening and filtering by vegetation and buildings**.** This is likely to apply to extensive stretches of the route due to the extent of woodland, forestry, hedgerows and other screening features that characterise Annandale. However, where there is clear and open visibility of a moderate to high level (a medium magnitude of change, and in some cases a medium-low magnitude of change), within approximately 18km of the proposed development, the effect is likely to be **significant**. This is due to a combination of the factors that lead to a high sensitivity for the route and a medium to medium-low magnitude of change upon views from it.

Cumulative effects

6.8.651 There are a number of operational, under-construction and consented cumulative wind farms along the Annandale Way corridor (i.e. within approximately 15km of the route) that may theoretically be seen in views from the path. These include, starting in the north; Clyde and Extension, Crookedstane, Lion Hill, Whitelaw Brae, Harestanes/ Minnygap, Dalswinton, the Ewe Hill group, Minsca, and Solwaybank.

6.8.652 However, ZTVs indicate that visibility of Whitelaw Brae, Dalswinton, the Ewe Hill group and Solwaybank is very limited and intermittent and, where gained, relatively distant. Crookedstane and Lion Hill are unlikely to be distinguishable from Clyde. The most relevant sites are therefore Clyde and Extension, which lies a minimum of around 4km from the northern extremity of the route; Harestanes/ Minnygap, a minimum of around 3.5km to the west; and Minsca, 8km to the east.

6.8.653 There are no relevant application-stage sites to be considered in the cumulative assessment.

6.8.654 In the **baseline scenario**, the cumulative magnitude of change arising from the addition of the proposed development is likely to be a maximum of **medium-low** due to the addition of the proposed development, a wind farm with a significant effect itself, to Clyde, Harestanes/ Minnygap and Minsca Wind Farms. The cumulative magnitude of change will, however, generally be lower than this, and for much of the route there are likely to be **negligible** cumulative effects due to lack of visibility of other wind farms. The limited cumulative effects are exemplified at Viewpoints 10 and 19, which have no or minimal visibility of other wind farms.

6.8.655 The cumulative effect on the majority of the Annandale Way will be **not significant** due to lack of visibility of the proposed development and/ or other wind farms due to screening by landform and forestry, woodland, and hedgerows. However, s**ignificant** cumulative effects may arise on the intermittent or very intermittent parts of the route where the proposed development itself is assessed to have potential for a significant effect. This significant effect would arise as a result of the high sensitivity of the route and the maximum medium-low cumulative magnitude of change in the baseline scenario.

6.8.656 It should be noted that the significant cumulative effect only has potential to arise when people are following the full route of the Annandale Way through the study area; visibility of the relevant wind farms will not be available to people using a shorter part of the path, and cumulative effects would in that case either be more limited or not arise at all.

Romans and Reivers Route

Baseline and sensitivity

6.8.657 The Romans and Reivers Route, approximately 86km long, runs across the northern part of the study area between Ae and Hawick. This route, which can be used by walkers, cyclists or horse-riders, links with the Annandale Way and Southern Upland Way over several stretches to the north of the site and is one of Scotland's Great Trails.

6.8.658 The South of Scotland Countryside Trails website includes the following description of the Romans and Reivers Route:

"*Romans and Reivers route follows old Roman roads, forest tracks, drove roads and short sections of quiet lane through the heart of notorious Reivers country, providing enjoyable walking, cycling and riding through the Southern Uplands. It is mainly through sheltered woodland and forestry, with some sections through more open farmland*."

6.8.659 Viewpoints 1, 2 and 8 are located on the Romans and Reivers Route.

6.8.660 There are a number of operational, under-construction and consented cumulative wind farms along the Romans and Reivers Route corridor (i.e. within approximately 15km of the route) that may theoretically be seen in views from the path. These include, starting in the west; Harestanes/ Minnygap, Lion Hill/ Crookedstane/ Clyde and Extension, the Ewe Hill group (including Little Hartfell), Pines Burn, and Langhope Rig.

6.8.661 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the views from the route and the susceptibility of the viewer to the proposed development. The value of views from the Romans and Reivers Route is medium. The route does not include any recognised viewpoints, and travels through extensive areas of forestry. However, a short section does pass thorough the Moffat Hills RSA, and, in places, views from the route are scenic. The recognition of the route as one of Scotland's Great Trails also adds value.

6.8.662 The susceptibility to change of viewers will be high; walkers, cyclists and horse-riders following the route are partaking in outdoor recreation on a recognised national trail and are likely to have a specific focus on the scenery and surrounding landscape.

6.8.663 In this instance, the combination of the high susceptibility to change of the viewers and the medium value of the views available results in a **high** sensitivity. This is because the high susceptibility of viewers is considered to outweigh the medium value of the views available, due to the recognition of the Romans and Reivers Route as one of Scotland's Great Trails.

Magnitude of change and the significance of the effect

6.8.664 At its closest point, the Romans and Reivers Route passes approximately 300m to the north of the proposed development. The assessment of effects on views from the Romans and Reivers Route focusses on the stretch that lies within a 20km radius of the proposed development. To the west, it does not extend beyond 20km from the proposed development, and to the east, theoretical visibility beyond 20km away is extremely intermittent and limited.

6.8.665 The ZTV shows intermittent theoretical visibility of the proposed development from four stretches of the Romans and Reivers Route as it passes through the study area, as described below:

- Section 1: intermittent/ very intermittent theoretical visibility ranging from 1-75 turbines, over approximately 5km as the route passes through Harestanes Wind Farm within the Forest of Ae, between approximately 11.5km and 15km from the proposed development;
- Section 2: intermittent theoretical visibility ranging from 1-75 turbines over approximately 14km between Hareshaw Rig, in the northern part of the Forest of Ae, and a point east of Moffat, between approximately 11km and 3.5km from the proposed development (Viewpoint 8 is on this stretch);
- Section 3: intermittent theoretical visibility ranging from 1-75 turbines (with very limited stretches of the upper brackets) over approximately 12km of the route as it passes the northern end of the site, between approximately 300m and 3.5km from the proposed development (Viewpoints 1 and 2 are on this stretch); and
- Section 4: intermittent theoretical visibility ranging from 1-75 turbines (with very limited stretches of the upper brackets) over approximately 11km between Garwald and Craik Cross Hill, between approximately 5km and 13.5km from the proposed development.

6.8.666 Other parts of the route gain no, or very limited and distant, theoretical visibility of the proposed development.

6.8.667 Over the four sections described above, there is extensive screening of visibility, particularly by forestry in sections 1, 3 and 4, but also by woodland and hedgerows, and the actual level of visibility of the proposed development is dynamic due to ongoing felling and replanting programmes. When felling is carried out, it is not possible to predict the level of visibility of the proposed development that would be revealed as this would depend on the areas that are felled; even if coupes along the route are felled, other unfelled coupes may provide intervening screening, and more recently planted areas will also grow up to provide screening.

6.8.668 Viewpoints 1, 2 and 8 illustrate the higher level of visibility that may be gained from the route where open views are available. Viewpoint 2 is assessed as having a **high** magnitude of change, and this level of change will only be found on a very short stretch of Section 3 in the vicinity of Viewpoint 2. Elsewhere, the maximum magnitude of change on Sections 2 and 3 will be **medium-high**, as seen at Viewpoints 1 and 8, and the maximum magnitude of change on Sections 1 and 4 will be **medium** due to the more limited and distant visibility.

6.8.669 Extensive parts of these three stretches will gain no views of the proposed development due to screening by landform or vegetation, and elsewhere the magnitude of change will be **negligible** or **low**, where visibility is gained but to a lesser degree and from a greater distance.

Significance of the effect

6.8.670 The effect of the proposed development on views from the majority of the Romans and Reivers Route will be **not significant** due to lack of theoretical visibility or screening and filtering by vegetation (particularly forestry) and buildings. However, over four stretches (totalling approximately 42km), there is potential for intermittent or very intermittent **significant** effects to arise where there is clear and open visibility of a moderate to high level (a medium-high to medium magnitude of change, and in some cases a medium-low magnitude of change). This is due to a combination of the factors that lead to a high sensitivity for the route and a high to medium-low magnitude of change upon views from it. The several very small areas with visibility that lie beyond these two stretches will have a maximum low magnitude of change, and the effect will be **not significant**.

Cumulative effects

6.8.671 Overall theoretical conclusions have been drawn as to the cumulative effects of the proposed development from the Romans and Reivers Route due to the difficulty in accurately analysing visibility of the proposed development and other wind farms, given the forested nature of much of the route.

6.8.672 There are a number of cumulative wind farms along the Romans and Reivers Route corridor (i.e. within approximately 15km of the route) that may theoretically be seen in views from the path. These include, starting in the west; Harestanes/ Minnygap (through which the route passes), Lion Hill/ Crookedstane/ Clyde and Extension, the Ewe Hill group (including Little Hartfell), Pines Burn, and Langhope Rig.

6.8.673 In the **baseline scenario**, the key relevant cumulative site is Harestanes, through which the route passes. Other sites are generally relatively distant and unlikely to exert a notable level of influence on views, as exemplified at Viewpoints 1, 2 and 8, all of which have no or minimal visibility of other wind farms. The cumulative magnitude of change in the baseline scenario is likely to be a maximum of **medium-low** due to the addition of the proposed development, an immediately apparent wind farm with a significant effect itself, to Harestanes Wind Farm. The cumulative magnitude of change will, however, generally be lower than this, and for much of the route there are likely to be negligible cumulative effects due to lack of visibility of other wind farms.

6.8.674 In a **baseline plus application-stage scenario**, the most relevant application-stage site is Faw Side, which lies a minimum of around 7km to the south of the Romans and Reivers Route, east of the proposed development. Faw Side is assessed to have potential to result in theoretical significant effects on some limited stretches of the route and would theoretically add a third node of large-scale wind energy development along the route. This would lead to an increase in the cumulative magnitude of change to a **medium** level, with three very readily apparent wind farms along the route.

6.8.675 The cumulative effect on the majority of the Romans and Reivers Route will be **not significant** due to lack of visibility of the proposed development and/ or other wind farms due to screening by landform and forestry, woodland, and hedgerows. However, **significant** cumulative effects may arise on the intermittent or very intermittent parts of Section 1, 2, 3 and 4 where the proposed development itself is assessed to have potential for a significant effect. This significant effect would arise as a result of the high sensitivity of the route and the maximum medium-low cumulative magnitude of change in the baseline scenario, and the maximum medium magnitude of change in the baseline plus application-stage scenario.

6.8.676 It should be noted that the significant cumulative effects only have potential to arise when people are following the full route of the Romans and Reivers Route through the study area; visibility of the relevant wind farms will not be available to people using a shorter part of the path, and cumulative effects would in that case either be more limited or not arise at all.

Southern Upland Way

Baseline and sensitivity

6.8.677 The Southern Upland Way crosses the south of Scotland from Portpatrick on the south-west coast to Cockburnspath on the east coast, covering 344km in total. The central section of the route, between St John's

Town of Dalry (usually known as Dalry) in the west and Galashiels in the east, passes through the study area for the proposed development. Walkers are encouraged to travel from west to east along the Southern Upland Way in order to benefit from having both the sun and the prevailing wind behind them.

6.8.678 Viewpoints 1 and 8 are located on the Southern Upland Way.

6.8.679 There are a number of operational, under-construction and consented cumulative wind farms along the Southern Upland Way (i.e. within approximately 15km of the route as it passes through the study area) that may theoretically be seen in views from the path. These include Wether Hill, Whiteside Hill, Lorg, Twenty Shilling, Sanquhar, Sanquhar Six, Sandy Knowe, Andershaw, Middle Muir, Kennoxhead, Glenmuckloch, Clyde and Extension, Crookedstane, Lion Hill, Harestanes/ Minnygap, and Langhope Rig.

6.8.680 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the views from the route and the susceptibility of the viewer to the operational phase of the proposed development. The value of views from the Southern Upland Way is high. The route passes through a number of scenic designations, and views from the route are scenic and varied. The recognition of the route as one of Scotland's Great Trails also adds value.

6.8.681 The susceptibility to change of viewers will be high; walkers, cyclists and horse-riders following the route are partaking in outdoor recreation on a recognised national trail and are likely to have a specific focus on the scenery and surrounding landscape.

6.8.682 The combination of the high susceptibility to change of the viewers and the high value of the views available results in a **high** sensitivity for the Southern Upland Way.

Magnitude of change and the significance of the effect

6.8.683 At its closest point, the Southern Upland Way passes approximately 1.3km to the north of the proposed development. The magnitude of change is not assessed separately for eastbound and westbound walkers on this route due to the geographical relationship of the proposed development with the route and the pattern of theoretical visibility, which ensures that the theoretical level of influence of the proposed development will be similar for people walking in either direction. It is also the case that walkers may stop and turn around to enjoy the view in all directions at any point on the route.

6.8.684 The ZTV shows intermittent theoretical visibility of various levels over two main stretches of the Southern Upland Way:

- Approximately 21km stretch between Hods Hill (east of Dear Reservoir) and the eastern side of Moffat, where theoretical visibility varies from 1-75 turbines (Viewpoint 8 is located on this stretch), and the route is between 3.75km and 15.5km away from the proposed development; and
- Approximately 5km stretch immediately to the north of the proposed development, between 1.3km and 3.1km away, where theoretical visibility is almost all 1-15 turbines, with one very short stretch (several hundred metres long) of 16-30 turbines, where Viewpoint 1 is located.

6.8.685 These two stretches of theoretical visibility are separated by a 3km long stretch of no visibility as the route drops down into Moffat Dale.

6.8.686 In addition to these two stretches, there are several very short stretches that are shown to gain theoretical visibility from over 20km away. These include Lowther Hill (26km away), Cold Moss (25km away), Comb Head (24km away), Blakehope Rig (27km away), and a longer stretch at Hare Law, Brown Knowe, and Three Brethren, a minimum of 36km away.

6.8.687 Over the two sections described above, there is extensive screening of visibility, particularly by forestry but also by woodland and hedgerows, and the actual level of visibility of the proposed development is dynamic due to ongoing felling and replanting programmes. When felling is carried out, it is not possible to predict the level of visibility of the proposed development that would be revealed as this would depend on the areas that are felled; even if coupes along the route are felled, other unfelled coupes may provide intervening screening, and more recently planted areas will also grow up to provide screening.

6.8.688 Viewpoints 1 and 8 illustrate the higher level of visibility that may be gained from the route where open views are available. These viewpoints are both assessed as having a **medium-high** magnitude of change, and this level of change will be the maximum found on the two stretches of the route that gain visibility, as described above, which lie between around 1.3km and 15.5km away from the proposed development. Many parts of these stretches will gain no views of the proposed development due to screening by landform or vegetation, and elsewhere the magnitude of change will be between **negligible** and **medium**, where visibility is gained but to a lesser degree and from a greater distance. A **medium-low**, **medium**, or **medium-high** magnitude of change is likely to arise intermittently or very intermittently, dependent on local screening.

6.8.689 The short stretches of distant visibility at Cold Moss, Comb Head, Blakehope Rig, and Hare Law, Brown Knowe, and Three Brethren are likely to have a maximum **low** magnitude of change as the level of visibility of the proposed development from these relatively distant points is limited. Visibility at Lowther Hill is higher, with 61-75 turbines theoretically visible at the summit, but the distance of this viewpoint from the proposed development – around 26km – restrict the magnitude of change to a **low** level.

Significance of the effect

6.8.690 The effect of the proposed development on views from the great majority of the Southern Upland Way will be **not significant** due to lack of theoretical visibility or screening and filtering by vegetation (particularly forestry) and buildings**.** However, over two stretches (totalling approximately 26km), there is potential for intermittent or very intermittent **significant** effects to arise where there is clear and open visibility of a moderate to high level (a medium-high to medium magnitude of change, and in some cases a medium-low magnitude of change). This is due to a combination of the factors that lead to a high sensitivity for the route and a medium-high to medium-low magnitude of change upon views from it. The several very small areas with visibility that lie beyond these two stretches will have a maximum low magnitude of change, and the effect will be **not significant.**

Cumulative effects

6.8.691 There are a number of operational, under-construction and consented cumulative wind farms along the Southern Upland Way corridor (i.e. within approximately 15km of the route as it passes through the study area) that may theoretically be seen in views from the path. These include Whiteside Hill, Wether Hill, Lorg, Twenty Shilling, Sanquhar, Sanquhar Six, Sandy Knowe, Andershaw, Middle Muir, Kennoxhead, Glenmuckloch, Clyde and Extension, Crookedstane, Lion Hill, Harestanes/ Minnygap, and Langhope Rig. Application-stage wind farms within the corridor include North Lowther, Sanquhar II, Twenty Shilling Resubmission, and Lorg Variation.

6.8.692 The key relevant baseline sites, at closest proximity to the route within the study area and with the highest level of influence include Lorg, Wether Hill, Whiteside Hill, Twenty Shilling, Clyde and Harestanes/ Minnygap. Key application-stage sites include North Lowther (through which the Southern Upland Way passes) and Twenty Shilling Resubmission.

6.8.693 In the **baseline scenario**, the cumulative magnitude of change arising from the addition of the proposed development is likely to be a maximum of **medium** due to the addition of the proposed development, a wind

farm with a significant effect itself, to the existing extensive baseline situation. This arises primarily from the location of the proposed development in an otherwise undeveloped part of the setting to the route where it will add notable wind farm influence to an aspect that is not otherwise affected by close-proximity baseline wind farms. The cumulative magnitude of change is limited to this level by the limited visibility of the proposed development to the east, so that an extensive stretch of the route in this direction will remain unaffected by wind farms. It is also relevant that the proposed development lies to the south of the Southern Upland Way, in the same direction as Harestanes, so it will not introduce a new precedent for development to the south of the route as it passes through Annandale.

6.8.694 The often limited visibility of other wind farms is exemplified at Viewpoints 1 and 8, which have no and limited visibility of other wind farms respectively.

6.8.695 In a **baseline plus application-stage scenario**, the consideration of Twenty Shilling Resubmission would not alter the medium cumulative magnitude of change as it would not result in a major change over the under construction Twenty Shilling site. The consideration of North Lowther would, however, lead to an increase to a maximum **medium-high** cumulative magnitude of change as the Southern Upland Way passes through this site, and in that context the proposed development would add a further close-proximity influence.

6.8.696 The cumulative effect of the proposed development on the majority of the Southern Upland Way will be **not significant** due to lack of visibility of the proposed development and/ or other wind farms due to screening by landform and forestry, woodland, and hedgerows. However, **significant** cumulative effects may arise on the intermittent or very intermittent parts of the two stretches (totalling approximately 26km) where the proposed development itself is assessed to have potential for a significant effect. This significant effect would arise as a result of the high sensitivity of the route and the maximum medium cumulative magnitude of change in the baseline scenario, and the maximum medium-high magnitude of change in the baseline plus application-stage scenario.

6.8.697 It should be noted that the significant cumulative effect only has potential to arise when people are following the full route of the Southern Upland Way through the study area; visibility of the relevant wind farms will not be available to people using a shorter part of the path, and cumulative effects would in that case either be more limited or not arise at all.

West Coast Mainline Railway

Baseline and sensitivity

6.8.698 The West Coast mainline railway is generally very close in alignment to the A74(M), following the same north-west to south-east route across the study area between Abington in the north and Carlisle in the south. The stretch of the railway north of Abington runs to the east of the A74(M), towards Carstairs.

6.8.699 Viewpoint 7 is located in the Annandale Water Services, approximately 1km to the west of the railway.

6.8.700 The operational, under-construction and consented cumulative wind farms along the railway corridor are similar to those considered in the assessment of the adjacent stretch of the A74(M), with fewer sites overall given the different route that it takes in the northern part of the study area.

6.8.701 Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value attached to the views from the route and the susceptibility of the viewer to the proposed development. The value of views from the West Coast mainline is medium as it passes through the Upper Clyde Valley and Tinto SLA and overlooks other areas that are designated for their scenic value. Some views from the railway are scenic and representative of the Southern Uplands landscape, resulting in a sense of place. It is not, however, promoted as a scenic railway by Scotrail or VisitScotland, and this limits the value to a medium level.

6.8.702 The susceptibility to change of viewers is medium. Users of the railway are transient and their appreciation of views is therefore relatively brief and constantly changing. However, the various people travelling on the railway, including business travellers, local residents and visitors, are likely to have an appreciation of the landscape through which they are travelling despite the lack of recognition of the route as a scenic railway journey, and this results in a medium susceptibility.

6.8.703 The combination of the medium susceptibility to change and the medium value of the views from the railway line results in a **medium** sensitivity.

Magnitude of change

6.8.704 The magnitude of change on views from the railway is not assessed separately for northbound and southbound travellers; people on trains may gain views in either direction, irrespective of the direction of travel. Theoretical visibility and magnitude of change is described from north to south.

6.8.705 The magnitude of change on views from the railway is very similar to that assessed for the stretch of the A74(M) that runs between Abington and Carlisle. There are, however, several minor variations, and the likely effects are described below.

6.8.706 Travelling **southwards**, the ZTV shows the first theoretical visibility to arise intermittently over a stretch of around 3km at the north-western edge of the 20km study area, where the A74(M), B7076 and railway line are closely aligned as they pass through Clyde Wind Farm and Extension, south of Beattock Summit. This theoretical visibility is, however, unlikely to be readily apparent due to the limited nature of the visibility and the cutting and forestry through which the road passes, and the maximum magnitude of change will be **low** to **medium-low**.

6.8.707 Theoretical visibility commences again just beyond 10km from the proposed development, around 4.5km north-west of Moffat and continues, with variable levels of theoretical visibility, until the southern side of Lockerbie. Over this stretch, theoretical visibility is broadly similar to that gained from the A74(M) with local variation as the railway deviates away from the road for short stretches, gaining intermittently lower or higher levels of visibility.

6.8.708 Between the start of this stretch of visibility, around 4.5km north-west of Moffat, and Beattock, the maximum magnitude of change will be **medium-low**, as theoretical visibility is limited and further screening is provided by cuttings and trackside vegetation and buildings (particularly within Beattock).

6.8.709 Over the next stretch, as the railway passes the proposed development between the southern edge of Beattock and Dinwoodie (several kilometres south of Johnstonebridge), visibility is in many places screened and filtered by roadside vegetation, cuttings and buildings, and visibility of the proposed development, which lies between approximately 1.8km and 7km away, will be intermittent or very intermittent, although there are some open, clear views towards the site. The magnitude of change over this stretch, which is around 12km long, will range from a maximum **medium-high** to **negligible** where there is no or very limited visibility. Over this stretch, the railway passes a maximum of just over 1km closer to the proposed development than the A74(M), with the River Annan running between the road and railway.

6.8.710 Around Dinwoodie, the level of theoretical visibility drops and between here and the northern edge of Lockerbie (a stretch of approximately 8km) the magnitude of change will drop to a maximum **medium** level due to the lower level of visibility and increasing distance from the proposed development (between around

7km and 12km). This will again arise intermittently or very intermittently due to cuttings and trackside screening.

6.8.711 Through Lockerbie, views will be screened by built form and vegetation. On the southern edge of Lockerbie, theoretical visibility decreases and then ceases as the railway drops into the Water of Milk valley. There is then a final stretch of intermittent and generally limited theoretical visibility over around 4km. Much of this stretch is in cutting, and the maximum magnitude of change will be **medium-low**.

6.8.712 Southwards from here, there is a lengthy stretch of no visibility and then intermittent visibility from a minimum of around 27km away, at which distance the maximum magnitude of change will be **low**.

Significance of the effect

6.8.713 The effect of the proposed development on the majority of views from the West Coast mainline railway will be **not significant**. There is, however, a stretch of around 20km between Beattock and Lockerbie where an intermittent or very intermittent **significant** effect is likely to arise for travellers in either direction. This is due to a combination of the factors that lead to the medium sensitivity of the railway and the maximum medium-high or medium magnitude of change on views gained by people using the route.

Cumulative effects

6.8.714 The most relevant cumulative wind farms along the West Coast mainline railway corridor that theoretically (i.e. not taking local screening by vegetation etc into account) may be clearly seen in views are as follows:

- The operational/ under construction sites of Middle Muir/ Andershaw, Clyde and Extension, Harestanes/ Minnygap, Ewe Hill, Minsca, Solwaybank, Beck Burn, and Hallburn;
- The consented sites at Priestgill, Lion Hill, Crookedstane, Crossdykes, and Todhills, Blackford; and
- The group of operational and consented turbines at Great Orton.

6.8.715 There are no relevant application-stage wind farms.

6.8.716 The operational site with the highest visibility is Clyde and Extension, which is visible at close proximity from extensive parts of the route. Beck Burn, Priestgill, Minsca, Hallburn, Solwaybank, Middle Muir/ Andershaw and Harestanes/ Minnygap are seen from within 10km but with generally lower visibility and affecting a more limited length of the road than Clyde and Extension. Ewe Hill and Crossdykes are further away and also have more limited visibility.

6.8.717 The baseline wind farm sites along the West Coast mainline railway as it passes through the study area broadly fall into eight groups; Middle Muir/ Andershaw (west of the route); Clyde and Extension/ Priestgill/ Crookedstane/ Lion Hill (east and west of the route); Harestanes/ Minnygap (west of the route); Ewe Hill/ Crossdykes (east of the route); Minsca (east of the route); Solwaybank (east of the route); Beck Burn and Hallburn (east of the road) and the Great Orton group (west of the route).

6.8.718 The proposed development will lie to the east of the railway line, a minimum of around 1.8km away, and in a part of the eastern setting to the route that is not otherwise affected by baseline wind farms, although Harestanes/ Minnygap lies further away to the west roughly the same point. The proposed development itself has been assessed as having an intermittent or very intermittent significant effect on a stretch of approximately 20km between Beattock and Lockerbie.

6.8.719 In the **baseline scenario**, over the stretch where a significant effect is likely to arise from the proposed development itself, the theoretical cumulative magnitude of change will be a maximum of **medium**, arising from the following considerations:

- The addition of the proposed development – an immediately apparent wind farm that will have a significant effect itself - to views in which baseline wind farms are sequentially visible;
- People travelling in either direction could gain theoretical visibility of the eight groups of cumulative wind energy development;
- The addition of a further group of development along the route, as the proposed development will affect an aspect of the road that is not currently affected by wind energy development;
- And, as a result, the visibility of the proposed development from stretches of the road that are not affected by baseline wind farms, so that it extends wind farm influence along the route; and
- The number, level of theoretical visibility and proximity of baseline wind farms (particularly Clyde and Extension).

6.8.720 The following considerations limit the theoretical cumulative magnitude of change to a maximum **medium** level:

- The length of the railway line as it passes through the study area (117km), which ensures that there are stretches with no wind farm influence despite the level of theoretical visibility;
- The peripheral and perpendicular nature of some visibility of cumulative wind farms and the proposed development;
- The baseline presence of wind farms on both the eastern and western sides of the railway, so that there is precedent for development to the east, ensuring that the proposed development will not introduce a new influence in this aspect of views;
- The retention of stretches of the road without wind farm influence; and
- The intermittent visibility of the proposed development and cumulative wind farms.

6.8.721 The cumulative effect on the majority of the West Coast mainline railway will be **not significant** in the baseline scenario. There will, however, be an intermittent or very intermittent **significant** cumulative effect over the stretches of the route where the proposed development itself will have an intermittent or very intermittent significant effect, due to the factors that lead to the maximum medium cumulative magnitude of change and the medium sensitivity of the route. These stretches are a very intermittent/ intermittent significant cumulative effect on a stretch of approximately 20km between Beattock and Lockerbie.

6.8.722 It should be noted that these significant cumulative effects only have potential to arise when travellers are following the full route of the West Coast mainline through the study area; visibility of all of the relevant wind farms will not be available to people using a shorter part of the route, and cumulative effects would in that case either be more limited or not arise at all.

Summary of Effects on Views

6.8.723 Table 6.12 provides a summary of effects on views.

Table 6.12 – Summary of Effects on Views

Viewpoint/Visual Receptor	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Significance of Cumulative Effect
1. Southern Upland Way near Gateshaw Rig	High	Medium-high	Significant	Not significant

Viewpoint/Visual Receptor	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Significance of Cumulative Effect
2. Romans and Reivers Route	High	High	Significant	**Baseline scenario:** not significant **Baseline plus application-stage scenario:** significant
3. Sandyford	Medium-high	Medium	Significant	Not significant
4. Waterhead of Dryfe	Medium-high	Medium	Significant	Not significant
5. Rangecastle Hill	Medium-high	High	Significant	**Baseline scenario:** significant **Baseline plus application-stage scenario:** significant
6. Boreland Church	Medium-high	Medium-high	Significant	Not significant
7. Annandale Water Services, J16 A74(M)	Medium	Medium-high	Significant	Not significant
8. Southern Upland Way near Beattock Hill	High	Medium-high	Significant	Not significant
9. Moffat High Street	High	Medium-Low	Significant	Not significant
10. Moffat A701 on northern edge	Medium-High	Medium	Significant	Not significant
11. A701 north of Moffat	Medium-high	Medium	Significant	Not significant
12. A701 near Devil's Beef Tub	Medium-high	Medium	Significant	Not significant
13. Ettrick Pen	High	Medium-high	Significant	**Baseline scenario:** significant **Baseline plus application-stage scenario:** significant
14. B709 north of Eskdalemuir	Medium	Medium	Significant	Not significant
15. Castle O'er Forest Hill Fort	High	Medium-high	Significant	**Baseline scenario:** significant
				Baseline plus application-stage scenario: significant
16. Corrie Common	Medium-high	Medium	Significant	**Baseline scenario:** significant **Baseline plus application-stage scenario:** n/a
17. Burnswark Hill Fort	Medium-high	Medium/ medium-low	Significant	**Baseline scenario:** significant **Baseline plus application-stage scenario:** significant
18. A709 west of Lockerbie (bridge over River Annan)	Medium	Medium-low	Significant	Not significant
19. B7020 north of Lochmaben	Medium-High	Medium-Low	Significant	Not significant
20. Queensberry	High	Medium	Significant	**Baseline scenario:** significant **Baseline plus application-stage scenario:** significant
21. Hart Fell	High	Medium	Significant	**Baseline scenario:** significant **Baseline plus application-stage scenario:** significant
22. Malcolm Monument, Whita Hill, Langholm	High	Medium-low	Not significant	**Baseline scenario:** not significant **Baseline plus application-stage scenario:** significant
Bankshill	High	Maximum medium	Intermittent significant effect on views from some limited parts of the northern edge of the settlement	**Baseline scenario:** very intermittent significant effect **Baseline plus application-stage scenario:** very intermittent significant effect

Viewpoint/Visual Receptor	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Significance of Cumulative Effect
Beattock	High	Maximum medium-high	Intermittent significant effect on views from very limited parts of the eastern edge of the settlement	Not significant
Boreland	High	Maximum medium-high	Intermittent significant effect on views from some limited locations where clear views are available	Not significant
Corrie Common	High	Maximum medium	Intermittent significant effect on views from the western part of the village and some very limited parts of the eastern edge	**Baseline scenario:** intermittent significant effect **Baseline plus application-stage scenario:** intermittent significant effect
Johnstonebridge	High	Maximum medium-high	Intermittent significant effect on views from limited parts of the eastern edge of the settlement	Not significant
Lochmaben	High	Maximum medium-low	Intermittent significant effect on views from some limited locations where clear views are available	Not significant
Lockerbie	High	Maximum medium-low	Intermittent significant effect on views from some limited locations where clear views are available	Not significant
Moffat	High	Maximum medium	Intermittent significant effect on views from some limited parts of the southern and eastern areas as well as from more open locations within the town	Not significant
M6/ A74 (M)	Medium-high	Maximum medium-high	**Southbound travellers**: intermittent significant effect on approx. 12.5km between Beattock and Annandale Water Services **Northbound travellers:** very intermittent significant effect on approx. 13km between Lockerbie and Annandale Water Services and intermittent significant effect on approx. 11km between Annandale Water Services and Beattock	**Southbound travellers**: not significant **Northbound travellers:** very intermittent significant effect on approx. 13km between Lockerbie and Annandale Water Services and intermittent significant effect on approx. 11km between Annandale Water Services and Beattock
A701	Medium-high	Maximum medium-high	**Southbound travellers**: intermittent/ very intermittent significant effect on approx. 18.5km between around Viewpoint 12 and Oldshields Wood **Northbound travellers:** intermittent/ very intermittent significant effect on approx. 8km between Parkgate and St Ann's; and approx. 10km between Oldshields Wood and southern Moffat	**Baseline scenario: Southbound travellers**: not significant **Northbound travellers:** intermittent/ very intermittent significant effect on approx. 8km between Parkgate and St Ann's; and approx. 10km between Oldshields Wood and southern Moffat **Baseline plus application-stage scenario:** n/a
A708	Medium-high	Maximum medium-high	**Westbound travellers**: not significant **Eastbound travellers:** intermittent significant effect on approx. 1.5km on the eastern edge of Moffat	Not significant
A709	Medium-high	Maximum medium-low	**Westbound travellers**: not significant **Eastbound travellers:** intermittent/ very intermittent significant effect on approx. 8km between Lochmaben and Lockerbie	Not significant

Viewpoint/Visual Receptor	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Significance of Cumulative Effect
B709	Medium-high	Maximum medium-high	**Southbound travellers**: very intermittent/ intermittent significant effect on approx. 5km between Loch Tima and the White Esk valley **Northbound travellers:** very intermittent/ intermittent significant effect on approx. 800m near Bentpath and approx. 3km at Shaw Rig	**Baseline scenario and baseline plus application-stage scenario: For travellers in both directions**: very intermittent significant effects on the same stretches as the significant effects of the proposed development itself
B723	Medium	Medium	**Southbound travellers**: very intermittent significant effect on approx. 10km between Eskdalemuir and Fenton Yet **Northbound travellers:** very intermittent significant effect on approx. 14km between Lockerbie and Sandyford	**Baseline scenario**: not significant **Baseline plus application-stage scenario: Southbound travellers:** not significant **Northbound travellers:** very intermittent significant effect on approx. 14km between Lockerbie and Sandyford
B7020	Medium-high	Maximum medium-high	**Southbound travellers**: intermittent significant effect on approx. 6km, commencing at the start of the road in Beattock **Northbound travellers:** intermittent/ very intermittent significant effect on approx. 18km between Lochmaben and Beattock	Not significant
B7076	High	Maximum medium-high	**Southbound travellers**: intermittent significant effect on approx. 3km north-west of Moffat, and approx. 12.5km between Beattock and Annandale Water Services **Northbound travellers:** very intermittent/	**Baseline scenario**: **Southbound travellers**: not significant **Northbound travellers:** very intermittent/ intermittent significant effect on approx. 13km between Lockerbie and Annandale Water Services and intermittent
			intermittent significant effect on approx. 13km between Lockerbie and Annandale Water Services, and approx. 11km between Annandale Water Services and Beattock	significant effect on approx. 11km between Annandale Water Services and Beattock **Baseline plus application-stage scenario:** n/a
Core paths	High	Maximum high	Where there is clear and open visibility of a moderate to high level within approx. 18km of the proposed development the effect may be significant	**Baseline scenario and baseline plus application-stage scenario: s**ignificant cumulative effects may arise on the intermittent/ very intermittent parts of the route where the proposed development itself is assessed to have potential for a significant effect
Annandale Way	High	Maximum medium	Where there is clear and open visibility of a moderate to high level within approx. 18km of the proposed development the effect may be significant	**Baseline scenario:** significant cumulative effects may arise on the intermittent/ very intermittent parts of the route where the proposed development itself is assessed to have potential for a significant effect **Baseline plus application-stage scenario**: n/a
Romans and Reivers Route	High	Maximum high	Where there is clear and open visibility of a moderate to high level within approx. 18km of the proposed development the effect may be significant	**Baseline scenario and baseline plus application-stage scenario: s**ignificant cumulative effects may arise on the intermittent/ very intermittent parts of the route where the proposed development itself is assessed to have potential for a significant effect

Viewpoint/Visual Receptor	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Significance of Cumulative Effect
Southern Upland Way	High	Maximum medium-high	Where there is clear and open visibility of a moderate to high level within approx. 18km of the proposed development the effect may be significant	**Baseline scenario and baseline plus application-stage scenario:** significant cumulative effects may arise on the intermittent/ very intermittent parts of the route where the proposed development itself is assessed to have potential for a significant effect
West Coast Mainline Railway	Medium	Maximum medium-high	**Travellers in either direction**: intermittent/ very intermittent significant effect on approx. 20km between Beattock and Lockerbie	**Baseline scenario**: intermittent/ very intermittent significant cumulative effect on approx. 20km between Beattock and Lockerbie **Baseline plus application-stage scenario**: n/a

6.9 Night-time Visual Assessment

Introduction

6.9.1 The Air Navigation Order (ANO), published by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), requires that 'en-route obstacles' at or above 150m above ground level are lit with visible lighting to assist their detection by aircraft. The proposed development incorporates four different turbine blade tip and hub heights as follows:

- Four turbines (9, 10, 11 and 15) have a maximum hub height of 105m, and a maximum height of 180m to blade tip;
- Forty-seven turbines have a maximum hub height of 125m, and a maximum height of 200m to blade tip;
- Two turbines (16 and 73) have a maximum hub height of 150m, and a maximum height of 225m to blade tip; and
- Twenty-two turbines have a maximum hub height of 175m, and a maximum height of 250m to blade tip.

6.9.2 All turbines will therefore require to be lit with visible aviation lighting. As such, there is a likelihood that the proposed development may be visible from some surrounding areas at night. The effect of the proposed development at night would result from visible, red coloured, medium intensity lighting located on the turbine nacelles, and also through low intensity lights mounted at the midpoint of each wind turbine tower. It should be noted that all turbines would also include infra-red lighting on the turbine hubs, that would not be visible to the human eye. Details of the infra-red lighting would be agreed with the MoD. The focus of this night-time visual assessment is on the visible aviation lighting requirements of the proposed development.

6.9.3 To support the assessment, the following figures and illustrations have been prepared:

- Figure 6.9a: Turbine Lighting ZTV, illustrating theoretical visibility of aviation lights (45km radius);
- Figure 6.9b: Lighting Intensity ZTV, illustrating theoretical intensity (candela) of visible lights, according to negative and positive vertical line of sight angles from nacelle/ light fitting (45km radius);
- Figure 6.21g and 6.21h: Night-time visualisation for 2,000cd lights at Viewpoint 6, Boreland Church;
- Figure 6.21i and 6.21j: Night-time visualisation for 200cd lights at Viewpoint 6, Boreland Church;
- Figure 6.22g and 6.22h: Night-time visualisation for 2,000cd lights at Viewpoint 7, Annandale Water Services J16 A74(M);
- Figure 6.22i and 6.22j: Night-time visualisation for 200cd lights at Viewpoint 7, Annandale Water Services J16 A74(M);
- Figure 6.25e: Night-time visualisation for 2,000cd lights at Viewpoint 10, Moffat A701 on northern edge; and
- Figure 6.25f: Night-time visualisation for 200cd lights at Viewpoint 10, Moffat A701 on northern edge.

6.9.4 The hub height ZTV of all turbines (Figure 6.9a) was used to identify where there could theoretically be a direct line of sight from the surrounding area to the aviation light fittings on each turbine nacelle. This ZTV does not take account of any intervening screening that may arise as a result of forestry or woodland cover or buildings. The night-time visual assessment has been informed using three viewpoint locations selected from the representative LVIA viewpoints. The three night-time visual assessment viewpoints are:

- Viewpoint 6 – Boreland Church;
- Viewpoint 7 – Annandale Water Services J16 A74(M); and
- Viewpoint 10 - Moffat A701 on northern edge.

6.9.5 A description of the proposed turbine lighting is found within Section 2: Detailed Project Description and Section 14: Other Considerations, within the sub-section on Aviation. Based on this description, a number of assumptions have been made with regards to lighting of the proposed development for the purposes of the LVIA. These assumptions are described further below.

Approach to Assessment of Lighting Effects

6.9.6 GLVIA 3 (page 103) provides the following guidance on the assessment of lighting effects: "*For some types of development the visual effects of lighting may be an issue. In these cases it may be important to carry out night-time 'darkness' surveys of the existing conditions in order to assess the potential effects of lighting and these effects need to be taken into account in generating the 3D model of the scheme. Quantitative assessment of illumination levels, and incorporation into models relevant to visual effects assessment, will require input from lighting engineers, but the visual effects assessment will also need to include qualitative assessments of the effects of the predicted light levels on night-time visibility*."

6.9.7 In terms of how lighting is captured in visualisations, in general, the main change in the latest version of the SNH guidance "Visual Representation of Wind Farms" (Version 2.2, February 2017) is in paragraphs 174-177, which states: "*The visualisation should use photographs taken in low light conditions, preferably when other artificial lighting (such as street lights and lights on buildings) are on, to show how the wind farm lighting will look compared to the existing baseline at night…We have found that approximately 30 minutes after sunset*

provides a reasonable balance between visibility of the landform and the apparent brightness of artificial lights, as both should be visible in the image."

6.9.8 This approach has been followed for the proposed development night-time visualisations noted above, which capture photographs at dusk at the three viewpoints and create photomontage images based on OPEN's experience gained from examining light fittings *in situ* across Scotland. The night-time photography has therefore been captured in low light conditions, when other artificial lighting (such as street lights and lights on buildings) is on, to show how the wind farm lighting would look compared to the existing baseline at night. For the assessment of lighting effects, the visual sensitivity and magnitude criteria described in the LVIA Methodology has been applied, with the caveat that a different set of criteria is applied to the night-time assessment, as explained in Section 1.7 of the Methodology (Appendix 6.3). The area around the Scoop Hill site is essentially dark, with the exception of some scattered residential property, distant settlement with occasional street lights, as well as intermittent light moving along the A74(M) corridor. The principal source of light experienced in the area to the west of the site comes from intermittent vehicle headlights on the motorway and local road network.

6.9.9 Where existing lights are shown in the photographs (e.g. Viewpoint 10, Moffat A701 on northern edge), they appear larger and more blurred than those seen to the naked eye in the field when the photographs were captured. The term used in photography to describe this effect is 'Bokeh' which has been defined as 'the way the lens renders out-of-focus points of light'. This phenomenon is difficult to avoid when taking photographs of light in a view. Where the aviation lights of the proposed development have been added to the night-time views, this bokeh effect has been emulated, based on the calibration OPEN has experienced elsewhere in its research.

6.9.10 The turbine blades, when they intermittently pass in front of the aviation lights, would cause randomised flickering when the lights are switched 'on'. The turbines used in the night-time visualisations have been positioned so that their blades face away from the viewpoint so that all the lights are visible and 'on' within the visualisations, representing a worst-case impression. The flickering effect caused by the blades interacting with the lights would be most usually apparent from a south westerly direction due to the prevailing south westerly wind.

6.9.11 The lighting represented in the viewpoint visualisations has been calibrated using examples of existing, equivalent, turbine lighting observed in the field in other parts of Scotland, during similar periods of dusk / darkness as captured in the photography for the agreed viewpoints.

Summary of CAA Lighting Requirements

6.9.12 Elements of the proposed development at 150m or greater in height would require lighting under Article 222 of the Air Navigation Order (ANO, 2016). This requires medium intensity 'steady' red aviation lights (emitting 2,000 candela) to be fitted at the wind turbine nacelle level. In addition, the CAA requires low intensity lights to be fitted at the intermediate level on the turbine tower (CAA, 2017). The intermediate lights will be 32 candela. It is proposed that visibility sensors are installed on relevant turbines to measure prevailing atmospheric conditions and visibility range. Should atmospheric conditions (for example an absence of low cloud cover, rain, mist, haze or fog) mean that visibility around the site is greater than 5km from the proposed development, CAA policy permits lights to operate in a lower intensity mode of 200 candela (being a minimum of 10% of their capable illumination). If visibility is restricted to 5km or less, by weather conditions, the lights would operate at their full 2,000 candela. In effect, the CAA policy allows 'dimming' of the lights depending on meteorological conditions, which has the effect of reducing the perceived intensity of light in clear conditions. This dimming has been illustrated in the night-time visualisations, which indicate 2,000cd and 200cd intensity at each viewpoint. As a consequence, a light meeting the minimum required intensity of 750 candela at -1 degrees elevation will be reduced to 75 candela at that elevation angle when the visibility exceeds 5km.

6.9.13 A diagrammatic interpretation of the minimum requirements of ICAO/CAP393 based on information provided by a specific bulb manufacturer ('LuxSolar Medium Intensity Obstruction Light') is shown in Plate 1. It illustrates the potential light intensity from a medium-intensity nacelle mounted aviation light, based on the ICAO minimum standard of 2000cd minimum average intensity required over +3° beam spread from the horizontal. It also provides illustration of the likely light intensity in poor visibility <5km (2,000cd) and clear visibility >5km (200cd).

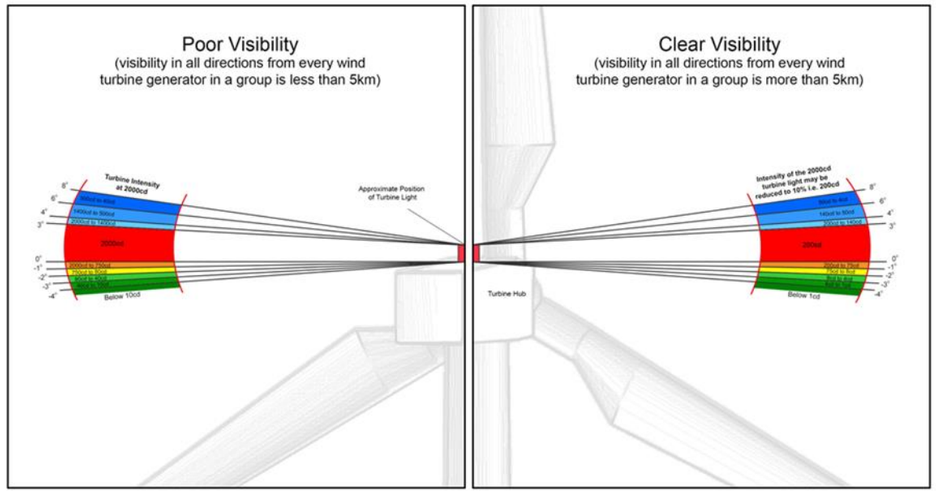


Plate 1 Diagrammatic interpretation of minimum requirements of ICAO/CAP393 (LuxSolar Medium Intensity Obstruction Light)

Note the turbine in the diagram is only split vertically to illustrate the difference between the light intensity in poor visibility (2000cd) and clear visibility (200cd). The turbine light is designed to emit the same light intensity horizontally in 360 °.

6.9.14 Consideration is also given to the potential to reduce or eliminate visible lighting at elevations less than -1-degree vertical angle from the horizontal plane at the top of the nacelles, where the light is fitted. The ICAO Annex 14 and EASA specifications for 2,000 candela steady red aviation obstruction lights set out the required minimum intensity of the light at different vertical angles of elevation, relative to the lighting horizontal plane, as follows:

- 0 degrees: 1500 candela; and
- -1 degrees: 750 candela.

6.9.15 The CAA has no specified intensity requirements at elevation angles lower than -1 degrees from the light. It is open to obstacle light manufacturers and the owners/operators of obstacles taller than 150m to determine the extent of any illumination projected downwards by the light at those lower elevations. This may be achieved by a combination of the internal design of the light lens and the installation of external shielding devices to restrict the downward spread of the light beam (via a 'cowl' device). The specific requirements for aviation lighting would be agreed with the relevant stakeholder's post-consent and prior to construction.

6.9.16 On the basis of this guidance, it is evident that the actual effect/ perception of visible aviation lights at Scoop Hill will be dependent on a range of factors, including the model and intensity of lights used, the clarity of atmospheric visibility and the degree of negative vertical angle of view from the light to the receptor. For this visual assessment, a worst-case approach is applied which considers the effects of both 2,000cd lights and 200cd lights during periods of clear visibility. It should be noted however, that as the required medium intensity lights need only be used to their optimum output or intensity during periods of poor visibility, that 2,000cd lighting actually represents an unrealistic worst case position, as it is unlikely to ever be experienced at that maximum illumination level. Similarly, 200cd is unlikely to be experienced by observers at locations lower than the turbine nacelle heights due to the reduction in light intensity at negative elevation angles from the light.

6.9.17 The graph in Plate 2 below illustrates the reduction in intensity that may be experienced at various negative and positive vertical angles, with the horizontal plane of the light fittings being represented by 0-degree vertical angle. This graph is the performance graph for one particular model of light and whilst the precise model of light to be used is not known at this time, the graph clearly demonstrates the potential effect of negative elevation angle to light intensity.

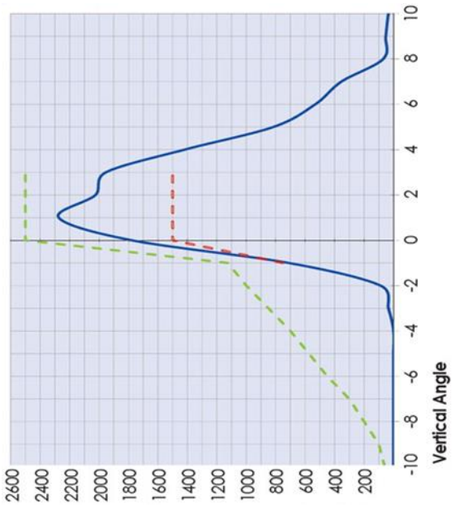


Plate 2 LuxSolar Medium Intensity Obstruction Light CAP 168 MIOL-C: Data Sheet, January 2018.

Legend: Emission-candela

	ICAO ANNEX 14 Medium Intensity Type C: Minimum required intensity
	L864-LXS-C average emission level at 90˚C ambient temperature
	ICAO ANNEX 14 Medium Intensity Type C: Maximum recommended intensity

6.9.23 In relation to the proposed development Figure 6.9b (Lighting Intensity ZTV) illustrates where the vertical angles shown in this graph occur on the landform of the study area, along with the corresponding intensity reductions for each of the 2,000cd and 200cd situations. It is clear from Figure 6.9b that the full intensity of the lights would only theoretically be experienced from a small proportion of the study area when positioned on similarly elevated, or more elevated, terrain to the light fitting (as indicated by the dark red shading in the vicinity of Viewpoints 13 and 20, for example).

6.9.24 With regard to the graph in Plate 2 above, the intensity of light emissions reduces as the vertical elevation angle changes. At -10 negative elevation angle the reduction in intensity would result in a 2,000 cd light being barely perceptible. Adopting the precautionary principle, the worst-case approach in this visual assessment assesses both 2,000cd and 200cd intensity of light observed at each of the viewpoints considered. However, it should be noted that the actual light perceived at these locations is likely to be less than assessed or represented in the visualisations. These calculations also do not take account of the potential for some of the emitted light spilling onto the passing blades which would be visible at all negative angles, albeit as a less intense and diffuse reflected glow. The vertical elevation angles for the viewpoints and resultant perceived intensity of light are calculated from Figure 6.9b in Table 6.13 as follows:

Table 6.13 – Viewpoint Vertical Elevation Angles

Viewpoint	Distance to nearest turbine (with visible lighting) (km)	Vertical Angle from Horizontal plane of light location (on nacelle) to viewpoint location	Approximate intensity for each viewpoint allowing for vertical angle	
			2000cd light	200cd light
Viewpoint 6 – Boreland Church	4.37km	-2 to -3 °	<80-40cd	<8-4cd
Viewpoint 7 – Annandale Water Services J16 A74(M)	5.26km	-2 to -3 °	<80-40cd	<8-4cd
Viewpoint 10 – Moffat A701 on northern edge	6.70km	-1 to -2 °	750-80cd	75-8cd

6.9.25 This table confirms that all of the viewpoints are positioned below 0-degree vertical angle from the horizontal plane of the light fittings, with none sitting above 0 degree vertical angle from the horizontal plane.

Lighting Mitigation

6.9.26 In addition to the control measures that may be applied to dim the lighting, as described above, it is proposed to explore the possibility of using 'smart' aviation lighting (aviation obstruction lighting detection system) whereby the lights would only be switched on when aircraft approach them (discussed further in Section xx: Other Considerations, within the sub-section on Aviation). This would include a reduction in the impact of night-time light pollution and extend the life expectancy of the obstruction lights. Such systems are not approved in UK airspace at this time but are under evaluation by the CAA.

6.9.27 If this technology could be installed, the level of exposure of visual receptors in the area to turbine lights would be greatly reduced, in line with the amount of time during which passing air traffic would activate the aviation lights. As this technology is not yet approved, the assessment has not considered this mitigation in its conclusions.

Parameters Applied to Visual Night-time Assessment

6.9.28 The following assumptions have been made with regards to visible lighting of the proposed development for the LVIA:

- The CAA requires that all obstacles at or above 150m above ground level are fitted with visible lighting and in the case of wind turbines these should be located on the nacelle;
- The CAA requires that a secondary light is fitted for use only when the primary light fails and would not be lit concurrently;
- There is an additional requirement for lights to be provided at an intermediate level of half the nacelle height. These would need to be fitted around the towers to allow for 360-degree horizontal visibility;
- In relation to the proposed development the worst-case scenario for night-time effects includes the following parameters:
    - Turbines would have red, medium intensity visible lights mounted on the nacelle.
    - 2,000cd and 200cd intensity lights have been assessed representing 2 differing worst case situations. 2,000cd represents the maximum intensity possible. 200cd represents the maximum intensity that would be used when visibility exceeds 5km;
    - Turbines would also have low-intensity lights (32 candela) to be provided on the turbine towers at an intermediate level of half the nacelle height (ranging in height form 52.5m to 87.5m above ground level); and
    - The steady red medium intensity lighting fixed to the top of the nacelles and the 32cd lights attached to the turbine towers may appear to flicker on and off with the blade movement. This would occur when the turbine blades pass between the lights and the observers and would depend on wind direction and the position of the observer.

Summary of Night-time Effects

6.9.29 The turbines themselves would not be visible during times of darkness, except for the potential glow from light casting along closest parts of the blades to the hub, when they pass in front of the light fittings. In accordance with CAA requirements the lights would be switched on 30 minutes after official sunset and switched off again 30 minutes before sunrise. The assessment of night-time effects for the proposed development has predicted significant effects for all of the viewpoints, where visual effects were also assessed as significant during the day. This is largely due to the appearance of lighting on an upland horizon which is not currently characterised by the effects of any other existing lighting.

6.9.30 For receptors at Viewpoint 6 – Boreland Church, the magnitude of change for a 2,000cd light in clear visibility would result in a significant effect. When considered for 200cd, in clear visibility, the effect is also considered to be significant, albeit of a lower magnitude. The significance arises as a consequence of the limited light evident in the baseline context;

6.9.31 For receptors at Viewpoint 7 – Annandale Water Services J16 A74(M), the magnitude of change for a 2,000cd light in clear visibility would result in a significant effect. When considered for 200cd, in clear visibility, the effect is also considered to be significant, albeit of a lower magnitude. The significance arises as a consequence of the inherently dark baseline context, acknowledging that the services area behind the viewpoint is subject to some considerable baseline lighting from the cafeteria and overspill car park;

6.9.32 For receptors at Viewpoint 10 – Moffat A701 on northern edge, the magnitude of change for a 2000cd light in clear visibility would result in a significant effect. When considered for 200cd, in clear visibility, the effect is also considered to be significant, despite the baseline illumination evident within the town. This is due to the aviation lights appearing along a substantial section of the skyline above the town.

6.9.33 It is important to note that the assessment of significant visual effects at night is based on an assessment of 2,000cd and 200cd lights being experienced at each viewpoint, as shown in the visualisations. This represents a worst-case assessment. Subject to the type and specification of aviation light fitting that is ultimately agreed with the Determining Authority/ CAA, it is possible that the intensity of light seen at these locations may be substantially lower, as indicated by the Lighting Intensity ZTV in Figure 6.9b. It is therefore considered that these significant effects are capable of further mitigation through technical solutions that are subject to ongoing evaluation.

6.9.34 The duration of the effect of the lights on receptors is likely to be over a relatively short period as the viewpoints represent transient receptors generally moving along roads, more commonly experienced during evening and morning hours of darkness, around dusk and sunrise. The visual effects of the proposed development at night would also be limited by the activity of receptors at night. Receptors that experience views at night are generally limited to residents travelling between rural properties and motorists using the motorway and services network. Views from within properties are likely to be restricted by the use of window coverings, particularly in winter. Views from remote rural locations, hilltops and footpaths etc. are visited infrequently at night therefore numbers of receptors affected will be low. The assessment of night-time effects is also based on clear night-time viewing conditions.

6.9.35 At dusk and sunrise it may be possible to identify the formation of the turbines with the red CAA lighting, but only in conditions of good and excellent visibility. At sunrise it may also be possible, in views from the west, to see the turbines lit and backlit by the rising sun.

Detailed Night-time Visual Assessment

Table 6.14 – LVIA Night-time Effects

Receptor	Day Time Effects (Summary from LVIA)			Night-time Effects		
	Receptor Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Night-time Baseline Condition and Sensitivity	Night-time Effect (2000cd lights)	Night-time Effect (200cd lights)
Viewpoint 6 – Boreland Church (4.37km to closest turbine light)	Medium-High	Medium-High	Significant	This viewpoint is located in the kirkyard of Hutton and Corrie Church, which is on the south-eastern periphery of the village of Boreland. It is an elevated position which sits above the houses in the village, which are unlikely to experience the same level of visibility of turbine lighting. Baseline night-time light levels are inherently low/ dark around the church, with the exception of occasional headlights seen from vehicles passing through the village and from houses themselves. Receptors who may experience the aviation lighting from this location are likely to include local residents visiting the church during hours of darkness, at dusk in winter for example. The susceptibility to change of viewers at night is medium-high; people visiting Boreland Church are likely to have some focus on the landscape and views around them from this relatively elevated position, around dusk and the horizon on which the wind farm is sited forms the backdrop to the village in these views. The combination of a medium-high susceptibility to change and the medium-low value of the view results in a medium sensitivity for the viewpoint at night.	Lighting on approximately 36 turbines would be visible from this location. The proposed development lights would be seen as an introduction of illumination to the upland horizon, above the village, where none are currently seen. The relatively close proximity to the proposed development would accentuate the intensity of the turbine lighting and it is considered these lights would form a substantial contrast to the existing baseline view, affecting the perception of visitors to the Church at night. The magnitude of change is assessed as medium–high resulting in a **significant** effect. The addition of aviation lighting results in moderate to high scale of change to the existing night-time baseline conditions, due to middle distance view of visible aviation lighting and moderate level of contrast with level of baseline lighting in the view. This results in light that may partially compromise or diminish the view of the night sky, but which is not considered obtrusive. Allowing for potential changes in light intensity due to vertical elevation angle from turbine lights the 2,000cd lights would be perceived as 80-40cd lights (See Table 6.13). Should this mitigation be achieved, the visual effect would reduce in magnitude to medium, but remain **significant**.	The description of lights visible for 2,000cd also applies to 200cd lights. The magnitude of the effect differs, however, due to a reduction in intensity. It is considered that the 200cd lights would continue to form a notable contrast to the existing baseline. The magnitude of change from 200cd lights is assessed as medium resulting in a **significant** effect. this results in light that may partially compromise or diminish the view of the night sky, but which is not considered obtrusive. Allowing for potential changes in light intensity due to vertical elevation angle from turbine lights the 200cd lights would be perceived as 8-4cd lights (see Table 6.13). Should this mitigation to 1cd be achieved, the visual effect would be **not significant**.
Viewpoint 7 – Annandale Water Services J16 A74(M) (5.26km to closest turbine light)	Medium	Medium-High	Significant	This viewpoint is located on the outdoor terrace of the café at Annandale Water Services on the A74(M), where seating is provided for customers. The illumination from the café can be detected in the baseline photograph. The lochan and grass areas in the foreground are available for users of the service station to walk around, although their use at dusk/ night is likely to be	Lighting on approximately 46 turbines would be visible from this location. Whilst the existing lights emanating from the café are likely to reduce the apparent brightness of the distant aviation lights, due to their impact on dark adaptation by the eye, the proposed development lights would be seen as an introduction of illumination to the upland	The description of lights visible for 2,000cd also applies to 200cd lights. The magnitude of the effect differs, however, due to a reduction in intensity. It is considered that the 200cd lights would continue to form a notable contrast to the existing baseline. The magnitude of change from 200cd lights is assessed as medium to low resulting in a

Receptor	Day Time Effects (Summary from LVIA)			Night-time Effects		
	Receptor Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Night-time Baseline Condition and Sensitivity	Night-time Effect (2000cd lights)	Night-time Effect (200cd lights)
				limited. Similar views are gained from other parts of the service station, including the hotel that abuts the service station. The A74(M) lies to the west of the viewpoint and lights from it are not readily visible, but traffic on the road can be heard. People experiencing this view at night are likely to be transient receptors, who will be travelling through the area and using the services area for a limited stopover. Baseline night-time light levels are inherently low/ dark in the direction of the view but adjustment of the eye to this darkness is likely to be constrained to some degree by the high degree of illumination from the hotel; café and parking areas behind the viewer, along with the occasional sweeping of car headlights across the foreground. The susceptibility to change of viewers at night is considered to be medium as given the use of the area for temporary respite during journeys. The combination of the medium susceptibility to change and a low value attributed to the view at night results in a medium-low sensitivity for the viewpoint.	horizon across a significant proportion of the view, above the foreground planting and loch, where none are currently seen. The relatively close proximity of the proposed development would accentuate the intensity of the turbine lighting and it is considered these lights would form a readily discernible contrast to the existing baseline view, affecting the perception of cafe users and visitors to the services area. The addition of aviation lighting results in moderate scale of change to the existing night-time baseline conditions, due to middle distance view of visible aviation lighting and moderate level of contrast with level of baseline lighting in the view. This results in light that may partially compromise or diminish the view of the night sky, but which is not considered obtrusive. The magnitude of change is assessed as medium resulting in a **significant** effect. Allowing for potential changes in light intensity due to vertical elevation angle from turbine lights the 2,000cd lights would be perceived as 80-40cd lights (see Table 6.13). Should this mitigation be achieved, the visual effect the visual effect would reduce in magnitude to medium-low, but remain **significant**.	**significant** effect. This results in light that does not compromise or diminish the view of the night sky, nor is it considered obtrusive. Allowing for potential changes in light intensity due to vertical elevation angle from turbine lights the 200cd lights would be perceived as 8-4cd lights (see Table 6.13). Should this mitigation to 8-4cd be achieved, the visual effect would be **not significant**.
Viewpoint 10 – Moffat A701 on northern edge (6.70km to closest turbine light)	High	Medium	Significant	This viewpoint is located on the A701 on the northern periphery of Moffat, as the road enters the built-up area. The Annandale Way crosses the A701 at this point, which may be used infrequently by walkers at dusk/ night. This view shows the town, including the church, in its landscape setting, with the enclosing backdrop of Southern Uplands with forest. Baseline night-time light levels are clearly discernible, including street lighting and light emanating from residential property on the outskirts of the town, together with occasional headlights from vehicles on the A701. This light	Lighting on approximately 20 turbines would be seen spreading across the entirety of the distant horizon from this location. The proposed development lights would be seen as an introduction of illumination to the upland horizon directly in line with the direction of travel above the town of Moffat, where none are currently seen. The separation distance between the viewpoint and the proposed development would help to reduce the intensity of the turbine lighting but it is considered that the number of lights would form a noticeable contrast to the existing	The description of lights visible for 2,000cd also applies to 200cd lights. The magnitude of the effect differs, however, due to a reduction in intensity. It is considered that the 200cd lights would continue to form a discernible contrast to the existing baseline. The magnitude of change from 200cd lights is assessed as medium-low resulting in a **significant** effect, of a borderline nature. This results in light that does not compromise or diminish the view of the night sky, nor is it considered obtrusive.

Receptor	Day Time Effects (Summary from LVIA)			Night-time Effects		
	Receptor Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Night-time Baseline Condition and Sensitivity	Night-time Effect (2000cd lights)	Night-time Effect (200cd lights)
				moderates the perception of an otherwise dark landscape setting surrounding the town. The susceptibility to change of viewers during evening and night-time is considered to be medium-high at this location, given the prominence of the dark skyline forming a backdrop to the town. Furthermore, the A701 has some local recognition as a scenic route and this stretch of the road forms part of a recognised long-distance walking route. The combination of the medium-high susceptibility to change and the medium value of the view at night results in a medium-high sensitivity for the viewpoint at night.	baseline view, affecting the perception of road and path users at night. The addition of aviation lighting results in moderate scale of change to the existing night-time baseline conditions, due to middle distance view of visible aviation lighting and moderate level of contrast with level of baseline lighting in the view. This results in light that may partially compromise or diminish the view of the night sky, but which is not considered obtrusive. The magnitude of change is assessed as medium resulting in a **significant** effect. Allowing for potential changes in light intensity due to vertical elevation angle from turbine lights the 2,000cd lights would be perceived as 750-80cd lights (see Table 6.13). Should this mitigation be achieved, the visual effect would remain **significant**, albeit of a lower intensity.	Allowing for potential changes in light intensity due to vertical elevation angle from turbine lights the 200cd lights would be perceived as 75-8cd lights (See Table 6.13), in which case the visual effect would remain **significant**, but of a borderline nature.

6.10 Summary and Conclusions

6.10.1 The purpose of the LVIA is to identify and record the potential effects that the proposed development may have on physical elements of the landscape; landscape character; areas that have been designated for their scenic or landscape-related qualities; and views from various locations such as settlements, routes, tourism features and other sensitive locations. The potential cumulative effects that may arise from the addition of the proposed development to other wind farms are also considered.

6.10.2 The study area for the LVIA covers a radius of 45km from the outer turbines in the proposed development. The assessment has shown that the effect of the proposed development on the landscape and visual resource of the great majority of this study area will be not significant, which means that in these areas the effect of the proposed development is not defining, and the existing characteristics of the landscape and views will continue to prevail. The areas where the effect of the proposed development itself will be not significant include World Heritage Sites, National Scenic Areas, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and all regional and local scenic designations with the exception of the Moffat Hills Regional Scenic Area (RSA).

6.10.3 While the effect on the majority of the study area will be not significant, as described above, the LVIA has indicated that there is potential for the proposed development to result in significant effects on the localised 20km study area that has been defined for the detailed assessment. The LVIA has identified that there is potential for significant effects to arise as follows:

- Intermittent or very intermittent significant effects on the **landscape character** of the site and some parts of its surroundings up to a maximum of approximately 11.5km away from the nearest turbine, including the following landscapes:
    - *Foothills – Annandale (unit A)* and *Beattock;*
    - *Foothills with forest– Ae (unit A), Castle O'er* and *Eskdale;*
    - *Intimate pastoral valley – Dryfe;*
    - *Middle dale – mid Annandale;*
    - *Narrow wooded river valleys – Eskdale (unit A);*
    - *Southern Uplands – East Moffat, North Langholm (unit A)* and *North Moffat;*
    - *Southern Uplands forest covered – Craik (unit A);*
    - *Southern Uplands with forest – Eskdalemuir;*
    - *Upland fringe – Annandale fringe (unit A);*
    - *Upland glens – Evan* and *Moffat;*

- **Moffat Hills RSA** - very intermittent/ intermittent significant effects on parts of the RSA;
- Intermittent or very intermittent significant effects on views from **settlements**, including:
    - Bankshill;
    - Beattock;
    - Boreland (as represented by Viewpoint 6);
    - Corrie Common (as represented by Viewpoint 16);
    - Johnstonebridge;
    - Lochmaben (as represented by Viewpoint 19);
    - Lockerbie (as represented by Viewpoint 18);
    - Moffat (as represented by Viewpoints 9 and 10);
- Intermittent or very intermittent significant effects on views from **road routes**, including:
    - A74(M): southbound approx. 12.5km and northbound approx. 24km (as represented by Viewpoint 7);
    - A701: southbound approx. 18.5km (including the locations of Viewpoints 9, 10, 11 and 12) and northbound approx. 18km;
    - A708: eastbound approx. 1.5km;
    - A709: eastbound approx. 8km (including the location of Viewpoint 18);
    - B709: southbound approx. 5km (including the location of Viewpoint 14) and northbound approx. 3.8m;
    - B723: southbound approx. 10km (including the location of Viewpoint 3) and northbound approx. 14km;
    - B7020: southbound approx. 6km and northbound approx. 18km (including the location of Viewpoint 19);
    - B7076 (including NCR 74): southbound approx. 15.5km and northbound approx. 24km (as represented by Viewpoint 7);
- Intermittent or very intermittent significant effects on views from **core paths and long distance footpaths** (Annandale Way, Romans and Reivers Route, Southern Upland Way): where a clear, open view with moderate to high visibility of the proposed development from within a maximum of approximately 18km (as represented by Viewpoints 1, 2, 4, 8, 10, and 19);
- Intermittent or very intermittent significant effects on views from approx. 20km of the **West Coast mainline railway**;
- Views from **hilltops** at Rangecastle Hill (Viewpoint 5) Ettrick Pen (Viewpoint 13), Burnswark Hill Fort (Viewpoint 17), Queensberry (Viewpoint 20) and Hart Fell (Viewpoint 21); and
- The view from Castle O'er Hill Fort (Viewpoint 15).

6.10.4 Although these effects are classified as significant according to the EIA Regulations, it is notable that the areas where the level of change, or magnitude of change, is found to be high or medium-high are limited and found only on the site itself or in relatively close proximity to the site. Beyond this, in other areas where there is potential for significant effects to arise, the level of change is found to vary from medium-low to medium, and while these effects are classified as significant according to guidance, the proposed development will have a notably lower level of influence on the landscape character and views from these areas.

6.10.5 As well as assessing the effect of the proposed development itself, the LVIA assesses the cumulative effect that may arise when the proposed development is added to various scenarios of operational, under-construction, consented and application-stage wind farms. The cumulative assessment concludes that when the proposed development is added to **baseline** (operational, under-construction, and consented) wind energy developments, significant cumulative effects will arise at the following locations:

- Intermittent or very intermittent significant cumulative effects on the **landscape character** of the site and some parts of its surroundings, including the following landscape types:
    - *Foothills – Annandale (unit A)* and *Beattock;*
    - *Foothills with forest– Ae (unit A), Castle O'er* and *Eskdale;*
    - *Middle dale – mid Annandale;*
    - *Southern Uplands – East Moffat* and *North Moffat;*
    - *Upland fringe – Annandale fringe (unit A);*

- **Moffat Hills RSA** - very intermittent significant cumulative effect on parts of Southern Uplands - east Moffat and Southern Uplands - north Moffat within the RSA;
- Intermittent or very intermittent significant cumulative effects on views from **settlements**, including:
    - Bankshill;
    - Corrie Common;
- Intermittent or very intermittent significant cumulative effects on views from **road routes**, including:
    - A74(M): northbound approx. 24km;
    - A701: northbound approx. 18km;
    - B709: southbound approx. 5km and northbound approx. 3.8m;
    - B7076: northbound approx. 24km;
- Intermittent or very intermittent significant cumulative effects on views from **core paths and long distance footpaths** (Annandale Way, Romans and Reivers Route, Southern Upland Way): where a clear, open view with moderate to high visibility of the proposed development from within a maximum of approximately 18km;
- Intermittent or very intermittent significant cumulative effects on views from approx. 20km of the **West Coast mainline railway**;
- Views from **hilltops** at Rangecastle Hill (Viewpoint 5) Ettrick Pen (Viewpoint 13), Burnswark Hill Fort (Viewpoint 17), Queensberry (Viewpoint 20) and Hart Fell (Viewpoint 21); and
- The view from Castle O'er Hill Fort (Viewpoint 15).

6.10.6 When the **application-stage** wind farm at Faw Side is also considered, the following *additional* significant cumulative effects may also arise:

- Intermittent or very intermittent significant cumulative effects on the **landscape character** of the site and some parts of its surroundings, including the following landscape types:
    - *Narrow wooded river valleys – Eskdale (unit A);*
    - *Southern Uplands – north Langholm (unit A);*
    - *Southern Uplands with forest – Eskdalemuir;* and
- Very intermittent significant cumulative effects on views from the northbound **B723** over approx. 14km.

6.10.7 No other application-stage wind farms will affect the significance of cumulative effects.

6.10.8 The night-time assessment has indicated that significant effects are likely to arise at the three locations included in the assessment – Viewpoints 6, 7 and 10 – with either 2,000cd or 200cd aviation lighting. This is, however, a worst-case scenario, and there is potential for mitigation through technology.

6.10.9 This summary indicates that the proposed development will result in some significant effects, including cumulative effects, on aspects of the landscape and visual resource. It is important to note, however, that assessments of this type tend to focus on those locations and receptors where significant effects may arise, and in this assessment the viewpoints have been selected to represent areas of high visibility of the proposed development, where significant effects are most likely to arise. It is also the case that many of the significant effects are identified in respect of viewpoints representing linear receptors, including roads and footpaths, where the experience gained by people is likely to be intermittent and transient in nature, as opposed to static. In this sense the impacts will be short-lived for many people who experience them. Furthermore, there are large parts of the 45km study area where ZTVs show that there will be no visibility of the wind farm at all or very limited visibility, and these factors should be taken into consideration in the review of significant effects of the proposed development.

6.10.10 It is also important to note that the assessment of significance in LVIA terms, as required by EIA Regulations and set out in best practice guidance, does not provide any indication of the 'acceptability' of the proposed development, and that the occurrence of significant effects does not in any way imply that a development would be 'unacceptable'. It is widely acknowledged that commercial-scale wind farm development will almost inevitably give rise to effects that are assessed as being significant in EIA terms, and this does not render this type of development generally unacceptable.

6.10.11 The assessment has indicated that significant visual effects of the proposed development are likely to be contained within approximately 18km of the proposed development, although they may, in very unusual circumstances, arise beyond this. Significant effects on landscape character are likely to be contained within a radius of approximately 11.5km from the proposed development.

Appendix 6.1 – Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Methodology

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 This appendix describes in detail the methodology that has been used to carry out the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) for the proposed development. The LVIA identifies and assesses the effects that the proposed development may have on the landscape and visual resource of the 45km radius study area. This Appendix is structured as follows:

- Categories of effects;
- Assessment of effects;
- Assessment of physical landscape effects;
- Assessment of effects on landscape character;
- Assessment of effects on wild land;
- Assessment of effects on views;
- Assessment of cumulative effects;
- Nature of effects; and
- Duration and reversibility of effects.

1.1.2 The following sources have been used in the formulation of methodology for the assessment:

- Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment: Third Edition (Landscape Institute and IEMA, 2013) (GLVIA3);
- Landscape Institute (2019). Visual Representation of Development Proposals: Landscape Institute Technical Guidance Note 06/19;
- NatureScot (2012). Assessing the Cumulative Impact of Onshore Wind Energy Developments;
- NatureScot (2017). Assessing Impacts on Wild Land Areas - Technical Guidance-Consultation Draft; and
- NatureScot (2017). Visual Representation of Wind Farms, Version 2.2.

1.2 Categories of Effects

1.2.1 For the purpose of assessment, the potential effects on the landscape and visual resource are grouped into five categories:

1.2.2 **Physical effects** are restricted to the area within the proposed development site boundary and are the direct effects on the existing fabric of the site, such as alteration to ground cover. This category of effects is made up of landscape elements, which are the components of the landscape such as rough grassland/moorland that may be directly and physically affected by the proposed development.

1.2.3 Effects on **landscape character**: landscape character is the distinct and recognisable pattern of elements that occurs consistently in a particular type of landscape, and the way that this pattern is perceived. Effects on landscape character arise either through the introduction of new elements that physically alter this pattern of elements, or through visibility of the proposed development, which may alter the way in which the pattern of elements is perceived. This category of effects is made up of landscape character receptors, which fall into two groups: landscape character types and landscape-related designated areas.

1.2.4 Effects on **wild land areas**: the assessment of effects on wild land areas (WLAs) is carried out in accordance with NatureScot guidance (NatureScot consultation on draft guidance: Assessing impacts on Wild Land Areas – technical guidance, 2017).

1.2.5 **Effects on views**: the assessment of effects on views is an assessment of how the introduction of the proposed development will affect views throughout the study area. The assessment of effects on views is carried out in two parts:

- An assessment of the effects that the proposed development will have on a series of viewpoints around the study area; and
- An assessment of the effects that the proposed development will have on views from principal visual receptors, which are relevant settlements, routes and tourism features found throughout the study area.

1.2.6 **Cumulative effects** arise where the study areas for two or more wind farms overlap so that both/all of the wind farms are experienced at a proximity where they may have a greater incremental effect, or where wind farms may combine to have a sequential effect. In accordance with GLVIA3 and NatureScot guidance (NatureScot, 2012), the LVIA assesses the effect arising from the addition of the proposed development to the cumulative situation, and not the overall effect of multiple wind farms.

1.3 Assessment of Effects

1.3.1 The objective of the assessment of the proposed development is to predict the likely significant effects on the landscape and visual resource. In accordance with the Environmental Impact Assessment (Scotland) Regulations 2017, the LVIA effects are assessed to be either significant or not significant. The LVIA does not define intermediate levels of significance as the EIA Regulations do not provide for these.

1.3.2 The broad principles used in the assessment of the significance of effects on categories listed above (with the exception of the assessment of effects on wild land) are the same and are described below. The detailed methodology for the assessment of significance does, however, vary for each category, and the specific criteria used are described in this Appendix.

1.3.3 The significance of effects is assessed through a combination of two considerations; the sensitivity of the landscape receptor or view and the magnitude of change that will result from the addition of the proposed development. The way that these two criteria are combined to result in a significant or not significant effect is shown in Table 1 below.

1.3.4 **Sensitivity** is an expression of the ability of a landscape receptor or view to accommodate the proposed development. Sensitivity is determined through a combination of the value of the receptor and its susceptibility to the proposed development.

1.3.5 **Magnitude of change** is an expression of the extent of the effect on landscape receptors and views that will result from the introduction of the proposed development. The magnitude of change is assessed in terms of a number of variables, including the size and scale of the impact and the geographical extent of the affected area.

Assessing Significance of Effects

1.3.6 The significance of effects is assessed through a combination of the sensitivity of the landscape receptor or view and the magnitude of change that will result from the addition of the proposed development. While this methodology is not reliant on the use of a matrix to arrive at the conclusion of a significant or not significant effect, a matrix is included below to illustrate how combinations of sensitivity and magnitude of change ratings can give rise to significant effects. The matrix also gives an understanding of the threshold at which significant effects may arise.

Table 1 – Illustrative Significance Matrix

Magnitude Sensitivity	High	Medium-High	Medium	Medium-Low	Low	Negligible
High	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant/ Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
Medium-High	Significant	Significant	Significant/ Not Significant	Significant/ Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
Medium	Significant	Significant/ Not Significant	Significant/ Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
Medium-Low	Significant/ Not Significant	Significant/ Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
Low	Significant/ Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant

1.3.7 Effects within the dark grey boxes in the matrix are considered to be significant in terms of the EIA Regulations. Effects within the light grey boxes may be significant or not significant depending on the specific relevant factors that arise at a particular landscape or visual receptor. In accordance with GLVIA3, experienced professional judgement is applied to the assessment of all effects and reasoned justification is presented in respect of the findings of each case.

1.3.8 A significant effect occurs where the proposed development will provide a defining influence on a landscape element, landscape character receptor or view. A not significant effect occurs where the effect of the proposed development is not material, and the baseline characteristics of the landscape element, landscape character receptor, view or visual receptor continue to provide the definitive influence. In this instance the proposed development may have an influence but this influence will not be definitive. A significant cumulative effect may arise where a 'landscape with wind farms' is created as a result of the addition of the proposed development to other existing or proposed wind farms, resulting in wind turbines becoming sufficiently prolific that they become a prevailing or key landscape and visual characteristic.

1.3.9 This assessment assumes clear weather and optimum viewing conditions. This means that effects that are assessed to be significant may be not significant under different, less clear conditions.

1.4 Assessment of Physical Landscape Effects

1.4.1 Physical effects are the direct effects on the fabric of the site such as the removal of trees and alteration to ground cover and are restricted to the area of the site. The objective of the assessment of physical effects is to determine which landscape elements will be affected and whether these effects will be significant or not significant. The variables considered in the sensitivity of landscape elements, and the magnitude of change upon them, are described below.

Sensitivity of Landscape Elements

1.4.2 The sensitivity of a landscape element is an expression of its ability to accommodate the proposed development. This is dependent on the value of the landscape element and its susceptibility to the change that will arise from the addition of the proposed development.

- The value of a landscape element is a reflection of its importance in the pattern of elements which constitute the landscape character of the area. For example, the value of woodland is likely to be increased if it provides an important component of the local landscape character. If a landscape element is particularly rare - as a remnant of a historic landscape layout for example - its value is likely to be increased; and
- The susceptibility of a landscape element is a reflection of the degree to which the element can be restored, replaced or substituted. For example, it may be possible to restore ground cover following the excavation required for the building of turbine foundations, and this would reduce the susceptibility of this element.

1.4.3 The sensitivity of each receptor is a product of the specific combination of value and susceptibility to the proposed development as evaluated by professional judgement. The evaluation of sensitivity is described for each receptor in the assessment, and levels of sensitivity - high, medium or low - are applied. Interim levels of sensitivity – medium-high and medium-low - may also be applied where appropriate for the combination of value and susceptibility.

Magnitude of Change on Landscape Elements

1.4.4 The magnitude of change on landscape elements is quantifiable and is expressed in terms of the degree to which a landscape element will be removed or altered by the proposed development. Definitions of magnitude of change are applied in order that the process of assessment is made clear. These are:

- High, where the proposed development will result in the complete removal of a landscape element or substantial alteration to a key landscape element;

- Medium, where the proposed development will result in the removal of a notable part of a landscape element or a notable alteration to a key landscape element;
- Low, where the proposed development will result in the removal of a minor part of a landscape element or a minor alteration to a key landscape element; and
- Negligible, where the alteration to the landscape element is barely discernible.

1.4.5 There may also be intermediate levels of magnitude of change – medium-high and medium-low - where the change falls between two of the definitions.

Significance of Effects on Landscape Elements

1.4.6 The significance of the effect on landscape elements is dependent on all of the factors considered in the sensitivity of the receptor and the magnitude of change upon it. A significant effect will occur where the degree of removal or alteration of the landscape element is such that the form of the element will be redefined. If the landscape element is of a high sensitivity, a significant effect can occur with a relatively limited degree of removal or alteration. A not significant effect will occur where the form of the landscape element is not redefined as a result of the proposed development. If the landscape element is of lower sensitivity, it may undergo a higher level of removal or alteration yet remain as a not significant effect.

1.5 Assessment of Effects on Landscape Character

1.5.1 Landscape character is the distinct and recognisable pattern of elements that occurs consistently in a particular type of landscape, and the way that this pattern is perceived. Effects on landscape character arise through the introduction of new elements that physically alter this pattern of elements, the removal of characterising elements, or through visibility of the proposed development, which may alter the way in which the pattern of elements is perceived. This category of effects is made up of landscape character receptors, which fall into two groups; landscape character types and designated areas.

1.5.2 The objective of the assessment of effects on landscape character is to determine which landscape character receptors will be affected by the proposed development, and whether these effects will be significant or not significant. The assessment of effects on landscape character involves an evaluation of sensitivity and magnitude of change, and the resultant assessment of significance.

Sensitivity of Landscape Character Receptors

1.5.3 The sensitivity of a landscape character receptor is an expression of its ability to accommodate the proposed development as part of its own character or as part of the visual setting or context to the character receptor. This is dependent on the value of the landscape receptor and its susceptibility to change.

Value of Landscape Character Receptors

1.5.4 The value of a landscape character receptor is a reflection of the value that is attached to that landscape. The landscape value is classified as high, medium or low, and the basis for this evaluation is determined through the application of professional judgement to the following factors:

- Landscape designations: a receptor that lies within a recognised landscape-related planning designation will generally have an increased value, depending on the proportion of the receptor that is covered and the level of importance of the designation (international, national, regional or local). It is important to note that the absence of designations does not preclude local resource value, as an undesignated landscape character receptor may be important as a resource in the local or immediate environment, particularly when experienced in comparison with other nearby landscapes;
- Landscape quality: the quality of a landscape character receptor is a reflection of its attributes, such as scenic quality, sense of place, rarity and representativeness and the extent to which these attributes have remained intact. A landscape with consistent, intact and well-defined, distinctive attributes is generally considered to be of higher quality and, in turn, higher value, than a landscape where the introduction of inappropriate elements has detracted from its inherent attributes; and
- Landscape experience: the experience of the landscape character receptor can add to its value and relates to a number of factors including the perceptual responses it evokes, the cultural associations that may exist in literature or history, or the iconic status of the landscape in its own right, the recreational value of the landscape for outdoor pursuits, and the contribution of other values relating to the nature conservation or archaeology of the area.

Susceptibility to Change of Landscape Character Receptors

1.5.5 The susceptibility of a landscape character receptor to change is a reflection of its ability to accommodate the changes that will occur as a result of the addition of the proposed development. The assessment of the susceptibility of the landscape receptor to change is classified as high, medium or low, as determined through the application of professional judgement to the following factors:

- The specific nature of the proposed development: the susceptibility of landscape receptors is specific to the change arising from the particular development that is proposed, including its individual components and features, and its size, scale, location, context and characteristics;
- Landscape character: the key characteristics of the existing landscape character of the receptor are considered in the evaluation of susceptibility as they determine the degree to which the receptor may accommodate the influence of the proposed development. For example, a landscape that is of a particularly wild and remote character may have a high susceptibility to the influence of the proposed development due to the contrast that it would have with the landscape, whereas a developed landscape where built elements and structures are already part of the landscape character may have a lower susceptibility. However, there are instances when the quality of a landscape may have been degraded to an extent whereby it is considered to be in a fragile state and therefore a degraded landscape may have a higher susceptibility to the proposed development; and
- Landscape association: the extent to which the proposed development will influence the character of the landscape receptors across the study area also relates to the associations that exist between the landscape within which the proposed development is located and the landscape receptor from which the proposed development is being experienced. This association will be most important where the landscapes are directly related; for example, if the proposed development is located in an upland landscape that has a strong enclosing influence on an adjacent valley landscape. Elsewhere, the association may be less important; for example, where the proposed development lies inland of a coastal landscape that has its main focus outwards over the sea.

Levels of Sensitivity

1.5.6 The sensitivity of each receptor is a product of the specific combination of value and susceptibility to the proposed development as evaluated by professional judgement. The sensitivity of the landscape receptor is

evaluated as high, medium or low. Interim levels of sensitivity – medium-high and medium-low - may also be applied where appropriate.

Magnitude of Change on Landscape Character Receptors

1.5.7 The magnitude of change that the proposed development will have on landscape receptors is assessed in terms of the size or scale of the change, the geographical extent of the area influenced and its duration and reversibility. The key elements of the proposed development that will influence the level of change on landscape character are the movement, form, material, colour and scale of the turbines, although infrastructure is also considered.

Size or Scale

1.5.8 This criterion relates to the size or scale of change to the landscape that will arise as a result of the addition of the proposed development, based on the following factors:

- The degree to which the pattern of elements that makes up the landscape character will be altered by the proposed development, through removal or addition of elements in the landscape. The magnitude of change will generally be higher if key features that make up the landscape character are extensively removed or altered, and if many new components are added to the landscape;
- The extent to which the proposed development will change - physically or perceptually - the characteristics that may be important in the creation of the distinctive character of the landscape. This may include the scale of the landform, its relative simplicity or irregularity, the nature of the landscape context, the grain or orientation of the landscape, the degree to which the receptor is influenced by external features and the juxtaposition of the proposed development with these key characteristics;
- The distance between the landscape character receptor and the proposed development. Generally, the greater the distance, the lower the scale of change as the proposed development will constitute a less apparent influence on the landscape character; and
- The extent of the proposed development that will be seen from the landscape receptor. Visibility of the proposed development may range from one turbine blade tip to all of the turbines, and generally the greater the extent of the proposed development that can be seen, the greater the change.

Geographical Extent

1.5.9 The geographic area over which the landscape effects will be experienced is also evaluated. The extent of the effect will vary depending on the specific nature of the proposed development and is principally a reflection of the extent of the landscape receptor that will be affected by visibility of the proposed development.

Duration and Reversibility

1.5.10 The duration and reversibility of landscape effects are based on the period over which the proposed development is likely to exist and the extent to which the proposed development will be removed and its effects reversed at the end of that period. Duration and reversibility are not always incorporated into the overall magnitude of change, and may be stated separately.

Levels of Magnitude of Change

1.5.11 An evaluation of the magnitude of change on landscape receptors is made by combining the considerations of size or scale of change, geographical extent and, where relevant, duration and reversibility. The magnitude of change is assessed as high, medium, low or negligible according to the following definitions:

- High, where the proposed development will result in a major alteration to the baseline character of the landscape, providing a prevailing influence and/or introducing elements that are substantially uncharacteristic in the receiving landscape;
- Medium, where the proposed development will result in a moderate alteration to the baseline character of the landscape, providing a readily apparent influence and/or introducing elements that may be prominent but are not necessarily uncharacteristic in the receiving landscape;
- Low, where the proposed development will result in a minor alteration to the baseline character of the landscape, providing a slightly apparent influence and/or introducing elements that are characteristic in the receiving landscape; and
- Negligible, where the alteration to landscape character is barely discernible.

1.5.12 There may also be intermediate levels of magnitude of change – medium-high and medium-low - where the change falls between two of the definitions.

Significance of Effects on Landscape Character Receptors

1.5.13 The significance of the effect on each landscape character receptor is dependent on the factors that are considered in the sensitivity of the receptor and the magnitude of change upon it. These factors are combined using professional judgement to arrive at an overall assessment as to whether the proposed development will have a significant or not significant effect on the receptor. The matrix shown in Table 1 above is also used to inform the threshold of significance when combining sensitivity and magnitude of change.

1.5.14 A significant effect will occur where the combination of the variables results in the proposed development having a defining effect on the receptor. A not significant effect will occur where the effect of the proposed development is not definitive, and the landscape character of the receptor continues to be characterised principally by its baseline characteristics. In this instance, a not significant effect would indicate that the proposed development may have an influence on the landscape character of the receptor, but this influence will not be a defining one.

1.6 Wild Land

1.6.1 Assessment of effects on wild land is carried out in accordance with NatureScot guidance (NatureScot consultation on draft guidance: Assessing impacts on Wild Land Areas – technical guidance, 2017).

1.7 Assessment of Effects on Views

1.7.1 The assessment of effects on views evaluates how the introduction of the proposed development will affect views and visual amenity. The assessment of visual effects is carried out in two parts:

- An assessment of the effects that the proposed development will have on a series of viewpoints around the study area; and
- An assessment of the effects that the proposed development will have on views from principal visual receptors, which are relevant settlements, routes and tourism features found throughout the study area.

1.7.2 The objective of the assessment of effects on visual receptors is to determine what the likely effects of the proposed development will be on views across the study area, and whether these effects will be significant or not significant. The assessment of effects on views involves an evaluation of sensitivity and magnitude of change, and the resultant assessment of significance.

Sensitivity of Visual Receptors

1.7.3 The sensitivity of views and visual receptors is determined by a combination of the value of the view and the susceptibility of the viewer or visual receptor to the proposed development.

Value of Views

1.7.4 The value of a view is a reflection of the recognition and the importance attached formally through identification as a viewpoint on mapping, by signposting or through planning designation; or informally through the value which society attaches to the view. The value of a view is classified as high, medium or low, based on the following factors:

- Formal recognition: the value of views can be formally recognised through their identification on maps as formal viewpoints, are signposted and provide facilities to facilitate the enjoyment of the view such as parking, seating and interpretation boards. Specific views may be afforded protection in local planning policy, where they are recognised as valued views. Specific views can also be cited as being of importance in relation to landscape or heritage planning designations; for example the value of a view may be increased if it presents an important vista from a designed landscape or lies within or overlooks a designated area such as a National Scenic Area (NSA), which implies a greater value to the visible landscape;
- Informal recognition: views that are well-known at a local level or have particular scenic qualities can have an increased value, even if there is no formal recognition or designation. Views or viewpoints are sometimes informally recognised through references in art or literature and this can also add to their value; and
- Scenic quality: the value of the view is a reflection of the scenic qualities gained in the view. This relates to the content and composition of the landscape, whereby certain patterns and features can increase the scenic quality while others may reduce the scenic quality.

Susceptibility to Change

1.7.5 Susceptibility relates to the nature of the viewer and how susceptible they are to the potential effects of the proposed development. This is determined by the nature of the viewer, which is the occupation or activity in which the viewer is engaged at the viewpoint, and is classified as high, medium or low. The most common groups of viewers considered in the visual assessment include residents, road-users, workers and walkers.

1.7.6 Viewers whose attention is focussed on the landscape – walkers or cyclists on recognised walking or cycling routes, for example - are likely to have a high susceptibility, as will residents of properties that gain views of the proposed development.

1.7.7 Viewers travelling in cars or on trains will tend to have a medium susceptibility as their view is transient and moving. However, people travelling in cars on a national tourist route can have a heightened susceptibility as they are likely to have an awareness of the surrounding landscape.

1.7.8 The least sensitive viewers, with a low susceptibility, are usually people at their place of work as they are often less sensitive to changes in the view, although this depends on the nature of their work.

Levels of Sensitivity

1.7.9 The sensitivity of each receptor is a product of the specific combination of value and susceptibility to the proposed development as evaluated by professional judgement. The sensitivity of the view or visual receptor is evaluated as high, medium or low by combining the value and susceptibility to change. Interim levels of sensitivity – medium-high and medium-low - may also be applied where appropriate for the combination of value and susceptibility.

Magnitude of Change on Views

1.7.10 The magnitude of change on visual receptors and views is assessed in terms of the size or scale of the change, the geographical extent of the visual effect and, in some situations, its duration and reversibility. The key elements of the proposed development that will influence the level of change on views are the movement, form, material, colour and scale of the turbines, although infrastructure is also considered.

Size or Scale

1.7.11 This criterion relates to the size or scale of change to the view that will arise as a result of the proposed development, based on the following factors:

- The scale of the change in the view, with respect to the loss or addition of features in the view and changes in its composition;
- The distance between the visual receptor and the proposed development. Generally, the greater the distance, the lower the magnitude of change as the proposed development will constitute a smaller-scale component of the view;
- The proportion of the proposed development that will be seen. Visibility may range from one blade tip to all of the turbines. Generally, the more of the proposed development that can be seen, the higher the magnitude of change;
- The field of view available and the proportion of the view that is affected by the proposed development. Generally, the more of a view that is affected, the higher the magnitude of change will be. If the proposed development extends across the whole of the open part of the outlook, the magnitude of change will generally be higher. Conversely, if the proposed development covers just a part of an open, expansive and wide view, the magnitude of change is likely to be reduced as the proposed development will not affect the whole open part of the outlook;
- The scale and character of the context within which the proposed development will be seen and the degree of contrast or integration of any new features with existing landscape elements, in terms of scale, form, mass, line, height, colour and texture. The scale of the landform and the patterns of the landscape, the existing land use and vegetation cover, and the degree and type of development and settlement seen in the view will be relevant; and
- The consistency of the appearance of the proposed development. If the proposed development appears in a similar setting and form, and from a similar angle each time it is apparent, it will appear as a single, familiar site, and this can reduce the magnitude of change. If, on the other hand, it appears from a different angle and is seen in a different form and setting, the magnitude of change is likely to be higher.

Geographical Extent

1.7.12 The extent of effects on views is based on the following factors:

- The extent of a receptor (a road, footpath or settlement, for example) from which the proposed development may be seen. If the proposed development is visible from extensive areas, the overall magnitude of change is likely to be higher than if it is visible from a limited part of a receptor;
- The extent to which the change would affect views; whether this is unique to a particular viewpoint or if similar visual changes occur over a wider area represented by the viewpoint; and
- The position of the proposed development in relation to the principal orientation of the view and activity of the receptor. If the proposed development is seen in a specific, directional vista, the magnitude of change will generally be greater than if it were seen in a glimpsed view at an oblique angle of view.

Duration and Reversibility

1.7.13 The duration and reversibility of effects on views are based on the period over which the proposed development is likely to exist and the extent to which it will be removed and its effects reversed at the end of that period. Duration and reversibility are not always incorporated into the overall magnitude of change, and may be stated separately.

Levels of Magnitude of Change

1.7.14 The magnitude of change on views and visual receptors is evaluated by combining the considerations of size or scale of change, geographical extent and, where relevant, duration and reversibility. The magnitude of change is assessed as high, medium, low or negligible according to the following definitions:

- High, where the proposed development will result in a major alteration to the baseline view, providing a prevailing influence and/or introducing elements that are substantially uncharacteristic in the view;
- Medium, where the proposed development will result in a moderate alteration to the baseline view, providing a readily apparent influence and/or introducing elements that may be prominent but are not necessarily uncharacteristic in the view;
- Low, where the proposed development will result in a minor alteration to the baseline view, providing a slightly apparent influence and/or introducing elements that are characteristic in the view; and
- Negligible, where the alteration to the view is barely discernible.

1.7.15 There may also be intermediate levels of magnitude of change – medium-high and medium-low - where the change falls between two of the definitions.

Significance of Effects on Views

1.7.16 The significance of the effect on each view or visual receptor is dependent on the factors that are considered in the sensitivity of the view or receptor and the magnitude of change upon it. These factors are combined using professional judgement to arrive at an overall assessment as to whether the proposed development will have a significant or not significant effect on the view or visual receptor. The matrix shown in Table 1 above is also used to inform the threshold of significance when combining sensitivity and magnitude of change.

1.7.17 A significant effect will occur where the combination of the variables results in the proposed development having a defining effect on the view or visual receptor. A not significant effect will occur where the effect of the proposed development is not definitive, and the view continues to be characterised principally by its baseline characteristics. In this instance, a not significant effect would indicate that the proposed development may have an influence on the view, but this influence will not be a defining one.

Assessing Night-Time Effects on Views

1.7.18 The nature of the daytime and night-time visual effects arising from wind farms differs considerably, as during daylight hours visibility of the large-scale moving turbines gives rise to effects that are very different to the pinpoint effects of lighting at night. As a result, the assessment of sensitivity and magnitude of change for night-time effects is carried out using different criteria/ definitions, as those that are included in this Appendix for daytime effects are not all appropriate or relevant to a night-time assessment.

Sensitivity of Night-Time Receptors

1.7.19 The sensitivity of visual receptors is defined through the application of professional judgement in relation to the interaction between the value of the view and the susceptibility of the visual receptor/ viewer to the particular form of change likely to result from the proposed development.

1.7.20 The factors that are considered in the value of views in daytime are described in Paragraph 1.7.4 of this Appendix. These are not all applicable at night-time in the same way they may be during the day. For example, viewpoints located within a Dark Sky Park (where one clear objective to is observe the night sky) may have a higher night-time value, as may residential views that are valued by their occupants at night-time. In other situations, however, the value of views may decrease at night when the detail of the view, or of elements that add value to it within a landscape, cannot readily be discerned. Furthermore, the popularity, reason for use and level of use of a viewpoint during the day may be completely different to its use at night. Levels of value are therefore ascribed on a different basis to those for daytime assessment, and are assessed on a case-by-case basis.

1.7.21 The criteria considered in the assessment of susceptibility of daytime effects on views, as described in Paragraph 1.7.5 to 1.7.8 above, remain appropriate for the assessment of receptor sensitivity at night-time. The susceptibility of people experiencing night-time outdoors will depend on the degree to which their perception is affected by existing baseline lighting. In brightly lit areas, or when travelling on roads from where sequential experience of lighting may be experienced, the susceptibility of receptors is likely to be lower than from within areas where the baseline contains no or limited existing lighting.

1.7.22 Overall, the susceptibility of people to changes in their night-time amenity forms the main consideration when formulating sensitivity, with limited weight attached to value at night.

Night-Time Magnitude of Change

1.7.23 The definitions used to describe the magnitude of change that may arise at night, as a consequence of the appearance of visible aviation lights, are set out below:

- High, where the addition of aviation lighting results in large scale of change/ large intrusion to the existing night-time baseline conditions/ darkness in the view, due to a full and/ or close range view of visible aviation lighting and/ or a high degree of contrast/ low degree of integration with level of baseline lighting in the view. Results in obtrusive light which compromises or diminishes the view of the night sky;

- Medium, where the addition of aviation lighting results in moderate scale of change/ moderate intrusion to the existing night-time baseline conditions/ darkness in the view, due to partial and/ or middle distance view of visible aviation lighting and/ or moderate level of contrast/ integration with level of baseline lighting in the view. Results in light that may partially compromise or diminish the view of the night sky, but which is not considered obtrusive;
- Low, where the addition of aviation lighting results in small scale of change/ minor intrusion to the existing night-time baseline conditions/ darkness in the view, due to limited and/ or distant view of aviation lighting and/ or low degree of contrast/ high degree of integration with level of baseline lighting in the view. Results in light that does not compromise or diminish the view of the night sky, nor is it considered obtrusive; and
- Negligible, where the addition of aviation lighting results in a largely indiscernible change/ negligible intrusion to the existing night-time baseline conditions/ darkness in the view, due to glimpsed view of lighting and/ or slight degree of contrast/ very high degree of integration with level of baseline lighting in the view. Results in light that does not compromise or diminish the view of the night sky, nor is it considered obtrusive.

1.7.24 Intermediate levels of effect may be identified between these levels where, on the application of professional judgement, the assessor considers a level of change lies between the two definitions. The term 'obtrusive' used in the above definitions is interpreted by OPEN as meaning "noticeable or prominent in an incongruous or intrusive way".

1.8 Assessment of Cumulative Effects

Introduction

1.8.1 The objective of the assessment of cumulative effects is to describe, illustrate and assess the ways in which the proposed development will interact with other relevant existing, consented or proposed wind farms. The outcome of this is the identification of any significant cumulative effects that may arise from the addition of the proposed development to the cumulative situation, in accordance with NatureScot guidance (Assessing the Cumulative Impact of Onshore Wind Energy Developments, 2012), which states that cumulative assessment should "*focus on the likely significant effects and in particular those which are likely to influence the outcome of the consenting process*."

1.8.2 The LVIA assesses the incremental effect arising from the addition of the proposed development to the cumulative situation, and not the overall accumulation of wind farms across the study area. This accords with GLVIA3, which notes (para 7.18):

"*Some of those involved may tend to favour a limited view focussed on the additional effects of the project being assessed, on top of the cumulative baseline. Some stakeholders may however be more interested in the combined effects of all the past, present and future proposals, including the proposed scheme…Assessing combined effects of different proposals at different stages in the planning process can be very complex. Furthermore the assessor will not have assessed the other schemes and cannot therefore make a fully informed judgement. A more comprehensive overview of the cumulative effects must rest with the competent authority*."

1.8.3 The cumulative development of wind farms within a particular area may build up to create different types of landscape or visual context. Significant cumulative landscape or visual effects may arise where a 'landscape with wind farms' is created as a result of the addition of the proposed development to other existing or proposed wind farms, resulting in wind turbines becoming sufficiently prolific that they become a prevailing or key landscape and visual characteristic.

Cumulative Magnitude of Change

1.8.4 The cumulative magnitude of change is an expression of the degree to which landscape character receptors and visual receptors/views will be changed by the addition of the proposed development to wind farm developments that are already operational, consented or at application stage. The cumulative magnitude of change is assessed based on a number of criteria, as follows:

- The location of the proposed development in relation to other wind farm developments. If the proposed development is seen in a part of the view or setting to a landscape receptor that is not affected by other wind farm development, this will generally increase the cumulative magnitude of change as it will extend wind farm influence into an area that is currently unaffected. Conversely, if the proposed development is seen in the context of other sites, the cumulative magnitude of change may be lower as wind farm influence is not being extended to otherwise undeveloped parts of the outlook or setting. This is particularly true where the scale and layout of the proposed development is similar to that of the other sites as where there is a high level of integration and cohesion with an existing wind farm site the various developments may appear as a single site;
- The extent of the developed skyline. If the proposed development will add notably to the developed skyline in a view, the cumulative magnitude of change will tend to be higher as skyline development can have a particular influence on both views and landscape receptors;
- The number and scale of wind farm developments seen simultaneously or sequentially. Generally, the greater the number of clearly separate developments that are visible, the higher the cumulative magnitude of change will be. The addition of the proposed development to a view or landscape where a number of smaller developments are apparent will usually have a higher cumulative magnitude of change than one or two large developments as this can lead to the impression of a less co-ordinated or strategic approach;
- The scale comparison between wind farm developments. If the proposed development is of a similar scale to other visible wind farms, particularly those seen in closest proximity to it, the cumulative magnitude of change will generally be lower as it will have more integration with the other sites and will be less apparent as an addition to the cumulative situation;
- The consistency of image of the proposed development in relation to other wind farm developments. The cumulative magnitude of change of the proposed development is likely to be lower if its turbine height, arrangement and layout design are broadly similar to other wind farms in the landscape, as they are more likely to appear as relatively simple and logical components of the landscape;
- The context in which the wind farm developments are seen. If developments are seen in a similar landscape context, the cumulative magnitude of change is likely to be lower due to visual integration and cohesion between the sites. If developments are seen in a variety of different landscape settings, this can lead to a perception that wind farm development is unplanned and un-coordinated, affecting a wide range of landscape characters and blurring the distinction between them; and
- The magnitude of change of the proposed development as assessed in the main assessment. The lower this is assessed to be, the lower the cumulative magnitude of change is likely to be. Where the proposed development itself is assessed to have a negligible magnitude of change on a view or

receptor there will not be a cumulative effect as the contribution of the proposed development will equate to the 'no change' situation.

1.8.5 Definitions of cumulative magnitude of change are applied in order that the process of assessment is made clear. These are:

- High, the addition of the proposed development to other wind energy developments in the landscape or view will result in a major change to the cumulative wind farm situation;
- Medium, the addition of the proposed development to other wind energy developments in the landscape or view will result in a moderate change to the cumulative wind farm situation;
- Low, the addition of the proposed development to other wind energy developments in the landscape or view will result in a minor change to the cumulative situation; and
- Negligible, where the alteration to the cumulative situation is barely discernible, or there may be 'no change'.

1.8.6 There may also be intermediate levels of cumulative magnitude of change – medium-high and medium-low - where the change falls between two of the definitions.

Significance of Cumulative Effects

1.8.7 Significant cumulative landscape and visual effects arise where a 'wind farm' landscape is created as a result of the addition of the proposed development to other existing or proposed wind farms, which results in wind turbines becoming apparent to the extent that they may become a prevailing landscape and visual characteristic. The creation of a 'wind farm landscape' may evolve as follows:

- A small-scale, single wind farm will often be perceived as a new or 'one-off' landscape feature or landmark within the landscape. Except at a local site level, it will not usually change the overall existing landscape character, or become a new characteristic element of a wider landscape;
- With the addition of further wind farm development, wind farms can become a characteristic element of the landscape, as the wind farms appear as repeated landscape elements. Providing there is sufficient separation, physically, visually and perceptually, between each development, coalescence is avoided and the wind farms are likely to appear as a series of wind farms within the landscape, without becoming the dominant or defining characteristic of the landscape; and
- The next stage is to consider larger commercial wind farms or an increase in the number of wind farms that appear to physically, visually and perceptually coalesce. This may lead to a 'wind farm landscape' where multiple wind farms are the prevailing or defining characteristic of the landscape. A wind farm landscape may already exist as part of the baseline landscape context.

1.8.8 It is important to remember that the objective of the cumulative assessment is different from the assessment of effects of the proposed development itself. The assessment of the effects of the proposed development itself focusses on the effect that the proposed development will have on the viewpoints, principal visual receptors and landscape character receptors, taking baseline wind farms into consideration but not assessing the contribution of the proposed development to the cumulative situation. In the cumulative assessment, the intention is to establish whether or not the addition of the proposed development, in combination with other relevant existing and proposed wind farms, may lead to wind turbines becoming a prevailing landscape and visual characteristic.

1.9 The Nature of Effects

1.9.1 The 'nature of effects' relates to whether the effects of the proposed development are positive/beneficial or negative/adverse. Guidance provided in GLVIA3 states that "*thought must be given to whether the likely significant landscape and visual effects are judged to be positive (beneficial) or negative (adverse) in their consequences for landscape or for views and visual amenity*" but does not provide an indication as to how that may be established in practice. The nature of effect is therefore one that requires interpretation and reasoned professional opinion.

1.9.2 In relation to many forms of development, the EIAR will identify positive and negative effects under the term 'nature of effect'. The landscape and visual effects of wind farms are difficult to categorise as either positive or negative as, unlike other disciplines, there are no definitive criteria by which these effects can be measured as being categorically positive or negative. For example, in disciplines such as noise or ecology it is possible to identify the nature of the effect of a wind farm by objectively quantifying its effect and assessing the nature of that effect in prescriptive terms. However, this is not the case with landscape and visual effects, where the approach combines quantitative and qualitative assessment.

1.9.3 In this assessment, positive, neutral and negative effects are defined as follows:

- Positive effects contribute to the landscape and visual resource through the enhancement of desirable characteristics or the introduction of new, beneficial attributes. The removal of undesirable existing elements or characteristics can also be beneficial, as can their replacement with more appropriate components;
- Neutral effects occur where the proposed development neither contributes to nor detracts from the landscape and visual resource and is accommodated with neither beneficial nor adverse effects, or where the effects are so limited that the change is hardly noticeable. A change to the landscape and visual resource is not considered to be adverse simply because it constitutes an alteration to the existing situation; and
- Negative effects are those that detract from or weaken the landscape and visual resource through the introduction of elements that contrast, in a detrimental way, with the existing characteristics of the landscape and visual resource, or through the removal of elements that are key in its characterisation.

1.9.4 A precautionary approach has been adopted which assumes that significant landscape and visual effects will be weighed on the negative side of the planning balance, although positive or neutral effects may arise in certain situations. Unless it is stated otherwise, the effects on the landscape and visual amenity of the proposed development are therefore considered to be negative.

1.10 Duration and Reversibility of Effects

1.10.1 The effects of the proposed development are of variable duration, and are assessed as short-term or long-term, and permanent or temporary/reversible. It is anticipated that the operational life of the proposed development will be 40 years. The turbines, met mast, site access tracks, substations and energy storage facilities will be apparent during this time, and these effects are considered to be long-term.

1.10.2 Other infrastructure and operations such as the construction processes and plant (including tall cranes for turbine erection) and construction and storage compounds will be apparent only during the initial construction

period of the proposed development and are considered to be short-term effects. Borrow pit excavation will also be short-term as borrow pits will be restored at the end of the construction process, although a permanently altered ground profile may remain evident.

1.10.3 The reversibility of effects is variable. The most apparent effects on the landscape and visual resource, which arise from the presence of the turbines, are temporary/ reversible as the turbines will be removed on decommissioning, as will the substations, energy storage facilities and permanent met masts. The effects of the tall cranes and heavy machinery used during the construction and decommissioning periods are also temporary.

1.10.4 In order to avoid repetition, the duration and reversibility of effects are not reiterated throughout the assessment.

Appendix 6.2
Residential Visual Amenity Assessment

Introduction

In accordance with the third edition of 'Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment' (GLVIA3), the LVIA, contained in Chapter 6, assesses the visual impact of the proposed development on public views and public visual amenity. This Residential Visual Amenity Assessment (RVAA) goes a stage beyond the LVIA by assessing the visual impact of the proposed development on private views and private visual amenity, and has been prepared, in accordance with the Landscape Institute's recently published Technical Guidance Note 2/19 'Residential Visual Amenity Assessment'.

Context to RVAA

In this Appendix reference is made to a selection of wind farm Appeal and s.36 decisions in both England and Scotland to help illustrate how other decision makers have handled making judgments on the visual effects of wind farms in relation to residential amenity. Most commercial wind farm developments will give rise to some locally significant visual effects. Where there are residential properties in close proximity to a proposed wind farm development, it is not uncommon for a RVAA to acknowledge that there will be some significant effects on the private visual amenity of some residents.

This is inevitable when considering the typical height of a modern turbine but, as various planning decisions show, this does not in itself render a wind farm unacceptable and any significant visual effects need to be balanced against the other benefits of the particular development in question.

The issue of Residential Visual Amenity was first addressed by Inspector Lavender in the Enifer Downs appeal decision in which he observed that: "*when turbines are present in such number, size and proximity that they represent an unpleasantly overwhelming and unavoidable presence in main views from a house or garden, there is every likelihood that the property concerned would come to be widely regarded as an unattractive and thus unsatisfactory (but not necessarily uninhabitable) place in which to live.*"

In coming to his decision, Inspector Lavender considered the extent to which:

- the visual experience from the dwelling and garden may be comparable to "*actually living within the turbine cluster*" rather than a turbine cluster being present close by; or
- the experience of the turbines is "unpleasantly overwhelming and unavoidable".

In the subsequent Carland Cross decision, Inspector Lavender elaborated and qualified his position stating: "*The planning system is designed to protect the public rather than private interests, but both interests may coincide where, for example, visual intrusion is of such magnitude as to render a property an unattractive place in which to live. This is because it is not in the public interest to create such living conditions where they did not exist before. Thus I do not consider that simply being able to see a turbine or turbines from a particular window or part of the garden of a house is sufficient reason to find the visual impact unacceptable (even though a particular occupier might find it objectionable).*"

This approach by Inspector Lavender has become known as the 'Lavender Test', albeit it is not a formal planning test as such.

It is also relevant to make reference to a s.36 decision in Scotland in which the appointed Reporters addressed the effects of a proposed wind farm on the visual component of residential amenity, with reference to the Lavender Test and in particular to take account of how they handled the approach to judging acceptability of effects.

At paragraph 17.42 of the Fauch Hill / Harburnhead Inquiry Report (8 July 2014) it is explained that there were 65 residential receptors within 2km of the application site. The Reporters stated that "*the generally agreed guidance on the level of visual impact is known as the 'Lavender test' which assess whether a property would become an unacceptable place to live because of the development*". The Reporters also use the terms 'dominant', 'overbearing' or 'oppressive' in terms of considering effects on residential amenity. At paragraph 11.56 of the Inquiry Report, the Reporters conclude that "*no individual properties would experience a dominant, overbearing or oppressive effect from the wind farm to the extent that residential amenity would be reduced to an unacceptable level in visual terms*".

In the Scottish Government section 36 decision for the Afton Wind Farm in East Ayrshire (17th October 2014), the Scottish Ministers set out (see page 7 of the Decision) that "w*ith regards to impacts on residential properties, Ministers agree with the assessment in the ES…… and consider that the development would not result in any over bearing visual effects on residential amenity to a degree that any property might be considered an unattractive place in which to live*".

In undertaking his assessment of the visual effects on residential amenity, the Reporter at Pines Burn in the Scottish Borders (Appeal allowed 17th August 2018) took account of the Scottish Ministers findings in respect of Afton Wind Farm and applied the principles of the so-called 'Lavender Test':

"*40. Whilst planning law is not intended to protect the view from individual properties, it is generally accepted that it would not be in the public interest for a development to create unacceptable living conditions at a dwelling. Various tests have been applied in these circumstances, but my attention has been drawn, in particular, to that accepted by the Scottish Ministers with regard to their decision on a section 36 application at Afton Wind Farm in East Ayrshire in 2014. Here the Ministers considered whether the development would result in "overbearing visual effects on residential amenity to a degree that any property might be considered an unattractive place in which to live." With this test in mind, I have looked at those dwellings within two kilometres of the appeal site, other than those which would have limited or no visibility of the turbines.*"

The Pines Burn Reporter reached the following conclusions regarding the "*higher threshold*" that Scottish Ministers accept is relevant:

"*48. Having studied the appellants' assessment and visited the locations and locality of these properties, I am satisfied that the appeal proposal would not result in a situation where the above test would be failed at any of those properties.*"

Appendix 1 to the Residential Visual Amenity Assessment (RVAA) Technical Guidance Note 2/19 refers to relevant planning precedents, including the decisions relating to the following wind farms:

- Enifer Downs Wind Farm;
- Carland Cross Wind Farm;
- Burnthouse Farm Wind Farm
- Langham Wind Farm; and
- Baillie Wind Farm.

As was pointed out in the Burnthouse Farm decision, there can be no substitute for site visits to individual properties so that any likely impacts can be judged in the particular and unique circumstances of each case.

Having regard to the above, it is helpful to consider the factors and thresholds of acceptability which have guided decision-makers in other cases throughout the UK as follows:

- No individual has the right to a particular view but there comes a point when, by virtue of the proximity, size and scale of a given development, a residential property would be rendered so unattractive a place to live that planning permission should be refused. The public interest is engaged because it would not be right in a civil society to force persons to live in a property, which, viewed objectively, the majority of citizens would consider to be unattractive. The test is concerned with an assessment of living conditions as they would arise with the wind farm built, irrespective of the starting point. In Burnthouse Farm, the Secretary of State found it useful to pose the question whether "*would the proposal affect the outlook of these residents to such an extent i.e. be so unpleasant, overwhelming and oppressive that this would become an unattractive place to live?*"
- The test of what would be unacceptably unattractive should be an objective test, albeit that judgement is required in its application in the circumstances of a particular case.
- There needs to be a degree of harm over and above an identified substantial adverse effect on a private interest to take a case into the category of refusal in the public interest. This was expressly endorsed by the Secretary of State in England in paragraph 10 of his decision letter at Burnthouse Farm dated 6 July 2011.

- The visual component of residential amenity should be assessed "in the round" taking into account factors such as distance from the turbines, the orientation, size and layout of the dwelling, garden and other amenity space, arc of view occupied by the wind farm, views through the turbines and the availability of screening.
- Each case has to be decided on its own merits but other Appeal cases and s.36 Decisions, provide a useful benchmarking exercise.

Approach to Financially Involved Properties

Another matter discussed within this Appendix relates to the approach that is taken with regard to financially involved properties. Those properties are owned by individuals who have entered into legal agreements with the Applicant related to the Proposed Development, whereby they stand to benefit financially if planning consent is granted. The number of financially involved properties at Scoop Hill is noticeably high, which is due to the large scale of the proposed wind farm, extending across many landholdings.

With regard to properties that are financially involved, it is relevant to consider the position of the Scottish Ministers as set out in the section 36 decision and Reporter's Inquiry Report on the proposed Harelaw Wind Farm, which was issued by the Scottish Government on 26th September 2013. In this case, the Scottish Ministers accepted the recommendation of the Reporter and refused the application for consent which involved a development of some 39 wind turbines. The Reporter in the Harelaw case stated with regard to financially involved properties, at paragraph 8.51, that she had "*disregarded properties which have a financial involvement, as I consider residents in those properties would be willing to suffer a diminution in their residential amenity because of the financial benefit they would gain*".

Paragraph 8.56 of the Harelaw decision makes it clear that a number of properties had turbines within 800m. In that case, the development involved 39 turbines and the Reporter commented that "*many of those properties within such close proximity of the turbines would be able to see all or most of the 39 turbines.*"

The purpose in referring to this s.36 decision is only in relation to the approach the Reporter took in terms of the 'weight' to be placed on financially involved properties in terms of the effects on them, in relation to residential amenity, as in the Harelaw case, the Reporter "disregarded" such properties. This approach, whereby financially involved properties are afforded a higher tolerance of impact when compared with non-financially involved properties has subsequently been reflected in many Appeal and Inquiry Decisions in Scotland and the UK ever since.

In the RVAA, financially involved properties have been identified and assessed separately from those properties that are not financially involved, in order that this important difference can be clearly identified. The method of assessment for financially involved properties is nonetheless identical to that taken for non-financially involved properties, any differentiation being reserved for the planning balance judgment.

RVAA Guidance

This guidance sets out the Steps to be followed when undertaking an RVAA and highlights how it should be informed by the principles and processes of GLVIA3. The purpose of the RVAA is to identify those properties where the effect of the proposed development leads to the 'Residential Visual Amenity Threshold' being reached or, in other words, where the magnitude of visual effect could be described as 'overbearing' or 'overwhelming' magnitude of effect.

This assessment is carried out on site, supported by desk-based analysis, in order to observe and assess baseline factors such as the orientation of the property, the baseline views that may be gained, screening by vegetation and so on. Site visits in respect of the Proposed Development and the RVAA have been carried out before and after the COVID 19 pandemic 'lockdown'. The field analysis has been carried out from publicly accessible locations close to each property in the study area, supported by desk based assessment using aerial photography, Google StreetView, maps, and the wirelines that have been run in order to illustrate the theoretical visibility of the proposed development from each property.

This RVAA assesses the likely effects of the Proposed Development on the visual component of residential amenity relating to individual properties within a localised study area. The term 'residential amenity' refers to the living conditions at a house, including its gardens and domestic curtilage, which are commonly interpreted to include visual amenity, noise amenity and other factors such as shadow flicker. In a RVAA, such as this, OPEN addresses only the visual amenity aspect of residential amenity, as this is its area of expertise. Effects from noise and shadow flicker are assessed in the EIA Report in Chapters 11 and 14 respectively.

The purpose of the RVAA is to inform the planning process. It is in this context that the Landscape Institute's Technical Guidance Note makes the following statement: "*It is not uncommon for significant adverse effects on views and visual amenity to be experienced by people at their place of residence as a result of introducing a new development into the landscape. In itself this does not necessarily cause particular planning concern. However, there are situations where the effect on the outlook / visual amenity of a residential property is so great that it is not generally considered to be in the public interest to permit such conditions to occur where they did not exist before.*"

Approach

The approach set out in the Technical Guidance is based on the following four Steps:

- Step 1: Definition of the study area and scope of the assessment, informed by the description of the proposed development, defining the study area extent and scope of the assessment with respect to the properties to be included.
- Step 2: Evaluation of baseline visual amenity at properties to be included, having regard to the landscape and visual context and the potential influence of the proposed development.
- Step 3: Assessment of likely change to visual amenity of included properties in accordance with GLVIA3 principles and processes.
- Step 4: Further assessment of predicted change to the visual amenity of properties where a judgement in relation to the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold is required.

Step 1

Step 1 involves defining the extent of the study area and establishing the scope of the assessment. In respect of defining the extent of the study area, the Landscape Institute's Technical Guidance Note gives the following advice (Paragraphs 4.6 and 4.7), "*Over the last few years a large number of RVAAs have been prepared, especially relating to wind energy proposals. Local Planning Authorities (LPA) have frequently requested 'study areas' of up to 3 or even 5 km. The logic for these (exceptionally) large study areas was based on certain findings of LVIAs which identified significant visual effects from 'settlements' or from clusters of residential properties within this range. This fails to recognise that RVAA is a stage beyond LVIA. Consequently, many RVAAs, including those of windfarms with large turbines (150m and taller), have included disproportionately extensive study areas incorporating too many properties. This appears to largely be based on the misconception that if a significant effect has been identified in the LVIA adjacent to a property at 2.5km it will also potentially lead to reaching the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold.*

When assessing relatively conspicuous structures such as wind turbines, and depending on local landscape characteristics, a preliminary study area of approximately 1.5 to 2km radius may initially be appropriate in order to begin identifying properties to include in a RVAA."

In line with this guidance, the study area for the proposed development has been drawn out to the larger 2km radius recommended. Within the 2km study area, all private residential properties have been identified using AddressBase Plus data and mapped (see Figures 1 and 2 of this Appendix). The RVAA includes residential properties that appear occupied and in use as dwelling houses. These are individually numbered and listed in Figures 1 and 2 of this Appendix. Figure 1 indicates all of those properties that do not have a financial involvement in the Proposed Development, while Figure 2, in Annex 1, indicates those properties that do have a financial involvement in the Proposed Development. The assessment sheets of all financial involved properties are also contained in Annex 1.

All of the properties shown in Figures 1 and 2 are located within the Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) of the Proposed Development, and therefore they have all been evaluated and assessed in the further steps of the RVAA.

Step 2

Step 2 involves carrying out an evaluation of the baseline visual amenity at the properties, through a combination of desk study and field work. The key considerations of this evaluation are set out in the Technical Guidance as follows:

- "*The nature and extent of all potentially available existing views from the property and its garden / domestic curtilage,*

including the proximity and relationship of the property to surrounding landform / landcover and visual foci. This may include primary / main views from the property or domestic curtilage as well as secondary / peripheral views; and
- *Views as experienced when arriving or leaving the property, for example from private driveways / access tracks.*"

This step is carried out largely on site from adjacent public roads, open land or footpaths, supported with further desk-based analysis of aerial photography and wirelines.

RVAA sheets (which are included in this Appendix for all Non-financially involved properties (and in Annex 1 for all Financially Involved Properties)) have been prepared for all 52 properties that lie within the 2km study area. These assessment sheets contain an OS map and aerial photograph of the property, a description of the baseline views at each property, and the direction of the view and horizontal field of view which will be affected by the Proposed Development. The RVAA sheets also record the likely visual effects resulting from the Proposed Development. Wirelines are also presented in Annex 2 of this Appendix to illustrate the theoretical visibility of the Proposed Development from each of the 52 properties. These are produced in increments of 90-degrees, in as many parts as are required to illustrate the full theoretical visibility of the proposed development from each property.

Step 3

Step 3 involves carrying out an assessment of the likely change to the visual amenity of properties by applying the process of assessment advocated by GLVIA3, in which the sensitivity of the receptor is combined with the magnitude of change which will arise as a result of the proposed development, to determine whether the effect will be significant or not. The aim of Step 3 is to identify those properties with potential to reach the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold and which therefore require further assessment in Step 4. This will generally only occur where a high; high/ medium-high or medium-high magnitude of change is assessed for a property, as the threshold reflects those effects that are at the extreme where they may become overwhelming or overbearing.

OPEN's methodology assumes that all occupiers of local residential properties within the RVAA will have a high sensitivity. The assessment of magnitude of change that will arise at each property as a result of the proposed development is carried out in accordance with GLVIA3 guidance, as indicated in the Landscape Institute's Technical Guidance Note and described in Appendix 6.1, which provides a full description of the criteria that contribute to magnitude of change on views and a description of the magnitude ratings used in this assessment. These are copied below for ease of reference:

"*Magnitude of change on views*

The magnitude of change on visual receptors and views is assessed in terms of the size or scale of the change, the geographical extent of the visual effect and, in some situations, its duration and reversibility. The key elements of the proposed development that will influence the level of change on views are the movement, form, material, colour and scale of the turbines, although infrastructure is also considered.

Size or Scale

This criterion relates to the size or scale of change to the view that will arise as a result of the proposed development, based on the following factors:
- *The scale of the change in the view, with respect to the loss or addition of features in the view and changes in its composition;*
- *The distance between the visual receptor and the proposed development. Generally, the greater the distance, the lower the magnitude of change as the proposed development will constitute a smaller-scale component of the view;*
- *The proportion of the proposed development that will be seen. Visibility may range from one blade tip to all of the turbines. Generally, the more of the proposed development that can be seen, the higher the magnitude of change;*
- *The field of view available and the proportion of the view that is affected by the proposed development. Generally, the more of a view that is affected, the higher the magnitude of change will be. If the proposed development extends across the whole of the open part of the outlook, the magnitude of change will generally be higher. Conversely, if the proposed development covers just a part of an open, expansive and wide view, the magnitude of change is likely to be reduced as the proposed development will not affect the whole open part of the outlook;*
- *The scale and character of the context within which the proposed development will be seen and the degree of contrast or integration of any new features with existing landscape elements, in terms of scale, form, mass, line, height, colour and texture. The scale of the landform and the patterns of the landscape, the existing land use and vegetation cover, and the degree and type of development and settlement seen in the view will be relevant; and*
- *The consistency of the appearance of the proposed development. If the proposed development appears in a similar setting and form, and from a similar angle each time it is apparent, it will appear as a single, familiar site, and this can reduce the magnitude of change. If, on the other hand, it appears from a different angle and is seen in a different form and setting, the magnitude of change is likely to be higher.*

Geographical Extent

The extent of effects on views is based on the following factors:
- *The extent of a receptor (a road, footpath or settlement, for example) from which the proposed development may be seen. If the proposed development is visible from extensive areas, the overall magnitude of change is likely to be higher than if it is visible from a limited part of a receptor;*
- *The extent to which the change would affect views; whether this is unique to a particular viewpoint or if similar visual changes occur over a wider area represented by the viewpoint; and*
- *The position of the proposed development in relation to the principal orientation of the view and activity of the receptor. If the proposed development is seen in a specific, directional vista, the magnitude of change will generally be greater than if it were seen in a glimpsed view at an oblique angle of view.*

Duration and Reversibility

The duration and reversibility of effects on views are based on the period over which the proposed development is likely to exist and the extent to which it will be removed and its effects reversed at the end of that period. Duration and reversibility are not always incorporated into the overall magnitude of change, and may be stated separately.

Levels of Magnitude of Change

The magnitude of change on views and visual receptors is evaluated by combining the considerations of size or scale of change, geographical extent and, where relevant, duration and reversibility. The magnitude of change is assessed as high, medium, low or negligible according to the following definitions:

- *High, where the proposed development will result in a major alteration to the baseline view, providing a prevailing influence and/or introducing elements that are substantially uncharacteristic in the view;*
- *Medium, where the proposed development will result in a moderate alteration to the baseline view, providing a readily apparent influence and/or introducing elements that may be prominent but are not necessarily uncharacteristic in the view;*
- *Low, where the proposed development will result in a minor alteration to the baseline view, providing a slightly apparent influence and/or introducing elements that are characteristic in the view; and*
- *Negligible, where the alteration to the view is barely discernible.*

There may also be intermediate levels of magnitude of change – medium-high and medium-low - where the change falls between two of the definitions."

<u>Significance of visual effect</u>

The significance of the effect on residential visual amenity experienced at each property is dependent on the factors considered in the sensitivity and the magnitude of change resulting from the Proposed Development. These judgements on sensitivity and magnitude are combined to arrive at an overall assessment as to whether the Proposed Development will have an effect on residential visual amenity that is significant or not significant.

The assessment process - the evaluation of magnitude of change and the significance of the effect - is described on the RVAA sheets in this Appendix. Of these, 16 non-financially involved and 13 financially involved properties are assessed as having a high, high/ medium-high or medium-high magnitude of change and therefore require a Step 4 assessment to determine whether or not the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold has been reached. Properties with high, high/ medium-high or medium-high levels of magnitude of change have been considered in the Step 4 assessment as these represent the highest levels of change and Step 4 ensures that the reasons for them either reaching, or not reaching, the threshold are justified.

Step 4
Step 4 of the RVAA is described as follows in the Landscape Institute's Technical Guidance Note (Paragraphs 4.17 to 4.20):

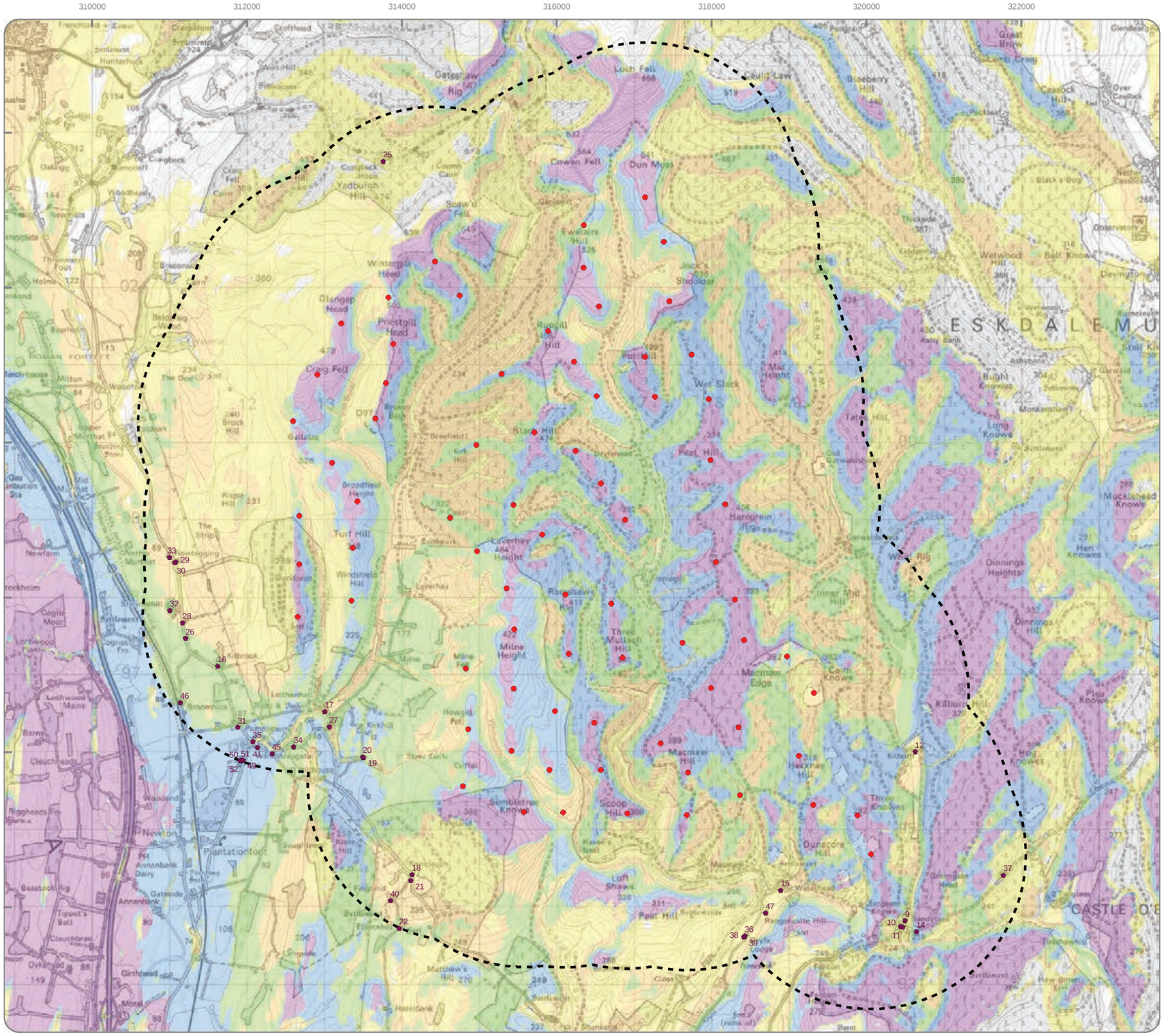
"*The final step of RVAA involves a more detailed examination of the predicted effects on the visual amenity at those properties identified for further assessment in the previous step.*

There is an important distinction between this concluding step of RVAA and the preceding one. In Step 3 the assessor has reached a conclusion with respect to magnitude and (EIA) significance of visual effect, and the change in visual amenity at the property. In this final step, and only for those properties where the largest magnitude of effect has been identified, a further judgement is required. This concluding judgement should advise the decision maker whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, therefore potentially becoming a matter of Residential Amenity. This judgement should be explained in narrative setting out why the effects are considered to reach the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold. Equally, judgements should explain why the threshold has not been reached.

The Residential Visual Amenity Threshold judgement should be communicated in a coherent manner, using text with clear descriptions, employing terminology which is commonly understood and descriptors which may have previously been used. Assessors should ensure that their judgements are unambiguous and have a clear, rational conclusion. Some examples of descriptions and descriptors that might be used include: 'blocking the only available view from a property', or 'overwhelming views in all directions'; and 'unpleasantly encroaching' or being 'inescapably dominant from the property'. It may also be useful to employ bespoke graphics such as annotated aerial photographs and wireframe visualisations to aid this further assessment in Step 4.

The key point regarding Step 4 is that the judgement required in this final, concluding step goes beyond the assessment undertaken in Step 3 which is restricted to judging the magnitude and significance of visual effect, typically as a supplement to the accompanying LVIA."

The Step 4 assessment is included on the RVAA sheets for each of the relevant properties. Where this RVAA identifies any properties at the threshold in Step 4, this does not imply an unacceptable visual effect, as any finding of acceptability requires to be undertaken as part of the wider planning balance. The 'threshold' acts to identify those properties where a predicted change to visual amenity is of such magnitude that it should be considered by the Decision Maker and weighed in the planning balance, along with other EIA effects.



Legend

- Proposed Turbine Location
- 2km Distance Radius

Blade Tip Zone of Theoretical Visibility

No. of Theoretically Visible Turbines

- 1 - 15
- 16 - 30
- 31 - 45
- 46 - 60
- 61 - 75

Residential Properties (Non-financially involved)

9 - 3 SANDYFORD COTTAGES - LOCKERBIE
10 - SANDYFORD COTTAGE - LOCKERBIE
11 - 1 SANDYFORD COTTAGES - LOCKERBIE
12 - KILBURN - LOCKERBIE
14 - 2 SANDYFORD COTTAGES - LOCKERBIE
15 - WATERHEAD OF DRYFE COTTAGE - LOCKERBIE
16 - KILBROOK FARM - MOFFAT
17 - WAMPHRAY MILL - MOFFAT
18 - KIRNCLEUCH, FINGLAND - LOCKERBIE
19 - 2 KIRKHILL COTTAGE - MOFFAT
20 - 1 KIRKHILL COTTAGE - MOFFAT
21 - FINGLAND COTTAGE - LOCKERBIE
22 - ELBECKHILL, FINGLAND - LOCKERBIE
25 - CRAIG BECK HOPE - MOFFAT
26 - COOMB BURN - MOFFAT
27 - KIRKBURN - MOFFAT
28 - ANNANSIDE -
29 - HOLMVIEW - MOFFAT
30 - NEWBIGGING - MOFFAT
31 - PUMPLABURN FARM - MOFFAT
32 - STENRIESHILL - MOFFAT
33 - MILKYMOSS - MOFFAT
34 - ROUGHDYKES - LOCKERBIE
35 - BRIGEND - MOFFAT
36 - 3 DRYFE LODGE - LOCKERBIE
37 - MARLSIDE - LOCKERBIE
38 - 1 DRYFE LODGE - LOCKERBIE
39 - 2 DRYFE LODGE - LOCKERBIE
40 - FINGLAND - LOCKERBIE
41 - WAMPHRAY GATE FARMHOUSE - LOCKERBIE
45 - CROSSKNOWE - LOCKERBIE
46 - BROOMHILLS FARM - MOFFAT
47 - MURTHAT COTTAGE - LOCKERBIE
49 - 2 DUNDORAN VIEW - WAMPHRAY
50 - 4 DUNDORAN VIEW - WAMPHRAY
51 - 6 DUNDORAN VIEW - WAMPHRAY
52 - 8 DUNDORAN VIEW - WAMPHRAY

Blade tip:	180 / 200 / 225 / 250m	Observer height:	2m
DTM:	OS Terrain 5 DTM	Surface features:	Excluded
DTM resolution:	5m	Earth curvature:	Included

0 0.5 1 2 km

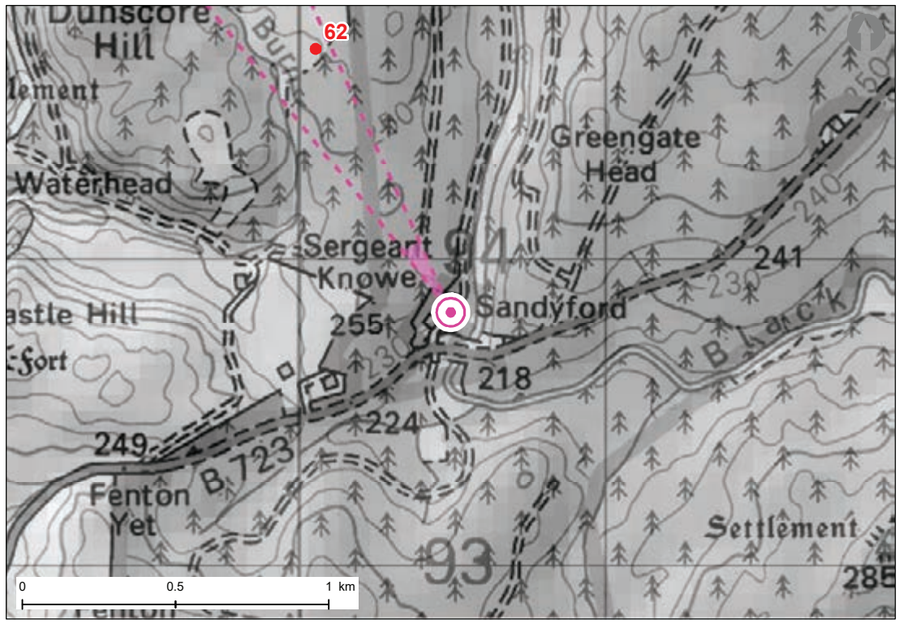
SCOOP HILL WIND FARM

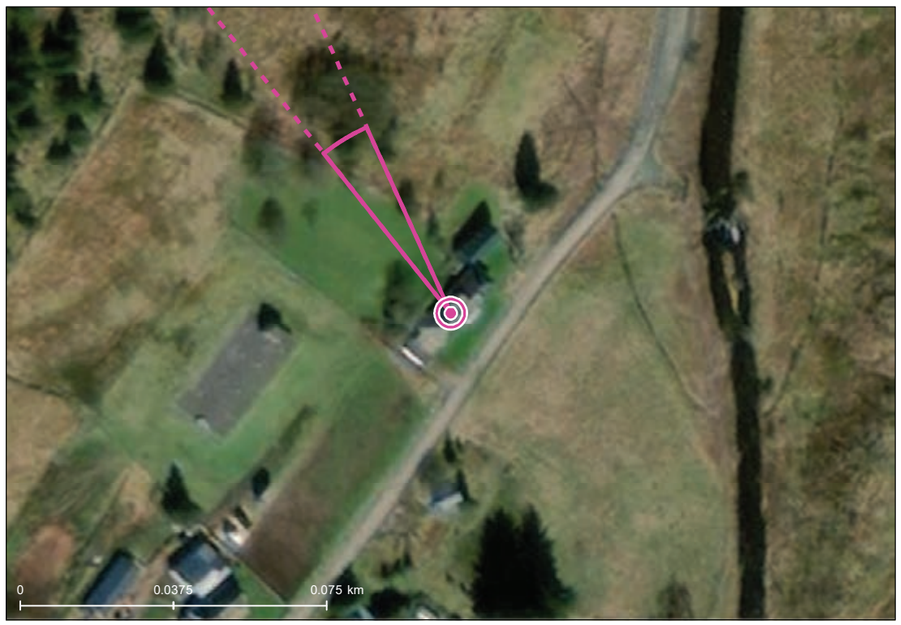
Figure 1
Residential Visual Amenity Assessment
Overview - Non-financially Involved Properties

Ref No:	160971	**Created By:**	TH	**Rev No:**	5
Scale:	1:50,000	**Drawing Size:**	A3	**Date:**	20/10/2020
Coordinate System:	BNG OS GB 1936 Datum				

community windpower

open optimised environments





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OS Grid Reference:	X 320497
	Y 593826
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	3
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	2
Horizontal field of view:	14.24°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	0.96km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☐ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☒ Rendered	☐ 1 Storey	☐ 2 Storey	☒ Outbuildings	☒ Front Garden	☒ Rear Garden
☒ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☒ 1.5 Storey	☐ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☒ Garage(s)	☒ Side Gardens

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is one of a group of properties at Sandyford (including property numbers 10, 11 and 14). This property is the northernmost in the group and is accessed by a minor public road that runs off the B723, to the south-east of the proposed development. The property is in a low-lying location on the Black Esk valley floor, west of the Black Esk. There is an outbuilding to the north of the house.

Views from property
The property is strongly orientated to the south-east, with views (ground floor windows and dormers upstairs), foreshortened by the eastern valley side, across the Black Esk watercourse. It is likely that there are also windows on the rear, north-western, elevation, but views in this direction will be foreshortened by the landform of the valley, which rises to the west behind the house. Views to the north-west will also be filtered by planting in the garden and, further away, forestry. There is one ground level window in the north-eastern gable from which views up the Black Esk are likely to be gained. There is a garage built against the south-western gable.

Views from access
There are intermittent open views of hills and forestry on the approach to this property on the B723.

Views from garden grounds
There are gardens to the front, rear and side (north-east) of the house. There is some tree and shrub planting in the rear and side gardens but this is not particularly dense, and open views across and along the Black Esk valley will be gained. Views to the north-west will be foreshortened by the rising landform behind the house, with further screening/ filtering by garden vegetation and forestry beyond.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Medium/medium-low**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

The wirelines show that three turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible from this property, two as hubs and one as a blade, with the nearest visible turbine 960m away. The proposed development will extend over approximately 14-degrees to the north-west of the property. The main orientation of views from the house is to the south-east, and these views will not be affected by the proposed development. There may be some visibility in views to the north-west, if there are windows in this elevation. However, visibility in this direction from within the property will be screened/ filtered by the planting in the garden, the outbuilding and more distant forestry, and will be foreshortened by landform.

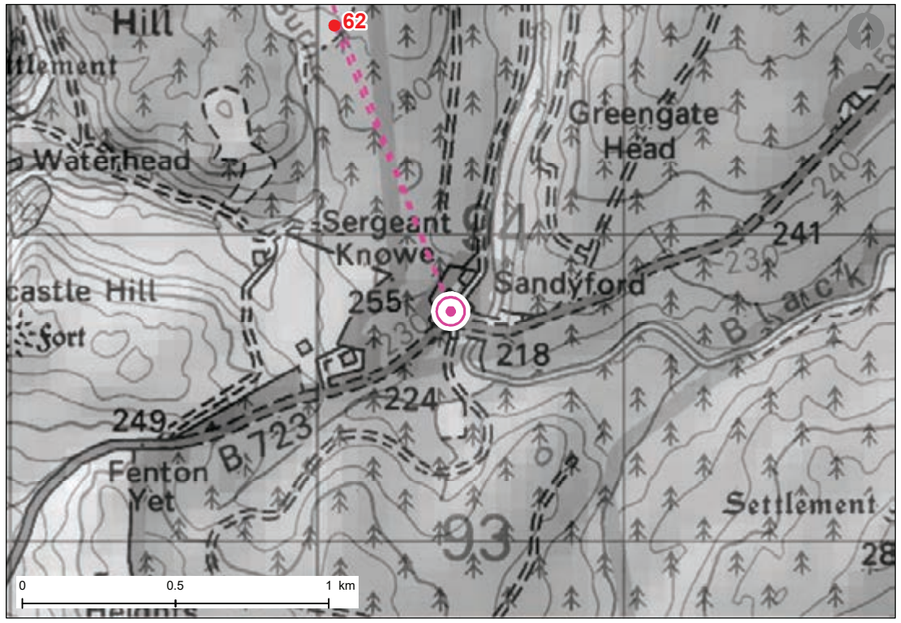
Views from the garden are likely to have more direct and open visibility than those from the house, but will be screened/ filtered by garden planting and the forestry that lies to the north-west. The key south-easterly views from the garden, across the valley, will not be affected. Intermittent views towards the proposed development will be gained from the approach to the property on the B723, particularly from the east.

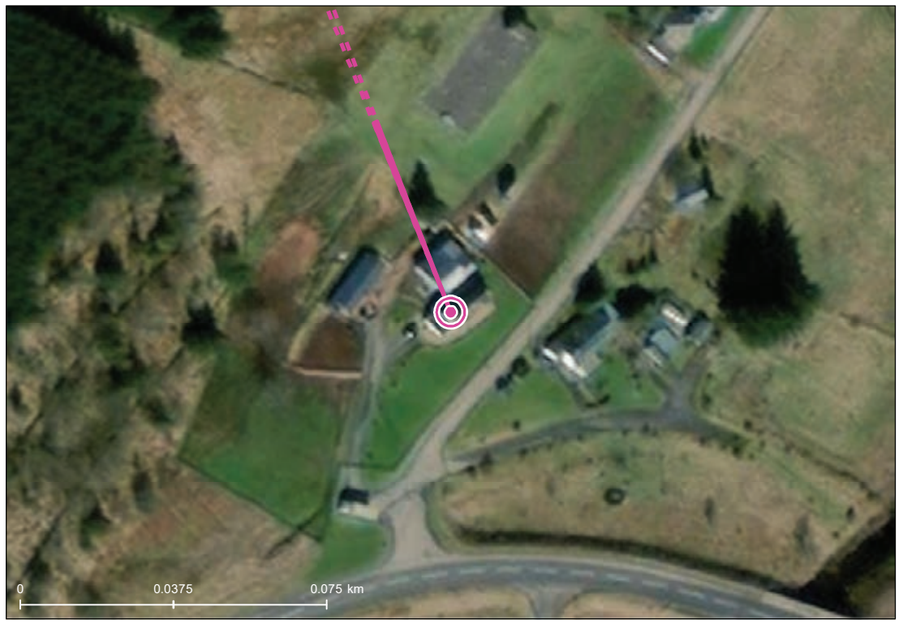
The proposed development will potentially be visible in views from the garden at this property, and from its approach, but is unlikely to be clearly visible from within the property due to the orientation of views and screening by woodland. The level of theoretical visibility is very limited with further filtering provided by vegetation around the property, but is gained at close-proximity, so that where the proposed development is visible it will affect a small part of the view but will large-scale. The effect on views will be borderline significant, due largely to the visibility of the proposed development from the garden and on the approach to the property.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction. This property is not considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold due to the medium/ medium-low magnitude of change on views from the property.





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OS Grid Reference:	X 320437
	Y 593752
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	2
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	1
Horizontal field of view:	1.02°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.01km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☐ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☒ Rendered	☐ 1 Storey	☐ 2 Storey	☐ Outbuildings	☒ Front Garden	☒ Rear Garden
☒ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☒ 1.5 Storey	☐ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☐ Garage(s)	☒ Side Gardens

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is one of a group of properties at Sandyford (including property numbers 9, 11 and 14). This property is accessed by a minor public road that runs off the B723, to the south-east of the proposed development. The property is in a slightly elevated location on the western Black Esk valley side. There are outbuildings to the north-west of the house.

Views from property
The property is strongly orientated to the south-east, with views (ground floor windows and dormers upstairs) across the Black Esk watercourse. There is also a large picture window in a recent extension at the south-western gable of the house, which will gain long, open views to hills in the south-west. It likely that there are also windows on the rear, north-western, elevation, but views in this direction will be foreshortened by the landform of the valley, which rises to the west behind the house. Views to the north-west will also be screened by forestry. There are no windows in the north-eastern gable.

Views from access
There are intermittent open views of hills and forestry on the approach to this property on the B723.

Views from garden grounds
There are gardens to the front, rear and sides of the house. There is some limited planting, including a hedge in the front garden, but this is not particularly dense, and open views across and along the Black Esk valley will be gained. Views to the north-west will be foreshortened by the rising landform behind the house, with further screening by the forestry beyond.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Medium/medium-low**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

The wirelines show that two turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible from this property, one as a hub and one as a blade, with the nearest visible turbine 1.01km away. The proposed development will extend over approximately 1-degree to the north-west of the property. The main orientation of views from the house is to the south-east and south-west, and these views will not be affected by the proposed development. There may be some visibility in views to the north-west, if there are windows in this elevation. However, visibility in this direction from within the property will be screened/ filtered by the outbuildings and forestry, and will be foreshortened by landform.

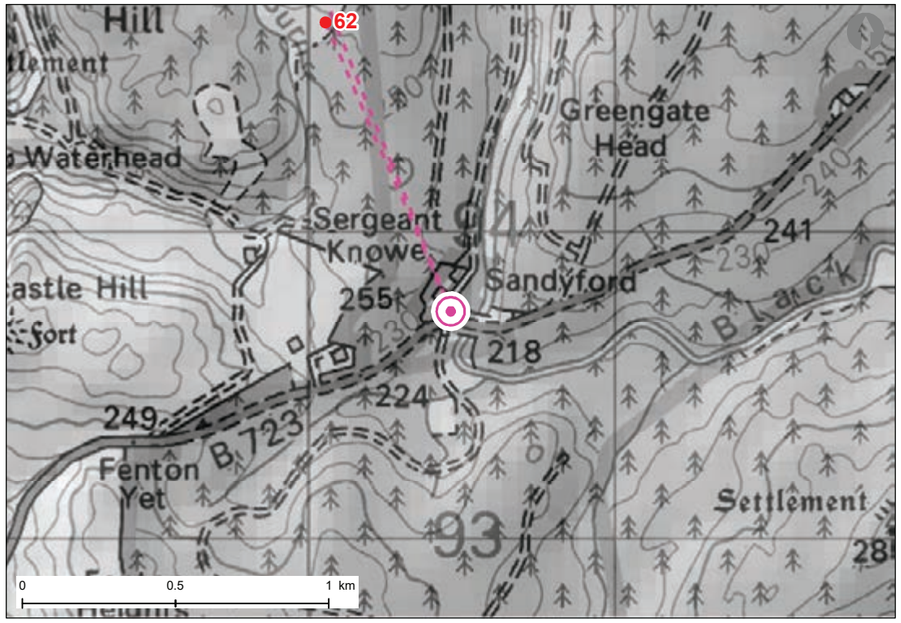
Views from the garden are likely to have more direct and open visibility than those from the house, but will be screened by the forestry that lies to the north-west. The key southerly and south-easterly open views from the garden will not be affected. Intermittent views towards the proposed development will be gained from the approach to the property on the B723, particularly from the east.

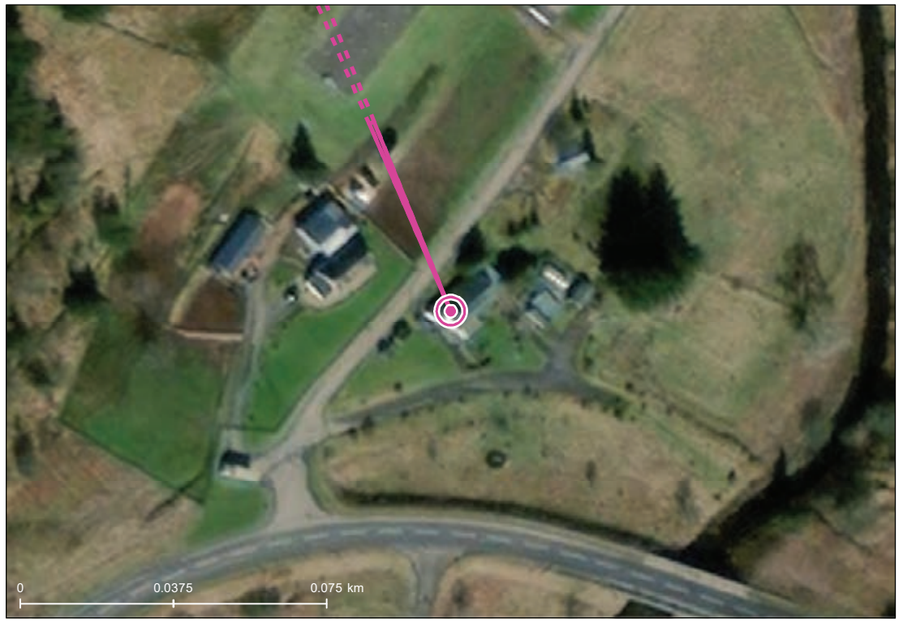
The proposed development will potentially be visible in views from the garden at this property, and from its approach, but is unlikely to be clearly visible from within the property due to the orientation of views and screening by woodland. The level of theoretical visibility is very limited with further filtering provided by forestry, but is gained at close-proximity, so that where the proposed development is visible it will affect a very small part of the view but will large-scale. The effect on views will be borderline significant, due largely to the visibility of the proposed development from the garden and on the approach to the property.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction. This property is not considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold due to the medium/ medium-low magnitude of change on views from the property.





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OS Grid Reference:	X 320466
	Y 593743
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	2
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	1
Horizontal field of view:	1.45°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.03km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☐ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☒ Rendered	☒ 1 Storey	☐ 2 Storey	☒ Outbuildings	☒ Front Garden	☒ Rear Garden
☒ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☐ 1.5 Storey	☒ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☐ Garage(s)	☒ Side Gardens

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is one of a group of properties at Sandyford (including property numbers 9, 10 and 14). This property is accessed by a minor public road that runs off the B723, to the south-east of the proposed development. The property is in a low-lying, enclosed location on the Black Esk valley floor, west of the Black Esk. There is an outbuilding to the east of the house.

Views from property
The property is strongly orientated to the south-east, with views from large windows and a conservatory across the Black Esk valley and the B723. There are also windows on the rear, north-western, elevation, but views in this direction are enclosed and screened by the construction of the minor road that runs immediately behind the house, by the landform of the valley, which rises to the west behind the house, by Property 10, and by more distant forestry.

Views from access
There are intermittent open views of hills and forestry on the approach to this property on the B723.

Views from garden grounds
There are gardens around the house. There is some tree and shrub planting but this is not particularly dense, and open views across and along the Black Esk valley will be gained. Views to the north-west will be foreshortened as with the views from within the house.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Medium-low**
- **Significance of effect: Not significant visual effect**

The wirelines show that two turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible from this property, one as a hub and one as a blade, with the nearest visible turbine 1.03km away. The proposed development will extend over approximately 1.5-degrees to the north-west of the property. The main orientation of views from the house is to the south-east, and these views will not be affected by the proposed development. There is unlikely to be visibility in views to the north-west from within the house due to the very enclosed nature of the rear of this property.

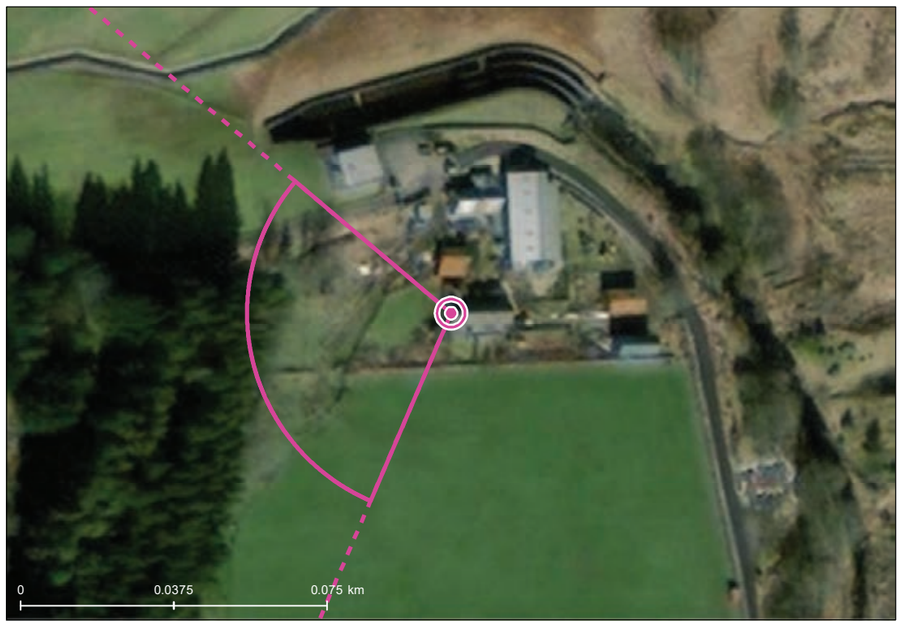
Views from the garden are likely to have more open visibility than those from the house, but these too will be limited by the enclosed, low-lying nature of the property and will also be screened/ filtered by Property 10, the road, and forestry. The key south-easterly views from the garden, across the valley, will not be affected. Intermittent views towards the proposed development will be gained from the approach to the property on the B723, particularly from the east.

The proposed development will potentially be visible in some limited views from the garden at this property, and from its approach, but is very unlikely to be visible from within the property due to the low-lying, enclosed nature of the property, the orientation of views and screening. The level of theoretical visibility is also very limited, and the effect on views will be not significant.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction. This property is not considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold due to the not significant effect on views from the property.



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OS Grid Reference:	X 320626
	Y 596006
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	10
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	7
Horizontal field of view:	106.93°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.11km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☐ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☒ Rendered	☐ 1 Storey	☐ 2 Storey	☒ Outbuildings	☐ Front Garden	☐ Rear Garden
☒ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☒ 1.5 Storey	☐ Conservatory	☒ Farmyard	☐ Garage(s)	☐ Side Gardens

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
House situated at the end of a minor public road that leads to the Black Esk Reservoir, to the east of the proposed development. The property is located immediately to the south of the impoundment dam of the Reservoir, just to the west of the Black Esk. Outbuildings lie to the north and east of the property.

Views from property
The property is orientated due south with open views along the Black Esk valley from the ground floor windows. The western side of the valley is enclosed by dense coniferous forestry that screens some visibility to the south-west. Views to the north appear to be screened by outbuildings, with the Reservoir dam also rising abruptly to the north of the house, foreshortening any views in this direction. There are windows (including upstairs windows) in the eastern elevation from where there are likely to be close views of outbuildings, with the landform of the Black Esk valley beyond. It is not clear if there are windows in the western elevation; if so, these will gain close views of woodland and forestry that lies close to the western side of the property.

Views from access
There are long relatively open views to the north, west and north-west, towards hills and forestry, when travelling towards the property along the Black Esk valley. Views to the east are foreshortened by the landform of the eastern side of the valley.

Views from garden grounds
There are grounds and yards all around the property, with some garden vegetation. Views are likely to be similar to those from the house, with long, open views southwards down the Black Esk valley and generally more limited views in other directions.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Medium-low**
- **Significance of effect: Not significant visual effect**

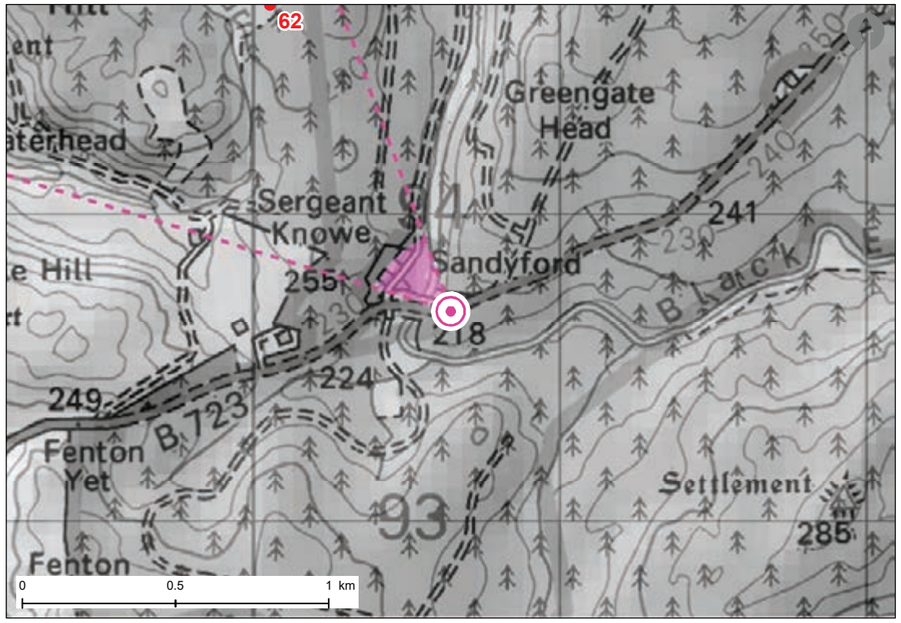
The wirelines show that ten turbines in the eastern part of the proposed development are theoretically visible at close-proximity from this property, with the nearest turbine 1.11km away. The proposed development will extend approximately 107-degrees around the west, south-west and north-west of the property. The main orientation of views from the house is due southwards, and some turbines may be visible above forestry on the western periphery of this southwards view, along the hills that enclose the valley. These turbines are unlikely to have consistent clear and high visibility from within the property (although this will depend on the configuration of rooms and windows) due to their peripheral location in relation to the southwards orientation of views and the ground level of the windows. Views from the eastern elevation will not be affected by the proposed development, and there are no apparent windows in the northern elevation. Visibility from the outside grounds and outbuildings is likely to be higher than that gained from the house, with potential for more open visibility and less restricted orientation. Views to the west and south-west will, however, be screened to some degree by forestry and woodland, while views to the north-west will be screened, at least in part, by the Reservoir dam. Open views towards the proposed development will be gained from the approach to the property, up the valley.

The proposed development will be immediately apparent in views from the approach to this property and some parts of its outside grounds. Visibility from within the property and its curtilage is likely to be less apparent due to the location of turbines in realtion to the main orientation of views and some screening and filtering by landform, outbuildings, woodland and forestry. The effect will be not significant due to the level of forestry screening.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction. This property is not considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, for the following reasons:
- The main orientation of views from the property and its curtilage will be peripherally affected by the proposed development
- The number of turbines that are theoretically visible is relatively limited, and there will be further screening by various features
- The proposed development is not seen in direct relation to the property on the aproach to the house



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OS Grid Reference:	X 320646
	Y 593685
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	56
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	44
Horizontal field of view:	52.99°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.16km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☐ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☒ Rendered	☒ 1 Storey	☐ 2 Storey	☒ Outbuildings	☒ Front Garden	☒ Rear Garden
☒ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☐ 1.5 Storey	☐ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☒ Garage(s)	☒ Side Gardens

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is one of a group of properties at Sandyford (including property numbers 9, 10 and 11) and is adjacent to the B723, to the south-east of the proposed development, in a slightly elevated location on the eastern Black Esk valley side. There are small outbuildings to the north of the house.

Views from property
The property is orientated south-south-east/ north-north-west. Views from the south-south-east elevation, which fronts onto the northern side of the B723, are screened at close proximity by coniferous forestry that lies immediately to the south of the B723. This is planned to be felled in 2025/2026, affording the property long open views across the Black Esk valley. There are likely to be windows on the north-north-west elevation, from which long, open views across hills and forestry will be gained. There is some forestry planting to the north-east of the property that will screen views in this direction. There is a glass door and window in the west-south-western elevation from where long westwards views across the Black Esk are gained. There are no windows in the east-north-eastern elevation.

Views from access
There are intermittent open views of hills and forestry on the approach to this property on the B723.

Views from garden grounds
There are gardens to the front, rear and sides of the house with little tree or shrub planting. There are several conifers around the property, outwith the garden, and these will provide some limited filtering of views. Open views across the Black Esk valley are likely to be gained to the north and west, with views to the south opening up in 2025/26 when the forestry is planned for removal, and views to the east foreshortened by rising landform.

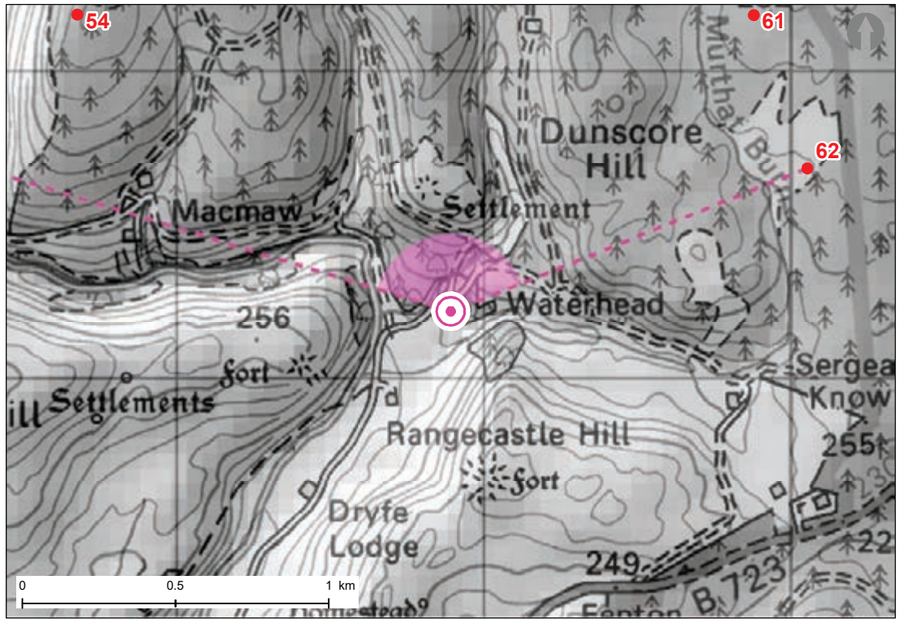
Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Medium-High**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

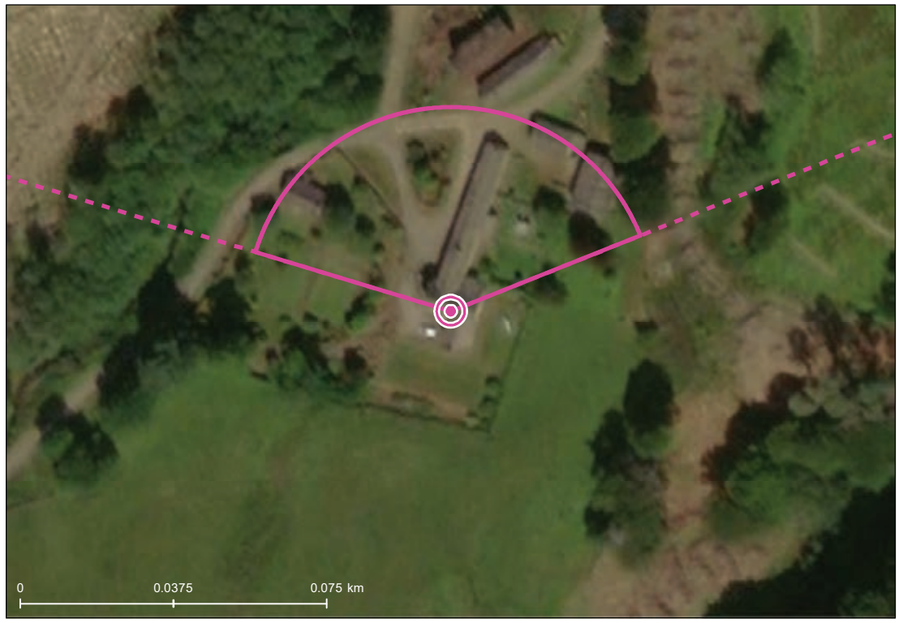
The wirelines show that 57 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible at close-proximity from this property, with the nearest turbine 1.16km away. The proposed development is seen across its shortest horizontal extent in this view, extending across approximately 53-degrees of the view to the north-west of the property. The main orientation of views from within the house is south-south-east/ north-north-west. The south-south-east views are currently screened by dense coniferous forestry, and once felled the proposed development would not affect this outlook, which would be an open views across the Black Esk valley and beyond. Views from the north-north-west elevation will, however, be affected by the proposed development, as it lies to the north-west of the property. Forestry will provide some screening and filtering, particularly of blades, but visibility is likely to be immediately apparent. The proposed development will not affect the view from the west-south-western elevation. Views from the gardens and outbuildings will be open and clear with little local screening. Open views towards the proposed development will be gained from the approach to the property. The proposed development will be immediately apparent in views from the approach to and the curtilage and gardens of this property, and is also likely to be visible from within the house, dependent on the configuration of rooms and windows. The effect on the view will be significant.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction. Assuming that the forest plan is followed then the commercial plantation to the south of the property will be removed in 2025/26 opening up new views which will improve the visual amenity of the property. On this basis the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold would not be reached. Felling in this area would open up another aspect of long, open views in a principal orientation of the property, ensuring that one of the key aspects of views would remain unaffected by the proposed development, and the proposed development would therefore not affect all of the long, open views that are available. The relatively narrow field of view affected by the proposed development is also relevant in this context.





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OS Grid Reference:	X 318894
	Y 594219
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	14
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	9
Horizontal field of view:	141.38°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.18km

Property description:

[ ] Farmhouse	[ ] Semi Detached	[ ] Stone Built	[ ] Rendered	[ ] 1 Storey	[x] 2 Storey	[x] Outbuildings	[x] Front Garden	[x] Rear Garden
[x] Detached	[ ] Terraced	[ ] Brick Built	[ ] Timber-clad	[ ] 1.5 Storey	[ ] Conservatory	[x] Farmyard	[?] Garage(s)	[x] Side Gardens

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
'L'-shaped house with long wing to the north, situated at the end of a minor public road (also a core path) at the southern end of the proposed development. The property is in a reasonably elevated location on the eastern side of the Dryfe Water valley. Outbuildings lie to the north and east of the property.

Views from property
The property is orientated south-south-west, with open and elevated views along the Dryfe Water valley in this direction. While the main windows are on this elevation, there are also windows in other elevations. Views to the north are likely to be partly screened by outbuildings, woodland (including recently-planted woodland), and rising landform. Views to the west and east are likely to be screened and filtered by woodland around the property and, to the west, more distant forestry.

Views from access
There are long open views to the north, north-east and north-west, towards hills and forestry, when travelling towards the property along the Dryfe Water valley.

Views from garden grounds
There are gardens to the south, east and west of the house and around the northern wing. Views are likely to be similar to those from the house, with long, open views southwards down the Dryfe Water valley and more limited views in other directions.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Medium-high**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

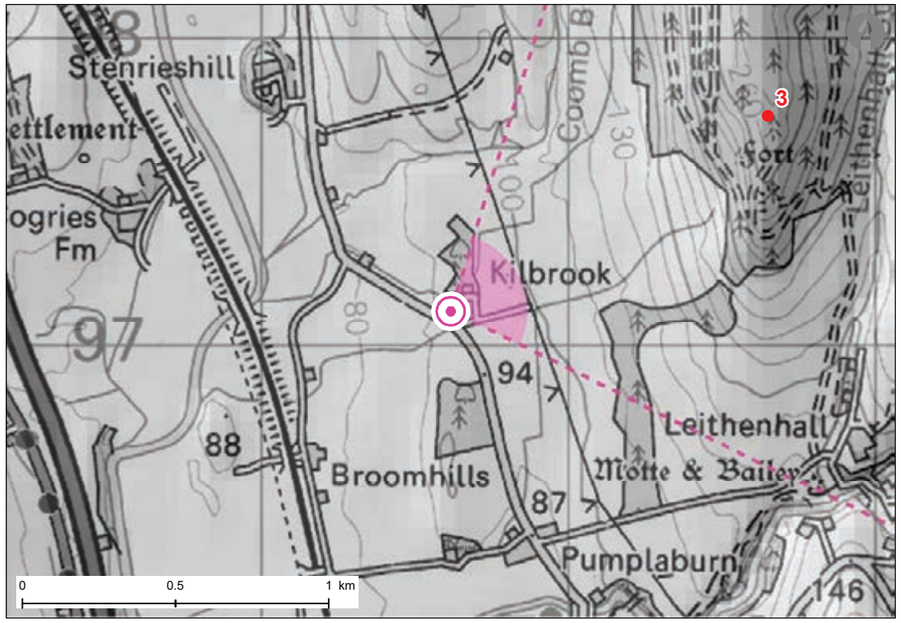
The wirelines show that the southern part of the proposed development is theoretically visible at close-proximity from this property, with the nearest turbine 1.18km away. The proposed development will extend approximately 141-degrees around the north, north-east and north-west of the property. The main orientation of views from the house is south-south-westwards while the proposed development lies to the north, north-east and north-west, and it will therefore not been in these main views, although it is likely to be visible from other aspects of the property. Views from the other aspects of the property are likely to be screened and filtered to some degree by outbuildings, woodland and forestry, and are foreshortened by the rising landform of the valley side.

Views from the garden and outbuildings are likely to be similar to that gained from the house, with potential for more open visibility. Open views towards the proposed development will be gained from the approach to the property, up the valley. In some of these views, the proposed development will be seen in the setting of the house, which is set on the valley side.

The proposed development will be immediately apparent in views from the approach to this property. Visibility from within the property and its curtilage/ garden grounds will be less apparent due to the main orientation of views and some screening and filtering by landform, outbuildings, woodland and forestry.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold
Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction.

This property is not considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, for the following reasons:
- The main orientation of views from the property and its curtilage will remain unaffected by the proposed development
- The proposed development theoretically affects less than half of the full 360-degree outlook from the property
- Visibility in the aspects of the view that are theoretically affected by the proposed development is reduced by woodland, forestry and outbuildings and is also foreshortened by landform



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OS Grid Reference:	X 311618
	Y 597112
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	34
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	23
Horizontal field of view:	99.02°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.21km

Property description:

[x] Farmhouse	[ ] Semi Detached	[ ] Stone Built	[x] Rendered	[ ] 1 Storey	[x] 2 Storey	[ ] Outbuildings	[x] Front Garden	[ ] Rear Garden
[x] Detached	[ ] Terraced	[ ] Brick Built	[ ] Timber-clad	[ ] 1.5 Storey	[ ] Conservatory	[x] Farmyard	[ ] Garage(s)	[x] Side Gardens

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is located off a minor road to the west of the proposed development, in a slightly elevated position. There are farm buildings to the north, north-west and north-east of the house and a tree belt to the north and east of the house and farm buildings.

Views from property
This house is assumed to have windows in all elevations. The main elevation of the house, with windows and a front porch, is to the south-south-west, and the longest, most open and clear views are likely to be gained in this direction, down Annandale. Views from the north-north-eastern elevation are likely to be largely screened by farm buildings, but views into the foothills and Southern Uplands may be gained over the buildings Windows in the west-north-western elevation are likely to gain long, open and attractive views across Annandale, while views from any windows in the east-south-eastern elevation are likely to be screened and filtered by the eastern woodland. View east are also through a close-proximity high voltage overhead transmission line.

Views from access
The approach to the property is along a minor road that runs north-south to the west of the property. Views are gained to the foothills in the east and Annandale in the west. Some stretches are screened by woodland but where open views are available, the outlook is open and attractive due to the extent of the views.

Views from garden grounds
The property appears to have open gardens to the front and east. The front garden will gain the same long, open southerly views as those from the house. Views from the garden to the east of the house are likely to be sceened by woodland on the eastern side and farm buildings to the north.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Medium-High**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

The wirelines show that 34 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible at close-proximity from this property, with the nearest turbine 1.21km away. The proposed development will extend approximately 99-degrees around the property, to the east, north-east, south-east, and north-north-east. The principal open and long views from the house, to the south and south-west, will not be directly affected by the proposed development. Views to the west and east will also remain unaffected due to the location of the proposed development in relation to the property and screening by the eastern woodland belt, respectively. Views from the north-north-eastern elevation are likely to be partly screened by farm buildings and mature trees, but parts of the proposed development, including the closest turbines on the skyline of Dundoran, may be visible between and/ or over buildings.

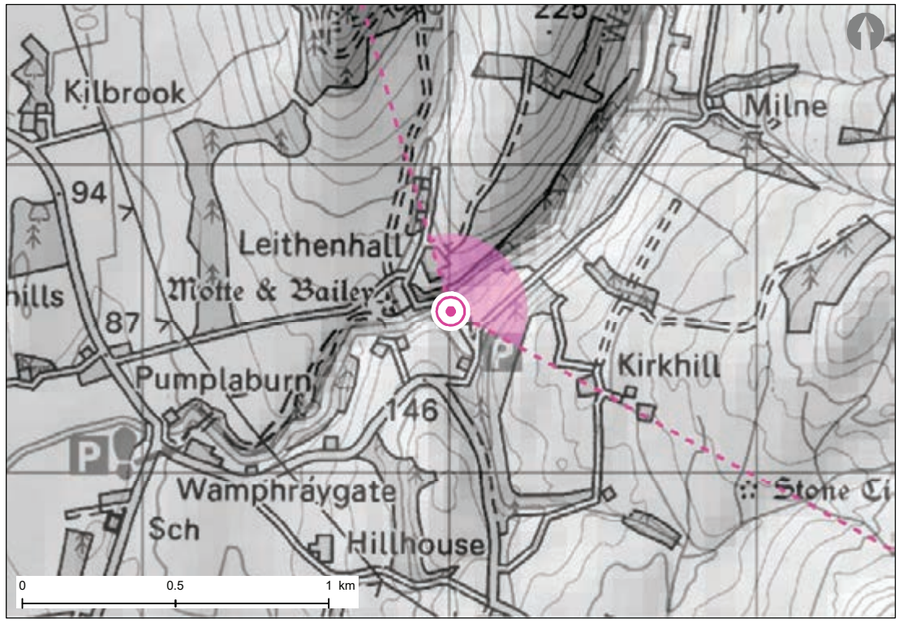
The front garden will not be affected due to its southerly aspect, and views from the eastern garden are likely to be screened by the eastern woodland. The proposed development will be visible from open stretches of the minor road that accesses the property, particularly where open views to the east are gained.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction.

This property is not considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, for the following reasons:
- The main orientation (southerly) of long, open views from the property will be not be affected by the proposed development
- There is unlikely to be notable visibility from within the property or the gardens due to screening by farm buildings and woodland
- The proposed development will not lead to a perception of ‘encircling’ the property, theoretically affecting less than a third of the full 360-degree outlook



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OS Grid Reference:	X 313006
	Y 596524
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	18
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	9
Horizontal field of view:	134.63°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.27km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☐ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☒ Rendered	☐ 1 Storey	☐ 2 Storey	☒ Outbuildings	☐ Front Garden	☒ Rear Garden
☒ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☒ 1.5 Storey	☐ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☒ Garage(s)	☒ Side Gardens

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is located beside a minor road on the southern bank of the Wamphray Burn, to the west of the proposed development. It is a low-lying property, notably enclosed by the valley landform and surrounding mature woodland. The property appears to consist of two separate buildings that are connected via a central porch. There are outbuildings to the east and south-east of the property.

Views from property
The two parts of the property have aspects in various directions, including the main south-south-west and west-south-west frontages onto the minor road and north-north-east and east-north-east elevations that face over the garden to the rear. There are likely to be windows in each elevation of the buildings. The majority of views, in all directions, are likely to be enclosed by landform and mature woodland along the burn and other planting around the property. The most open views that may be available are from the rear of the properties, to the north-east, up the Wamphray Burn, where the valley landform may allow a longer view into the hills to be gained. These views are likely to be heavily filtered by vegetation, particularly in summer.

Views from access
The approach to the property is along a minor road that runs north, east and north-east. The stretches that run eastwards gain views into the foothills, towards the higher hills, while the northwards stretches gain views to the east - also deeper into the foothills - and the west. Some stretches are screened by woodland but where open views are available, the outlook is in places open and attractive due to the extent and nature of the views.

Views from garden grounds
There appear to be gardens to the rear and side of the house, from where views are likely to be similar to those gained from the house. Again, the most open views are likely to be gained to the north-east due to the valley landform that runs in this direction. Some southern parts of the garden are more elevated as they are higher up the valley side, and more open views may be gained from here.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Medium-Low**
- **Significance of effect: Not significant visual effect**

The wirelines show that 18 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible from this property, nine as hubs and nine as blades, with the nearest visible turbine 1.27km away. The proposed development will extend over approximately 135-degrees to the north, east, north-east, south-east and north-north-west of the property. The great majority of this visibility will not, however, be seen in reality due to the woodland screening and landform enclosure around the property. However, the most open views from the garden, and possibly from the rear of the house, are likely to be to the north-east, along the Wamphray Burn and it is possible that the turbines that lie to the north-east of the property, which are elevated on the skyline, will be visible from parts of the house and garden, albeit with filtering by vegetation. Views of turbines to the east and north-east may also be gained from the more elevated southern parts of the garden.

In summary, while the majority of the proposed development will not be seen from this property due to screening by landform and woodland, parts of some turbines in the proposed development may potentially be visible, with filtering by trees, in views to the north-east from the garden, and possibly also from within the house, although this visibility would be restricted and filtered. The effect on views will not be significant, due largely to the proximity and elevation of the few turbines that may be visible to the north-east of the property.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction. This property is not considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold due to the medium-low magnitude of change on views from the property.

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OS Grid Reference:	X 314129
	Y 594422
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	12
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	3
Horizontal field of view:	84.9°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.31km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☐ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☒ Rendered	☒ 1 Storey	☐ 2 Storey	☒ Outbuildings	☒ Front Garden	☒ Rear Garden
☒ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☐ 1.5 Storey	☐ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☐ Garage(s)	☒ Side Gardens

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is located on a minor road to the west of the proposed development. The property lies on the western edge of the Annandale foothills landscape in an elevated west-facing position above Annandale. There are outbuildings to the east of the property.

Views from property
The property is strongly orientated to the south-west, where extensive and elevated westwards and south-westwards views are gained across Annandale. There are aslo windows in the smaller south-eastern gable from where views along the hillside are likely to be gained. It is not clear if there are windows in the north-eastern elevation; if so, views from them will be foreshortened by the rising slope of the landform behind the house. While forestry immediately around the house appears to be recently felled, forestry remains on more elevated parts of the hillside, and this increases the enclosure of views to the east of the property.

Views from access
The key orientation of views on the approach to the property is to the west, across Annandale, towards which the eye is drawn. There are, however, also attractive views to the east, into the wooded glens of the foothills.

Views from garden grounds
There are gardens around the house, from where views are likely to be similar to those gained from the house, but more open. The focus will again be on the long, open views to the west and south-west, with the views to the east, north-east and south-east being restricted by the rising landform of the hillside and by forestry on the higher slopes.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Medium**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

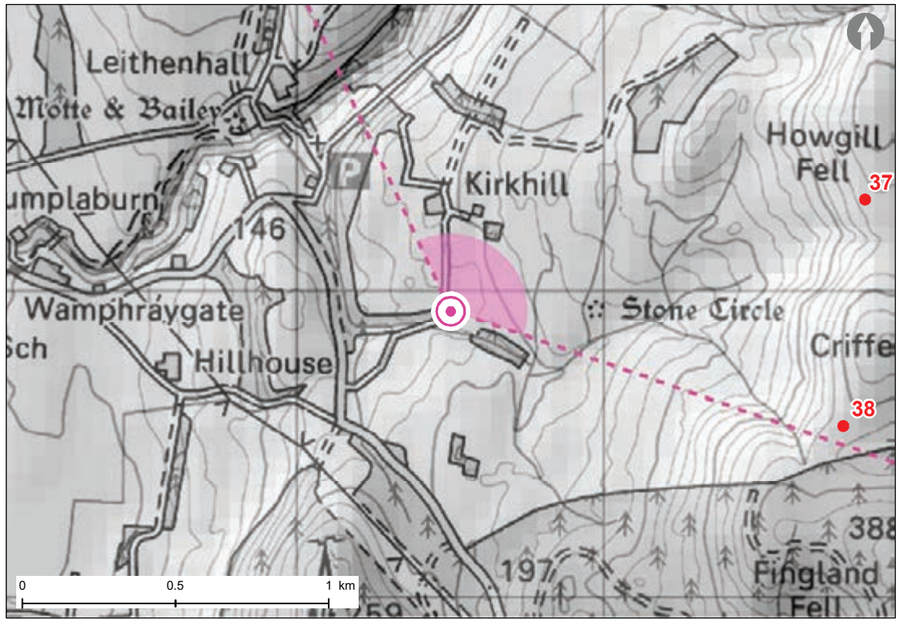
The wirelines show that 15 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible from this property, six as hubs and the remainder as blades, with the nearest visible turbine 1.31km away. The proposed development will extend over approximately 85-degrees to the north, north-west and north-east of the property. The main orientation of views from the house is strongly to the south-west, and this aspect will not be affected by the proposed development. There may be some visibility of the proposed development from the other aspects of the house, but this will be limited by the enclosure of the eastern and north-eastern aspect of the house by landform and further screening by forestry.Views from the garden are likely to have more visibility than those from the house, but the proposed development will also be peripheral to the main views and will be filtered by forestry. Intermittent views towards the proposed development will be gained from the approach to the property on the minor road.

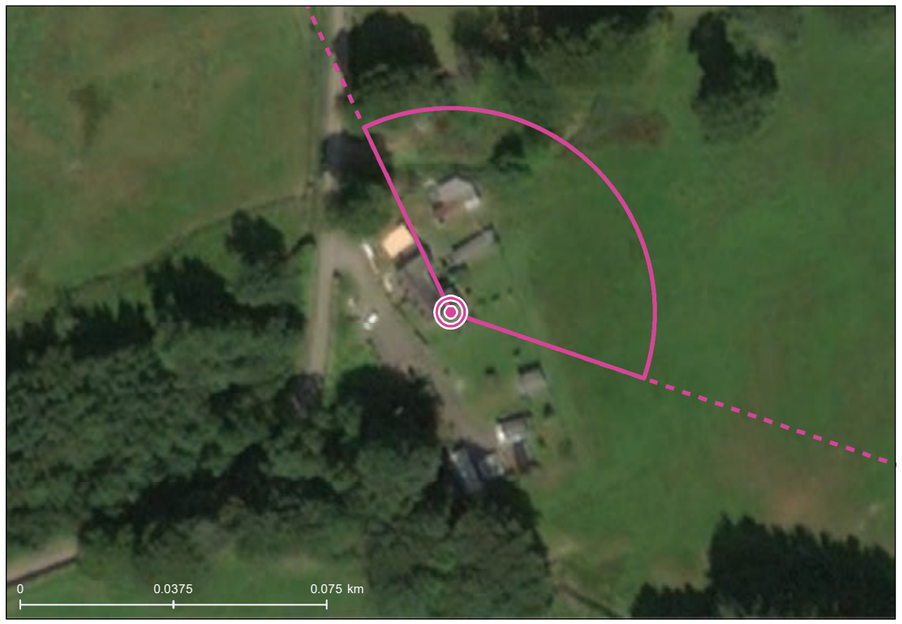
The proposed development will potentially be visible in views from the garden at this property, and from its approach, but is unlikely to be clearly visible from within the property due to the orientation of views and enclosure by landform. The effect on views will be borderline significant, due largely to the visibility of the proposed development from the garden and on the approach to the property.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction. This property is not considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold due to the medium magnitude of change on views from the property.





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OS Grid Reference:	X 313503
	Y 595933
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	43
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	32
Horizontal field of view:	134°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.34km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☒ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☒ Rendered	☐ 1 Storey	☒ 2 Storey	☐ Outbuildings	☒ Front Garden	☒ Rear Garden
☐ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☐ 1.5 Storey	☐ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☐ Garage(s)	☒ Side Gardens

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is located on a minor dead-end road (also a core path) to the west of the proposed development. The property lies on the western edge of the Annandale foothills landscape in an elevated west-facing position. There are outbuildings to the east of the property.

Views from property
The property is orientated south-west/ north-east. To the south-west there are likely to be open, elevated and expansive west-facing views across Annandale. There are also open but less expansive views to the north-east, where the foothills continue to rise up to the higher hills of the Southern Uplands. There is some deciduous woodland around the property that will filter and screen views, particularly to the south, west and north-east.

Views from access
The key orientation of views on the approach to the property is to the east, towards the higher hills. Some views are open and gain an outlook towards the hills while others are enclosed by woodland and hedgerows.

Views from garden grounds
There are gardens around the house, from where views are likely to be similar to those gained from the house.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: High**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

The wirelines show that an extensive part of the proposed development is theoretically visible at close-proximity from this property, with the nearest turbine 1.33km away. The proposed development will extend approximately 134-degrees around the property, to the north, east, north-east and north-north-west. The open views to the south-west will not be affected by the proposed development but it is likely to be highly visible in views from the north-east elevation of the house and its north-eastern curtilage. Some views from within the house are likely to be filtered and screened by woodland and forestry, although visibility is still likely to be gained. Similar views will theoretically be gained from the back and side gardens.

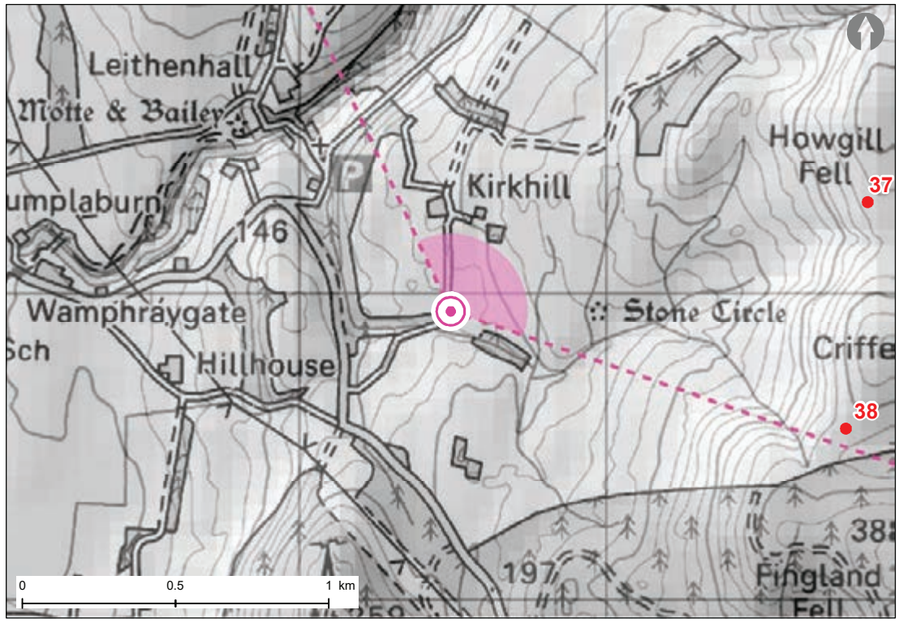
Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

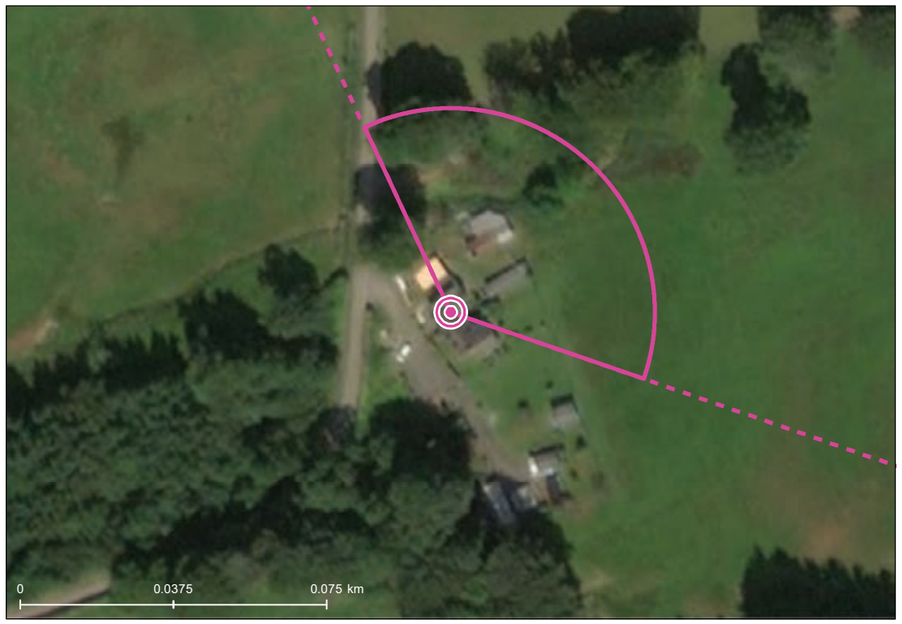
The property has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction.

This property is considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, for the following reasons:
- Proximity of turbines to the property
- The elevation of turbines in relation to the property
- The appearance of the proposed development in one of the two main orientations of the property
- The extent of the setting to the property that will be affected by the proposed development
- Visibility of the proposed development on the approach to the property, from its garden, and from parts of the property and its curtilage

The Applicant proposes to mitigate the visual effects at this property and No. 1 Kirkhill Cottages through the establishment of a substantial mixed species tree belt across a part of the view that is open to the wind farm. The tree belt will be established on land that is under the control of the Applicant, who has developed a design for the plantation with the advice of the ecologist who is involved in the EIAR. OPEN understands that it is the Applicant's intention to plant the tree belt using a mix of standard and semi-mature tree and understorey species (including evergreen species) during the 2020/21 planting season, in order that it can become established at an early stage.
On the basis that this planting is established, then it is reasonable to conclude that the visual effect at this property would reduce to below the RVA Threshold.





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OS Grid Reference:	X 313495
	Y 595941
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	42
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	28
Horizontal field of view:	134.02°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.35km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☒ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☒ Rendered	☐ 1 Storey	☒ 2 Storey	☐ Outbuildings	☒ Front Garden	☒ Rear Garden
☐ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☐ 1.5 Storey	☐ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☐ Garage(s)	☒ Side Gardens

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is located on a minor dead-end road (also a core path) to the west of the proposed development. The property lies on the western edge of the Annandale foothills landscape in an elevated west-facing position. There are outbuildings to the east of the property.

Views from property
The property is orientated south-west/ north-east. To the south-west there are likely to be open, elevated and expansive west-facing views across Annandale. There are also open but less expansive views to the north-east, where the foothills continue to rise up to the higher hills of the Southern Uplands. There is some deciduous woodland around the property that will filter and screen views, particularly to the south, west and north-east.

Views from access
The key orientation of views on the approach to the property is to the east, towards the higher hills. Some views are open and gain an outlook towards the hills while others are enclosed by woodland and hedgerows.

Views from garden grounds
There are gardens around the house, from where views are likely to be similar to those gained from the house.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: High**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

The wirelines show that an extensive part of the proposed development is theoretically visible at close-proximity from this property, with the nearest turbine 1.34km away. The proposed development will extend approximately 134-degrees around the property, to the north, east, north-east and north-north-west. The open views to the south-west will not be affected by the proposed development but it is likely to be highly visible in views from the north-east elevation of the house and its north-eastern curtilage. Some views from within the house are likely to be filtered and screened by woodland and forestry, although visibility is still likely to be gained. Similar views will theoretically be gained from the back and side gardens.

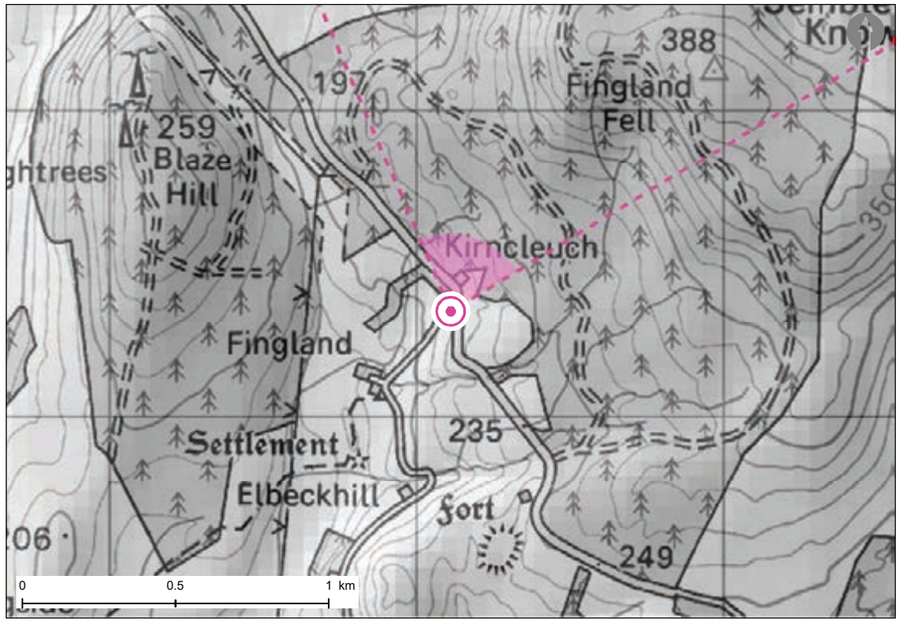
Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction.

This property is considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, for the following reasons:
- Proximity of turbines to the property
- The elevation of turbines in relation to the property
- The appearance of the proposed development in one of the two main orientations of the property
- The extent of the setting to the property that will be affected by the proposed development
- Visibility of the proposed development on the approach to the property, from its garden, and from parts of the property and its curtilage

The Applicant proposes to mitigate the visual effects at this property and No. 2 Kirkhill Cottages through the establishment of a substantial mixed species tree belt across a part of the view that is open to the wind farm. The tree belt will be established on land that is under the control of the Applicant, who has developed a design for the plantation with the advice of the ecologist who is involved in the EIAR. OPEN understands that it is the Applicant's intention to plant the tree belt using a mix of standard and semi-mature tree and understorey species (including evergreen species) during the 2020/21 planting season, in order that it can become established at an early stage.
On the basis that this planting is established, then it is reasonable to conclude that the visual effect at this property would reduce to below the RVA Threshold.



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OS Grid Reference:	X 314113
	Y 594343
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	15
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	6
Horizontal field of view:	83.26°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.39km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☐ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☒ Rendered	☒ 1 Storey	☐ 2 Storey	☒ Outbuildings	☒ Front Garden	☒ Rear Garden
☒ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☐ 1.5 Storey	☐ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☐ Garage(s)	☒ Side Gardens

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is located between two minor roads to the west of the proposed development. The property lies on the western edge of the Annandale foothills landscape in an elevated west-facing position above Annandale. There are outbuildings to the south of the property.

Views from property
The property appears to be of approximately square plan form and is thought to have windows in every elevation. The main orientation of views is to the west and south-west, where attractive and very extensive open views are gained across Annandale. Attractive but less expansive views to the north-west are also available. The north-east and south-east elevations of the property are cut back into the slope of the hill and, enclosed by rising landform, have foreshortened views. Trees and other vegetation also enclose these aspects of the property.

Views from access
The key orientation of views on the approach to the property is to the west, across Annandale, towards which the eye is drawn. There are, however, also attractive views to the east, into the wooded glens of the foothills.

Views from garden grounds
There appear to be gardens around the house, from where views are likely to be similar to those gained from the house, but more open. The focus will again be on the long, open views to the west and south-west, with the views to the east, north-east and south-east being restricted by the cutting of the property into the hillside and the vegetation around the garden.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Medium-low**
- **Significance of effect: Not significant visual effect**

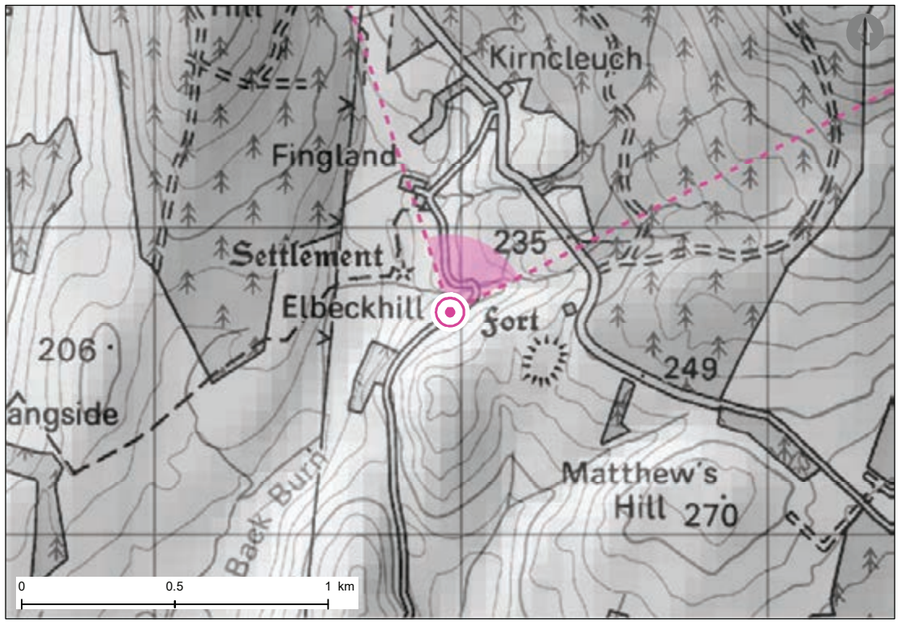
The wirelines show that 15 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible from this property, six as hubs and the remainder as blades, with the nearest visible turbine 1.39km away. The proposed development will extend over approximately 83-degrees to the north, north-west and north-east of the property. The main orientation of views from the house is to the west and south-west, and this will not be affected by the proposed development. There may be some visibility of the proposed development from the other aspects of the house, but this will be limited by the enclosure of the eastern side of the house by landform and further screening by vegetation.

Views from the garden are likely to have more visibility than those from the house, but will also be peripheral to the main views and will be screened/ filtered by vegetation. Intermittent views towards the proposed development will be gained from the approach to the property on the minor road.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction. This property is not considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold due to the not significant effect on views from the property.



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OS Grid Reference:	X 313966
	Y 593726
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	34
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	19
Horizontal field of view:	82.54°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	2.01km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☐ Semi Detached	☒ Stone Built	☒ Rendered	☒ 1 Storey	☐ 2 Storey	☐ Outbuildings	☒ Front Garden	☒ Rear Garden
☒ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☐ 1.5 Storey	☐ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☐ Garage(s)	☒ Side Gardens

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is located on a minor road to the south-west of the proposed development. It is low-lying and enclosed within the valley of the Back Burn, with woodland along the burn to the north and north-east of the house. A high voltage transmission line runs to the west of the property.

Views from property
The main open outlook from this property appears to be to the south-west, along the Back Burn valley towards Annandale. This outlook is likely to be slightly enclosed by landform due to the low-lying nature of the property. Views to the north-east are similarly gently enclosed by the lower slopes of Fingland Fell, with more close-proximity screening by garden vegetation and local landform along the burn. There is, however, likely to be an outlook over Fingland Fell, which has been partially deforested. It is not clear if there is a window in the north-western elevation; if so, this is likely to gain very limited visibility due to woodland along the burn. It is also not clear if there is a window in the south-eastern elevation; if there is, this view would overlook garden vegetation and possible visibility of Matthew's Hill, to the south-east.

Views from access
The property is accessed by a dead-end minor road that runs to the south-west from another minor road. The road that gives access direct to the property gains attractive rural views of fields and hedgerows, although the transmission line is also visible.

Views from garden grounds
There are grounds around the house, from where views are likely to be similar to those gained from the house, with filtering and screening by garden vegetation. The main garden appears to be to the north-east of the property, from where views towards Fingland Fell may be available.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Medium**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

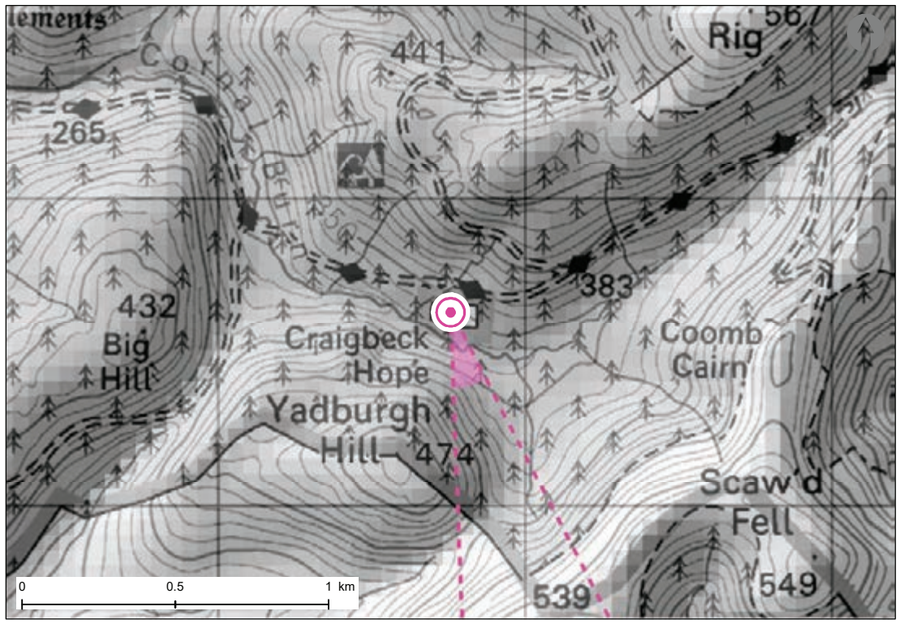
The wirelines show that 34 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible from this property, six as hubs and the remainder as blades, with the nearest visible turbine 2006m away. The proposed development will extend over approximately 83-degrees to the north, north-east and north-north-west of the property. The south-western outlook and any views gained to the south-east from the property will not be affected by the proposed development, and the north-western outlook is unlikely to be notably affected due to woodland along the burn. There is, however, likely to be some visibility of the proposed development from the north-eastern aspect, which looks towards Fingland Fell. The turbines on Sembletree Knowe and Criffel (which is the closest turbine, and would be peripheral to the main view) are seen behind the landform of Fingland Fell, with parts of their towers screened, along with several other blades of more distant turbines. More distant turbines that lie to the north and north-east of the property are unlikely to be visible due to woodland screening.

Views from the gardens will be similar in that the outlook to the south-west and south-east will not be affected, views to the north are likely to be largely screened by woodland, while north-eastern views are likely to have more open visibility than those from this aspect of the house but still with some filtering by vegetation. The proposed development will not be seen from the approach to this property on the minor dead-end road as it runs southwards and south-westwards, away from the proposed development. The proposed development will, however, be visible when leaving the property.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction. This property is not considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold due to the medium magnitude of change on views from the property.



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OS Grid Reference:	X 313759
	Y 603632
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	2
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	1
Horizontal field of view:	25.14°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.46km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☐ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☐ Rendered	☐ 1 Storey	☐ 2 Storey	☐ Outbuildings	☐ Front Garden	☐ Rear Garden
☐ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☐ 1.5 Storey	☐ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☐ Garage(s)	☐ Side Gardens

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
Property is accessed by a remote forest track (which is followed by the Southern Upland Way and Romans and Reivers Route) in the Southern Uplands, to the north of the proposed development. There appear to be outbuildings and garden grounds around the property.

Views from property
The property appears to be roughly square in plan, and is assumed to have windows in each elevation - north, south, east and west. The views gained from the property are likely to be attractive and remote, looking across hills, glens and watercourses with areas of forestry and moorland. There is unlikely to be any apparent human development other than forestry and its associated operations.

Views from access and garden grounds
This property is accessed by a forest track (also followed by the Southern Upland Way and Romans and Reivers Route), much of which is low-lying, following watercourses through the hills. Views from the track and the garden/ ground around the property are likely to be similar to those from the house; partly forested hills, glens and burns.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

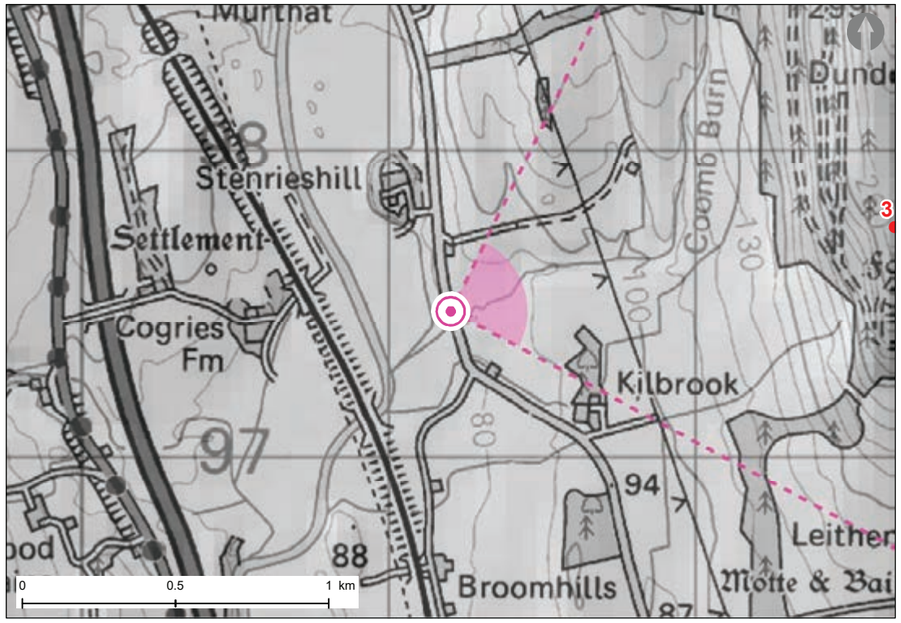
- **Magnitude of change: Medium/ medium-low**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

The wirelines show that one blade and one hub of turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible from this property, with the nearest visible turbine 1.46km away. The proposed development will extend over approximately 25-degrees to the south-south-east of the property. Windows in the southern elevation of the house may gain visibility of these turbines, dependent on forestry cover and any local screening. The ZTV indicates that a similar level of visibility is theoretically gained from the area around the house, while the access track is shown to have a similar level of theoretical visibility, or no visibility.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction. This property is not considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold due to the medium/ medium-low magnitude of change on views from the property.



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OS Grid Reference:	X 311204
	Y 597474
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	34
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	23
Horizontal field of view:	91.83°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.47km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☐ Semi Detached	☒ Stone Built	☐ Rendered	☐ 1 Storey	☐ 2 Storey	☒ Outbuildings	☒ Front Garden	☒ Rear Garden
☒ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☒ 1.5 Storey	☐ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☐ Garage(s)	☒ Side Gardens

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is located on the eastern side of a minor road to the west of the proposed development. The property is elevated above the road, and the Coomb Burn runs down the south-eastern side of the garden. There is some planting in the garden, and scrub growth to the south of the house, near the burn. There appear to be some small outbuildings in the rear garden.

Views from property
The main orientation of this property is west-south-west, overlooking the road, and long, open, elevated and attractive views across Annandale are gained from this aspect. Views from the east-north-eastern aspect, which includes an offshoot at the rear of the house, are also long, with an outlook over the upland fringe and foothills, but slightly foreshortened by the landform that rises gently behind the property and with some filtering by garden planting and possibly by outbuildings. The north-north-western and south-south-eastern elevations will gain views up and down the edge of Annandale with filtering by garden vegetation. View east are also through a close-proximity high voltage overhead transmission line.

Views from access
This property can be accessed from the north or south. Both of these approaches have an outlook across the upland fringe landscape towards the foothills to the east, and a view over Annandale to the west.

Views from garden grounds
There are gardens to the front, rear and sides of the house. Views from the gardens are likely to be similar to those gained from the house, with an outlook in all directions, and filtering of views by garden vegetation in all directions but the west-south-west outlook.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Medium-high**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

The wirelines show that 34 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible from this property, with the nearest turbine 1.47km away. The proposed development will extend approximately 92-degrees around the property, to the east, north-east, and south-east. The long, open west-south-west and north-north-west-facing views from the house will not be affected due to the location of the proposed development in relation to the property. However, the long views from the east-north-eastern elevation will be affected, primarily by the closest turbines that lie to the north-east, on the skyline of Dundoran, but also by more distant north-eastern and eastern turbines. These views will be filtered by garden vegetation and possibly by outbuildings in the rear garden. Views from the south-south-eastern gable will not be be directly affected but may just gain some limited and filtered peripheral visibility of the more distant turbines that lie to the south-east.

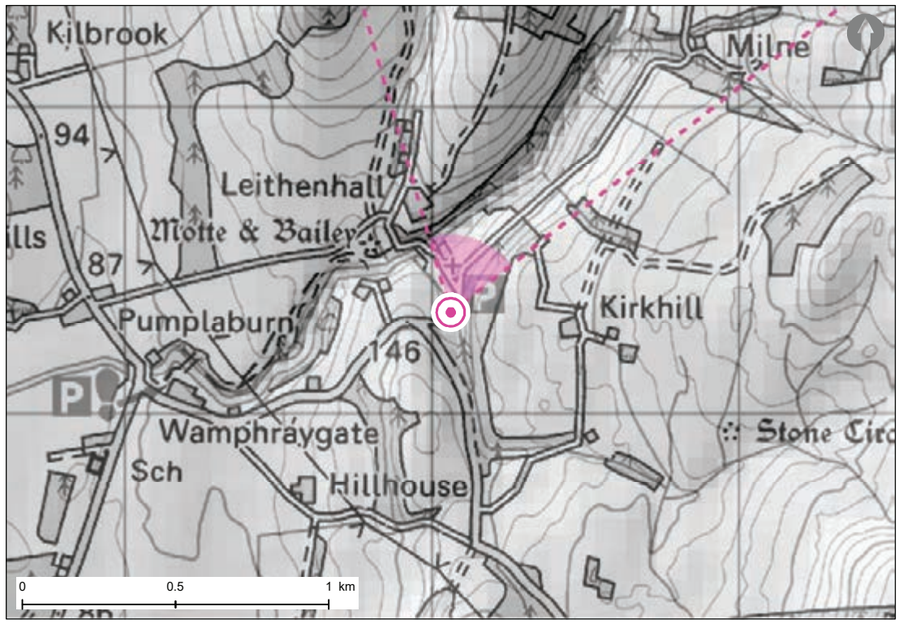
Similar visibility will also be gained from the rear and side gardens, with filtering by vegetation. The closest turbines will be those seen on the skyline of Dundoran, and the proposed development will extend across much of the open rear aspect from the garden. Views from the front garden will not be affected. The proposed development will be clearly visible on the approach to the house from either the north or the south.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction.

This property is not considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, for the following reasons:
- The main orientation (west-south-westerly) of long, open and elevated views from the property will be not be affected by the proposed development
- Views from the east-north-easterly (rear) elevation of the property will be filtered to some extent by vegetation
- The proposed development will not lead to a perception of 'encircling' the property, theoretically affecting just over a quarter of the full 360-degree outlook



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OS Grid Reference:	X 313063
	Y 596330
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	31
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	23
Horizontal field of view:	68.19°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.48km

Property description:

[ ] Farmhouse	[ ] Semi Detached	[ ] Stone Built	[x] Rendered	[x] 1 Storey	[ ] 2 Storey	[x] Outbuildings	[x] Front Garden	[x] Rear Garden
[x] Detached	[ ] Terraced	[ ] Brick Built	[ ] Timber-clad	[ ] 1.5 Storey	[ ] Conservatory	[ ] Farmyard	[ ] Garage(s)	[x] Side Gardens

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is located beside a minor road on the southern side of Wamphray Glen, to the west of the proposed development. It is a low-lying property, notably enclosed by the landform of the glen and surrounding mature woodland. There is an outbuilding to the south-west of the property, which appeared to be undergoing building work at the time of the assessment site visit.

Views from property
The property is orientated east-north-east, and this elevation looks out onto the mature woodland (including deciduous trees) of Wamphray Glen. It is possible that some very filtered longer views may be gained through the trees, particularly in winter, but it is unlikely that these views would be clear, and landform would continue to foreshorten the outlook. There is a small window and door in the south-south-eastern elevation, and views from here will also be heavily screened and filtered by woodland. There do not appear to be windows in the north-north-western gable. There are likely to be windows to the rear of the property (which has an offshoot to the south-west), and these are likely to gain the most open views (to the west and north-west) as tree cover in this direction is considerably less dense and enclosing than in the other aspects of the property.

Views from access
The key orientation of views on the approach to the property is to the east, into the foothills. Some views are open and gain an outlook towards the hills while others are enclosed by woodland and hedgerows, including the stretch that leads down to the property.

Views from garden grounds
There appear to be gardens around the house, from where views are likely to be similar to those gained from the house, but more open. Again, the most open views are likely to be gained to the west and north-west due to lighter tree cover.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Medium**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

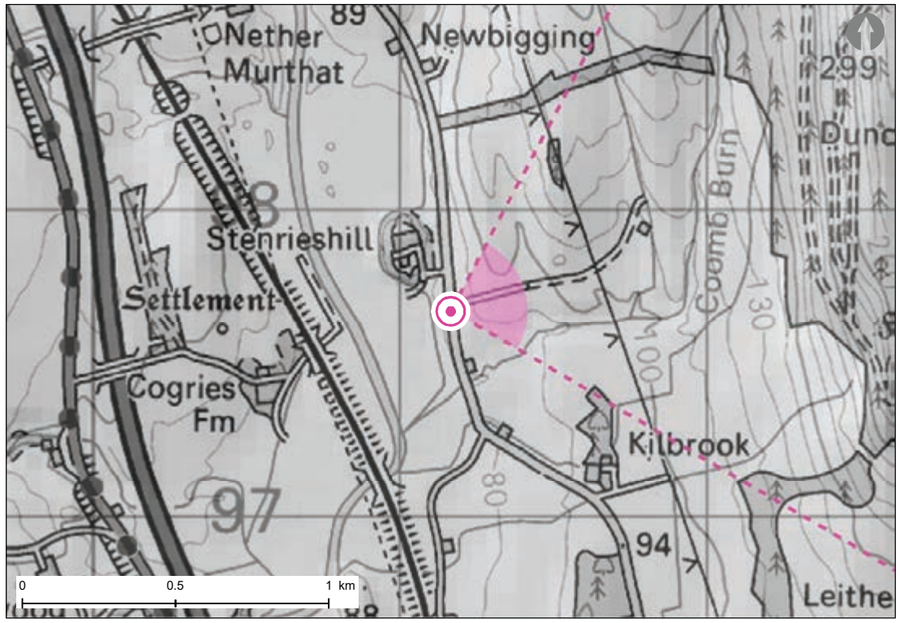
The wirelines show that 31 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible from this property, the majority as hubs, with the nearest visible turbine 1.48km away. The proposed development will extend over approximately 68-degrees to the north, north-east and north-north-west of the property. The majority of this visibility will not, however, be seen in reality. The main orientation of the house is to the east-north-east, and this aspect is unlikely to be affected by the proposed development due to the dense woodland that encloses this aspect of the property, as well as foreshortening by landform. However, the most open views from the garden, and possibly from the house, appear to be to the west and north-west, and it is possible that the turbines that lie to the north and north-north-west of the property (i.e. the westernmost of the turbines seen in the wireline view), which are elevated on the skyline, will be visible in the north-western and northern aspects from the house and garden, albeit with some filtering by vegetation. These turbines are also likely to be visible from the road immediately outside the property.

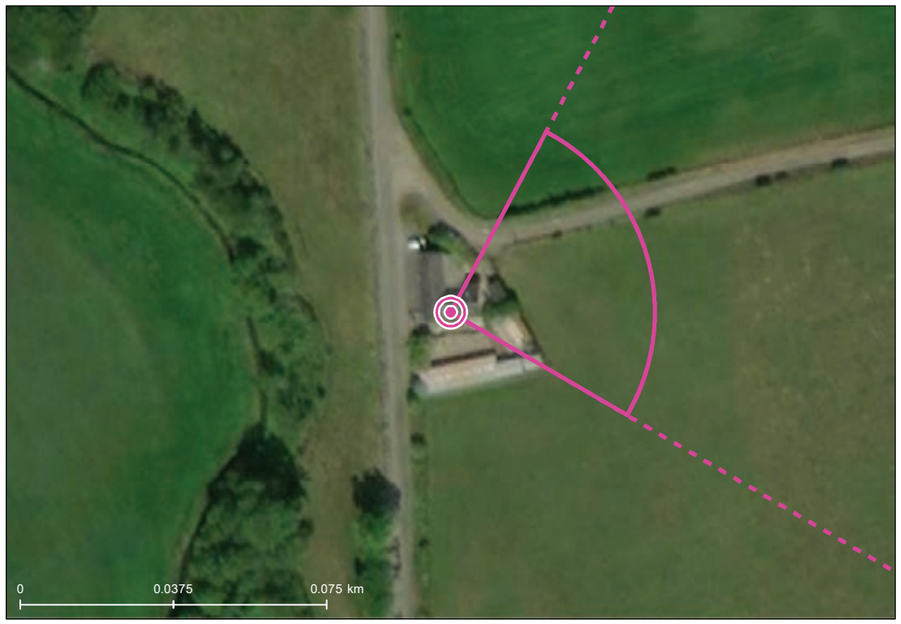
In summary, while the majority of the proposed development will not be seen from this property due to screening by landform and woodland, some turbines in the western part of the proposed development will potentially be visible, with filtering by trees, in views to the north and north-west from the garden at this property, from its approach, and possibly also from within the house, although this visibility would be very restricted and filtered. The effect on views will be borderline significant, due largely to the proximity and elevation of the few turbines that may be visible to the north and north-north-west of the property.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction. This property is not considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold due to the medium magnitude of change on views from the property.





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OS Grid Reference:	X 311167
	Y 597670
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	29
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	22
Horizontal field of view:	92.38°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.49km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☐ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☒ Rendered	☒ 1 Storey	☐ 2 Storey	☒ Outbuildings	☒ Front Garden	☒ Rear Garden
☒ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☐ 1.5 Storey	☒ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☐ Garage(s)	☒ Side Gardens

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is located on the eastern side of a minor road to the west of the proposed development. The property is slightly elevated on the eastern side of Annandale, with the River Annan and the railway running around 300m and 450m respectively to the west. There are a number of outbuildings (possibly kennels or a cattery) to the south and east of the house, which take up much of the garden area, and some planting of coniferous hedge planting to the north and west of the garden.

Views from property
The main orientation of this 'L'-shaped property is due west, overlooking the road, and long, open views across Annandale are gained from this aspect. Views from the eastern aspect, which includes the offshoot at the rear of the house, have an outlook over the upland fringe and foothills that is slightly foreshortened by the landform that rises gently behind the property. It is also likely that views from within the house are screened to some degree by the outbuildings that lie to the east of the property. There is a conservatory on the southern gable, although views from this, and other windows on the southern elevation, are also likely to be screened by outbuildings to the south and east of the house. It is, however, possible that some views may be gained between outbuildings, particularly from the conservatory. The northern gable has no windows in it, and views from any north-facing windows in the rear offshoot are likely to be largely screened by outbuildings and the coniferous planting. View east are also through a close-proximity high voltage overhead transmission line.

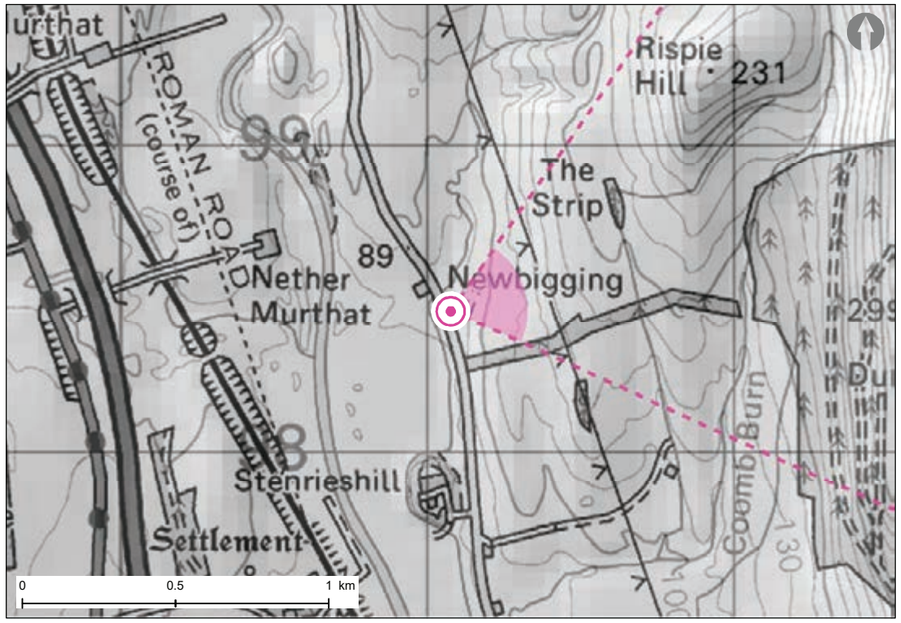
Views from access
This property can be accessed from the north or south. Both of these approaches have an outlook across the upland fringe landscape towards the foothills to the east, and a view over Annandale to the west.

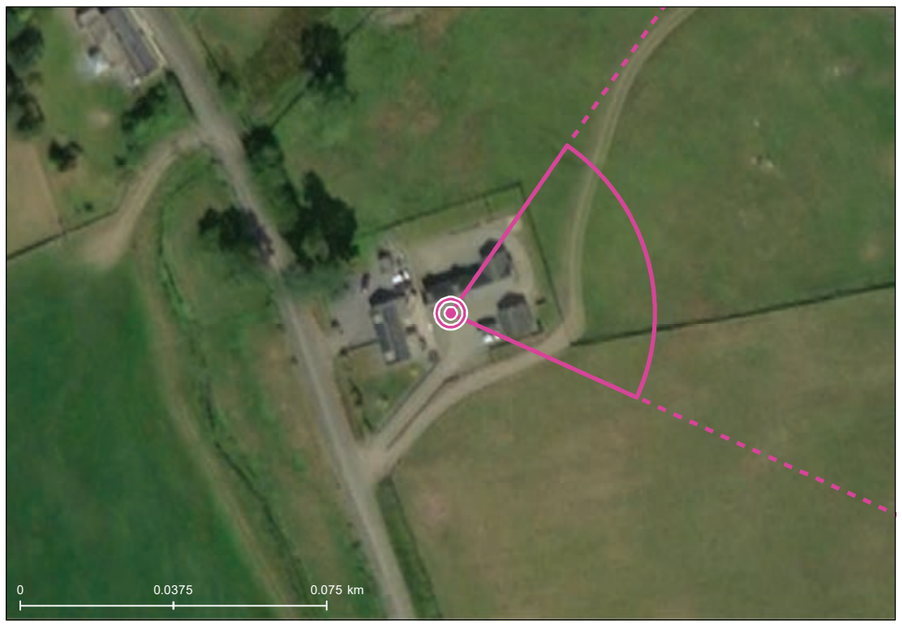
Views from garden grounds
There are gardens to the front, rear and sides of the house. Views from the gardens are likely to be similar to those gained from the house, with an open outlook to the front (west), although the area in front of the house is largely used for parking, with a small garden area, and the outlook in other directions screened to a degree by outbuildings and vegetation.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Medium/ Medium-high**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

The wirelines show that 29 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible from this property, with the nearest turbine 1.49km away. The proposed development will extend approximately 92-degrees around the property, to the east, north-east, and south-east. The long, open west-facing views from the front of the house will not be affected due to the location of the proposed development in relation to the property. Views from the south are also unlikely to be affected due to the location of turbines and screening by outbuildings and vegetation. Views from the eastern elevation are likely to be affected, primarily by the closest turbines that lie to the north-east, prominent on the skyline of Dundoran, and possibly also by the more distant north-eastern and eastern turbines. These views will, however, be screened and filtered to some degree by the extensive outbuildings and garden vegetation, although turbines may be visible above the buildings. Views from the northern elevation will not be be directly affected but may gain some limited and filtered peripheral visibility of the more distant turbines that lie to the north-east. Similar visibility will be gained from the rear and side gardens. The closest turbines will be those seen on the skyline of Dundoran, and the proposed development will theoretically extend across much of the rear aspect from the garden. This visibility is likely to be partially screened by outbuildings and vegetation although turbines may be visible above and between the outbuildings. Views from the front garden will not be affected. The proposed development will be clearly visible on the approach to the house from either the north or the south.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold
Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction. This property is not considered to have reached this, for the following reasons:
- The main orientation (westerly) of long, open views from the property will be not be affected by the proposed development
- Views of the proposed development from other elevations will be screened/ filtered to some extent by outbuildings and vegetation
- The proposed development will not lead to a perception of 'encircling' the property, theoretically affecting just over a quarter of the full 360-degree outlook





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OS Grid Reference:	X 311078
	Y 598459
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	15
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	10
Horizontal field of view:	79.53°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.59km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☐ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☒ Rendered	☐ 1 Storey	☐ 2 Storey	☒ Outbuildings	☒ Front Garden	☒ Rear Garden
☒ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☒ 1.5 Storey	☐ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☒ Garage(s)	☒ Side Gardens

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is located on the eastern side of a minor road to the west of the proposed development. The property is elevated on the eastern side of Annandale, with the River Annan and the railway running to the west. There is a garage/ outbuilding to the south of the house, and there appears to be little vegetation around the property.

Views from property
The front orientation of this property, which has a number of windows and a front door, is to the south-south-east, from where long, open and attractive elevated views along Annandale are gained, with some filtering by woodland on the skyline. Long views along Annandale are also gained from the rear north-north-west elevation, which has an offshoot with patio doors as well as a number of windows and a back door. There is likely to be a window in the east-north-east gable, from where views across the eastern edge of Annandale will be foreshortened by the rising landform of the valley side. There is a high voltage transmission line running across this valley side, to the east of the property. There does not appear to be a window in the west-south-west gable, which faces onto Property 30. View east are also through a close-proximity high voltage overhead transmission line.

Views from access
This property can be accessed from the north or south. Both of these approaches have an outlook across the upland fringe landscape towards the foothills to the east, and a view over Annandale to the west.

Views from garden grounds
There is outside space to the front, rear and sides of the house. Views from the grounds are likely to be similar to those gained from the house, with an open outlook in all directions.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Medium-high**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

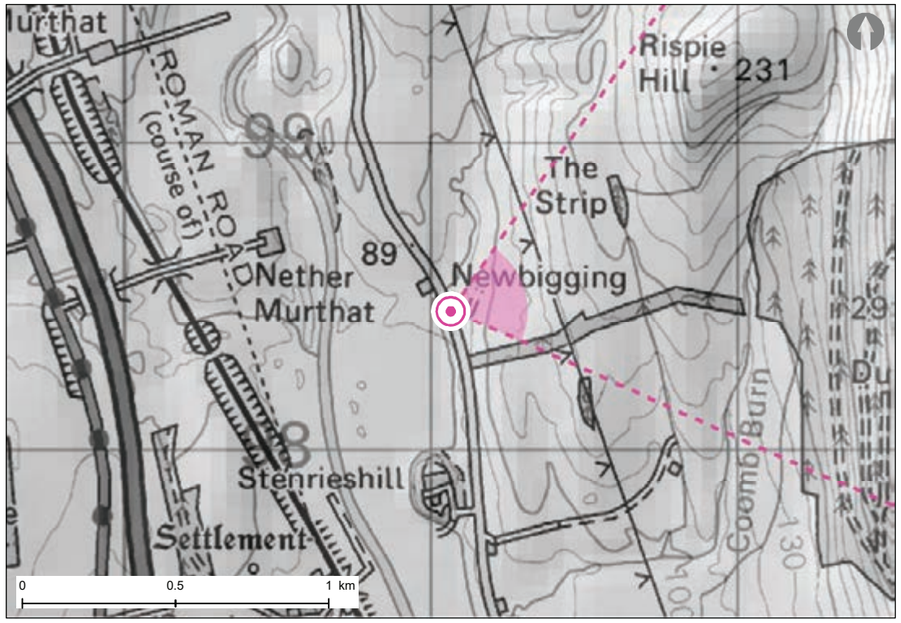
The wirelines show that 15 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible from this property, with the nearest turbine 1.59km away. The proposed development will extend approximately 80-degrees around the property, to the east, north-east, and south-east. The long, open views from the front and rear elevations of the property will not be directly affected but may be peripherally affected in angled views by the turbines down the western edge of the proposed development, including the closest turbines on Dundoran. Visibility from any windows in the east-north-eastern elevation would also be affected by these closest turbines. There will be clear visibility of the proposed development in views to the east, north-east and south-east from the grounds around the house, and from the approach to the property in either direction.

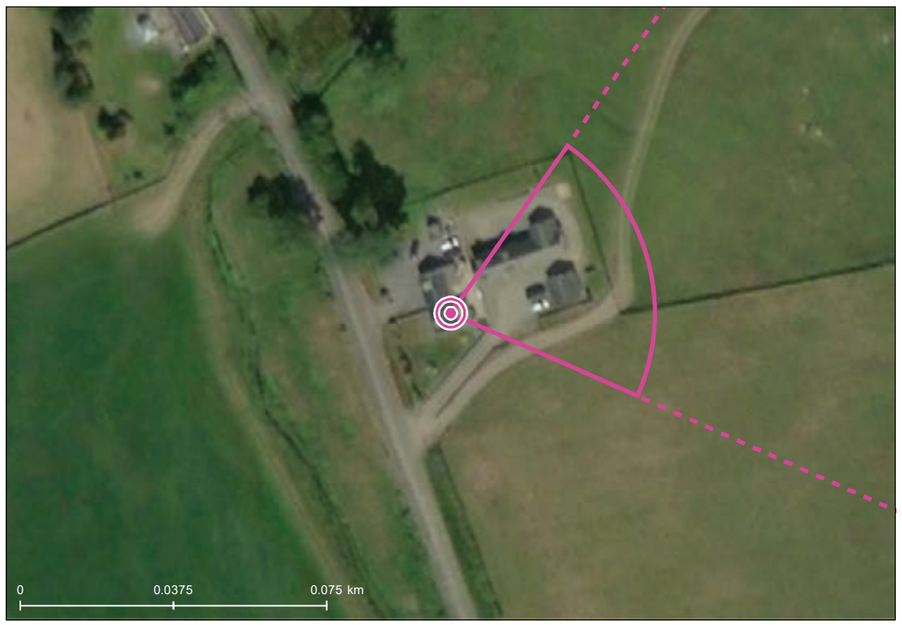
Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction.

This property is not considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, for the following reasons:
- The main orientation of open views from the property will not be directly be affected, although they may be peripherally affected
- The proposed development will not lead to a perception of 'encircling' the property, theoretically affecting less than a quarter of the full 360-degree outlook
- The visible number of turbines is relatively limited
- The rising landform to the east of the property foreshortens views in this direction, reducing the prominence of the turbines that lie closest to the property





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OS Grid Reference:	X 311066
	Y 598451
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	15
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	10
Horizontal field of view:	79.05°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.61km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☐ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☒ Rendered	☐ 1 Storey	☐ 2 Storey	☒ Outbuildings	☒ Front Garden	☐ Rear Garden
☒ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☒ 1.5 Storey	☐ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☐ Garage(s)	☒ Side Gardens

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is located on the eastern side of a minor road to the west of the proposed development. The property is on the eastern side of Annandale, with the River Annan and the railway running to the west. There appears to be little vegetation around the property. This property is less elevated and open than Property 29, which lies to the east of this property, perpendicular to it.

Views from property
The front orientation of this property, which has two windows and a front door, is to the west-south-west, from where long, open and attractive elevated views across Annandale are gained. There are also likely to be windows on the east-north-east elevation, with views screened to some extent by Property 29. Where longer views are available from this elevation, views into the upland fringe will be foreshortened by rising landform behind the property. The south-south-east and north-north-west gables also have windows and will gain views along Annandale with some foreshortening of views by landform and, to the south-south-east, filtering by woodland on the skyline. View east are also through a close-proximity high voltage overhead transmission line.

Views from access
This property can be accessed from the north or south. Both of these approaches have an outlook across the upland fringe landscape towards the foothills to the east, and a view over Annandale to the west.

Views from garden grounds
There are gardens to the front and sides of the house. Views from the grounds are likely to be similar to those gained from the house, with an open outlook that is foreshortened by landform to the north, south and east and with some screening to the east by Property 29.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Medium**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

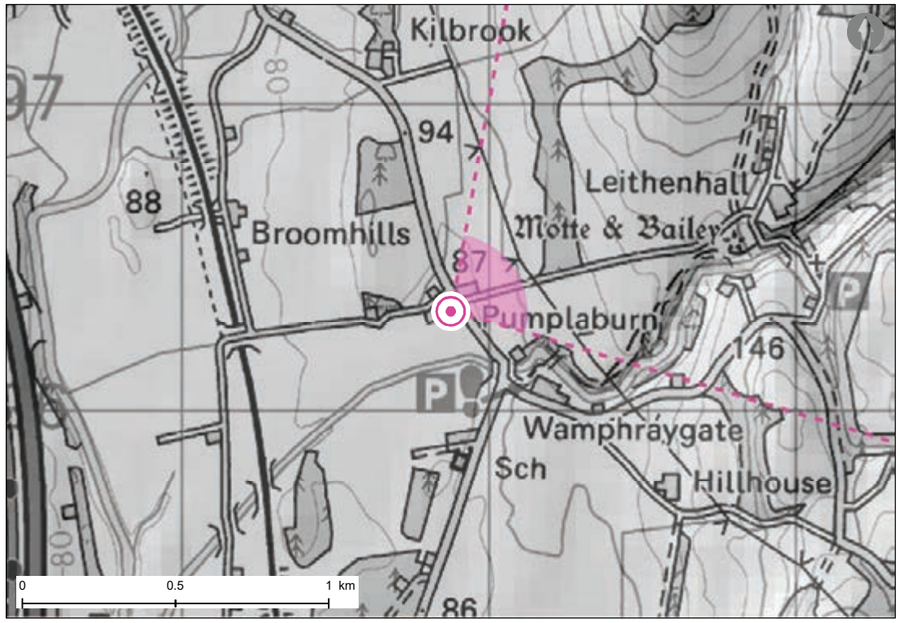
The wirelines show that 15 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible from this property, with the nearest turbine 1.61km away. The proposed development will extend approximately 79-degrees around the property, to the east, north-east, and south-east. The long, open views from the front (west-south-western) elevation of the property will not be affected due to the location of the proposed development in relation to the property. Views from the south-south-east and north-north-west gables will not be directly affected but may have some very angled, peripheral visibility, although this will be limited by the landform foreshortening and vegetation filtering. Views from the east-north-east elevation will be partly screened by Property 29 and also foreshortened by landform, but where views are available, there is likely to be clear, moderate visibility of the westernmost turbines in the proposed development, on the skyline of Dundoran.

The proposed development will not affect views from the front garden, and may have some limited, peripheral visibility from the side gardens. There will be clear visibility of the proposed development from the approach to the property in either direction.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction. This property is not considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold due to the medium magnitude of change on views.



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OS Grid Reference:	X 311877
	Y 596323
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	45
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	30
Horizontal field of view:	96.28°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.62km

Property description:

[x] Farmhouse	[ ] Semi Detached	[ ] Stone Built	[x] Rendered	[ ] 1 Storey	[x] 2 Storey	[x] Outbuildings	[x] Front Garden	[x] Rear Garden
[x] Detached	[ ] Terraced	[ ] Brick Built	[ ] Timber-clad	[ ] 1.5 Storey	[ ] Conservatory	[x] Farmyard	[ ] Garage(s)	[x] Side Gardens

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is located on a minor road to the west of the proposed development. The property is in a relatively low-lying and level part of the Annandale upland fringe landscape. There are extensive farm buildings to the north, west, north-west and north-east of the house.

Views from property
The main orientation of the property is south-south-east, from where long, open and attractive views along the upland fringe landscape and across Annandale are gained with very little filtering by vegetation. There are several windows in the east-north-eastern gable that will gain eastwards views into the foothills, with some limited filtering in summer from a row of mature trees. The outlook from the other elevations of the house is likely to be heavily screened by the extensive farm building complex, although the upper floor may gain some views over these buildings to the foothills beyond. View east are also through a close-proximity high voltage overhead transmission line.

Views from access
This property can be accessed from north, south, east or west. All of these approaches other than that from the east have an outlook across the upland fringe landscape towards foothills. If approached from the east, the outlook is across Annandale. Some views are open and gain an outlook towards the hills while others are enclosed by woodland and hedgerows.

Views from garden grounds
There are gardens to the front, rear and southern side of the house. Views from the gardens are likely to be similar to those gained from the house, with the main open outlook to the south and some visibility to the east, towards the foothills, although this will be filtered by local vegetation. Views in other directions are likely to be screened by farm buildings.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Medium**
- **Significance of effect: Not significant visual effect**

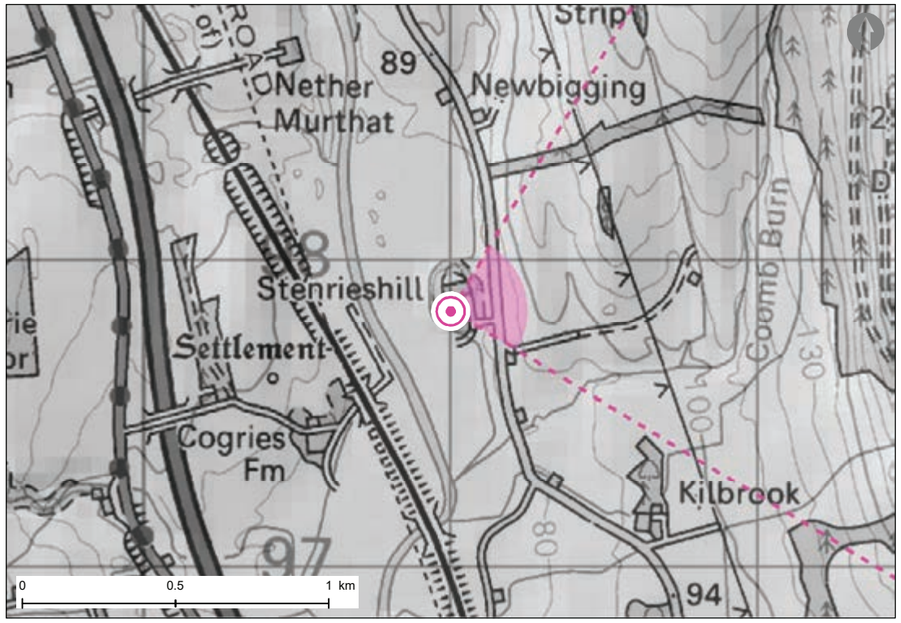
The wirelines show that 45 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible from this property, with the nearest turbine 1.62km away. The proposed development will extend approximately 96-degrees around the property, to the east, north-east, north-north-east, and east-south-east. The long views to the south-south-east from the front of the house and garden will not be directly affected by the proposed development, although there may be some peripheral visibility of turbines in the south-western corner of the proposed development, around 3km away. Part of the proposed development may be seen from windows in the east-north-eastern gable. This visibility would primarily be of turbines that lie due east, such as those on Milne Fell and Howgill Fell, but there may also be angled visibility of the closest turbines on Dundoran, seen above the farm buildings. The Dundoran turbines may also be visible, with some screening by farm buildings, from the north-north-western elevation. The proposed development will not affect views from the west-south-western gable. Visibility from the gardens will be similar to that gained from the house, with potential for peripheral visibility from the southern garden, and filtered visibility to the east and north-east from the front garden. It is also possible that turbines to the north-east, on Dundoran, may be visible from the rear garden, between farm buildings.

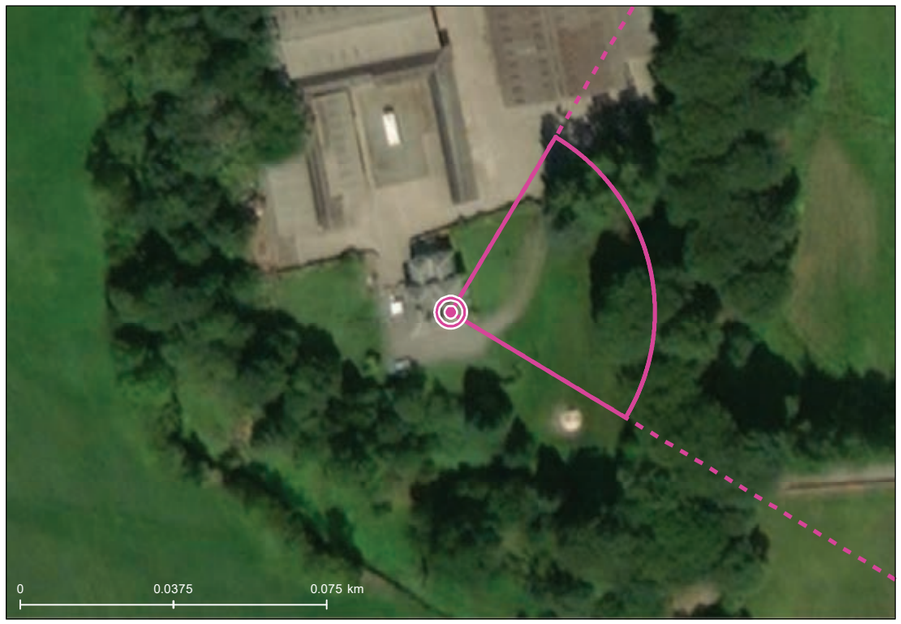
The proposed development will be clearly visible on the approach to the house from any direction other than the east.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction.
This property is not considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, for the following reasons:
- The main orientation of open views from the property will not be directly be affected, although they may be peripherally affected
- The majority of the open view from the property and garden will therefore remain unaffected by the proposed development
- Views from several aspects of the house are already screened by a large complex of farm buildings, and visibility of turbines in the context of these views will not represent such a high level of change as would visibility of turbines in an open, attractive outlook





Data Source: Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

OS Grid Reference:	X 311003
	Y 597831
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	35
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	24
Horizontal field of view:	90.19°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.65km

Property description:

[x] Farmhouse	[ ] Semi Detached	[ ] Stone Built	[ ] Rendered	[ ] 1 Storey	[x] 2 Storey	[x] Outbuildings	[x] Front Garden	[ ] Rear Garden
[x] Detached	[ ] Terraced	[ ] Brick Built	[ ] Timber-clad	[ ] 1.5 Storey	[ ] Conservatory	[x] Farmyard	[ ] Garage(s)	[x] Side Gardens

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is accessed by a private drive to the west of a minor road, west of the proposed development. The property is surrounded in all directions by woodland, and has extensive farm buildings to the north. The River Annan and the railway both run close to the western side of the property.

Views from property
The main orientation of this property appears to be south-south-east, and long views down Annandale will theoretically be available from this elevation, although these are likely to be extensively screened and filtered by the woodland that surrounds the house. Views to the west-south-west, across Annandale, are also likely to be screened and filtered. To the east-north-east, views into the upland fringe and foothills will be similarly screened, and are also foreshortened by the landform of the eastern side of Annandale that rises to the east of the property. Views to the north-north-west are likely to be screened by farm buildings as well as woodland. View east are also through a close-proximity high voltage overhead transmission line.

Views from access
This property can be accessed from the north or south. Both of these approaches have an outlook across the upland fringe landscape towards the foothills to the east, and a view over Annandale to the west.

Views from garden grounds
There appear to be gardens to the front and sides of the house. Views from the gardens are likely to be similar to those gained from the house, with extensive screening by woodland.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Medium/ medium-low**
- **Significance of effect: Not significant visual effect**

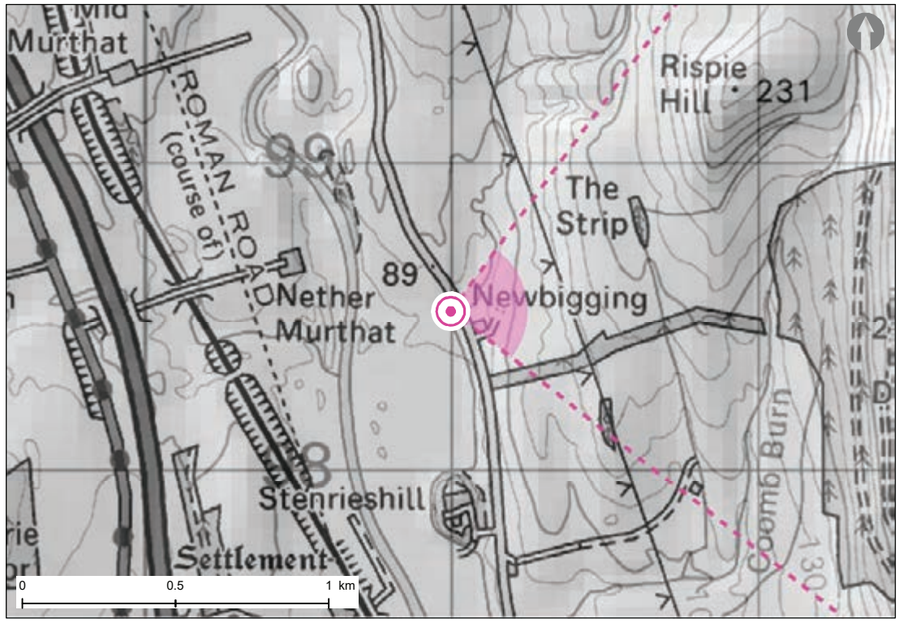
The wirelines show that 35 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible from this property, with the nearest turbine 1.65km away. The proposed development will extend approximately 90-degrees around the property, to the east, north-east, and south-east. In reality, the woodland around the property is likely to screen and filter most of this visibility from the house and gardens, especially in summertime when deciduous trees are in leaf. Views to the west from the house and garden will anyway not be affected by the proposed development due to its location in relation to the property, and any peripheral visibility from the north-north-western elevation is likely to be screened by woodland and farm buildings. Any theoretical visibility from what appears to be the main south-south-eastern elevation of the house would be angled and peripheral, as the turbines lie further east than the orientation of views in this direction.

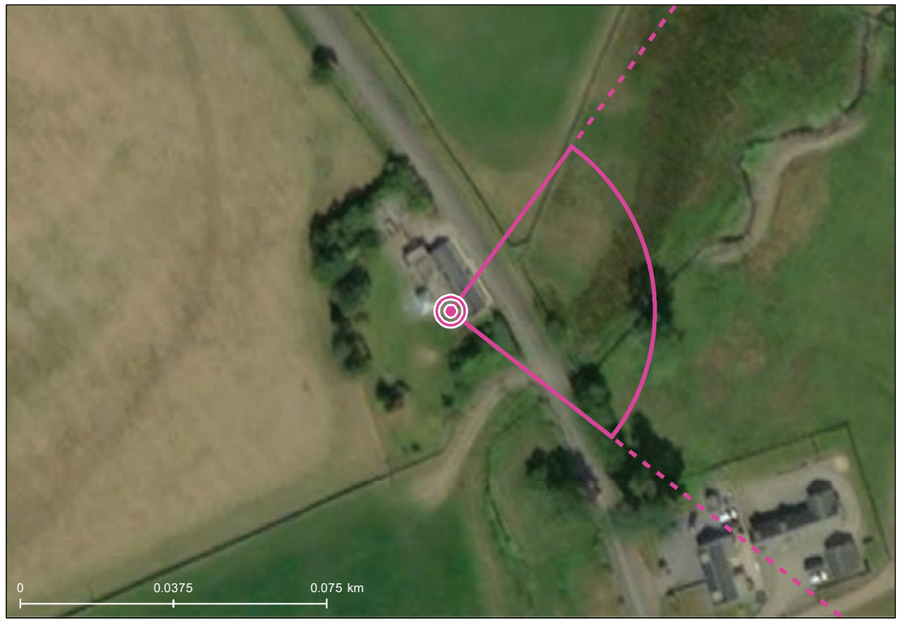
In winter, when views are more open, there is likely to be some visibility of the proposed development from the east-north-eastern elevation of the house, from the eastern parts of the garden, and potentially angled, peripheral visibility from the south-south-eastern elevation of the house. This visibility would be primarily of the closest turbines that lie to the east, on the skyline of Dundoran, and possibly also by the more distant north-eastern and eastern turbines. The proposed development will be clearly visible on the approach to the house from either the north or the south.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction. This property is not considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold due to the medium/ medium-low magnitude of change.





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OS Grid Reference:	X 310998
	Y 598518
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	23
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	12
Horizontal field of view:	91.73°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.68km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☐ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☒ Rendered	☒ 1 Storey	☐ 2 Storey	☒ Outbuildings	☐ Front Garden	☒ Rear Garden
☒ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☐ 1.5 Storey	☐ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☒ Garage(s)	☒ Side Gardens

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is located on the western side of a minor road to the west of the proposed development. The property is low-lying in relation to the road, but quite elevated in terms of its overall position on the eastern side of Annandale. There is vegetation to the north, south and west of the house and a garage to the north.

Views from property
The north-eastern elevation of this property fronts onto the road, with several windows and a front door. Views in this direction are long and open, looking upwards into the eastern edge of Annandale, the upland fringe, and the foothills. There is a high voltage transmission line across this aspect of the house. Views to the south-west are likely to have an attractive long outlook across Annandale, with some filtering by vegetation around the property and on the skyline. There do not appear to be windows in the north-western or south-eastern gables.

Views from access
This property can be accessed from the north or south. Both of these approaches have an outlook across the upland fringe landscape towards the foothills to the east, and a view over Annandale to the west.

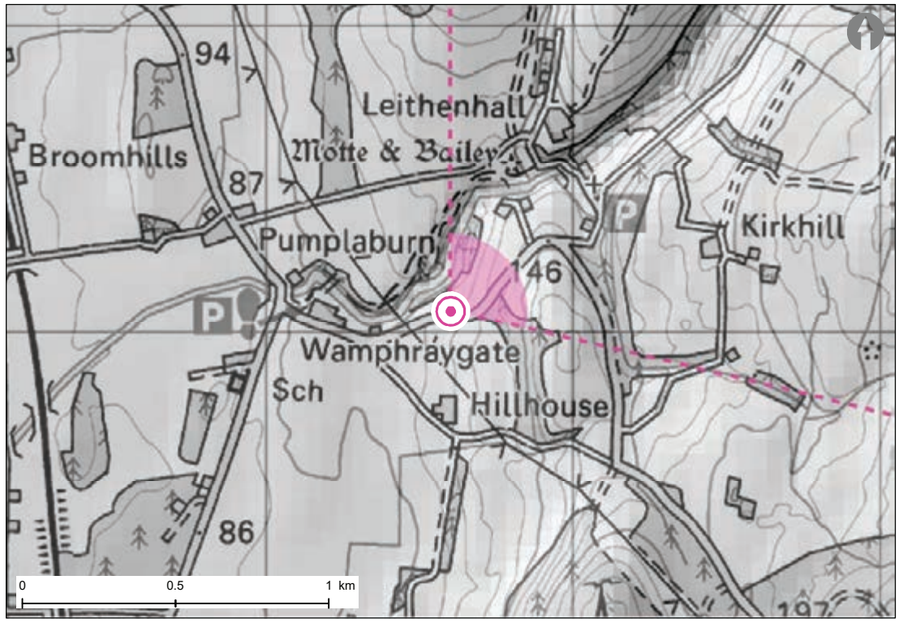
Views from garden grounds
There are gardens to the rear and sides of the house. Views from the gardens are likely to be similar to those gained from the house, with views to the north-east gained from the side gardens, and views in other directions filtered by vegetation. Views to the north-east from the rear garden are likely to be screened by the house.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Medium-high**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

The wirelines show that 23 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible from this property, with the nearest turbine 1.68km away. The proposed development will extend approximately 92-degrees around the property, to the east, north-east, and south-east, and will therefore be seen in an elevated position in the direct orientation of views from the front (north-eastern) elevation of the property. The closest turbines are those on Dundoran, which are due east of the property and will therefore appear peripherally to the main north-eastern orientation of views from this elevation of the property. Views from the south-western elevation will not be affected due to the location of the proposed development in relation to the property, and there are no windows in the north-western and south-eastern elevations from which views may be gained.

There will be visibility, filtered by vegetation, in views to the east, north-east and south-east from the side gardens, while visibility from the rear garden is likely to be very limited due to screening by the house. Views to the north-west and south-west from the garden will remain unaffected. There will be clear visibility of the proposed development from the approach to the property in either direction.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold
Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction. This property is not considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, for the following reasons:
- The proposed development will not affect the long, attractive view across Annandale (albeit filtered by garden vegetation), which is gained from the south-west of the property
- The proposed development will not lead to a perception of 'encircling' the property, theoretically affecting just over a quarter of the full 360-degree outlook
- The gardens, paticularly the rear garden, appear to have an enclosed and contained character, with screening from the property and vegetation, and this is likely to be less affected by the proposed development than an open, exposed hillside garden would be
- The visible number of turbines is relatively limited
- The rising landform to the east, south-east and north-east of the property foreshortens views in this direction, reducing the prominence of the turbines that are seen across the the north-eastern outlook from the property and giving a sense of separation



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OS Grid Reference:	X 312603
	Y 596071
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	43
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	30
Horizontal field of view:	103.39°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.68km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☐ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☒ Rendered	☒ 1 Storey	☐ 2 Storey	☒ Outbuildings	☒ Front Garden	☒ Rear Garden
☒ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☐ 1.5 Storey	☐ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☐ Garage(s)	☐ Side Gardens

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is located on a minor road to the west of the proposed development. The property lies in a slightly elevated position several hundred metres south of the Wamphray Water, and is on the cusp of the Annandale foothills and Annandale upland fringe landscapes.

Views from property
The property is orientated east/ west, with the front of the house being the west-facing elevation. There are several windows on this aspect, as well as the front door, and long, open and attractive views across Annandale are likely to be gained, with some filtering by vegetation in the front garden. A high voltage transmission line runs across this elevation. The eastern elevation has two offshoots and is likely to have windows in it, possibly smaller than those in the western elevation. Views from this elevation will be attractive but more restricted due to the landform that rises gently to the east of the property, with further filtering by garden vegetation and more distant tree belts. Aerial photography suggests that there is an outbuilding against the northern gable, in which case views will not be gained from within the house. If, however, there is a window in the northern gable, this is likely to gain a view across the Wamphray Water with its deciduous woodland. The southern gable is closely screened by a hedge and it is not possible to discern if there is a window in this elevation. If there is, the view would be screened by the hedge.

Views from access
If the appraoch to the property is made from the west, the key orientation of views on the approach is to the east, towards the foothills. The property may also be approached from the south/ east, in which case the outlook would be across Annandale and into the foothills. Some views are open and gain an outlook towards the hills while others are enclosed by woodland and hedgerows.

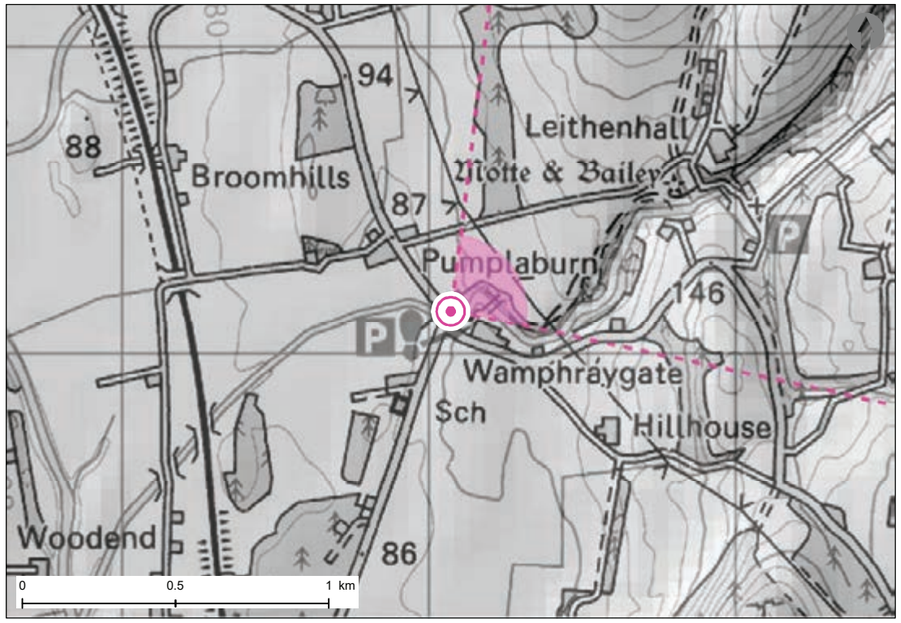
Views from garden grounds
There are gardens to the front (west) and rear (east) of the house, from where views are likely to be similar to those gained from the house. Views from the garden will be less restricted from those within the house and may be gained in any direction. Vegetation, including a hedge, in the gardens will, however, provide some filtering of views.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Medium-high**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

The wirelines show that 43 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible from this property, with the nearest turbine 1.68km away. The proposed development will extend approximately 103-degrees around the property, to the north, east, north-east and east-south-east. The long views to the west from the house and front garden, across Annandale, will not be affected by the proposed development. However, the western turbines in the proposed development (particularly those on Dundoran, Windshield Hill and Turf Hill), which lie due north of the house, will be highly visible in views from the garden, with some filtering by vegetation. If there is a window in the northern gable of the house, these turbines are likely to be visible in this outlook. Views from the eastern elevation of the house and the rear garden are restricted by the rising landform behind the house, and the turbines that would be seen in this outlook have more limited visibility (blades only) than those to the north and north-east. Further filtering will be provided by garden vegetation and more distant tree belts. The proposed development will be clearly visible on the approach to the house from either direction.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold
Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction.

This property is not considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, for the following reasons:
- The main orientation (westerly) of long, open views from the property will be not be affected by the proposed development
- The (east-facing) rear elevation of the property will gain limited theoretical visibility, which is likely to be further screened by vegetation
- The proposed development will not lead to a perception of 'encircling' the property, theoretically affecting less than a third of the full 360-degree outlook
- The closest turbine is 1.68km away



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OS Grid Reference:	X 312073
	Y 596140
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	28
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	16
Horizontal field of view:	94.95°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.71km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☐ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☒ Rendered	☐ 1 Storey	☒ 2 Storey	☒ Outbuildings	☒ Front Garden	☒ Rear Garden
☒ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☐ 1.5 Storey	☐ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☐ Garage(s)	☒ Side Gardens

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is located just off a minor road to the west of the proposed development. The property lies immediately to the north of the Wamphray Water, which semi-encircles the house, and is within the Annandale upland fringe landscape. There is mature woodland around the property which adds to the enclosure afforded by the Wamphray Water woodland.

Views from property
The property is orientated south-west/ north-east, with the south-west-facing elevation, which appears to be the main outlook from the house, facing the road. There are a number of windows on this aspect and an attractive south-westwards view across the Wamphray Water and Annandale will be gained, particularly from the upper floor, with some filtering by garden vegetation. The north-eastern elevation of the house looks out onto the Wamphray Water and views in this direction are likely to be heavily screened by woodland around the property and along the watercourse. Where longer views are available, these will be foreshortened by the lower southern slopes of Dundoran, which extend down to the Wamphray Water.
The north-western gable of the property will look out over the woodland that surrounds the property, while the south-eastern gable looks onto the Wamphray Water and woodland.

Views from access
If the approach to the property is made from the north, the key orientation of views on the approach is to the south and east, towards the foothills. The property may also be approached from the east, in which case the outlook would be towards or across Annandale, or into the foothills. Some views are open and gain an outlook towards the hills while others are enclosed by woodland and hedgerows.

Views from garden grounds
There appear to be gardens to the front, rear and sides of the house. Views from the gardens are likely to be similar to those from the house but with a greater degree of woodland screening.

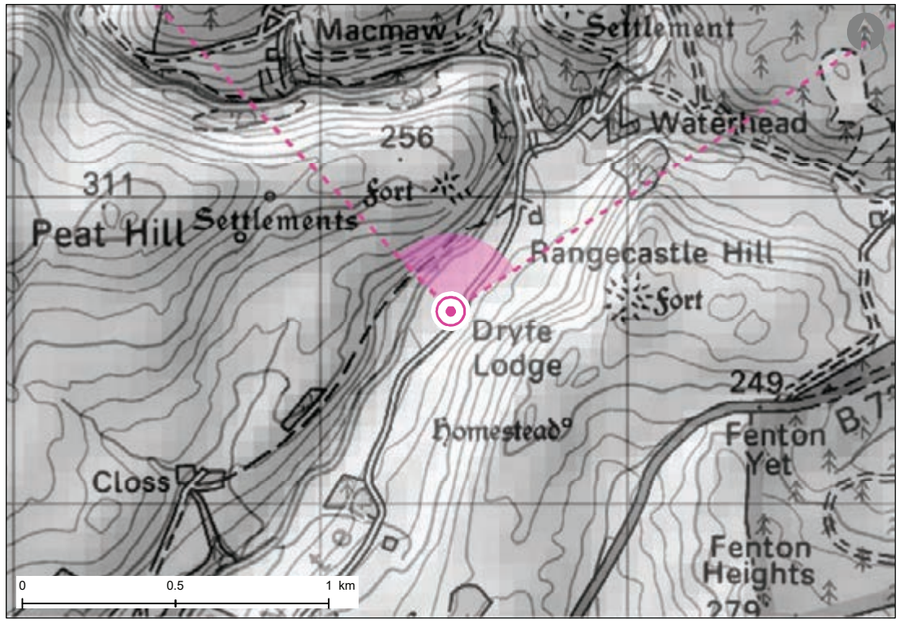
Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Low**
- **Significance of effect: Not significant visual effect**

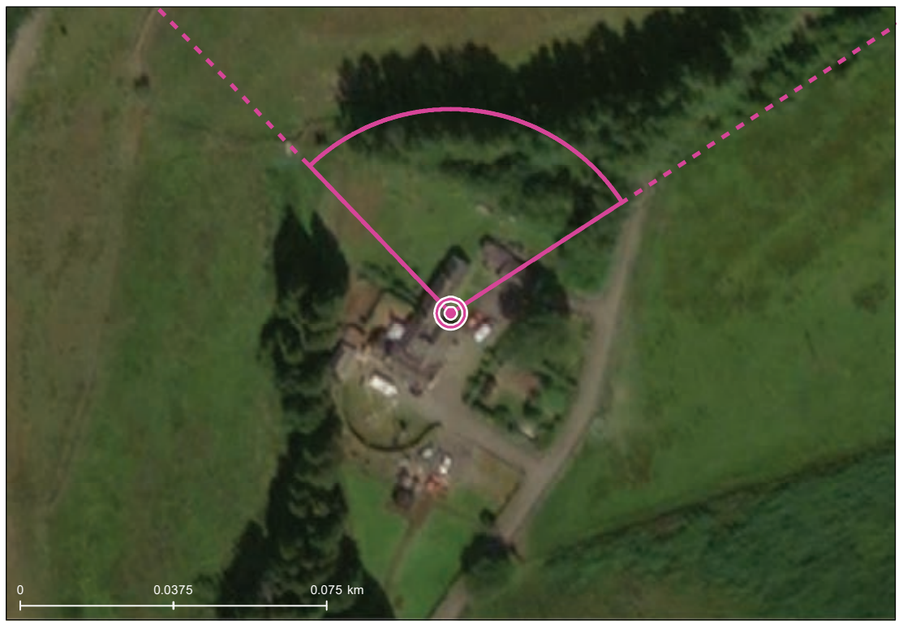
The wirelines show that 28 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible from this property, with the nearest turbine 1.71km away. The proposed development will extend approximately 95-degrees around the property, to the east, north-east, north-north-east, and east-south-east. The views to the south-west from the front of the house and garden will not be affected by the proposed development, and neither will north-westerly views. Views to the north-east and east from the north-eastern (rear) elevation will be heavily filtered by woodland, but some partial views are likely to be available from the house and garden, particularly in winter and from the upper floor. Where there is visibility, the turbines do not appear to rise in an elevated position on the hills but have their lower towers screened by the landform of Dundoran, which considerably reduces their prominence.
Views from the south-eastern gable will not be directly affected by the proposed development and any peripheral visibility is likely to be be screened by woodland. The proposed development will be clearly visible on the approach to the house from either direction.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction. This property is not considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold due to the low magnitude of change on views from the property.





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OS Grid Reference:	X 318426
	Y 593629
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	7
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	4
Horizontal field of view:	100.95°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.73km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☒ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☒ Rendered	☐ 1 Storey	☐ 2 Storey	☒ Outbuildings	☒ Front Garden	☒ Rear Garden
☐ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☒ 1.5 Storey	☐ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	? Garage(s)	☒ Side Gardens

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is one of a group of three properties (including property numbers 38 and 39) situated adjacent to a minor public road (also a core path) to the south of the proposed development. The property is in a low-lying location on the Dryfe Water valley floor, east of the Dryfe Water. Outbuildings lie to the north-east of the property.

Views from property
The property is orientated north-west/ south-east. Views to the south-east are foreshortened by the landform of the Dryfe Water valley, which rises to the east while the longer, more open views across the valley to the north-west are likely to be filtered by a belt of conifers that lies to the west of the property. It is not clear if there are windows on the north-eastern elevation, but if there are, visibility from these would be extensively screened/ filtered by a further belt of trees that lies to the north of the property. The south-western elevation abuts the neighbouring property.

Views from access
There are intermittent views to the north, north-east and north-west, towards hills and forestry, when travelling towards the property along the Dryfe Water valley.

Views from garden grounds
There appear to be gardens to the front, rear and side of the house. The woodland around the group of properties is likely to screen and filter views to the north, south and west, while views to the east will be foreshortened by the landform of the Dryfe Water valley. Where views to the north and west are gained, they will be long views across and along the valley. To the south, views from the garden will overlook neighbouring properties/ gardens.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Medium-Low**
- **Significance of effect: Not significant visual effect**

The wirelines show that seven turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible from this property, four as hubs and three as blades, with the nearest visible turbine 1.73km away. The proposed development will extend over approximately 100-degrees to the north, north-west and north-east of the property. The main orientation of views from the house is to the north-west and south-east so while the proposed development will not affect the south-eastern outlook, it may be seen in views to the north-west, particularly from upper windows. However, visibility in this direction is limited to two blades, and views from within the property will also be screened/ filtered by the trees that surround the property.

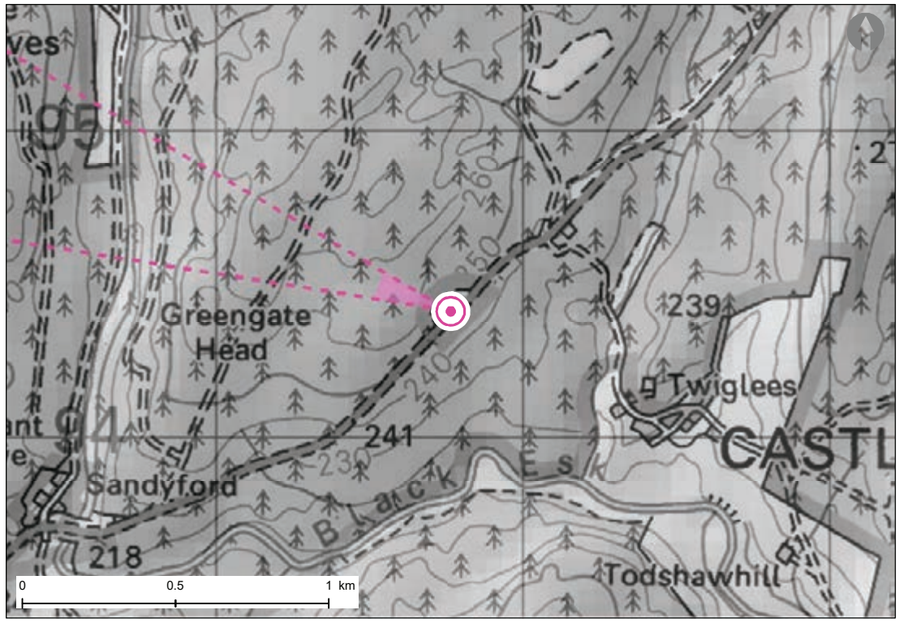
Views from the garden and around the outbuildings are likely to have more direct visibility than those from the house, but will be screened/ filtered by the tree belts around the property. Intermittent views towards the proposed development will be gained from the approach to the property on the minor road.

The proposed development will potentially be visible in views from the garden and grounds at this property, and from its approach, but is unlikely to be clearly visible from within the property due to the orientation of views and screening by woodland. Overall, the level of theoretical visibility is limited, with further screening provided by woodland around the property.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction. This property is not considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold due to the medium-low magnitude of change on views from the property.



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OS Grid Reference:	X 321766
	Y 594411
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	3
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	0
Horizontal field of view:	21.2°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.73km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☐ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☒ Rendered	☐ 1 Storey	☐ 2 Storey	☐ Outbuildings	☒ Front Garden	☒ Rear Garden
☒ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☒ 1.5 Storey	☐ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☐ Garage(s)	☒ Side Gardens

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
Property set in gardens on the north side of the B723, with outbuildings to the north. The property has a relatively elevated outlook to the south-east, across the Black Esk valley.

Views from property
The property is orientated to the south-east with open and elevated views across the Black Esk valley in this direction. There are also likely to be windows on the north-west elevation, but views from these are likely to be partially screened by forestry and foreshortened by the landform that rises gently to the north of the property.

Views from access
This property is accessed by the B723, which gains some long, open views across the hills, glens and forestry that characterise this area. There are, however, some stretches where views are screened by dense coniferous forestry.

Views from garden grounds
There are gardens to the front, rear and side of the house. Views are likely to be similar to those from the house, with long, open views south-eastwards across the Black Esk valley and more limited views in other directions.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

- **Magnitude of change: Medium-low**
- **Significance of effect: Not significant visual effect**

The wirelines show that three blades of turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible from this property, with the nearest visible turbine 1.73km away. The proposed development will extend over approximately 21-degrees to the west-north-west of the property. The main orientation of views from the house is south-eastwards while the proposed development lies to the west-north-west, and it will therefore not be seen in these main views, although it may be visible from other aspects of the property.

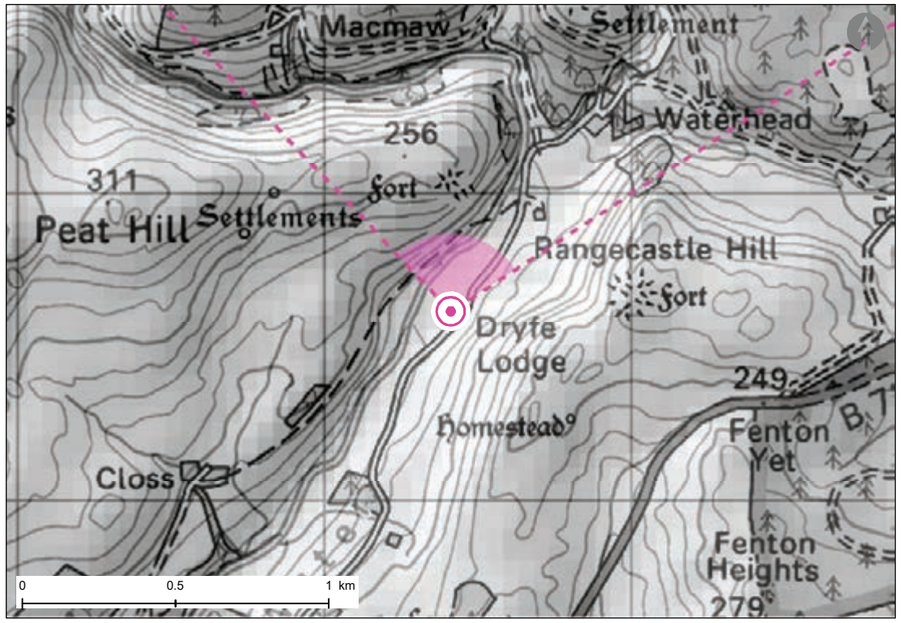
Views from the garden and outbuildings are likely to have more open visibility than those from the house, but still limited to three blades. Open views towards the proposed development will be gained from the approach to the property on the B723.

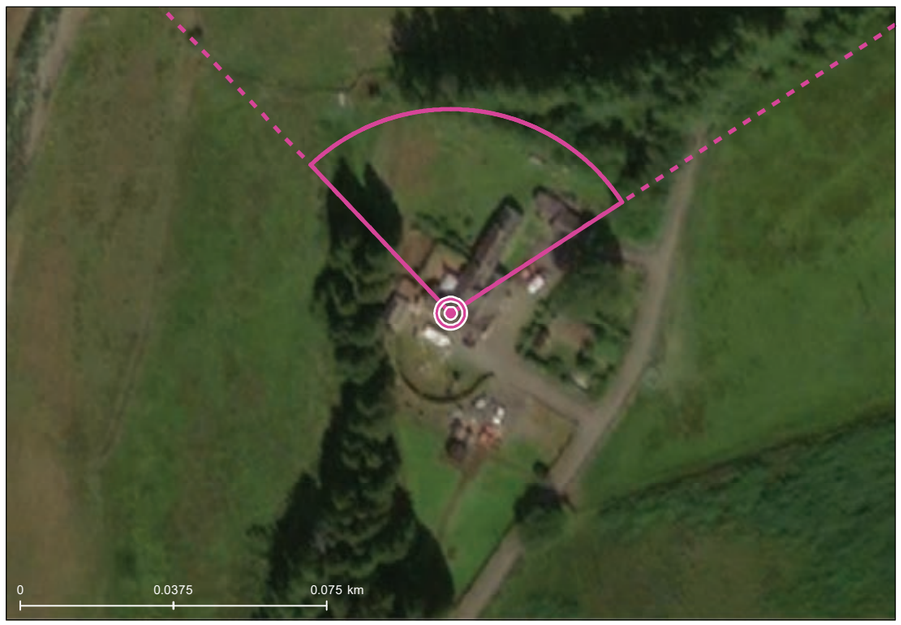
The proposed development will potentially be visible in views from this property, and from its approach and garden grounds. However, the level of theoretical visibility is limited and the effect on views will be not significant.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction. This property is not considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold due to the medium-low magnitude of change on views from the property.





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OS Grid Reference:	X 318413
	Y 593617
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	7
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	4
Horizontal field of view:	100.4°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.73km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☒ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☒ Rendered	☒ 1 Storey	☐ 2 Storey	☒ Outbuildings	☒ Front Garden	☒ Rear Garden
☐ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☐ 1.5 Storey	☐ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☐ Garage(s)	☐ Side Gardens

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is one of a group of three properties (including property numbers 36 and 39) situated adjacent to a minor public road (also a core path) to the south of the proposed development. The property is in a low-lying location on the Dryfe Water valley floor, east of the Dryfe Water.

Views from property
The property appears to be orientated north-west/ south-east (it is not clear exactly which part of the group of properties constitutes this specific property). Views to the south-east are foreshortened by the landform of the Dryfe Water valley, which rises to the east while the longer, more open views across the valley to the north-west are likely to be filtered by a belt of conifers that lies to the west of the property. The south-western and north-eastern elevations appear to abut the neighbouring properties.

Views from access
There are intermittent views to the north, north-east and north-west, towards hills and forestry, when travelling towards the property along the Dryfe Water valley.

Views from garden grounds
There appear to be gardens to the front and rear of the house. The woodland around the group of properties is likely to screen and filter views to the north and west, while views to the east will be foreshortened by the landform of the Dryfe Water valley. Where views to the west are gained, they will be long views across the valley. To the north and south, views from the garden will overlook neighbouring properties/ gardens, with potential for longer glimpse views of the hills and up the valley through the trees to the north of the properties.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Medium-Low**
- **Significance of effect: Not significant visual effect**

The wirelines show that seven turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible from this property, four as hubs and three as blades, with the nearest visible turbine 1.73km away. The proposed development will extend over approximately 100-degrees to the north, north-west and north-east of the property. The main orientation of views from the house is to the north-west and south-east so while the proposed development will not affect the south-eastern outlook, it may be seen in views to the north-west. However, visibility in this direction is limited to two blades, and views from within the property will also be screened/ filtered by the trees that surround the property.

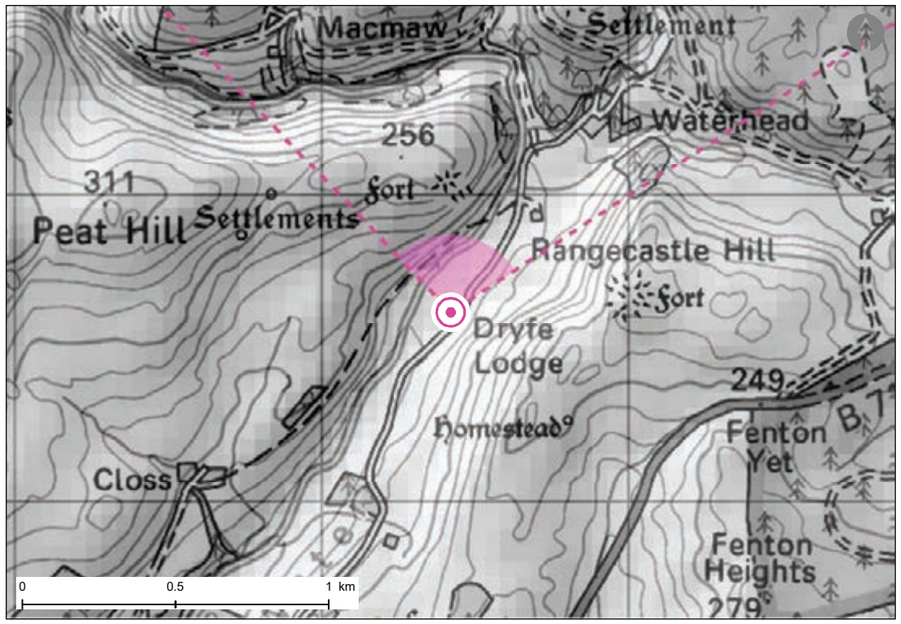
Views from the garden are likely to have more direct visibility than those from the house, but will be screened/ filtered by the tree belts around the properties. Intermittent views towards the proposed development will be gained from the approach to the property on the minor road.

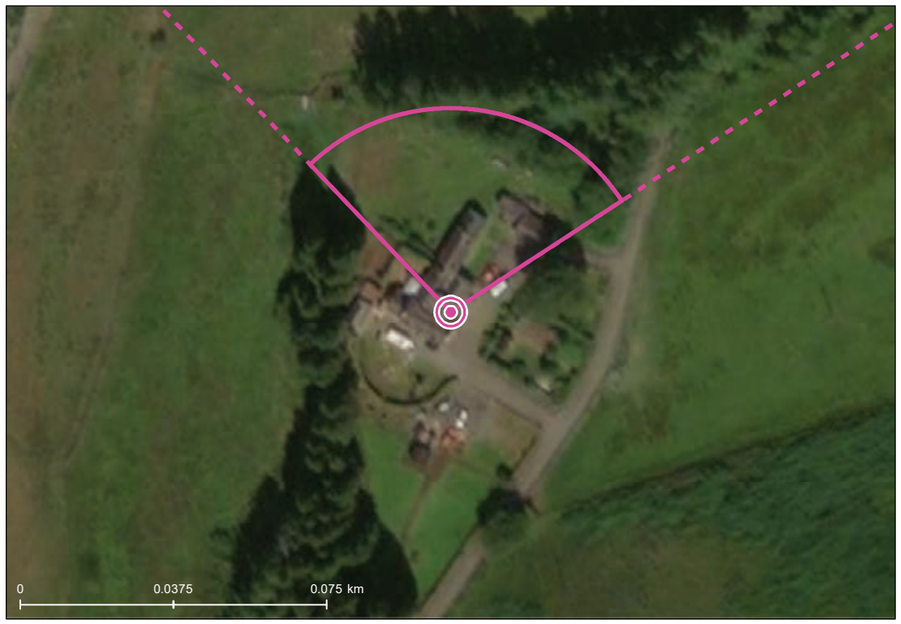
The proposed development will potentially be visible in views from the garden and grounds at this property, and from its approach, but is unlikely to be clearly visible from within the property due to the orientation of views and screening by woodland. Overall, the level of theoretical visibility is limited, with further screening provided by woodland around the property.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction. This property is not considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold due to the medium-low magnitude of change on views from the property.





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OS Grid Reference:	X 318422
	Y 593618
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	7
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	4
Horizontal field of view:	100.47°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.74km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☒ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☒ Rendered	☐ 1 Storey	☐ 2 Storey	☒ Outbuildings	☒ Front Garden	☒ Rear Garden
☐ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☒ 1.5 Storey	☐ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☐ Garage(s)	☒ Side Gardens

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is one of a group of three properties (including property numbers 36 and 38) situated adjacent to a minor public road (also a core path) to the south of the proposed development. The property is in a low-lying location on the Dryfe Water valley floor, east of the Dryfe Water.

Views from property
The main orientation of the property appears to be south-west, with main windows in this aspect. Views in this direction will be screened/ filtered by the coniferous tree belt that lies around this edge of the property. While no windows are visible on the north-eastern elevation, it is possible that there are windows to the rear of the property. If so, views in this direction are also likely to be screened/ filtered by woodland, with possible glimpses of longer, more open views across and up the Dryfe Water valley to the north and north-west. No windows in the south-eastern gable. Part of the north-eastern elevation abuts the neighbouring properties.

Views from access
There are intermittent views to the north, north-east and north-west, towards hills and forestry, when travelling towards the property along the Dryfe Water valley.

Views from garden grounds
There are gardens to the front, rear and side (south) of the house. The woodland around the group of properties is likely to screen and filter views to the north, south and west, while views to the east will be foreshortened by the landform of the Dryfe Water valley. Where views to the west and north-west are gained through the tree belt, they will be long views across and up the valley. To the north, views from the garden will overlook neighbouring properties/ gardens, with potential for longer glimpse views of the hills and up the valley through the trees to the north of the properties.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Medium-Low**
- **Significance of effect: Not significant visual effect**

The wirelines show that seven turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible from this property, four as hubs and three as blades, with the nearest visible turbine 1.74km away. The proposed development will extend over approximately 100-degrees to the north, north-west and north-east of the property. The main orientation of views from the house appears to be to the south-west, and so will not be affected by the proposed development. Any views that are gained to the north-west or west may, be affected. However, visibility in this direction is limited to two blades, and views from within the property will also be screened/ filtered by the trees that surround the property.

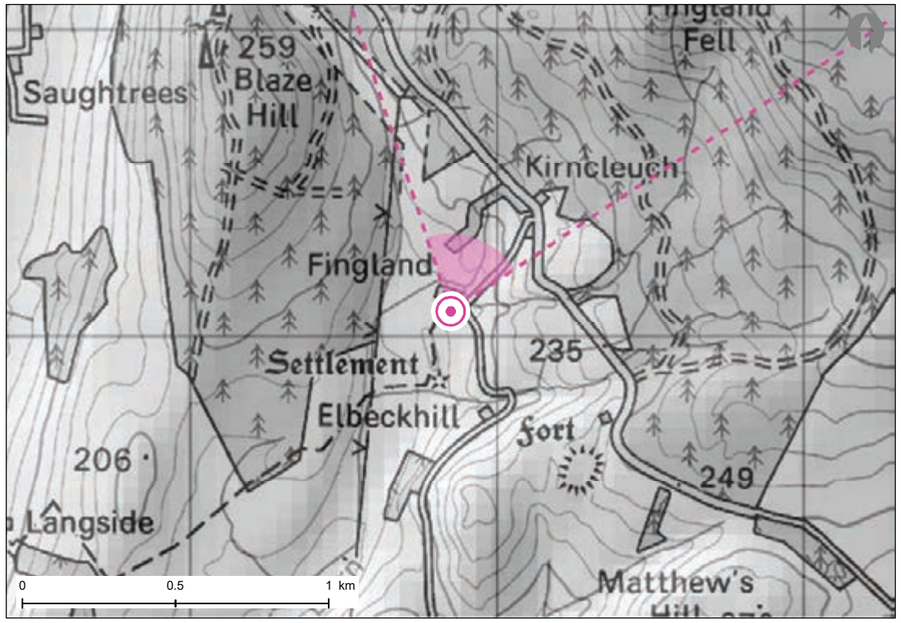
Views from the garden are likely to have more direct visibility than those from the house, but will be screened/ filtered by the tree belts around the properties. Intermittent views towards the proposed development will be gained from the approach to the property on the minor road.

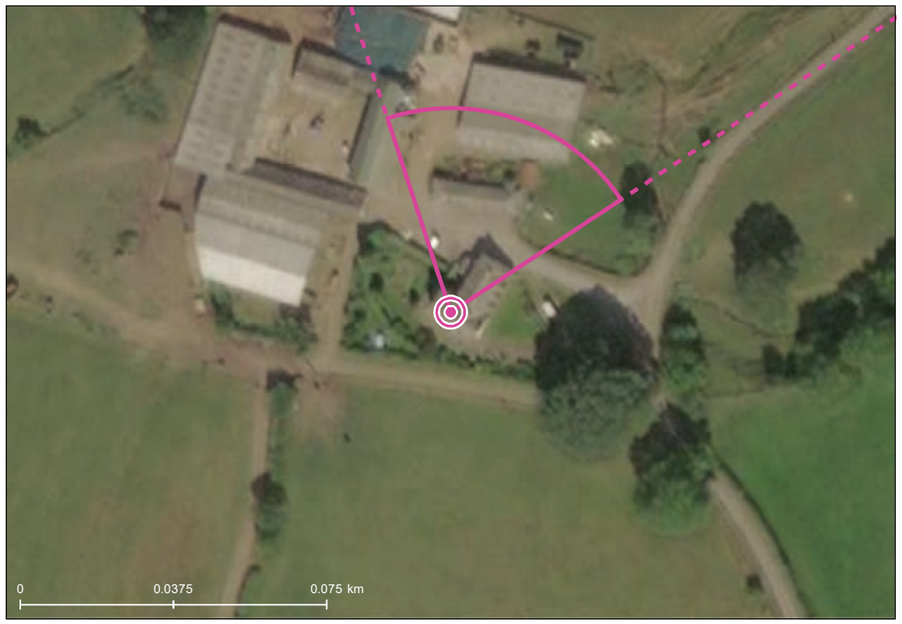
The proposed development will potentially be visible in views from the garden and grounds at this property, and from its approach, but is unlikely to be clearly visible from within the property due to the orientation of views and screening by woodland. Overall, the level of theoretical visibility is limited, with further screening provided by woodland around the property.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction. This property is not considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold due to the medium-low magnitude of change on views from the property.





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OS Grid Reference:	X 313851
	Y 594084
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	23
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	13
Horizontal field of view:	74.61°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.74km

Property description:

[x]	Farmhouse	[ ]	Semi Detached	[ ]	Stone Built	[x]	Rendered	[ ]	1 Storey	[x]	2 Storey	[x]	Outbuildings	[x]	Front Garden	[x]	Rear Garden
[x]	Detached	[ ]	Terraced	[ ]	Brick Built	[ ]	Timber-clad	[ ]	1.5 Storey	[ ]	Conservatory	[x]	Farmyard	[ ]	Garage(s)	[x]	Side Gardens

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This large 'L'-shaped farmhouse is located on a minor road to the south-west of the proposed development. It is in a relatively elevated location but enclosed within the small upper valley of the Back Burn. There are extensive farm buildings to the north of the house and a high voltage transmission line runs close to the west of the house.

Views from property
The property appears to have windows in all aspects, with a main orientation to the south-west, where the most open views are likely to be gained. Views to the south-east are likely to have some enclosure by landform and woodland. The north-eastern gable has several windows, with views likely to be screened in part by the extensive farm buildings, as are views from the north-western elevation.

Views from access
The property is accessed by a dead-end minor road that runs to the south-west from another minor road. The road that gives access direct to the property gains attractive rural views of fields and hedgerows, although the transmission line is also visible.

Views from garden grounds
There are grounds around the house, from where views are likely to be similar to those gained from the house, but more open. The focus will again be on the long, open views to the south-west.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

- **Magnitude of change: Medium**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

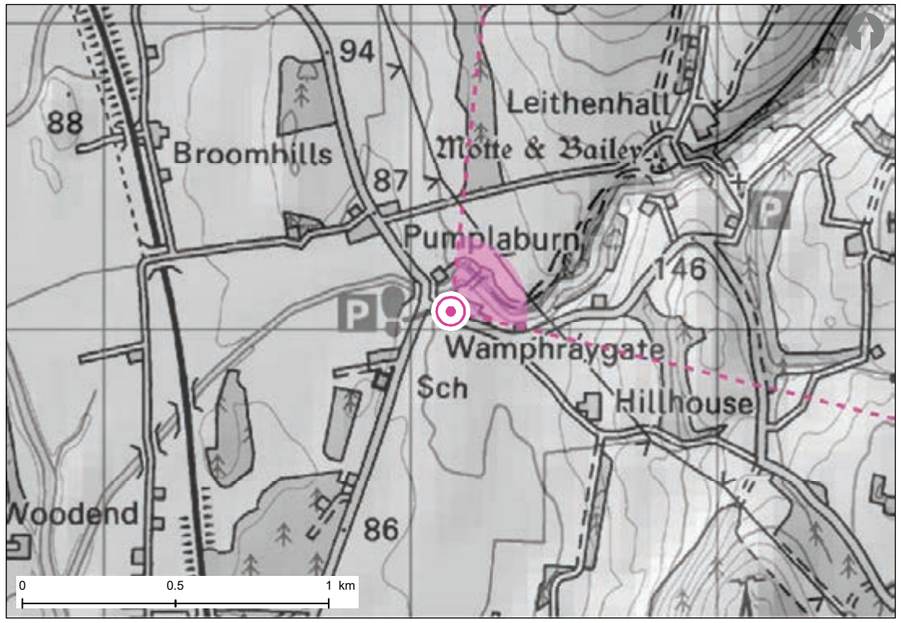
The wirelines show that 23 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible from this property, six as hubs and the remainder as blades, with the nearest visible turbine 1.74km away. The proposed development will extend over approximately 75-degrees to the north, north-east and north--north-west of the property. The main orientation of views from the house is to the south-west, and this aspect will not be affected by the proposed development. There may be some visibility of the proposed development from the other aspects of the house, but this will be limited by the enclosure of the eastern aspect of the house by landform and further screening to the north, east and north-east by farm buildings and woodland. Views from the grounds are likely to have more visibility than those from the house, but the proposed development will be peripheral to the main views. The proposed development will not be seen from the approach to this property on the minor dead-end road as it runs south-westwards, away from the proposed development. The proposed development is, however, likely to be visible when leaving the property.

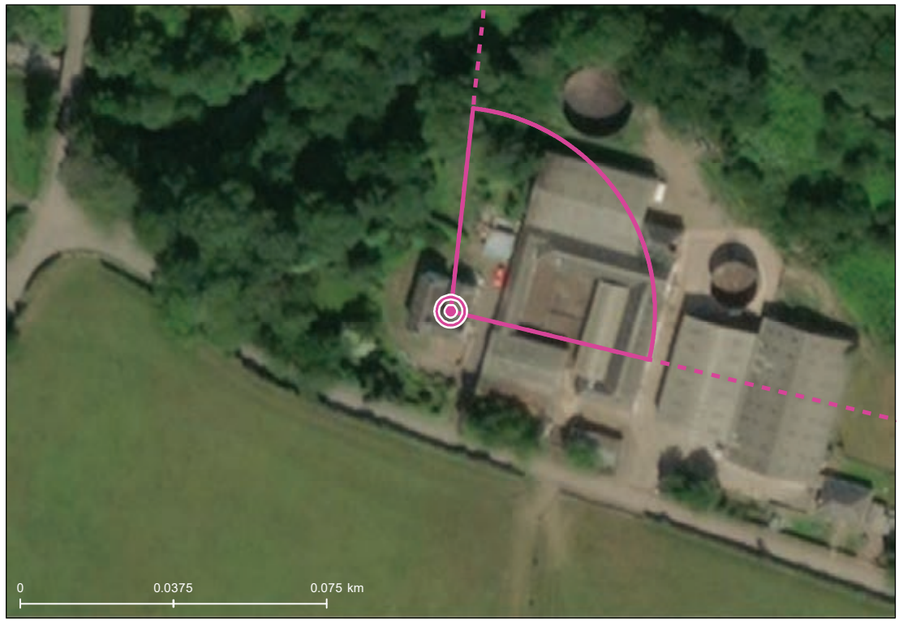
The proposed development will potentially be visible in views from the grounds at this property, and when leaving the property, but is unlikely to be clearly visible from within the property due to the orientation of views, screening by farm buildings and vegetation, and enclosure by landform. The effect on views will be significant.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction. This property is not considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold due to the medium magnitude of change on views from the property.





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OS Grid Reference:	X 312132
	Y 596062
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	51
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	37
Horizontal field of view:	97.44°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.76km

Property description:

[x] Farmhouse	[ ] Semi Detached	[ ] Stone Built	[x] Rendered	[ ] 1 Storey	[x] 2 Storey	[x] Outbuildings	[x] Front Garden	[x] Rear Garden
[x] Detached	[ ] Terraced	[ ] Brick Built	[ ] Timber-clad	[ ] 1.5 Storey	[ ] Conservatory	[x] Farmyard	[x] Garage(s)	[x] Side Gardens

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is located on a minor road to the west of the proposed development. The property is semi-encircled by the Wamphray Water, and is within the Annandale upland fringe landscape. There are extensive farm buildings to the east, north-east and south-east of the house.

Views from property
The property is orientated south-south-west/ north-north-east, with the south-south-west-facing elevation, which appears to be the main outlook from the house, facing the road. There are a number of windows on this aspect and an open and attractive southwards view along the upland fringe will be gained, particularly from the upper floor. The north-north-eastern elevation of the house looks out onto the Wamphray Water and views in this direction are likely to be partially screened by woodland along the watercourse. The west-north-western gable of the property will look out over the side garden and woodland beyond, while the east-south-eastern gable looks onto the adjacent farm buildings.

Views from access
If the approach to the property is made from the west, the key orientation of views on the approach is to the north and east, towards the foothills. The property may also be approached from the east, in which case the outlook would be across Annandale. Some views are open and gain an outlook towards the hills while others are enclosed by woodland and hedgerows.

Views from garden grounds
There are gardens to the front, rear and western side of the house. Views to the north and north-east are likely to be partially screened by woodland around the house and along the Wamphray Water woodland, while views to the east will be screened by a substantial grouping of farm buildings and views to the west are likely to be heavily filtered by woodland. The southern aspect gains open and clear views.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Low**
- **Significance of effect: Not significant visual effect**

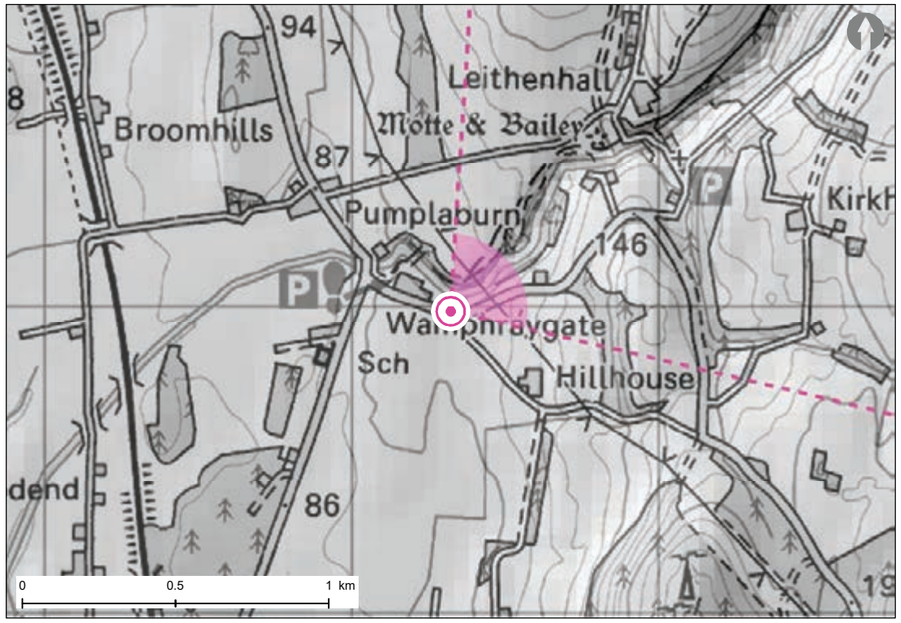
The wirelines show that 51 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible from this property, with the nearest turbine 1.76km away. The proposed development will extend approximately 97-degrees around the property, to the north, east, north-east and east-south-east. The long views to the south from the front of the house and garden will not be affected by the proposed development, and neither will westerly views. Views from the north-north-eastern (rear) elevation of the house (where the turbines on Dundoran, Turf Hill and Windshield Hill would be seen) will be filtered by woodland, but some glimpsed views may be available from the house and garden, particularly in winter and from upper floors. Views from the east-south-eastern gable will be screened by farm buildings. The proposed development will be clearly visible on the approach to the house from either direction.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction.

This property is not considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, for the following reasons:
- The main orientation (southerly) of open views from the property and gardens will be not be affected by the proposed development
- The north and north-east-facing views from the house and garden are unlikely to gain clear visibility due to woodland around the house and along the Wamphray Water
- Farm buildings will screen the parts of the proposed development that lie to the east
- The proposed development will not lead to a perception of 'encircling' the property, theoretically affecting considerably less than a third of the full 360-degree outlook
- The closest turbine is 1.76km away



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OS Grid Reference:	X 312324
	Y 595983
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	47
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	30
Horizontal field of view:	99.83°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.8km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☐ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☒ Rendered	☒ 1 Storey	☐ 2 Storey	☒ Outbuildings	☐ Front Garden	☒ Rear Garden
☒ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☐ 1.5 Storey	☐ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☐ Garage(s)	☒ Side Gardens

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is located on a minor road to the west of the proposed development. The property lies just to the south of the Wamphray Water, and is within the Annandale upland fringe landscape.

Views from property
The property is orientated north-south, with the south-facing elevation facing the road. There are several windows on this aspect and an open and attractive southwards view along the upland fringe may be gained, although there is a hedge on the south side of the road, immediately opposite the property, and this may screen or filter views. The northern elevation of the house looks out onto the Wamphray Water and views in this direction are likely to be largely screened by woodland along the watercourse. The western gable of the property has one window in it, from which nearby deciduous woodland and farm buildings are likely to be seen. The eastern gable end has no windows.

Views from access
If the approach to the property is made from the west, the key orientation of views on the approach is to the north and east, towards the foothills. The property may also be approached from the east, in which case the outlook would be across Annandale. Some views are open and gain an outlook towards the hills while others are enclosed by woodland and hedgerows.

Views from garden grounds
There are gardens to the rear (north) and sides (primarily east but also to the west) of the house. Views to the north will be screened by the Wamphray Water woodland, but an open outlook may be gained in other directions. Vegetation in the gardens and further away will, however, provide some filtering of views.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Medium**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

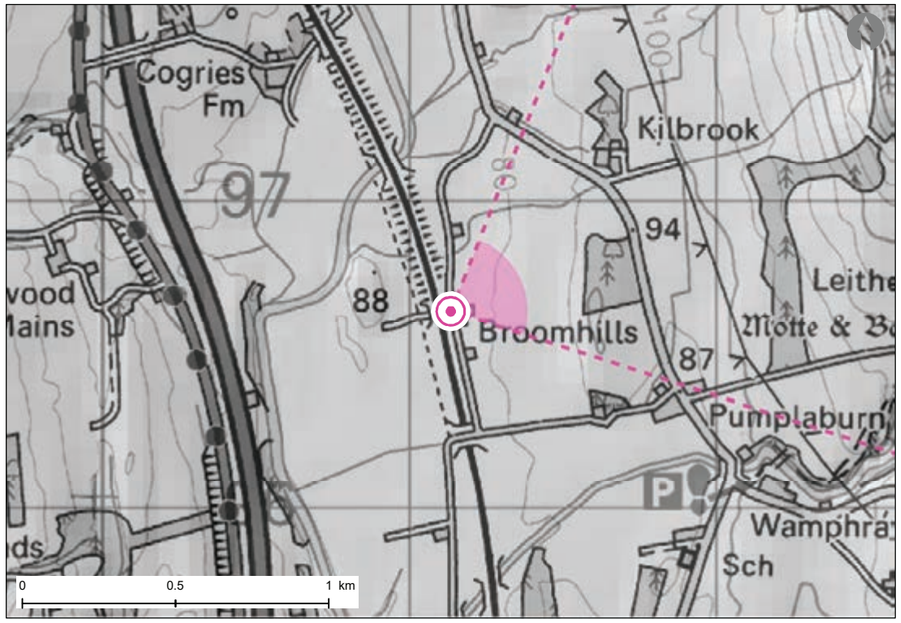
The wirelines show that 47 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible from this property, with the nearest turbine 1.80km away. The proposed development will extend approximately 100-degrees around the property, to the north, east, north-east and east-south-east. The long views to the south from the house and garden will not be affected by the proposed development, and neither will the westerly views. Views to the north (where the turbines on Dundoran, Turf Hill and Windshield Hill would be seen) will be largely screened and filtered by the Wamphray Water woodland, with potential for glimpse views, particularly in winter. The proposed development is unlikely to have a notable effect on views from within the house. Views to the east and north-east from the gardens are, however, likely to gain visibility of some turbines in the south-western part of the proposed development. These turbines are not so prominent as those to the north of the property, which will be screened/ filtered by woodland, and many have their lower towers screened by landform. Screening will also be provided by intervening forestry belts. The proposed development will be clearly visible on the approach to the house from either direction.

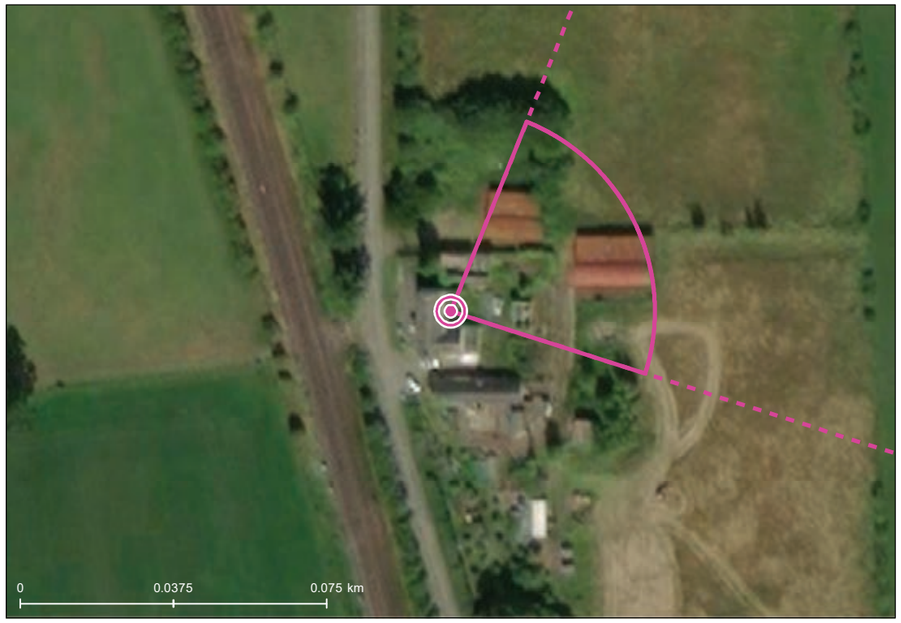
Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction.

This property is not considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, for the following reasons:
- Views from within the property are unlikely to undergo any notable effects
- The main orientation (southerly) of open views from the property and gardens will be not be affected by the proposed development
- The north-facing view from the gardens is likely to gain very limited visibility due to woodland screening
- The proposed development will not lead to a perception of 'encircling' the property, theoretically affecting less than a third of the full 360-degree outlook, and in reality affecting less than this due to woodland screening
- The closest turbine is 1.80km away





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OS Grid Reference:	X 311136
	Y 596642
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	45
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	31
Horizontal field of view:	85.87°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.88km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☐ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☐ Rendered	☐ 1 Storey	☒ 2 Storey	☒ Outbuildings	☒ Front Garden	☒ Rear Garden
☒ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☐ 1.5 Storey	☐ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☐ Garage(s)	☒ Side Gardens

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is located on the eastern side of a minor road to the west of the proposed development. The property, which has outbuildings to the north, south and north-east, is in a relatively low-lying and level position on the eastern edge of the middle dale - Annandale landscape. The railway line runs along the western side of the minor road. There is little vegetation around the property.

Views from property
This property is 'L'-shaped and is likely to have windows in each elevation. The western elevation, which has several windows and the front door, faces onto the minor road and then the railway embankment, which is likely to partly screen longer views in this direction, particularly from the ground floor. Views that may be available over the embankment will overlook Annandale. The eastern elevation has a long and attractive east-facing outlook across the upland fringe, the foothills and, in the distance, Southern Uplands. This outlook is likely to have some limited filtering by outbuildings and vegetation. Clear and open views are unlikely to be gained from the southern elevation due to a combination of screening by outbuildings and the lower level of windows in this elevation of the house. Views from the northern gable are likely to be largely screened by outbuildings and vegetation.

Views from access
This property can be accessed from the north or south. Both of these approaches have an outlook across the upland fringe landscape towards the foothills to the east, and a view over Annandale to the west.

Views from garden grounds
There are gardens to the front, rear and sides of the house. Views from the gardens are likely to be similar to those gained from the house, with open views also available to the north-east and south-east.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Medium-high**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

The wirelines show that 45 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible from this property, with the nearest turbine 1.88km away. The proposed development will extend approximately 86-degrees around the property, to the east, north-east, and east-south-east. The west-facing view from the house will not be affected due to the location of the proposed development, and the south-facing are also unlikely to be affected, due to screening by outbuildings. The long and open views to the east from the eastern elevation will be affected, primarily by the turbines that lie due east, such as those on Milne Fell and Howgill Fell, but there may also be angled (and possbly filtered by outbuildings) visibility of the closest turbines seen on the skyline of Dundoran, to the north-east. Views from the northern elevation are unlikely to be directly affected but there may be angled visibility to the north-east of the westernmost turbines.

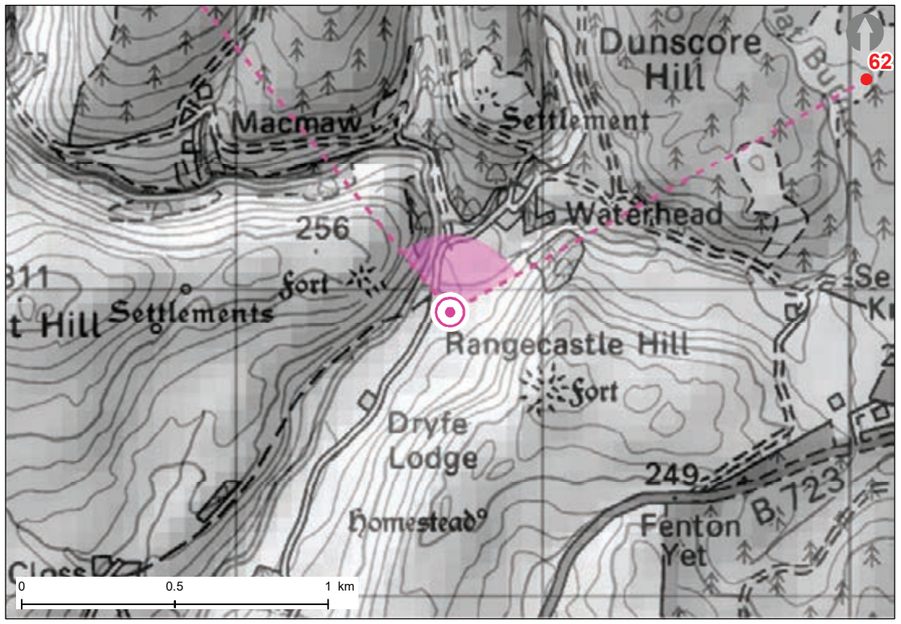
High visibility is likely to be gained from the rear and side gardens with intermittent screening by outbuildings. The closest turbines will be those seen on the skyline of Dundoran, and the proposed development wil extend across much of the open rear aspect from the garden. Views from the front garden will not be affected. The proposed development will be clearly visible on the approach to the house from either the north or the south.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction.

This property is not considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, for the following reasons:
- The turbines lie within a horizontal field of view that covers less than 90-degrees, thus avoiding a perception of encirclement
- The proposed development will be seen in the large-scale, upland part of the outlook with no encroachment down into the middle dale - within which the property lies - or upland fringe landscape, resulting in a sense of separation between the property and the proposed development
- The closest turbine lies 1.88km away



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OS Grid Reference:	X 318699
	Y 593926
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	14
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	12
Horizontal field of view:	99.89°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.52km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☐ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☒ Rendered	☒ 1 Storey	☐ 2 Storey	☒ Outbuildings	☒ Front Garden	☒ Rear Garden
☒ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☐ 1.5 Storey	☐ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	? Garage(s)	☒ Side Gardens

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
Property situated just off a minor public road (also a core path) at the southern end of the proposed development. The property is in a low-lying location on the Dryfe Water valley floor, east of the Dryfe Water. Outbuildings lie to the west of the property.

Views from property
The property is strongly orientated to the west, with open views across the Dryfe Water valley in this direction. The main windows are on this elevation, with smaller windows on the northern and southern elevations. It is not clear if there are windows on the eastern elevation, but if there are, these are likely to gain very foreshortened views due to the rapidly rising landform. There is little woodland around the property other than a coniferous shelterbelt to the south-east and views of the surrounding landscape, where they are gained from within the property, are likely to be open.

Views from access
There are long open views to the north, north-east and north-west, towards hills and forestry, when travelling towards the property along the Dryfe Water valley.

Views from garden grounds
There appear to be gardens around the house. Open views are likely to be available in all directions from the gardens due to the lack of woodland around the house.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Medium**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

The wirelines show that the southern part of the proposed development is theoretically visible at close-proximity from this property, with the nearest turbine 1.52km away. The proposed development will extend approximately 100-degrees to the north, north-east and north-west of the property. The main orientation of views from within the house is westwards while the proposed development lies to the north, north-east and north-west, and it will therefore not be seen in these main views. There may be some visibility from the window in the northern elevation of the property but this is likely to be very limited.

Views from the gardens and outbuildings will be open and clear with little local screening. Open views towards the proposed development will be gained from the approach to the property, up the valley.

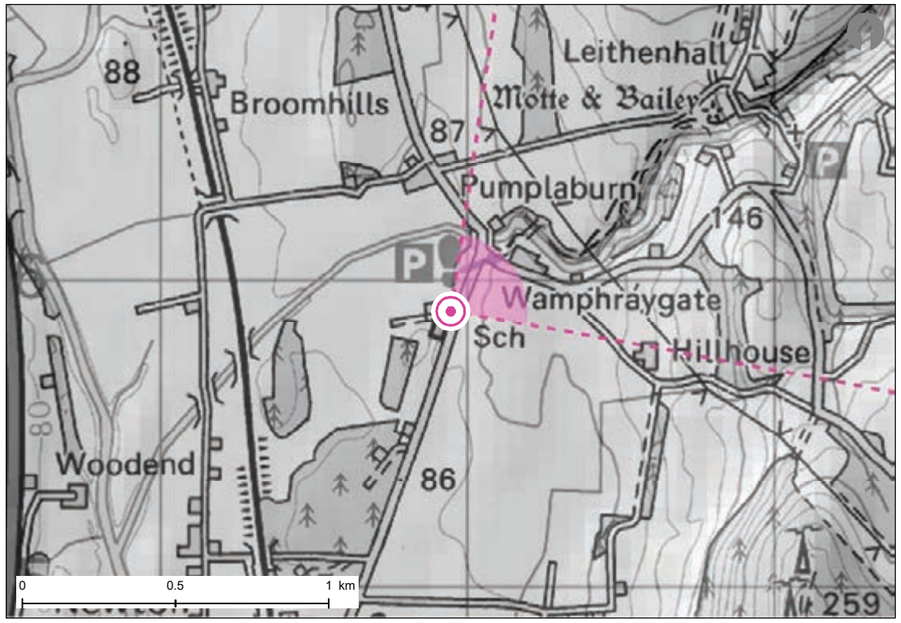
The proposed development will be immediately apparent in views from the approach to this property, and is likely to be readily apparent in views from its curtilage/ garden grounds. Visibility from within the property will be less apparent due to the main orientation of views away from the proposed development.

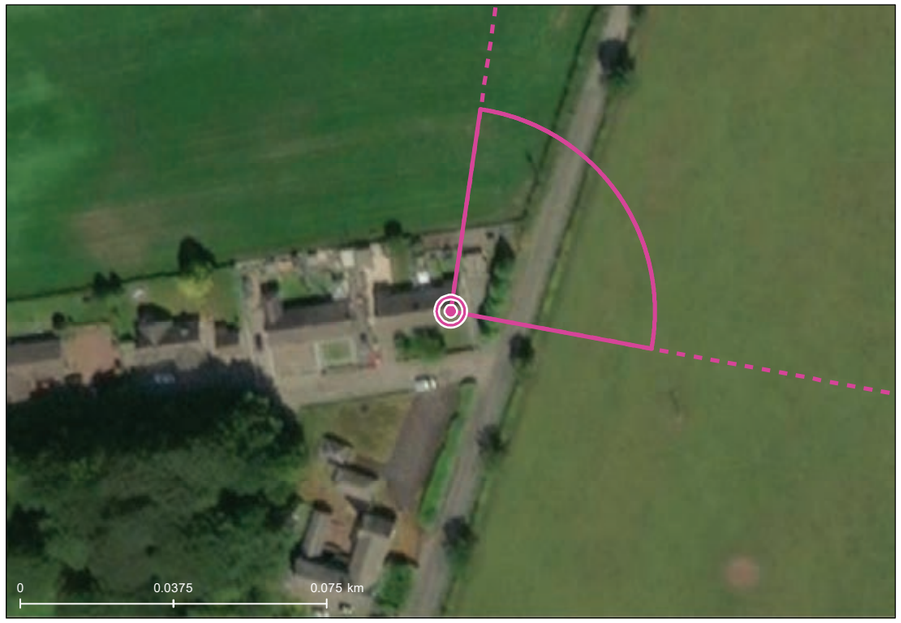
Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction.

This property is not considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, for the following reasons:
- The main orientation of views from within the property will remain unaffected by the proposed development
- The proposed development theoretically affects less than one third of the full outlook from the property
- Visibility in the aspects of the view that are theoretically affected by the proposed development is reduced by woodland, forestry and outbuildings and is also foreshortened by landform





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OS Grid Reference:	X 311947
	Y 595898
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	51
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	37
Horizontal field of view:	92.13°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.98km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☒ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☒ Rendered	☒ 1 Storey	☐ 2 Storey	☐ Outbuildings	☒ Front Garden	☒ Rear Garden
☐ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☐ 1.5 Storey	☐ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☒ Garage(s)	☒ Side Gardens

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is one of a small group of cottages (also including Properties 50, 51 and 52) located just off a minor road to the west of the proposed development. The property lies to the south of the Wamphray Water, and is towards the western edge of the Annandale upland fringe landscape, close to Annandale.

Views from property
The property is orientated north-north-west/ south-south-east, with access gained from a track that runs past the south-south-east-facing elevation. There are several windows and front door on this aspect, which has a southwards outlook down the upland fringe, although this is likely to be partially screened by buildings, a hedge and trees that lie on the south side of the access track. Open, expansive and attractive views are gained from the north-north-west aspect, which overlooks the foothills and the more distant Southern Uplands from the relatively level and low-lying landscape of the upland fringe. There are several windows in this elevation of the house from which long, clear views are likely to be gained as there is little garden vegetation to filter views. Views from the windows in the east-north-eastern gable will be screened by vegetation along the side of the garden, and the west-south-western elevation adjoins the adjacent property, so has no windows.

Views from access
If the approach to the property is made from the south, the key orientation of views on the approach is to the north and east, with a view towards the foothills and Southern Uplands, similar to that gained from the property. The property may also be approached from the north, in which case the outlook would be across Annandale.

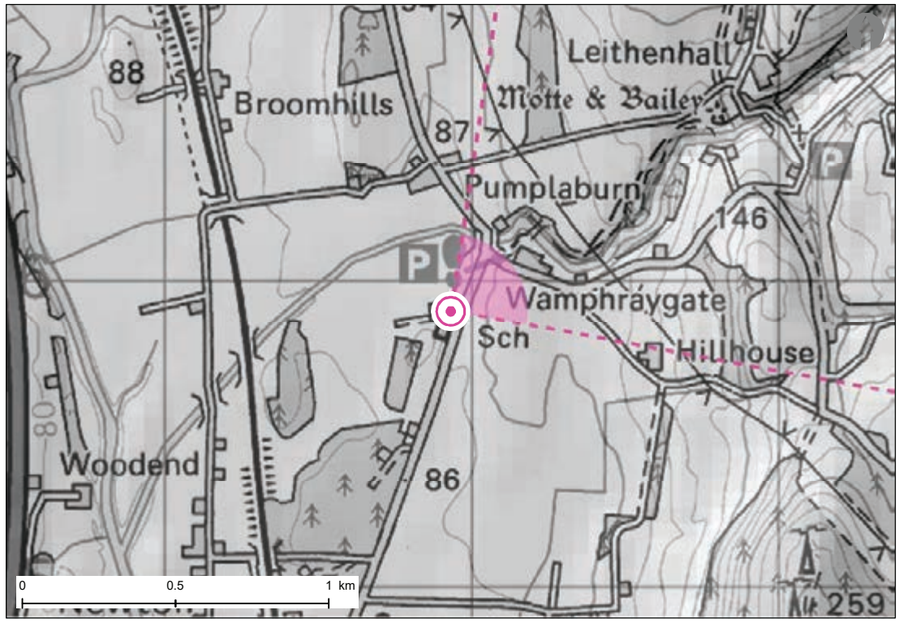
Views from garden grounds
There are gardens to the front (south), rear (north) and eastern side of the house. The rear garden will have the same open and expansive north-north-westwards view as is seen from the house, with open views to the north-west and north-east also available. The front garden will have a limited view, as with the south-south-eastwards outlook from the property, while views from the side garden will be screened by vegetation along the edge of the garden.

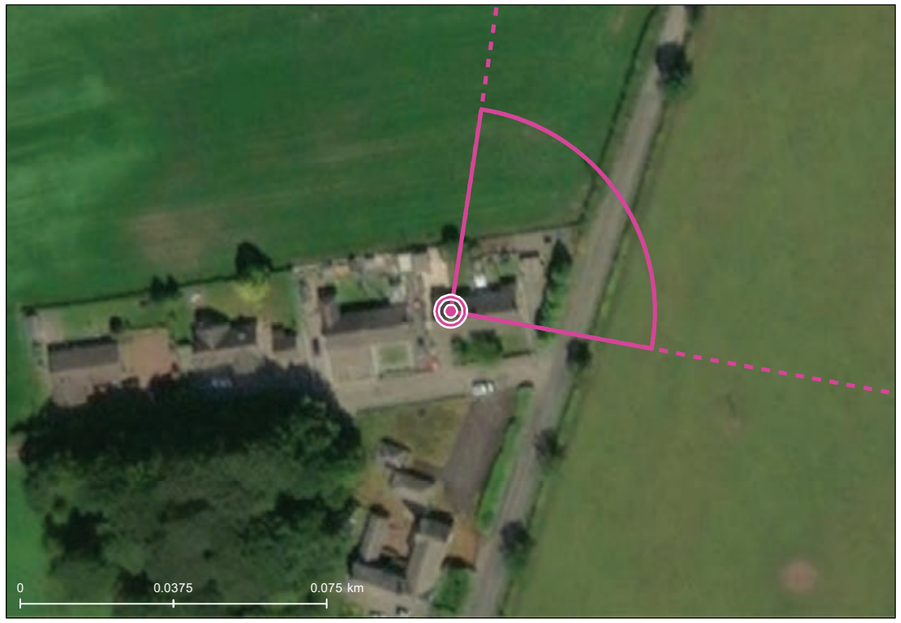
Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Medium-high**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

The wirelines show that 51 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible from this property, with the nearest turbine 1.98km away. The proposed development will extend approximately 92-degrees around the property, to the east, north-east, north-north-east, and east-south-east. The main orientation of views from the house is to the north-north-west and turbines will be not appear in the direct line of this outlook, but will be clearly visible on the eastern edge of the view, particularly the westernmost turbines in the proposed development, which appear prominently on the skyline of Dundoran. The turbines that lie further to the east are unlikely to be seen from the house due to the angle of the view. Views from other aspects of the house will not be affected by the proposed development. Views of the proposed development from the rear garden will be similar to those from the house but with a greater degree of visibility likely to be gained to the north-east. There will, however, be some screening and filtering of north-eastern views by woodland along the Wamphray Water. The front and side gardens are unlikely to be affected. Open and clear views towards the proposed development will be gained from the southern approach to the property.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold
Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction. This property is not considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, for the following reasons:
- The main orientation of open views from the property will not be directly be affected, although they will be peripherally affected
- An extensive part of the open view from the property and garden will remain unaffected by the proposed development
- The proposed development will theoretically affect just over one quarter of the full 360-degree outlook, of which further parts will be screened
- The closest turbine is 1.98km away





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OS Grid Reference:	X 311933
	Y 595899
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	51
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	38
Horizontal field of view:	91.92°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.98km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☒ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☒ Rendered	☒ 1 Storey	☐ 2 Storey	☐ Outbuildings	☒ Front Garden	☒ Rear Garden
☐ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☐ 1.5 Storey	☐ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☐ Garage(s)	☒ Side Gardens

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property forms a pair with Property 49, as one of a small group of cottages located just off a minor road to the west of the proposed development. The property lies to the south of the Wamphray Water, and is towards the western edge of the Annandale upland fringe landscape, close to Annandale.

Views from property
The property is orientated north-north-west/ south-south-east, with access gained from a track that runs past the south-south-east-facing elevation. There are several windows and front door on this aspect, which has a southwards outlook of buildings, a hedge and trees that lie on the south side of the access track. Open, expansive and attractive views are gained from the north-north-west aspect, which overlooks the foothills and the more distant Southern Uplands from the relatively level and low-lying landscape of the upland fringe. There are several windows in this elevation of the house from which long, clear views are likely to be gained as there is limited garden vegetation to filter views. Views from any windows in the west-south-western gable will be screened by the adjacent house, and the east-north-eastern elevation adjoins Property 49, so has no windows.

Views from access
If the approach to the property is made from the south, the key orientation of views on the approach is to the north and east, with a view towards the foothills and Southern Uplands, similar to that gained from the property. The property may also be approached from the north, in which case the outlook would be across Annandale.

Views from garden grounds
There are gardens to the front (south), rear (north) and western side of the house. The rear garden will have the same open and expansive north-north-westwards view as is seen from the house, with open views to the north-west and north-east also likely to be available. The front garden will have a limited view, as with the south-south-eastwards outlook from the property, while views from the side garden will be enclosed by the adjacent house and garden.

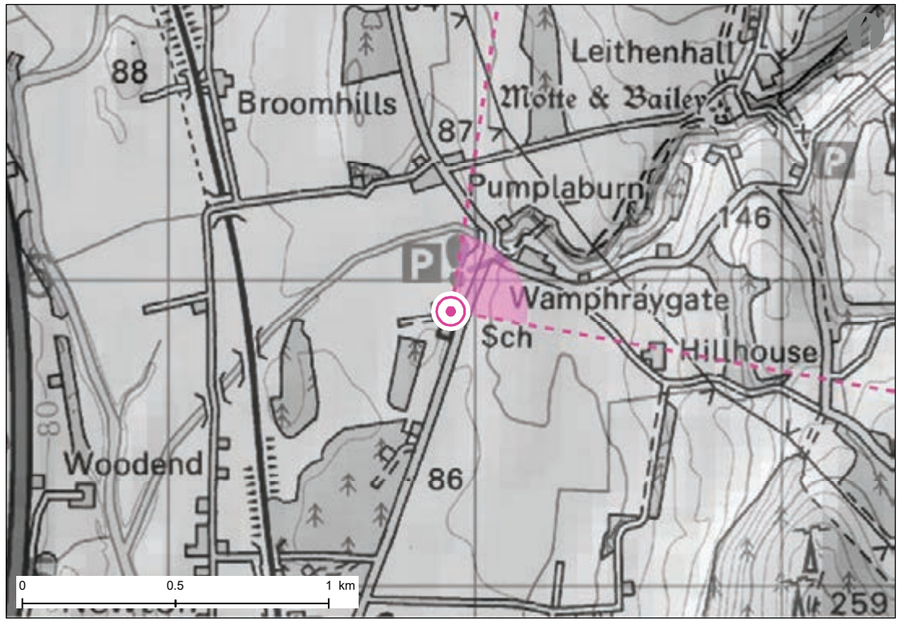
Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Medium-high**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

The wirelines show that 51 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible from this property, with the nearest turbine 1.98km away. The proposed development will extend approximately 92-degrees around the property, to the east, north-east, north-north-east, and east-south-east. The main orientation of views from the house is to the north-north-west and turbines will be not appear in the direct line of this outlook, but will be clearly visible on the eastern edge of the view, particularly the westernmost turbines in the proposed development, which appear prominently on the skyline of Dundoran. The turbines that lie further to the east are unlikely to be seen from the house due to the angle of the view. Views from other aspects of the house will not be affected by the proposed development. Views of the proposed development from the rear garden will be similar to those from the house but with a greater degree of visibility likely to be gained to the north-east. There will, however, be some screening and filtering of north-eastern views by woodland along the Wamphray Water. The front and side gardens are unlikely to be affected. Open and clear views towards the proposed development will be gained from the southern approach to the property.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction. This property is not considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, for the following reasons:
- The main orientation of open views from the property will not be directly be affected, although they will be peripherally affected
- An extensive part of the open view from the property and garden will remain unaffected by the proposed development
- The proposed development will theoretically affect just over one quarter of the full 360-degree outlook, of which further parts will be screened
- The closest turbine is 1.98km away



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OS Grid Reference:	X 311922
	Y 595897
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	51
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	38
Horizontal field of view:	91.73°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.99km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☒ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☒ Rendered	☒ 1 Storey	☐ 2 Storey	☐ Outbuildings	☒ Front Garden	☒ Rear Garden
☐ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☐ 1.5 Storey	? Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☐ Garage(s)	☒ Side Gardens

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is one of a small group of cottages (also including Properties 49, 50 and 52) located just off a minor road to the west of the proposed development. The property lies to the south of the Wamphray Water, and is towards the western edge of the Annandale upland fringe landscape, close to Annandale. Aerial photography indicates that there may be a conservatory in the rear garden.

Views from property
The property is orientated north-north-west/ south-south-east, with access gained from a track that runs past the south-south-east-facing elevation. There are several windows and front door on this aspect, which has a southwards outlook towards buildings, a hedge and trees that lie on the south side of the access track. Open, expansive and attractive views are gained from the north-north-west aspect, which overlooks the foothills and the more distant Southern Uplands from the relatively level and low-lying landscape of the upland fringe. There are several windows, and possibly a conservatory, in this elevation of the house from which long, clear views are likely to be gained. Views from any windows in the east-north-eastern gable will be screened by the adjacent house, and the west-south-western elevation adjoins the adjacent property, so has no windows.

Views from access
If the approach to the property is made from the south, the key orientation of views on the approach is to the north and east, with a view towards the foothills and Southern Uplands, similar to that gained from the property. The property may also be approached from the north, in which case the outlook would be across Annandale.

Views from garden grounds
There are gardens to the front (south), rear (north) and eastern side of the house. The rear garden will have the same open and expansive north-north-westwards view as is seen from the house, with open views to the north-west and north-east also available. The front garden will have a limited view, as with the south-south-eastwards outlook from the property, while views from the side garden will be screened by the adjacent property.

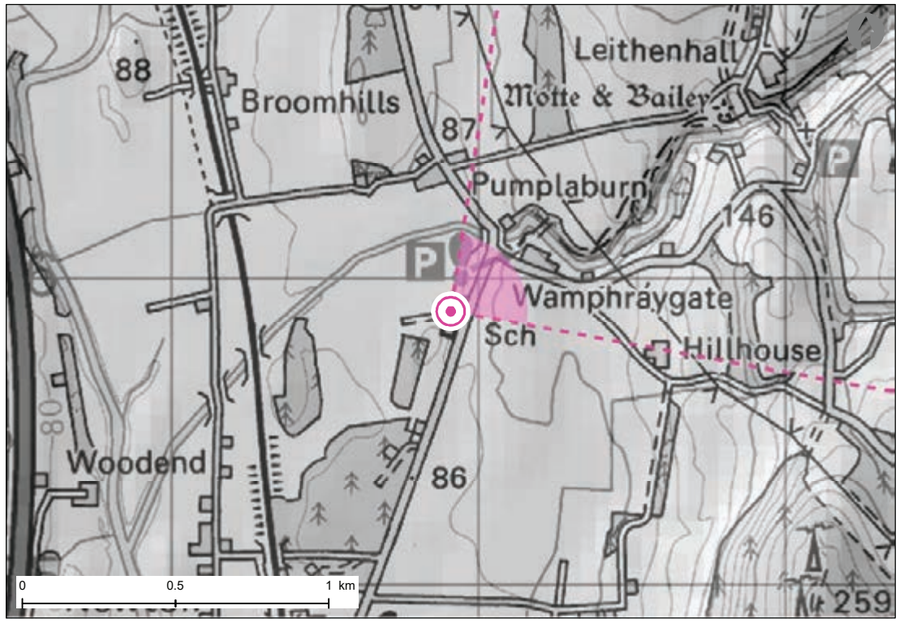
Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Medium-high**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

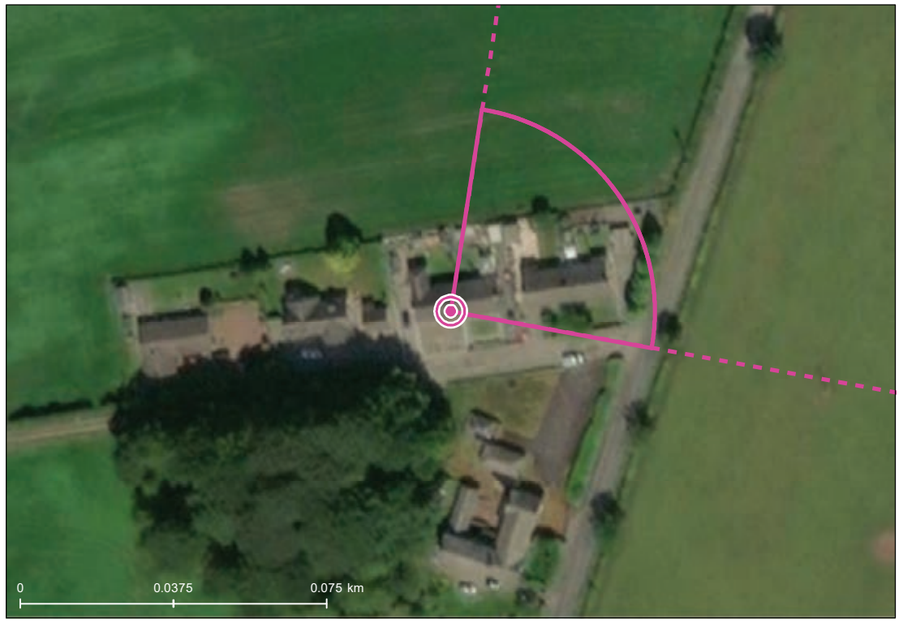
The wirelines show that 51 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible from this property, with the nearest turbine 1.99km away. The proposed development will extend approximately 92-degrees around the property, to the east, north-east, north-north-east, and east-south-east. The main orientation of views from the house is to the north-north-west and turbines will be not appear in the direct line of this outlook, but will be clearly visible on the eastern edge of the view, particularly the westernmost turbines in the proposed development, which appear prominently on the skyline of Dundoran. The turbines that lie further to the east are unlikely to be seen from the house due to the angle of the view. Views from other aspects of the house will not be affected by the proposed development. Views of the proposed development from the rear garden will be similar to those from the house but with a greater degree of visibility likely to be gained to the north-east. There will, however, be some screening and filtering of north-eastern views by woodland along the Wamphray Water. The front and side gardens are unlikely to be affected. Open and clear views towards the proposed development will be gained from the southern approach to the property.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction. This property is not considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, for the following reasons:
- The main orientation of open views from the property will not be directly be affected, although they will be peripherally affected
- An extensive part of the open view from the property and garden will remain unaffected by the proposed development
- The proposed development will theoretically affect just over one quarter of the full 360-degree outlook, of which further parts will be screened
- The closest turbine is 1.99km away





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OS Grid Reference:	X 311911
	Y 595892
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	51
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	38
Horizontal field of view:	91.49°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	2km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☒ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☒ Rendered	☒ 1 Storey	☐ 2 Storey	? Outbuildings	☒ Front Garden	☒ Rear Garden
☐ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☐ 1.5 Storey	☐ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☐ Garage(s)	☒ Side Gardens

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property forms a pair with Property 51, as one of a small group of cottages located just off a minor road to the west of the proposed development. The property lies to the south of the Wamphray Water, and is towards the western edge of the Annandale upland fringe landscape, close to Annandale.

Views from property
The property is orientated north-north-west/ south-south-east, with access gained from a track that runs past the south-south-east-facing elevation. There are several windows and front door on this aspect, which has a southwards outlook of buildings, a hedge and trees that lie on the south side of the access track. Open, expansive and attractive views are gained from the north-north-west aspect, which overlooks the foothills and the more distant Southern Uplands from the relatively level and low-lying landscape of the upland fringe. There are several windows, including an extension, on this elevation of the house from which long, clear views may be gained, although there do appear to be several sheds in the rear garden at the time of the Google StreetView imagery. Views from any windows in the west-south-western gable will be largely screened by the adjacent house, and the east-north-eastern elevation adjoins Property 51, so has no windows.

Views from access
If the approach to the property is made from the south, the key orientation of views on the approach is to the north and east, with a view towards the foothills and Southern Uplands, similar to that gained from the property. The property may also be approached from the north, in which case the outlook would be across Annandale.

Views from garden grounds
There are gardens to the front (south), rear (north) and western side of the house. The rear garden will have the same open and expansive north-north-westwards view as is seen from the house, with open views to the north-west and north-east also likely to be available. It is pssible that these views are partially screened by garden sheds, but these have not been taken into consideration in the assessment as they may have been removed. The front garden will have a limited view, as with the south-south-eastwards outlook from the property, while views from the side garden will be enclosed by the adjacent house and garden.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Medium-high**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

The wirelines show that 51 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible from this property, with the nearest turbine 2km away. The proposed development will extend approximately 91-degrees around the property, to the east, north-east, north-north-east, and east-south-east. The main orientation of views from the house is to the north-north-west and turbines will be not appear in the direct line of this outlook, but will be clearly visible on the eastern edge of the view, particularly the westernmost turbines in the proposed development, which appear prominently on the skyline of Dundoran. The turbines that lie further to the east are unlikely to be seen from the house due to the angle of the view. Views from other aspects of the house will not be affected by the proposed development. Views of the proposed development from the rear garden will be similar to those from the house but with a greater degree of visibility likely to be gained to the north-east. There will, however, be some screening and filtering of north-eastern views by woodland along the Wamphray Water. The front and side gardens are unlikely to be affected. Open and clear views towards the proposed development will be gained from the southern approach to the property.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold
Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction. This property is not considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, for the following reasons:
- The main orientation of open views from the property will not be directly be affected, although they will be peripherally affected
- An extensive part of the open view from the property and garden will remain unaffected by the proposed development
- The proposed development will theoretically affect just over one quarter of the full 360-degree outlook, of which further parts will be screened
- The closest turbine is 2km away

RVAA Summary and Conclusions

The RVAA sheets in this Appendix detail the assessments for each non-financially involved property evaluated through the survey. Table 1, below, provides a summary of the results of this assessment. The RVAA indicates that of the 37 non-financially involved properties within the 2km study area (and located within the ZTV shading), 25 are likely to experience a significant visual effect as a result of the proposed development. This finding does not imply that the interior spaces of all 25 properties will be significantly affected and, indeed, a notable number will not, owing either to the orientation of the property in a direction that differs from that of the proposed development; the absence of windows in specific elevations; or the screening effect from vegetation and/ or other built form surrounding the property. In some instances, a significant visual effect may only relate to the garden ground surrounding a property.

Of these 37 properties, 15 are assessed as being likely to experience a high, high/medium-high, or medium-high magnitude of change, which under the terms of the Methodology necessitates a Step 4 Assessment. This further stage of assessment found that the visual effects at 2 properties has the potential to reach the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold.

In line with the Landscape Institute's guidance on RVAA, the finding that the amenity of the two non-involved properties reaches the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold is recorded as a matter for the wider planning balance. No conclusions on the acceptability of those visual effects is drawn within the RVAA, as required under the guidance.

Mitigation of effects

In response to the identification of two non-financially involved having reached the RVA Threshold, the Applicant has explored the potential to mitigate the visual effects at two properties (1 & 2 Kirkhill Cottages) through the establishment of a substantial mixed species tree belt across a part of the view looking east that is open to the wind farm. The tree belt will be established on land that is under the control of the Applicant, who has developed a design for the plantation with the advice of the ecologist who is involved in the EIAR.

OPEN understands that it is the Applicant's intention to plant the tree belt using a mix of standard and semi-mature tree and understorey species (including evergreen species) during the 2020/21 planting season, in order that it can become established at an early stage. Details of the proposed woodland are provided within the Outline Habitat Management Plan.

On the basis that this planting is established, as shown, then it is reasonable to conclude that the visual effect at both properties would reduce to below the RVA Threshold.

However, it is reasonable to conclude that the number of properties that has been assessed as reaching the RVAT is small, having regard to the size of the study area and of the scale of the Proposed Development more generally.

On the basis of the findings in Table 1, the following summary of visual effects can be provided, based on the magnitude of change that has been assessed for Non-Financially Involved Properties.

RVAA: Table 1 – Non-Financially Involved Residential Properties

ID	Property	Step 3 - magnitude of change	Step 3 - significance	Step 4 - Residential Visual Amenity Threshold
9	3 Sandyford Cottages	Medium/ Medium-Low	**Significant**	No
10	Sandyford Cottage	Medium/ Medium-Low	**Significant**	No
11	1 Sandyford Cottages	Medium-Low	Not significant	No
12	Kilburn	Medium-Low	Not significant	No
14	2 Sandyford Cottages	Medium-high	**Significant**	No
15	Waterhead of Dryfe Cottage	Medium-high	**Significant**	No
16	Kilbrook Farm	Medium-high	**Significant**	No
17	Wamphray Mill	Medium-Low	Not significant	No
18	Kirncleuch	Medium	**Significant**	No
19	2 KIrkhill Cottage	High	**Significant**	Yes*
20	1 KIrkhill Cottage	High	**Significant**	Yes*
21	Fingland Cottage	Medium-Low	Not significant	No
22	Elbeckhill	Medium	**Significant**	No
25	Craig Beck Hope	Medium/ Medium-Low	**Significant**	No
26	Coomb Burn	Medium-High	**Significant**	No
27	Kirkburn	Medium	**Significant**	No
28	Annanside	Medium/ Medium-High	**Significant**	No
29	Holmview	Medium-High	**Significant**	No
30	Newbigging	Medium	**Significant**	No
31	Pumplaburn Farm	Medium	Not significant	No
32	Stenrieshill	Medium/ Medium-Low	Not significant	No
33	Milkymoss	Medium-High	**Significant**	No
34	Roughdykes	Medium-High	**Significant**	No
35	Brigend	Low	Not significant	No
36	3 Dryfe Lodge	Medium-Low	Not Significant	No
37	Marleside	Medium-low	Not significant	No
38	1 Dryfe Lodge	Medium-low	Not significant	No
39	2 Dryfe Lodge	Medium-Low	Not significant	No
40	Fingland	Medium	**Significant**	No
41	Wamphray Gate Farmhouse	Low	Not significant	No
45	Crossknowe	Medium	**Significant**	No
46	Broomhills Farm	Medium-High	**Significant**	No
47	Murthat Cottage	Medium	**Significant**	No
49	2 Dundoran View	Medium/ Medium-High	**Significant**	No
50	4 Dundoran View	Medium/ Medium-High	**Significant**	No
51	6 Dundoran View	Medium/ Medium-High	**Significant**	No
52	8 Dundoran View	Medium/ Medium-High	**Significant**	No

*With mitigation 'No'

Magnitude of Change	Property ID's	Number
Properties likely to experience a **High** magnitude of change	19; 20	2no.
Properties likely to experience a **Medium-High** magnitude of change	14; 15; 16; 26; 29; 33; 34; 46	8no
Properties likely to experience a **Medium/ Medium-Hig**h magnitude of change	28; 49; 50; 51; 52	5no.
Properties likely to experience a **Medium** magnitude of change	18; 22; 27; 30; 31; 40; 45; 47	8no
Properties likely to experience a **Medium/ Medium-Low** magnitude of change	9; 10; 25; 32	4no.
Properties likely to experience a **Medium-Low** magnitude of change	11; 12; 17; 21; 36; 37; 38; 39	8no.
Properties likely to experience a **Low** magnitude of change	35; 41	2no.
Number of Non-Financially Involved Properties (within ZTV) in 2km Study Area		37no.

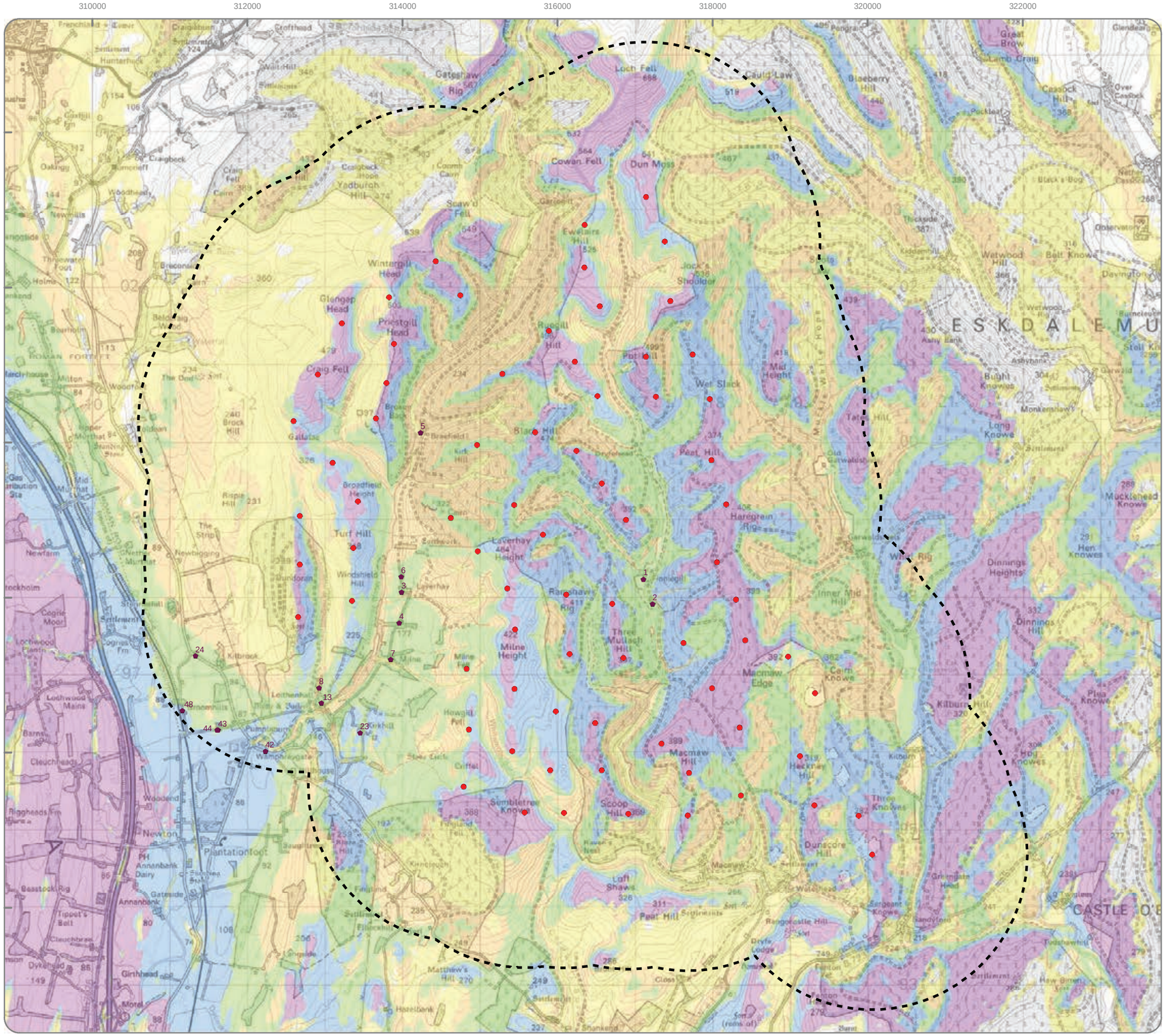
Annex 1: RVAA for Financially Involved Properties

This Annex to Appendix 6.2 of the EIAR sets out the findings of the RVAA in respect of those properties that are financially involved with the Proposed Development. The purpose in separating them out is so that the effects can be differentiated in the planning balance from those properties which do not benefit from being financially involved.

Where properties are highlighted, they have been subject to a Stage 4 assessment within the assessment sheets.

RVAA: Table 2 – Financially Involved Residential Properties

ID	Property	Step 3 - magnitude of change	Step 3 - significance	Step 4 - Residential Visual Amenity Threshold
1	Childrens Wilderness Sanctuary (FI)	High	**Significant**	**Yes**
2	Wood Cottage (FI)	High	**Significant**	**Yes**
3	Laverhay (FI)	High	**Significant**	**Yes**
4	Crowgill (FI)	Medium/ Medium-High	**Significant**	**Yes**
5	Old Braefield (owned by Applicant)	High	**Significant**	**Yes**
6	Laverhay Cottage (FI)	High	**Significant**	**Yes**
7	Milne (FI)	Medium-High	**Significant**	**Yes**
8	Leithenhall Cottages (FI)	High	**Significant**	**Yes**
13	Leithenhall Farm (FI)	High	**Significant**	**Yes**
23	Kirkhill Farm (FI)	Medium-High	**Significant**	**Yes**
24	Kilbrook Cottage (FI)	High	**Significant**	Yes
42	Wamphray Gate Cottage (FI)	Medium-Low	Not significant	No
43	2 Willow Cottage (FI)	Medium/Medium-High	**Significant**	No
44	1 Willow Cottage (FI)	Medium/Medium-High	**Significant**	No
48	Broomhills Cottage (FI)	Medium-High	**Significant**	No



Legend

- Proposed Turbine Location
- 2km Distance Radius

Blade Tip Zone of Theoretical Visibility

No. of Theoretically Visible Turbines

- 1 - 15
- 16 - 30
- 31 - 45
- 46 - 60
- 61 - 75

- Residential Properties (Financially involved)

1 - CHILDRENS WILDERNESS SANCTUARY - LOCKERBIE
2 - WOOD COTTAGE, FINNIEGILL - LOCKERBIE
3 - LAVERHAY - MOFFAT
4 - CROWGILL - WAMPHRAY
5 - OLD BRAEFIELD - MOFFAT
6 - LAVERHAY COTTAGE - MOFFAT
7 - MILNE - MOFFAT
8 - LEITHENHALL COTTAGES - MOFFAT
13 - LEITHENHALL FARM - MOFFAT
23 - KIRKHILL FARM - MOFFAT
24 - KILBROOK COTTAGE - MOFFAT
42 - WAMPHRAY GATE COTTAGE - LOCKERBIE
43 - 2 WILLOW COTTAGE - MOFFAT
44 - 1 WILLOW COTTAGE - MOFFAT
48 - BROOMHILLS COTTAGE - MOFFAT

Blade tip:	180 / 200 / 225 / 250m	Observer height:	2m
DTM:	OS Terrain 5 DTM	Surface features:	Excluded
DTM resolution:	5m	Earth curvature:	Included

0 0.5 1 2 km

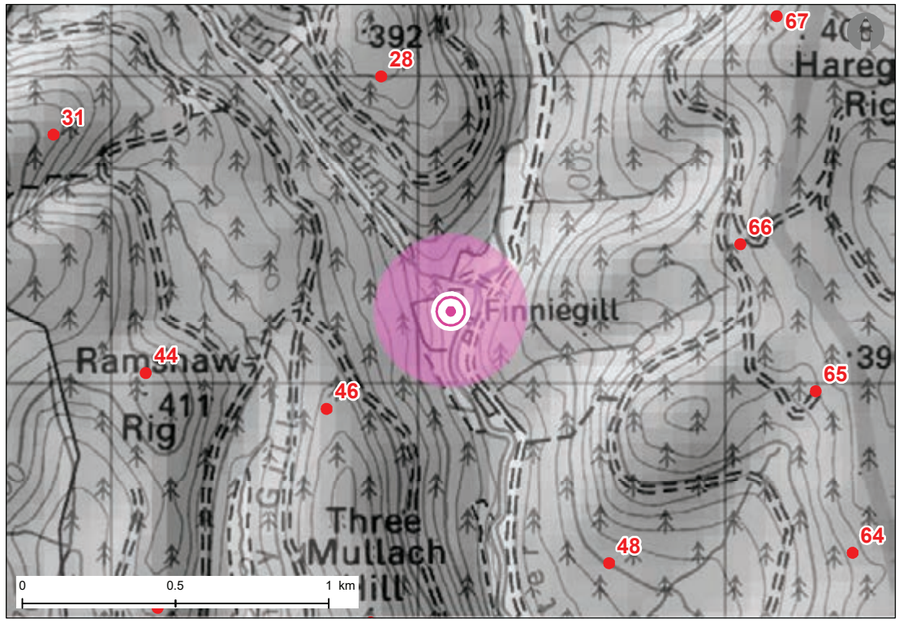
SCOOP HILL WIND FARM

Figure 2
Residential Visual Amenity Assessment
Overview - Financially Involved Properties

Ref No:	160971	**Created By:**	TH	**Rev No:**	5
Scale:	1:50,000	**Drawing Size:**	A3	**Date:**	20/10/2020
Coordinate System:	BNG OS GB 1936 Datum				

community windpower

open optimised environments



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OS Grid Reference:	X 317108
	Y 598236
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	35
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	27
Horizontal field of view:	360°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	0.52km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☐ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☒ Rendered	☐ 1 Storey	☐ 2 Storey	☒ Outbuildings	☒ Front Garden	☒ Rear Garden
☒ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☒ 1.5 Storey	☐ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☒ Garage(s)	☒ Side Gardens

This property is financially involved with the proposed development.

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is situated on the western side of the Finniegill Burn, near a remote forest track (also a core path) with no public vehicular access. Access to the property from the track is gained by a pedestrian bridge across the Finniegill Burn. Outbuildings (uninhabited cottage, barns etc) lie to the north and east of the property.

Views from interior of property
The property is orientated south-south-east along the Finniegill Burn valley, with the main windows on this elevation (dormers upstairs). There are also windows in other elevations. Views in all directions are of surrounding hills and forest, with local filtering by trees around the property as well as more extensive screening by forestry. Views to the north and east are likely to be screened by outbuildings.

Views from access
Long open views in all directions across hills, glens and forest from parts of the forest track. In some places, views are enclosed by incised glen landform and forestry. An open view along the Finniegill Burn valley is gained from the private pedestrian bridge.

Views from garden grounds
There are informal gardens in front, to the rear and to the east of the house, and around the outbuildings. Views are of surrounding hills and forest, with local filtering and screening by trees around the property.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: High**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

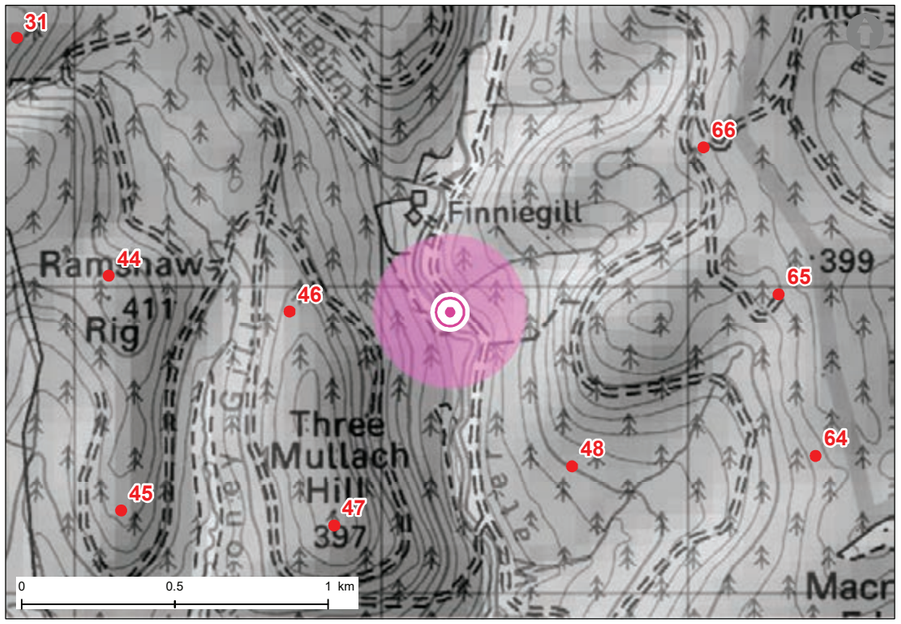
The wirelines show that an extensive part of the proposed development is theoretically visible at close-proximity from this property, with the nearest turbine 515m away. The proposed development will extend 360-degrees around the property, to the north, south, east, and west. Some views from within the house are likely to be filtered and screened by outbuildings (to the north and east), woodland and forestry, including views from the main south-south-easterly elevation, although visibility will be gained.

Views from the garden and outbuildings will be similar to that gained from the house, with more open visibility. Open, expansive and unfiltered views of the proposed development will be gained consistently and at close-proximity from stretches of the forest access track. An open view to the south-east is gained from the private pedestrian bridge that accesses the property, and the proposed development will be immediately apparent in this outlook.

The proposed development will be immediately apparent in views from the approach to this property and its wider garden and outdoor areas. Views from within the property and its domestic curtilage are also likely to be affected but will have a degree of screening and filtering by woodland, forestry and outbuildings.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
The property has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold
Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction.

This property is considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, for the following reasons:
- Encirclement of the property by turbines
- Proximity of turbines to the property
- Consistent views of the proposed development on the approach to the property, from its grounds and garden, and from parts of the property and its curtilage



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OS Grid Reference:	X 317226
	Y 597917
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	37
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	29
Horizontal field of view:	360°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	0.52km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☐ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☐ Rendered	☐ 1 Storey	☒ 2 Storey	☒ Outbuildings	☐ Front Garden	☒ Rear Garden
☒ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☒ Timber-clad	☐ 1.5 Storey	☐ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☒ Garage(s)	☒ Side Gardens

This property is financially involved with the proposed development.

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is situated on the eastern side of the Finniegill Burn, on a remote forest track (core path) with no public vehicular access. Outbuildings lie to the north and west of the property.

Views from property
The property is orientated north-east/ south-west with main windows on these elevations (dormers in the upstairs north-eastern elevation), across the Finniegill Burn valley. There are windows in other elevations, notably upstairs windows facing north-west and south-east. Views in all directions have an open outlook across surrounding hills and forest, with limited local filtering by trees around the property. The opposite valley side rises close to the west of the property, and this is likely to provide some screening to views in this direction, from ground level.

Views from access
Long open views in all directions across hills, glens and forest from parts of the forest track. In some places, views are enclosed by incised glen landform and forestry.

Views from garden grounds
There are gardens to the rear and sides of the house from which open and clear views of surrounding hills and forest are gained, with limited local filtering by trees around the property. The landform to the west of the property is likely to screen some visibility.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: High**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

The wirelines show that an extensive part of the proposed development is theoretically visible at close-proximity from this property, with the nearest turbine 523m away. The proposed development will extend approximately 360-degrees around the property, to the north, south, east, and west. Views from within the house are likely to be generally clear and open, with some filtering by outbuildings (to the north and west) and planting around the house. Clear and open visibility is likely to be gained from the main north-east/ south-west elevations of the property.

Views from the garden and outbuildings will be similar to that gained from the house. Open, expansive and unfiltered views of the proposed development will be gained consistently and at close-proximity from stretches of the forest access track.

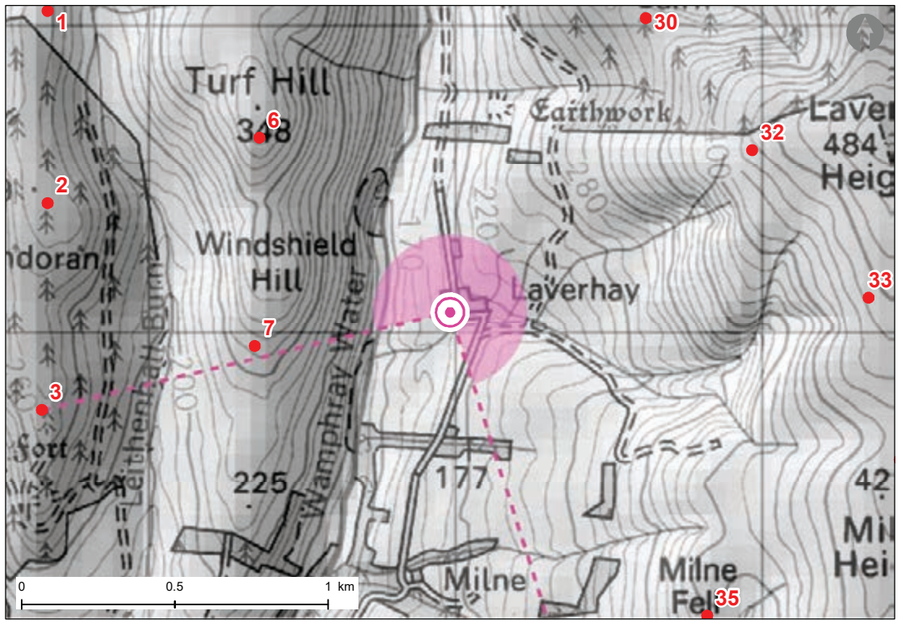
The proposed development will be immediately apparent in views from the approach to this property and its outdoor grounds and gardens. Views are also likely to be available from within the property and its domestic curtilage, although they will have a degree of filtering by landform, woodland and outbuildings.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction.

This property is considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, for the following reasons:
- Encirclement of the property by turbines
- Proximity of turbines to the property
- Consistent views of the proposed development on the approach to the property, from its grounds and garden, and from parts of the property and its curtilage



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OS Grid Reference:	X 313984
	Y 598068
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	35
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	27
Horizontal field of view:	265.82°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	0.65km

Property description:

[x]	Farmhouse	[ ]	Semi Detached	[ ]	Stone Built	[x]	Rendered	[ ]	1 Storey	[x]	2 Storey	[x]	Outbuildings	[x]	Front Garden	[ ]	Rear Garden
[x]	Detached	[ ]	Terraced	[ ]	Brick Built	[ ]	Timber-clad	[ ]	1.5 Storey	[ ]	Conservatory	[x]	Farmyard	[ ]	Garage(s)	[x]	Side Gardens

This property is financially involved with the proposed development.

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is situated in an elevated but enclosed position on the eastern side of the Wamphray Water. Access is gained by a minor dead-end track that runs through the farmyard. Extensive farm buildings lie to the north and east of the property.

Views from property
This property is 'L' shaped and appears to have its main open elevation to the south-west, with an attractive outlook across and along the Wamphray Water, although there will be some screening by woodland around the house. The south-east elevation of the house also appears as a main elevation (with a porch and a number of windows) but has a more enclosed view across farm buildings. The north-west (rear) elevation and gable are also likely to gain open views across the Wamphray Water to Windshield Hill in the west, while the north-eastern elevation and gable are likely to look across farm buildings.

Views from access
The approach to the property is along a minor road that runs north, east and north-east. The stretches that run eastwards gain views into the foothills, towards the higher hills, while the northwards stretches gain views to the east - also deeper into the foothills - and the west - across Annandale. Some stretches are screened by woodland but where open views are available, the outlook is open and attractive.

Views from garden grounds
There appear to be gardens to the front (south) and western side of the house from which views of the Wamphray Water valley and its enclosing hills are likely to be gained, with some local filtering by trees around the property.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: High**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

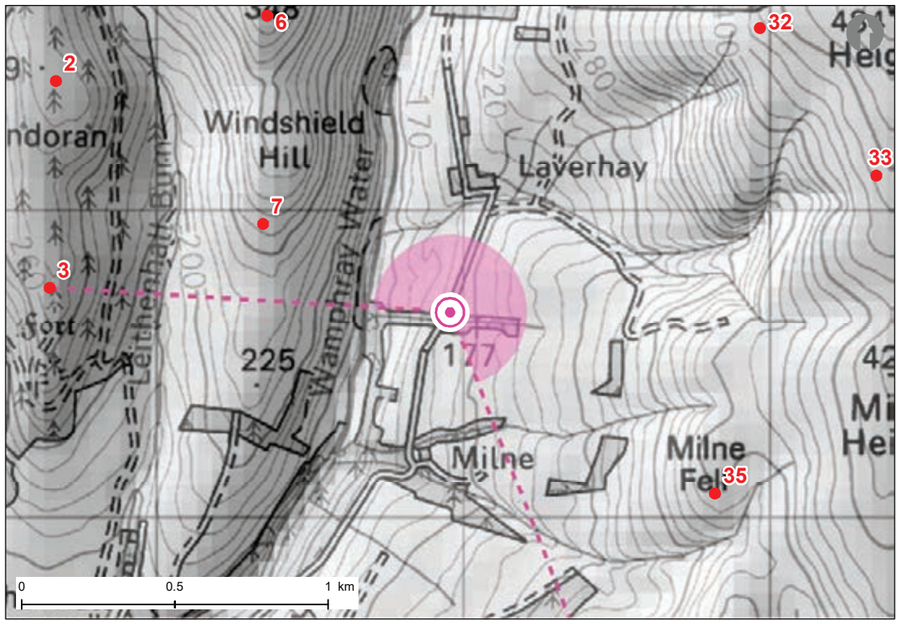
The wirelines show that 35 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible at close-proximity from this property, with the nearest turbine 645m away. The proposed development will extend approximately 266-degrees around the property, to the north, east, west and south-east. The main attractive south-western outlook will not be directly affected by the proposed development, but the turbine on Windshield Hill will be immediately apparent on the edge of this outlook. The Windshield and Turf Hill turbines, and those on Dundoran behind, will be immediately apparent in the direct orientation of the outlook from the north-western elevation and gable. The south-east and north-eastern elevations will continue to be partially screened by farm buildings, but turbines are likely to be seen beyond the buildings. Views from the gardens will be similar to that gained from the house, with turbines immediately apparent in some views across the Wamphray Water. Open, expansive and unfiltered views of the proposed development will also be gained from the access road.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction.

This property is considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, for the following reasons:
- The extent of views from the property that will be affected by turbines
- The elevation of turbines in relation to the property
- Proximity of turbines to the property
- Consistent views of the proposed development on the approach to the property, from its gardens, and from parts of the property and its curtilage



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OS Grid Reference:	X 313958
	Y 597670
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	35
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	29
Horizontal field of view:	245.2°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	0.67km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☐ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☒ Rendered	☐ 1 Storey	☐ 2 Storey	☐ Outbuildings	☒ Front Garden	☒ Rear Garden
☒ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☒ 1.5 Storey	☐ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☐ Garage(s)	☒ Side Gardens

This property is financially involved with the proposed development.

Property inspected externally from the access track. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is situated in an elevated but enclosed position on the eastern side of the Wamphray Water. Access is gained by a minor dead-end track. There is vegetation in the rear and side (southern) gardens around the property. This property lies on the cusp of the foothills and Southern Uplands with forest landscape types, which is evident in the transition from the more enclosed, cultivated and settled landscape to the south of the property and the relatively upland, remote and unenclosed landscape to the north.

Views from property
This property has its main open elevation to the west-north-west, with an attractive and open outlook across the Wamphray Water to Windshield Hill. Views from the east-south-eastern elevation are likely to be foreshortened by the landform of Milne Fell, which rises behind the property and will also be filtered by garden vegetation. The windows in the south-south-western gable may have some visibility but this will be limited by vegetation in the garden and some woodland beyond. The north-north-eastern gable does not appear to have a window in it.

Views from access
The approach to the property is along a minor road that runs north, east and north-east. The stretches that run eastwards gain views into the foothills, towards the higher hills, while the northwards stretches gain views to the east - also deeper into the foothills - and the west - across Annandale. Some stretches are screened by woodland but where open views are available, the outlook is open with high amenity.

Views from garden grounds
There are gardens to the front, side (southern) and rear of the house. The front garden will gain open and clear views across the Wamphray Water valley, while views from the side and rear gardens are more likely to be screened by vegetation.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Medium/ Medium-High**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

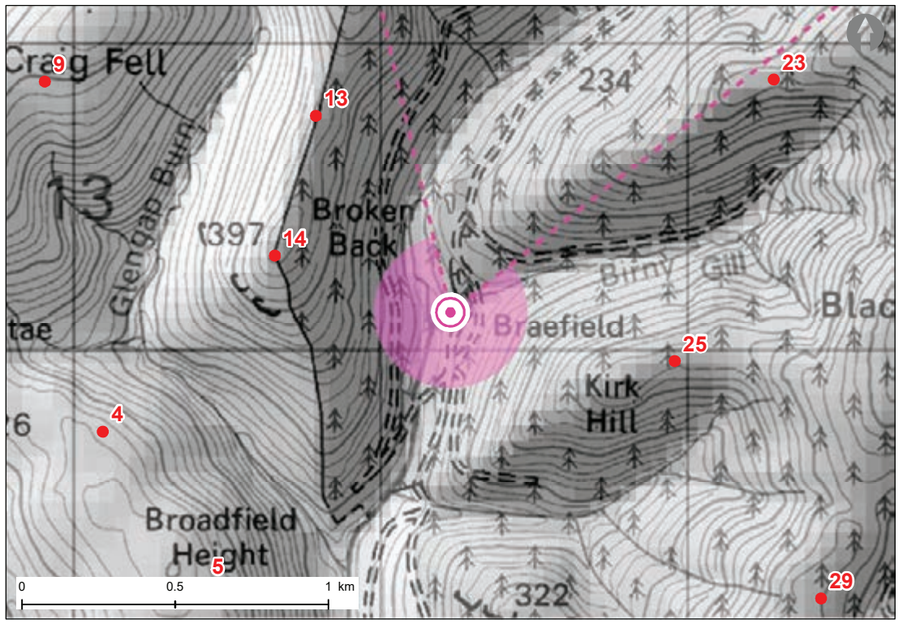
The wirelines show that 35 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible at close-proximity from this property, with the nearest turbine 673m away. The proposed development will extend approximately 245-degrees around the property, to the north, east, west and south-east. The turbine on Windshield Hill (and possibly, peripherally, the turbine on Turf Hill) will be immediately apparent at close proximity directly in the main west-north-western outlook from the property, along with the turbines on Dundoran, behind. The turbines on Milne Height and Laverhay Height may be seen from the east-south-eastern elevation, with some screening by garden vegetation. The south-south-western and north-north-eastern gables will not gain direct visibility, due to the location of the proposed development in relation to the property and the lack of a window, respectively.

Views from the gardens will be similar to those gained from the house; clear views to the west from the front garden, and filtered views to the east and south from the rear and side gardens. Open, expansive views of the proposed development will also be gained from the access road.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold
Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction.

This property is considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, for the following reasons:
- The location of close-proximity turbines in the main outlook from the property (the west-north-western elevation)
- The extent of views around the property that may be affected by turbines
- The elevation of turbines in relation to the property
- Proximity of turbines to the property
- Consistent views of the proposed development on the approach to the property, from its gardens, and from parts of the property and its curtilage



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OS Grid Reference:	X 314230
	Y 600125
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	16
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	12
Horizontal field of view:	295.43°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	0.6km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☐ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☒ Rendered	☒ 1 Storey	☐ 2 Storey	☐ Outbuildings	☐ Front Garden	☐ Rear Garden
☒ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☐ 1.5 Storey	☐ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☐ Garage(s)	☐ Side Gardens

This property is in the ownership of the Applicant and will not be inhabited during the lifetime of the proposed development. The assessment given below is therefore for information only.

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is in a low-lying, enclosed position close to the upper reaches of the Wamphray Water, within the proposed development site. It is accessed by a remote forest track (also a core path).

Views from property
The property is orientated approximately north/south and east/west. It is assumed that there are windows in all elevations. Views in all directions are likely to be of the nearby valley and surrounding hills and forest, with local filtering by trees around the property as well as more extensive screening by forestry.

Views from access
There is likely to be a varied outlook from the access track, including long views across hills, glens and, elsewhere, incised glen landform and forestry.

Views from garden grounds
Views from the grounds around the property are likely to be of the surrounding valley, hills and forest, with local filtering and screening by trees.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: High**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

The wirelines show that 16 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible at close-proximity from this property, with the nearest turbine 602m away. The proposed development will extend approximately 295-degrees around the property, to the south, east, west, north-west and north-east. Some views from within the house are likely to be filtered and screened by woodland and forestry. Views from the grounds will be similar to that gained from the house, with more open visibility. Open, expansive and unfiltered views of the proposed development will be gained consistently and at close-proximity from stretches of the forest access track.

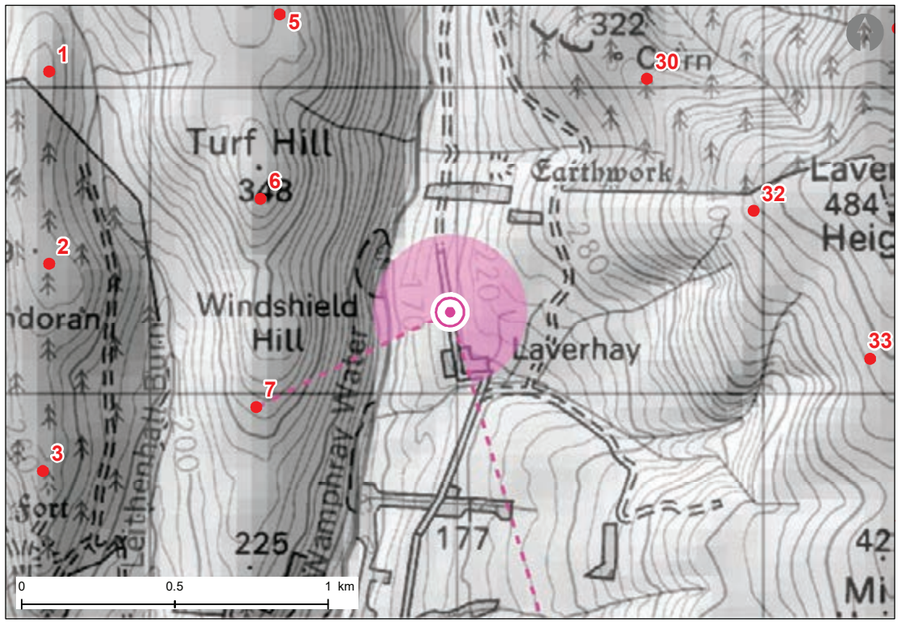
The proposed development will be immediately apparent in views from the approach to this property and its wider outdoor areas. Views from within the property and its domestic curtilage are also likely to be affected but will have a degree of screening and filtering by woodland and forestry.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction.

This property is considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, for the following reasons:
- Encirclement of the property by turbines
- Proximity of turbines to the property
- Consistent views of the proposed development on the approach to the property, from its grounds, and from parts of the property and its curtilage



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OS Grid Reference:	X 313980
	Y 598267
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	34
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	26
Horizontal field of view:	279.63°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	0.7km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☐ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☐ Rendered	☒ 1 Storey	☐ 2 Storey	☒ Outbuildings	☒ Front Garden	☒ Rear Garden
☒ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☐ 1.5 Storey	☐ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☐ Garage(s)	☒ Side Gardens

This property is financially involved with the proposed development.

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is situated in an elevated but enclosed position on the eastern side of the Wamphray Water. Access is gained by a minor dead-end track that finishes at this property. Outbuildings lie to the north of the property. There appears to be little vegetation around the property.

Views from property
This property has its main open elevation to the west, with an open outlook across the Wamphray Water to Windshield Hill. Views from the eastern elevation are likely to be foreshortened by the landform of Laverhay Height, which rises behind the property. Views from the northern and southern elevations may have some limited screening by outbuildings and vegetation respectively, but are likely to gain open views up and down the Wamphray Water valley.

Views from access
The approach to the property is along a minor road that runs north, east and north-east. The stretches that run eastwards gain views into the foothills, towards the higher hills, while the northwards stretches gain views to the east - also deeper into the foothills - and the west - across Annandale. Some stretches are screened by woodland but where open views are available, the outlook is open and has high amenity.

Views from garden grounds
There appear to be gardens around the house, from which open and clear views of the Wamphray Water valley and its enclosing hills are likely to be gained.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: High**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

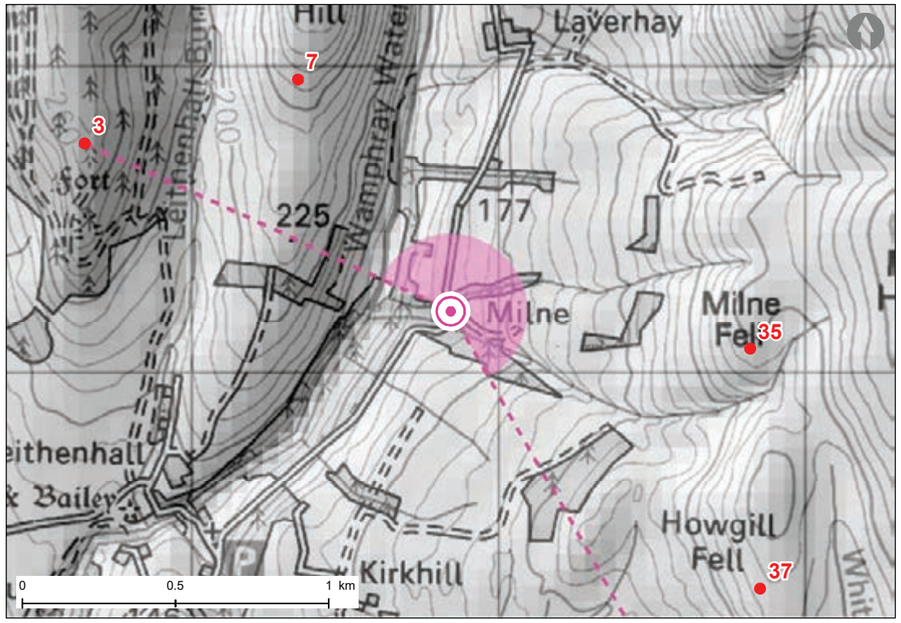
The wirelines show that 34 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible at close-proximity from this property, with the nearest turbine 704m away. The proposed development will extend approximately 280-degrees around the property, to the north, east, west, south-west and south-east. The turbines on Windshield Hill and Turf Hill will be immediately apparent at close proximity directly in the main western outlook from the property, along with parts of the turbines on Dundoran, behind. The more northerly turbines, on either side of the Wamphray Water, are likely to be seen from the northern elevation of the house; the turbines on Laverhay Height are likely to be seen from the eastern elevation; and the turbines on Milne Fell, Howgill Fell and Criffel are likely to be seen from the southern elevation. The level of visibility will depend on the configuration of windows, and may vary from immediately apparent visibility to very limited or no visibility. Views from the gardens will be open in all directions, with immediately apparent visibility, and open, expansive views of the proposed development will also be gained from the access road.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction.

This property is considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, for the following reasons:
- The location of close-proximity turbines in the main outlook from the property (the western elevation)
- The extent of views around the property that will be affected by turbines
- The elevation of turbines in relation to the property
- Proximity of turbines to the property
- Consistent views of the proposed development on the approach to the property, from its gardens, and from parts of the property and its curtilage



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OS Grid Reference:	X 313846
	Y 597201
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	37
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	29
Horizontal field of view:	212.65°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	0.9km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☐ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☒ Rendered	☐ 1 Storey	☐ 2 Storey	☒ Outbuildings	☒ Front Garden	☒ Rear Garden
☒ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☒ 1.5 Storey	☐ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☐ Garage(s)	☒ Side Gardens

This property is financially involved with the proposed development.

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is situated off a minor road in an elevated but enclosed position on the eastern side of the Wamphray Water. The property lies between two small burns that feed into the Wamphray Water. Access is gained by a minor dead-end track. There is extensive woodland and other planting around the northern, southern and western sides of the property, and outbuildings lie to the east.

Views from property
This property is 'L'-shaped and is likely to have windows in each of its aspects; south-west, north-west, north-east and south-east. The north-western and south-western elevations are likely to gain open views across the Wamphray Water valley, with filtering by planting - including mature trees - around the house. Views from the north-eastern and south-eastern elevations are likely to be somewhat foreshortened by the landform of Milne Fell and Howgill Fell, which rise behind the property, but appear to have more open views with limited screening and filtering by garden vegetation. Outbuildings to the east may provide some screening from the lower floor.

Views from access
The approach to the property is along a minor road that runs north, east and north-east. The stretches that run eastwards gain views into the foothills, towards the higher hills, while the northwards stretches gain views to the east - also deeper into the foothills - and the west - across Annandale. Some stretches are screened by woodland but where open views are available, the outlook is open and has high amenity.

Views from garden grounds
There are gardens around the house. Woodland is likely to screen and filter views, particularly at garden level, but some long and open views across the valley and into the foothills are likely to be gained in all directions.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Medium-High**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

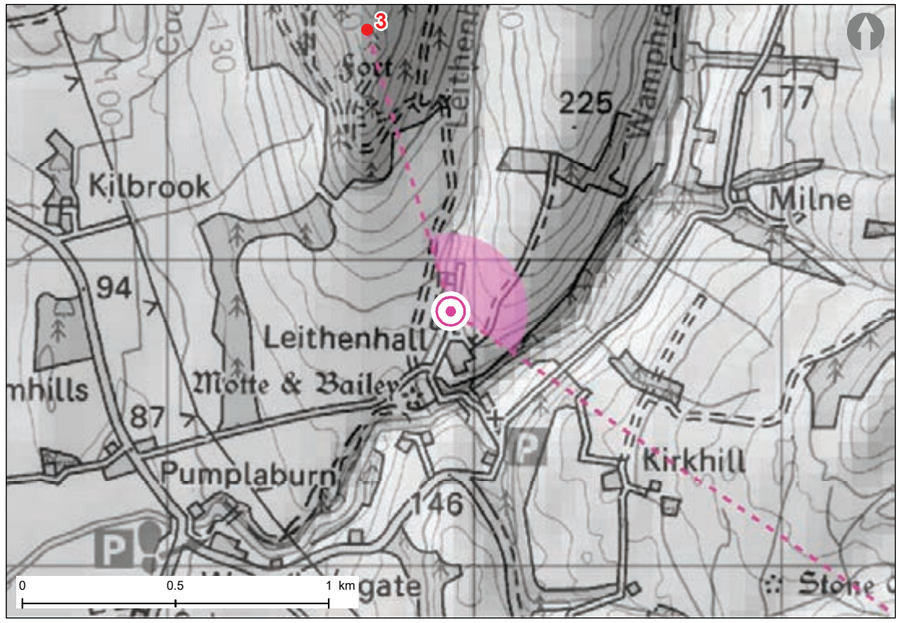
The wirelines show that 37 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible at close-proximity from this property, with the nearest turbine 904m away. The proposed development will extend approximately 213-degrees around the property, to the north, east, north-west and south-east. The turbines on Windshield Hill, Turf Hill and Dundoran are likely to be immediately or very readily apparent (dependent on the level of woodland screening) at close proximity directly in the north-western outlook from the property. The turbines on Milne Fell, Howgill Fell, Criffel, Milne Height and Laverhay Height are also likely to be seen from the north-eastern and south-eastern elevations, with some screening and filtering by woodland. The south-western outlook across the Wamphray Water valley will not gain visibility due to the location of the proposed development in relation to the property.

Views from the gardens will be similar to those gained from the house, with potential for filtered views of the proposed development to the north, east, north-west and south-east. Open, expansive views of the proposed development will also be gained from the access road.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold
Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction.

This property is considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, for the following reasons:
- The location of close-proximity turbines to the north-west and east/ south-east of the property
- The extent of views around the property and its approach that may be affected by turbines
- The elevation of turbines in relation to the property
- Proximity of turbines to the property



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OS Grid Reference:	X 312925
	Y 596831
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	29
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	20
Horizontal field of view:	140.97°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	0.96km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☐ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☐ Rendered	☐ 1 Storey	☐ 2 Storey	☐ Outbuildings	☐ Front Garden	☐ Rear Garden
☐ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☐ 1.5 Storey	☐ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☐ Garage(s)	☐ Side Gardens

This property is financially involved with the proposed development.

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is located off a minor road to the west of the proposed development in an elevated position on the eastern side of the Leithenhall Burn. There appears to be a woodland belt along the Leithenhall Burn, to the west of the property.

Views from property
It is assumed that this property has windows in all elevations. The longest, most open views are likely to be gained to the south and south-west due to the orientation of landform. Views to the west may also be long and open, although the lower slopes of Dundoran are likely to foreshorten parts of the outlook. Views to the north, east, north-east and south-east will generally also be foreshortened by the rising landform of the foothills and Southern Uplands, but the distinctive valley of the Leithenhall Burn allows a longer, channelled view to be gained into the interior of the hills. Woodland along the burn is likely to filter views to the west.

Views from access
The approach to the property is along a minor road that runs north, east and north-east. The stretches that run eastwards gain views into the foothills, towards the higher hills, while the northwards stretches gain views to the east - also deeper into the foothills - and the west. Some stretches are screened by woodland but where open views are available, the outlook is open with high amenity due to the extent of the views.

Views from garden grounds
It is assumed that the property has outside space around it, from which views as described above for the house may be gained.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: High**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

The wirelines show that 29 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible at close-proximity from this property, with the nearest turbine 960m away. The proposed development will extend approximately 141-degrees around the property, to the north, east, north-east, south-east, and north-north-west. The principal open and long views from the house, which are likely to be to the south and south-west, will not be directly affected by the proposed development. The proposed development is, however, likely to be seen in views from the northern, eastern, north-eastern, and south-eastern aspects of the property and its grounds. In these views, the turbines on Windshield Hill and Dundoran, to the north of the property, are likely to be most prominent. Turbines will also be seen along either side of the Leithenhall Burn.

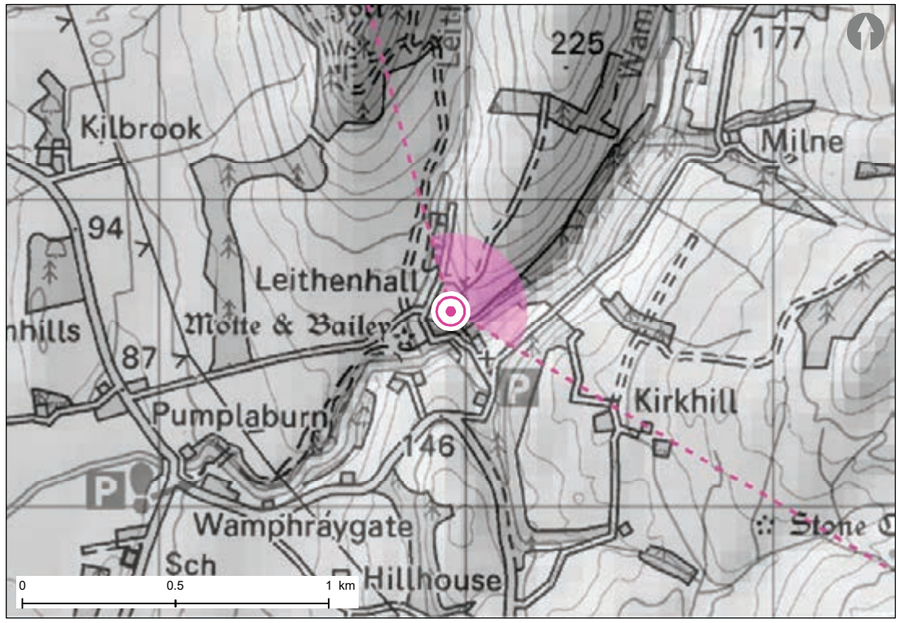
The proposed development will also be visible from open stretches of the access track to the property, particularly where open views to the north and east are gained.

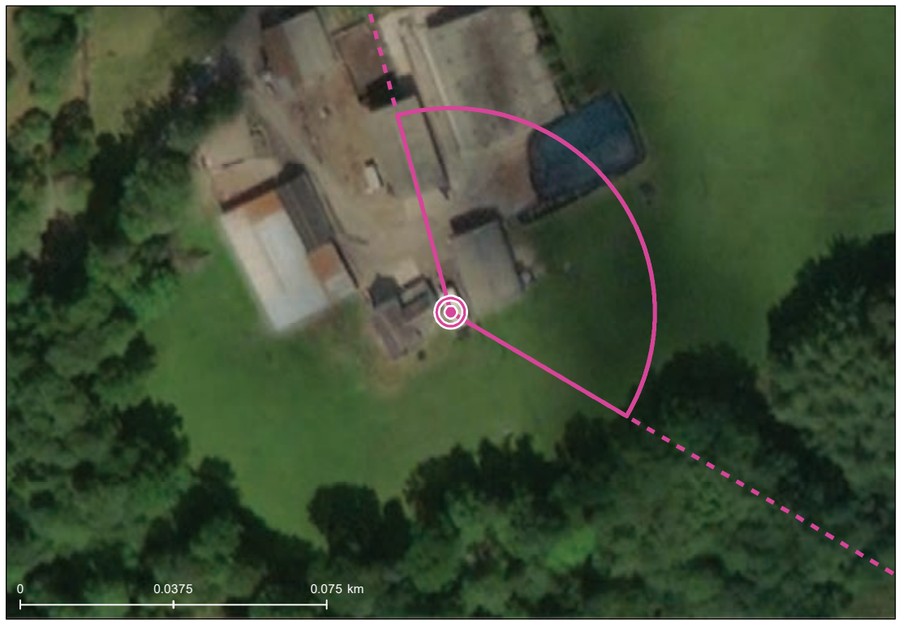
Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction. This property is considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, for the following reasons:

- Proximity of turbines to the property
- The elevation and prominence of turbines in relation to the property (particularly to the north)
- The extent of the setting to the property that will be affected by the proposed development
- The level of visibility of the proposed development that will be gained on the approach to the property





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OS Grid Reference:	X 312952
	Y 596639
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	42
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	28
Horizontal field of view:	135.67°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.15km

Property description:

[x] Farmhouse	[ ] Semi Detached	[ ] Stone Built	[x] Rendered	[ ] 1 Storey	[x] 2 Storey	[x] Outbuildings	[x] Front Garden	[x] Rear Garden
[x] Detached	[ ] Terraced	[ ] Brick Built	[ ] Timber-clad	[ ] 1.5 Storey	[ ] Conservatory	[x] Farmyard	[ ] Garage(s)	[x] Side Gardens

This property is financially involved with the proposed development.

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is located just off a minor road to the west of the proposed development in an elevated position on the northern side of the Wamphray Water. There are extensive farm buildings to the north, north-west and north-east of the property.

Views from property
The property appears to be orientated west-south-west/ east-north-east, and open views are likely to be gained in both directions. Views to the north-east will be foreshortened by the rising landform of Windshield Hill, but the valley landform of the Wamphray Burn may allow longer views to the east-north-east. Views to the south-west are likely to be more extensive but filtered by woodland. Farm buildings will screen and filter some views to the north, north-east and north-west.

Views from access
The approach to the property is along a minor road that runs north, east and north-east. The stretches that run eastwards gain views into the foothills, towards the higher hills, while the northwards stretches gain views to the east - also deeper into the foothills - and the west. Some stretches are screened by woodland but where open views are available, the outlook is open with high amenity due to the extent of the views.

Views from garden grounds
There appear to be gardens to the front, rear and southern side of the house, from where open views to the west, east and south are likely to be gained.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: High**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

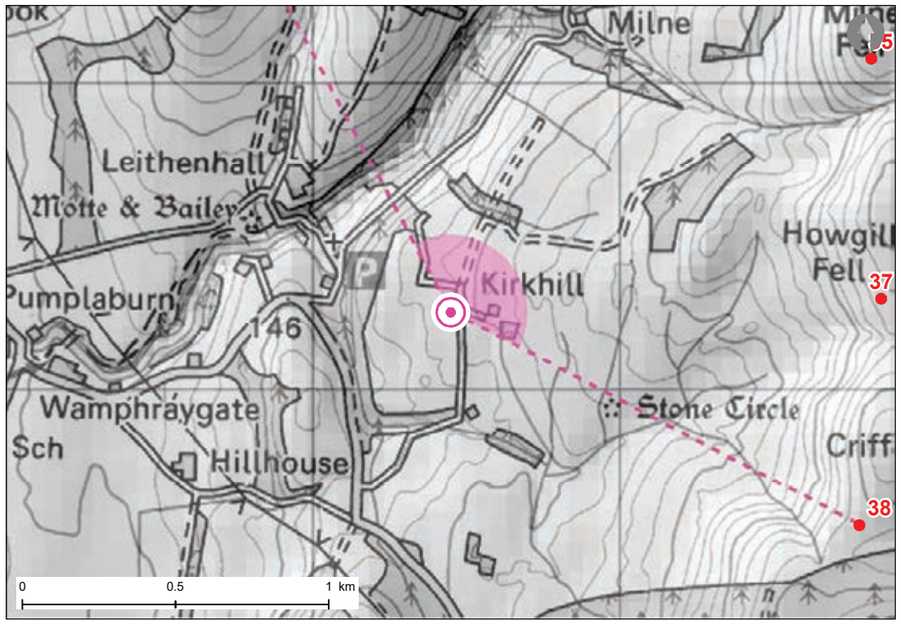
The wirelines show that 42 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible at close-proximity from this property, with the nearest turbine 1.15km away. The proposed development will extend approximately 136-degrees around the property, to the north, east, north-east, south-east, and north-north-west. The principal open and long views from the house, which appear to be to the west-south-west, will not be directly affected by the proposed development. Views from the south-south-east gable (if it has windows) will not be directly affected but may be peripherally affected, on the eastern side of the outlook. The proposed development is, however, likely to be seen in views from the east-north-eastern elevation and north-north-western gable of the house, with some screening by farm buildings. In these views, the turbines on Windshield Hill and Dundoran are likely to be most prominent.

Similar views will theoretically be gained from the gardens, although the house and farm buildings will provide screening of ground level views. The proposed development will also be visible from open stretches of the access track to the property, particularly where open views to the north and east are gained.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction. This property is considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, for the following reasons:
- Proximity of turbines to the property
- The elevation and prominence of turbines in relation to the property (particularly to the north)
- The extent of the setting to the property that will be affected by the proposed development
- The high level of visibility of the proposed development that will be gained on the approach to the property



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OS Grid Reference:	X 313451
	Y 596253
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	48
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	38
Horizontal field of view:	145.66°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.4km

Property description:

[x] Farmhouse	[ ] Semi Detached	[ ] Stone Built	[ ] Rendered	[ ] 1 Storey	[x] 2 Storey	[x] Outbuildings	[x] Front Garden	[ ] Rear Garden
[ ] Detached	[ ] Terraced	[ ] Brick Built	[ ] Timber-clad	[ ] 1.5 Storey	[ ] Conservatory	[x] Farmyard	[ ] Garage(s)	[x] Side Gardens

This property is financially involved with the proposed development.

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is located at the end of a minor dead-end road (also a core path) to the west of the proposed development. The property lies on the western edge of the Annandale foothills landscape in an elevated south-west-facing position. There are extensive farm buildings to the north of the property.

Views from property
The property is strongly orientated to the south-south-east, gaining long, open and elevated views along and across Annandale, although these views (particularly from the ground floor) are likely to be screened/ filtered to some degree by trees and other vegetation along the southern edge of the garden ground. A core path passes along this boundary of the garden, and there appears to be some coniferous planting to screen views from the path into the garden. Windows in the west-south-west elevation would also overlook Annandale, although views from these too are likely to be filtered by trees around the house, while the north-north-west elevation overlooks the farm buildings that lie to the north of the property. There do not appear to be windows in the east-north-eastern gable. There is some woodland around the property that will filter and screen views, other than those to the east.

Views from access
The approach to the property is along a minor road that runs north, east and north-east. The stretches that run eastwards gain views into the foothills, towards the higher hills, while the northwards stretches gain views to the east - also deeper into the foothills - and the west - across Annandale. Some stretches are screened by woodland but where open views are available, the outlook across Annandale in particular, but also the foothills, is very expansive, open and attractive due to its elevation and the extent of the views.

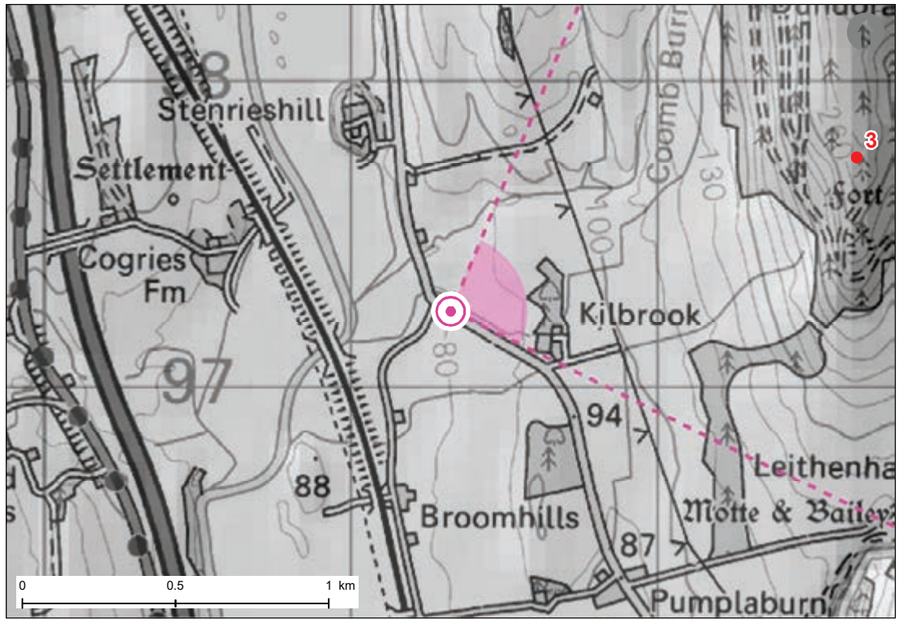
Views from garden grounds
There appear to be gardens to the south and western side of the house, from where views are likely to be similar to those gained from these elevations of the house - across and along Annandale. The screening vegetation around the property is likely to filter views from the gardens.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Medium-High**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

The wirelines show that an extensive part of the proposed development is theoretically visible at close-proximity from this property, with the nearest turbine 1.40km away. The proposed development will extend approximately 146-degrees around the property, to the north, east, north-east, north-north-west and east-south-east. The principal views from the house, which are to the south-south-east, will not be directly affected by the proposed development but several turbines (in the south-western part of the proposed development) are likely to be seen on the skyline that encloses the eastern periphery of this outlook. This visibility will be filtered by trees around the property and along the access track. Views from the north-north-western elevation of the house - if there are windows on this elevation - may gain visibility of the proposed development above the farm buildings that screen lower-level views, particularly from the upper floor. Views from the west-south-west elevation will not be affected by the proposed development. Similar views will theoretically be gained from the gardens, although vegetation will screen and filter views at ground level. The proposed development will also be visible from open stretches of the access track to the property, particularly where open views to the north and east are gained.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold
Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction. This property is considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, for the following reasons:
- Proximity of turbines to the property
- The elevation of turbines in relation to the property
- The medium-high level of visibility of the proposed development that will be gained on the approach to the property
- The extent of the setting to the property that will be affected by the proposed development



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OS Grid Reference:	X 311327
	Y 597248
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	34
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	24
Horizontal field of view:	93.37°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.42km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☐ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☒ Rendered	☒ 1 Storey	☐ 2 Storey	☒ Outbuildings	☒ Front Garden	☒ Rear Garden
☒ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☐ 1.5 Storey	☒ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☐ Garage(s)	☒ Side Gardens

This property is financially involved with the proposed development.

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is located on the northern side of a minor road to the west of the proposed development. The property is set in a relatively level landscape on the eastern edge of the middle dale - Annandale. There is little vegetation around the property.

Views from property
This property is orientated south-west/ north-east and gains clear views in all directions. The south-western elevation, which has several windows and front door, faces onto the minor road and gains long, open views across and along Annandale, as does the north-western gable (with one window). The north-eastern elevation, which appears to have a conservatory built onto it, gains long open views across the upland fringe into the foothills and Southern Uplands beyond, as does the south-eastern gable (which also includes part of the conservatory structure). View east are also through a close-proximity high voltage overhead transmission line.

Views from access
This property can be accessed from the north or south. Both of these approaches have an outlook across the upland fringe landscape towards the foothills to the east, and a view over Annandale to the west.

Views from garden grounds
There are gardens to the front, rear and sides of the house. Views from the gardens are likely to be similar to those gained from the house, with an open outlook in all directions.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: High**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

The wirelines show that 34 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible from this property, with the nearest turbine 1.42km away. The proposed development will extend approximately 93-degrees around the property, to the east, north-east, and south-east. The long, open south-west and north-west-facing views from the house will not be affected due to the location of the proposed development in relation to the property. However, the long and open views from the north-eastern elevation will be affected, primarily by the turbines that lie to the north-east, on the skyline of Dundoran, and views from the south-eastern gable will be affected by the more distant turbines that lie to the east and south-east. Visibility from these two aspects of the property is likely to be high and clear, with very little filtering by vegetation.

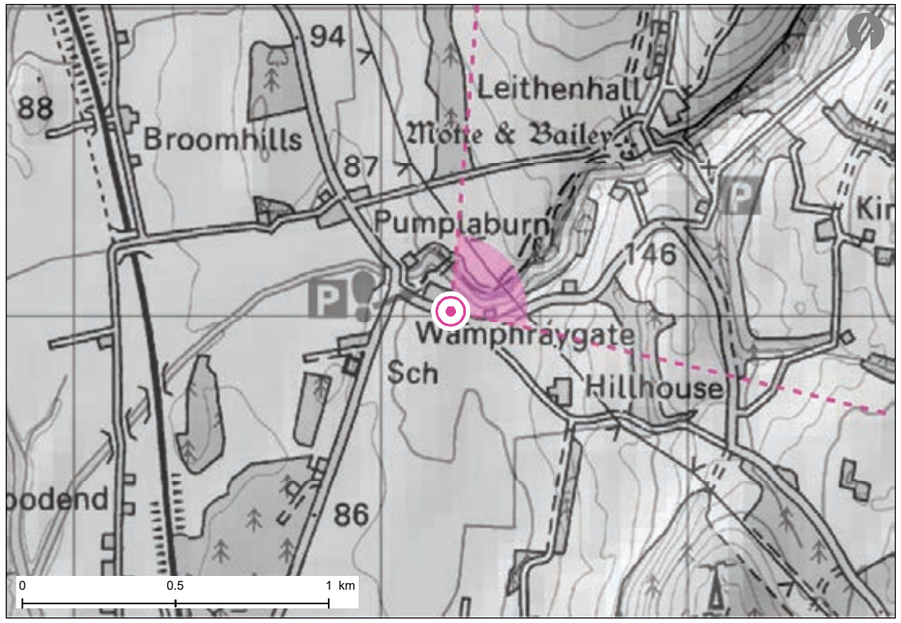
High visibility will also be gained from the rear and side gardens. The closest turbines will be those seen on the skyline of Dundoran, and the proposed development wil extend across much of the open rear aspect from the garden. Views from the front garden will not be affected. The proposed development will be clearly visible on the approach to the house from either the north or the south.

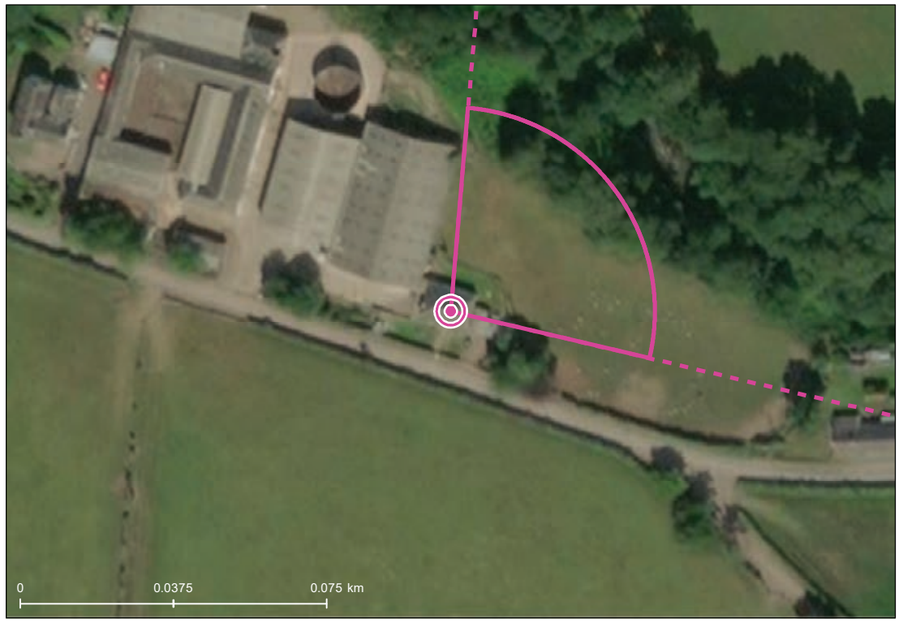
Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction.

This property is considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, for the following reasons:
- Proximity of turbines to the property
- The elevation of the closest turbines in relation to the property
- The open views and lack of screening around the property, and the resultant clear and high level of visibility of the proposed development





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OS Grid Reference:	X 312229
	Y 596014
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	49
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	32
Horizontal field of view:	98.4°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.79km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☐ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☒ Rendered	☒ 1 Storey	☐ 2 Storey	☒ Outbuildings	☒ Front Garden	☒ Rear Garden
☒ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☐ 1.5 Storey	☐ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☒ Garage(s)	☒ Side Gardens

This property is financially involved with the proposed development.

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is located on a minor road to the west of the proposed development. The property lies just to the south of the Wamphray Water, and is within the Annandale upland fringe landscape. There are outbuildings to the east of the house and extensive farm buildings to the north-west.

Views from property
The property is orientated south-south-west/ north-north-east, with the south-south-west-facing elevation facing the road. There are several windows and the front door on this aspect and an open and attractive southwards view along the upland fringe may be gained, although there is a hedge on the south side of the road, immediately opposite the property, and this may screen or filter views. The north-north-eastern elevation of the house looks out onto the Wamphray Water and views in this direction are likely to be partially screened by woodland along the watercourse. Windows/ door in the west-north-western gable of the property will look out onto the adjacent farm buildings, while the east-south-eastern gable end has one window, which is likely to look out onto the side garden and, slightly further away, woodland around Property 45.

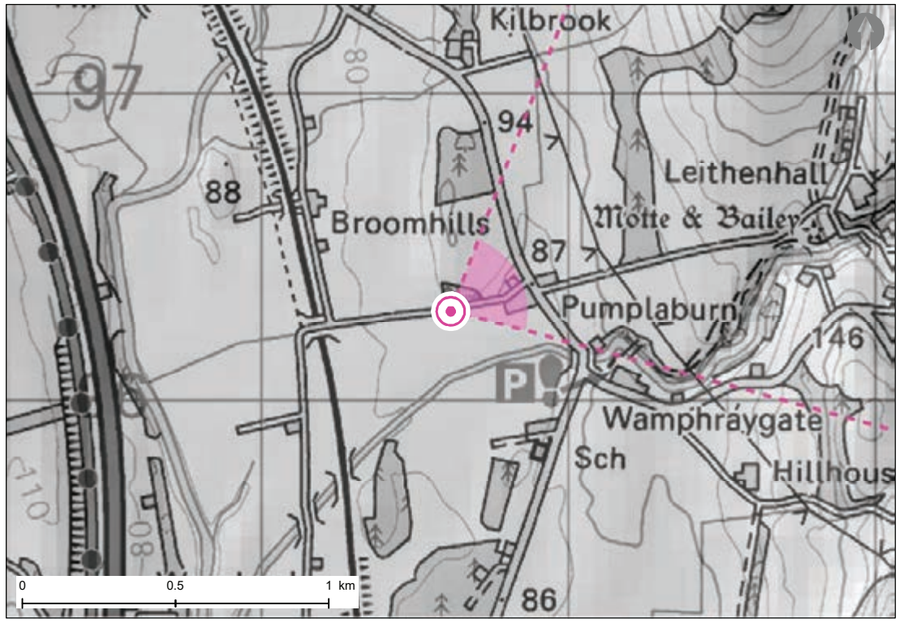
Views from access
If the approach to the property is made from the west, the key orientation of views on the approach is to the north and east, towards the foothills. The property may also be approached from the east, in which case the outlook would be across Annandale. Some views are open and gain an outlook towards the hills while others are enclosed by woodland and hedgerows.

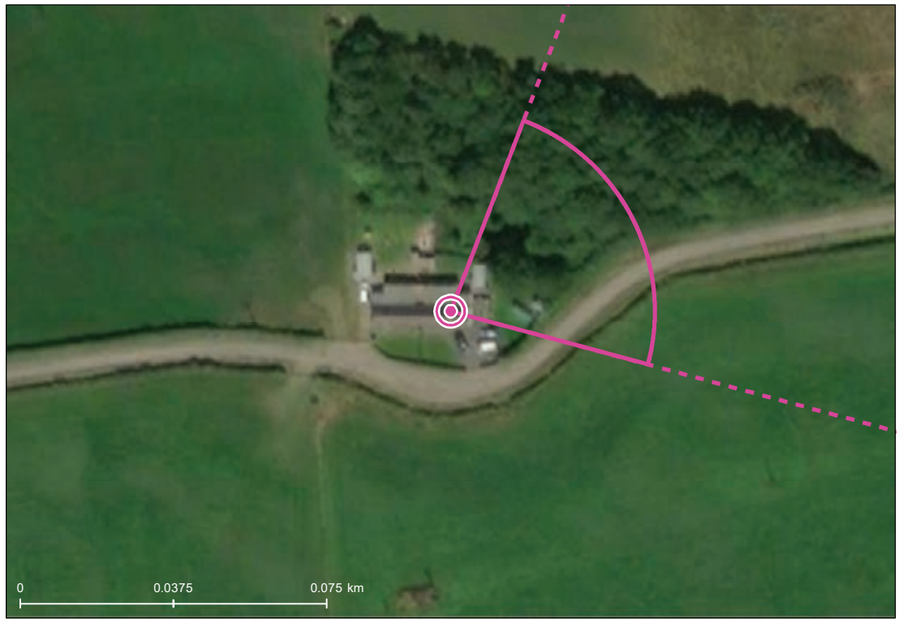
Views from garden grounds
There are gardens to the front, rear and eastern side of the house. Views to the north, east and north-east are likely to be partially screened by the Wamphray Water woodland and woodland around Property 45, while views to the west will be screened by farm buildings. The southern aspect gains open and clear views.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Medium-low**
- **Significance of effect: Not significant visual effect**

The wirelines show that 49 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible from this property, with the nearest turbine 1.79km away. The proposed development will extend approximately 98-degrees around the property, to the north, east, north-east and east-south-east. The long views to the south from the front of the house and garden will not be affected by the proposed development, and neither will westerly views (which are anyway screened by farm buildings). Views from the north-north-eastern (rear) elevation of the house (where the turbines on Dundoran, Turf Hill and Windshield Hill would be seen) will be filtered by the Wamphray Water woodland, but some partial views to the north and north-east are likely to be available, particularly in winter. The proposed development is unlikely to be clearly seen in views from the east-south-eastern gable due to localised screening and the restricted nature of visibility (from one window). The proposed development is therefore unlikely to have high visibility from within the house due to its principal location to the north and north-east of the property, and the partial screening of views in that direction. Views to the north, east and north-east from the gardens are, however, likely to gain filtered visibility of some turbines, including those on Dundoran, Windshield Hill and Turf Hill. The proposed development will be clearly visible on the approach to the house from either direction.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold
Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction.
This property is not considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, for the following reasons:
- Views from within the property are unlikely to gain clear or high visibility
- The main orientation (southerly) of open views from the property and gardens will be not be affected by the proposed development
- The north, east and north-east-facing views from the garden are unlikely to gain clear or high visibility due to woodland screening
- The proposed development will not lead to a perception of 'encircling' the property, theoretically affecting considerably less than a third of the full 360-degree outlook
- The closest turbine is 1.79km away





Data Source: Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community
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OS Grid Reference:	X 311618
	Y 596290
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	38
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	24
Horizontal field of view:	84.17°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.79km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☒ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☒ Rendered	☒ 1 Storey	☐ 2 Storey	☐ Outbuildings	☒ Front Garden	☒ Rear Garden
☐ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☐ 1.5 Storey	☐ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☒ Garage(s)	☒ Side Gardens

This property is financially involved with the proposed development.

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is one of a pair of cottages (also including Property 44) located beside a minor road to the west of the proposed development. The property is set in a relatively low-lying and level landscape on the cusp of the Annandale upland fringe and middle dale landscapes.

Views from property
The property is orientated north/ south with access gained from the road that passes the south-facing front elevation. There are a number of windows and front door on this aspect, which has a long, open and attractive southwards outlook along Annandale. The northern elevation is likely to be screened by garden vegetation/ woodland that lies to the north of the property. The eastern gable has several windows in it and these are likely to gain views to the foothills in the east, with some filtering by garden vegetation. The western elevation adjoins Property 44 so has no windows.

Views from access
If the approach to the property is made from the west, the key orientation of views on the approach is to the east, with a clear and open view towards the foothills. The property may also be approached from the east, in which case the outlook would be across Annandale.

Views from garden grounds
There are gardens to the front (south), rear (north) and eastern side of the house. The front garden will have the same open and expansive south-facing view as is seen from the house, while the front and side gardens will both have an outlook to the east that has some limited filtering by garden planting. The rear garden will be enclosed by woodland to the north and the house to the south, but is likely to have some filtered visibility to the east.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Medium/ medium-high**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

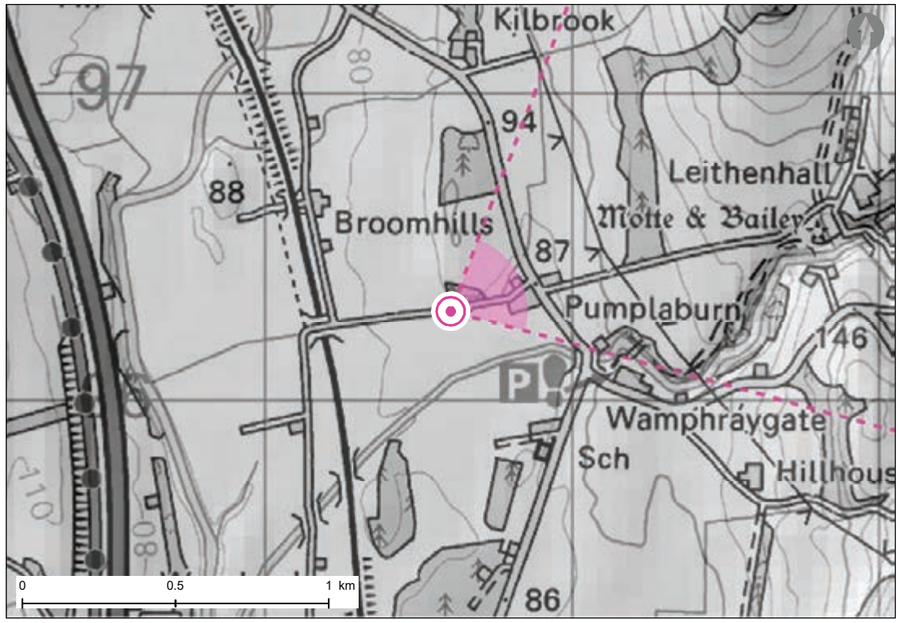
The wirelines show that 38 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible from this property, with the nearest turbine 1.79km away. The proposed development will extend approximately 84-degrees around the property, to the east, north-east, and east-south-east. The main southerly orientation of views from the house and front/ side gardens will not be affected by the proposed development. Views from the northern elevation will also not be affected, due largely to the location of the proposed development in relation to the views but also because of the woodland that liesto the north of the property. There may be some visibility of the turbines on Howgill Fell and Milne Fell from the eastern gable of the house, filtered by woodland, but views from within the house are unlely to be affected to any notable degree.

The outlook to the east, north-east and south-east from the front and side gardens is likely to have some visibility of the proposed development, with filtering, particularly to the north-east, by vegetation. Open and clear views towards the proposed development will be gained from the western approach to the property.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction. This property is not considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold due to the medium/ medium-high magnitude of change on views from the property.



Data Source: Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community
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OS Grid Reference:	X 311606
	Y 596290
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	34
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	23
Horizontal field of view:	83.91°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.79km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☒ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☒ Rendered	☒ 1 Storey	☐ 2 Storey	☐ Outbuildings	☒ Front Garden	☒ Rear Garden
☐ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☐ 1.5 Storey	☐ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☒ Garage(s)	☒ Side Gardens

This property is financially involved with the proposed development.

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is one of a pair of cottages (also including Property 43) located beside a minor road to the west of the proposed development. The property is set in a relatively low-lying and level landscape on the cusp of the Annandale upland fringe and middle dale landscapes.

Views from property
The property is orientated north/ south with access gained from the road that passes the south-facing front elevation. There are a number of windows and front door on this aspect, which has a long, open and attractive southwards outlook along Annandale. The northern elevation is likely to be screened by garden vegetation/ woodland that lies to the north of the property. The western gable has several windows in it and these are likely to gain views across Annandale. The eastern elevation adjoins Property 43 so has no windows.

Views from access
If the approach to the property is made from the west, the key orientation of views on the approach is to the east, with a clear and open view towards the foothills. The property may also be approached from the east, in which case the outlook would be across Annandale.

Views from garden grounds
There are gardens to the front (south) and rear (north) and a driveway to the western side of the house. The front garden will have the same open and expansive south-facing view as is seen from the house, and a view to the east, across the front garden of Property 43, with some filtering by vegetation. The rear garden will be enclosed by woodland to the north and the house to the south, but is likely to have some filtered visibility to the west, across Annandale, and potentially to the east, across the rear garden of Property 43.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Medium/ medium-high**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

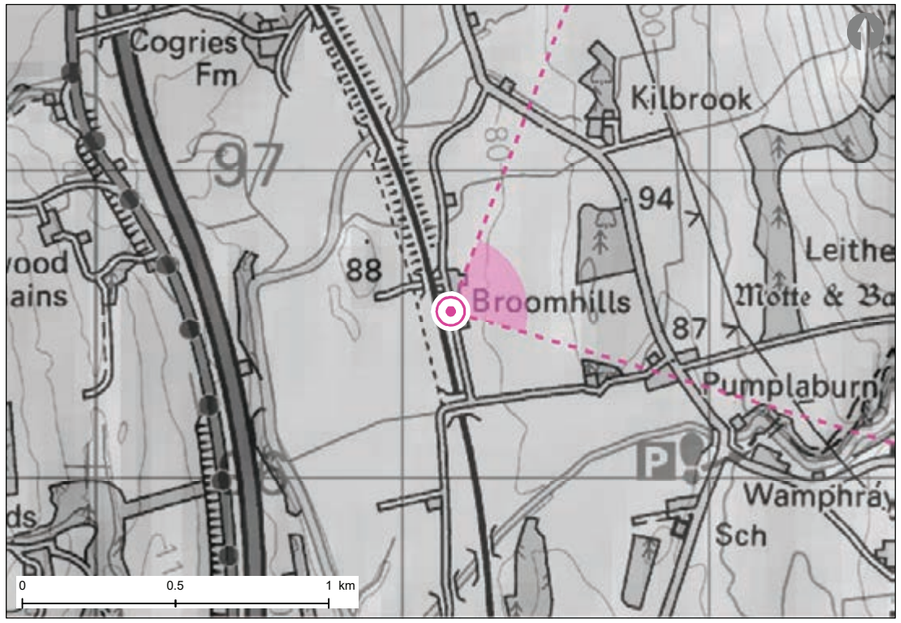
The wirelines show that 34 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible from this property, with the nearest turbine 1.79km away. The proposed development will extend approximately 84-degrees around the property, to the east, north-east, and east-south-east. The main southerly orientation of views from the house and front garden will not be affected by the proposed development, and neither will views from the northern or western elevation. There is likely to be some visibility of turbines to the east and south-east from the front garden, and possibly also from the rear garden, but views from within the house are unlikely to be affected to any notable degree.

The outlook to the east, north-east and south-east from the front and side gardens is likely to have some visibility of the proposed development, with filtering, particularly to the north-east, by vegetation. Open and clear views towards the proposed development will be gained from the western approach to the property.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects

The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold

Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction. This property is not considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold due to the medium/ medium-high magnitude of change on views from the property.



Data Source: Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community
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OS Grid Reference:	X 311159
	Y 596543
No. of blade tips theoretically visible:	48
No. of hubs theoretically visible:	31
Horizontal field of view:	85.61°
Distance to nearest visible turbine:	1.92km

Property description:

☐ Farmhouse	☐ Semi Detached	☐ Stone Built	☒ Rendered	☒ 1 Storey	☐ 2 Storey	☒ Outbuildings	☒ Front Garden	☒ Rear Garden
☒ Detached	☐ Terraced	☐ Brick Built	☐ Timber-clad	☐ 1.5 Storey	☐ Conservatory	☐ Farmyard	☐ Garage(s)	☒ Side Gardens

This property is financially involved with the proposed development.

Property inspected externally from the public road. No inspection made of internal views or garden ground.

Existing Visual Amenity
Location
This property is located to the east of a minor road to the west of the proposed development. The property is in a relatively low-lying and level position on the eastern edge of the middle dale - Annandale landscape. The railway line runs along the western side of the minor road. There is little vegetation around the property.

Views from property
This property is roughly sqaure and appears to have windows in each elevation. The west-south-west elevation, which has several windows and the front door, faces onto the minor road and then the railway embankment, which is likely to screen any longer views in this direction. Any views that may be available over the embankment would overlook Annandale. The east-north-east elevation, which is likely to have windows, has a long, open and attractive east-facing outlook across the upland fringe, the foothills and, in the distance, Southern Uplands. The south-south-eastern elevation, which has one window, will also gain long and open views, down the eastern edge of Annandale with the railway in the foreground. The north-north-western elevation is unlikely to gain long views due to screening and filtering by trees and the nearby Property 46, although angled views to the north-east may be gained.

Views from access
This property can be accessed from the north or south. Both of these approaches have an outlook across the upland fringe landscape towards the foothills to the east, and a view over Annandale to the west.

Views from garden grounds
There are gardens to the front, rear and sides of the house. Views from the gardens are likely to be similar to those gained from the house, with open views also available to the north-east and south-east.

Step 3 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
- **Magnitude of change: Medium-high**
- **Significance of effect: Significant visual effect**

The wirelines show that 48 turbines in the proposed development are theoretically visible from this property, with the nearest turbine 1.92km away. The proposed development will extend approximately 86-degrees around the property, to the east, north-east, and east-south-east. The west-facing view from the house will not be affected due to the location of the proposed development. The long and open views to the east from the east-north-east elevation will be affected, primarily by the turbines that lie due east, such as those on Milne Fell and Howgill Fell, but there may also be angled visibility of the closest turbines on the skyline of Dundoran. The long views to the south from the south-south-eastern elevation of the house are unlikely to be directly affected by the proposed development, although there may be some very peripheral visibility of turbines in the south-western corner of the proposed development, around 3.7km away. Similarly, views from the north-north-western elevation are unlikely to be directly affected but there may be angled visibility to the north-east of the westernmost turbines.

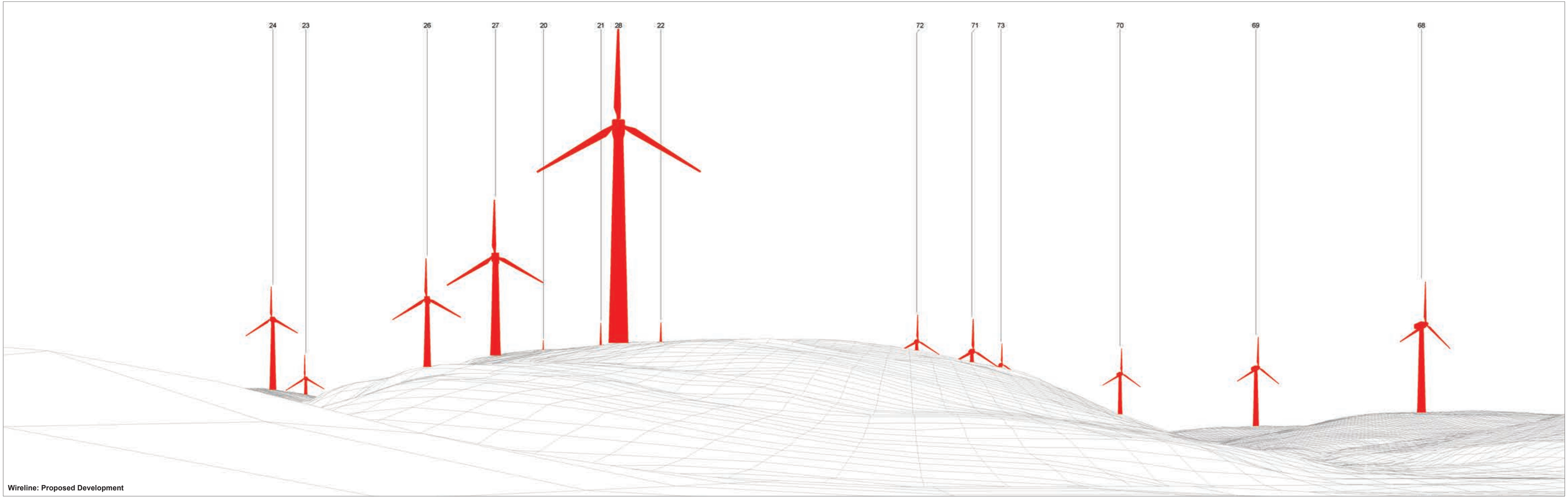
High visibility is likely to be gained from the rear and side gardens due to the lack of screening in these directions. The closest turbines will be those seen on the skyline of Dundoran, and the proposed development wil extend across much of the open rear aspect from the garden. Views from the front garden will not be affected. The proposed development will be clearly visible on the approach to the house from either the north or the south.

Step 4 Assessment of Residential (Visual) Amenity Effects
The property has not reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold
Step 4 involves making a judgement as to whether the predicted effects on visual amenity and views at the property are such that it has reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, as described in the introduction.

This property is not considered to have reached the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, for the following reasons:
- The turbines lie within a horizontal field of view that covers less than 90-degrees, thus avoiding a perception of encirclement
- The proposed development will be seen in the large-scale, upland part of the outlook with no encroachment down into the middle dale - within

Technical Appendix 6.2 - Annex 2

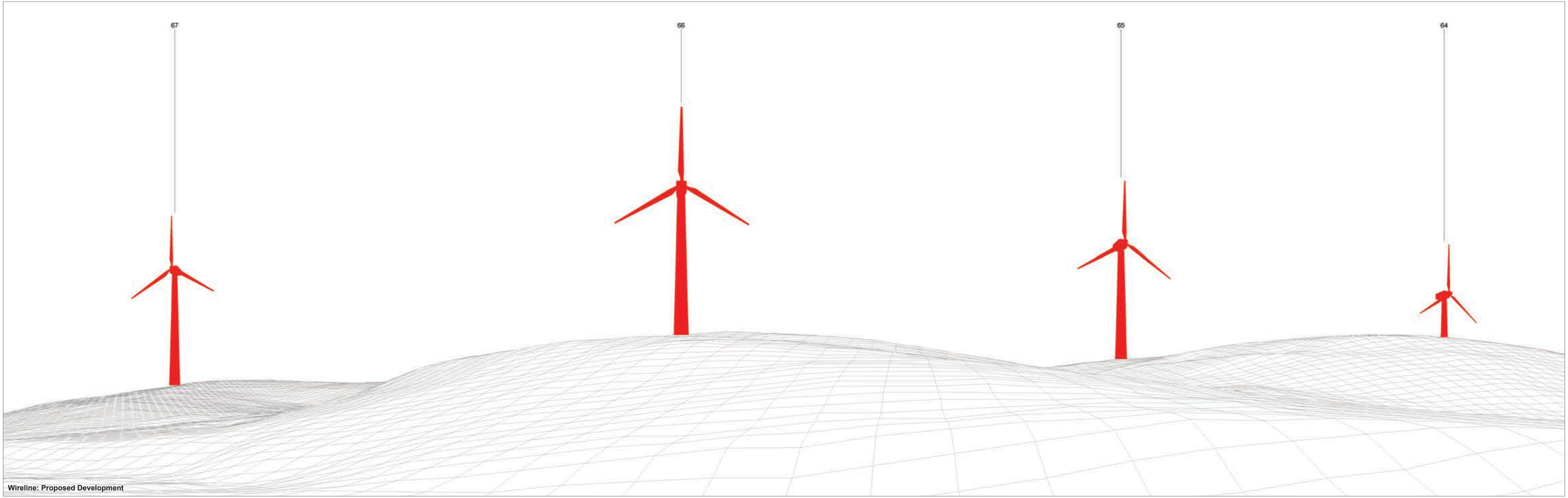
RVAA Wirelines for all properties



OS reference: 317108 E 598236 N
Eye level: 275.9 mAOD
Direction of view: 353°
Nearest turbine: 515 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

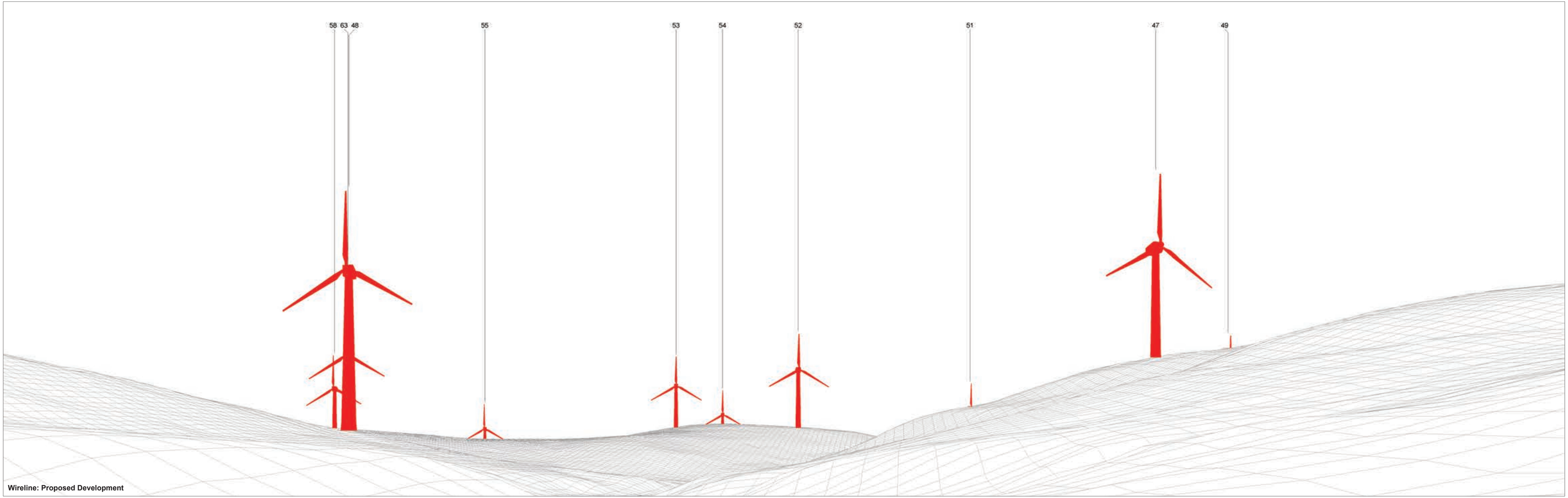
Figure A6.1a
Residential Viewpoint 1: CHILDRENS WILDERNESS SANCTUARY
Scoop Hill



OS reference: 317108 E 598236 N
Eye level: 275.9 mAOD
Direction of view: 83°
Nearest turbine: 515 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

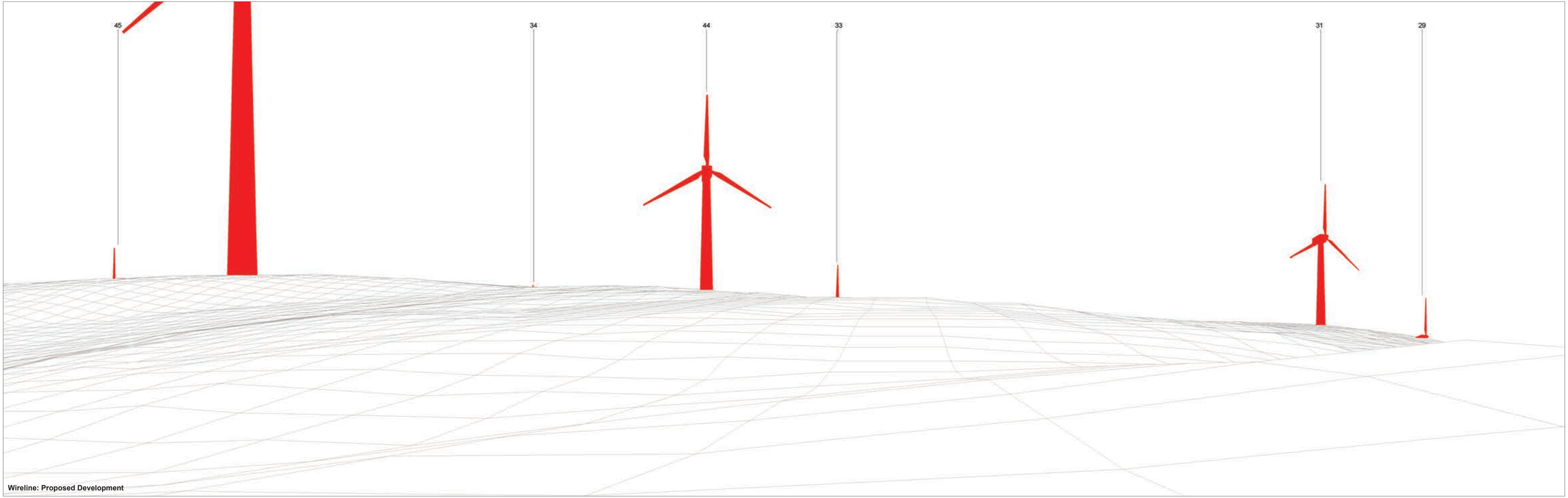
Figure A6.1b
Residential Viewpoint 1: CHILDRENS WILDERNESS SANCTUARY
Scoop Hill



OS reference: 317108 E 598236 N
Eye level: 275.9 mAOD
Direction of view: 173°
Nearest turbine: 515 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

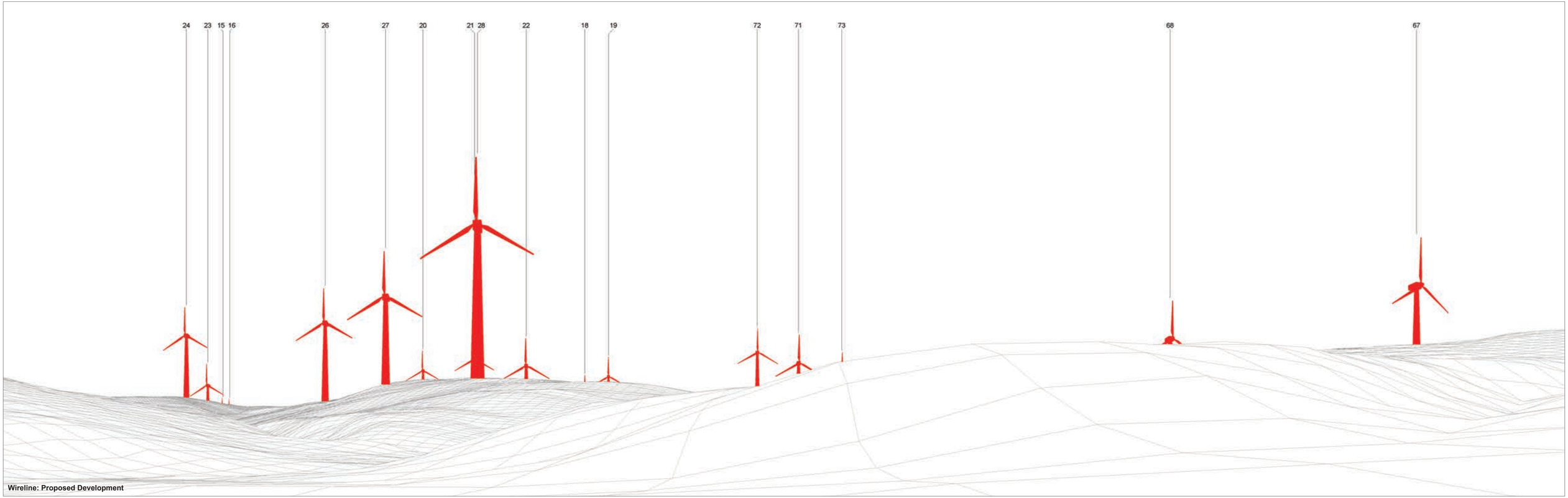
Figure A6.1c
Residential Viewpoint 1: CHILDRENS WILDERNESS SANCTUARY
Scoop Hill



OS reference: 317108 E 598236 N
Eye level: 275.9 mAOD
Direction of view: 263°
Nearest turbine: 515 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

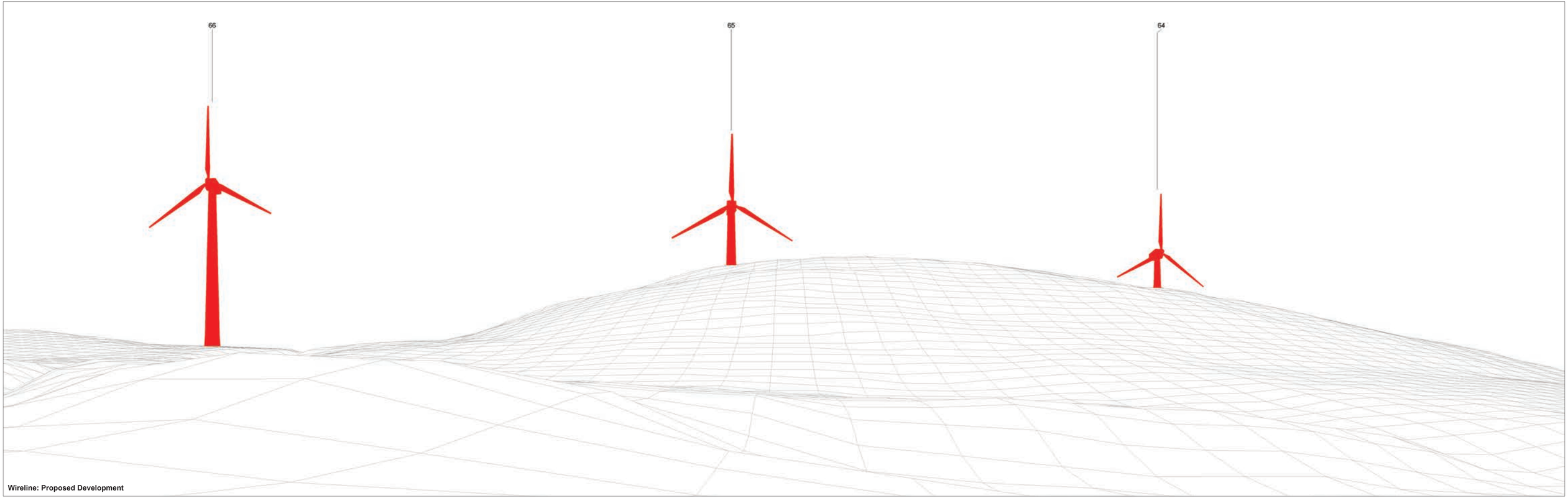
Figure A6.1d
Residential Viewpoint 1: CHILDRENS WILDERNESS SANCTUARY
Scoop Hill



OS reference: 317226 E 597917 N
Eye level: 268.71 mAOD
Direction of view: 0°
Nearest turbine: 523 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

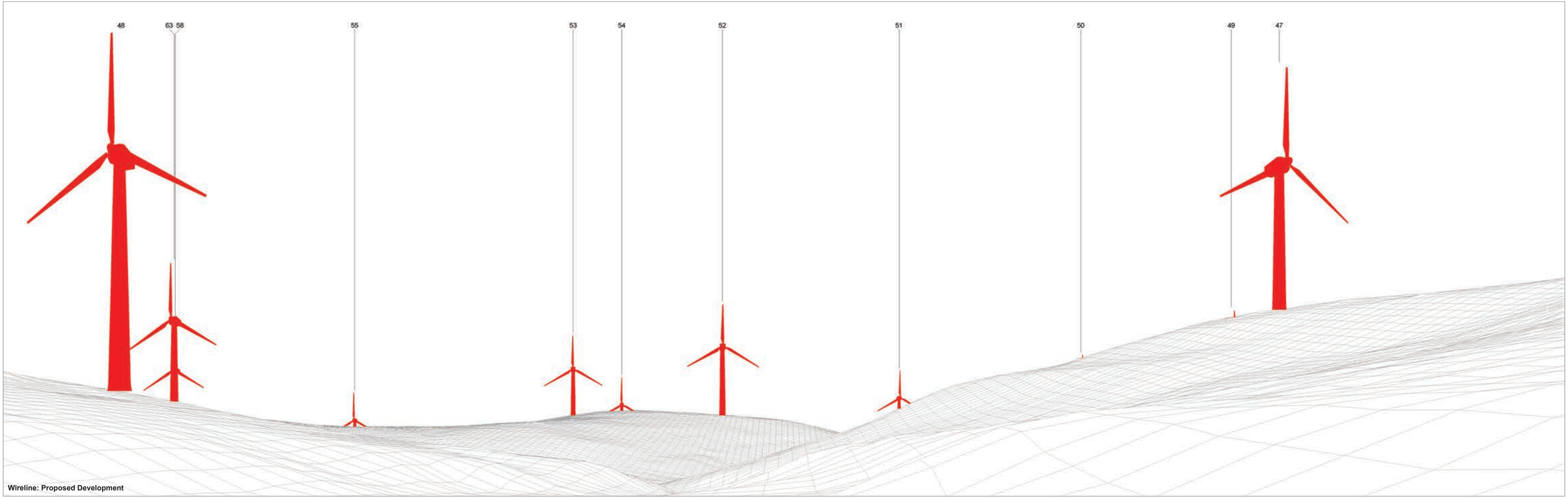
Figure A6.2a
Residential Viewpoint 2: WOOD COTTAGE, FINNIEGILL
Scoop Hill



OS reference: 317226 E 597917 N
Eye level: 268.71 mAOD
Direction of view: 90°
Nearest turbine: 523 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

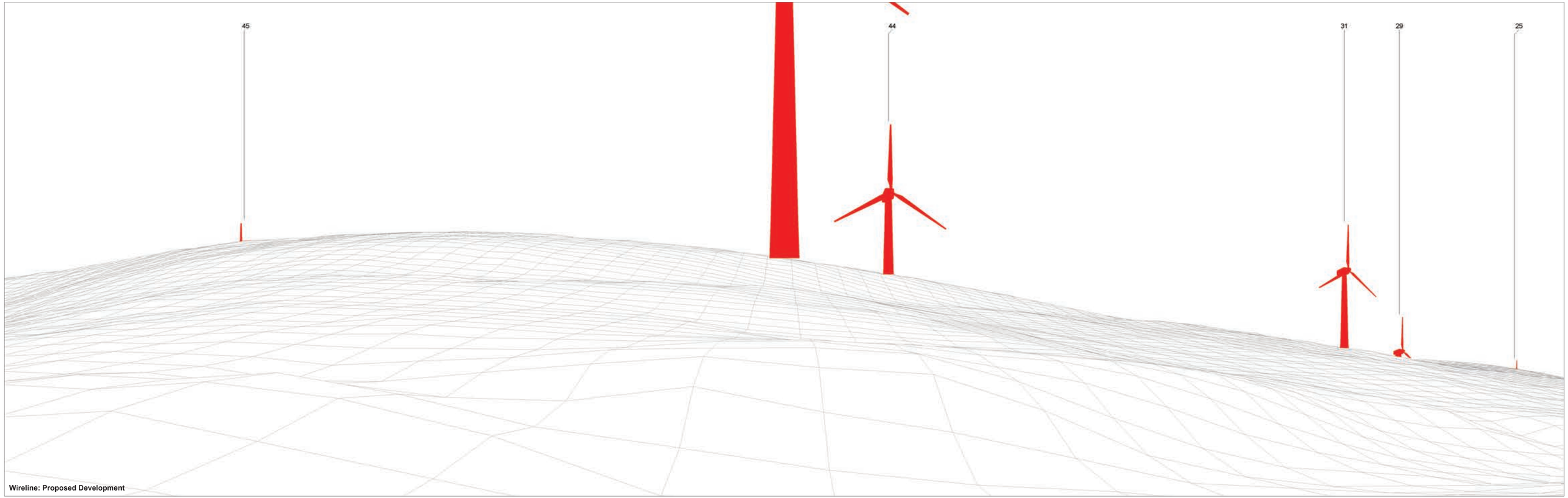
Figure A6.2b
Residential Viewpoint 2: WOOD COTTAGE, FINNIEGILL
Scoop Hill



OS reference: 317226 E 597917 N
Eye level: 268.71 mAOD
Direction of view: 180°
Nearest turbine: 523 m

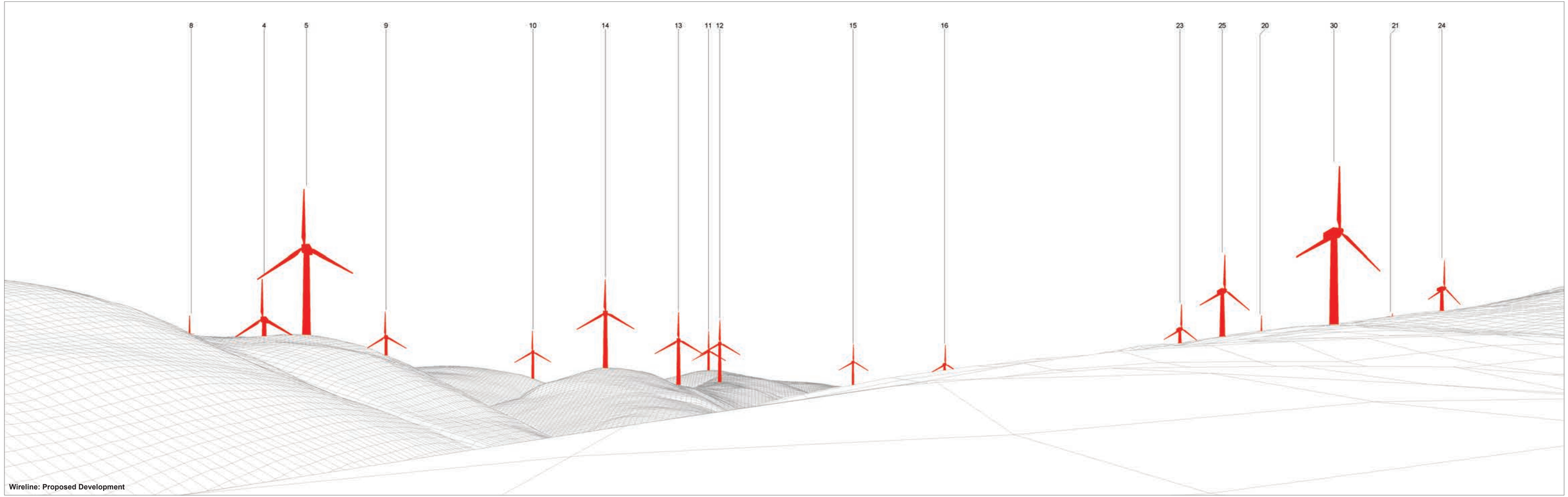
Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Figure A6.2c
Residential Viewpoint 2: WOOD COTTAGE, FINNIEGILL
Scoop Hill



OS reference:	317226 E 597917 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	268.71 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	270°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	523 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

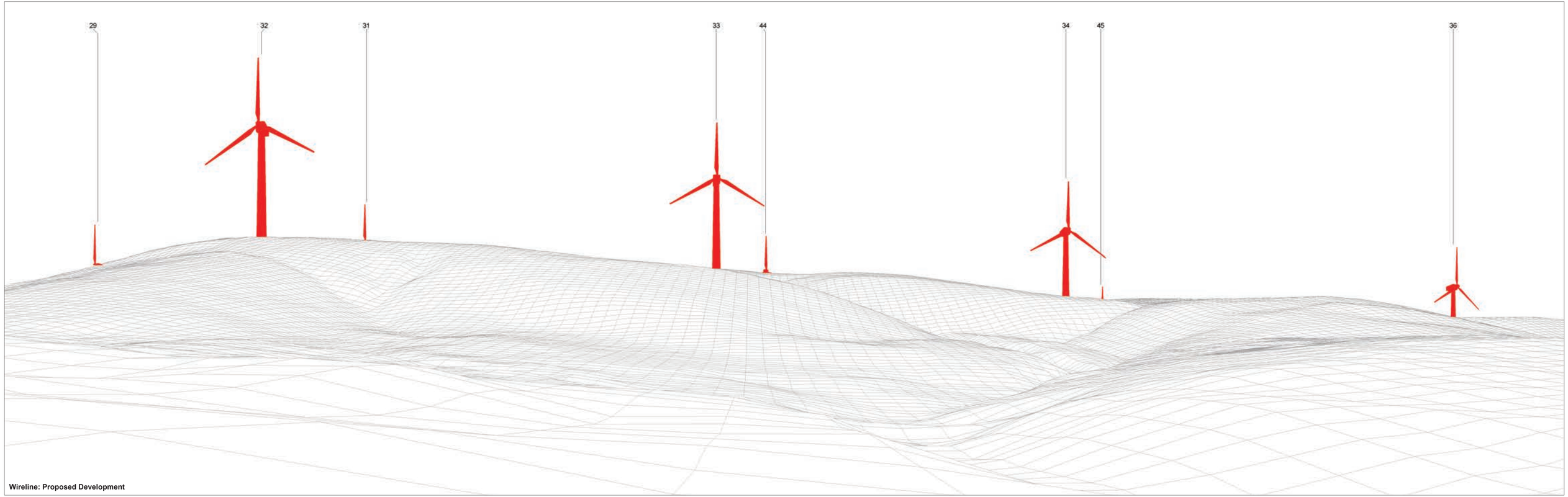
Figure A6.2d
Residential Viewpoint 2: WOOD COTTAGE, FINNIEGILL
Scoop Hill



OS reference: 313984 E 598068 N
Eye level: 189 mAOD
Direction of view: 0°
Nearest turbine: 645 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Figure A6.3a
Residential Viewpoint 3: LAVERHAY
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

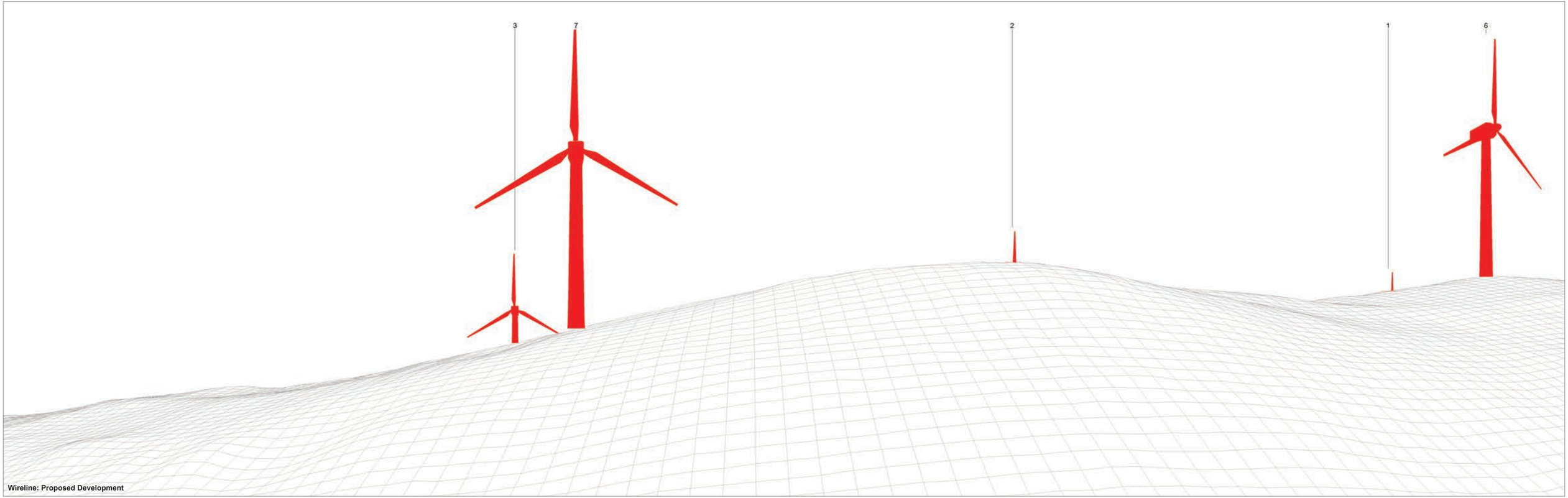
OS reference:	313984 E 598068 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	189 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	90°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	645 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

Figure A6.3b
Residential Viewpoint 3: LAVERHAY
Scoop Hill

OS reference: 313984 E 598068 N
Eye level: 189 mAOD
Direction of view: 180°
Nearest turbine: 645 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

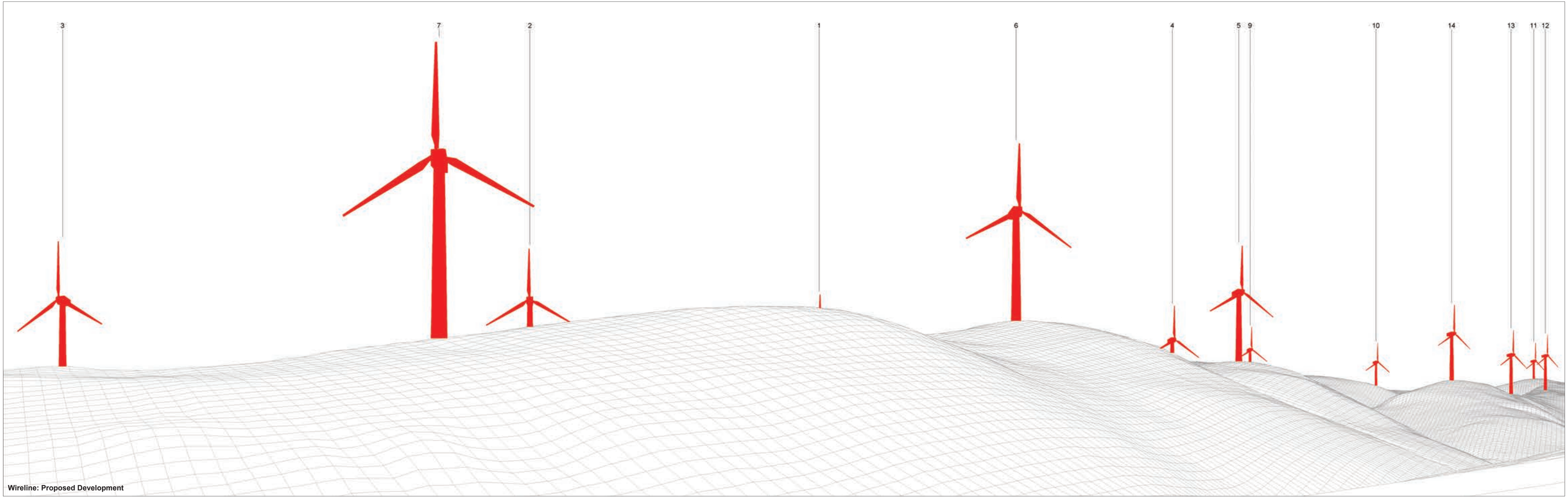
Figure A6.3c
Residential Viewpoint 3: LAVERHAY
Scoop Hill



OS reference: 313984 E 598068 N
Eye level: 189 mAOD
Direction of view: 270°
Nearest turbine: 645 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

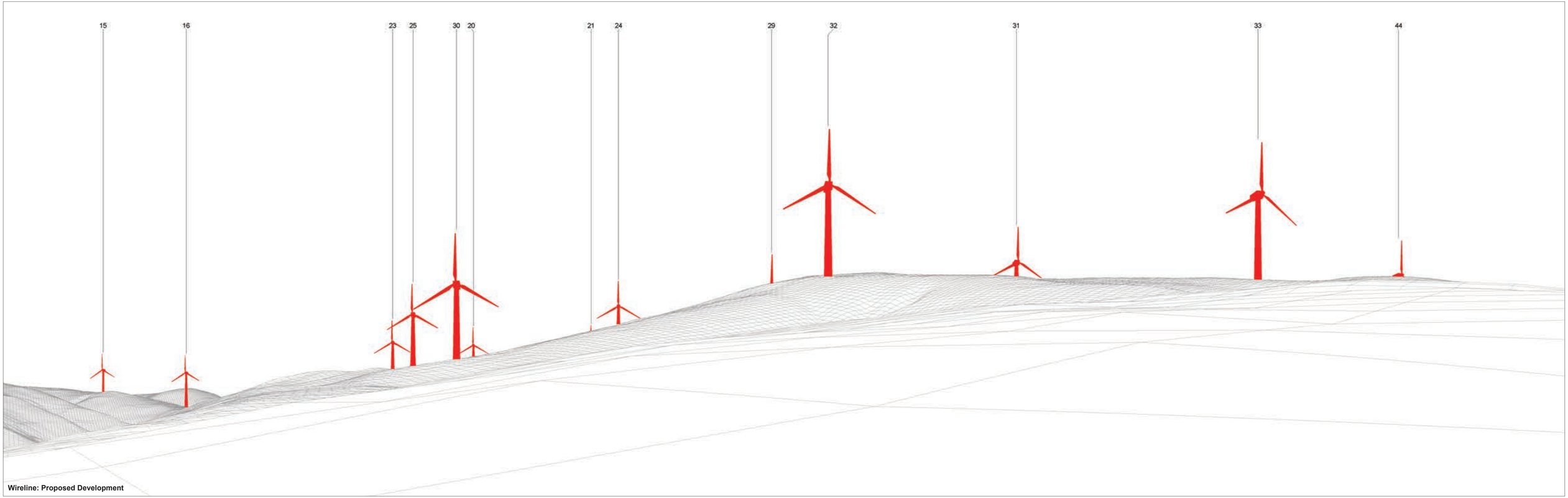
Figure A6.3d
Residential Viewpoint 3: LAVERHAY
Scoop Hill



OS reference: 313958 E 597670 N
Eye level: 185.2 mAOD
Direction of view: 315°
Nearest turbine: 673 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

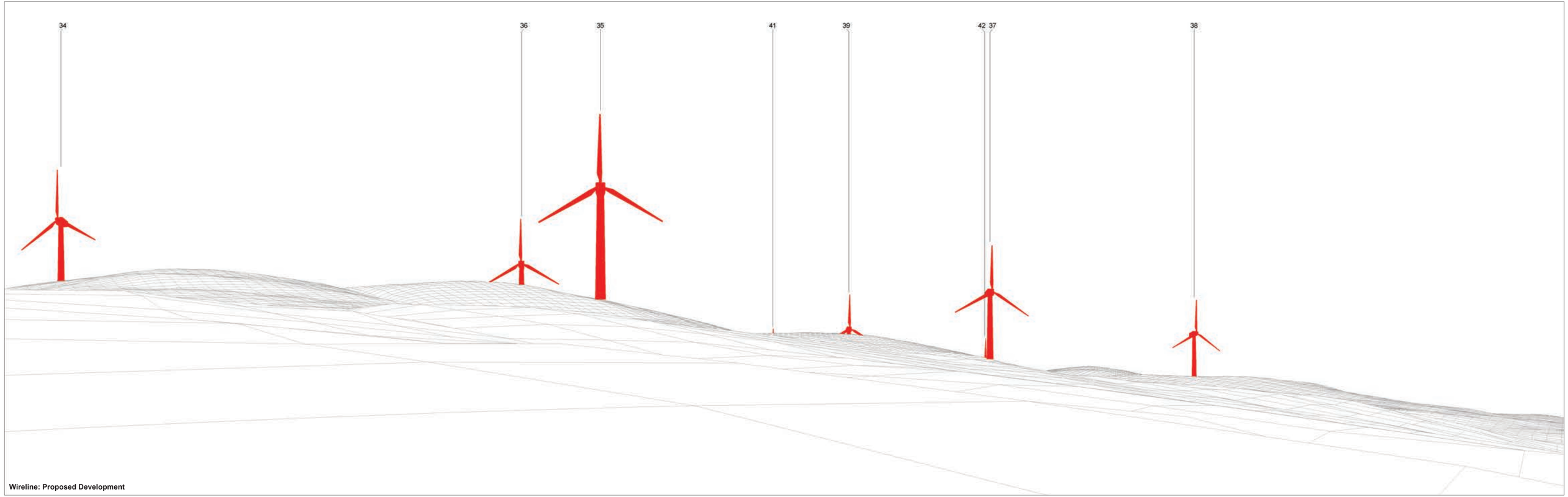
Figure A6.4a
Residential Viewpoint 4: CROWGILL
Scoop Hill



OS reference: 313958 E 597670 N
Eye level: 185.2 mAOD
Direction of view: 45°
Nearest turbine: 673 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

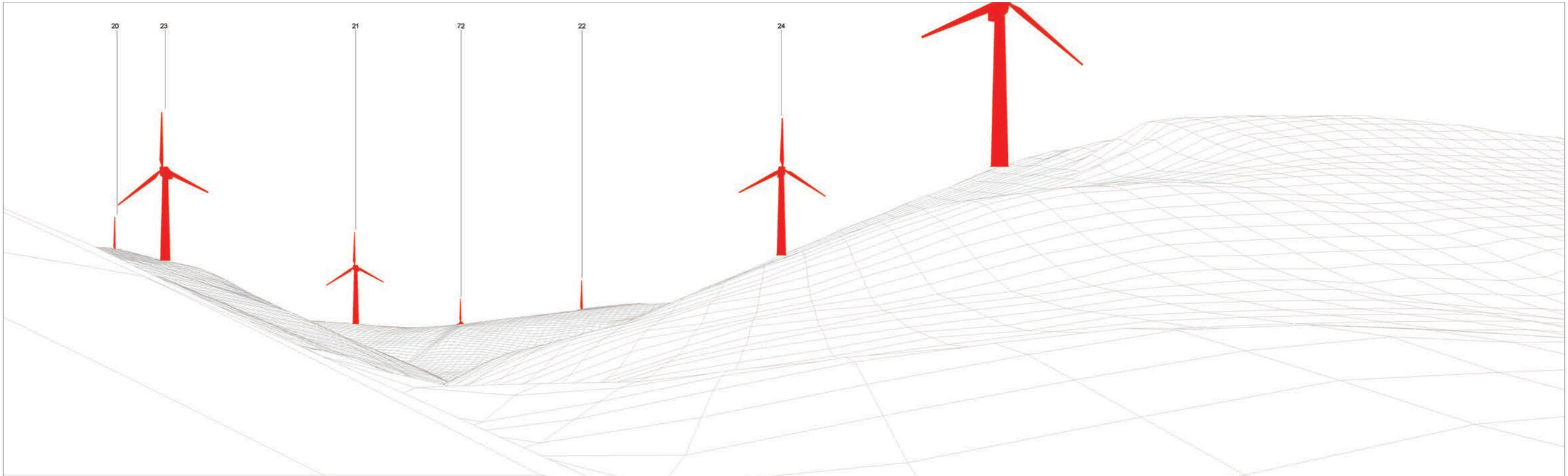
Figure A6.4b
Residential Viewpoint 4: CROWGILL
Scoop Hill



OS reference: 313958 E 597670 N
Eye level: 185.2 mAOD
Direction of view: 135°
Nearest turbine: 673 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

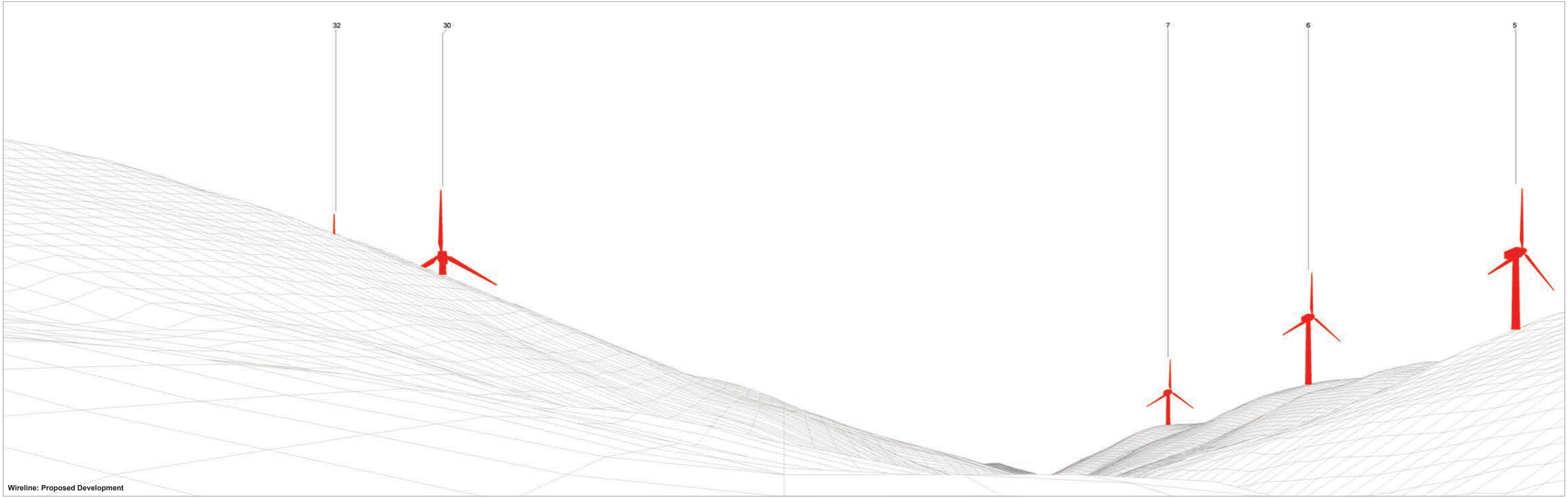
Figure A6.4c
Residential Viewpoint 4: CROWGILL
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

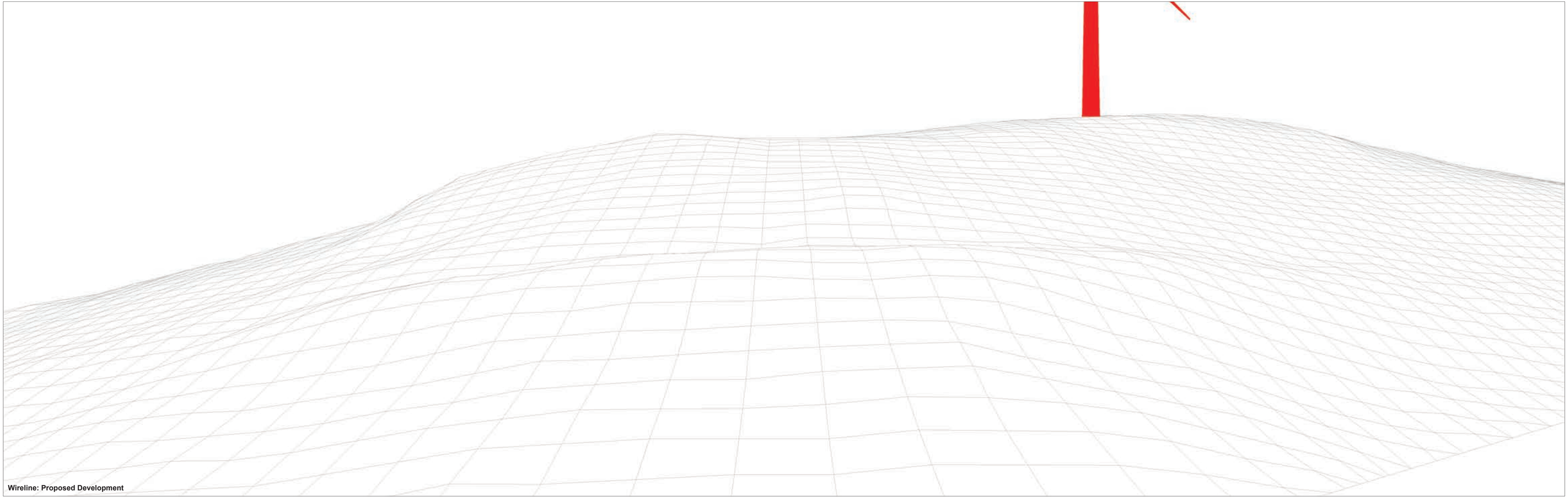
OS reference:	314230 E 600125 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	192 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	90°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	602 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

Figure A6.5a
Residential Viewpoint 5: OLD BRAEFIELD
Scoop Hill



OS reference:	314230 E 600125 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	192 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	180°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	602 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

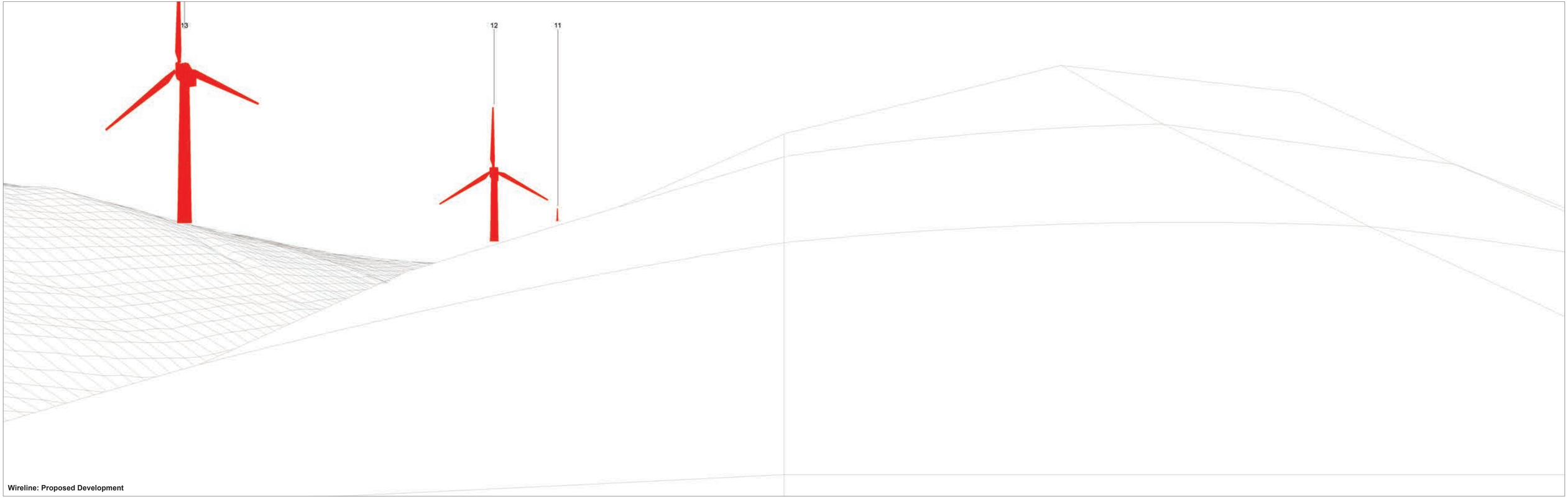
Figure A6.5b
Residential Viewpoint 5: OLD BRAEFIELD
Scoop Hill



OS reference: 314230 E 600125 N
Eye level: 192 mAOD
Direction of view: 270°
Nearest turbine: 602 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

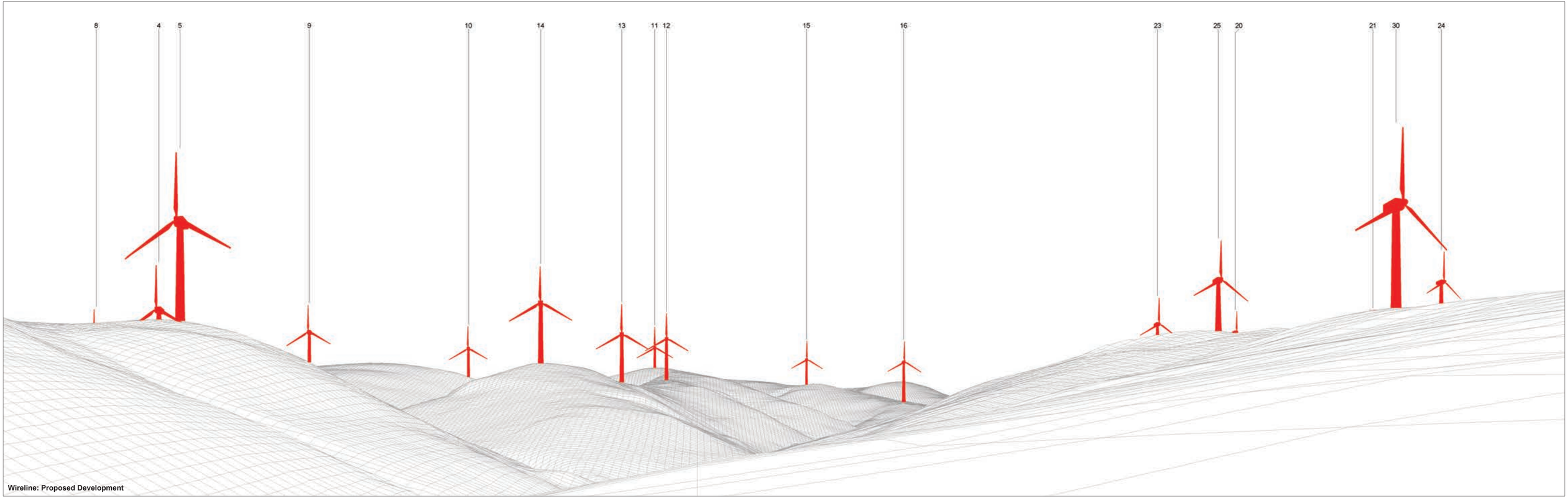
Figure A6.5c
Residential Viewpoint 5: OLD BRAEFIELD
Scoop Hill



OS reference: 314230 E 600125 N
Eye level: 192 mAOD
Direction of view: 0°
Nearest turbine: 602 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

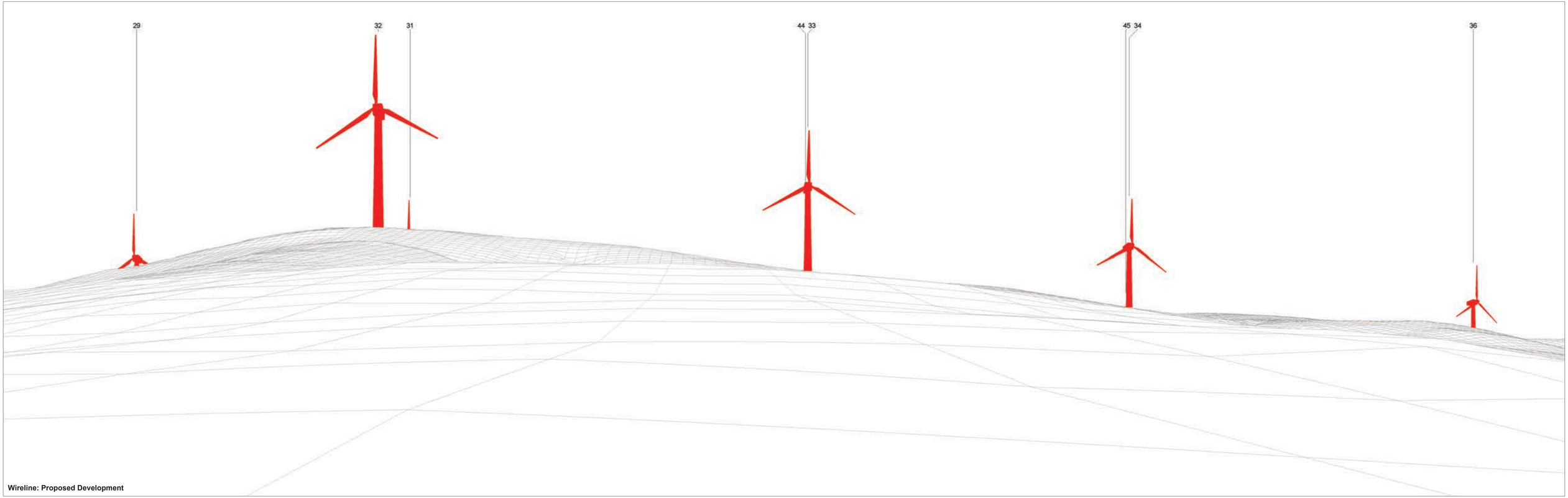
Figure A6.5d
Residential Viewpoint 5: OLD BRAEFIELD
Scoop Hill



OS reference: 313980 E 598267 N
Eye level: 195.5 mAOD
Direction of view: 5°
Nearest turbine: 704 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Figure A6.6a
Residential Viewpoint 6: LAVERHAY COTTAGE
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

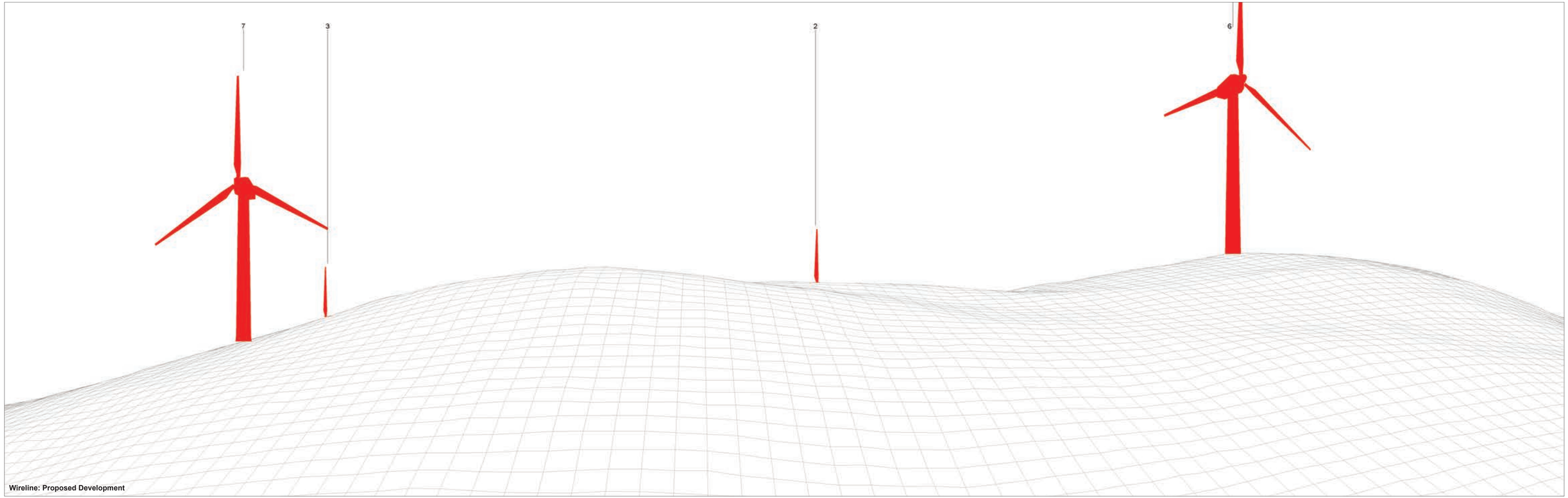
OS reference:	313980 E 598267 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	195.5 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	95°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	704 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

Figure A6.6b
Residential Viewpoint 6: LAVERHAY COTTAGE
Scoop Hill

OS reference: 313980 E 598267 N
Eye level: 195.5 mAOD
Direction of view: 185°
Nearest turbine: 704 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

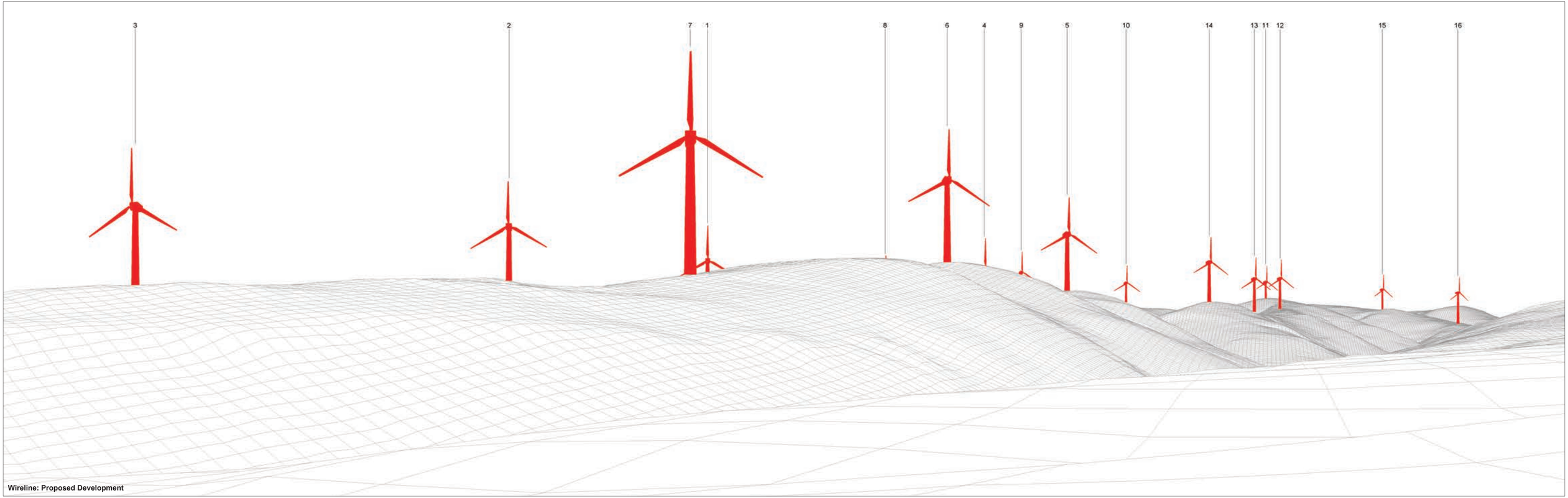
Figure A6.6c
Residential Viewpoint 6: LAVERHAY COTTAGE
Scoop Hill



OS reference: 313980 E 598267 N
Eye level: 195.5 mAOD
Direction of view: 275°
Nearest turbine: 704 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

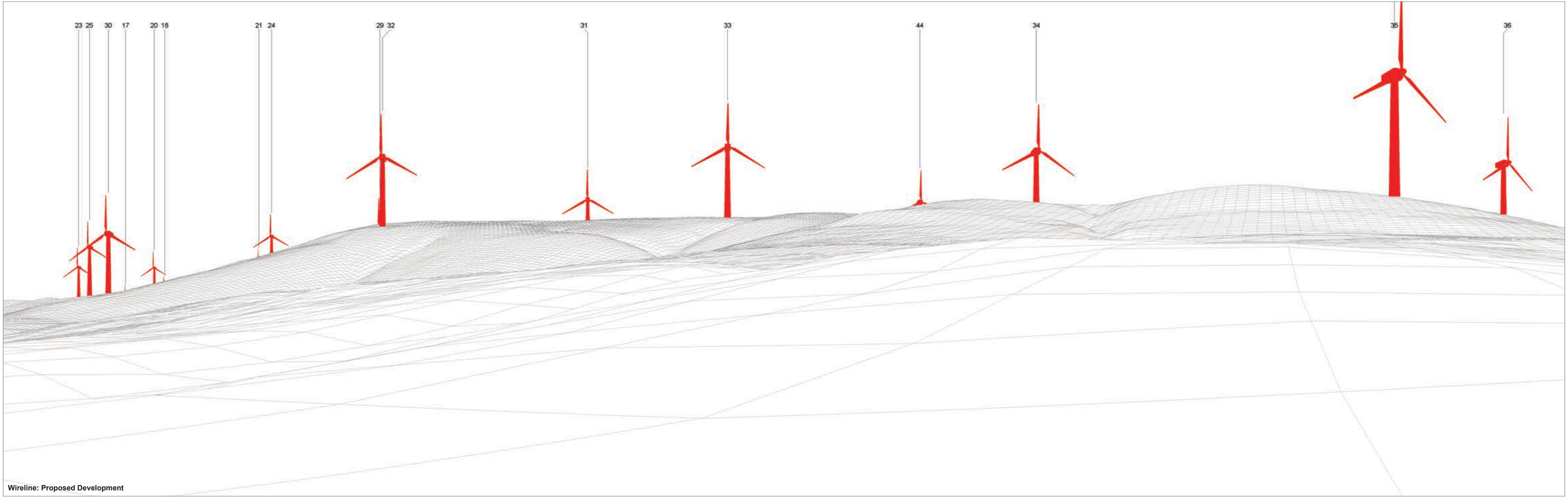
Figure A6.6d
Residential Viewpoint 6: LAVERHAY COTTAGE
Scoop Hill



OS reference: 313846 E 597201 N
Eye level: 175.3 mAOD
Direction of view: 332°
Nearest turbine: 904 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

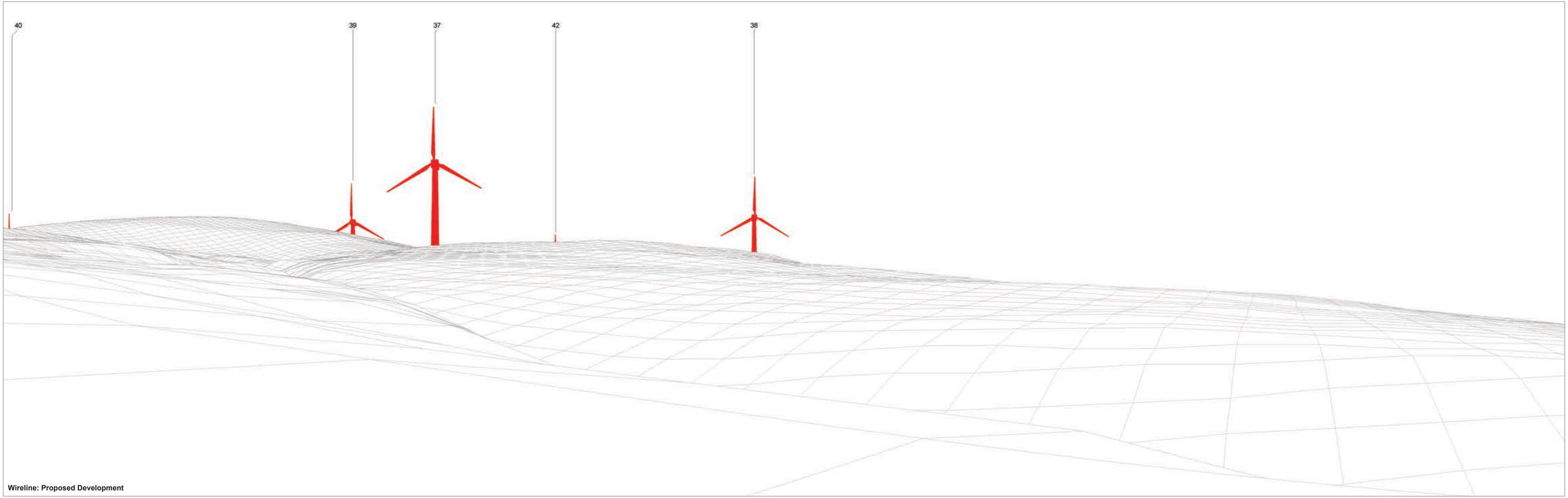
Figure A6.7a
Residential Viewpoint 7: MILNE
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	313846 E 597201 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	175.3 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	62°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	904 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

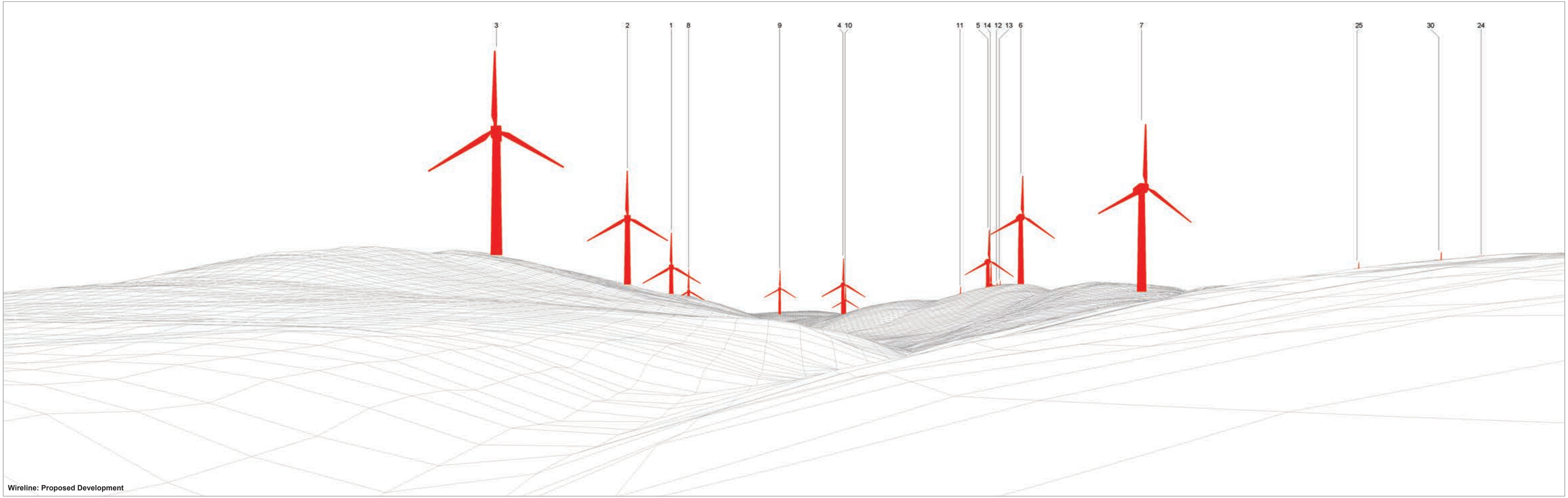
Figure A6.7b
Residential Viewpoint 7: MILNE
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	313846 E 597201 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	175.3 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	152°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	904 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

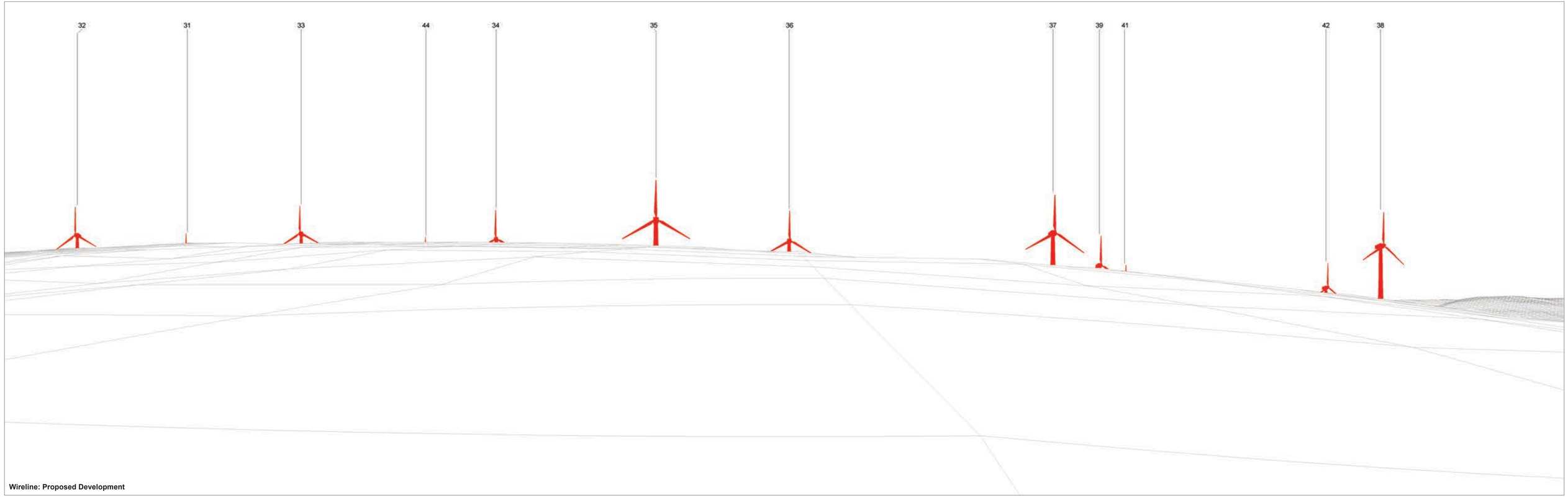
Figure A6.7c
Residential Viewpoint 7: MILNE
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	312925 E 596831 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	146.25 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	0°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	956 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

Figure A6.8a
Residential Viewpoint 8: LEITHENHALL COTTAGES
Scoop Hill

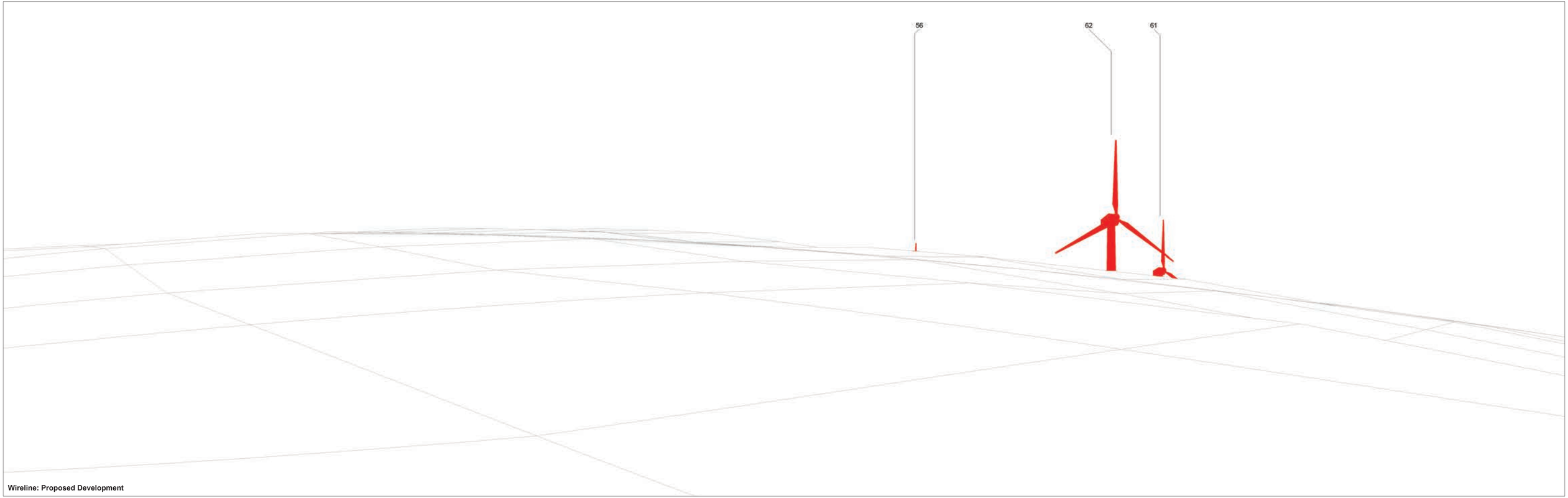


Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference: 312925 E 596831 N
Eye level: 146.25 mAOD
Direction of view: 90°
Nearest turbine: 956 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Figure A6.8b
Residential Viewpoint 8: LEITHENHALL COTTAGES
Scoop Hill

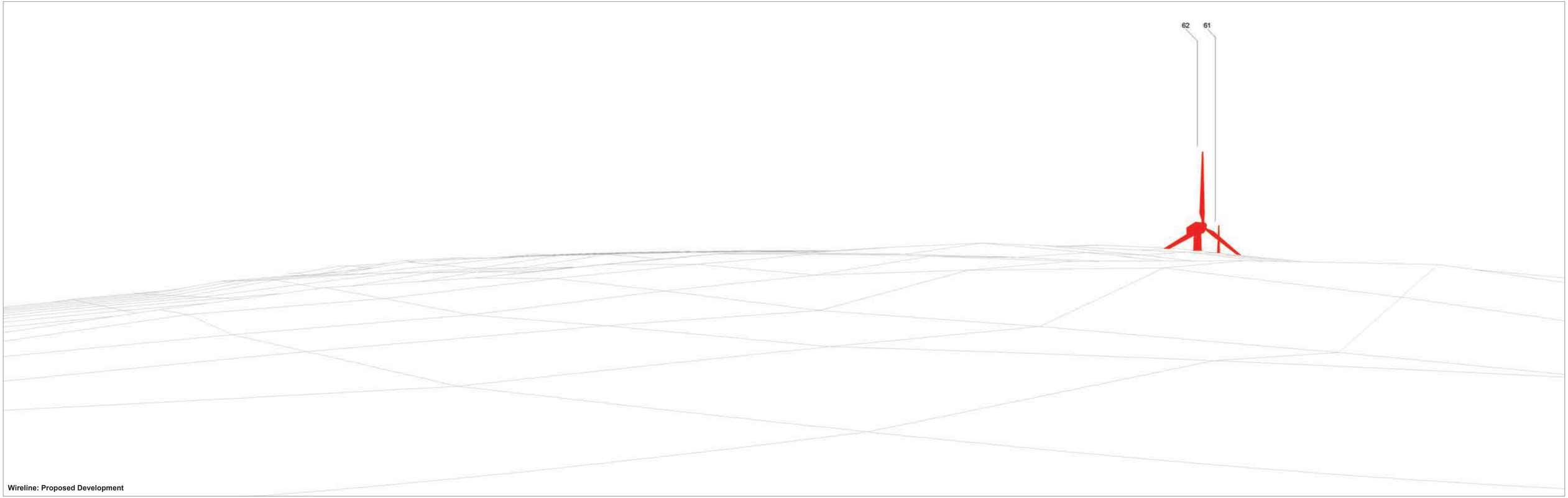


Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference: 320497 E 593826 N
Eye level: 221.39 mAOD
Direction of view: 314°
Nearest turbine: 964 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Figure A6.9a
Residential Viewpoint 9: 3 SANDYFORD COTTAGES
Scoop Hill

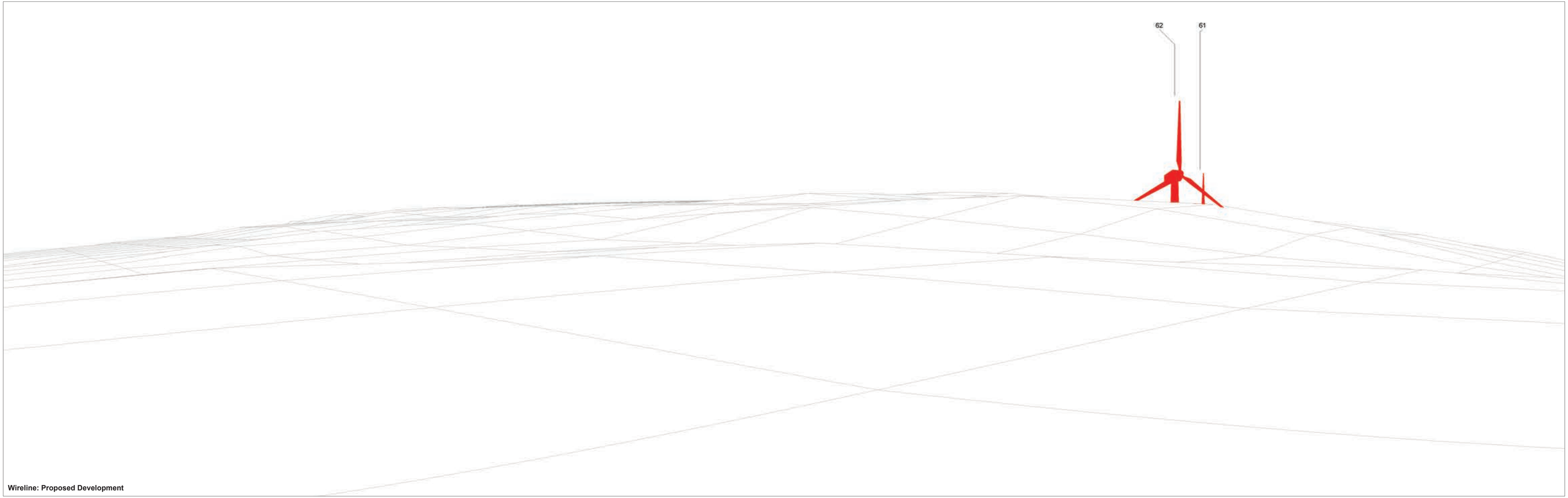


Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference: 320437 E 593752 N
Eye level: 222.47 mAOD
Direction of view: 314°
Nearest turbine: 1006 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Figure A6.10a
Residential Viewpoint 10: SANDYFORD COTTAGE
Scoop Hill

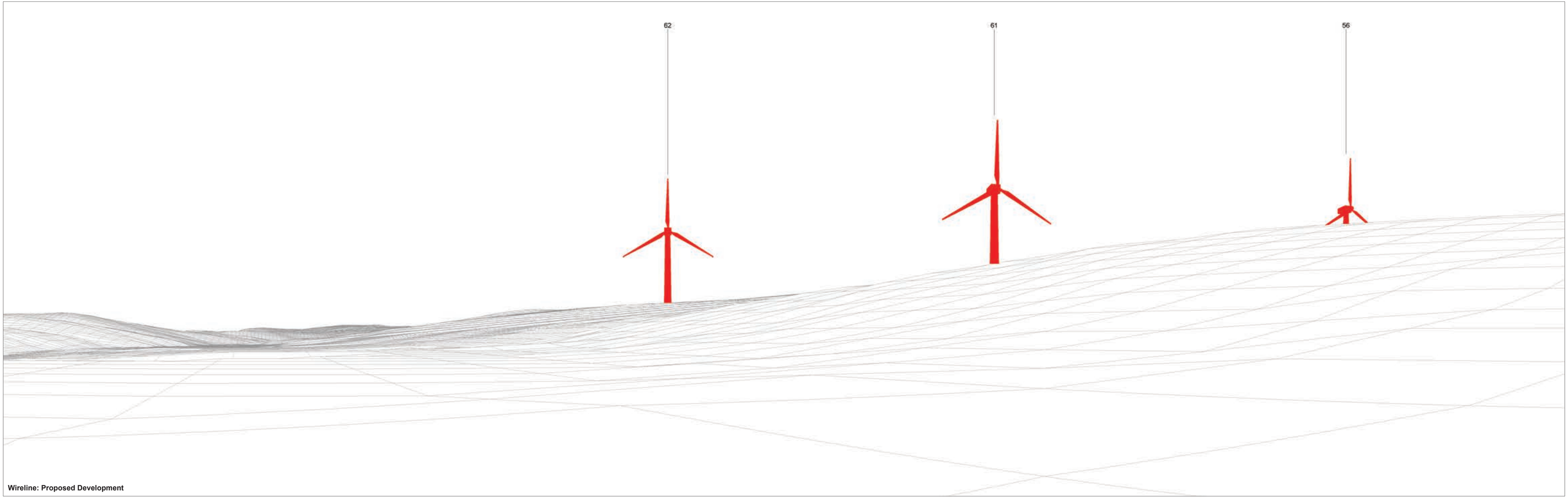


Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference: 320466 E 593743 N
Eye level: 219 mAOD
Direction of view: 314°
Nearest turbine: 1026 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

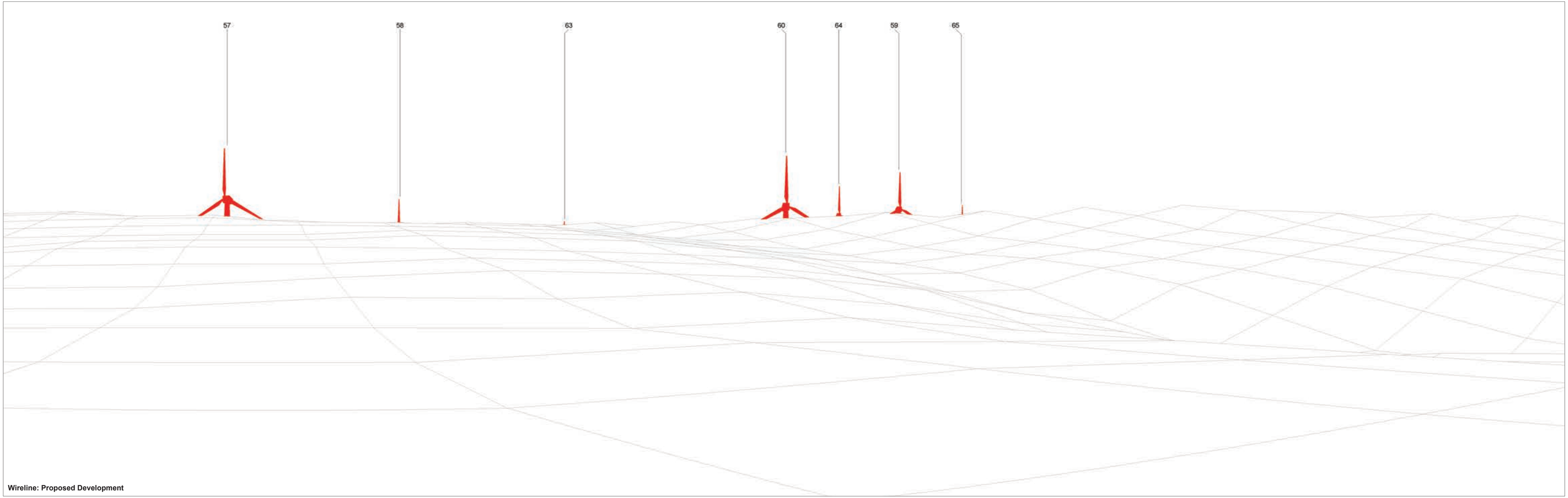
Figure A6.11a
Residential Viewpoint 11: 1 SANDYFORD COTTAGES
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	320626 E 596006 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	233.2 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	210°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1108 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

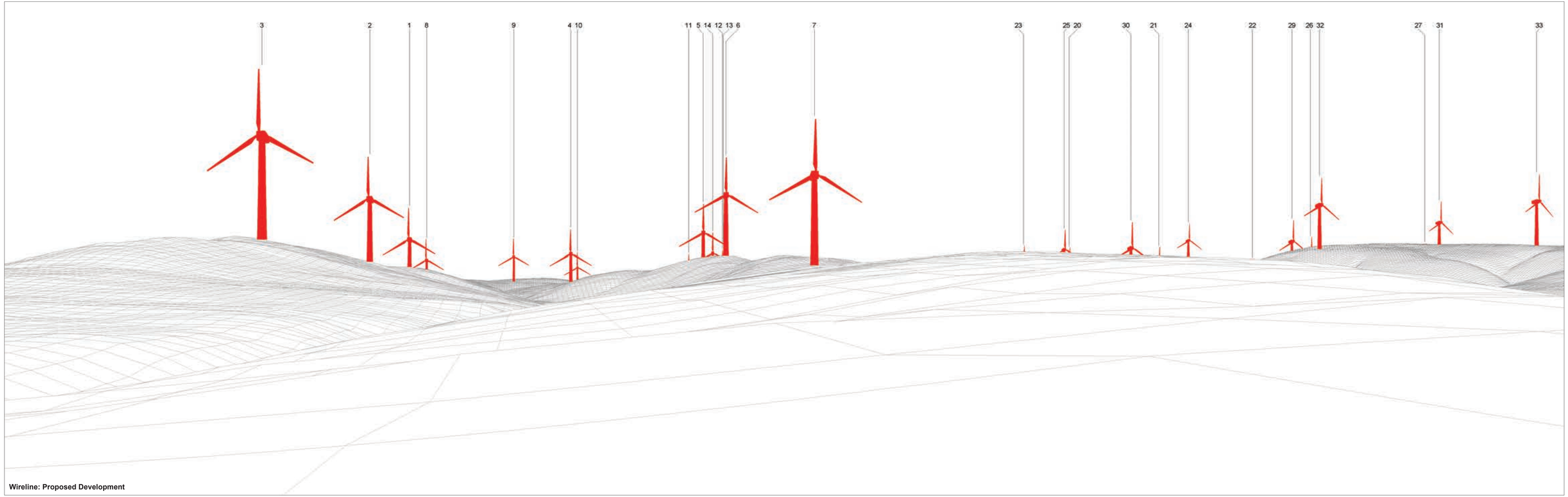
Figure A6.12a
Residential Viewpoint 12: KILBURN
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	320626 E 596006 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	233.2 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	300°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1108 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

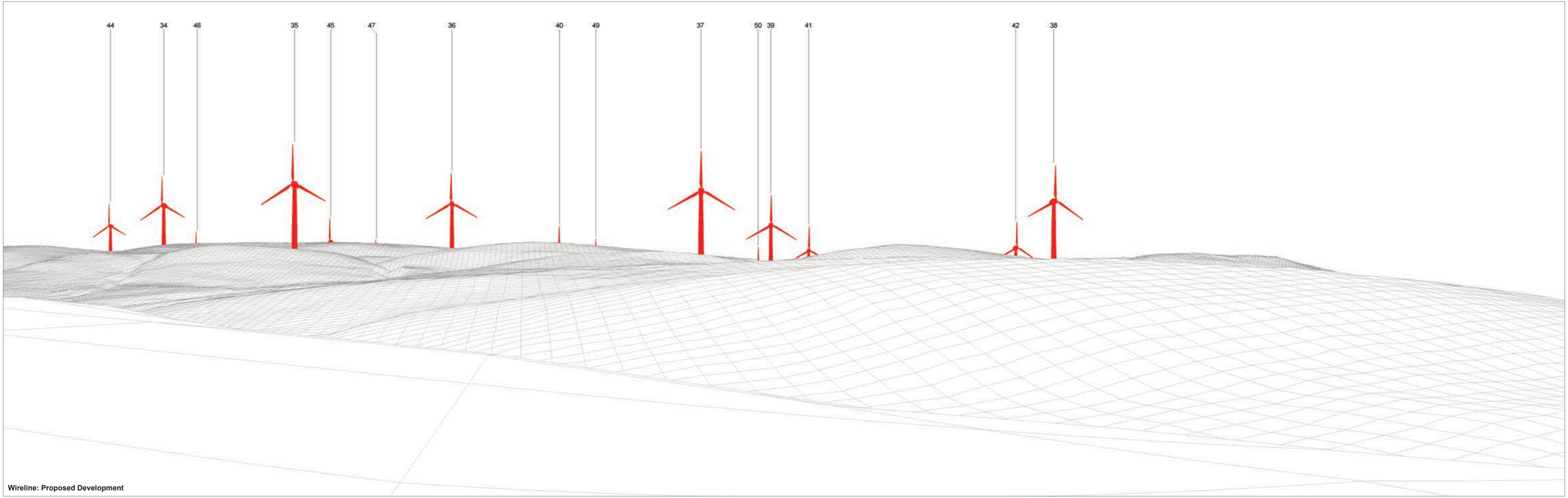
Figure A6.12b
Residential Viewpoint 12: KILBURN
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	312952 E 596639 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	141.55 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	15°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1148 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

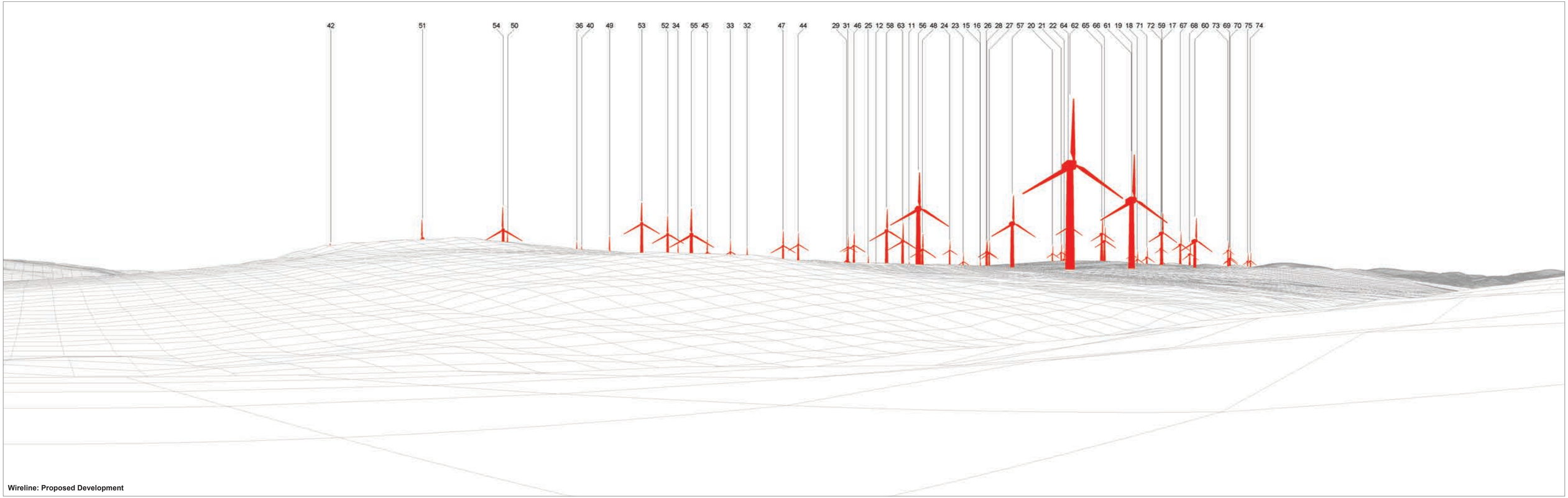
Figure A6.13a
Residential Viewpoint 13: LEITHENHALL FARM
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	312952 E 596639 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	141.55 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	105°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1148 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

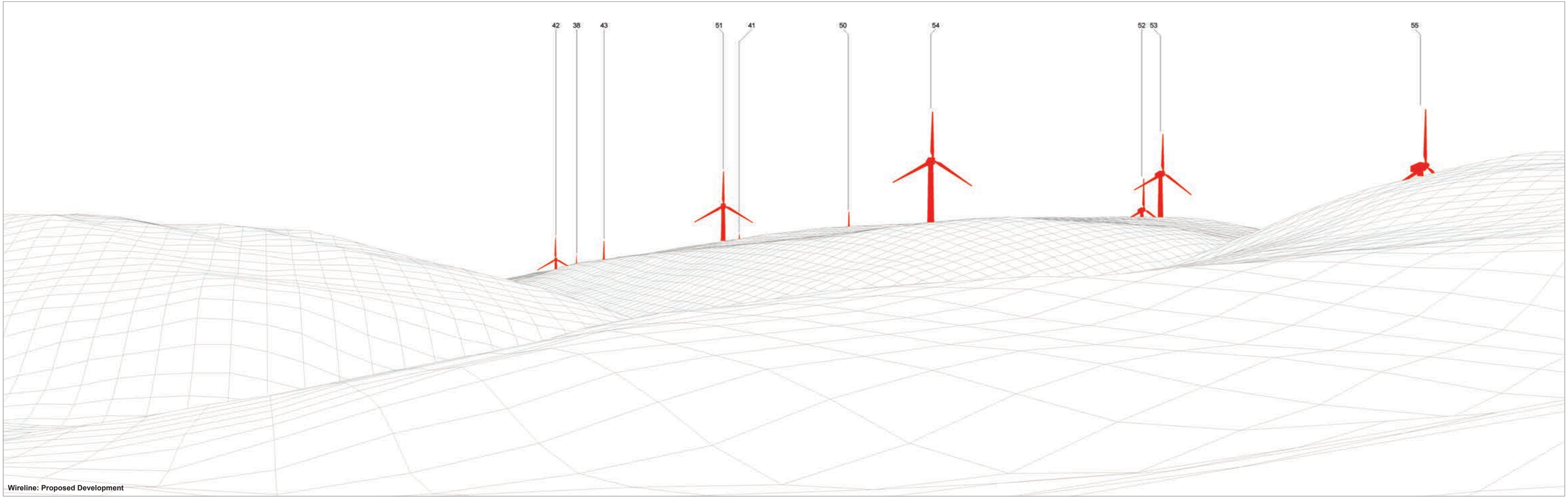
Figure A6.13b
Residential Viewpoint 13: LEITHENHALL FARM
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	320646 E 593685 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	225.3 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	313°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1159 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

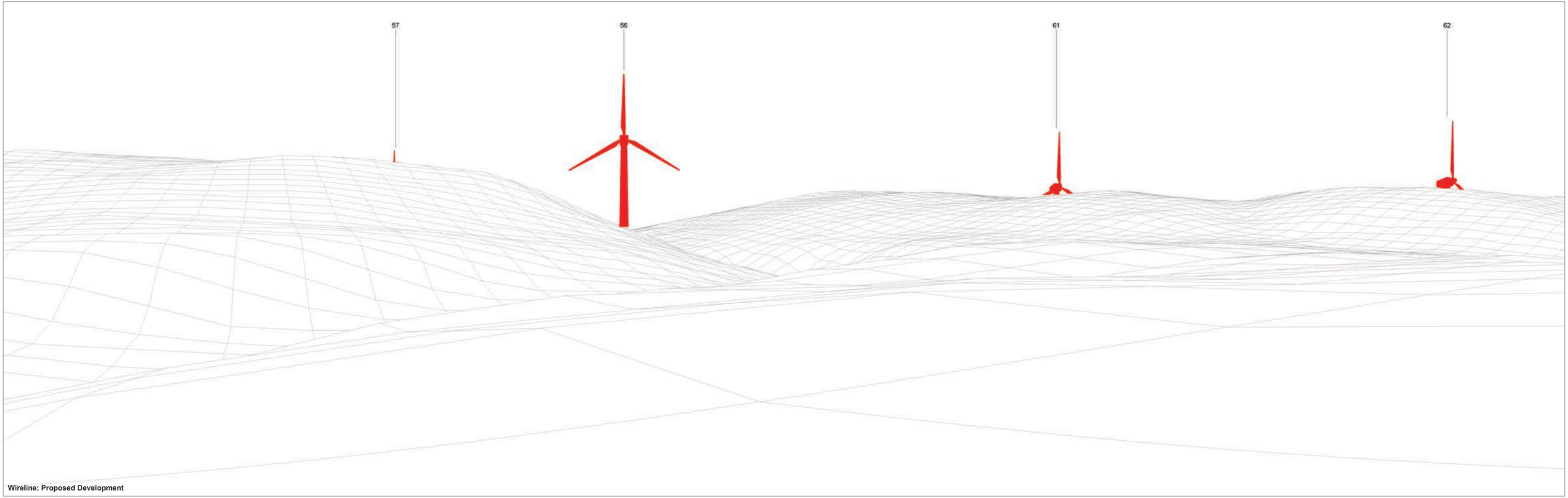
Figure A6.14a
Residential Viewpoint 14: 2 SANDYFORD COTTAGES
Scoop Hill



OS reference: 318894 E 594219 N
Eye level: 190.33 mAOD
Direction of view: 300°
Nearest turbine: 1175 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Figure A6.15a
Residential Viewpoint 15: WATERHEAD OF DRYFE COTTAGE
Scoop Hill

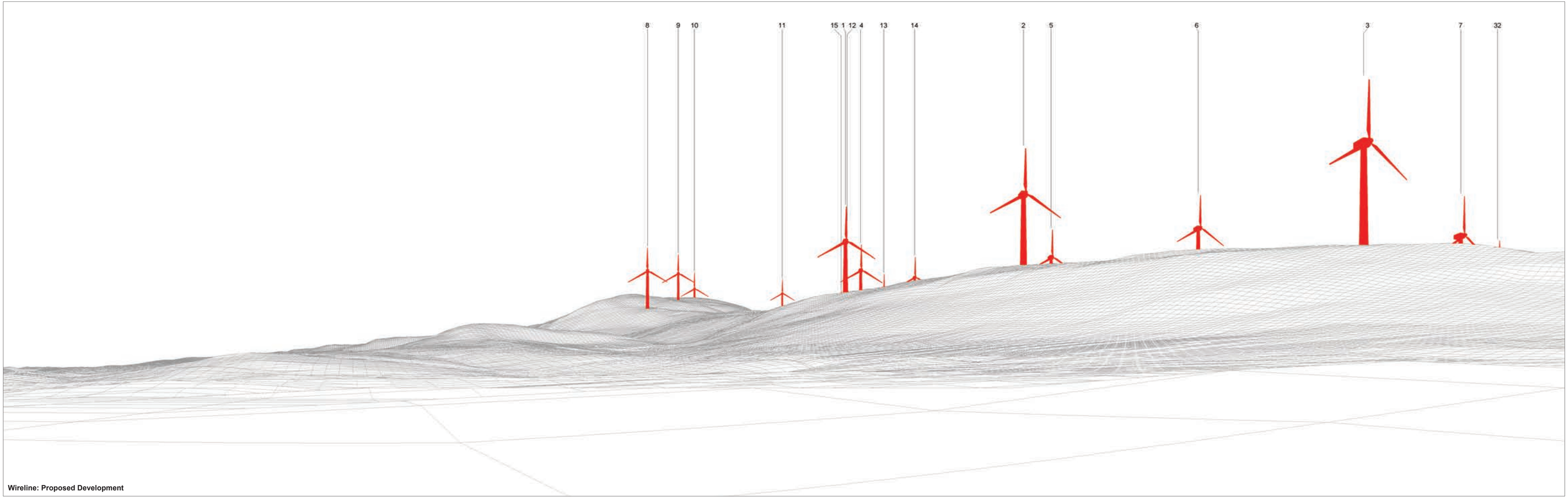


Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference: 318894 E 594219 N
Eye level: 190.33 mAOD
Direction of view: 30°
Nearest turbine: 1175 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Figure A6.15b
Residential Viewpoint 15: WATERHEAD OF DRYFE COTTAGE
Scoop Hill

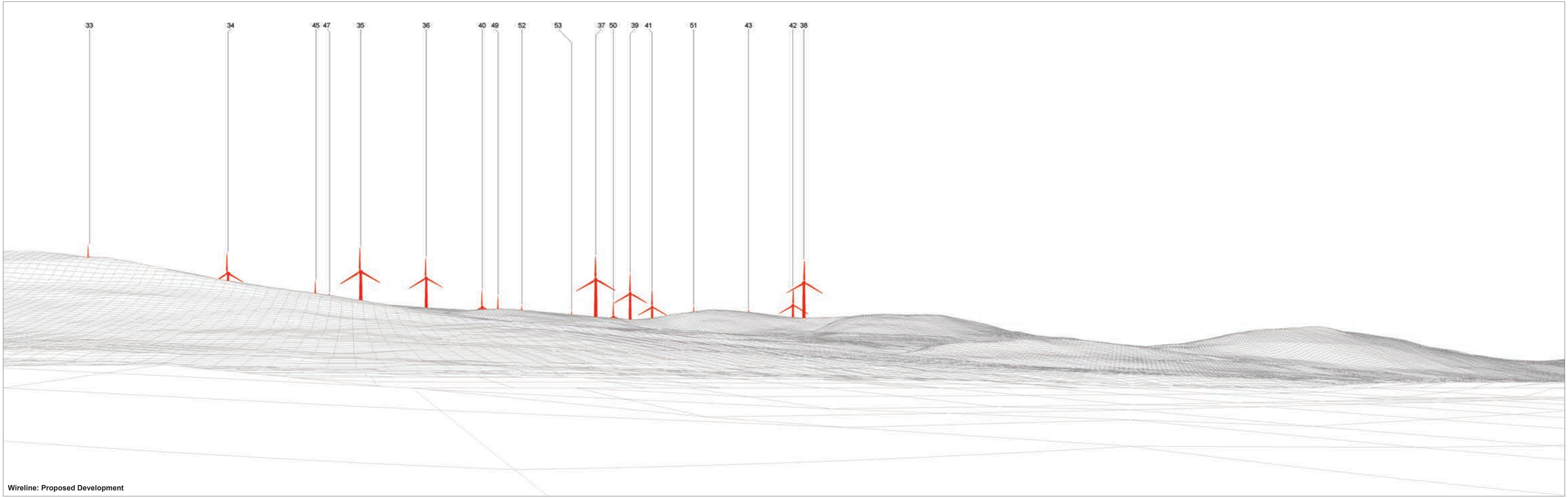


Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference: 311618 E 597112 N
Eye level: 93 mAOD
Direction of view: 25°
Nearest turbine: 1213 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

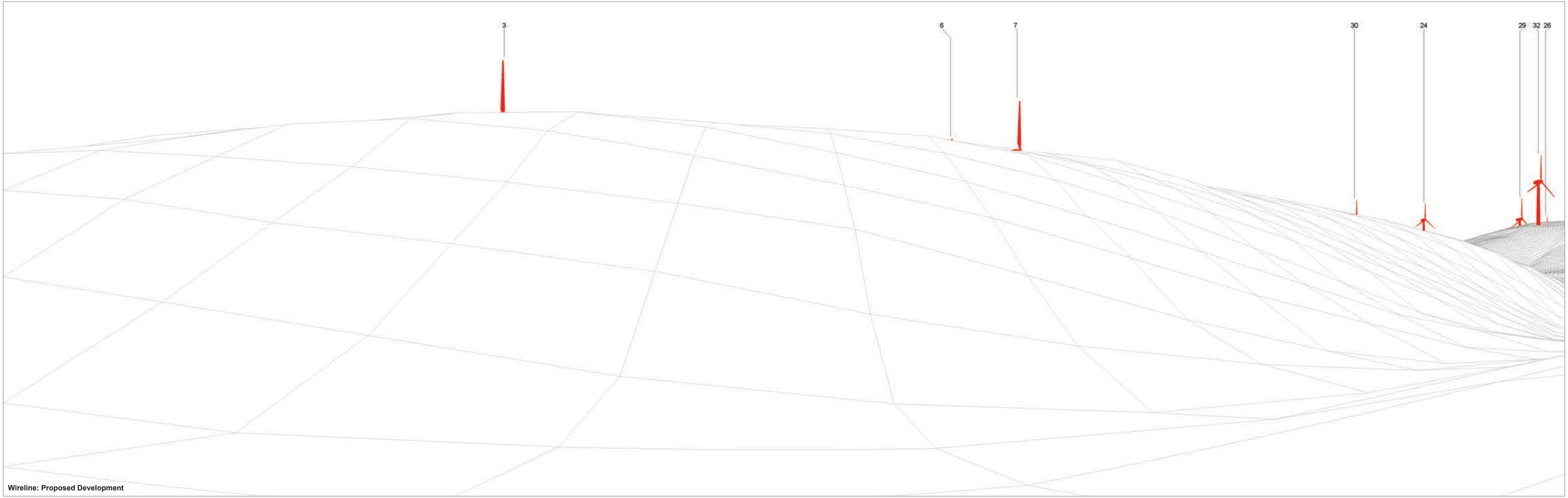
Figure A6.16a
Residential Viewpoint 16: KILBROOK FARM
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	311618 E 597112 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	93 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	115°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1213 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

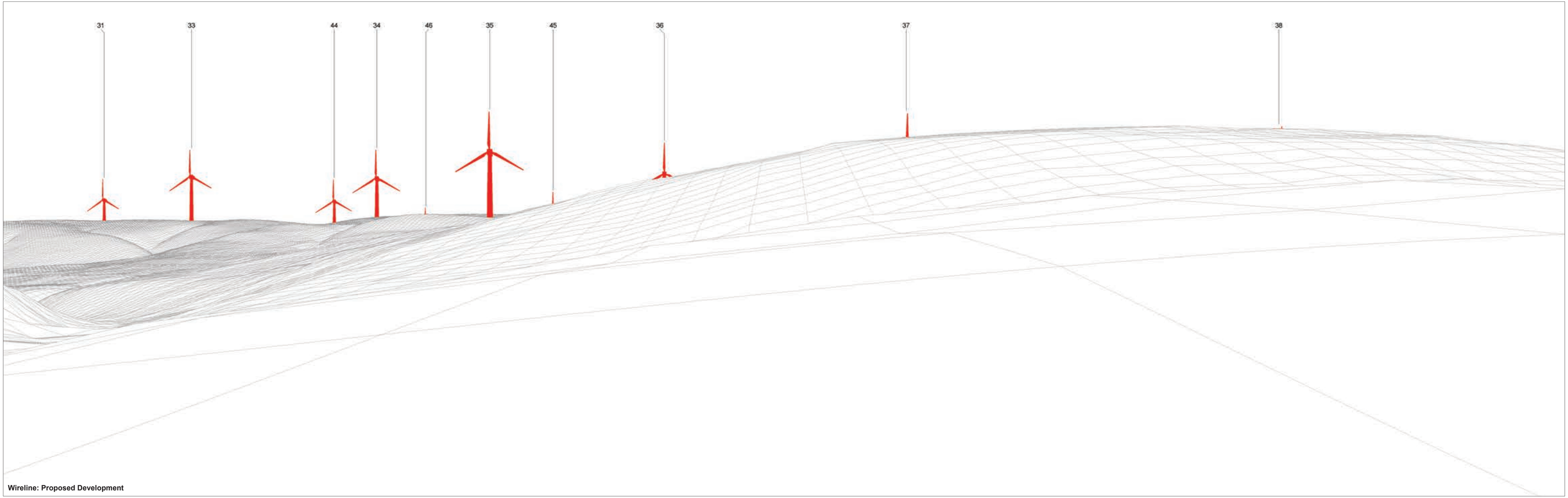
Figure A6.16b
Residential Viewpoint 16: KILBROOK FARM
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	313006 E 596524 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	116.98 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	0°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1274 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

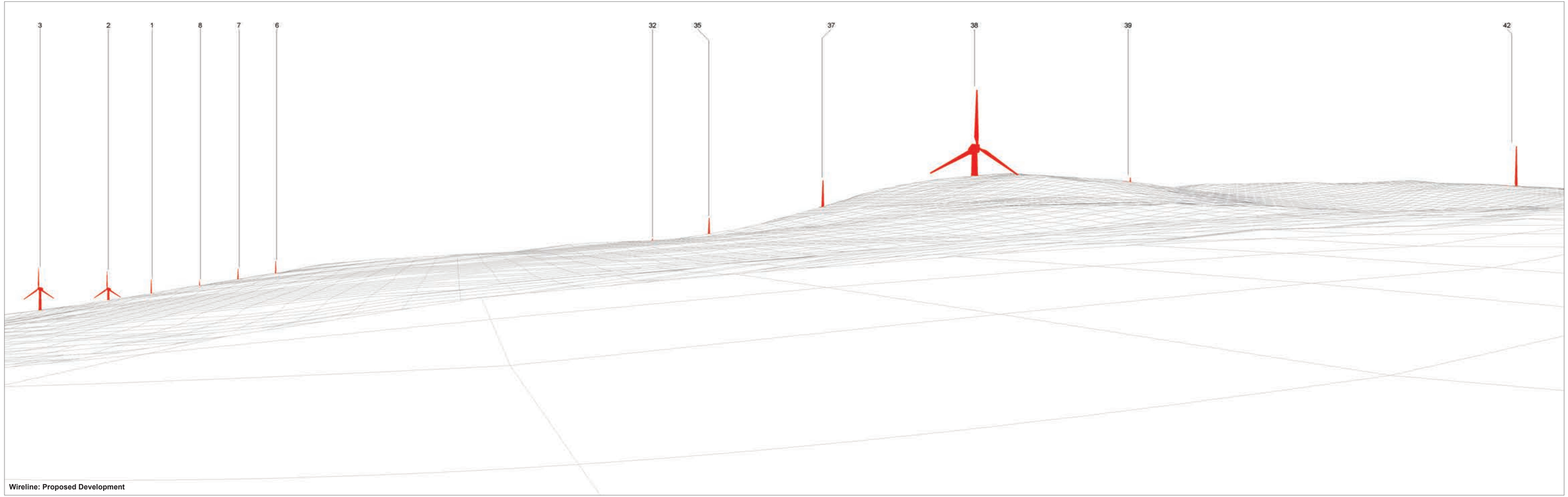
Figure A6.17a
Residential Viewpoint 17: WAMPHRAY MILL
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	313006 E 596524 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	116.98 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	90°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1274 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

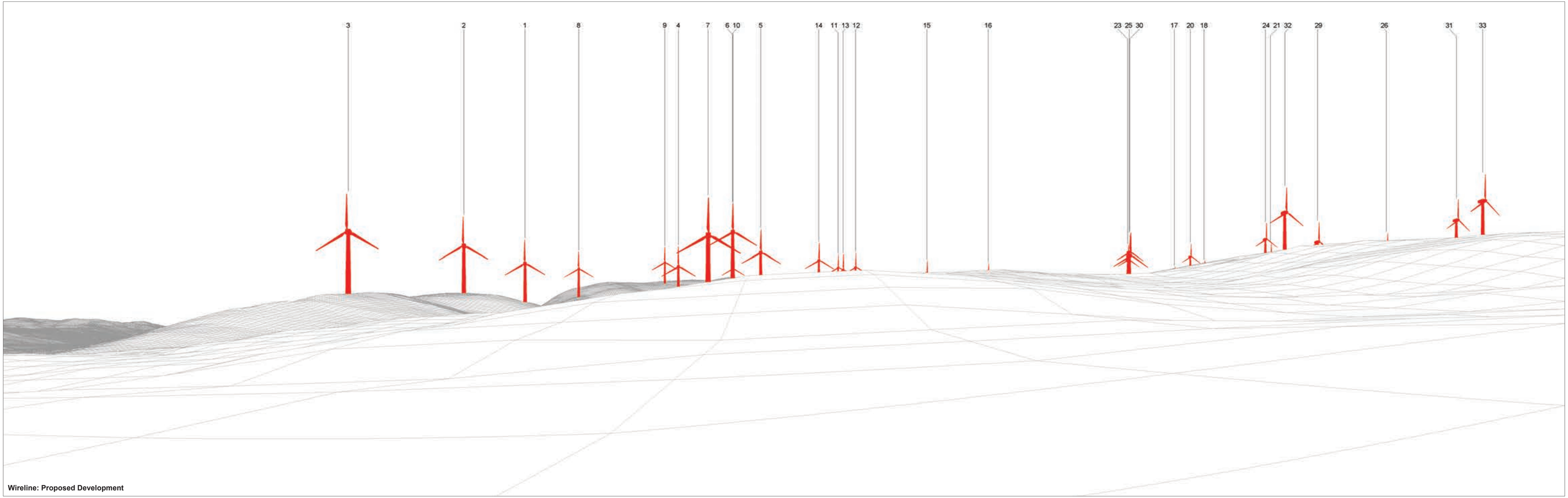
Figure A6.17b
Residential Viewpoint 17: WAMPHRAY MILL
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	314129 E 594422 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	220.05 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	19°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1311 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

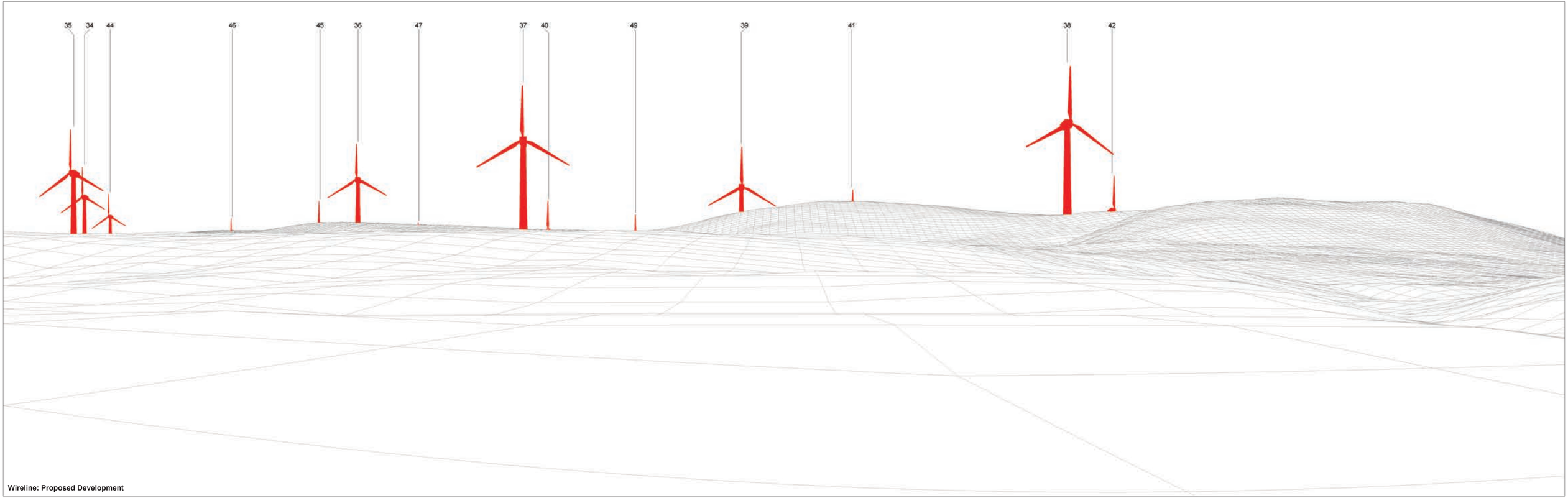
Figure A6.18a
Residential Viewpoint 18: KIRNCLEUCH, FINGLAND
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	313503 E 595933 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	182.2 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	0°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1334 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

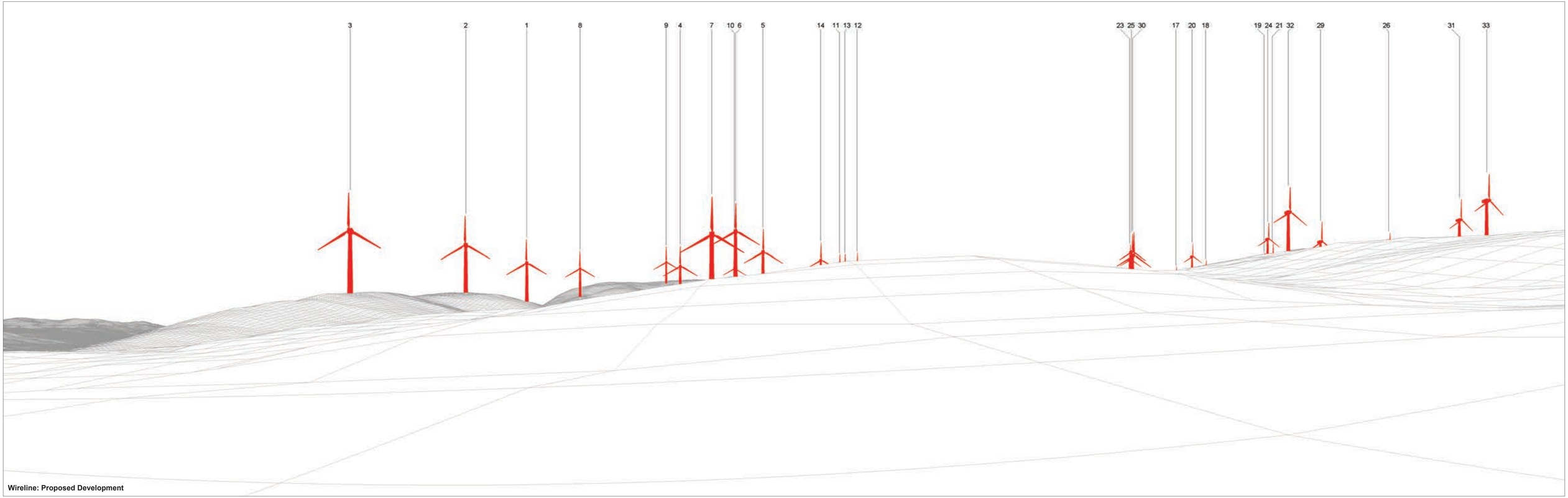
Figure A6.19a
Residential Viewpoint 19: 2 KIRKHILL COTTAGE
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	313503 E 595933 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	182.2 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	90°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1334 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

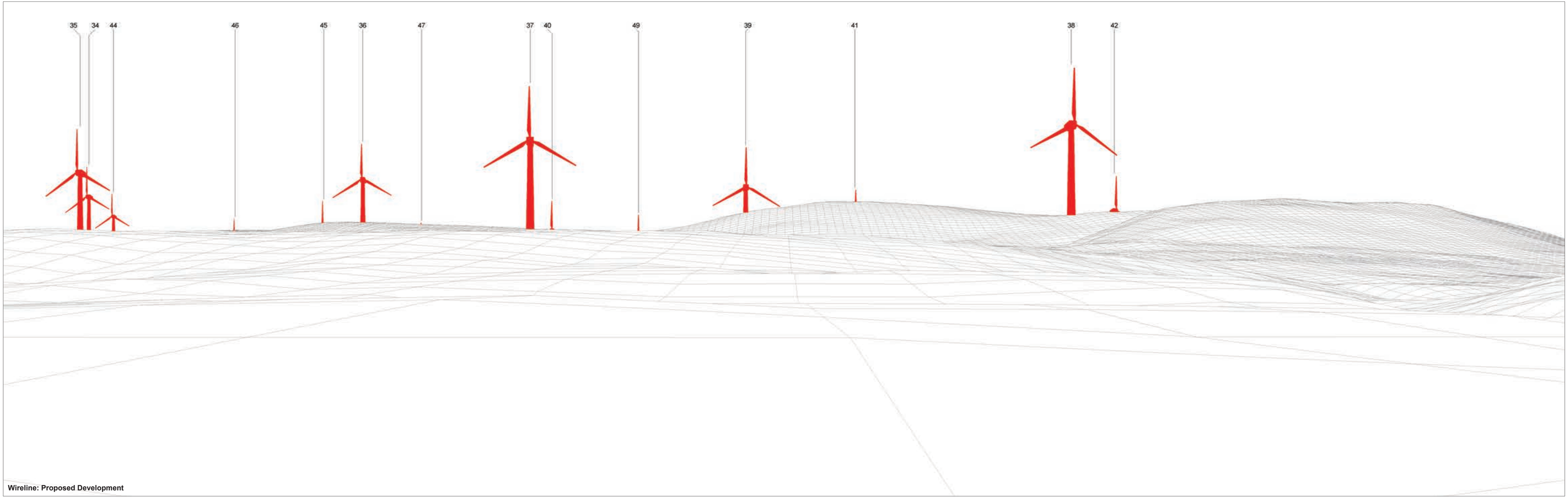
Figure A6.19b
Residential Viewpoint 19: 2 KIRKHILL COTTAGE
Scoop Hill



OS reference: 313495 E 595941 N
Eye level: 181.53 mAOD
Direction of view: 0°
Nearest turbine: 1344 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

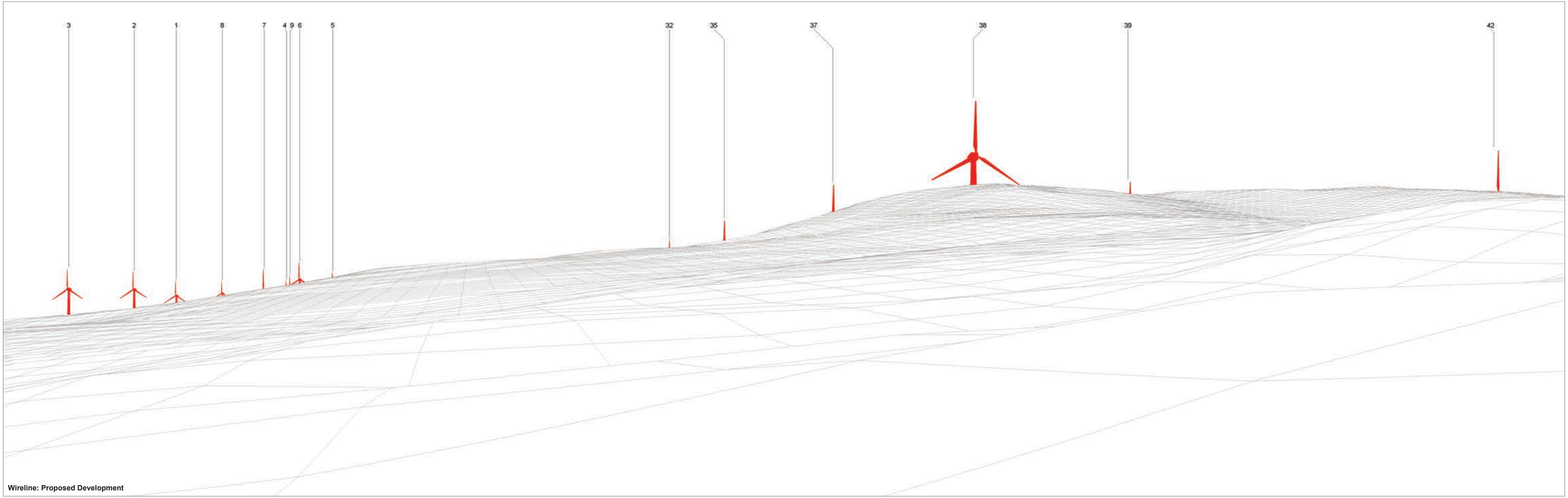
Figure A6.20a
Residential Viewpoint 20: 1 KIRKHILL COTTAGE
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	313495 E 595941 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	181.53 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	90°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1344 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

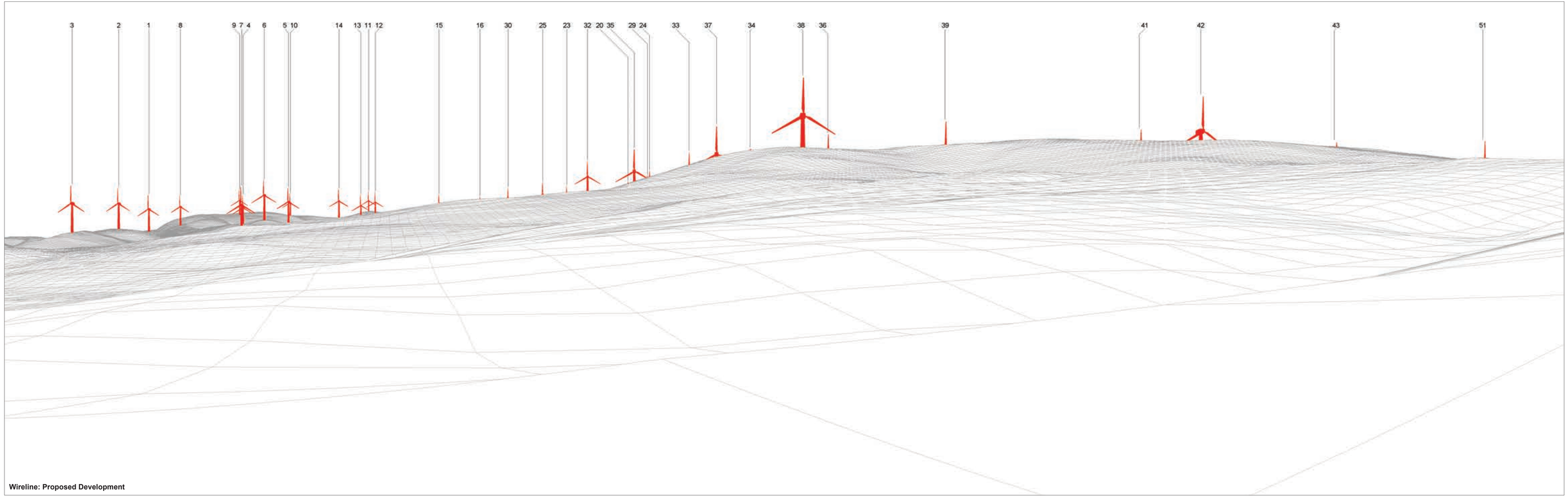
Figure A6.20b
Residential Viewpoint 20: 1 KIRKHILL COTTAGE
Scoop Hill



OS reference: 314113 E 594343 N
Eye level: 216.45 mAOD
Direction of view: 18°
Nearest turbine: 1387 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Figure A6.21a
Residential Viewpoint 21: FINGLAND COTTAGE
Scoop Hill

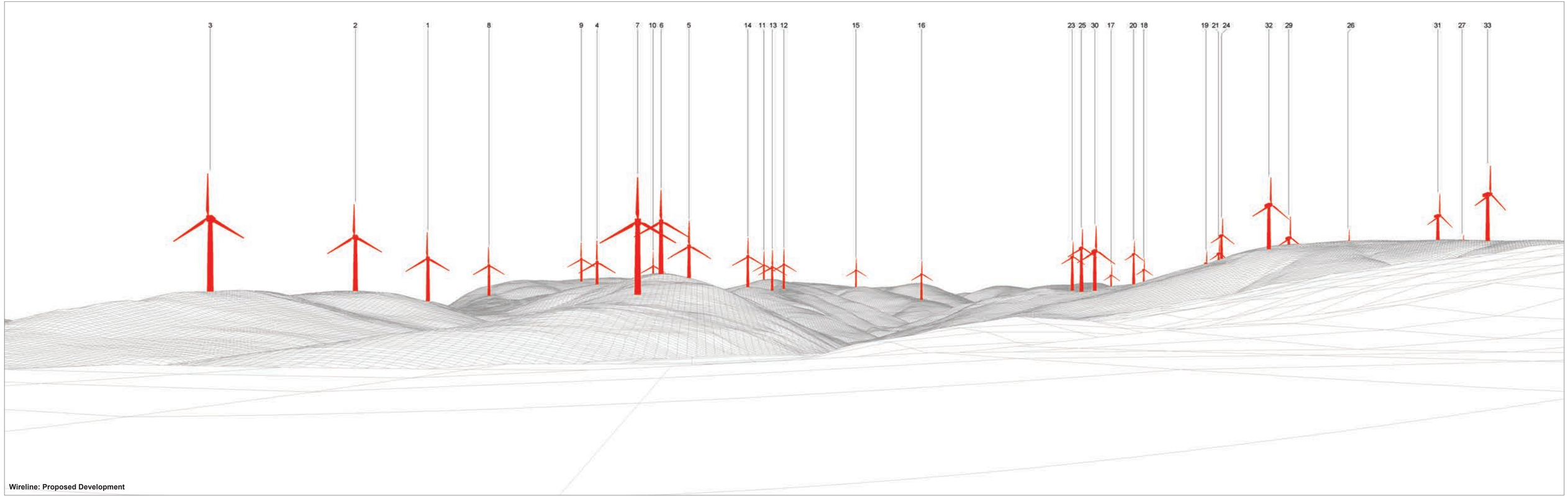


Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference: 313966 E 593726 N
Eye level: 198.12 mAOD
Direction of view: 23°
Nearest turbine: 2006 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Figure A6.22a
Residential Viewpoint 22: ELBECKHILL, FINGLAND
Scoop Hill

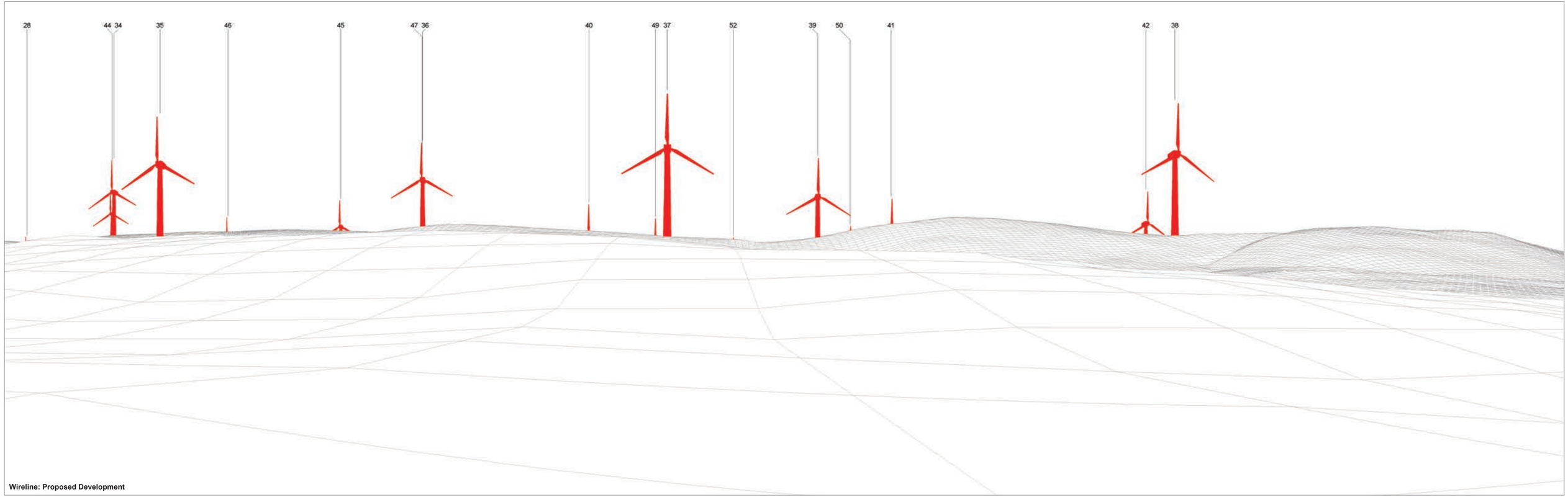


Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference: 313451 E 596253 N
Eye level: 192.67 mAOD
Direction of view: 5°
Nearest turbine: 1404 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

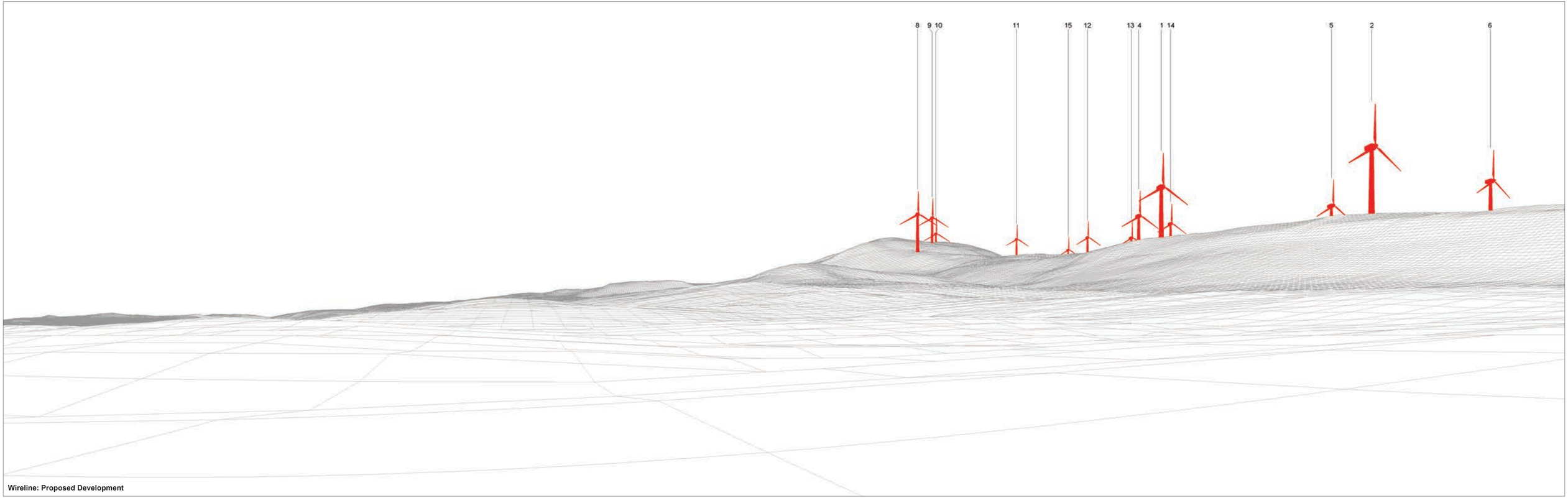
Figure A6.23a
Residential Viewpoint 23: KIRKHILL FARM
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	313451 E 596253 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	192.67 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	95°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1404 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

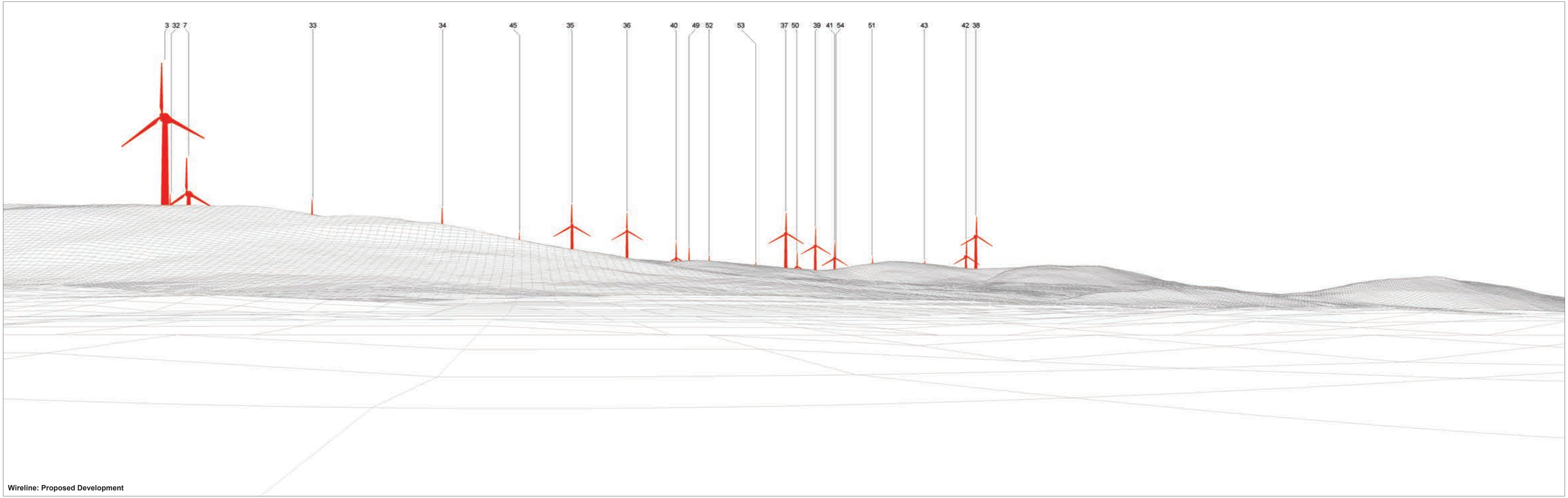
Figure A6.23b
Residential Viewpoint 23: KIRKHILL FARM
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	311327 E 597248 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	80.95 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	15°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1416 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

Figure A6.24a
Residential Viewpoint 24: KILBROOK COTTAGE
Scoop Hill

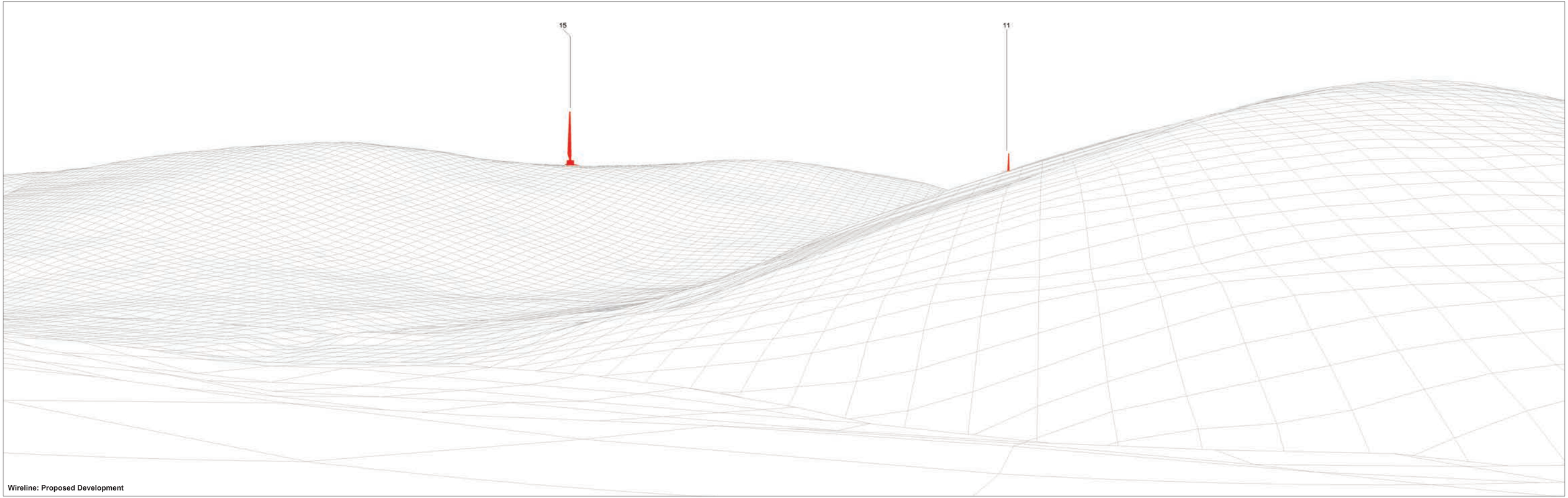


Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference: 311327 E 597248 N
Eye level: 80.95 mAOD
Direction of view: 105°
Nearest turbine: 1416 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Figure A6.24b
Residential Viewpoint 24: KILBROOK COTTAGE
Scoop Hill

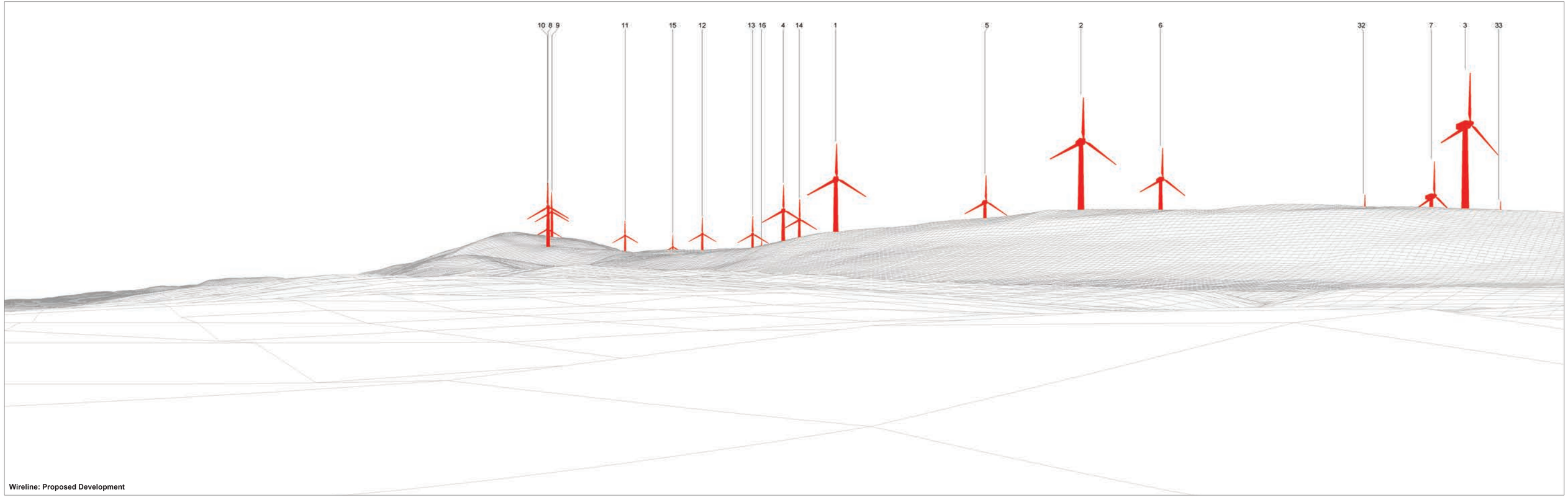


Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference: 313759 E 603632 N
Eye level: 347.06 mAOD
Direction of view: 165°
Nearest turbine: 1459 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

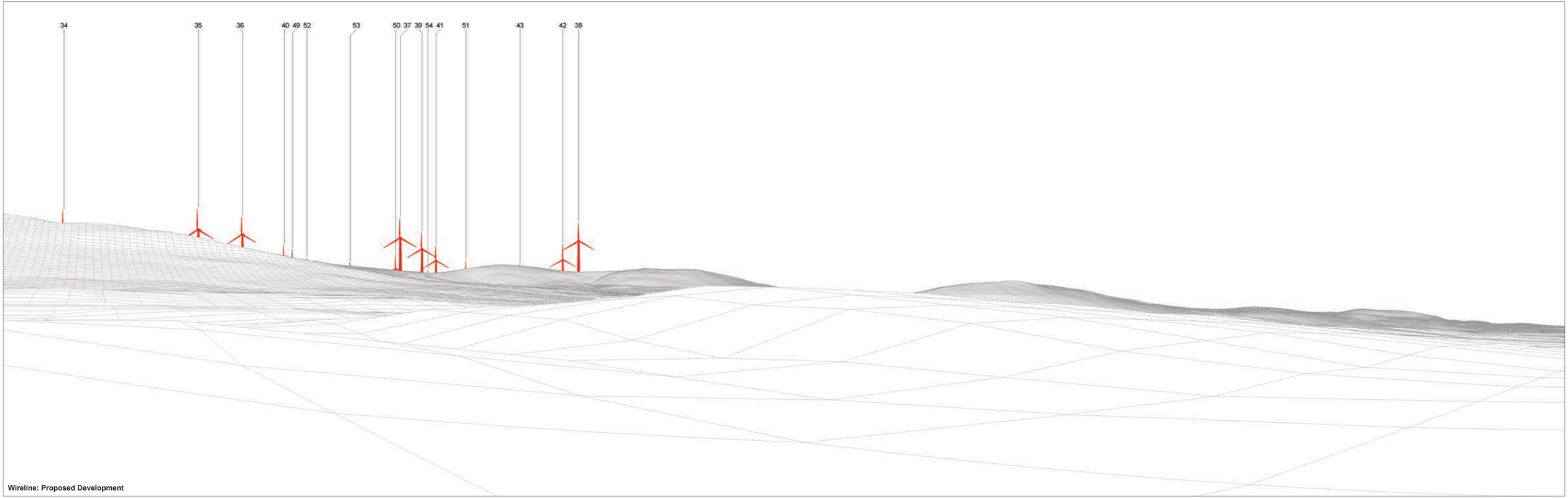
Figure A6.25a
Residential Viewpoint 25: CRAIG BECK HOPE
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	311204 E 597474 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	79.28 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	40°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1473 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

Figure A6.26a
Residential Viewpoint 26: COOMB BURN
Scoop Hill

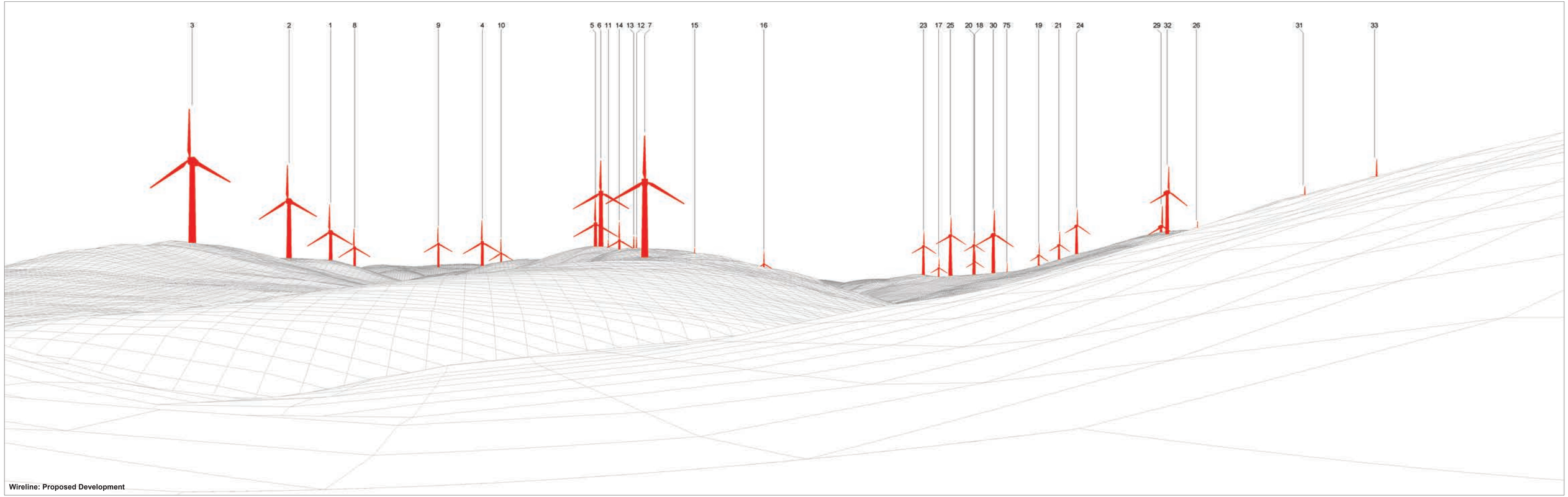


Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference: 311204 E 597474 N
Eye level: 79.28 mAOD
Direction of view: 130°
Nearest turbine: 1473 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

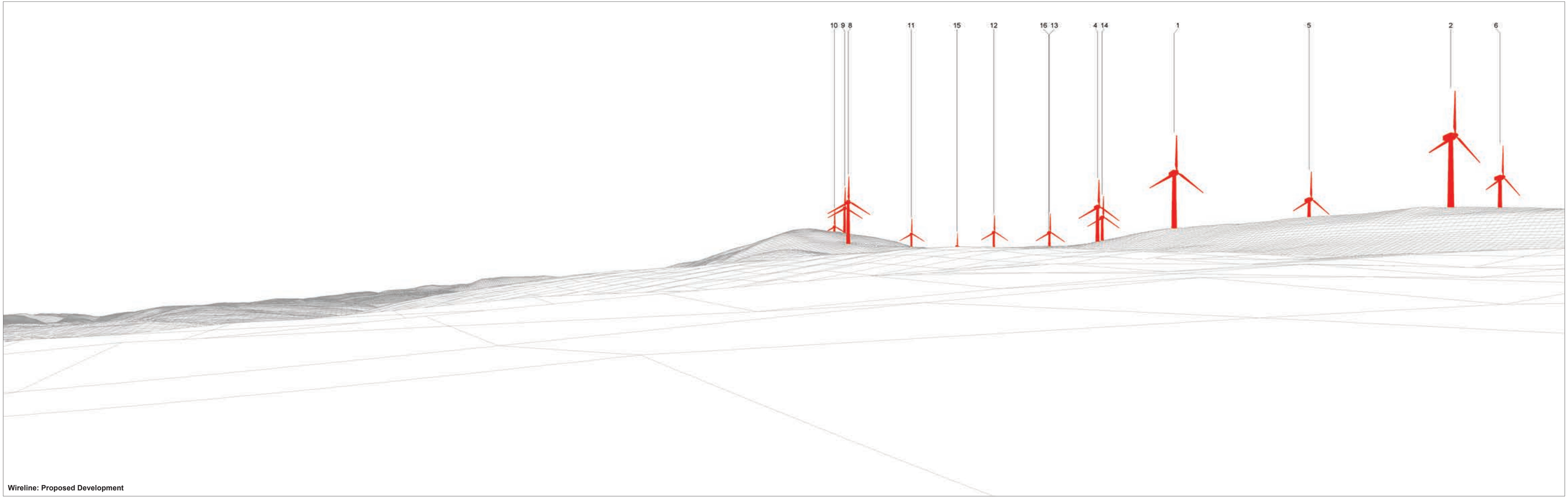
Figure A6.26b
Residential Viewpoint 26: COOMB BURN
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	313063 E 596330 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	132.65 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	18°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1476 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

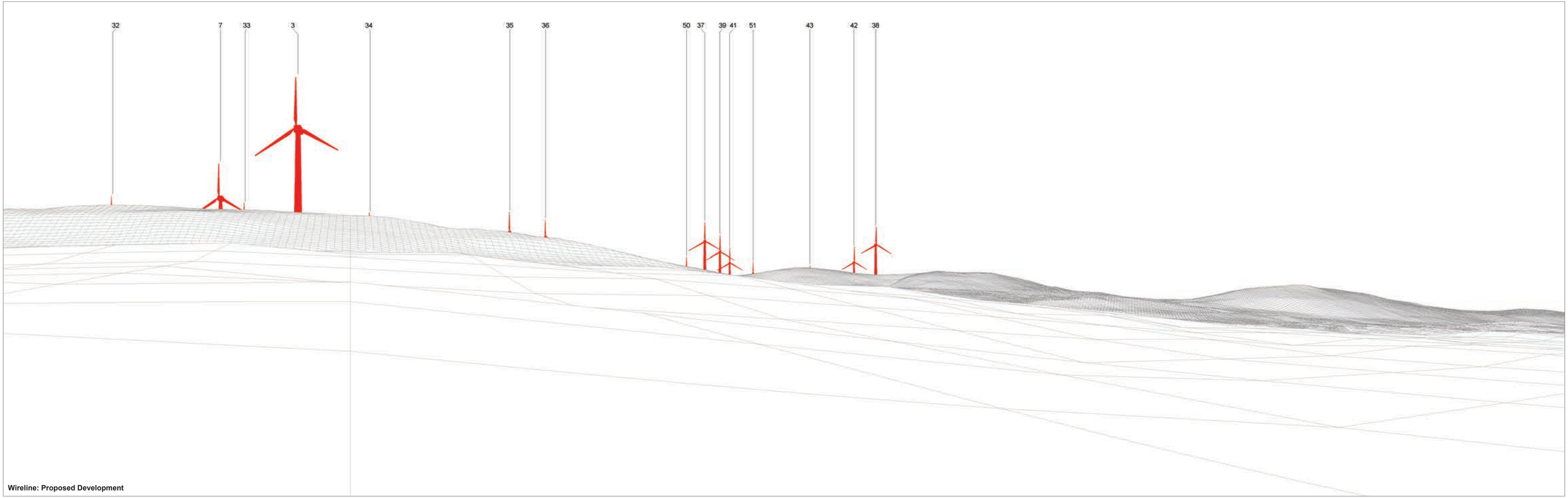
Figure A6.27a
Residential Viewpoint 27: KIRKBURN
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	311167 E 597670 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	82.7 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	25°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1487 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

Figure A6.28a
Residential Viewpoint 28: ANNANSIDE
Scoop Hill

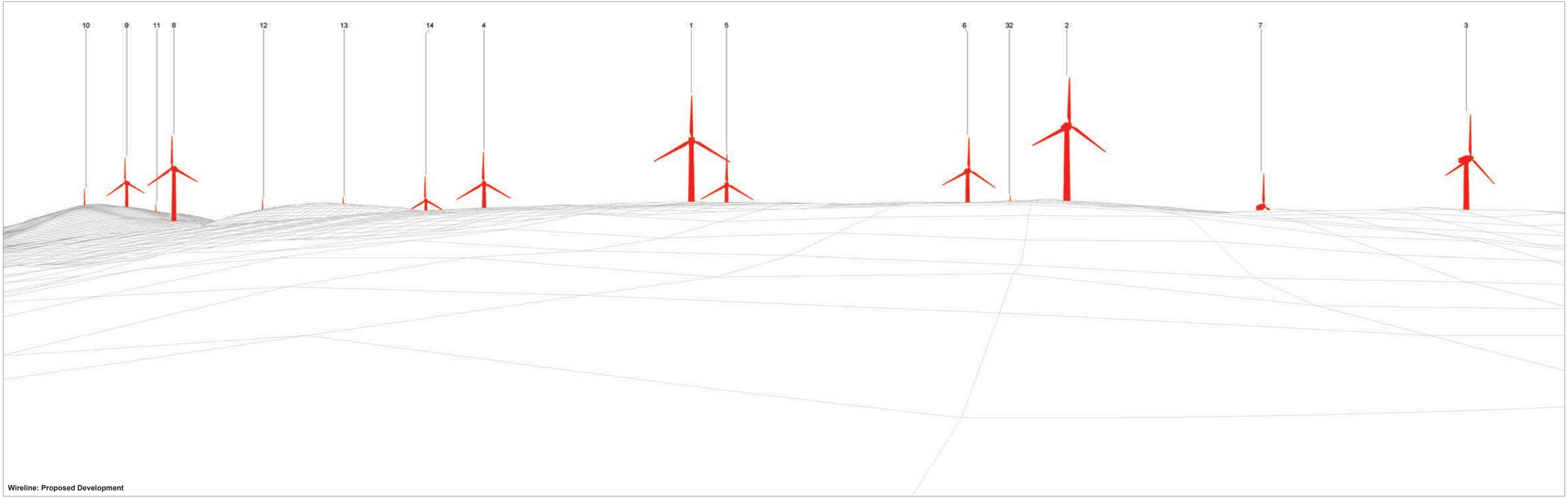


Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference: 311167 E 597670 N
Eye level: 82.7 mAOD
Direction of view: 115°
Nearest turbine: 1487 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Figure A6.28b
Residential Viewpoint 28: ANNANSIDE
Scoop Hill

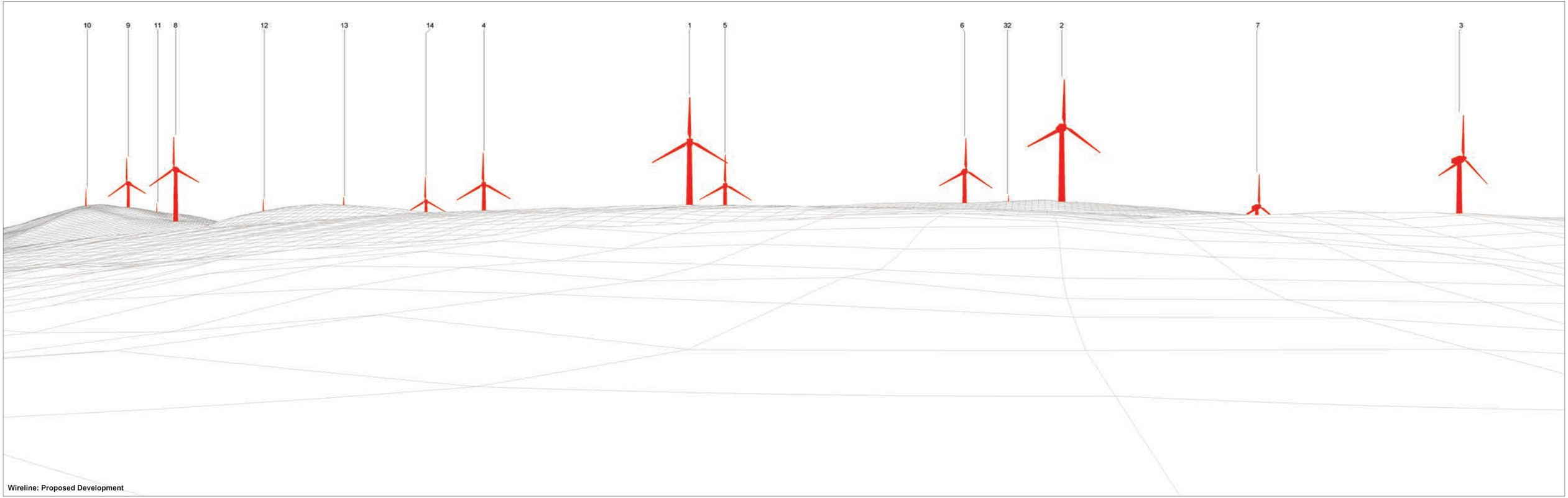


Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference: 311078 E 598459 N
Eye level: 84.49 mAOD
Direction of view: 75°
Nearest turbine: 1594 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

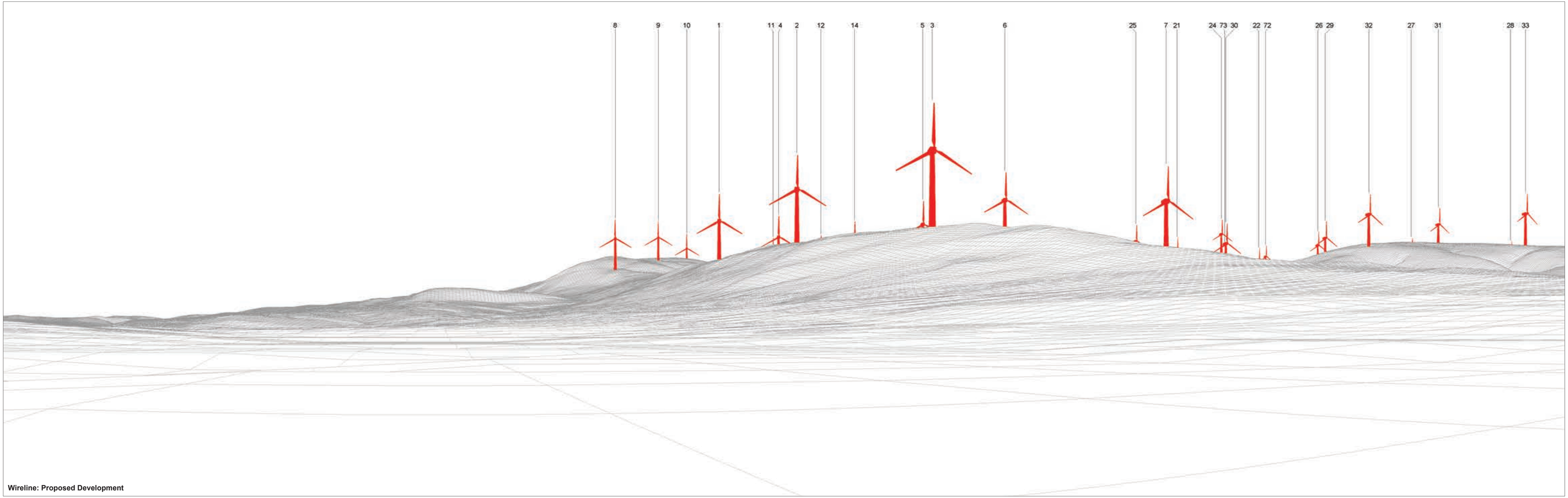
Figure A6.29a
Residential Viewpoint 29: HOLMVIEW
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	311066 E 598451 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	83.85 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	75°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1606 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

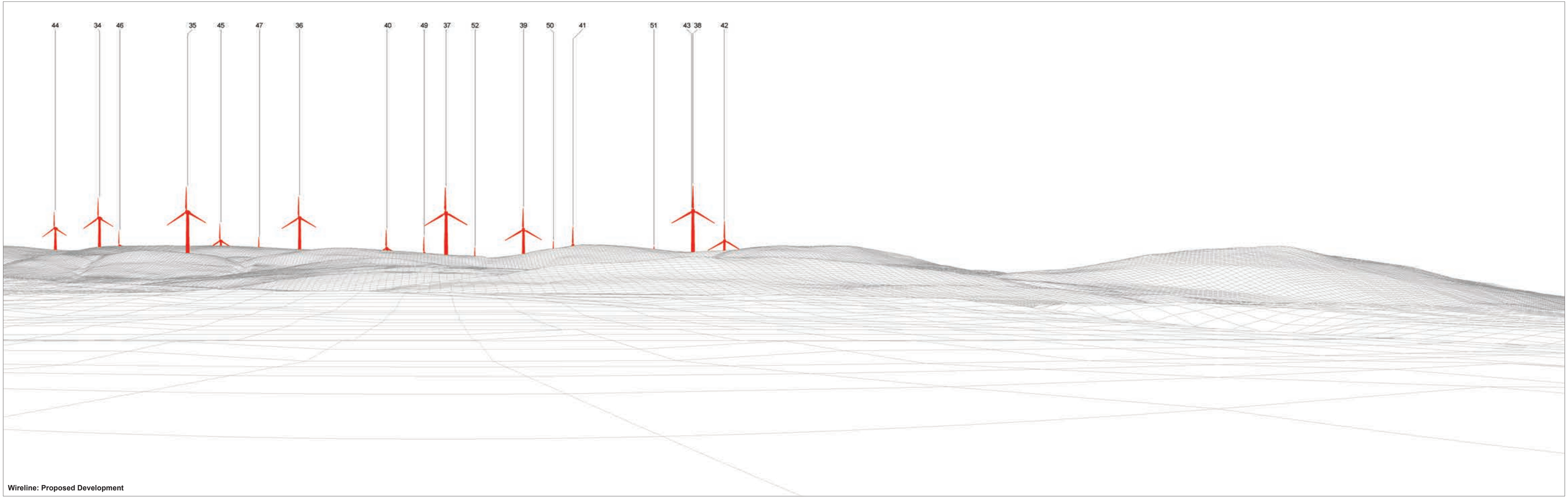
Figure A6.30a
Residential Viewpoint 30: NEWBIGGING
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	311877 E 596323 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	89.35 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	20°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1622 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

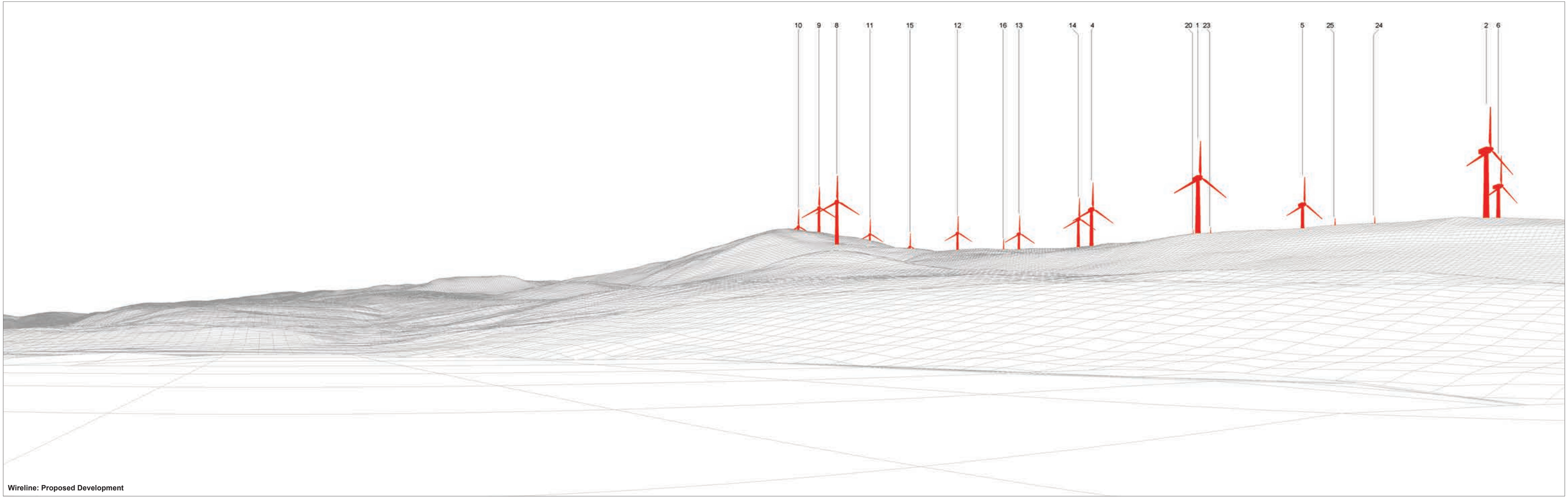
Figure A6.31a
Residential Viewpoint 31: PUMPLABURN FARM
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	311877 E 596323 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	89.35 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	110°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1622 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

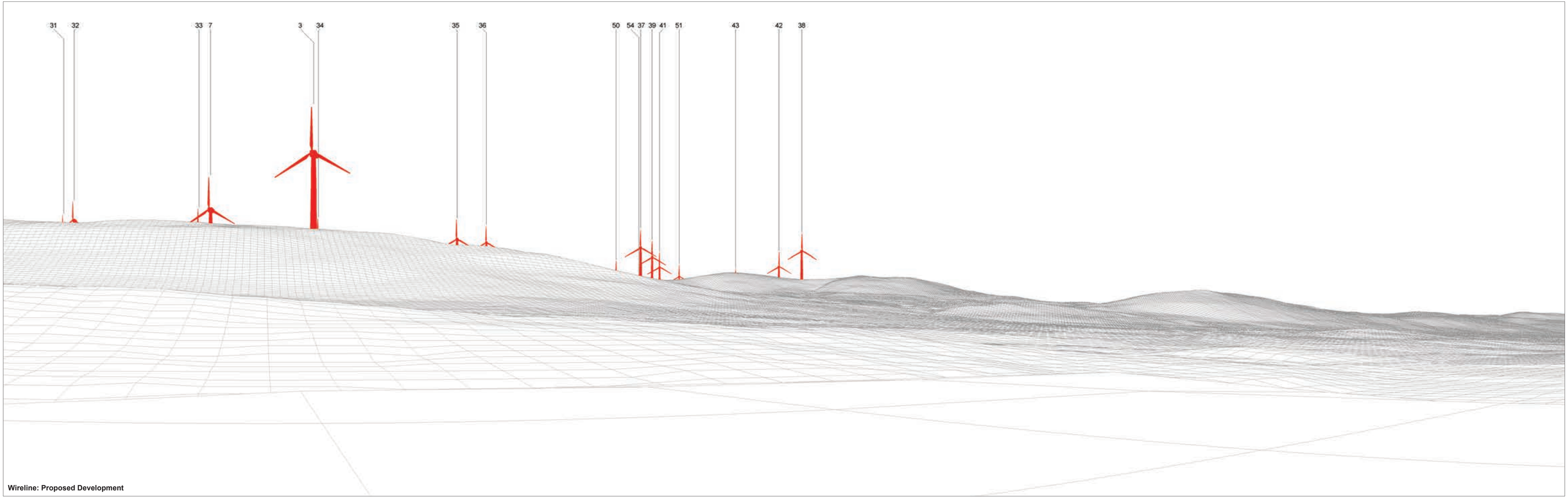
Figure A6.31b
Residential Viewpoint 31: PUMPLABURN FARM
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	311003 E 597831 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	89.5 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	30°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1651 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

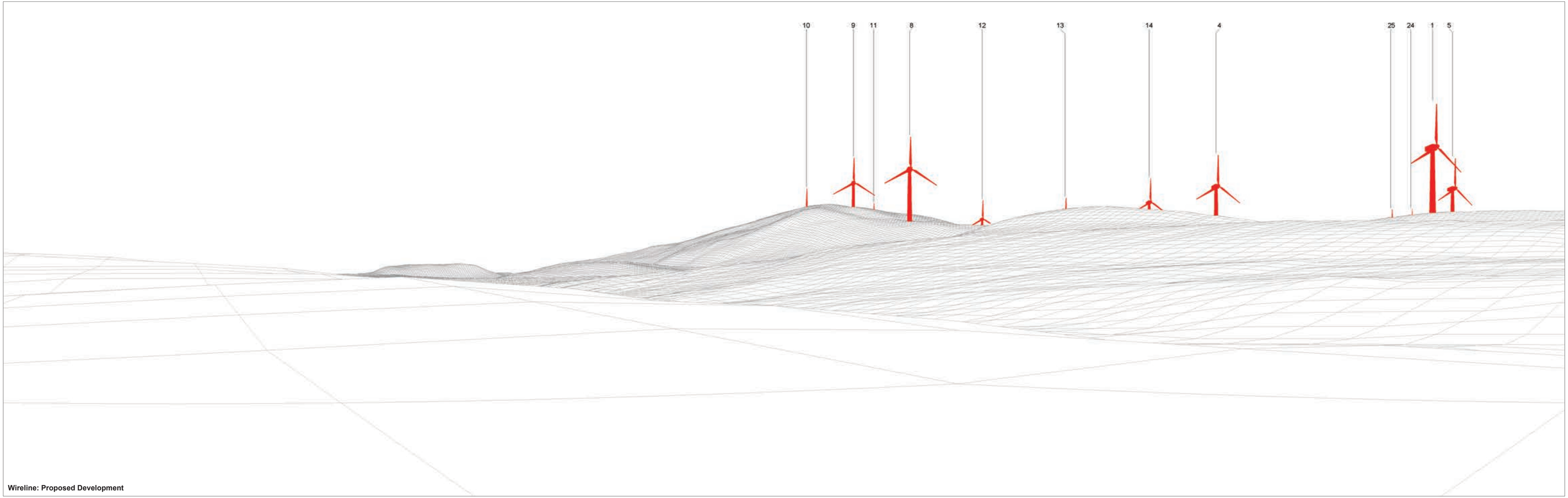
Figure A6.32a
Residential Viewpoint 32: STENRIESHILL
Scoop Hill



OS reference: 311003 E 597831 N
Eye level: 89.5 mAOD
Direction of view: 120°
Nearest turbine: 1651 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

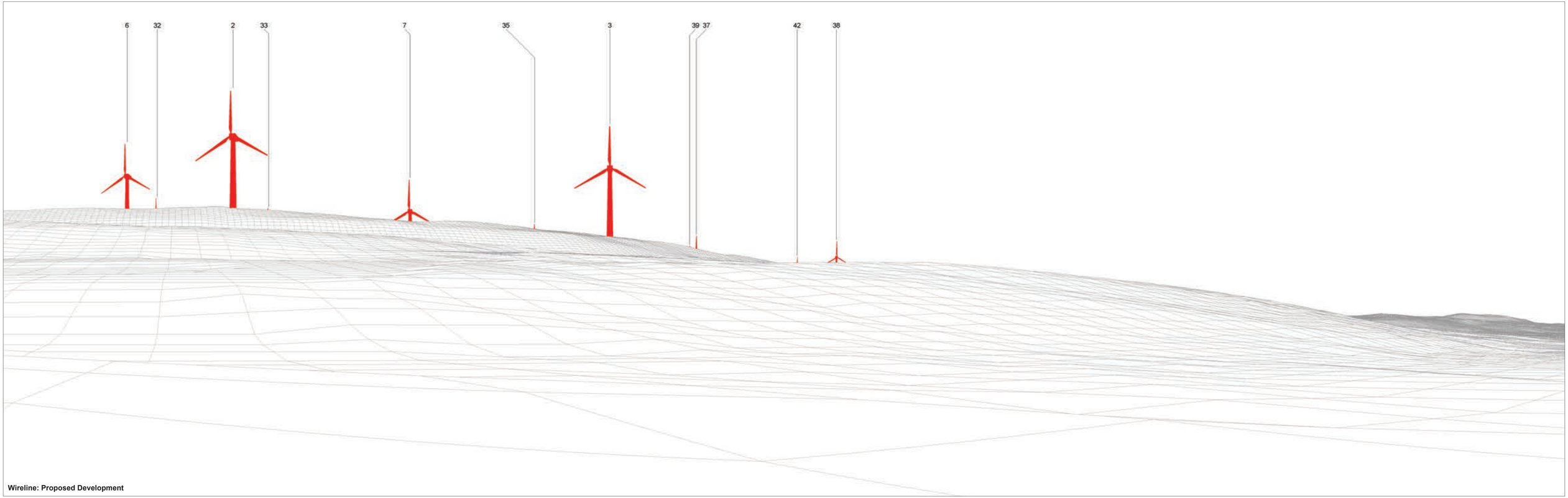
Figure A6.32b
Residential Viewpoint 32: STENRIESHILL
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	310998 E 598518 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	84.82 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	35°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1676 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

Figure A6.33a
Residential Viewpoint 33: MILKYMOSS
Scoop Hill

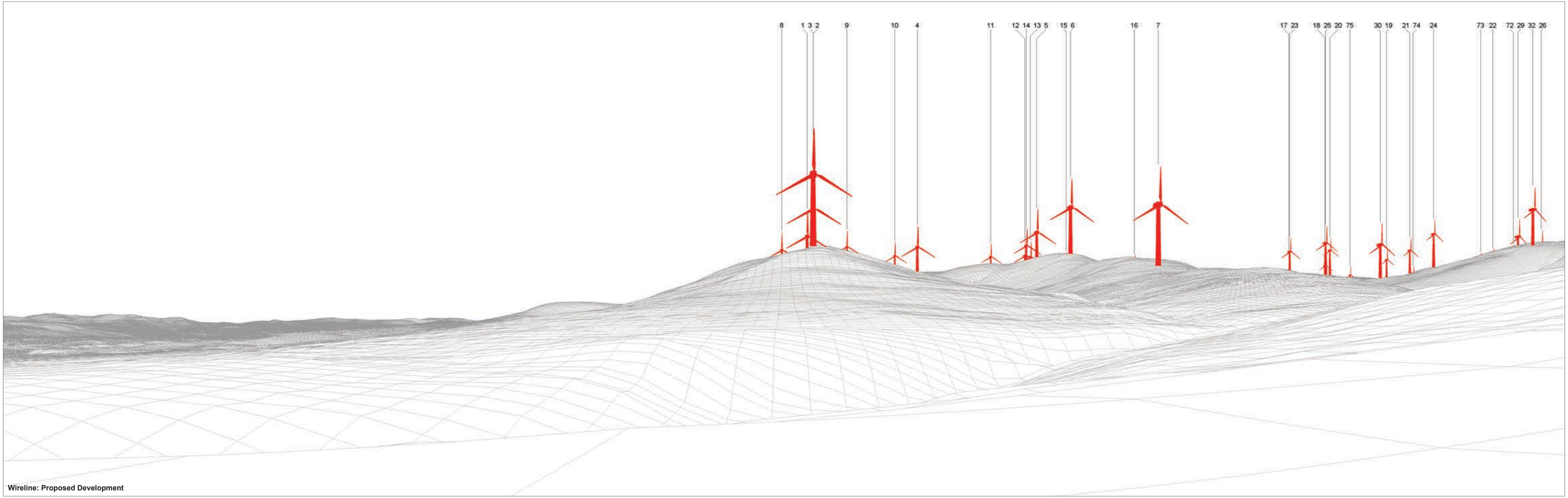


Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference: 310998 E 598518 N
Eye level: 84.82 mAOD
Direction of view: 125°
Nearest turbine: 1676 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

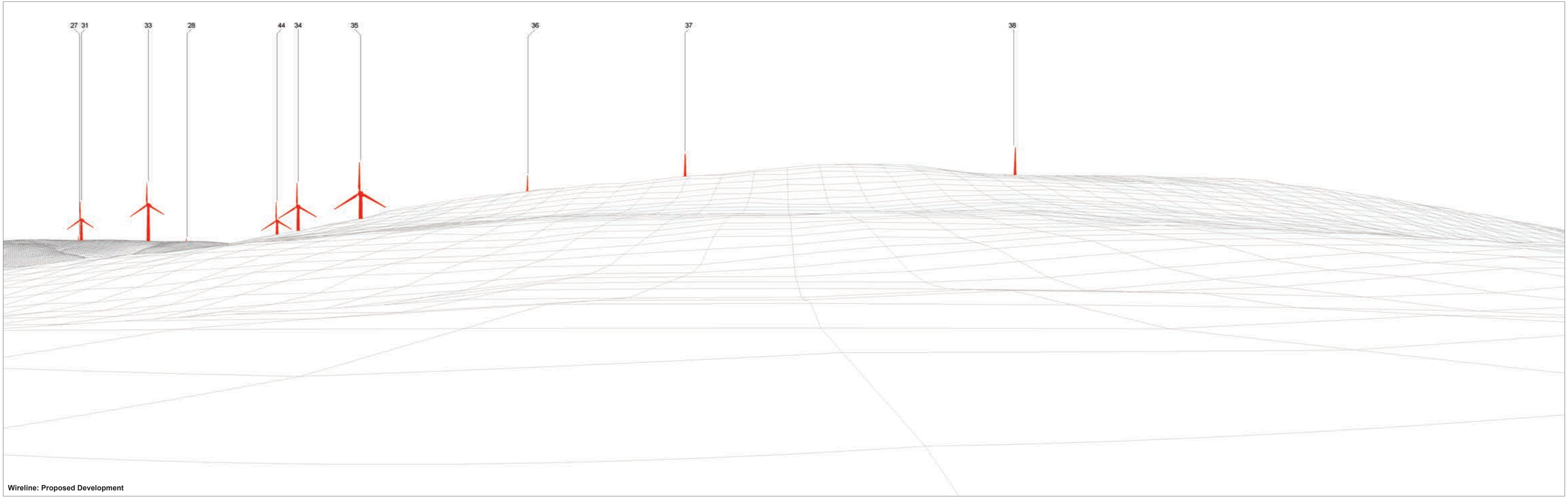
Figure A6.33b
Residential Viewpoint 33: MILKYMOSS
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	312603 E 596071 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	119.29 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	0°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1677 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

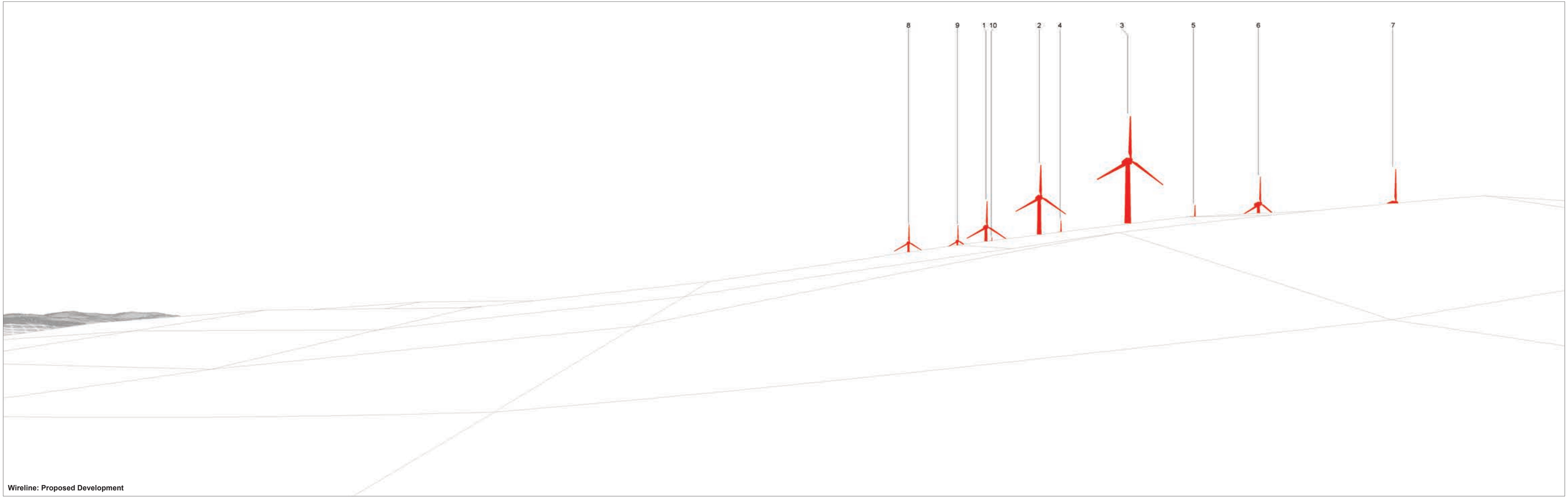
Figure A6.34a
Residential Viewpoint 34: ROUGHDYKES
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	312603 E 596071 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	119.29 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	90°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1677 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

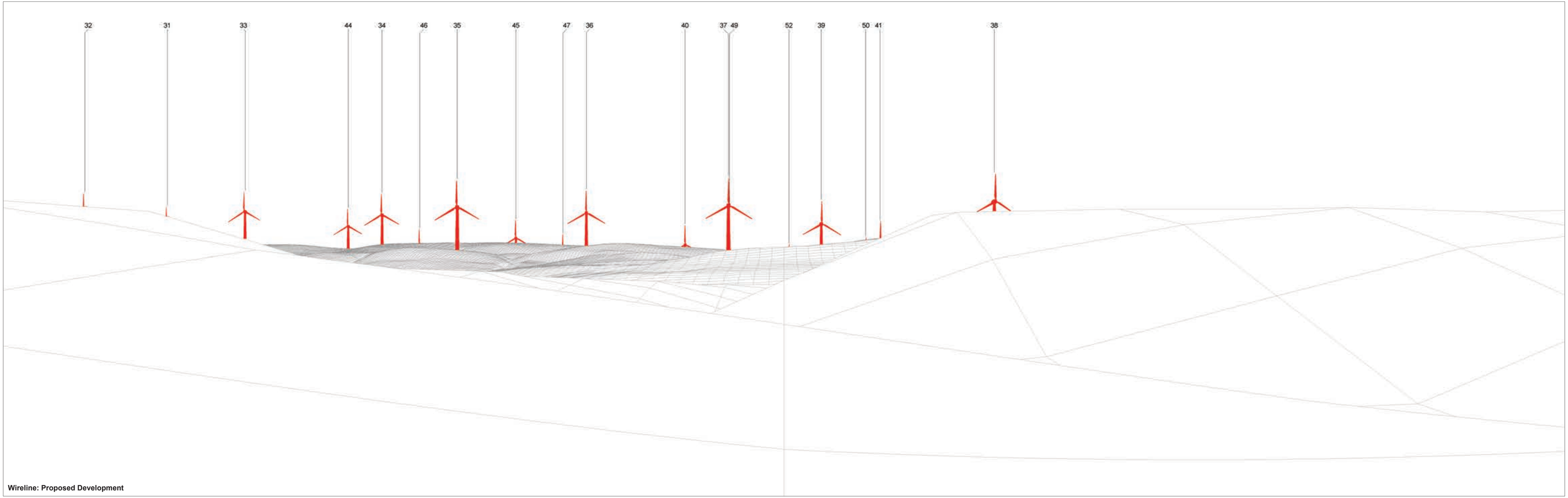
Figure A6.34b
Residential Viewpoint 34: ROUGHDYKES
Scoop Hill



OS reference: 312073 E 596140 N
Eye level: 91.8 mAOD
Direction of view: 0°
Nearest turbine: 1709 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

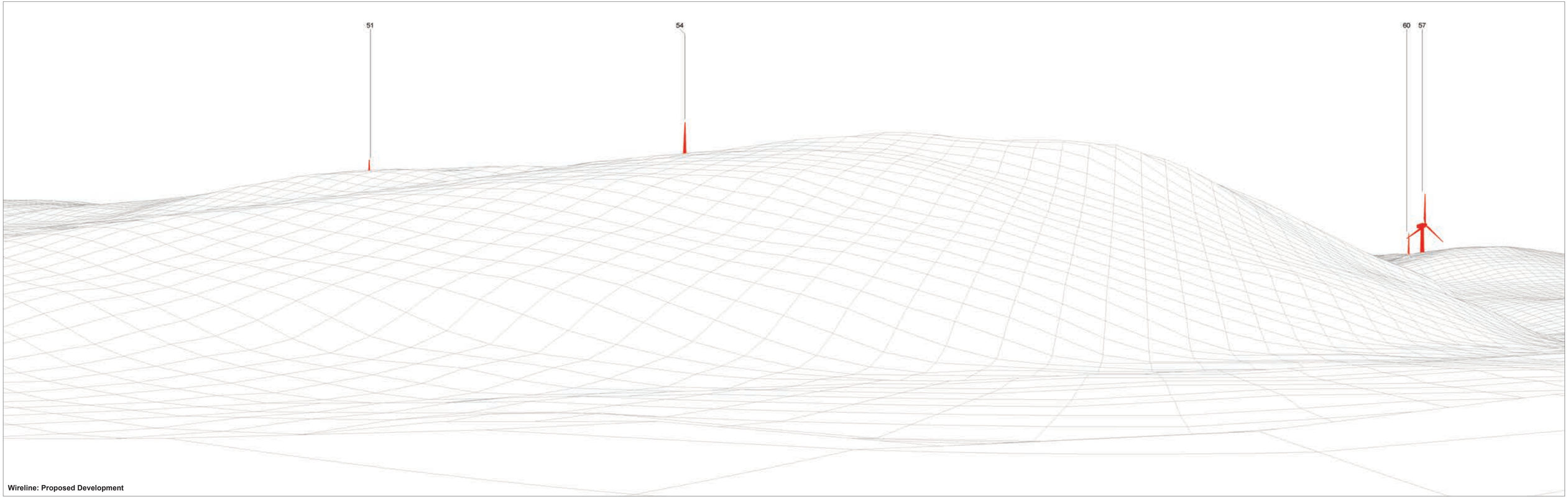
Figure A6.35a
Residential Viewpoint 35: BRIGEND
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	312073 E 596140 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	91.8 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	90°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1709 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

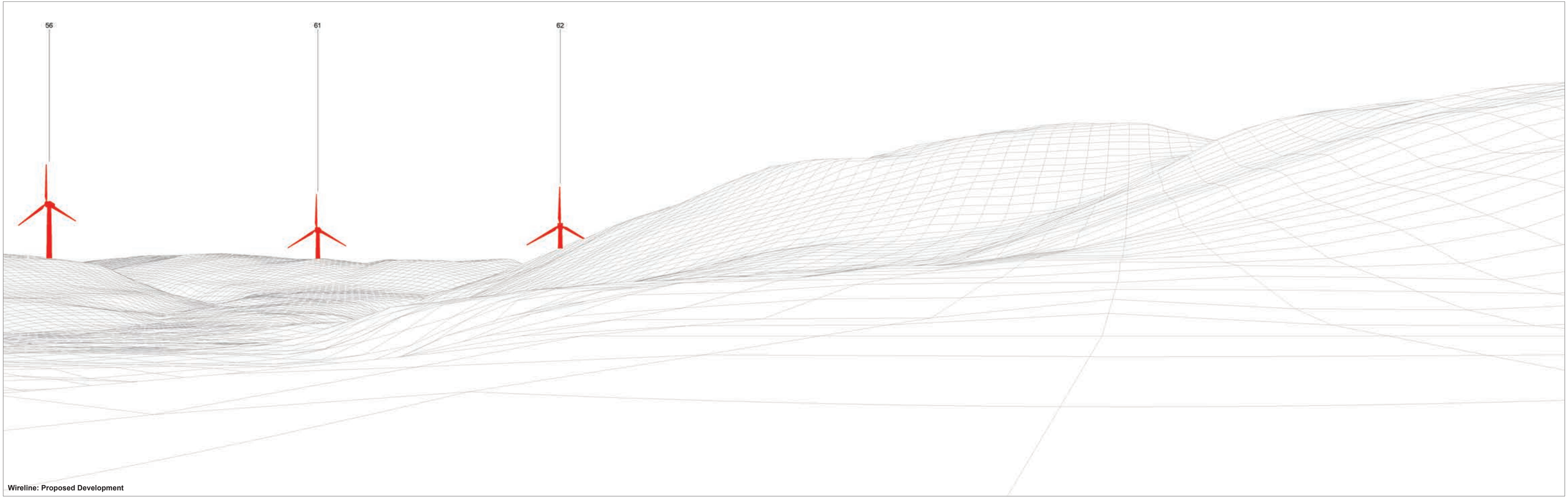
Figure A6.35b
Residential Viewpoint 35: BRIGEND
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	318426 E 593629 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	169.5 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	340°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1728 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

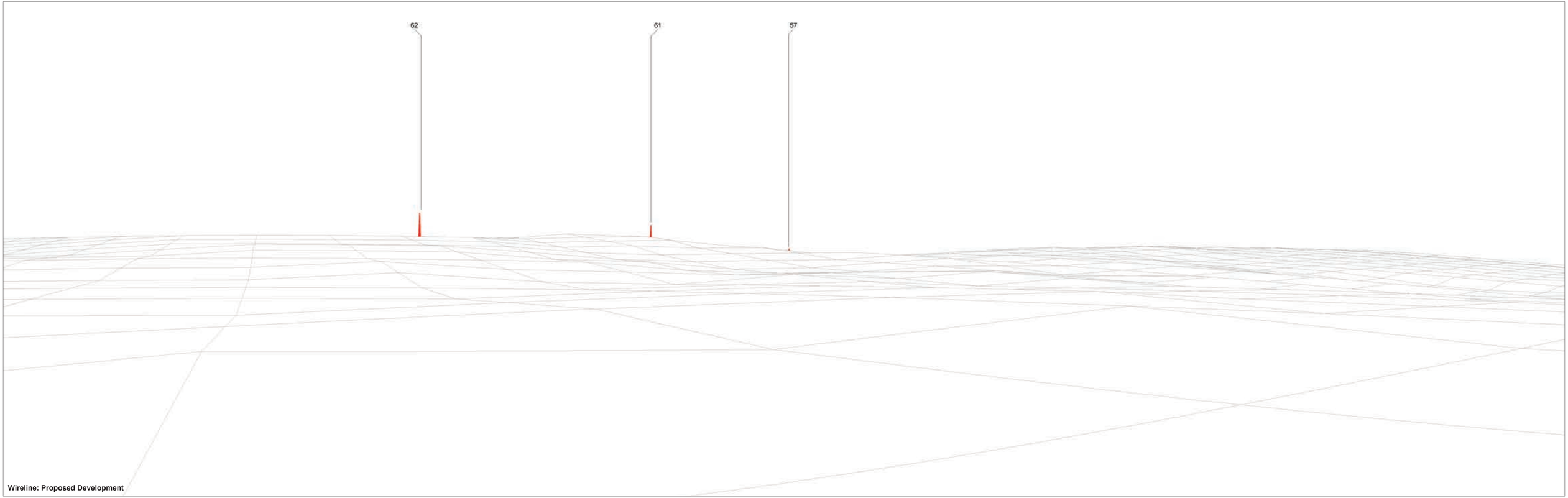
Figure A6.36a
Residential Viewpoint 36: 3 DRYFE LODGE
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	318426 E 593629 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	169.5 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	70°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1728 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

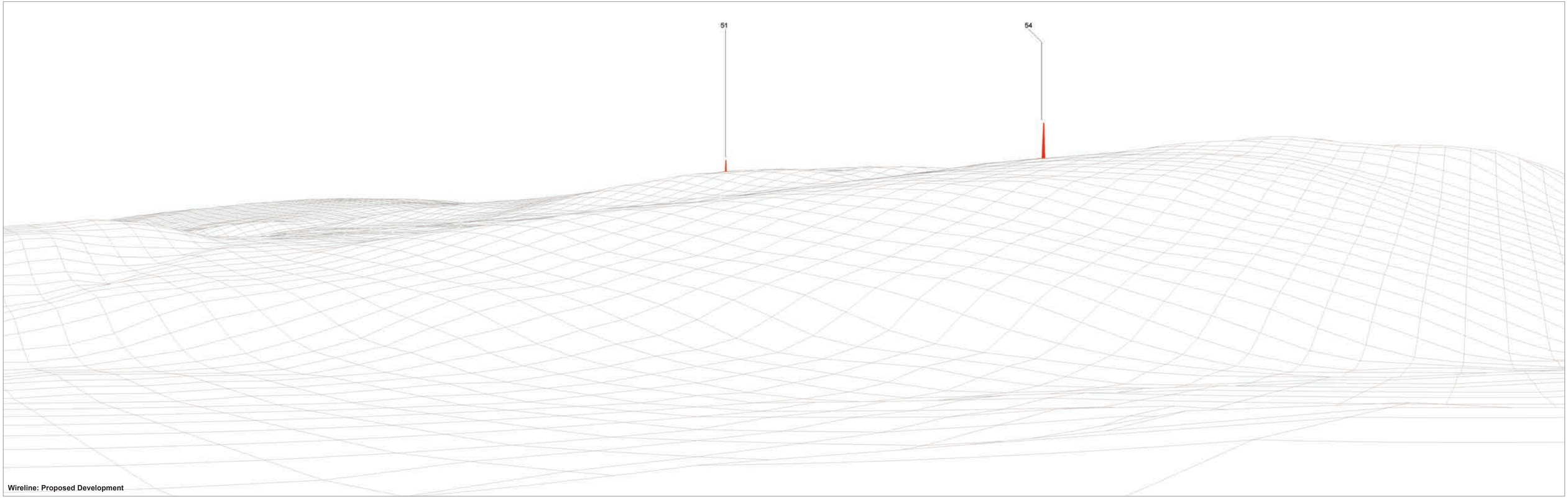
Figure A6.36b
Residential Viewpoint 36: 3 DRYFE LODGE
Scoop Hill



OS reference: 321766 E 594411 N
Eye level: 246.75 mAOD
Direction of view: 300°
Nearest turbine: 1730 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Figure A6.37a
Residential Viewpoint 37: MARLSIDE
Scoop Hill

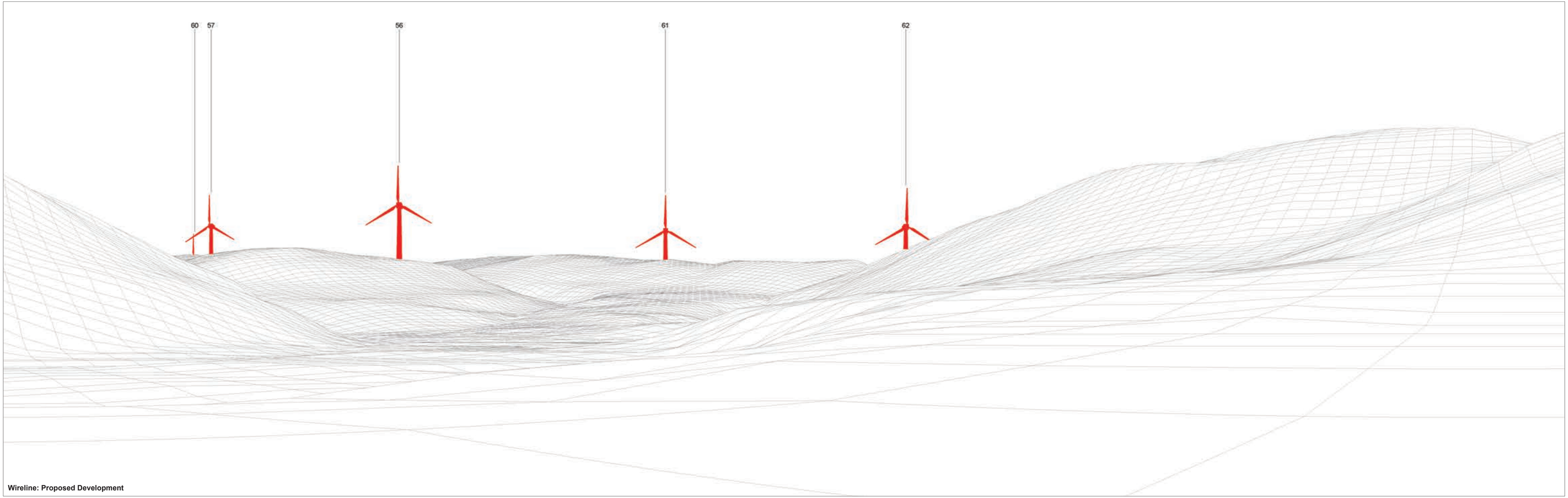


Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference: 318413 E 593617 N
Eye level: 169.4 mAOD
Direction of view: 320°
Nearest turbine: 1733 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

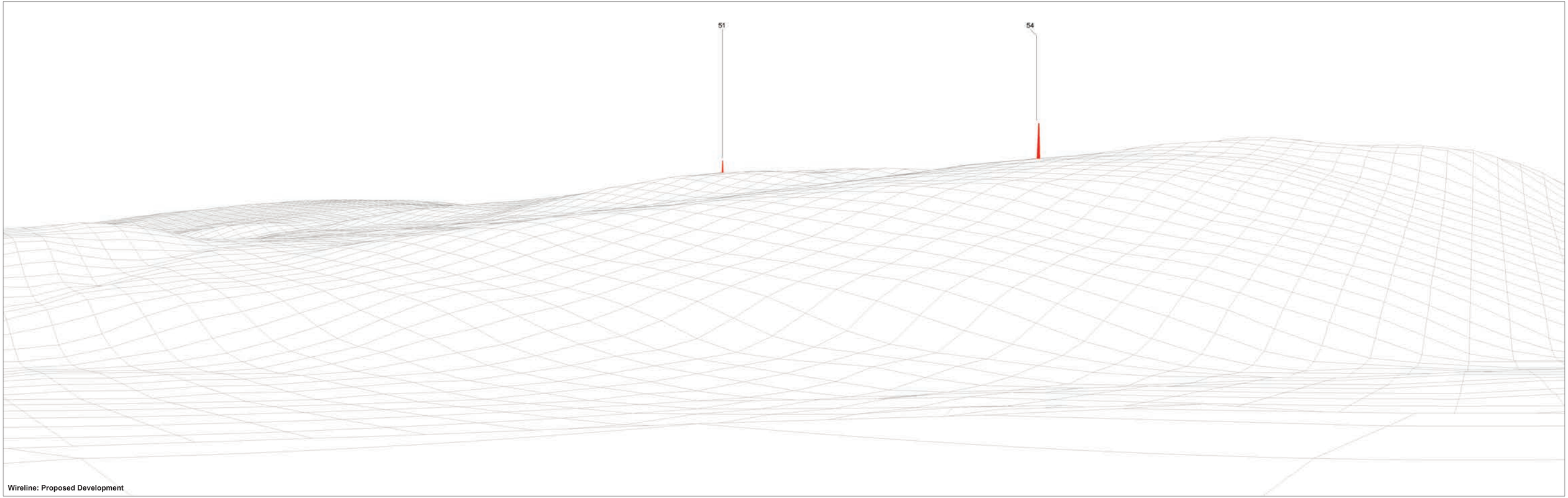
Figure A6.38a
Residential Viewpoint 38: 1 DRYFE LODGE
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	318413 E 593617 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	169.4 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	50°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1733 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

Figure A6.38b
Residential Viewpoint 38: 1 DRYFE LODGE
Scoop Hill

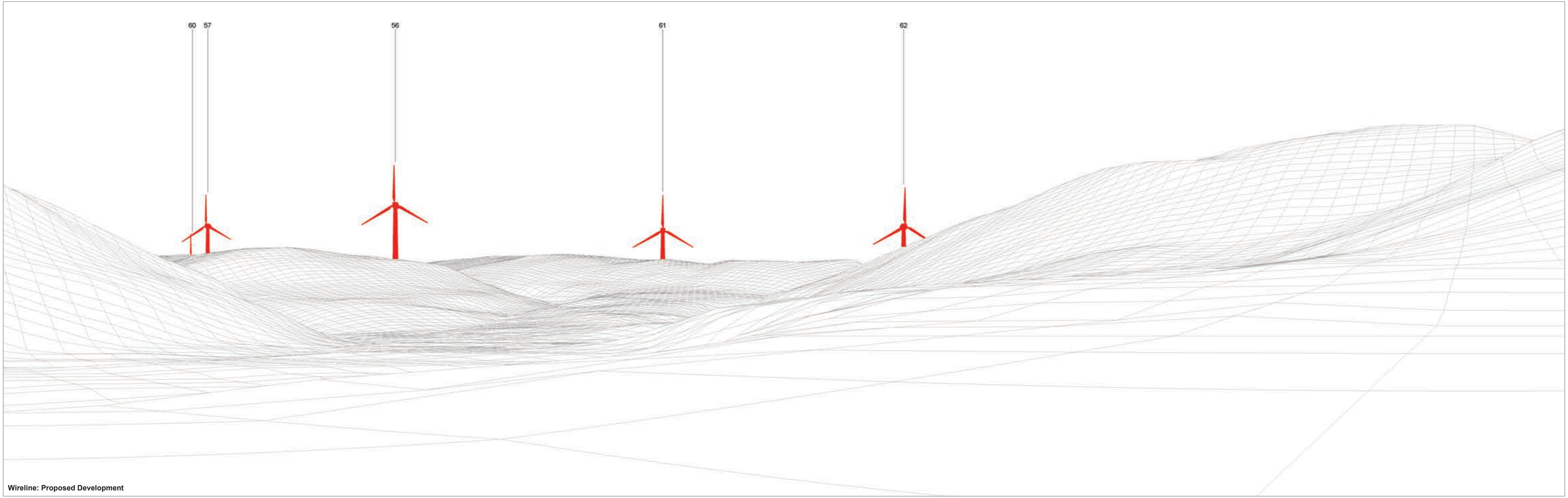


Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference: 318422 E 593618 N
Eye level: 169.5 mAOD
Direction of view: 320°
Nearest turbine: 1736 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

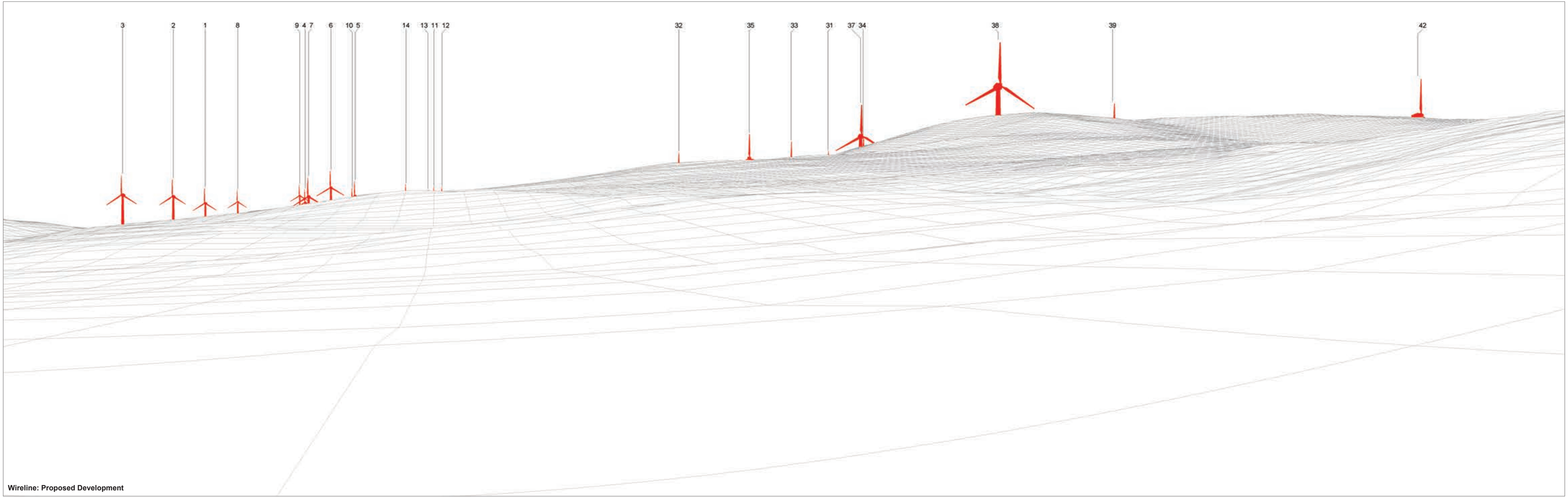
Figure A6.39a
Residential Viewpoint 39: 2 DRYFE LODGE
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	318422 E 593618 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	169.5 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	50°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1736 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

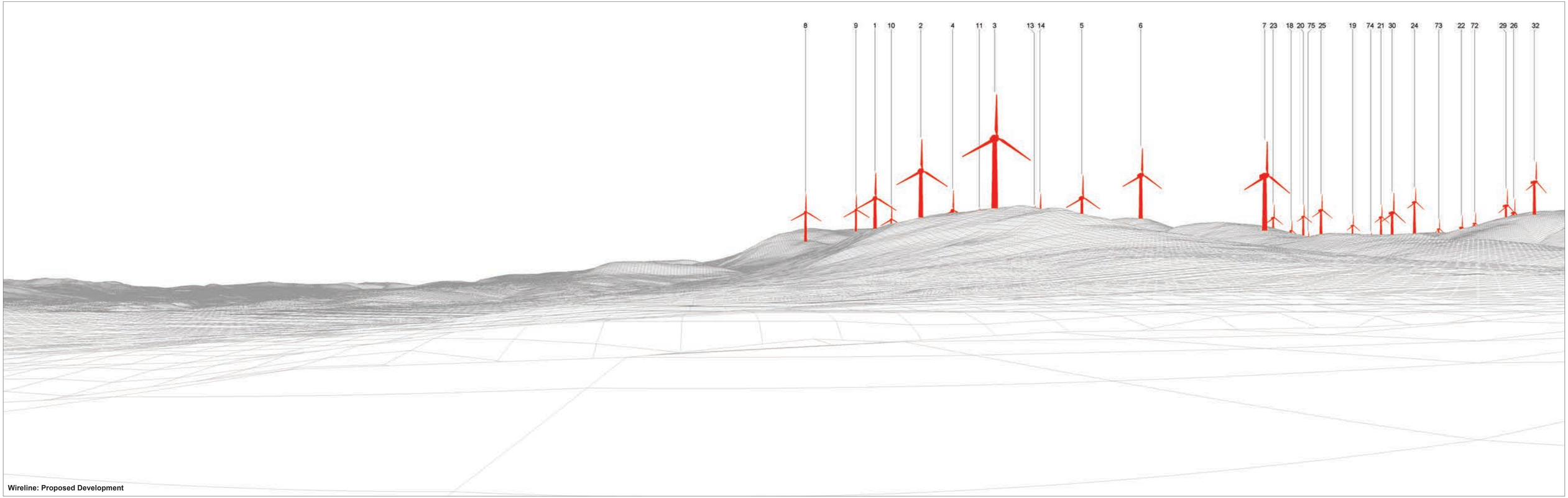
Figure A6.39b
Residential Viewpoint 39: 2 DRYFE LODGE
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	313851 E 594084 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	181.05 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	20°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1744 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

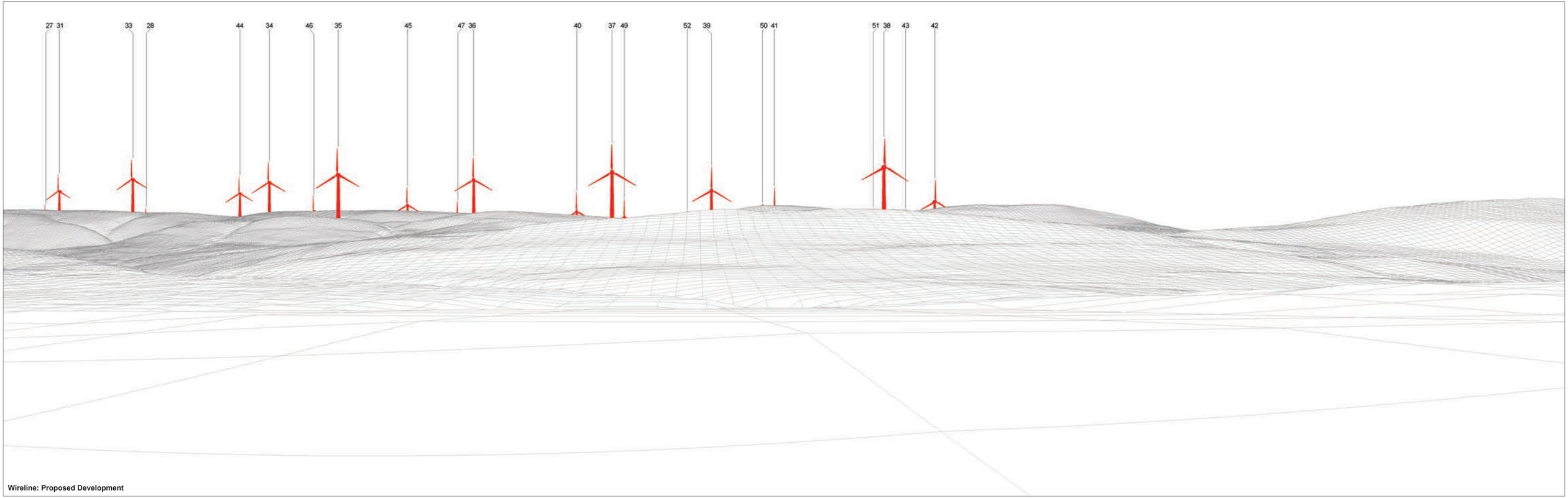
Figure A6.40a
Residential Viewpoint 40: FINGLAND
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	312132 E 596062 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	102.58 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	5°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1764 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

Figure A6.41a
Residential Viewpoint 41: WAMPHRAY GATE FARMHOUSE
Scoop Hill

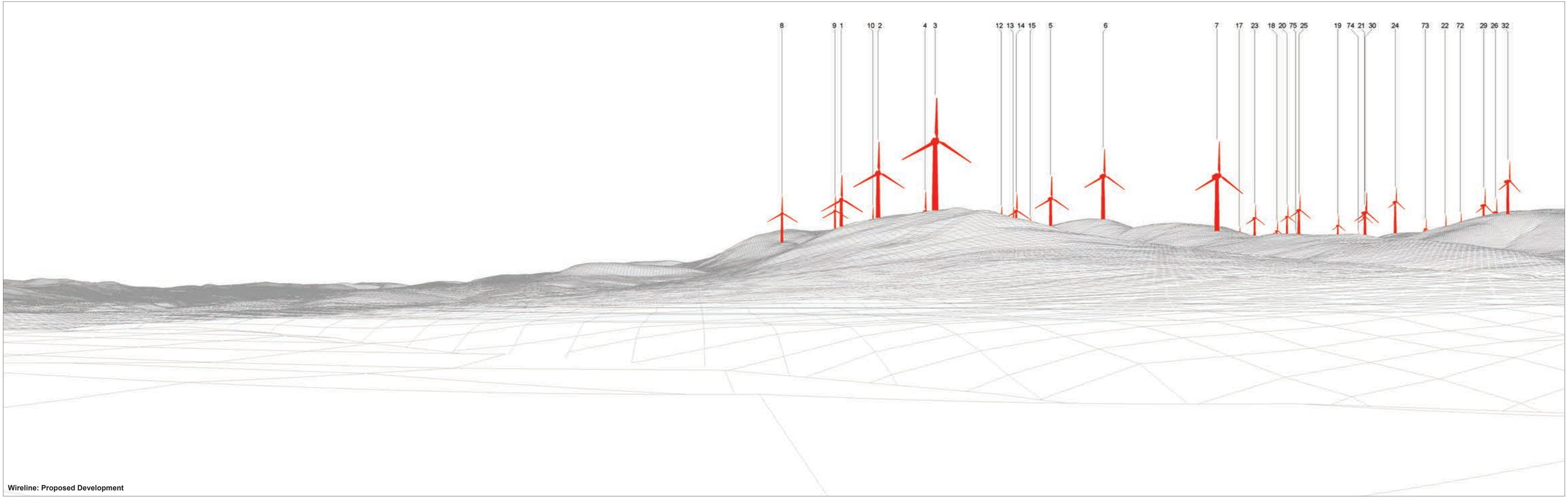


Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference: 312132 E 596062 N
Eye level: 102.58 mAOD
Direction of view: 95°
Nearest turbine: 1764 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

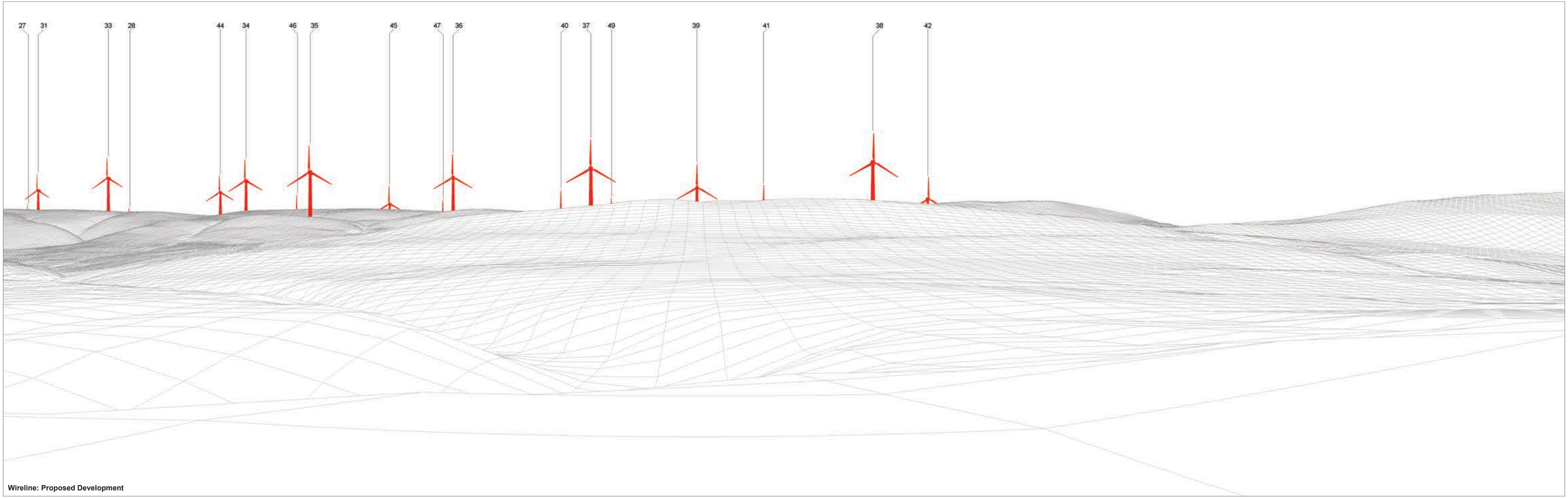
Figure A6.41b
Residential Viewpoint 41: WAMPHRAY GATE FARMHOUSE
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	312229 E 596014 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	104.5 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	5°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1784 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

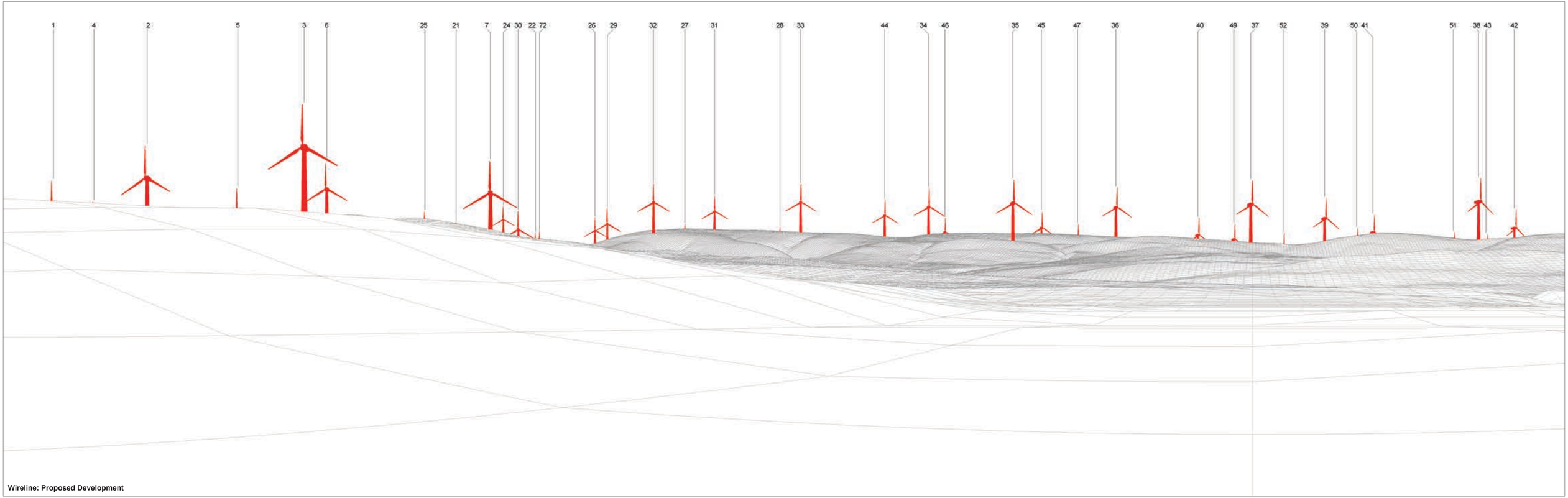
Figure A6.42a
Residential Viewpoint 42: WAMPHRAY GATE COTTAGE
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	312229 E 596014 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	104.5 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	95°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1784 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

Figure A6.42b
Residential Viewpoint 42: WAMPHRAY GATE COTTAGE
Scoop Hill

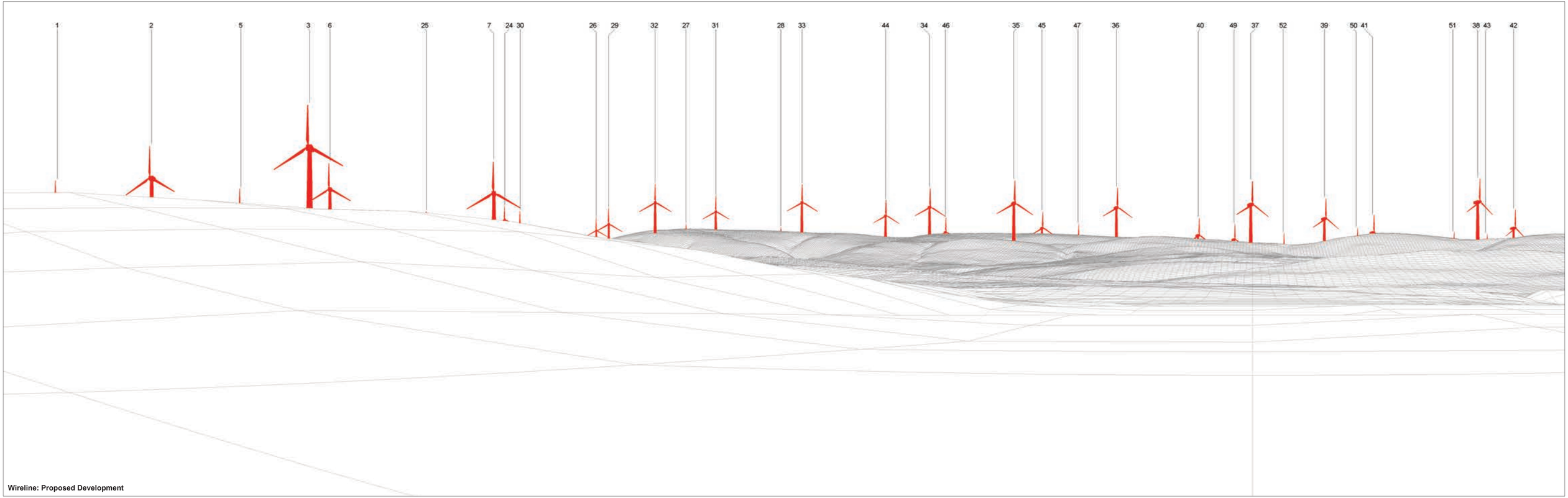


Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference: 311618 E 596290 N
Eye level: 84.4 mAOD
Direction of view: 63°
Nearest turbine: 1787 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Figure A6.43a
Residential Viewpoint 43: 2 WILLOW COTTAGE
Scoop Hill

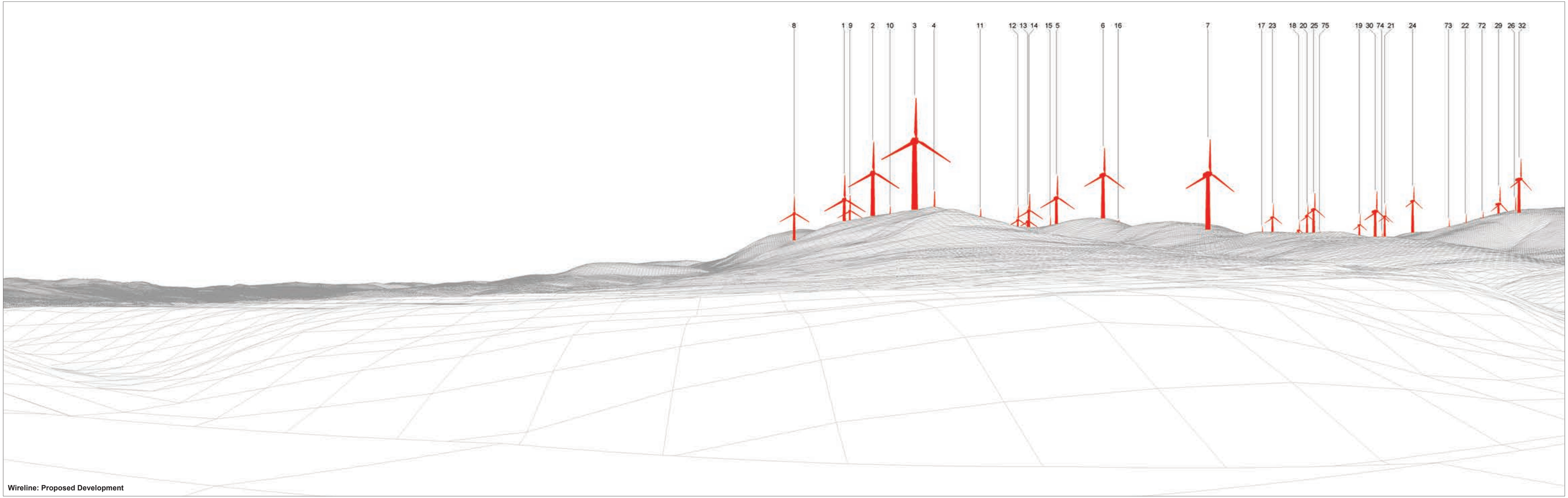


Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference: 311606 E 596290 N
Eye level: 83.8 mAOD
Direction of view: 63°
Nearest turbine: 1794 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Figure A6.44a
Residential Viewpoint 44: 1 WILLOW COTTAGE
Scoop Hill

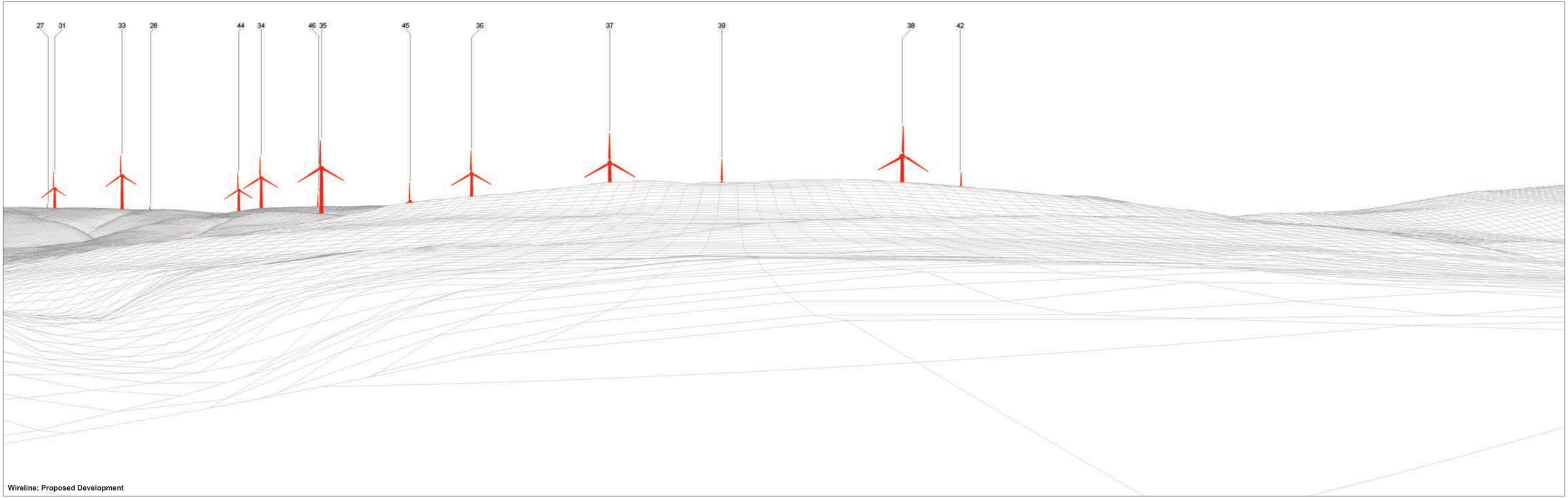


Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference: 312324 E 595983 N
Eye level: 102.5 mAOD
Direction of view: 3°
Nearest turbine: 1795 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

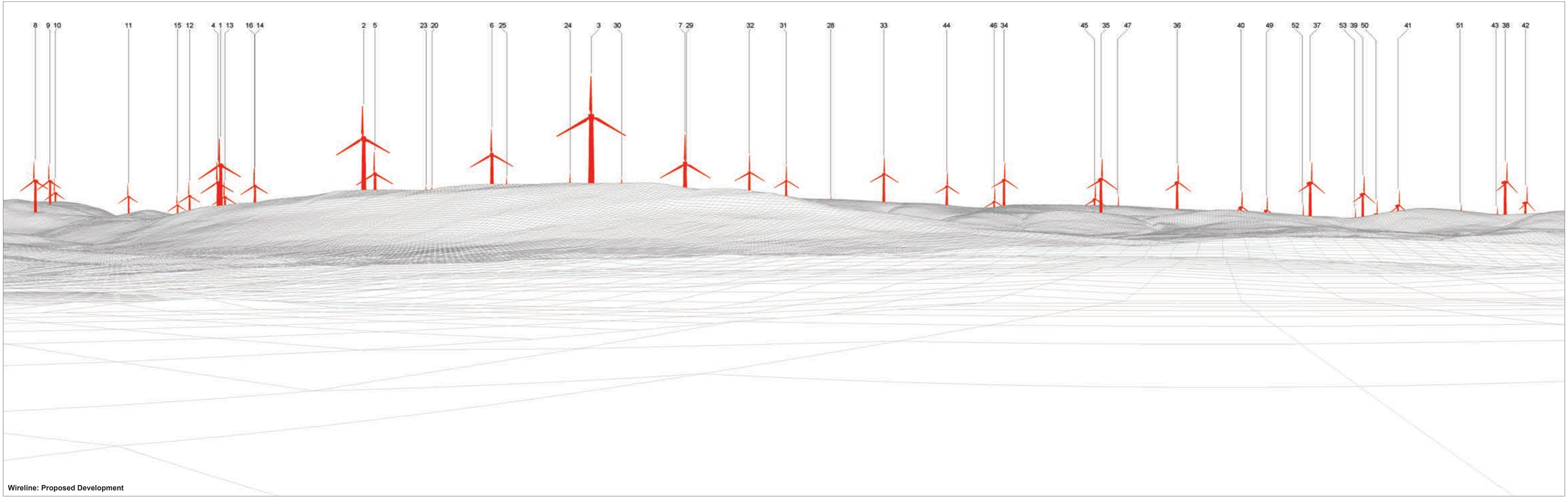
Figure A6.45a
Residential Viewpoint 45: CROSSKNOWE
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	312324 E 595983 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	102.5 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	93°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1795 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

Figure A6.45b
Residential Viewpoint 45: CROSSKNOWE
Scoop Hill

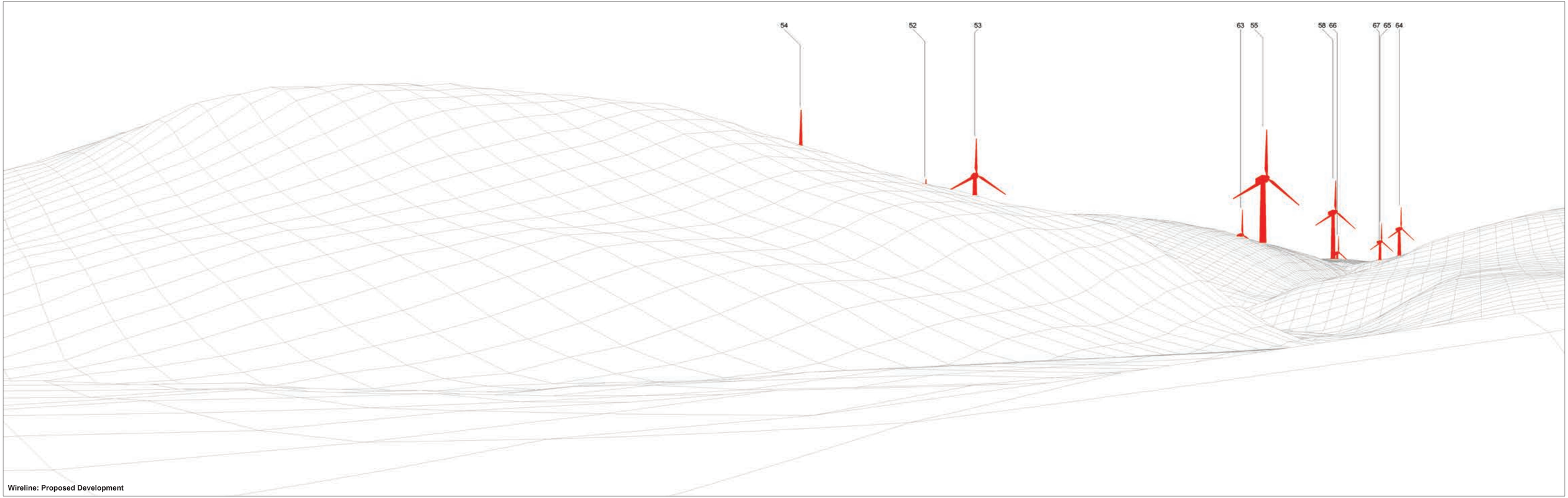


Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference: 311136 E 596642 N
Eye level: 77.46 mAOD
Direction of view: 65°
Nearest turbine: 1876 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

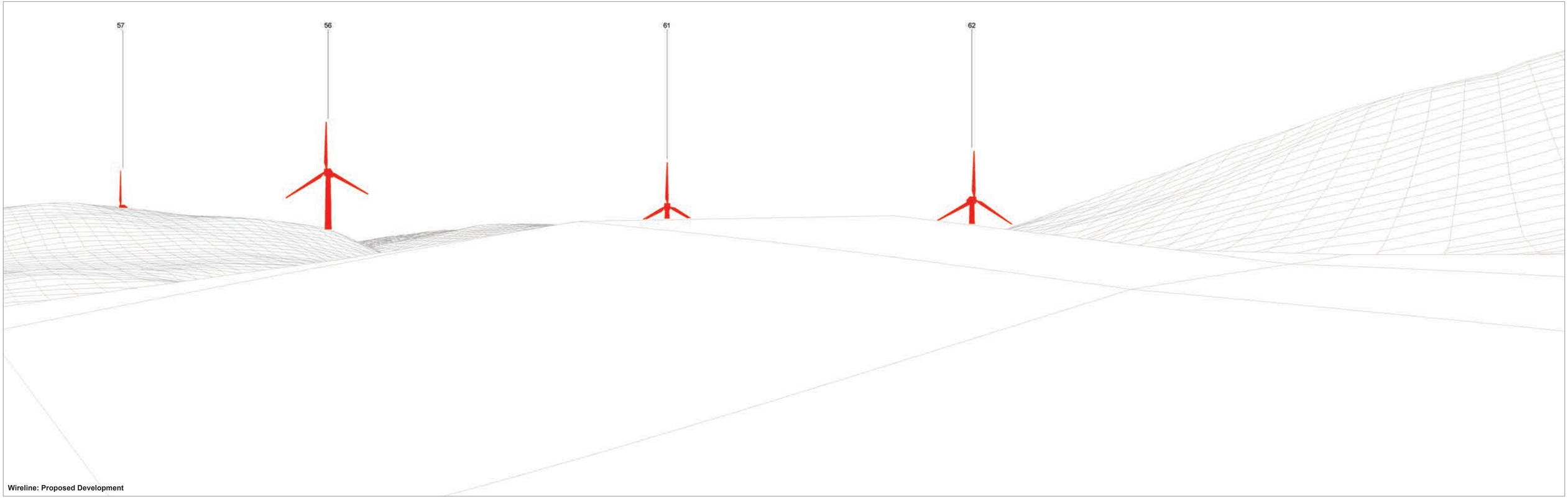
Figure A6.46a
Residential Viewpoint 46: BROOMHILLS FARM
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	318699 E 593926 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	171.95 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	320°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1520 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

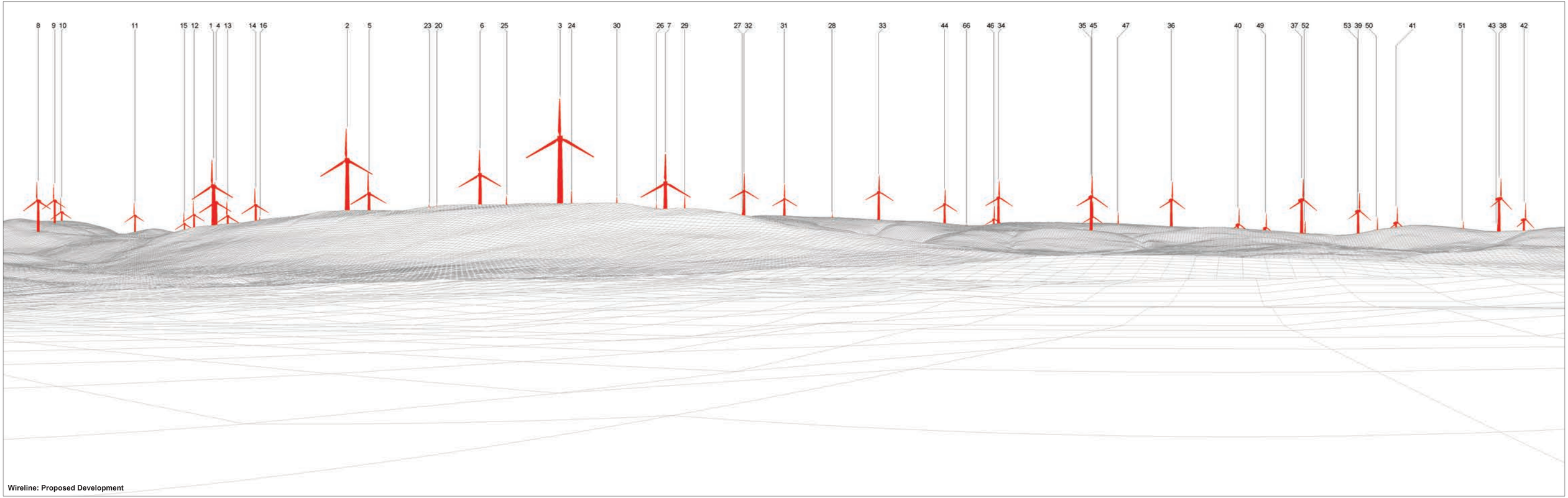
Figure A6.47a
Residential Viewpoint 47: MURTHAT COTTAGE
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	318699 E 593926 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	171.95 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	50°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1520 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

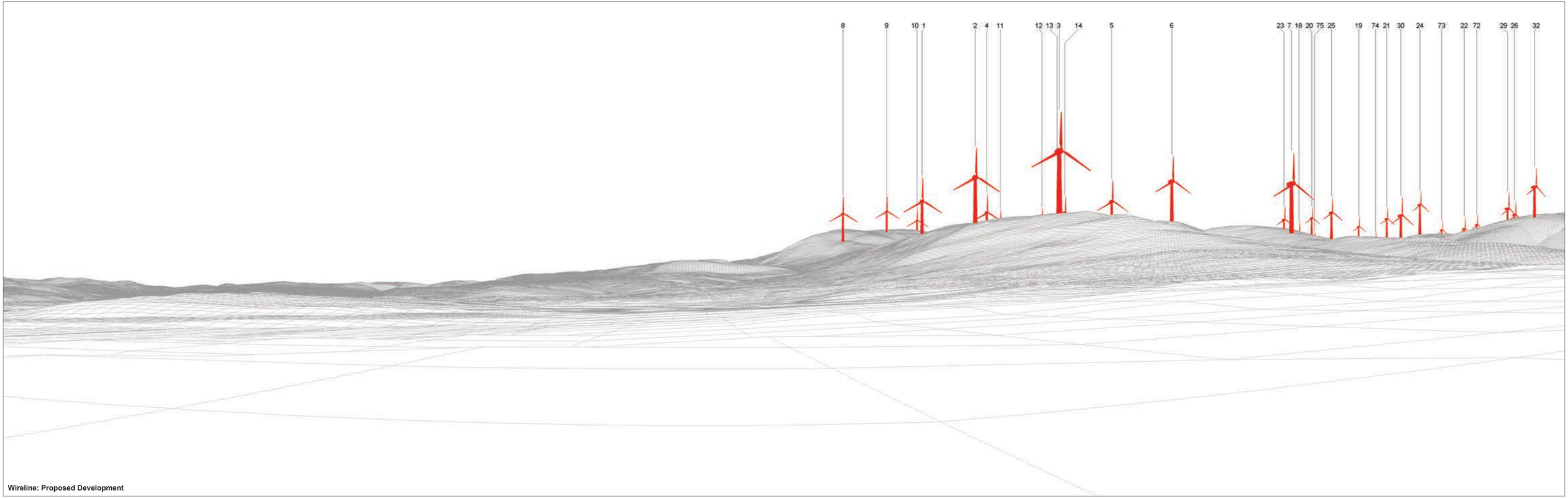
Figure A6.47b
Residential Viewpoint 47: MURTHAT COTTAGE
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	311159 E 596543 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	78.5 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	64°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1918 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

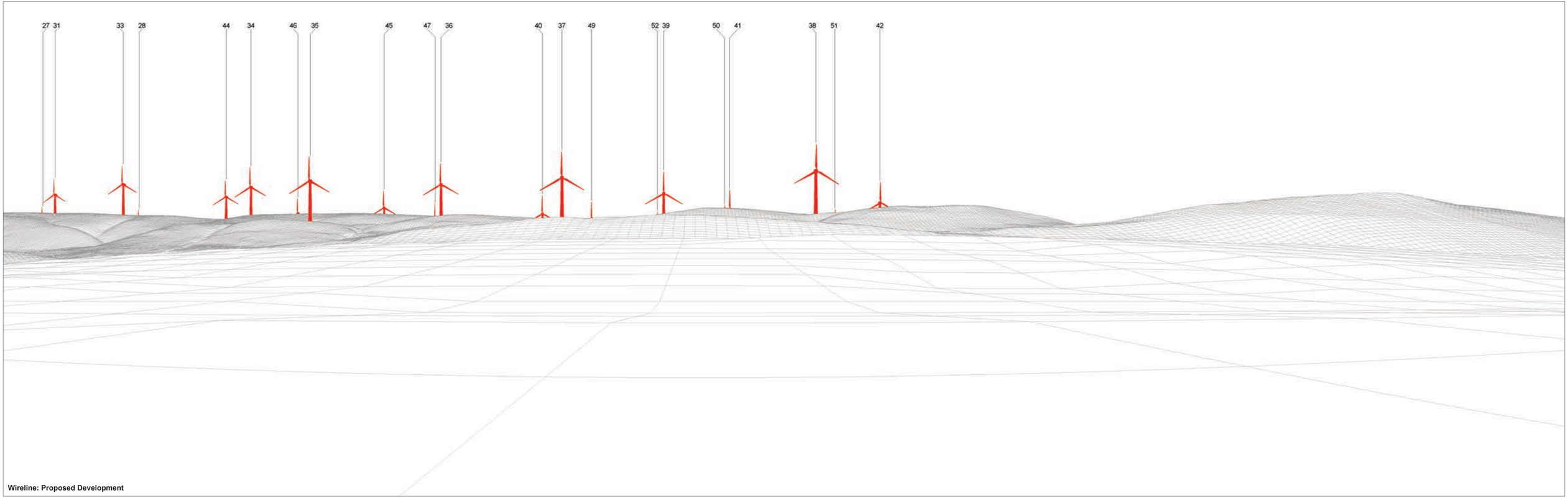
Figure A6.48a
Residential Viewpoint 48: BROOMHILLS COTTAGE
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	311947 E 595898 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	92.5 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	5°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1979 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

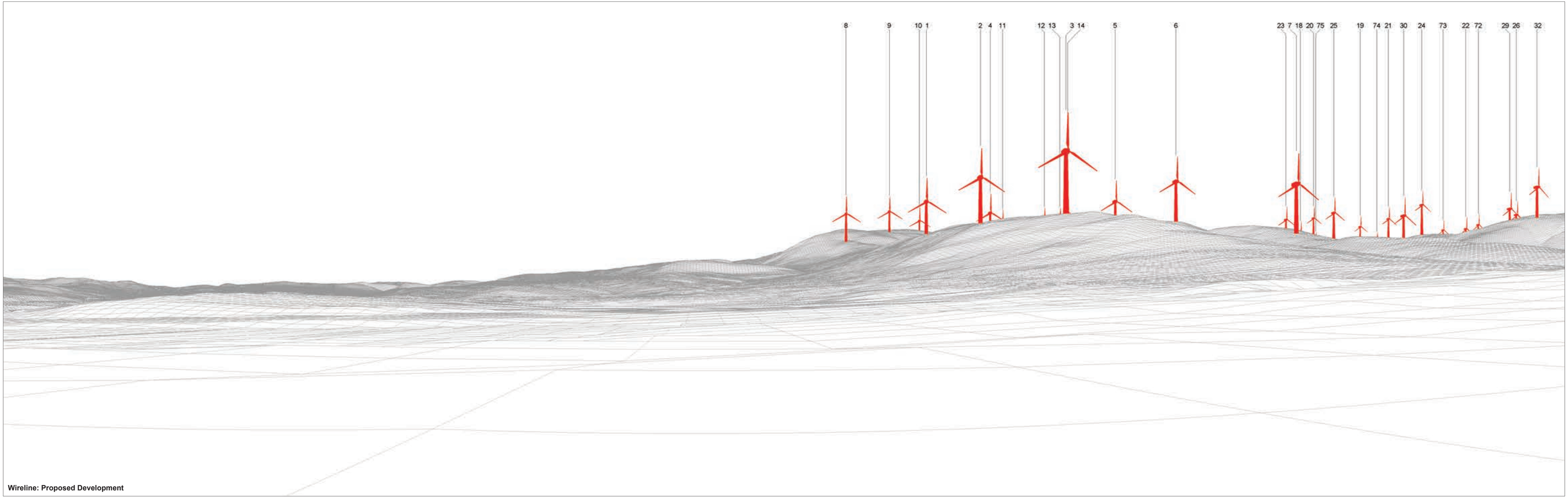
Figure A6.49a
Residential Viewpoint 49: 2 DUNDORAN VIEW
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	311947 E 595898 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	92.5 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	95°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1979 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

Figure A6.49b
Residential Viewpoint 49: 2 DUNDORAN VIEW
Scoop Hill

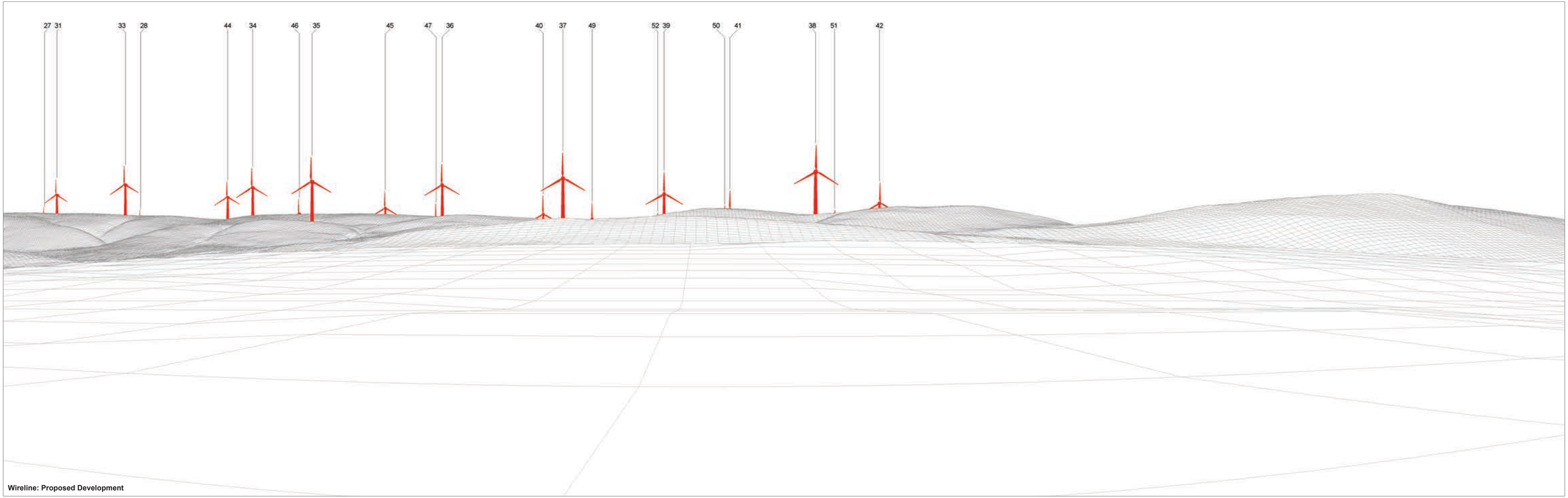


Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference: 311933 E 595899 N
Eye level: 92.47 mAOD
Direction of view: 5°
Nearest turbine: 1983 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

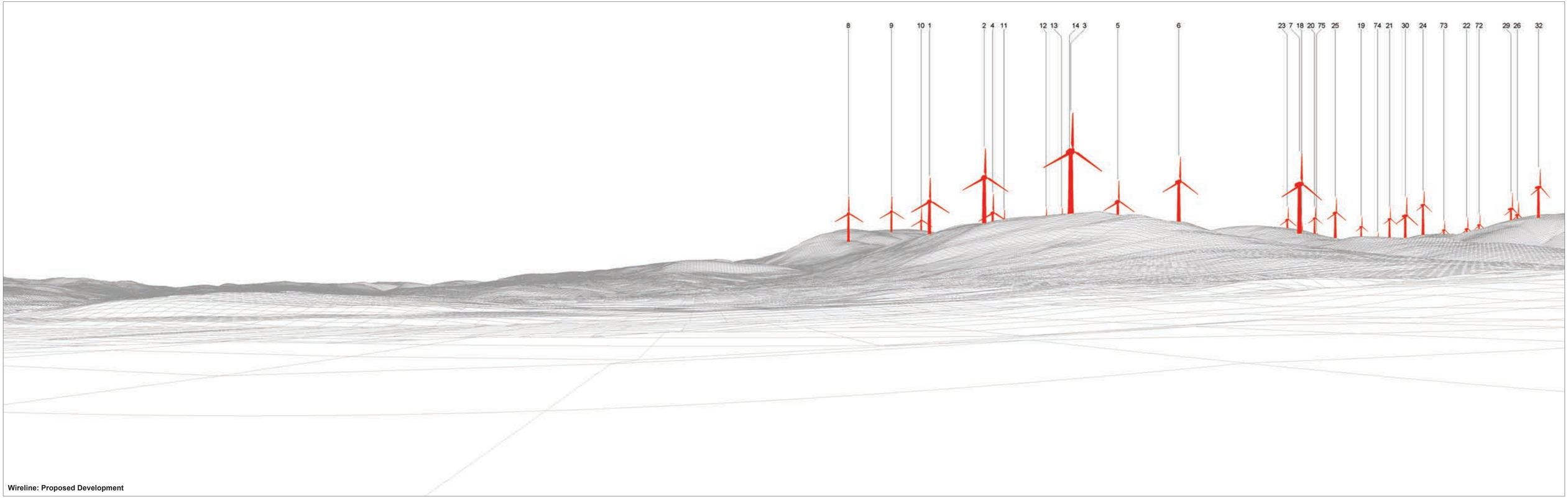
Figure A6.50a
Residential Viewpoint 50: 4 DUNDORAN VIEW
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	311933 E 595899 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	92.47 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	95°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1983 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

Figure A6.50b
Residential Viewpoint 50: 4 DUNDORAN VIEW
Scoop Hill

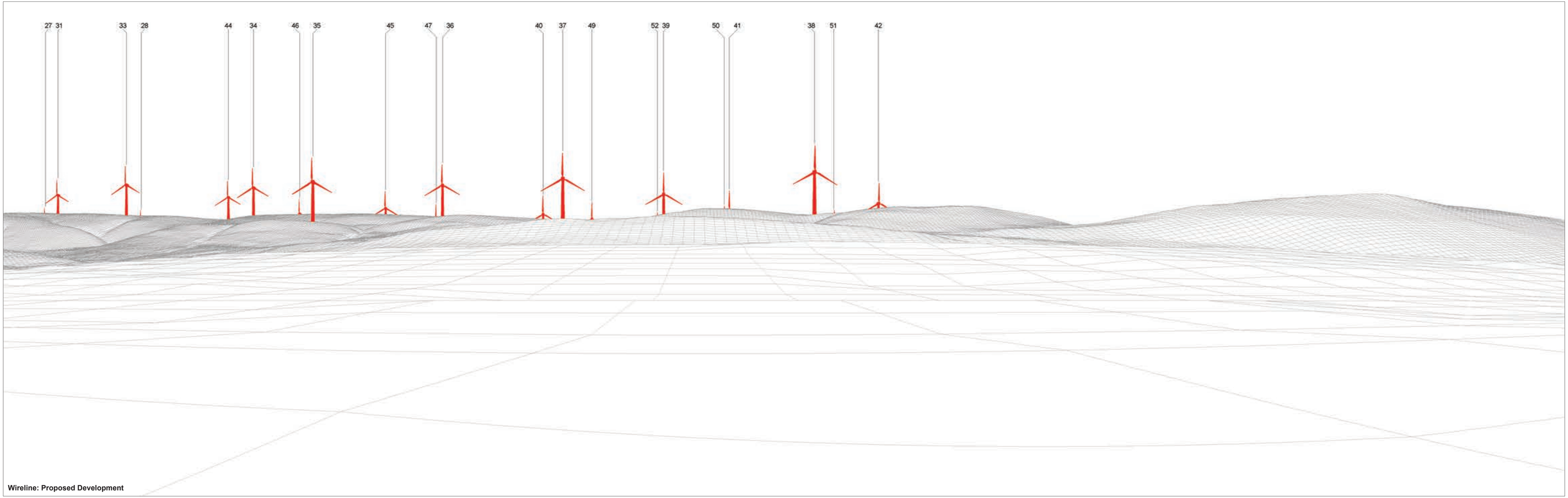


Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	311922 E 595897 N
Eye level:	91.95 mAOD
Direction of view:	5°
Nearest turbine:	1989 m

Horizontal field of view:	90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance:	522 mm
Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

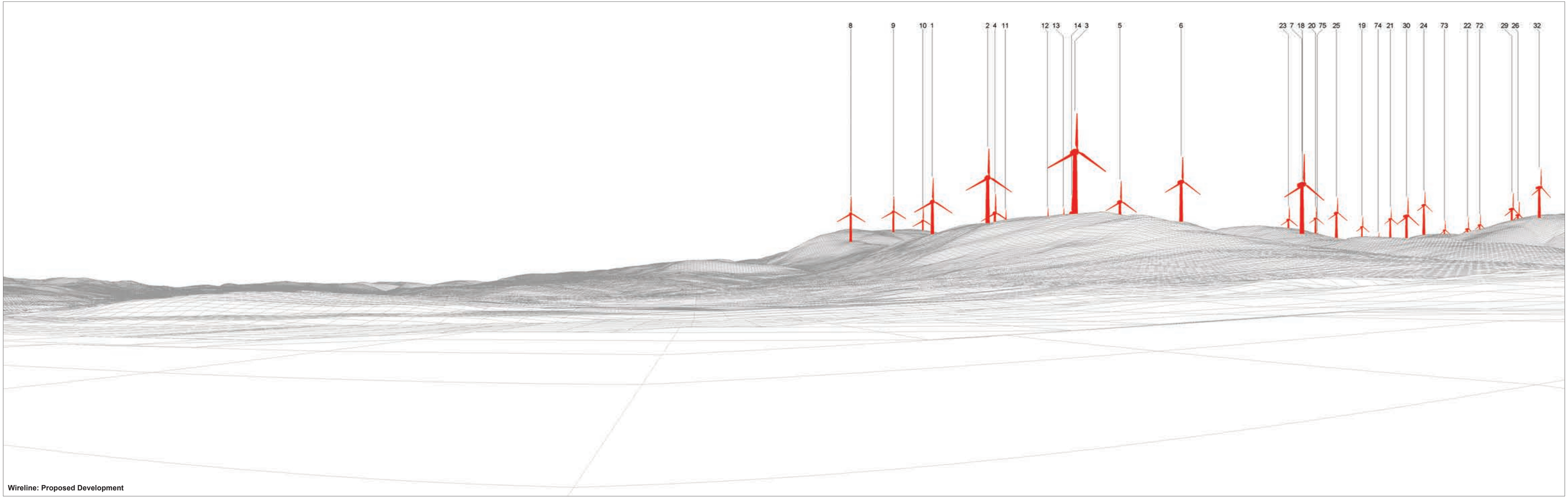
Figure A6.51a
Residential Viewpoint 51: 6 DUNDORAN VIEW
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	311922 E 595897 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	91.95 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	95°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1989 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

Figure A6.51b
Residential Viewpoint 51: 6 DUNDORAN VIEW
Scoop Hill

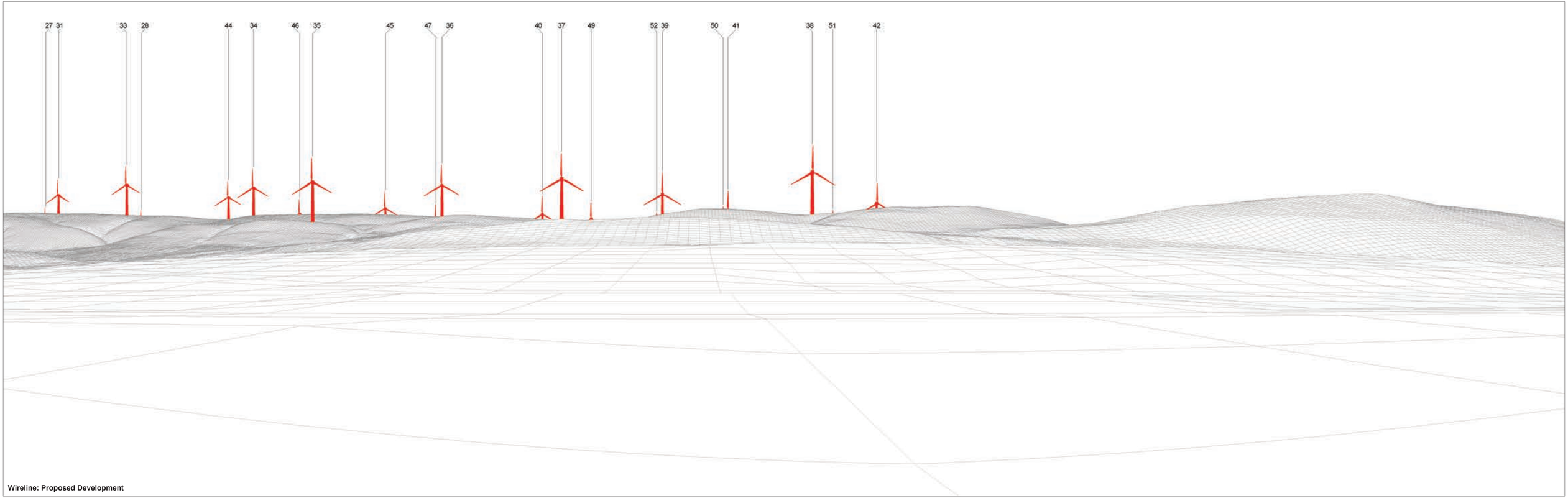


Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference: 311911 E 595892 N
Eye level: 91.51 mAOD
Direction of view: 5°
Nearest turbine: 1998 m

Horizontal field of view: 90° (cylindrical projection)
Principal distance: 522 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm

Figure A6.52a
Residential Viewpoint 52: 8 DUNDORAN VIEW
Scoop Hill



Wireline: Proposed Development

OS reference:	311911 E 595892 N	**Horizontal field of view:**	90° (cylindrical projection)
Eye level:	91.51 mAOD	**Principal distance:**	522 mm
Direction of view:	95°	**Paper size:**	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	1998 m	**Correct printed image size:**	820 x 260 mm

Figure A6.52b
Residential Viewpoint 52: 8 DUNDORAN VIEW
Scoop Hill

Appendix 6.3 – Viewpoint Table

Introduction

In the process of viewpoint selection, a number of viewpoints suggested by Dumfries and Galloway Council (D&GC), NatureScot, Mountaineering Scotland (MS), Scotways, and North Milk Community Council (North Milk CC) have been considered but have not been included in the assessment. This Appendix contains the viewpoint table, which sets out all of the viewpoints that have been considered for inclusion in the LVIA and the reasons for the non-inclusion of certain views.

Viewpoints shaded in green are included in the final assessment, while viewpoints shaded in red have not been included in the assessment for the reasons given.

ID	Viewpoint	Approx. Location	Original Source	Comments	Final Viewpoint Number (where relevant)
1	Southern Upland Way near Gateshaw Rig	315367 604431	Scoping report	Mountaineering Scotland (MS) – essential Exact location tbc on site to avoid forestry	Viewpoint 1
2	White Coomb	316325 615088	Scoping report	In WLA and Moffat Hills RSA. MS considers essential. Replaced with Hart Fell (LVIA Viewpoint 21) as view from White Coomb partially screened by landform of Croft Head.	
3	Ettrick Pen	319954 607662	Scoping report	MS considers essential	Viewpoint 13
4	Kagyu Samye Ling Monastery	324590 599920	Scoping report	No visibility	
5	Bentpath	331343 590203	Scoping report	No visibility	
6	Castle O'er Forest Hill Fort	324190 592850	Scoping report	Eskdale Prehistoric Trail, waymarked walking route, cultural heritage significance	Viewpoint 15
7	Monument, Whita Hill, Langholm	337931 584675	Scoping report	On core path and within Langholm Hills RSA	Viewpoint 22
8	Rangecastle Hill	318996 593664	Scoping report	Cultural heritage significance and useful close-proximity overview	Viewpoint 5
9	Corrie Common	320635 590588	Scoping report	Detailed location adjusted due to landform screening.	Viewpoint 16
10	Boreland	316939 591063	Scoping report	Refer to Viewpoint 20 below	Viewpoint 6
11	Burnswark Hill Fort	318545 578638	Scoping report	Elevated location on distinctive landform, cultural heritage significance	Viewpoint 17
12	Lockerbie	314067 581705	Scoping report	No obvious vp found on OPEN site visit due to screening by buildings/ vegetation. See Viewpoint 28 below for final viewpoint location used near Lockerbie	
13	A709, on approach to Lochmaben	305211 581082	Scoping report	No obvious vp found on OPEN site visit due to screening by buildings/ vegetation See Viewpoint 28 below for final viewpoint location on A709 and Viewpoint 26 for location near Lochmaben	
14	Annandale Water Services, J16 A74(M)	310207 592587	Scoping report/ OPEN site visit		Viewpoint 7
15	Tynron Doon Fort	281996 593940	Scoping report	Over 30km away and relatively limited visibility.	
16	Queensberry	298903 599744	Scoping report	Within Thornhill Uplands RSA, well-known high point MS considers essential.	Viewpoint 20
17	Southern Upland Way near Beattock Hill	306348 601871	Scoping report	MS considers essential	Viewpoint 8
18	Lowther Hill	289023 610691	Scoping report	MS considers essential Relatively distant (26km)	
19	Moffat	308506 605208	Scoping report	Refer to Viewpoints 21 and 24, below	Viewpoints 9 and 10
20	Boreland Church	317057 590847	OPEN site visit	Requested by North Milk CC	Viewpoint 6
21	Moffat A701 on northern edge	307997 605756	OPEN site visit	View showing Moffat in the foreground. Within Moffat Conservation Area and on SW Coastal 300	Viewpoint 10

ID	Viewpoint	Approx. Location	Original Source	Comments	Final Viewpoint Number (where relevant)
22	A701 near Devil's beef tub	306359 612204	OPEN site visit	No visibility from beef tub viewpoint; this location included to show the view from the next bend, where the development comes into view	Viewpoint 12
23	A701 north of Moffat	306530 608771	OPEN site visit	Layby on A701. Within Moffat Hills RSA	Viewpoint 11
24	Moffat High Street	308490 605223	OPEN site visit	View showing Moffat in the foreground. Within Moffat Hills RSA, Moffat Conservation Area and on SW Coastal 300	Viewpoint 9
25	Westerkirk Library, Bentpath		Faw Side	Limited visibility and peripheral to main view	
26	B7020 north of Lochmaben	308690 584030	OPEN site visit	Included as no obvious publicly accessible location in Lochmaben. On Annandale Way.	Viewpoint 19
27	Lochmaben, Rankine Heights		OPEN site visit	Partially screened view, refer to Viewpoint 26 above	
28	A709 west of Lockerbie (bridge over River Annan)	310559 580717	OPEN site visit	Useful to include in the absence of a clear view from Lockerbie. Also represents open view from the A709.	Viewpoint 18
29	B723 south of Boreland		OPEN site visit	Close to Boreland Church Viewpoint (LVIA Viewpoint 6)	
30	B709 north of Eskdalemuir	324212 605967	OPEN site visit	Important view from NE of site, few other accessible receptors in this area	Viewpoint 14
31	Waterhead of Dryfe	318902 594260	North Milk CC	Included (also near core path)	Viewpoint 4
32	Boreland Village Hall	316735 591248	North Milk CC	Close to Boreland Church Viewpoint (LVIA Viewpoint 6). Considerably lower visibility than LVIA Viewpoint 6	
33	Boreland Church	317047 590847	North Milk CC	Included – refer to Viewpoint 20 above	Viewpoint 6
34	Core Path Boreland to Southern Upland Way	317722 596838	North Milk CC	Core path is represented by Waterhead of Dryfe (LVIA Viewpoint 4) and also nearby residential receptors included in RVAA	
35	Romans and Reivers Route	316999 604135	North Milk CC	Included with slightly altered location	Viewpoint 2
36	Viewpoint on the Romans and Reivers Route	Not specified	Scotways	Included	Viewpoint 2
37	Dryfehead bothy	Not specified	Scotways	Nearby properties included in resi assessment	
38	Moffat Dale/ A708	Not specified	NATURESCOT	ZTV shows no visibility from the A708 in Moffat Dale, and very limited intermittent theoretical visibility from the northern slope of the dale	
39	Dryfe Water	Not specified	NATURESCOT	Dryfe Water valley is represented in LVIA Viewpoints 4 and 6 (Viewpoint 5 also provides a nearby elevated overview)	Viewpoints 4 and 6
40	B7020	Not specified	NATURESCOT	Refer to Viewpoint 26 above.	Viewpoint 19
41	Pumplaburn	Not specified	NATURESCOT	Included in RVAA	
42	Hart Fell	311384 613559	NATURESCOT	Used instead of White Coomb. Slightly closer and higher visibility, only 10m lower elevation. Also in WLA and RSA.	Viewpoint 21
	WLA	Not specified	NATURESCOT	Covered by Hart Fell and written assessment	Viewpoint 21
	Sequential Assessment – A/ M74	Not specified	NATURESCOT	Included as written assessment. Represented by Viewpoint 7	Viewpoint 7
	Sequential Assessment – Southern Upland Way	Not specified	NATURESCOT	Included as written assessment. Represented by Viewpoints 1 and 8	Viewpoints 1 and 8
	Sequential Assessment – Romans and Reivers route	Not specified	NATURESCOT	Included as written assessment. Represented by Viewpoint 2	Viewpoint 2
	Sequential Assessment – Eskdale Prehistory Trail	Not specified	NATURESCOT	Castle O'er (Viewpoint 15) is one of the stopping points on this route.	Viewpoint 15

Appendix 6.3 – Wild Land Assessment

Figures

Figure 1: Talla – Hart Fell WLA with Blade Tip ZTV

Figure 2: Talla – Hart Fell WLA with Hub Height ZTV

Figure 3: Talla – Hart Fell WLA with Jenks Wildness Classes

Figure 4: Talla – Hart Fell WLA with Jenks Wildness Classes and Blade Tip ZTV

Figure 5: Talla – Hart Fell WLA with Baseline Wind Farm Blade Tip ZTV

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 Wild land effects are considered in the LVIA in respect of the Talla – Hart Fell WLA, which lies a minimum of around 8km to the north of the proposed development. The following assessment follows guidance set out in NatureScot draft version of 'Assessing Impacts on Wild Land technical guidance' (2017) with reference to NatureScot's 'Description of Wild Land Areas' (2017) for Talla – Hart Fell WLA.

1.1.2 NatureScot's 'Description of Wild Land Areas' (2017) lists four key attributes/ qualities for the Talla – Hart Fell WLA:

1. *Rounded moorland hills, deeply incised by glens and deceptively challenging to traverse;*
2. *A strong perception of naturalness that contrasts with the surrounding forest plantations*;
3. *A well-defined area of wild land that contrasts with the surrounding glens, but with strong visual links to adjacent hills*; and
4. *Few human artefacts, mostly historic settlements that are restricted to sheltered glens.*

1.1.3 These key attributes/qualities form the basis of the wild land assessment as they express the distinctive and specific wildness qualities that are found in this WLA. NatureScot's 'Description of Wild Land Areas' (2017) provides further description of each of these key attributes/qualities as an explanation of how the various aspects of the landscape contribute to the key attributes/qualities. In this assessment, the 'further descriptions' of the four key attributes/qualities are broken down into individual paragraphs in order that the potential effect of the proposed development on each of the key attributes/qualities is assessed in as much detail as possible. The individual paragraphs are referred to as 'aspects' of the key attribute/quality and are numbered as aspects (a), (b), (c) etc of each key attribute/quality.

1.1.4 The key attributes/qualities and their aspects are listed in Table 5 of this Appendix, which also notes which of these aspects could potentially be affected by the proposed development, as required by NatureScot's methodology.

1.2 'Assessing Impacts on Wild Land Technical Guidance' (2017)

1.2.1 The consultation draft NatureScot technical guidance (2017) sets out the suggested approach to the assessment of effects on wild land. As noted in Paragraph 3 of the guidance, the assessment methodology broadly follows that of GLVIA3, and is based around the following five stages (as described in Box 1 of NatureScot guidance):

- *"Step 1 - Define the study area and scope of the assessment (Identify a study area appropriate to the scale of development and extent of likely significant effects on the WLA);*
- *Step 2 – Establish the baseline (Confirm the wild land qualities of the study area and the nature of their contribution to the WLA. The assessment should identify which qualities are likely to be significantly affected by the proposal);*
- *Step 3 – Assess the sensitivity of the study area (Identify which wild land qualities of the WLA, including the physical attributes and perceptual responses that contribute to those qualities, are most sensitive to the type and scale of change proposed);*
- *Step 4 – Assess the effects (Given the size or scale of change, extent and duration, describe the effects on individual qualities and/ or combinations of qualities, drawing out which physical attributes and perceptual responses will be affected and how, and the potential for mitigation);* and
- *Step 5 – Judgement of the significance of effect (Describe the significance of residual effects on the wild land qualities of the Wild Land Area. This should take into account mitigation)."*

1.2.2 Paragraph 4 of the guidance notes that "*GLVIA provides the framework for assessing impacts upon landscape and visual amenity. It is focused on likely significant environmental effects rather than all possible effects. This method should be applied to proposals whose location, scale or design could result in a significant effect on the qualities of WLAs. Where effects are not expected to be significant, no such assessment is required*." It is therefore important that the wild land assessment is focussed on '*likely significant environmental effects rather than all possible effects'.*

1.2.3 While the wild land assessment methodology broadly follows that set out in GLVIA3, there are several points within the NatureScot guidance that are beneficially explained prior to the assessment itself, and these are discussed below.

The Status of WLAs

1.2.4 The status of WLAs is clearly set out in Paragraph 8; "*WLAs have not been identified on scenic grounds and are not a statutory designation.*"

1.2.5 There is also an acceptance that WLAs are not 'wilderness' and that human influences can and do form part of the baseline character of WLAs. This is expressed in the response to Question 4 in Annex 1:

"*…they contain some evidence of past occupation, contemporary use and/or land management. This can include among other things, buildings (derelict and still used), tracks, hydro-electricity, infrastructure, and evidence of sporting and grazing management. Similarly, some development outwith WLAs can be seen from parts of the WLAs. Despite the evidence of these developments (either within or outwith a WLA), it is sufficiently light and of limited extent that the range of strength of wild land qualities remains well expressed within the WLAs*."

1.2.6 The key phrase is "*sufficiently light and of limited extent"* as this presents a measure with which to assess the existing external influence of development, and operational wind farms in particular, on the WLA, and indicates to what degree this influence can be accommodated within an area that is considered to be 'wild land'. In the case of the Talla – Hart Fell WLA, the operational wind farm at Clyde and Extension lies a minimum of 4.3km from the WLA, while the consented site at Whitelaw Brae is 760m away from the WLA. These sites, along with the operational Glenkerie Wind Farm (a minimum of approximately 9.5km to the north of the WLA), are visible from substantial parts of the WLA. Harestanes and Minnygap Wind Farms also have visibility from some parts of the WLA at a minimum of 14.8km away.

The Need for a Wild Land Assessment

1.2.7 The need for a WLA assessment is discussed in Paragraph 5 of the NatureScot 2017 guidance, with the need considered to be '*highly likely*' where the proposed development falls wholly or partly within a WLA. Where the proposed development falls outwith the WLA, however, "*…the need for an assessment will be more the exception and may only be necessary where significant effects on WLA qualities are likely*."

1.2.8 An assessment of the effects that the proposed development may have on the Talla – Hart Fell WLA has been included in this EIA Report despite the location of the proposed development a minimum of around 8km outwith the WLA boundary. This assessment has been included in response to concerns raised by NatureScot in its scoping and Gatecheck responses and demonstrates a precautionary approach to the assessment.

Cumulative Effects

1.2.9 NatureScot guidance (Paragraph 15) notes the following in relation to cumulative effects on WLAs.

"*The rationale for the selection of the study area should be clearly stated within the assessment and should consider the following…The potential for cumulative effects. At an early stage of the assessment process, other proposals (either of the same or different type) which are likely to contribute to significant cumulative effects in addition to the proposal should be identified and discussed with the relevant planning authorities. The principles within NatureScot's cumulative guidance specific to onshore wind energy development should be applied to assessing cumulative effects on WLAs*."

1.2.10 OPEN's methodology for the assessment of cumulative effects on landscape character receptors and views is described in Section 1.8 of Appendix 6.1. This accords with NatureScot's guidance 'Assessing the cumulative impact of onshore wind energy developments' (2012).

1.2.11 Cumulative effects are discussed in Section 1.10 of this Appendix.

1.3 The Scope of the Wild Land Assessment

1.3.1 It is important to note that, according to NatureScot guidance, effects on WLAs can only be experienced within WLAs and not on the area surrounding them. Paragraph 21 of the guidance notes that: "*The impact of development outwith a WLA will require careful justification and consideration. A wild land assessment should only consider effects on the qualities of the WLA as they are experienced within it, not from outwith it. This is in contrast to a scenic or landscape designation, whose appreciation from outwith is part of the standard LVIA approach*."

1.3.2 The technical guidance also notes the following in Paragraph 1; "*As perceptual responses cannot be mapped, physical attributes were used to inform the preparation of the 2014 map of wild land areas*", and in Paragraphs 11 and 25: "*Development outwith WLAs may only impact on perceptual responses*."

1.3.3 It may logically be concluded that if a development is located outwith a WLA it cannot impact on the physical attributes of the WLA, and any impacts that do arise would be on the perceptual responses. This is consistent with the assessment of physical effects of the proposed development on landscape receptors (as carried out in the LVIA), which can only arise on the physical fabric of the site itself, and not on surrounding areas. Areas surrounding the proposed development, outwith its site boundary, can only undergo perceived effects as a result of the proposed development, not direct effects on its physical characteristics or attributes, and this is also the case with the WLA.

1.3.4 The proposed development can, therefore, only indirectly affect the perceptual responses of the Talla – Hart Fell WLA and will not directly affect the physical attributes or characteristics of the landscape within the boundary.

1.3.5 The NatureScot guidance discusses the subjectivity involved in the assessment of perceptual responses, noting at Paragraph 23 that "*The subjective nature of wildness underlines the need for judgements on effects to be transparent and understandable, so that the underlying assumptions and reasoning can be understood by others. When evaluating the significance of effects, the subjective nature of perceptual responses should be taken into account*." The acceptance of the subjectivity involved in the assessment of perceptual responses suggests that different assessors may conclude different findings.

1.3.6 In terms of the potential significance of effects that may arise on a WLA from a development that lies outwith its boundary, NatureScot notes in Paragraph 25 that '*The protection of wild land qualities as set out in SPP, means that only in exceptional circumstances relating to scale, siting or design will development outwith WLAs have a significant effect*.'

1.4 Methodology for Assessing Effects on Wild Land Areas

Introduction

1.4.1 As noted in Paragraph 3 of the NatureScot guidance, the assessment methodology broadly follows that of GLVIA3, and is based around the five stages described in Box 1 of NatureScot guidance and quoted in Paragraph 1.2.1 above.

1.4.2 Steps 1 and 2 do not require detailed explanation of methodology and are carried out subsequently in this Appendix. The methodology for Steps 3, 4 and 5 is described below. These steps are assessed in accordance with GLVIA3 and follow OPEN's methodology, which is described in full in Appendix 6.1.

1.4.3 In this methodology, WLAs are considered as landscape character receptors rather than visual receptors. This is because the landscape of the WLA is a resource in itself and while any effects arising from the influence of the proposed development must arise through visibility of the proposed development (as the proposed development lies outwith the WLA and there are no direct effects on the physical attributes of the WLA), these effects are assessed in terms of the effects on the wild land qualities of the WLA, as per NatureScot guidance, and not in terms of the effects on views gained by people who may be within the WLA.

Step 3: Assessing the sensitivity of the study area

1.4.4 NatureScot guidance notes this step as follows:

"*Assess the sensitivity of the study area (Identify which wild land qualities of the WLA, including the physical attributes and perceptual responses that contribute to those qualities, are most sensitive to the type and scale of change proposed).*"

1.4.5 In line with GLVIA3, sensitivity is assessed through a combination of the value and sensitivity of the receptor.

Value of Wild Land Areas

1.4.6 In applying GLVIA3 to the assessment, it is necessary to attribute a **value** to the receptor (classified as high, medium or low, as described in Appendix 6.1), where the value attributed to nationally important designations, including NPs and NSAs is normally found to be at the upper end of the scale, or high.

1.4.7 Wild land is recognised in SPP and planning policy as a nationally important mapped resource (not a designation), which should be afforded protection for its wildness qualities, but it is not statutorily protected in the way that National Parks (NP) and National Scenic Areas (NSA) are for their scenic qualities.

1.4.8 In order to apply objectivity to the attribution of value in wild land areas, it is helpful to have regard to the weighting that SPP gives to it. Whereas in *SPP Table 1: Spatial Frameworks,* Scottish Ministers place NSAs and NPs in the Group 1 category, Wild Land Areas are identified as a Group 2 consideration, recognising the difference in their respective values. As a matter of national policy, Wild Land is therefore less highly valued than NSAs and NPs.

1.4.9 NatureScot also helpfully provides some further guidance on this in its publication *Spatial Planning for Onshore Wind Turbines – Natural Heritage Considerations, Guidance (June 2015)*. Annex 1 to this document provides advice on the potential landscape objectives that may be applicable in different landscapes within Scotland in terms of their ability to accommodate wind farms, suggesting that some landscapes should be subject to a higher level of protection than others.

1.4.10 Annex 1 places WLAs in the middle category, where some landscape 'accommodation' of wind farms may be considered appropriate, noting that:

"*Within local landscape designations and Wild land Areas, the degree of landscape protection will be less than for National Scenic Areas. In these areas, an appropriate objective may be to accommodate windfarms, rather than seek landscape protection*."

1.4.11 WLAs are therefore considered to have a lower inherent baseline value, in landscape terms, than nationally designated landscapes. In the terms of GLVIA3 and OPEN's methodology, it is reasonable to attribute a **medium-high** value to the Talla – Hart Fell WLA. In comparison, an NSA would be attributed a high value.

1.4.12 In OPEN's approach, the same level of value is applied uniformly across the WLA on the basis that all areas have the same value, resulting from their inclusion within and recognition as a WLA. This combines with individual assessments of susceptibility (described below) to inform the overall assessment of sensitivity within the WLA.

Susceptibility within Wild Land Areas

1.4.13 **Susceptibility** relates to the nature of the landscape receptor and how susceptible it is to the potential effects of the proposed development, as described in GLVIA3. Susceptibility varies across the WLA depending on the nature and strength of the wild land qualities, the perceptions that are experienced in different areas, and in the context of different external and internal influences.

1.4.14 Susceptibility is combined with value, as described above, to inform the assessment of the overall sensitivity of various parts of the WLA to the proposed development. OPEN's methodology assesses the susceptibility of landscape character receptors through the application of the following criteria, as set out in Appendix 6.1:

- *The specific nature of the proposed development: the susceptibility of landscape receptors is specific to the change arising from the particular development that is proposed, including its individual components and features, and its size, scale, location, context and characteristics;*
- *Landscape character: the key characteristics of the existing landscape character of the receptor are considered in the evaluation of susceptibility as they determine the degree to which the receptor may accommodate the influence of the proposed development. For example, a landscape that is of a particularly wild and remote character may have a high susceptibility to the influence of the proposed development due to the contrast that it would have with the landscape, whereas a developed landscape where built elements and structures are already part of the landscape character may have a lower susceptibility. However, there are instances when the quality of a landscape may have been degraded to an extent whereby it is considered to be in a fragile state and therefore a degraded landscape may have a higher susceptibility to the proposed development; and*
- *Landscape association: the extent to which the proposed development will influence the character of the landscape receptors across the study area also relates to the associations that exist between the landscape within which the proposed development is located and the landscape receptor from which the proposed development is being experienced. This association will be most important where the landscapes are directly related; for example, if the proposed development is located in an upland landscape that has a strong enclosing influence on an adjacent valley landscape. Elsewhere, the association may be less important; for example, where the proposed development lies inland of a coastal landscape that has its main focus outwards over the sea.*

1.4.15 These criteria are helpful in providing some reference to the factors that determine the susceptibility of landscape character to the proposed development. However, in the wild land assessment, the 'landscape association' criterion is not identified as a separate factor in the judgement of susceptibility but is considered in the context of the wild land key attributes/qualities in various parts of the WLA. This is because the key attributes/qualities make specific mention of landscape association where it is a relevant factor for a specific WLA, and it is therefore not necessary to include it again when considering susceptibility.

1.4.16 A useful tool in the assessment of the levels of susceptibility across the WLA is NatureScot's 2014 analysis of the data that was gathered in order to inform the identification of WLAs. NatureScot gathered data for each of the 'physical attributes' of wild land and used these to create a 'relative wildness map'. The 'Jenks Natural Breaks Optimisation method' was then used to identify the natural breaks in the distribution of the relative wildness data in order that levels of wildness could be identified and mapped. As a result, eight classes of wildness were identified, with 8 being the highest and 1 being the lowest. The mapping of these eight classes is shown in relation to the Talla – Hart Fell WLA on Figure 3, and these provide useful information in the identification of susceptibility across the WLA. It is important, however, to remember that the classes of

wildness were mapped in 2014 and therefore do not reflect more recent changes to the influences on wild land, which include, in the case of Talla – Hart Fell WLA, the nearby construction of Clyde Extension and consenting of Whitelaw Brae Wind Farms.

1.4.17 The full methodology of the mapping of the eight classes of wildness is described in the NatureScot document 'Mapping of Scotland's Wildness and Wild Land: Non–technical Description of the Methodology (June 2014)'.

1.4.18 The approach to assessing the susceptibility of the various parts of the WLA therefore relies upon several sources; the eight mapped classes of wildness, the NatureScot WLA description, and the descriptions of the various landscape character types that lie within the WLA.

Step 4: Assess the effects

1.4.19 NatureScot guidance notes this step as follows:

1.4.20 "*Assess the effects (Given the size or scale of change, extent and duration, describe the effects on individual qualities and/ or combinations of qualities, drawing out which physical attributes and perceptual responses will be affected and how, and the potential for mitigation)".*

1.4.21 OPEN's methodology for assessing magnitude of change on landscape character receptors is carried out through the application of the following criteria, as set out in Appendix 6.1:

"The magnitude of change that the proposed development will have on landscape receptors is assessed in terms of the size or scale of the change, the geographical extent of the area influenced and its duration and reversibility. The key elements of the proposed development that will influence the level of change on landscape character are the movement, form, material, colour and scale of the turbines, although infrastructure is also considered.

<u>Size or Scale</u>
This criterion relates to the size or scale of change to the landscape that will arise as a result of the addition of the proposed development, based on the following factors:

- *The degree to which the pattern of elements that makes up the landscape character will be altered by the proposed development, through removal or addition of elements in the landscape. The magnitude of change will generally be higher if key features that make up the landscape character are extensively removed or altered, and if many new components are added to the landscape;*
- *The extent to which the proposed development will change - physically or perceptually - the characteristics that may be important in the creation of the distinctive character of the landscape. This may include the scale of the landform, its relative simplicity or irregularity, the nature of the landscape context, the grain or orientation of the landscape, the degree to which the receptor is influenced by external features and the juxtaposition of the proposed development with these key characteristics;*
- *The distance between the landscape character receptor and the proposed development. Generally, the greater the distance, the lower the scale of change as the proposed development will constitute a less apparent influence on the landscape character; and*
- *The extent of the proposed development that will be seen from the landscape receptor. Visibility of the proposed development may range from one turbine blade tip to all of the turbines, and generally the greater the extent of the proposed development that can be seen, the greater the change.*

<u>Geographical Extent</u>
The geographic area over which the landscape effects will be experienced is also evaluated. The extent of the effect will vary depending on the specific nature of the proposed development and is principally a reflection of the extent of the landscape receptor that will be affected by visibility of the proposed development.

<u>Duration and Reversibility</u>
The duration and reversibility of landscape effects are based on the period over which the proposed development is likely to exist and the extent to which the proposed development will be removed, and its effects reversed at the end of that period. Duration and reversibility are not always incorporated into the overall magnitude of change and may be stated separately."

Step 5: Judgement of the significance of effects

1.4.22 NatureScot guidance notes this step as follows:

"Judgement of the significance of effect (Describe the significance of residual effects on the wild land qualities of the Wild Land Area. This should take into account mitigation)."

1.4.23 As the proposed development is located outwith the Talla – Hart Fell WLA, it cannot have any direct effects on the physical attributes of the WLA. There is, however, potential for it to give rise to indirect, perceptual effects which may affect how parts of the WLA and its wildness qualities are perceived.

1.4.24 Wildness qualities are derived from both the physical attributes and perceptual responses, as confirmed in Paragraph 11 of the 2017 guidance:

"*The term wild land qualities encompass both physical attributes and perceptual responses – reflecting that it is a combination of factors that contributes to the value and appreciation of wildness."*

1.4.25 On the basis that the NatureScot guidance is based on the principles of GLVIA3, OPEN's methodology for the assessment of the significance of effects (as described in Appendix 6.1) has also been used for the assessment of the significance of effects on wild land. OPEN's methodology describes the significance of effects as follows:

"*The significance of the effect on each view and landscape/visual receptor is dependent on the factors that are considered in the sensitivity of the view or receptor and the magnitude of change upon it. These factors are combined using professional judgement to arrive at an overall assessment as to whether the proposed development will have a significant or not significant effect on the view or receptor. The matrix shown in Table 1 of Appendix 6.1 is also used to inform the potential threshold of significance when combining sensitivity and magnitude of change.*

A significant effect will occur where the combination of the variables results in the proposed development having a defining effect on the view or receptor. A not significant effect will occur where the effect of the proposed development is not definitive, and the view or receptor continues to be characterised principally by its baseline characteristics. In this instance, a not significant effect would indicate that the proposed development may have an influence, but this influence will not be a defining one.

This assessment assumes clear weather and optimum viewing conditions. This means that effects that are assessed to be significant may be not significant under different, less clear conditions."

1.5 Step 1: Define the study area and scope of the assessment

1.5.1 The following sections of this Appendix assesses the likely effects of the proposed development on the Talla – Hart Fell WLA, following the five steps that are set out in NatureScot's 2017 draft guidance (paragraph 14).

1.5.2 NatureScot guidance notes this step as follows:

"*Define the study area and scope of the assessment (Identify a study area appropriate to the scale of development and extent of likely significant effects on the WLA).*"

1.5.3 Effects on the WLA are dependent on visibility of the proposed development, as where it is not visible, it cannot affect the wild land qualities of the landscape. The ZTVs (Figures 1 and 2) show that there will be very limited and intermittent visibility from the WLA, and the effect of the proposed development will therefore not extend across the whole area. However, the full Talla – Hart Fell WLA has been included as the study area in this assessment in order that cumulative wind farm visibility, the varying levels of baseline wild land qualities, susceptibility of the landscape, and magnitude of change are considered and, as a result, the assessment can ultimately focus on the likely significant effects, in accordance with the NatureScot guidance.

1.6 Step 2: Establish the baseline

1.6.1 NatureScot guidance notes this step as follows:

"*Confirm the wild land qualities of the study area and the nature of their contribution to the WLA. The assessment should identify which qualities are likely to be significantly affected by the proposal.*"

1.6.2 This step involves two stages, in accordance with NatureScot guidance (Box 1 and Paragraphs 16-18):

- *"The strength of attributes and responses and their contribution to the wild land qualities of the area should be confirmed, taking into account any changes that may have occurred either within or outwith the WLA since the mapping and descriptions were produced…The strength to which the wild land qualities are expressed will vary in different parts of the WLA…The WLA descriptions and fieldwork should be used to understand the different characteristics of the baseline environment, forming a basis for the assessment of effects on qualities;* and
- *The assessment should identify which qualities are likely to be significantly affected by the proposal."*

1.6.3 The baseline study is informed by NatureScot's description of the WLA (2017), the mapping of the eight classes of wildness (NatureScot, 2014), OPEN's site visits, the LVIA baseline descriptions of the landscape character types that lie within the WLA, and LVIA Viewpoint 21 (Hart Fell), which illustrates the outlook across the WLA from a high point in the western part of the WLA.

1.6.4 It is important to note that while LVIA Viewpoint 21 provides a useful illustration of the views that can be gained from Hart Fell, within the WLA, the assessment of effects on viewpoints and on wild land areas is carried out separately and according to specific methodologies that vary in some respects. The assessment of effects at Viewpoint 21 should therefore not be considered in relation to the assessment of effects on wild land, and the viewpoint has been referenced simply to provide an illustration of a view from within the WLA.

Stage 1: Confirm the strength of attributes and responses and their contribution to the wild land qualities of the area

1.6.5 NatureScot guidance notes that this stage should be carried out "*taking into account any changes that may have occurred either within or outwith the WLA since the mapping and descriptions were produced*". This is of relevance at the Talla – Hart Fell WLA as while NatureScot's description of the WLA is dated 2017, the description is informed by site visits that were carried out in 2013 (as noted in the description), with analysis being carried out in 2014 (as noted on NatureScot

1.6.6 's website). Since then, development in surrounding areas that influences the wildness qualities of the WLA has altered including, most notably, the consenting (July 2014) and construction (operational in 2017) of Clyde Extension, which has visibility from the northern, central and western parts of the WLA, a minimum of 4.3km away. Whitelaw Brae Wind Farm, with visibility from the north-western part of the WLA at a minimum of 760m away, has also been consented (December 2017). This means that some of the observations made on NatureScot's 2013 site visit and the subsequent analysis of the WLA are out of date in respect of the visibility and influence of external development.

1.6.7 Bearing these changes in mind, Stage 1 of Step 2 consists of confirming the strength of attributes and responses and their contribution to the wild land qualities of the area, noting that the strength to which the wild land qualities are expressed will vary in different parts of the WLA. Desk study and field work has indicated that the WLA can be divided into four broad areas (as shown on Figures 1 to 5) on the basis of the strength of attributes and responses, and their contribution to the wild land qualities of the area. These are:

- *Interior glens;*
- *Interior hills;*
- *Northern and western peripheral slopes;* and
- *South-eastern peripheral slopes.*

1.6.8 These are described below in relation to their wild land qualities (including physical attributes and perceptual responses) and baseline landscape character.

<u>Interior glens</u>

1.6.9 This area comprises the enclosed, contained glens that lie in the interior of the WLA, including, for example, Rotten Bottom and the upper reaches of Games Hope Burn, the lower Whirly Gill tributary catchment, Midlaw Burn, Donald's Cleuch, Loch Skeen, and enclosed slopes below Nether Coomb Craig and Hartfell Craig.

1.6.10 These areas are mentioned several times in the key qualities of the WLA, including the following references:

- *"These rounded hills are deeply incised by several steep-sided glens, ravines and corries. Very steep slopes, combined with large areas of deep bog at lower levels, on bealachs and on the flatter tops make access more physically challenging than their rounded appearance suggests;*
- *From the glens and corries and within some lower-lying parts of the flatter tops, there is a stronger sense of enclosure and a focus on nearby detail, such as the hummocky topography formed by fluvio-glacial deposits, giving a greater sense of remoteness and sanctuary;*
- *Within the lower-lying parts of the interior, the complex hill topography often prevents views of surrounding human activity altogether, so concealing the extent of the WLA and providing a stronger*

sense of remoteness and sanctuary, than the proximity to main roads would suggest, notably around Loch Skeen, for example; and

- *Stone sheep shelters (stells), enclosures, shielings and dykes are common within these glens, providing reminders of past use of the land. They are usually small, isolated human elements and some are ruins, only just discernible as human artefacts, with little consequent effect on the sense of remoteness and sanctuary."*

1.6.11 These references make it clear that the enclosed *interior glens* are a key component of the WLA and display some of the most intact wild land qualities in the WLA, with a lack of human influence, both internal and external; challenging physical access; and, in relation to several wild land qualities, a greater sense of remoteness and sanctuary. This is reflected in the mapping of the eight classes of wildness, as shown on Figure 3, which shows that the central and eastern interior glens are largely classified as class 7 and 8 wildness (the highest levels), although the more westerly glens have lower levels, including extensive areas of class 4 and class 5, and small areas of class 3.

1.6.12 In landscape character terms, the *interior glens* area of the WLA is covered by two landscape character types: *Southern Uplands – north Moffat* (in Dumfries and Galloway) and *Southern Uplands – Borders* (in the Scottish Borders). The *interior glens* are mentioned several times in the DGWLCS and NatureScot descriptions of these landscape types, including the following:

- *"These uplands have an open character although a reduced scale in narrow valleys…;*
- *These hills are generally smooth with rounded summits although distinctive craggy and shapely peaks and deeply folded slopes, corries and dramatically incised valleys also occur, for example…some of the Moffat Hills…;*
- *The topography is characterised by large dome and cone-shaped hills and ridges separated by deep, steep-sided valleys, many of which exhibit evidence of glacial erosion and local fluvioglacial deposits. These distinctive hills are predominantly smooth, creased by minor clefts and gullies and interrupted in places by scree and rock outcrops;* and
- *This is a dramatically sculpted, large-scale landscape…often strongly enclosed within valleys."*

1.6.13 Table 1 below lists the physical attributes and perceptual responses of wild land and their contribution to the wild land qualities, in relation to *interior glens*.

Table 1 – Interior Glens Physical Attributes and Perceptual Responses

Physical Attributes/ Perceptual Responses	**Strength of Physical Attribute/ Perceptual Response in Interior Glens**
Physical Attributes	
High degree of perceived naturalness	High Contributes to the following wild land qualities: • A strong perception of naturalness that contrasts with the surrounding forest plantations • A well-defined area of wild land that contrasts with the surrounding glens, but with strong visual links to adjacent hills
	• Few human artefacts, mostly historic settlements that are restricted to sheltered glens
The lack of modern human artefacts or structures	High Contributes to the following wild land qualities: • A strong perception of naturalness that contrasts with the surrounding forest plantations • Few human artefacts, mostly historic settlements that are restricted to sheltered glens
Little evidence of contemporary land uses	High Contributes to the following wild land qualities: • A strong perception of naturalness that contrasts with the surrounding forest plantations • Few human artefacts, mostly historic settlements that are restricted to sheltered glens
Landform which is rugged, or otherwise physically challenging	High Contributes to the following wild land qualities: • Rounded moorland hills, deeply incised by glens and deceptively challenging to traverse
Remoteness and / or inaccessibility	Medium-high The high-quality Grey Mare's Tail track (a core path) that leads to Loch Skeen locally increases accessibility. Contributes to the following wild land qualities: • Rounded moorland hills, deeply incised by glens and deceptively challenging to traverse • A strong perception of naturalness that contrasts with the surrounding forest plantations • A well-defined area of wild land that contrasts with the surrounding glens, but with strong visual links to adjacent hills • Few human artefacts, mostly historic settlements that are restricted to sheltered glens
Perceptual Responses	
A sense of sanctuary or solitude	High Contributes to the following wild land qualities: • Rounded moorland hills, deeply incised by glens and deceptively challenging to traverse • A strong perception of naturalness that contrasts with the surrounding forest plantations

Physical Attributes/ Perceptual Responses	Strength of Physical Attribute/ Perceptual Response in Interior Glens
	• A well-defined area of wild land that contrasts with the surrounding glens, but with strong visual links to adjacent hills • Few human artefacts, mostly historic settlements that are restricted to sheltered glens
Risk or, for some visitors, a sense of awe or anxiety	High Contributes to the following wild land qualities: • Rounded moorland hills, deeply incised by glens and deceptively challenging to traverse
Perceptions that the landscape has arresting or inspiring qualities	Medium The enclosed, internalised nature of these glens limits the perceived arresting and inspirational qualities arising from them. Enclosure within the surrounding hills can, however, lead to a response in relation to the first wild land quality. Contributes to the following wild land qualities: • Rounded moorland hills, deeply incised by glens and deceptively challenging to traverse
Fulfilment from the physical challenge required to penetrate into these places	Medium-high The core path to Loch Skeen provides a relatively straightforward route into the southern interior of the WLA. However, other glen areas remain more physically challenging as paths are generally limited to hills and ridges. Contributes to the following wild land qualities: • Rounded moorland hills, deeply incised by glens and deceptively challenging to traverse • A well-defined area of wild land that contrasts with the surrounding glens, but with strong visual links to adjacent hills • Few human artefacts, mostly historic settlements that are restricted to sheltered glens

<u>Interior hills</u>

1.6.14 This area comprises upper slopes and high points that are within the interior of the WLA, surrounded by the *northern and western peripheral slopes* and *south-eastern peripheral slopes*. The interior glens lie within this area, enclosed by the slopes of the interior hills. This area includes high points such as White Coomb, Hart Fell (LVIA Viewpoint 21), Hartfell Rig, Great Hill, Lochcraig Head, and Muckle Knees.

1.6.15 The *interior hills* are mentioned a number of times in the key qualities of the WLA, including the following references:

- *"These rounded hills are deeply incised by several steep-sided glens, ravines and corries. Very steep slopes, combined with large areas of deep bog at lower levels, on bealachs and on the flatter tops make access more physically challenging than their rounded appearance suggests;*
- *Once climbed, access across the drier hill tops is easier, although many of the upland routes are pathless, making navigation on the rounded summits and plateaux harder, consequently increasing the sense of risk;*
- *Although not as high as mountain ranges further north, parts are very exposed, with arresting views into steep-sided glens and glacially sculpted corries which contribute to a sense of naturalness;*
- *A rich mosaic of rough grass, heather, bracken and bog vegetation covers most of the WLA, with montane grassland on higher slopes. Exposed rock outcrops, fast flowing burns and waterfalls also contribute to the strong sense of naturalness. Sheep grazing is evident in places, with some stock fences and ATV tracks. These indicate contemporary land use and introduce human artefacts, but are not sufficiently widespread to noticeably affect the overall sense of naturalness;*
- *From the tops and upper slopes there are longer, more widespread views to more distant forest plantations. Those on the Ettrick Hills and to the south of Tweedsmuir are noticeable, with extraction tracks and areas of clear fell visible. Even where seen at a distance, these extensive plantations can diminish the sense of remoteness and sanctuary of the interior;*
- *The influence of these settled glens quickly diminishes towards the interior. From within the hills, the steepness of the valley sides and complex topography often conceal views of the settled glens and allows stronger visual links to be made to the Ettrick Hills to the south and the Tweedsmuir Hills to the north, which can appear to form part of the same WLA;* and
- *Although there are few human artefacts within the WLA, several large, operational wind farms are visible from upper slopes and hill tops. Clyde and Glenkerie are the closest of these, approximately 10km to the west and 14km to the north of Hart Fell respectively. These have a cumulative effect, particularly where the turbines are highlighted against the backcloth of dark forest plantations, reducing the sense of remoteness and sanctuary of the interior"* [these have now been added to by Clyde Extension and the consented Whitelaw Brae, a minimum of 4.3km and 760m away respectively].

1.6.16 The number of references to the *interior hills* in the key qualities of the WLA indicates the importance of these hills in the identification and integrity of the WLA. While the hills are undoubtedly affected to a limited degree by the internal presence of tracks and other human influences, and to greater degree by the external influences of wind energy development and forestry plantations, they do retain key qualities of the WLA in the physical attributes and perceptual responses that are apparent to varying degrees.

1.6.17 This variation is reflected in the 2014 mapping of the eight classes of wildness, which shows that these *interior hills* are largely classified as class 5 and class 6 wildness with some areas of class 5, small areas of class 4 and class 7, and very small areas of class 3 and class 8, as shown on Figure 3. This classification does not include the additional influence of Clyde Extension and, to a lesser degree, Whitelaw Brae, both of which have visibility from these upper slopes and high points.

1.6.18 In landscape character terms, the *interior hills* area of the WLA is covered by two landscape character types: *Southern Uplands – north Moffat* (in Dumfries and Galloway) and *Southern Uplands – Borders* (in the Scottish Borders). The *interior hills* area is referred to several times in the DGWLCS and NatureScot descriptions of these landscape types, including the following relevant points:

- *"Extensive, large scale rolling upland landscape with dome or cone-shaped summits and ridges;*

- *Open, exposed character;*
- *Upland areas largely undeveloped, except for occasional upland farms;*
- *High degree of remoteness, wild character and grandeur of scale within the region;*
- *Wide ranging panoramic views from summits;*
- *The Glenkerie and Clyde wind farms are prominent features on the western side of the A701;*
- *This is a dramatically sculpted, large-scale landscape, open and exposed on the hills…Views from high ground are distant and panoramic, often including adjoining landscape types. The highest summits have a grand and remote character which is rare elsewhere on the Border Hills;*
- *These uplands generally range between 400 and 500m height. The Moffat Hills within Dumfriesshire are distinctly higher with peaks between 500 and 700m and include some 'Corbetts' over 800m;*
- *These hills are generally smooth with rounded summits although distinctive craggy and shapely peaks and deeply folded slopes, corries and dramatically incised valleys also occur;*
- *…Most of this character type is unsettled…;*
- *These uplands provide a distinctive backdrop to adjoining settled areas such as the upland glens of Moffat and Langholm and the broad dales of…Annandale where they contribute to the rich scenic diversity of the wider landscape…These open uplands are important in the wider Dumfries and Galloway context where extensive forestry covers much of the upland area and can reduce scenic interest;*
- *…A general absence of built development within the majority of this upland area gives a strong sense of naturalness. A degree of seclusion can also be experienced in parts of these uplands…Extensive forestry within adjacent upland areas within Dumfries and Galloway increases the value of these open, less modified hills;* and
- *These uplands form a backdrop seen from the settled Nithsdale, upper Annandale and upland glens where the hills are distinctive and definable as individual named peaks. Roads such as the A701, A702 and A708 also provide views of dramatic features such as the Devil's Beef Tub and the scarp of the Lowthers. Footpaths provide access and views from these uplands with the area around Grey Mare's Tail and the Corbett of White Coomb being notably popular with walkers."*

Table 2 – Interior Hills Physical Attributes and Perceptual Responses

Physical Attributes/ Perceptual Responses	**Strength of Physical Attribute/ Perceptual Response in Interior Hills**
Physical Attributes	
High degree of perceived naturalness	Medium-high The external influence of development (primarily wind farms and forestry) reduces the perceived naturalness, thereby reducing the strength of this attribute. These influences do not affect the physical naturalness attributes, however, ensuring a medium-high level is maintained. Contributes to the following wild land qualities: • A strong perception of naturalness that contrasts with the surrounding forest plantations
The lack of modern human artefacts or structures	Medium-high The external influence of development (wind farms and forestry) reduces the strength of this attribute from many elevated areas. However, the interior area is not physically affected by these artefacts and a medium-high level is retained. Contributes to the following wild land qualities: • A strong perception of naturalness that contrasts with the surrounding forest plantations • A well-defined area of wild land that contrasts with the surrounding glens, but with strong visual links to adjacent hills
Little evidence of contemporary land uses	Medium-high The external influence of development (wind farms and forestry) reduces the strength of this attribute from many elevated areas. However, the interior area is not physically affected by these land uses, and a medium-high level is retained. Contributes to the following wild land qualities: • A strong perception of naturalness that contrasts with the surrounding forest plantations
Landform which is rugged, or otherwise physically challenging	Medium There are a number of tracks/desire lines in the interior hills, used by hillwalkers and ATVs. The upper ridges and slopes are often easier to move across than the boggy, rugged lower slopes. There are, however, some steep, rocky, and more challenging areas, particularly away from the popular routes. Contributes to the following wild land qualities: • Rounded moorland hills, deeply incised by glens and deceptively challenging to traverse
Remoteness and / or inaccessibility	Medium-high Access to the interior hills can also be gained using tracks up the northern and western and south-eastern peripheral slopes, accessed by public roads. Within the hills, there are a number of tracks/ desire lines, used by hillwalkers and ATVs. There are, however, some less accessible and more remote areas, particularly away from the popular routes. Contributes to the following wild land qualities: • Rounded moorland hills, deeply incised by glens and deceptively challenging to traverse
Perceptual Responses	
A sense of sanctuary or solitude	Medium-high

Physical Attributes/ Perceptual Responses	Strength of Physical Attribute/ Perceptual Response in Interior Hills
	Access to the hills can be gained by well-used tracks, and this reduces a sense of solitude, as does the popularity of these hills for hillwalkers. The scale and grandeur of the landform does, however, instil a perception of sanctuary and solitude. Contributes to the following wild land qualities: • Rounded moorland hills, deeply incised by glens and deceptively challenging to traverse • A strong perception of naturalness that contrasts with the surrounding forest plantations • A well-defined area of wild land that contrasts with the surrounding glens, but with strong visual links to adjacent hills
Risk or, for some visitors, a sense of awe or anxiety	Medium-high Access to the hills can be gained by well-used tracks, and this reduces a sense of risk, awe or anxiety, as does the popularity of these hills for hillwalkers. The isolation, scale and grandeur of the landform can, however, instil a perception of risk or awe. Contributes to the following wild land qualities: • Rounded moorland hills, deeply incised by glens and deceptively challenging to traverse
Perceptions that the landscape has arresting or inspiring qualities	High • Rounded moorland hills, deeply incised by glens and deceptively challenging to traverse • A strong perception of naturalness that contrasts with the surrounding forest plantations • A well-defined area of wild land that contrasts with the surrounding glens, but with strong visual links to adjacent hills
Fulfilment from the physical challenge required to penetrate into these places	Medium-high Access by tracks and paths provides relatively straightforward routes into the interior hills of the WLA. However, some areas remain more physically challenging and there are long, physically challenging routes through/ around the hills. Contributes to the following wild land qualities: • Rounded moorland hills, deeply incised by glens and deceptively challenging to traverse • A well-defined area of wild land that contrasts with the surrounding glens, but with strong visual links to adjacent hills

Northern and western peripheral slopes

1.6.19 This area comprises the north and west-facing slopes of hills (and some glens) along the northern and western edges of the WLA including, for example, Billscleuch Moor, Middlefield Rig, Spout Craig, Ballaman Hill, Garelet Dod, Nickies Knowe, Goole Knowe and Syart Law.

1.6.20 These peripheral slopes are mentioned several times in the key qualities of the WLA, including the following references:

- *"The WLA is surrounded by larger glens that contain roads, settlement, forest plantations, improved fields and other signs of human activity…[the northern and western peripheral slopes are adjacent to the settled glen of the Megget Water, which includes Fruid, Talla and Megget Reservoirs];*
- *Most habitation was in the past concentrated along the sheltered glens, leaving the uplands relatively undeveloped. Some dwellings and agricultural buildings at Winterhopeburn and Syart are accessed by constructed tracks which have a localised effect on the sense of remoteness, but are not extensively visible;* and
- *Although there are few human artefacts within the WLA, several large, operational wind farms are visible from upper slopes and hill tops. Clyde and Glenkerie are the closest of these, approximately 10km to the west and 14km to the north of Hart Fell respectively. These have a cumulative effect, particularly where the turbines are highlighted against the backcloth of dark forest plantations, reducing the sense of remoteness and sanctuary of the interior* [these have now been added to by Clyde Extension and the consented Whitelaw Brae, a minimum of 4.3km and 760m away respectively].

1.6.21 These references indicate that the *northern and western peripheral slopes* are affected to some degree by the external influences of wind farms and the development within settled glens. This is reflected in the 2014 mapping of the eight classes of wildness, which shows that these areas are classified as class 4 to class 6 wildness with some areas of class 3 and very small areas of class 7, as shown on Figure 3. This classification does not include the additional influence of Clyde Extension and Whitelaw Brae, both of which have extensive visibility from these slopes.

1.6.22 In landscape character terms, this part of the WLA is covered by *Southern Uplands – Borders* landscape character type, as identified in NatureScot's 2019 dataset. The NatureScot description of this landscape type includes the following relevant descriptions:

- *"Extensive, large scale rolling upland landscape with dome or cone-shaped summits and ridges;*
- *Open, exposed character;*
- *Reservoirs and roads in main glens;*
- *High degree of remoteness, wild character and grandeur of scale within the region;*
- *Wide ranging panoramic views from summits;*
- *The Megget, Talla and Fruid reservoirs* [which lie close/adjacent to the northern edge of the WLA] *are located to the south of Broad Law. They add landscape diversity and often serve as a focus for informal recreation;* and
- *The Glenkerie and Clyde wind farms are prominent features on the western side of the A701."*

Table 3 – Northern and Western Peripheral Slopes Physical Attributes and Perceptual Responses

Physical Attributes/ Perceptual Responses	Strength of Physical Attribute/ Perceptual Response in Northern and Western Peripheral Slopes
Physical Attributes	
High degree of perceived naturalness	Medium-high The external influence of development (wind farms, forestry, reservoir infrastructure etc) reduces the perceived naturalness, thereby reducing the strength of this attribute. These influences do not affect the physical naturalness attributes, however, ensuring a medium-high level is maintained. Contributes to the following wild land qualities: • A strong perception of naturalness that contrasts with the surrounding forest plantations
The lack of modern human artefacts or structures	Medium-low The external influence of development (wind farms, forestry, reservoir infrastructure etc) reduces the strength of this attribute. Contributes to the following wild land qualities: • A strong perception of naturalness that contrasts with the surrounding forest plantations • A well-defined area of wild land that contrasts with the surrounding glens, but with strong visual links to adjacent hills
Little evidence of contemporary land uses	Medium-low The external influence of development (wind farms, forestry, reservoir infrastructure etc) reduces the strength of this attribute. Contributes to the following wild land qualities: • A strong perception of naturalness that contrasts with the surrounding forest plantations
Landform which is rugged, or otherwise physically challenging	High Contributes to the following wild land qualities: • Rounded moorland hills, deeply incised by glens and deceptively challenging to traverse
Remoteness and / or inaccessibility	Medium-low Access to the slopes can be gained from tracks (e.g. at the Annandale Way and the track at Winterhopeburn) and nearby public roads. Long views across external development (wind farms, forestry, reservoir infrastructure etc) reduces the sense of remoteness. Contributes to the following wild land qualities: • Rounded moorland hills, deeply incised by glens and deceptively challenging to traverse
Perceptual Responses	
A sense of sanctuary or solitude	Low A sense of sanctuary or solitude is reduced by lack of enclosure on the slopes and consistent visibility of external human influences (wind farms, forestry, reservoir infrastructure etc). Access to the slopes can be gained from tracks (e.g. at the Annandale Way and the track at Winterhopeburn) and nearby public roads, and this also reduces a sense of solitude. Contributes to the following wild land qualities: • A well-defined area of wild land that contrasts with the surrounding glens, but with strong visual links to adjacent hills
Risk or, for some visitors, a sense of awe or anxiety	Medium-low A sense of risk, awe or anxiety is reduced by consistent views of human influences, which provide reassurance and reduce risk. Access to the slopes can be gained from tracks (e.g. at the Annandale Way and the track at Winterhopeburn) and nearby public roads, and this also reduces a sense of risk. Contributes to the following wild land qualities: • Rounded moorland hills, deeply incised by glens and deceptively challenging to traverse
Perceptions that the landscape has arresting or inspiring qualities	Medium Perception that the landscape has arresting, or inspiring qualities is reduced by consistent views of familiar human influences. However, the contrast between the slopes and the surrounding developed areas in terms of its physical attributes can also in itself result in inspiration. Contributes to the following wild land qualities: • A strong perception of naturalness that contrasts with the surrounding forest plantations • A well-defined area of wild land that contrasts with the surrounding glens, but with strong visual links to adjacent hills
Fulfilment from the physical challenge required to penetrate into these places	Medium Access to these peripheral slopes does not require extensive physical challenge and can be gained from tracks (e.g. at the Annandale Way and the tracks at Syart and Winterhopeburn) and nearby public roads. Access to other, more elevated and remote parts of the slopes is, however, likely to be more fulfilling. Contributes to the following wild land qualities: • Rounded moorland hills, deeply incised by glens and deceptively challenging to traverse

South-eastern peripheral slopes

1.6.23 This area comprises the south-east-facing slopes that form the south-eastern edge of the WLA. This boundary of the WLA is irregular, presumably as it avoids the extensive coniferous woodland on Emblem Brae and development within Moffat Glen, which abuts the WLA to the south-east. As a result, the *south-eastern peripheral slopes* area is divided into two sub-areas (the western area and the eastern area), as the WLA boundary varies in its elevation along the slopes. This area includes Saddle Yoke, Carrifran Gans, Yearny Knowe, Paper Hill, Oxcleuch Rig, Watch Law, Bridge End Hill, and Syart Rig.

1.6.24 The *south-eastern peripheral slopes* are mentioned several times in the key qualities of the WLA, including the following references:

- *"Some small forest plantations lie on the slopes above the Chapelhope Burn and there are other plantations, just outwith the WLA. These are mostly along the hillsides above the Moffat Water and the largest is at Emblem Brae. The rectangular conifer blocks can be seen from some south-facing hillsides, where they contrast strongly with the colour and rounded form of the moorland slopes and detract from the sense of naturalness, sanctuary and remoteness. These effects are limited by the steepness and complexity of the moorland slopes, which restricts the overall visibility of the plantations;*
- *A large area of native tree planting within Carrifran Glen has a positive effect on the sense of naturalness, accentuating the rugged nature of the open moorland hills visible above. Some tree shelters are evident and fencing around the planted area emphasises the woodland edge. These introduce human artefacts that detract slightly from the sense of naturalness, although these effects are likely to diminish as the trees grow;*
- *The WLA is surrounded by larger glens that contain roads, settlement, forest plantations, improved fields and other signs of human activity…[the south-eastern peripheral slopes are adjacent to the settled glen of the Moffat Water, which contains the A708];* and
- *There are very few other human artefacts within this WLA. The steepness of the landform means that tracks are mostly restricted to the base of the minor glens that penetrate the hills and do not provide through routes. These tracks are generally well integrated and often grassed over, so reducing their effect on the wild land qualities* [the good quality track that runs from the A708 up to Loch Skeen is partly within this area]".

1.6.25 These references indicate that the *south-eastern peripheral slopes* are intermittently affected to a limited degree by the internal presence of tracks and coniferous forestry (very limited) and external influences of development within the adjacent settled glen, including the A708 and coniferous forestry on both sides of the glen. This variation is reflected in the 2014 mapping of the eight classes of wildness, which shows that these *south-eastern peripheral slopes* are largely classified as class 5 wildness with some areas of class 4 and 6, and very small areas of class 2, class 3 and class 7 (as shown on Figure 3).

1.6.26 In landscape character terms, the *south-eastern peripheral slopes* area of the WLA is covered by two landscape character types: *Southern Uplands – north Moffat* (in Dumfries and Galloway) and *Southern Uplands – Borders* (in the Scottish Borders). The *south-eastern peripheral slopes* are mentioned several times in the DGWLCS and NatureScot descriptions of these landscape types, including the following:

- *"Glacial carved and smoothed landforms, including u-shaped valleys, hanging valleys and corries;*
- *Steep-sided valleys with numerous burns;*
- *Transition to rough grazing on lower slopes, with some sizeable areas of conifer woodland at base of main glens;*
- *Reservoirs and roads in main glens;*
- *These uplands have an open character although a reduced scale in narrow valleys;*
- *Dramatically steep slopes occur where the…Moffat Hills abut the trough-like Upland Glens (10) [including Moffat Dale];* and
- *These uplands form a backdrop seen from the settled…upland glens where the hills are distinctive and definable as individual named peaks. Roads such as the A701, A702 and A708 also provide views of dramatic features…Footpaths provide access and views from these uplands with the area around Grey Mare's Tail and the Corbett of White Coomb being notably popular with walkers."*

Table 4 – South-Eastern Peripheral Slopes Physical Attributes and Perceptual Responses

Physical Attributes/ Perceptual Responses	**Strength of Physical Attribute/ Perceptual Response in South-Eastern Peripheral Slopes**
Physical Attributes	
High degree of perceived naturalness	Medium-high The internal and external influence of forestry, woodland planting at Carrifran and the Grey Mare's Tail track reduce the perception of naturalness, thereby reducing the strength of this attribute in both physical and perceived terms. However, a notable level of naturalness is retained elsewhere. Contributes to the following wild land qualities: • A strong perception of naturalness that contrasts with the surrounding forest plantations
The lack of modern human artefacts or structures	Medium The internal and external influence of forestry, woodland planting at Carrifran, the nearby A708 and the Grey Mare's Tail track reduce the strength of this attribute. Contributes to the following wild land qualities: • A strong perception of naturalness that contrasts with the surrounding forest plantations • A well-defined area of wild land that contrasts with the surrounding glens, but with strong visual links to adjacent hills • Few human artefacts, mostly historic settlements that are restricted to sheltered glens
Little evidence of contemporary land uses	Medium The internal and external influence of forestry, woodland planting at Carrifran, and the Grey Mare's Tail track reduce the strength of this attribute. Contributes to the following wild land qualities: • A strong perception of naturalness that contrasts with the surrounding forest plantations

Physical Attributes/ Perceptual Responses	Strength of Physical Attribute/ Perceptual Response in South-Eastern Peripheral Slopes
	• Few human artefacts, mostly historic settlements that are restricted to sheltered glens
Landform which is rugged, or otherwise physically challenging	High Contributes to the following wild land qualities: • Rounded moorland hills, deeply incised by glens and deceptively challenging to traverse
Remoteness and / or inaccessibility	Medium-low Access to the slopes can be gained from tracks (e.g. tracks at the Grey Mare's Tail, Blackhope Burn, Hang Burn and Carrifran Gans), all easily accessed from the A708. Contributes to the following wild land qualities: • Rounded moorland hills, deeply incised by glens and deceptively challenging to traverse
Perceptual Responses	
A sense of sanctuary or solitude	Medium Access to the slopes can be gained from tracks and nearby public roads, and this reduces a sense of solitude, as does the popularity of these slopes for hillwalkers accessing the interior hills. A sense of sanctuary or solitude is also reduced by intermittent visibility of external human influences (primarily forestry). Contributes to the following wild land qualities: • A well-defined area of wild land that contrasts with the surrounding glens, but with strong visual links to adjacent hills • Few human artefacts, mostly historic settlements that are restricted to sheltered glens
Risk or, for some visitors, a sense of awe or anxiety	Medium The accessibility of the slopes by tracks, accessed from the A708, reduces a sense of risk, as does the level of use by walkers. Contributes to the following wild land qualities: • Rounded moorland hills, deeply incised by glens and deceptively challenging to traverse
Perceptions that the landscape has arresting or inspiring qualities	Medium-high A slight reduction in the perception that the landscape has arresting or inspiring qualities arises on the lower slopes due to the familiar human influences of forestry and tracks. However, the scale and form of the upper slopes, and the views gained from them, result in a medium-high level. Contributes to the following wild land qualities:

Physical Attributes/ Perceptual Responses	Strength of Physical Attribute/ Perceptual Response in South-Eastern Peripheral Slopes
	• A strong perception of naturalness that contrasts with the surrounding forest plantations • A well-defined area of wild land that contrasts with the surrounding glens, but with strong visual links to adjacent hills
Fulfilment from the physical challenge required to penetrate into these places	Medium Access to these peripheral slopes does not require extensive physical challenge and can be gained from tracks accessed by the A708. Off-track access to other, more elevated, and remote parts of the slopes is, however, likely to be more fulfilling. Contributes to the following wild land qualities: • Rounded moorland hills, deeply incised by glens and deceptively challenging to traverse

Stage 2: Identify which qualities are likely to be significantly affected by the proposal

1.6.27 Stage 2 of Step 2 (Establish the baseline) involves the identification of the key wild land qualities and attributes that have potential to be significantly affected by the proposed development, as noted in Box 1 of the NatureScot guidance (2017).

1.6.28 Table 5 below lists the key attributes and qualities of the Talla – Hart Fell WLA as set out in NatureScot's 2017 description and notes which of these could potentially be affected by the proposed development, as required by NatureScot's methodology.

Table 5 – Talla – Hart Fell WLA Key Attributes and Qualities

NatureScot Description ('Aspects') of Key Attributes/ Qualities	Potential to be Affected by the Proposed Development
1. Rounded moorland hills, deeply incised by glens and deceptively challenging to traverse	
(a) "*These rounded hills are deeply incised by several steep-sided glens, ravines and corries. Very steep slopes, combined with large areas of deep bog at lower levels, on bealachs and on the flatter tops make access more physically challenging than their rounded appearance suggests.*	The proposed development will not affect any aspects of this attribute as it lies outwith the WLA and will not affect the landform within the WLA, or the ability to traverse it.
(b) *Once climbed, access across the drier hill tops is easier, although many of the upland routes are pathless, making navigation on the rounded*	

NatureScot Description ('Aspects') of Key Attributes/ Qualities	Potential to be Affected by the Proposed Development
summits and plateaux harder, consequently increasing the sense of risk.	
(c) *Although not as high as mountain ranges further north, parts are very exposed, with arresting views into steep-sided glens and glacially sculpted corries which contribute to a sense of naturalness.*	
(d) *From the glens and corries and within some lower-lying parts of the flatter tops, there is a stronger sense of enclosure and a focus on nearby detail, such as the hummocky topography formed by fluvio-glacial deposits, giving a greater sense of remoteness and sanctuary."*	
2. A strong perception of naturalness that contrasts with the surrounding forest plantations	
(a) *"A rich mosaic of rough grass, heather, bracken and bog vegetation covers most of the WLA, with montane grassland on higher slopes. Exposed rock outcrops, fast flowing burns and waterfalls also contribute to the strong sense of naturalness. Sheep grazing is evident in places, with some stock fences and ATV tracks. These indicate contemporary land use and introduce human artefacts, but are not sufficiently widespread to noticeably affect the overall sense of naturalness.*	The proposed development will not affect this aspect of the attribute as it lies outwith the WLA and will not affect the vegetation or level of development within the WLA.
(b) *Some small forest plantations lie on the slopes above the Chapelhope Burn and there are other plantations, just outwith the WLA. These are mostly along the hillsides above the Moffat Water and the largest is at Emblem Brae. The rectangular conifer blocks can be seen from some south-facing hillsides, where they contrast strongly with the colour and rounded form of the moorland slopes and detract from the sense of naturalness, sanctuary and remoteness. These effects are limited by the steepness and complexity of the*	The proposed development will not affect this aspect of the attribute as it will not alter the forest plantations within and '*just outwith'* the WLA.
moorland slopes, which restricts the overall visibility of the plantations.	
(c) *From the tops and upper slopes there are longer, more widespread views to more distant forest plantations. Those on the Ettrick Hills and to the south of Tweedsmuir are noticeable, with extraction tracks and areas of clear fell visible. Even where seen at a distance, these extensive plantations can diminish the sense of remoteness and sanctuary of the interior.*	The proposed development will not affect this aspect of the attribute as it will not alter the '*more distant'* forest plantations in the Ettrick Hills and south of Tweedsmuir.
(d) *A large area of native tree planting within Carrifran Glen has a positive effect on the sense of naturalness, accentuating the rugged nature of the open moorland hills visible above. Some tree shelters are evident and fencing around the planted area emphasises the woodland edge. These introduce human artefacts that detract slightly from the sense of naturalness, although these effects are likely to diminish as the trees grow."*	The proposed development will not affect this aspect of the attribute as it will not affect the Carrifran Glen woodland planting.
3. A well-defined area of wild land that contrasts with the surrounding glens, but with strong visual links to adjacent hills	
(a) *"The WLA is surrounded by larger glens that contain roads, settlement, forest plantations, improved fields and other signs of human activity. From the adjacent public roads, the WLA is mostly experienced as a simple, open and rugged moorland backdrop, which contrasts with these more diverse, enclosed, managed and settled glens. From the glens of the Moffat Water and, to a lesser extent, the Megget Water, the steep sides tend to limit views to glimpses, often along the smaller tributary burns that incise the hills, such as at Black*	The proposed development will not affect this aspect of the attribute as it will not alter the relationship between the WLA and the level of human activity found in the surrounding glens, and will not affect the experience of the WLA as gained from '*adjacent public roads'.* It is relevant to note that, in part, this attribute does not accord with NatureScot guidance (Paragraph 21), which notes that: "…*A wild land assessment should only consider effects on the*

NatureScot Description ('Aspects') of Key Attributes/ Qualities	Potential to be Affected by the Proposed Development
Hope and Carrifran. Although from the west, the wider glen of the River Annan allows more continuous views towards Hart Fell and White Coomb, the interior is generally screened from view by the outer slopes, so that the extent of the WLA is not obvious from outside.	*qualities of the WLA as they are experienced within it, not from outwith it. This is in contrast to a scenic or landscape designation, whose appreciation from outwith is part of the standard LVIA approach*." Contrary to this guidance, this attribute refers to the WLA as it is experienced from outwith, including glens and adjacent public roads.
(b) *The influence of these settled glens quickly diminishes towards the interior. From within the hills, the steepness of the valley sides and complex topography often conceal views of the settled glens and allows stronger visual links to be made to the Ettrick Hills to the south and the Tweedsmuir Hills to the north, which can appear to form part of the same WLA.*	The proposed development may have some effect on this aspect, as it will be seen adjacent to the Ettrick Hills and may therefore affect the visual links between the interior of the WLA and the Ettrick Hills.
(c) *Within the lower-lying parts of the interior, the complex hill topography often prevents views of surrounding human activity altogether, so concealing the extent of the WLA and providing a stronger sense of remoteness and sanctuary, than the proximity to main roads would suggest, notably around Loch Skeen, for example."*	The proposed development may affect this aspect of the attribute, dependent on the level of visibility from "w*ithin the lower-lying parts of the interior*".
4. Few human artefacts, mostly historic settlements that are restricted to sheltered glens	
(a) "*Most habitation was in the past concentrated along the sheltered glens, leaving the uplands relatively undeveloped. Some dwellings and agricultural buildings at Winterhopeburn and Syart are accessed by constructed tracks which have a localised effect on the sense of remoteness, but are not extensively visible.*	The proposed development will not affect this aspect of the attribute as it will not affect the level of development, historic or contemporary, within the WLA.
(b) *There are very few other human artefacts within this WLA. The steepness of the landform means that tracks are mostly restricted to the base of the minor glens that penetrate the hills and do not provide through routes. These tracks are generally well integrated and often grassed over, so reducing their effect on the wild land qualities.*	The proposed development will not affect this aspect of the attribute as it will not affect the level of development, including tracks, within the WLA.
(c) *Stone sheep shelters (stells), enclosures, shielings and dykes are common within these glens, providing reminders of past use of the land. They are usually small, isolated human elements and some are ruins, only just discernible as human artefacts, with little consequent effect on the sense of remoteness and sanctuary.*	The proposed development will not affect this aspect of the attribute as it will not affect the historic level of development within the WLA.
(d) *Although there are few human artefacts within the WLA, several large, operational wind farms are visible from upper slopes and hill tops. Clyde and Glenkernie are the closest of these, approximately 10km to the west and 14km to the north of Hart Fell respectively. These have a cumulative effect, particularly where the turbines are highlighted against the backcloth of dark forest plantations, reducing the sense of remoteness and sanctuary of the interior.*	The proposed development is likely to have some effect on this aspect, as it will add to the baseline external wind farm development that may be seen from within the WLA.

1.6.29 In summary, the proposed development has potential to affect specific aspects of the third and fourth key attributes/qualities, but not the first and second key attributes/qualities.

1.6.30 In respect of the third key attribute/quality – "*A well-defined area of wild land that contrasts with the surrounding glens, but with strong visual links to adjacent hills*" - the proposed development has potential to affect two aspects - (b) and (c) - as it will be seen adjacent to the Ettrick Hills (which are specifically mentioned in the description) and may therefore affect the visual links between the interior of the WLA and the Ettrick Hills, and may affect the lower-lying part of the interior, dependent on the level of visibility.

1.6.31 In respect of the fourth key attribute/quality – "*Few human artefacts, mostly historic settlements that are restricted to sheltered glens*" - the proposed development has potential to affect aspect (d) as it will add to the baseline external wind farm development that may be seen from within the WLA.

1.7 Step 3 – Assess the sensitivity of the study area

1.7.1 NatureScot guidance notes this step as follows:

"*Identify which wild land qualities of the WLA, including the physical attributes and perceptual responses that contribute to those qualities, are most sensitive to the type and scale of change proposed."*

1.7.2 **Sensitivity** is assessed by combining the **value** of the WLA and its **susceptibility** to the proposed development.

1.7.3 The value of the whole WLA has been established as medium-high (see Paragraph 1.4.11 above). Susceptibility varies across the WLA dependent on a number of factors and is therefore assessed separately for different parts of the WLA. The previous section of this Appendix divided the WLA into four baseline areas on the basis of their expression of wild land qualities, physical attributes and perceptual responses, and these four areas are also used in the assessment of the susceptibility of the landscape as the factors described for them are all relevant to susceptibility.

1.7.4 The methodology for assessing susceptibility, in accordance with GLVIA3, is described in Section 1.4 above. This involves several key factors, which have been reviewed below in relation to the Talla – Hart Fell WLA.

1.7.5 The susceptibility of the four areas of the WLA is assessed below. This includes an assessment of the resultant overall sensitivity of each of the areas, and the sensitivity of each key attribute/ quality that is present within that area to the proposed development (drawing on information described in Step 2).

Interior glens

1.7.6 The enclosed *interior glens* are a key component of the WLA and display some of the most intact wild land qualities in the WLA, with a lack of human influence, both internal and external; challenging physical access; and, in relation to several wild land qualities, a greater sense of remoteness and sanctuary. This is reflected in the mapping of the eight classes of wildness, as described previously.

1.7.7 Table 1 in Step 2 indicates that in terms of the strength of physical attributes and perceptual responses, *interior glens* rates high in six, medium-high in two, and medium in one. This area contributes notably to all four of the key attributes/qualities of the WLA and the susceptibility of interior glens to the proposed development is as follows:

- *Rounded moorland hills, deeply incised by glens and deceptively challenging to traverse* – **high;**
- *A strong perception of naturalness that contrasts with the surrounding forest plantations* – **high;**
- *A well-defined area of wild land that contrasts with the surrounding glens, but with strong visual links to adjacent hills* – **high**; and
- *Few human artefacts, mostly historic settlements that are restricted to sheltered glens* – **high**.

1.7.8 This indicates that in terms of all four of the wild land key attributes/ qualities, these glens, with their negligible internal or external human influence, high level of wildness qualities, and enclosed, relatively small-scale landscape, have a high level of susceptibility to the proposed development, which could introduce an external influence of large-scale and entirely uncharacteristic development to these parts of the WLA.

1.7.9 A combination of the medium-high value of the WLA and its high susceptibility to the proposed development results in a **high** sensitivity for the *interior glens* area in respect of all four of the WLA key attributes/ qualities.

Interior hills

1.7.10 The number of references to the *interior hills* in the key qualities of the WLA indicates the importance of these hills in the identification and integrity of the WLA. While the hills are undoubtedly affected to a limited degree by the internal presence of tracks and other human influences, and to greater degree by the external influences of wind energy development and forestry plantations, they do retain key qualities of the WLA in the physical attributes and perceptual responses that are apparent to varying degrees.

1.7.11 This variation is reflected in the 2014 mapping of the eight classes of wildness, as described previously. This classification does not include the additional influence of Clyde Extension and, to a lesser degree, Whitelaw Brae, both of which have visibility from these upper slopes and high points.

1.7.12 Table 2 in Step 2 indicates that in terms of the strength of physical attributes and perceptual responses, *interior hills* rates high in one, medium-high in seven, and medium in one. The *interior hills* display contrasting and sometimes conflicting characteristics in terms of the four wild land key attributes/qualities. On the one hand, their massive scale, grandeur and distinctive form, panoramic views, relatively high classes of wildness, distinctive lack of settlement and forestry when compared with other upland areas, and remote, awe-inspiring nature are indicative of an increased susceptibility to the proposed development, which would introduce further external human influence on the landscape. On the other hand, the *interior hills* accommodate a level of external baseline human influence, including close-proximity wind energy development, and the proposed development would therefore add to an external influence that is already characteristic of the WLA, and has not diminished its qualities to a degree where it is no longer considered wild land. The massive scale of the hills also indicates a reduced susceptibility as the scale comparisons that can make more complex, smaller-scale landscapes (such as the interior glens) more susceptible will not arise.

1.7.13 It is important to note that while a specific relationship between the *interior hills* and the Ettrick Hills is described in the key qualities of the WLA ("*from within the hills, the steepness of the valley sides and complex topography often conceal views of the settled glens and allows stronger visual links to be made to the Ettrick Hills to the south and the Tweedsmuir Hills to the north, which can appear to form part of the same WLA*"), the site does not lie within the Ettrick Hills, but to the south-west of them. The western edge of the Ettrick Hills does, however, abut the eastern edge of the site, and this is reflected in the susceptibility of key attributes/ qualities as listed below.

1.7.14 The susceptibility of *interior hills* to the proposed development is as follows:

- *Rounded moorland hills, deeply incised by glens and deceptively challenging to traverse* – **high;**
- *A strong perception of naturalness that contrasts with the surrounding forest plantations* – **medium-high;**
- *A well-defined area of wild land that contrasts with the surrounding glens, but with strong visual links to adjacent hills* – **medium-high**; and
- *Few human artefacts, mostly historic settlements that are restricted to sheltered glens* – **medium**.

1.7.15 When these levels of susceptibility are combined with the medium-high value of the WLA, the overall sensitivity of the *interior hills* in relation to each of the four key attributes/ qualities of the WLA is assessed to be as follows:

- *Rounded moorland hills, deeply incised by glens and deceptively challenging to traverse* – **high/ medium-high;**
- *A strong perception of naturalness that contrasts with the surrounding forest plantations* – **medium-high;**
- *A well-defined area of wild land that contrasts with the surrounding glens, but with strong visual links to adjacent hills* – **medium-high**; and
- *Few human artefacts, mostly historic settlements that are restricted to sheltered glens* – **medium/ medium-high**.

Northern and western peripheral slopes

1.7.16 The *northern and western peripheral slopes* are affected to some degree by the external influences of wind farms and the development within the adjacent settled glens. This is reflected in the 2014 mapping of the eight classes of wildness, as described previously. This classification does not include the additional influence of Clyde Extension and Whitelaw Brae, both of which have extensive visibility from these slopes.

1.7.17 Table 3 in Step 2 indicates that in terms of the strength of physical attributes and perceptual responses, *northern and western peripheral slopes* rates high in one, medium-high in one, medium in two, medium-low in four and low in one. In terms of the four wild land key attributes/ qualities these peripheral slopes, with their large scale, low to moderate classes of wildness, and close-proximity human influence (including wind energy development, forestry, reservoir infrastructure, and roads) have the following susceptibility to the proposed development, which would introduce a not-uncharacteristic external influence to these parts of the WLA:

- *Rounded moorland hills, deeply incised by glens and deceptively challenging to traverse* – ***medium****;*
- *A strong perception of naturalness that contrasts with the surrounding forest plantations* – ***medium****;*
- *A well-defined area of wild land that contrasts with the surrounding glens, but with strong visual links to adjacent hills* – ***medium-low****; and*
- *Few human artefacts, mostly historic settlements that are restricted to sheltered glens* – ***medium-low.***

1.7.18 When these levels of susceptibility are combined with the medium-high value of the WLA, the overall sensitivity of the *northern and western peripheral slopes* in relation to each of the four key attributes/ qualities of the WLA is assessed to be as follows:

- *Rounded moorland hills, deeply incised by glens and deceptively challenging to traverse* – **medium/ medium-high**;
- *A strong perception of naturalness that contrasts with the surrounding forest plantations* – **medium/ medium-high**;
- *A well-defined area of wild land that contrasts with the surrounding glens, but with strong visual links to adjacent hills* – **medium**; and
- *Few human artefacts, mostly historic settlements that are restricted to sheltered glens* – **medium.**

South-eastern peripheral slopes

1.7.19 The *south-eastern peripheral slopes* are intermittently affected to a limited degree by the internal presence of tracks and coniferous forestry (very limited) and external influences of development within the adjacent settled glen, including the A708 and coniferous forestry on both sides of the glen. This variation is reflected in the 2014 mapping of the eight classes of wildness, as described previously.

1.7.20 Table 4 in Step 2 indicates that in terms of the strength of physical attributes and perceptual responses, *south-eastern peripheral slopes* rates high in one, medium-high in two, medium in five, and medium-low in one. In terms of the four wild land key attributes/qualities these *south-eastern peripheral slopes*, with their large scale, moderate classes of wildness, and internal/close-proximity external human influence (including tracks, forestry, and roads) have the following susceptibility to the proposed development, which would introduce a new but not entirely uncharacteristic external influence (due to the baseline presence of human influences) to this part of the WLA:

- *Rounded moorland hills, deeply incised by glens and deceptively challenging to traverse* – **medium**;
- *A strong perception of naturalness that contrasts with the surrounding forest plantations* – **medium-high**;
- *A well-defined area of wild land that contrasts with the surrounding glens, but with strong visual links to adjacent hills* – **medium-high**; and
- *Few human artefacts, mostly historic settlements that are restricted to sheltered glens* – **medium**.

1.7.21 When these levels of susceptibility are combined with the medium-high value of the WLA, the overall sensitivity of the *south-eastern peripheral slopes* in relation to each of the four key attributes/qualities of the WLA is assessed to be as follows:

- *Rounded moorland hills, deeply incised by glens and deceptively challenging to traverse* – **medium/ medium-high**;
- *A strong perception of naturalness that contrasts with the surrounding forest plantations* – **medium-high**;
- *A well-defined area of wild land that contrasts with the surrounding glens, but with strong visual links to adjacent hills* – **medium-high**; and
- *Few human artefacts, mostly historic settlements that are restricted to sheltered glens* – **medium/ medium-high**.

1.8 Step 4 - Assess the effects

1.8.1 The assessment of the effects that the proposed development will have on the WLA is carried out by combining the sensitivity of the four areas of the WLA, as assessed in the previous section of this Appendix, with the magnitude of change that will arise on each of the areas. This section is therefore concerned with assessing the magnitude of change that will arise on each of the four parts of the WLA. The methodology used for assessing the magnitude of change is described in Section 1.4 of this Appendix.

1.8.2 It has been established in Section 1.6 of this Appendix that the proposed development has potential to affect specific aspects of the third and fourth key attributes and qualities, but not the first and second key attributes and qualities.

1.8.3 In respect of the third of the key attributes/qualities – "*A well-defined area of wild land that contrasts with the surrounding glens, but with strong visual links to adjacent hills*" - the proposed development has potential to affect two aspects (b) and (c) as it will be seen adjacent to the Ettrick Hills (which are specifically mentioned in the description) and may therefore affect the visual links between the interior of the WLA and the Ettrick Hills, and may affect the lower-lying part of the interior, dependent on the level of visibility.

1.8.4 In respect of the fourth of the key attributes and qualities – "*Few human artefacts, mostly historic settlements that are restricted to sheltered glens*" - the proposed development has potential to affect aspect (d) as it will add to the baseline external wind farm development that may be seen from within the WLA.

1.8.5 This assessment focusses on the potential significant effects, and thus assesses the magnitude of change on the relevant aspects of the third and fourth key qualities in detail. The first and second key qualities and the remaining aspects of the third and fourth key qualities are not assessed in detail as they do not have potential to be significantly affected by the proposed development.

Table 6 – Talla – Hart Fell WLA Assessment of Magnitude of Change

NatureScot Key Attribute/Quality	Magnitude of Change
1. Rounded moorland hills, deeply incised by glens and deceptively challenging to traverse	
The proposed development will not affect any aspects of this key attribute/quality as it lies outwith the WLA and will not affect the landform within the WLA, or the ability to traverse it. This applies to all four areas of the WLA: interior glens, northern and western peripheral slopes, south-eastern peripheral slopes, and interior hills.	
2. A strong perception of naturalness that contrasts with the surrounding forest plantations	
The proposed development will not affect any aspects of this key attribute/quality because: • It lies outwith the WLA and will not affect the vegetation or level of development within the WLA; • It will not alter the forest plantations within and 'just outwith' the WLA; • It will not alter the 'more distant' forest plantations in the Ettrick Hills and south of Tweedsmuir; and • It will not affect the Carrifran Glen woodland planting. This applies to all four areas of the WLA: interior glens, northern and western peripheral slopes, south-eastern peripheral slopes, and interior hills.	
3. A well-defined area of wild land that contrasts with the surrounding glens, but with strong visual links to adjacent hills	
The proposed development has potential to affect the aspects (b) and (c) of this key attribute/quality, which are assessed below. It will not affect aspect (a) of this key attribute/quality because it will not alter the relationship between the WLA and the level of human activity found in the surrounding glens, and will not affect the experience of the WLA as gained from '*adjacent public roads'.*	
(b) *The influence of these settled glens quickly diminishes towards the interior. From within the hills, the steepness of the valley sides and complex topography often conceal views of the settled glens and allows stronger visual links to be made to the Ettrick Hills to the south and the Tweedsmuir Hills to the north, which can appear to form part of the same WLA.*	**Interior glens**: **low** magnitude of change – the proposed development has very limited/very intermittent theoretical visibility from these glens due to their enclosed and often incised landform, and its influence on the visual links between this part of the WLA and the Ettrick Hills will therefore be very limited. The proposed development will not affect visual links between this part of the WLA and the Tweedsmuir Hills, which lie to the north. **Interior hills: medium** magnitude of change – the proposed development has very intermittent and generally very limited theoretical visibility from the hills, but there are localised points and small areas of higher theoretical visibility towards the western end of this area (e.g. Cape Law, Hart Fell, Lochcraig Head, and White Coomb). From these areas, it is likely that the proposed development will be seen in the context of the Ettrick Hills and may reduce the possible perception that the WLA continues in this direction. However, the proposed development will not be seen in direct relation to the Ettrick Hills, as these hills lie to the north-east of the site and will not be directly affected. The proposed development will not affect visual links between this part of the WLA and the Tweedsmuir Hills, which lie to the north. **Northern and western peripheral slopes**: **low/negligible** magnitude of change – the proposed development has very limited/very intermittent theoretical visibility from these slopes, and its influence on the visual links between this part of the WLA and the Ettrick Hills will therefore be very limited. Where the proposed development is seen, the open views and orientation of the landform ensure that the settled glens would not be concealed, and the Tweedsmuir Hills would not be seen without notable influence from other human influences. The proposed development will not affect visual links between this part of the WLA and the Tweedsmuir Hills, which lie to the north. **South-eastern peripheral slopes**: **no change** on the eastern area due to lack of visibility of the proposed development and **medium** magnitude of change on the western area. The proposed development has very intermittent and generally very limited theoretical visibility from these slopes, but there are localised pockets of higher theoretical visibility towards the western end of this area (e.g. the south and south-east facing slopes of Swatte Fell, Saddle Yoke and White Coomb). From these areas, it is likely that the proposed development will be seen in the context of the Ettrick Hills and may reduce the possible perception that the WLA continues in this direction. However, the proposed development will not be seen in direct relation to the Ettrick Hills, as these hills lie to the north-east of the site and will not be directly affected. The proposed development will not affect visual links between this part of the WLA and the Tweedsmuir Hills, which lie to the north.
(c) *Within the lower-lying parts of the interior, the complex hill topography often prevents views of surrounding human activity altogether, so concealing the extent of the WLA and providing a stronger sense of remoteness and sanctuary, than the proximity to main roads would suggest, notably around Loch Skeen, for example."*	**Interior glens area**: **low** magnitude of change – the proposed development has very limited/very intermittent theoretical visibility from these glens due to their enclosed and often incised landform, ensuring that the strong sense of sanctuary and remoteness found in these areas will not be affected. **Interior hills**: **negligible** magnitude of change – this aspect of the key attribute/quality of applies only to the '*lower-lying parts of the interior'* and is therefore not relevant to the interior hills. **Northern and western peripheral slopes**: **negligible** magnitude of change – this aspect of the key attribute/quality of applies only to

NatureScot Key Attribute/Quality	Magnitude of Change
	the '*lower-lying parts of the interior'* and is therefore not relevant to the northern and western peripheral slopes. **<u>South-eastern peripheral slopes</u>**: **negligible** magnitude of change – this aspect of the key attribute/quality of applies only to the '*lower-lying parts of the interior'* and is therefore not relevant to the south-eastern peripheral slopes.
4. Few human artefacts, mostly historic settlements that are restricted to sheltered glens	
The proposed development will affect aspect (d) of this key attribute/quality, which is assessed below. It will not affect the other aspects of this key attribute/quality because: • It will not affect the level of development, historic or contemporary, within the WLA; • It will not affect the level of development, including tracks, within the WLA; and • It will not affect the historic level of development within the WLA.	
(d) *Although there are few human artefacts within the WLA, several large, operational wind farms are visible from upper slopes and hill tops. Clyde and Glenkerie are the closest of these, approximately 10km to the west and 14km to the north of Hart Fell respectively. These have a cumulative effect, particularly where the turbines are highlighted against the backcloth of dark forest plantations, reducing the sense of remoteness and sanctuary of the interior.*	**<u>Interior glens</u>**: **low** magnitude of change – the proposed development has very limited/very intermittent theoretical visibility from these glens due to their enclosed and often incised landform, and will therefore have a very limited effect in addition to that of the baseline wind farms on this aspect of the WLA key attributes/qualities. Furthermore, visibility of baseline wind farms from the interior glens is also very limited and intermittent. **<u>Interior hills:</u> medium** magnitude of change – the proposed development has very intermittent and generally very limited theoretical visibility from the hills, but there are localised points and small areas of higher theoretical visibility towards the western end of this area (e.g. Cape Law, Hart Fell, Lochcraig Head, and White Coomb). From these areas, it is likely that the proposed development will be seen in conjunction with baseline wind farms, thus adding to their influence. The location of the proposed development to the south while close-proximity baseline wind farms are to the north and north-east will increase its influence as it will affect an aspect of the setting to the WLA that is not otherwise affected by wind energy development. However, the presence of baseline wind farms in views from interior hills ensures that the proposed development will not introduce an entirely new influence on this area of the WLA. **<u>Northern and western peripheral slopes</u>**: **low** magnitude of change – the proposed development has very limited/very intermittent theoretical visibility from these slopes and will therefore have a very limited effect in addition to that of the

NatureScot Key Attribute/Quality	Magnitude of Change
	baseline wind farms on this aspect of the WLA key attributes/ qualities. **<u>South-eastern peripheral slopes</u>**: **no change** on the eastern area due to lack of visibility of the proposed development and **medium** magnitude of change on the western area – the proposed development has very intermittent and generally very limited theoretical visibility from these slopes, but there are localised pockets of higher theoretical visibility towards the western end of this area. There is some theoretical visibility of Clyde and its Extension (a minimum of 8.4km away) and Harestanes/Minnygap (a minimum of 14.8km away) from the western end of this area, so the proposed development is likely to add to the wind farm influence in this area.

1.9 Step 5 - Judgement of the significance of the effect

1.9.1 The final step in the wild land assessment is the judgement of the significance of the effect. This is assessed through a combination of the sensitivity of the four areas of the WLA and the magnitude of change that will arise on the key attributes/qualities that are apparent in those areas (with reference also made to their physical attributes and perceptual qualities).

1.9.2 Table 7 summarises the findings of sensitivity and magnitude of change as described in previous sections of this Appendix and draws conclusions as to the significance of effects on the four parts of the WLA. Further consideration of the significance of effects follows in the final part of the table.

Table 7 - Assessment of Effects on Talla – Hart Fell WLA

Key attribute/ quality	Sensitivity of Key Attribute/ Quality throughout Study Area (Step 3)	Magnitude of Change (Step 4)	Localised Significance of Effects
1. Rounded moorland hills, deeply incised by glens and deceptively challenging to traverse	Interior glens: **high** Interior hills: **high/ medium-high** Northern and western peripheral slopes: **medium/ medium-high** South-eastern peripheral slopes:	Interior glens: **no change** Interior hills: **no change** Northern and western peripheral slopes: **no change** South-eastern peripheral slopes: **no change**	Interior glens: **not significant** Interior hills: **not significant** Northern and western peripheral slopes: **not significant** South-eastern peripheral slopes: **not significant**

Key attribute/ quality	Sensitivity of Key Attribute/ Quality throughout Study Area (Step 3)	Magnitude of Change (Step 4)	Localised Significance of Effects
	medium/ medium-high		
2. A strong perception of naturalness that contrasts with the surrounding forest	Interior glens: **high** Interior hills: **medium-high** Northern and western peripheral slopes: **medium/ medium-high** South-eastern peripheral slopes: **medium-high**	Interior glens: **no change** Interior hills: **no change** Northern and western peripheral slopes: **no change** South-eastern peripheral slopes: **no change**	Interior glens: **not significant** Interior hills: **not significant** Northern and western peripheral slopes: **not significant** South-eastern peripheral slopes: **not significant**
3. A well-defined area of wild land that contrasts with the surrounding glens, but with strong visual links to adjacent hills	Interior glens: **high** Interior hills: **medium-high** Northern and western peripheral slopes: **medium** South-eastern peripheral slopes: **medium-high**	This key attribute/ quality has three aspects (see Tables 5 and 6): <u>Aspect (a)</u> Interior glens: **no change** Interior hills: **no change** Northern and western peripheral slopes: **no change** South-eastern peripheral slopes: **no change** <u>Aspect (b)</u> Interior glens: **low** Interior hills: **medium** Northern and western peripheral slopes: **low/ negligible** South-eastern peripheral slopes: maximum **medium** <u>Aspect (c)</u> Interior glens: **low** Interior hills: **negligible** Northern and western peripheral slopes: **negligible** South-eastern peripheral slopes: **negligible**	<u>Aspect (a)</u> Interior glens: **not significant** Interior hills: **not significant** Northern and western peripheral slopes: **not significant** South-eastern peripheral slopes: **not significant** <u>Aspect (b)</u> Interior glens: **not significant** Interior hills: **significant** Northern and western peripheral slopes: **not significant** South-eastern peripheral slopes: **significant** (in western part only) <u>Aspect (c)</u> Interior glens: **not significant** Interior hills: **not significant** Northern and western peripheral slopes: **not significant** South-eastern peripheral slopes: **not significant**
4. Few human artefacts, mostly historic settlements that are restricted to sheltered glens	Interior glens: **high** Interior hills: **medium/ medium-high** Northern and western peripheral slopes: **medium** South-eastern peripheral slopes: **medium/ medium-high**	This key attribute/ quality has four aspects (see Tables 5 and 6): <u>Aspects (a), (b), and (c)</u> Interior glens: **no change** Interior hills: **no change** Northern and western peripheral slopes: **no change** South-eastern peripheral slopes: **no change** <u>Aspect (d)</u> Interior glens: **low** Interior hills: **medium** Northern and western peripheral slopes: **low** South-eastern peripheral slopes: maximum **medium**	<u>Aspects (a), (b), and (c)</u> Interior glens: **not significant** Interior hills: **not significant** Northern and western peripheral slopes: **not significant** South-eastern peripheral slopes: **not significant** <u>Aspect (d)</u> Interior glens: **not significant** Interior hills: **significant** Northern and western peripheral slopes: **not significant** South-eastern peripheral slopes: **significant** (in western part only)

Judgement of the significance of the effect on the WLA (Step 5):

The summary table above shows that the proposed development will have a localised significant effect on specific aspects of two of the four key attributes/qualities of the WLA, in two parts of the WLA. These localised significant effects are on the following aspects of the WLA:

- Key attribute/quality 3 (aspect b): "*The influence of these settled glens quickly diminishes towards the interior. From within the hills, the steepness of the valley sides and complex topography often conceal views of the settled glens and allows stronger visual links to be made to the Ettrick Hills to the south and the Tweedsmuir Hills to the north, which can appear to form part of the same WLA*."
- Key attribute/ quality 4 (aspect d): "*Although there are few human artefacts within the WLA, several large, operational wind farms are visible from upper slopes and hill tops. Clyde and Glenkerie are the closest of these, approximately 10km to the west and 14km to the north of Hart Fell respectively. These have a cumulative effect, particularly where the turbines are highlighted against the backcloth of dark forest plantations, reducing the sense of remoteness and sanctuary of the interior*."

For both aspects, a significant effect will arise only on the *interior hills* and the western area of the *south-eastern peripheral slopes*, with the effects on all other areas remaining not significant. These significant effects are indirect and will not alter the physical attributes of the WLA in any way as they arise only from effects on the perceptual responses of these parts of the WLA.

The effects on all aspects of key attribute/qualities 1 and 2, and aspects (a) and (c) of key attribute/ quality 3 and (a), (b) and (c) of key attribute/quality 4, will be not significant, and in many cases there will be no effect at all due to lack of visibility of the proposed development.

Key attribute/ quality	Sensitivity of Key Attribute/ Quality throughout Study Area (Step 3)	Magnitude of Change (Step 4)	Localised Significance of Effects
It is notable that in the *interior glens* (the most sensitive part of the WLA, which has the highest class of wildness and where wildness qualities are best expressed) the effects on all four of the key attributes/ qualities will be not significant, and in many cases there will be no effect at all due to very limited, or lack of, visibility of the proposed development. Whilst removing all visibility from the WLA is not possible, the design of the proposed development ensures that it will have very limited/negligible influence on the perceptual responses of the part of the WLA that has the highest sensitivity and forms the core of the WLA – the *interior glens*. This has been achieved through the modification of the locations and heights of turbines that lie on the northern edge of the site, closest to the WLA. The design of the proposed development also ensures that its visibility from, and therefore influence on, the WLA as a whole is very intermittent and limited. In almost all cases, the proposed development will only be seen from areas where wildness qualities are not expressed to their optimum and where other external influences have resulted in a diminution of their strength (in the case of the interior hills, wind farms, and in the case of the *south-eastern peripheral slopes*, forestry, tracks and the A708). The overall effect on the WLA is considered to be **not significant**, despite the occurrence of localised significant effects. This is due to the very limited occurrence of localised significant effects; the lack of significant effects on the key attributes/qualities for the great majority of the WLA; and the retention of the key *interior glens* as areas of high wildness classes. On this basis, OPEN considers that the proposed development will not affect the integrity of the Talla – Hart Fell WLA as a whole, as measured by the overall intactness of its wildness qualities.			

1.10 Cumulative effects

1.10.1 NatureScot guidance (Paragraph 15) notes the following in relation to cumulative effects on WLAs:

"*…The principles within NatureScot's cumulative guidance specific to onshore wind energy development should be applied to assessing cumulative effects on WLAs*."

1.10.2 The key baseline wind farm sites to consider in the cumulative assessment are:

- Clyde Wind Farm and its Extension (operational), a minimum of 4.3km away to the west and north-west of the WLA;
- Glenkerie Wind Farm (operational) and Extension (consented), a minimum of approximately 9.5km away to the north of the WLA;
- Harestanes and Minnygap Wind Farms (operational), a minimum of 14.8km away to the south-west of the WLA; and
- Whitelaw Brae (consented), a minimum of around 760m away from the north-west corner of the WLA.

1.10.3 The footprints of these wind farms, along with a combined ZTV of their theoretical visibility, are shown in Figure 5 of this Appendix.

1.10.4 The proposed development does not have potential for significant effects upon the key attributes/qualities of *interior glens* or *northern and western peripheral slopes*, as described in Tables 6 and 7 above. The proposed development also does not have potential to significantly affect all aspects of key attributes/qualities 1 and 2, and key attribute/quality 3 aspect (a) and key attribute/quality 4 aspects (a), (b) and (c) in any part of the WLA (also as described in Table 6). The specific considerations made in this assessment also ensure that the proposed development will not make a significant contribution to cumulative effects on these two areas and the listed key attributes/qualities, and they are therefore not considered in relation to cumulative effects.

1.10.5 The relevant areas of the WLA and key attributes/qualities are therefore:

- Interior hills;
- South-eastern peripheral slopes;
- Key attribute/ quality 3 aspects (b) and (c); and
- Key attribute/ quality 4 aspect (d).

1.10.6 The cumulative assessment is carried out according to the methodology described in Appendix 6.1. In summary, the sensitivity assessed of each area to each key attribute/quality in the main assessment (summarised in Table 7) remains the same in the cumulative assessment, but the cumulative magnitude of change is assessed according to slightly different criteria, which are described in Appendix 6.1.

1.10.7 Table 8 describes the cumulative assessment for the relevant key attributes/ qualities and areas of the WLA.

Table 8 - Assessment of Cumulative Effects on Talla – Hart Fell WLA

Key attribute/ quality	Sensitivity of Key Attribute/ Quality throughout Study Area (Step 3)	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Localised Significance of Cumulative Effects
1. Rounded moorland hills, deeply incised by glens and deceptively challenging to traverse	n/a	n/a	n/a
2. A strong perception of naturalness that contrasts with the surrounding forest	n/a	n/a	n/a
3. A well-defined area of wild land that contrasts with the surrounding glens, but with strong visual links to adjacent hills	Interior glens: n/a Interior hills: **medium-high** Northern and western peripheral slopes: n/a	<u>Aspect (a)</u>: n/a <u>Aspect (b)</u> Interior glens: n/a Interior hills: **low** (this aspect, and the effect	<u>Aspect (a)</u>: n/a <u>Aspect (b)</u> Interior glens: n/a Interior hills: **not significant**

Key attribute/ quality	Sensitivity of Key Attribute/ Quality throughout Study Area (Step 3)	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Localised Significance of Cumulative Effects
	South-eastern peripheral slopes: **medium-high**	that the proposed development itself has on this aspect, is not relevant in cumulative terms as visibility of other wind farms will not affect the relationship between the WLA, the proposed development, and the Ettrick/ Tweedsmuir Hills) Northern and western peripheral slopes: n/a South-eastern peripheral slopes: maximum **low** (this aspect, and the effect that the proposed development itself has on this aspect, is not relevant in cumulative terms as visibility of other wind farms will not affect the relationship between the WLA, the proposed development, and the Ettrick/ Tweedsmuir Hills) <u>Aspect (c)</u> Interior glens: n/a Interior hills: **negligible** (because this aspect relates only to interior hills) Northern and western peripheral slopes: n/a South-eastern peripheral slopes: **negligible** (because this aspect	Northern and western peripheral slopes: n/a South-eastern peripheral slopes: **not significant** <u>Aspect (c)</u> Interior glens: n/a Interior hills: **not significant** Northern and western peripheral slopes: n/a South-eastern peripheral slopes: **not significant**

Key attribute/ quality	Sensitivity of Key Attribute/ Quality throughout Study Area (Step 3)	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Localised Significance of Cumulative Effects
		relates only to interior hills)	
4. Few human artefacts, mostly historic settlements that are restricted to sheltered glens	Interior glens: n/a Interior hills: **medium/ medium-high** Northern and western peripheral slopes: n/a South-eastern peripheral slopes: **medium/ medium-high**	<u>Aspects (a), (b), and (c)</u>: n/a <u>Aspect (d)</u> Interior glens: n/a Interior hills: **medium** (the proposed development has very intermittent visibility to the south from this area and is likely to be seen from some locations – e.g. Hart Fell - in conjunction with close-proximity baseline wind farms (see Figure 5) that lie to the north and north-west of the WLA) Northern and western peripheral slopes: n/a South-eastern peripheral slopes: maximum **medium** (the proposed development has intermittent visibility to the south from the western part of this area and is likely to be seen from some locations in conjunction with baseline wind farms (Clyde and Minnygap/ Harestanes) (see Figure 5) that lie to the west/ south-west of the WLA)	<u>Aspects (a), (b), and (c)</u>: n/a <u>Aspect (d)</u> Interior glens: n/a Interior hills: **significant** Northern and western peripheral slopes: n/a South-eastern peripheral slopes: **significant** (in western part only)
Judgement of the significance of the cumulative effect on the WLA (Step 5): The summary table above shows that the proposed development will have a localised significant cumulative effect on one specific aspect of one of the four key attributes/ qualities of the WLA, in two parts of the WLA. These localised significant effects are on the following aspect of the WLA:			

Key attribute/ quality	Sensitivity of Key Attribute/ Quality throughout Study Area (Step 3)	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Localised Significance of Cumulative Effects
• Key attribute/quality 4 (aspect d): "*Although there are few human artefacts within the WLA, several large, operational wind farms are visible from upper slopes and hill tops. Clyde and Glenkerie are the closest of these, approximately 10km to the west and 14km to the north of Hart Fell respectively. These have a cumulative effect, particularly where the turbines are highlighted against the backcloth of dark forest plantations, reducing the sense of remoteness and sanctuary of the interior*." For this aspect, a significant cumulative effect will arise only on the *interior hills* and the western area of the *south-eastern peripheral slopes*, with the effects on all other areas remaining not significant. These significant effects are indirect and will not alter the physical attributes of the WLA in any way as they arise only from effects on the perceptual responses of these parts of the WLA. The effects on all aspects of key attribute/qualities 1,2 and 3, and aspects (a), (b) and (c) of key attribute/ quality 4, will be not significant, and in many cases there will be no effect at all due to lack of visibility of the proposed development. The overall cumulative effect on the WLA is considered to be **not significant**, despite the occurrence of localised significant effects. This is due to the very limited occurrence of localised significant cumulative effects; the lack of significant effects on the key attributes/qualities for the great majority of the WLA; and the retention of the key *interior glens* as areas of high wildness classes. On this basis, OPEN considers that the proposed development will not cumulatively affect the integrity of the Talla – Hart Fell WLA as a whole, as measured by the overall intactness of its wildness qualities.			

1.11 Conclusion

1.11.1 The overall effect of the proposed development on the Talla – Hart Fell WLA is considered to be **not significant**, despite the occurrence of localised significant effects. This is due to the very limited occurrence of localised significant effects; the lack of significant effects on the key attributes/qualities for the great majority of the WLA; and the retention of the key interior glens as areas of high wildness classes. On this basis, OPEN considers that the proposed development will not affect the integrity of the Talla – Hart Fell WLA as a whole, as measured by the overall intactness of its wildness qualities. The overall cumulative effect on the WLA is also considered to be **not significant**, despite the occurrence of localised significant cumulative effects.

310000 315000 320000

620000 615000 610000

Legend

Talla - Hart Fell Wild Land Area

- Interior Glens
- Interior Hills
- NW Peripheral Slopes
- SE Peripheral Slopes

Blade Tip Zone of Theoretical Visibility

No. of Theoretically Visible Turbines

- 1 - 15
- 15 - 30
- 30 - 45
- 45 - 60
- 60 - 75

Data Source:
SNH Wild Land Assessment 2014

Blade tip:	180 / 200 / 225 / 250m	Observer height:	2m
DTM:	OS Terrain 50 DTM	Surface features:	Excluded
DTM resolution:	50m	Earth curvature:	Included

0 1 2 4 km

SCOOP HILL WIND FARM

Figure 1
Talla – Hart Fell WLA with Blade Tip ZTV

Ref No:	160971	Created By:	SH	Rev No:	1
Scale:	1:60,000	Drawing Size:	A3	Date:	09/04/2020

Coordinate System: BNG OS GB 1936 Datum

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310000 315000 320000

620000 615000 610000

Legend

Talla - Hart Fell Wild Land Area

- Interior Glens
- Interior Hills
- NW Peripheral Slopes
- SE Peripheral Slopes

Hub Height Zone of Theoretical Visibility

No. of Theoretically Visible Turbines

- 1 - 15
- 15 - 30
- 30 - 45
- 45 - 60
- 60 - 75

Data Source:
SNH Wild Land Assessment 2014

Hub height:	105 / 125 / 150 / 175m	Observer height:	2m
DTM:	OS Terrain 50 DTM	Surface features:	Excluded
DTM resolution:	50m	Earth curvature:	Included

0 1 2 4 km

SCOOP HILL WIND FARM

Figure 2
Talla – Hart Fell WLA with Hub Height ZTV

Ref No:	160971	Created By:	SH	Rev No:	1
Scale:	1:60,000	Drawing Size:	A3	Date:	09/04/2020

Coordinate System: BNG OS GB 1936 Datum

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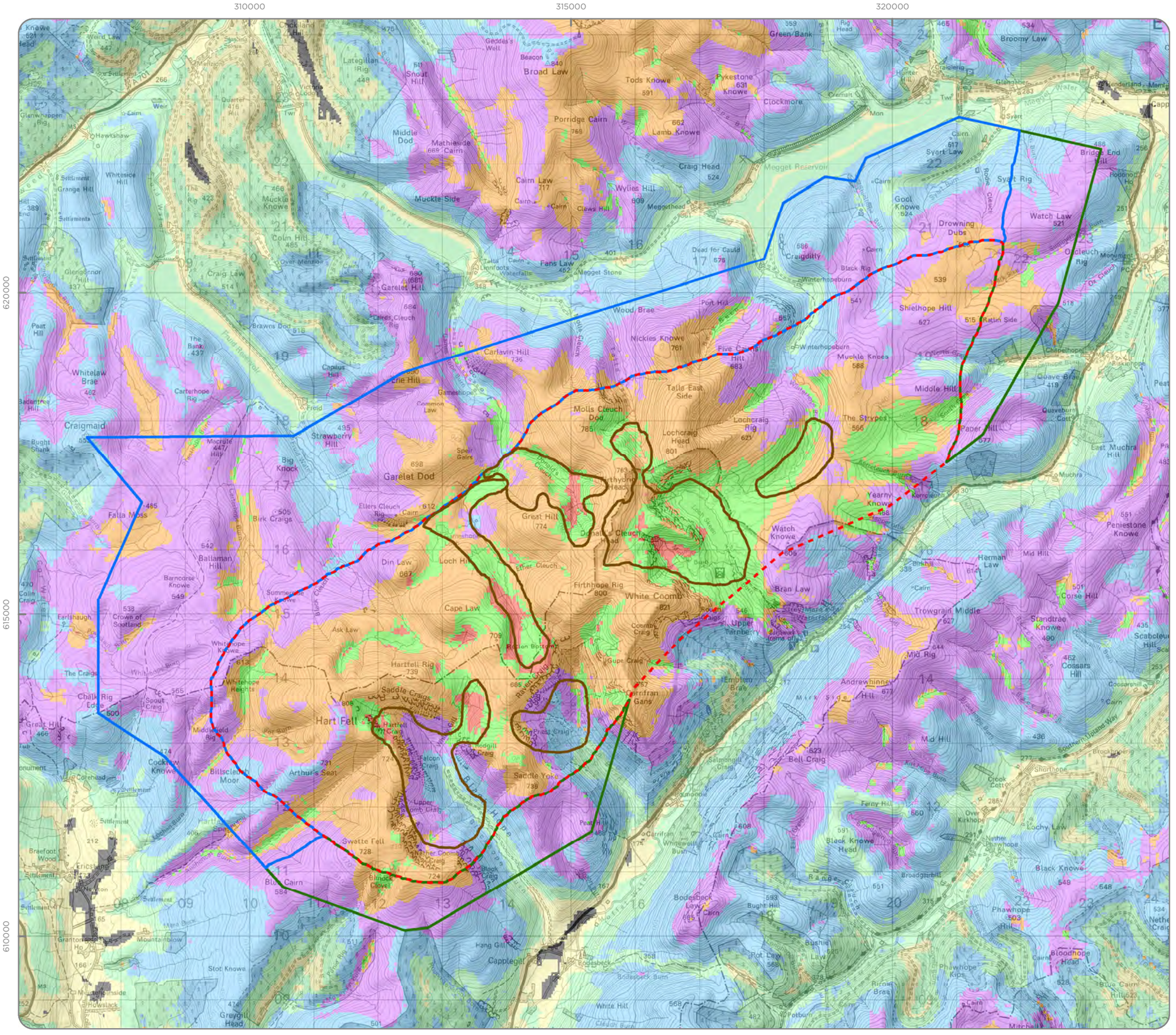

Legend

Talla - Hart Fell Wild Land Area

- Interior Glens
- Interior Hills
- NW Peripheral Slopes
- SE Peripheral Slopes

SNH Jenks Classification and % of Scotland

- 1 - 10% lowest wildness
- 2 - 19%
- 3 - 15%
- 4 - 17%
- 5 - 17%
- 6 - 11%
- 7 - 7%
- 8 - 4% highest wildness

Data Source:
SNH Wild Land Assessment 2014

0 1 2 4 km

SCOOP HILL WIND FARM

Figure 3
Talla – Hart Fell WLA with Jenks Wildness Classes

Ref No:	160971	Created By:	SH	Rev No:	2
Scale:	1:60,000	Drawing Size:	A3	Date:	26/04/2020

Coordinate System: BNG OS GB 1936 Datum

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310000 315000 320000

620000 615000 610000

Legend

Talla - Hart Fell Wild Land Area

- Interior Glens
- Interior Hills
- NW Peripheral Slopes
- SE Peripheral Slopes

SNH Jenks Classification and % of Scotland

- 1 - 10% lowest wildness
- 2 - 19%
- 3 - 15%
- 4 - 17%
- 5 - 17%
- 6 - 11%
- 7 - 7%
- 8 - 4% highest wildness
- Blade Tip Zone of Theoretical Visibility

Data Source:
SNH Wild Land Assessment 2014

Blade Tip:	180 / 200 / 225 / 250m	Observer height:	2m
DTM:	OS Terrain 50 DTM	Surface features:	Excluded
DTM resolution:	50m	Earth curvature:	Included

0 1 2 4 km

SCOOP HILL WIND FARM

Figure 4
Talla – Hart Fell WLA with Jenks Wildness Classes and Blade Tip ZTV

Ref No:	160971	Created By:	SH	Rev No:	2
Scale:	1:60,000	Drawing Size:	A3	Date:	26/04/2020

Coordinate System: BNG OS GB 1936 Datum

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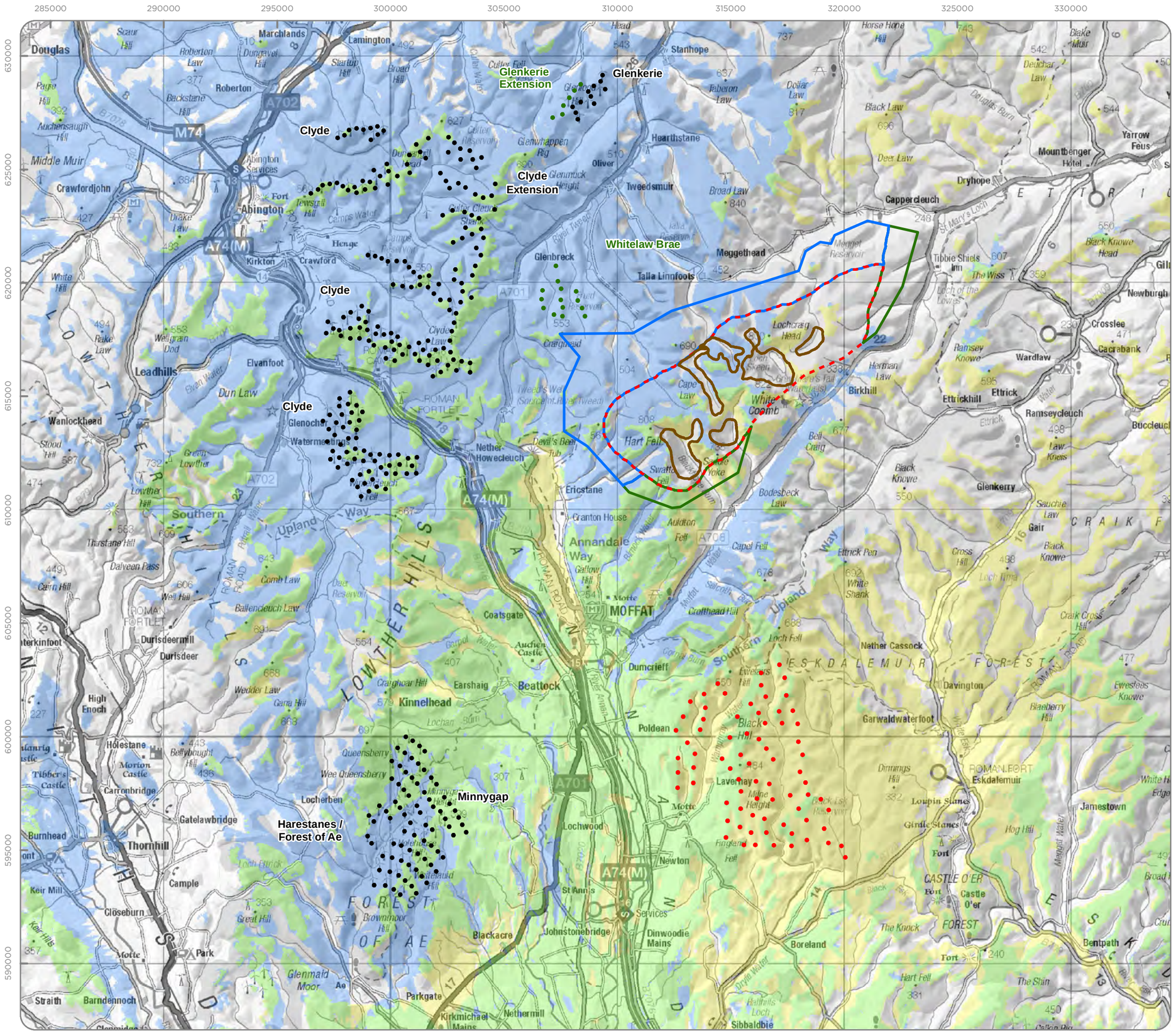

Legend

- Proposed Turbines
- Operational Turbines
- Consented Turbines

Talla - Hart Fell Wild Land Area

- Interior Glens
- Interior Hills
- NW Peripheral Slopes
- SE Peripheral Slopes

Cumulative Zone of Theoretical Visibility

- Scoop Hill Theoretical Visibility
- Baseline Group Theoretical Visibility
- Combined Theoretical Visibility

Data Source:
SNH Wild Land Assessment 2014

Base Blade tip:	100 - 142m		
SH Blade tip:	180 / 200 / 225 / 250m	Observer height:	2m
DTM:	OS Terrain 50 DTM	Surface features:	Excluded
DTM resolution:	50m	Earth curvature:	Included

0 1 2 4 km

SCOOP HILL WIND FARM

Figure 5
Talla – Hart Fell WLA with Baseline Wind Farm Blade Tip ZTV

Ref No:	160971	Created By:	SH	Rev No:	1
Scale:	1:170,000	Drawing Size:	A3	Date:	09/04/2020

Coordinate System: BNG OS GB 1936 Datum

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