APPENDIX 14-3

Photomontage Viewpoint Assessment Tables

1. PHOTOMONTAGE VIEWPOINT ASSESSMENT TABLES

The tables included in this appendix detail a visual impact assessment of the photomontage visualisation of the 15 No. viewpoints presented in the EIAR Volume 2: Photomontage Booklet (hereafter, Photomontage Booklet). This appendix should be read in conjunction with viewing the Photomontage Booklet. The table below provides location information about the 15 No. viewpoints assessed.

VP No.	Description	Grid Ref. (ITM)
01	View from Mullagh sport field, in the village of Mullagh in the townland of Carrowlagan. The viewpoint is located approximately 4.4km northwest of the nearest proposed turbine.	E: 504,643 N: 672,879
02	View from the R484 Regional Road in the townland of Ballynagun East. This viewpoint is representative of receptors south of the village of Creegh. This viewpoint is located approximately 4.7km southwest of the nearest proposed turbine.	E: 504,287 N: 666,083
03	View from Church Street in the north of the village of Kilmihill. The viewpoint is located approximately 4.1km southeast of the nearest proposed turbine.	E: 510,759 N: 664,836
04	View from the R474 Regional Road, just southeast outside the town of Milltown Malbay, in the townland of Poulawillin. This viewpoint is located along designated Scenic Route 15, and is located approximately 9km northwest of the nearest proposed turbine.	E: 506,421 N: 678,606
05	View from the R474 Regional Road in the townland of Doonsallagh West. This viewpoint is located on designated Scenic Route 15, and is approximately 7km north of the nearest proposed turbine.	E: 506,421 N: 678,606
06	View from the R478 Regional Road, and designated Scenic Route 1, beside the Cliffs of Moher. This viewpoint is located approximately 23km northwest from the nearest proposed turbine.	E: 504,437 N: 692,383
07	View from the L-4074 Local Road in the townland of Boolyneaska. This viewpoint is located on the Mid-Clare Way, beside Lough Naminna. This viewpoint is located approximately 9.5km east of the nearest proposed turbine.	E: 518,363 N: 671,127
08	View from an unnamed local road in the townland of Cloonlaheen West, overlooking the Doo Lough. This viewpoint is located approximately 4.6km northeast of the nearest proposed turbine.	E: 512,128 N: 672,843

09	View from Doonbeg Golf Course adjacent to Doughmore Beach in the townland of Carrowmore. This viewpoint is located approximately 8.7m southwest from the nearest proposed turbine.	E: 499,142 N: 667,959
10	View from the crossroads of two unnamed local roads in the townland of Knocknahila More North. This viewpoint is located approximately 2.4km northwest of the nearest proposed turbine.	E: 505,739 N: 670,974
11	View from an unnamed local road in the townland of Cloghaun More (East). This viewpoint is located approximately 1.1km west from the nearest proposed turbine.	E: 506,654 N: 669,775
12	View from an unnamed local road in the townland of Cahermurphy. This viewpoint is located approximately 1.2km south of the nearest proposed turbine.	E: 508,446 N: 667,497
13	View from an unnamed local road in the townland of Cahermurphy. This viewpoint is located approximately 680m east of the nearest proposed turbine.	E: 509,668 N: 669,471
14	View from an unnamed local road in the townland of Cloghaun More (East). This viewpoint is located along the EuroVelo Route, and is approximately 1.1km west from the nearest proposed turbine.	E: 506,702 N: 669,124
15	View from an unnamed local road in the townland of Carrownagry North. This viewpoint is located approximately 1.3km north of the nearest proposed turbine.	E: 507,530 N: 671,109

1.1 # Viewpoint Selection

The locations chosen for photomontages follow a detailed and extensive process including a review of baseline information, site visits and high-quality photographs taken at multiple locations within the LVIA Study Area. Based on a desktop review, multiple viewpoints were identified as having potential views of the proposed turbines. In reality, site visits determined that many of these locations had views that were visually screened to such an extent that the development of photomontages was not considered useful in terms of the assessment process, i.e. the viewpoints had little or no visibility towards the proposed turbines.

Visual Impact Assessment Methodology

Visual impact assessments were conducted for individual viewpoints and are reported in the tables below following the 'Assessing Visual Effects' methodology set out in Section 1.8 of *Appendix 14-1 – LVIA Methodology*. The cumulative visual effects associated with other existing, permitted and /or proposed wind farms located in the LVIA Study Area and the Proposed Wind Farm are included in the assessment tables below.

Assessment of Cumulative Visual Effects

As reported in Section 14.6 of Chapter 14, the assessment of cumulative visual effects considers all other existing, permitted, and proposed wind energy developments in the LVIA Study Area and their

interactions with the Proposed Wind Farm. The descriptions of cumulative visual effects reported in this document are based on the photomontages in the Volume 2 Booklet and are guided by the identification labels on the wireline views accompanying each photomontage view. The potential for cumulative visual effects is accounted for in the 'Magnitude of Change' row in each impact assessment table and is considered in the 'Residual Visual Effect' determination given for each viewpoint.

Assessment of cumulative visual effects need to be proportional. When determining how cumulative effects contribute to the magnitude of change, the focus is always on the extent to which the Proposed Cahermurphy Wind Farm will contribute towards the cumulative effects on the particular receptors under assessment at each viewpoint. The discussion of cumulative effects within the assessment tables also considers the probability of such cumulative effects arising in mind of the category of the other developments with which the Proposed Cahermurphy Wind Farm interacts: 'Existing' – Certain; 'Permitted' – High Probability; or 'Proposed' – an uncertain scenario (and Proposed at Pre-Planning Stage which is an even more uncertain scenario).

1.2 Viewpoint Assessment Tables

1.2.1 Viewpoint 01 – Mullagh

Viewpoint 01 – Mullagh	
Viewpoint Description and Details	› View southeast from Mullagh GAA Club within the townland of Carrowlagan. › This viewpoint is located approximately 4.4km northeast of the nearest proposed turbine (T1). › Grid Reference: E: 504643, N: 672878. › No. of turbines visible 8/8
LCA and Sensitivity	› Clare LCA 20 Malbay Coastal Farmland – **High**
Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	› Mullagh - **Medium** › Mullagh Sports Field - **Low**
Description of 'Existing View'	The image was captured at Mullagh Sports field, where the sports ground is viewed in the foreground of the view. Dense shrub vegetation encloses the sports ground, limiting external views within the immediately adjacent field. Gently undulating terrain, covered in dense forestry, forms the backdrop of the view. The turbines of the existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm are seen located along the undulating ridgeline. The blade tips of the existing Kiltumper Wind Farm and existing Glenmore Wind Farm are just about discernible beyond the ridgeline, in the distant background of the view.
Proposed Photomontage Description	All 8 no. proposed turbines are visible to the right of the existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm turbines, located along the ridgeline. Some visual stacking occurs with turbines T2 and T6, T3 and T7 as well as T1, T8 and T4, where they are viewed as separate clusters. The proposed met mast is visible to the right of turbine T7.
Cumulative Effects	The proposed turbines will be viewed in combination with the existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm turbines. The proposed turbines appear larger than the four existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm turbines and are therefore perceived as a separate cluster of turbines within the landscape. Although the existing and proposed turbines read as two separate clusters, they are viewed collectively as part of a single array of turbines along the ridgeline, rather than two individual wind farms. Therefore, the two windfarms are seen to assimilate well within the landscape, with no visual clutter arising between the two windfarms. At this distance, the blade tips of the existing Kiltumper Wind Farm and existing Glenmore Wind Farm are just about discernible beyond the ridgeline. Given the set-back distance, the existing Kiltumper and Glenmore Wind Farm will have no bearing on the overall cumulative visual effects. Similarly, only the blade tips of the existing Booltiagh Wind Farm, existing Booltiagh Extension Wind Farm, and existing Boolynagleragh Wind Farm, are theoretically visible in the wireline view of the 90-degree field of view. Due to distance, and vegetative screening, they are not discernible to the

	naked eye, and as such, will have no bearing on the overall cumulative visual effects. In succession cumulative visual effects will occur with the existing Slieve Callan Wind Farm. It is located in the opposing field of view to the northeast, located 8km from this viewpoint. Given the set-aback distance, the Slieve Callan turbines are discernible, but it is considered that they will have no significant cumulative visual effects. In an uncertain future receiving environment, the proposed Slieveacurry and proposed Illaunbaun Wind Farms may be visible from this viewpoint, located in the opposing field of view to the north. Given the set-back distance, these turbines would be seen in the distant background of the view. Overall, while the proposed turbines increase the spatial extent of turbines visible within the landscape, they assimilate well within the view as they comprise of a coherent layout. There are no significant cumulative visual effects that arise at this viewpoint as a result of the proposed turbines. The cumulative visual effects that do arise have been incorporated into the determination of the magnitude of change below.
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) *(See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)*	**Medium:** This viewpoint has been classified as a medium sensitivity viewpoint on account of its proximity to the settlement of Mullagh.
Magnitude of Change *(See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)*	**Moderate:** The proposed turbines are seen of a moderate scale but clearly set back from the viewpoint, comprising a moderate portion of the 53.5-degree field of view shown in the Photomontage Booklet.
Significance of Effect	**Medium × Moderate = Moderate/Minor = Moderate (EPA 2022)** *"An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends"*
Mitigating Factors	› From this viewpoint, the proposed turbines are not obstructing or intruding upon any scenic views of county, regional or national renown. › The proposed turbines assimilate well within the landscape where they are seen in combination with the existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm turbines. › Although the existing and proposed turbines read as two separate clusters, they are viewed collectively as part of a single array of turbines within the landscape. › While the addition of the proposed turbines slightly alters the baseline of the proposed view by extending the horizontal extent of turbines within the view, the overall composition of the view remains consistent with the established character of the landscape and emerging baseline trends. › There is very limited visibility of the proposed turbines within the village of Mullagh itself. › The GAA grounds is one of the very few locations the proposed turbines will be visible from Mullagh. › Siting of turbines in a sparsely settled upland landscape with adequate setback distances from large population centres.

	› All proposed turbines of the Proposed Project are sited in a "Strategic Area" for wind energy development in the Clare Wind Energy Strategy, an area of the landscape envisioned for wind energy development in local planning policy. › The proposed turbines exhibit irregular spacing along a ridgeline in a clustered layout within different landscape types which is appropriate for undulating terrain of this landscape type ('Transitional Marginal Landscape' type) according to the siting and design recommendations in the WEDGs (2006) and Draft WEDGs (2019).
Residual Effect Incl. mitigating factors	**Moderate (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends"*

1.2.2 Viewpoint 02 – Creegh

Viewpoint 02 – Creegh	
Viewpoint Description and Details	› View northeast from the R484 regional road south of Creegh in the townland of Ballynagun East. › This viewpoint is located approximately 4.7km southwest of the nearest proposed turbine (T7). › Grid Reference: E: 504,287 N: 666,083 › No. of turbines visible 8/8
LCA and Sensitivity	› Clare LCA 19 Kilrush Farmland – **Medium**
Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	› Creegh - **Medium** › R484 Regional Road - **Low**
Description of 'Existing View'	This image is of a long ranging view overlooking a gently undulating, sparsely populated agricultural landscape. Dense shrub and tree vegetation are prevalent throughout. The Slieve Callan uplands form the backdrop of the view. The existing Cahermurphy, Kiltumper, Boolynagleragh, Boolynageragh Extension, Glenmore and Slieve Callan Wind Farms are visible in the distant background of the view.
Proposed Photomontage Description	All 8 no. proposed turbines are visible in the centre background of the view, occupying an overall small horizontal extent within the view. The proposed turbines are seen above the horizon, arranged in a staggered linear array. Some visual stacking occurs with turbines T4 and T5, as well as T6 and T7. The proposed met mast is seen as a slender vertical feature to the right of turbine T7.
Cumulative Effects	The proposed turbines are seen in combination with the existing Slieve Callan and Cahermurphy turbines, increasing the overall extent of wind energy developments seen within the view. The proposed turbines partially overlap with the existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm turbines, and extends the array of turbines along the ridgeline. The difference in location (closer proximity) and scale of the proposed turbines compared the existing turbines (at a greater set-back distance from this location) defines them as separate entities from this perspective. The existing Kiltumper, Boolynagleragh, Boolynageragh Extension, and Glenmore wind farms are visible in the same general direction as the proposed turbines, although there is a large visual separation between these turbines and the proposed turbines from this viewpoint. The blade tips of the existing Booltiagh and Booltiagh Extension turbines are theoretically visible beyond the distant ridgeline in the wireline view, however, due to distance, are barely discernible to the naked eye. Overall, the Booltiagh and Booltiagh Extension turbines would have no bearing on the overall cumulative visual effects. In an uncertain future receiving environment, the proposed Slieveacurry and proposed Illaunbaun turbines would be seen in the same general direction as

	the proposed turbines, although there is a large visual separation between these turbines and the proposed turbines from this viewpoint. Overall, while the Proposed Project increases the number of turbines visible, it also fills a gap in the central portion of the ridgeline, creating a more continuous and visually balanced turbine composition within the view, resulting in a coherent arrangement of turbines that assimilate well within the landscape. No Significant cumulative effects are deemed to arise at this viewpoint. The cumulative visual effects that do arise have been incorporated into the determination of the magnitude of change below.
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) *(See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)*	**Medium:** This viewpoint has been classified as a Medium sensitivity viewpoint on account of the nearby settlement of Creegh located within 5km to the Proposed Wind Farm.
Magnitude of Change *(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)*	**Moderate:** The proposed turbines are seen of a moderate scale but clearly set back from the viewpoint, comprising a moderate portion of the 53.5-degree field of view shown in the Photomontage Booklet.
Significance of Effect	**Medium × Moderate = Moderate/Minor = Moderate (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends"*
Mitigating Factors	› The viewpoint was captured on one of the few locations on the R484 regional road where there are open views across the landscape towards the Proposed Wind Farm. › The proposed turbines appear as an enlargement of the existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm. Although, the proposed turbines appear larger in scale than the existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm turbines that are located further away, the similarity in turbine enables them to be viewed as separate groups of turbines in a collective array that assimilate well together with no visual complexity or visual clutter. › All proposed turbines of the Proposed Project are sited in a "Strategic Area" for wind energy development in the Clare Wind Energy Strategy, an area of the landscape envisioned for wind energy development in local planning policy. › LCA 17 - Slieve Callan Upland is designated as an area that has the capacity for large wind farms which is defined as 11-25 turbines in the CWES. The Proposed Wind Farm consists of only 8 no. turbines. › From this viewpoint, the proposed turbines are primarily viewed above the horizon and are not obstructing or intruding upon any scenic views of county, regional or national renown. › The proposed turbines exhibit irregular spacing along a ridgeline in a staggered linear layout within different landscape types which is appropriate for undulating terrain of this landscape type ('Transitional Marginal Landscape' type) according to the siting and design recommendations in the WEDGs (2006) and Draft WEDGs (2019).

Residual Effect Incl. mitigating factors	**Moderate (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends"*

1.2.3 Viewpoint 03 – Kilmihil

Viewpoint 03 – Kilmihil	
Viewpoint Description and Details	› View north from the village of Kilmihil. › This viewpoint is located approximately 4.1km south of the nearest proposed turbine (T8). › Grid Reference: E: 510759, N: 664836 › No. of Turbines Visible 8/8
LCA and Sensitivity	› Clare LCA 19 Kilrush Farmland – **Medium**
Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	› Settlement of Kilmihil - **Medium**
Description of 'Existing View'	This image is of a long-ranging view from an elevated vantage point, overlooking a sparsely populated, rural landscape comprising of commercial forestry and agricultural fields delineated by hedgerows and treelines. The Slieve Callan uplands is visible in the background of the view. The existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm is visible in the background of the view, beyond the ridgeline within the Slieve Callan Uplands. A turbine of the existing Kiltumper Wind Farm is seen on the far right hand side of the view.
Proposed Photomontage Description	All 8 no. of the proposed turbines are visible in the background of the view, occupying a small horizontal extent within the view. The proposed turbines are seen beyond the ridgeline arranged in a staggered linear array of irregular spacing. Some visual overlap occurs with turbines T2 and T8, as well as T5 and T6. The proposed met mast is barely discernible as a tall, thin lattice tower to the left of proposed turbine T3.
Cumulative Effects	The proposed turbines will be viewed in combination with the existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm turbines, which are seen to the right of the proposed turbines. The proposed turbines appear slightly larger than the four existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm turbines and are therefore perceived as a separate cluster of turbines within the landscape. The two windfarms are seen to assimilate well within the landscape, with no visual clutter arising between the two windfarms. The existing Kiltumper Wind Farm is visible in the 90-degree field of view, to the right of the proposed turbines. The existing Glenmore, Booltiagh and Booltiagh Extension Wind Farms are visible in the opposing field of view to the northeast. Similarly, the existing Slieve Callan Wind Farm is theoretically visible in this wireline 90-degree field of view. However, due to distance, and vegetative screening, they are not discernible to the naked eye, and as such, will have no bearing on the overall cumulative visual effects. Overall, while the proposed turbines increases the spatial extent of turbines visible in the landscape, they assimilate well within the view. There are no Significant cumulative visual effects that arise at this viewpoint as a result of the proposed turbines. The cumulative visual effects that do arise have been incorporated into the determination of the magnitude of change below.

Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) *(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)*	**Medium:** The proximity of the settlement of Kilmihil to the proposed turbines warrants a Medium overall sensitivity for this viewpoint.
Magnitude of Change *(See Definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)*	**Moderate:** The proposed turbines are seen but clearly set back from the viewpoint and are of moderate scale, comprising a relatively moderate portion of the 53.5-degree field of view shown in the Photomontage Booklet.
Significance of Effect	**Medium × Moderate = Moderate/Minor = Moderate (EPA 2022)** *"An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends."*
Mitigating Factors	› From this viewpoint, the proposed turbines are not obstructing or intruding upon any scenic views of county, regional or national renown. › The proposed turbines assimilate well within the landscape where they are seen in combination with the existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm turbines. › Although the existing and proposed turbines read as two separate clusters, they are viewed collectively as part of a single array of turbines within the landscape. › All proposed turbines of the Proposed Project are sited in a "Strategic Area" for wind energy development in the Clare Wind Energy Strategy, an area of the landscape envisioned for wind energy development in local planning policy. › Within the scale of the view of the landscape type, the proposed turbines appear appropriately scaled within the upland landscape and broad hilltop landscape visible in the background of the image. › The proposed turbines exhibit irregular spacing along a ridgeline in a clustered layout within different landscape types which is appropriate for undulating terrain of this landscape type ('Transitional Marginal Landscape' type) according to the siting and design recommendations in the WEDGs (2006) and Draft WEDGs (2019).
Residual Effect Incl. mitigating factors	**Moderate (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends."*

1.2.4 Viewpoint 04 - Miltown Malbay

Viewpoint 04 – Miltown Malbay	
Viewpoint Description and Details	› View southeast from the R474 regional road, in the townland of Poulawillin, east of Miltown Malbay › This viewpoint is located approximately 8.8km northwest of the nearest proposed turbine (T1). › This viewpoint is located on the designated CCDP Scenic Route 15. › Grid Reference: E: 506,422, N: 678,607 › No. of turbines visible 8/8
LCA and Sensitivity	› LCA 20 -Malbay Coastal Farmland – **High**
Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	› CCDP Scenic Route 15 – **High** › Settlement of Miltown Malbay – **Medium** › R474 Regional Road – **Low**
Description of 'Existing View'	The image is of an expansive long-ranging view from a regional road, overlooking an agricultural landscape comprised of agricultural fields enclosed by mature boundary vegetation. The Slieve Callan uplands form the backdrop of the view. The existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm is visible in the centre background of the image on the ridgeline.
Proposed Photomontage Description	All 8 no. of the proposed turbines are visible in the background of the view to the right of the existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm turbines, occupying an overall small horizontal extent within the view. The proposed turbines appear in a linear array, with some visual overlap occurring with T1 and T3, as well as T5 and T6. The proposed met mast is seen as a slender vertical feature to the right of turbine T7.
Cumulative Effects	The proposed turbines will be viewed in combination with the existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm turbines. The proposed turbines appear somewhat larger than the four existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm turbines to the left of the proposed turbines. Although the existing and proposed turbines read as two separate clusters of differing height, they are viewed collectively as part of a single array of turbines along the ridgeline. Therefore, the proposed turbines are seen to assimilate well within the landscape, with no visual clutter or visual overlap arising between the two windfarms. At this distance, the blade tips of the existing Kiltumper Wind Farm, existing Moneypoint Wind Farm and existing Tullabrack Wind Farm are discernible beyond the ridgeline in the wireline view. Given the set-back distance, the existing Kiltumper and Moneypoint Wind Farms will have no bearing on the overall cumulative visual effects. Similarly, the proposed Ballykett Wind Farm is visible in the same general direction as the proposed turbines, although there is a large visual separation between these turbines and the proposed turbines from this viewpoint. Sequential in combination views will occur with the existing Slieve Callan Wind Farm, which is located in the opposing field of view to the east.

	In an uncertain future receiving environment, sequential in combination views may occur with the proposed Illaunbaun and Slieveacurry Wind Farms, which will be located to the north of the viewpoint. Overall, while the proposed turbines increase the spatial extent of turbines visible in the landscape, no Significant cumulative visual effects are deemed to arise at this viewpoint. The cumulative visual effects that do arise have been incorporated into the determination of the magnitude of change below.
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) *(See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)*	**High:** This viewpoint has been classified as a high sensitivity viewpoint on account of its location on the designated Scenic Route 15.
Magnitude of Change *(See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)*	**Slight:** The proposed turbines are seen but clearly set back from the viewpoint and are of small scale, comprising a relatively small portion of the 53.5-degree field of view shown in the Photomontage Booklet.
Significance of Effect	**High × Slight = Moderate/Minor = Moderate (EPA 2022)** *"An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends"*
Mitigating Factors	› The proposed turbines are located in the distant background of the view, beyond the ridgeline, and do not obstruct the key scenic sensitivities of the designated scenic route. › The designated Heritage Landscape along the Clare Coastline, is located to the southwest and west of this viewpoint, in the opposing field of view to the proposed turbines. › The proposed turbines assimilate well within the landscape where they are seen in combination with the existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm turbines, within a landscape where wind energy has already been established. › All proposed turbines of the Proposed Project are sited in a "Strategic Area" for wind energy development in the Clare Wind Energy Strategy, an area of the landscape envisioned for wind energy development in local planning policy › The Proposed Wind Farm has been designed in accordance with the design parameters for undulating terrain of this landscape type ('Transitional Marginal Landscape' type) as set out in the WEDGS (2006) and Draft WEDGs (2019). › Within the scale of the view of the landscape type, the proposed turbines are visible in the background of the view and appear appropriately scaled within the upland landscape and broad hilltop landscape. › The proposed turbines are viewed with a relatively even height profile of turbine hub height relative to the existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm. › The proposed turbines occupy a relatively narrow horizontal extent of the proposed view.
Residual Effect Incl. mitigating factors	**Slight (EPA 2022)** *"An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities".*

1.2.5 Viewpoint 05 – Doonsallagh West

Viewpoint 05 – Doonsallagh West	
Viewpoint Description and Details	› View south from the R474 Regional Road in the townland of Dunsallagh West. › This viewpoint is located approximately 6.9km north of the nearest proposed turbine (T2). › This viewpoint is from the designated CCDP Scenic Route 15. › Grid Reference: E: 510,080, N: 676,485. › No. of turbines visible 8/8
LCA and Sensitivity	› LCA 17 - Slieve Callan Uplands: **Medium to Low**
Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	› CCDP Scenic Route 15 – **High** › R474 Regional Road – **Low**
Description of 'Existing View'	The image is of a long-ranging view captured from a locally elevated vantage point, overlooking a rolling, sparsely populated, agricultural landscape comprised of agricultural fields, farmsteads and commercial forestry. The proposed met mast is seen as a slender vertical feature to the right of turbine T7. The existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm is visible in the centre background of the view, and the existing Tullabrack Wind Farm is discernible in the distant background in the centre right of the view.
Proposed Photomontage Description	All 8 no. proposed turbines are visible in the background of the view, occupying a small horizontal extent within the view. The proposed turbines are seen along the ridgeline of the Slieve Callan Uplands. Some visual overlap occurs with turbines T6 and T8, as well as T4 and T2.
Cumulative Effects	The proposed turbines will be viewed in combination with the existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm turbines, although the proposed turbines appear slightly larger than the four existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm turbines. Nevertheless, the turbines occupy a relatively even horizontal extent along the ridgeline and are therefore viewed collectively as a single, coherent turbine array. Therefore, the proposed turbines read coherently within the landscape with the existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm turbines, with no visual overlap occurring between the two windfarms. At this distance, the blade tips of the existing Tullabrack Wind Farm are just about discernible beyond the ridgeline. Similarly, in an uncertain future receiving environment, the proposed Moanmore Lower and Ballykett Wind Farms are located in the same general direction as the existing Tullabrack Wind Farm in the distant background. Given the set-back distance, the existing Tullabrack and proposed Moanmore Lower and Ballykett Wind Farms will have no bearing on the overall cumulative visual effects. Sequential in combination views will occur with the existing Slieve Callan Wind Farm, which is located in the opposing field of view to the east.

	Overall, while the proposed turbines increase the spatial extent of turbines visible in the landscape, no Significant cumulative visual effects are deemed to arise at this viewpoint. The cumulative visual effects that do arise have been incorporated into the determination of the magnitude of change below.
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) (*See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)*	**High:** This viewpoint has been classified as a high sensitivity viewpoint on account of its location on the designated Scenic Route 15.
Magnitude of Change *(See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)*	**Slight:** The proposed turbines are seen but clearly set back from the viewpoint and are of small scale, comprising a relatively small portion of the 53.5-degree field of view shown in the Photomontage Booklet.
Significance of Effect	**High × Slight = Moderate/Minor = Moderate (EPA 2022)** *"An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends"*
Mitigating Factors	› The proposed turbines are located in an upland area where wind development has already established, and where such development is deemed acceptable in principle by local planning policy. › The designated Heritage Landscape along the Clare Coastline, is located to the southwest and west of this viewpoint, in the opposing field of view to the proposed turbines. › The proposed turbines assimilate well within the landscape where they are seen in combination with the existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm turbines, where they are viewed collectively as part of a single array of turbines beyond the ridgeline. › All proposed turbines of the Proposed Project are sited in a "Strategic Area" for wind energy development in the Clare Wind Energy Strategy, an area of the landscape envisioned for wind energy development in local planning policy. › Within the scale of the view of the landscape type, the proposed turbines appear appropriately scaled within the upland landscape and broad hilltop landscape visible in the background of the view. › The proposed turbines are viewed with a relatively even height profile of turbine hub relative to the existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm. › The receiving landscape is an expansive area of undulating land capable of effectively absorbing a wind energy development of this scale.
Residual Effect Incl. mitigating factors	**Slight (EPA 2022)** *"An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities".*

1.2.6 Viewpoint 06 – Cliffs of Moher

Viewpoint 06– Cliffs of Moher	
Viewpoint Description and Details	› View south from the R478 Regional Road and designated CCDP Scenic Route 1 in the townland of Lislorkan North. › This viewpoint is located 400m from the Cliffs of Moher, part of the Burren and Cliffs of Moher UNESCO Global Geopark. › This viewpoint is located approximately 22.8km north of the nearest proposed turbine (T1). › Grid Reference: E: 504,437, N: 692,384. › No. of Turbines visible 8/8
LCA and Sensitivity	› Clare LCA 3 Cliffs of Moher and Lahinch – **High** › Burren and Cliffs of Moher UNESCO Global Geopark – **Very High** › Heritage Landscape – **Very High**
Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	› Visitors to Cliffs of Moher – **Very High** › CCDP Scenic Route 1 - **High**
Description of 'Existing View'	The image is a long-ranging expansive view from an elevated vantage point on the R478 Regional Road overlooking Liscannor Bay with Slieve Callan Uplands forming the distant backdrop of the view. The Cliffs of Moher Visitor Centre car park is located in the foreground of the view, with the settlement of Liscannor visible along the Atlantic Coast. The existing Slieve Callan Wind Farm is visible in the upland landscape to the left background of the image. The existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm is just discernible along the elevated ridgeline in the distance. The existing Kiltumper Wind Farm is barely discernible beyond the ridgeline in the centre background of the view. The existing Moneypoint and Moanmore Wind Farms are seen as small elements in the distant background of the view in the right of the view.
Proposed Photomontage Description	The proposed turbines appear as small elements over a very small horizontal extent in the distant background of the view. The proposed turbines appear in a staggered linear layout.
Cumulative Effects	The proposed turbines will be viewed in combination with the existing Glenmore, Booltiagh, Booltiagh Extension, Slieve Callan, Boolynagleragh and the Boolynagleragh Extension Wind Farms, where all turbines are seen as small elements in the distant background of the view. Although, there is a large visual separation between these turbines and the proposed turbines. The proposed turbines will be viewed in the same line of sight with the existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm turbines. The proposed turbines appear larger than the four existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm turbines, although at this distance they are viewed collectively as a coherent array of turbines in the distant background of the view. At this distance, the blade tips of the existing Kiltumper, Moanmore and Moneypoint Wind Farms, as well as the proposed Ballykett and Moanmore Lower Wind Farms are discernible in the wireline view. In reality, given the set-back distance, they are not discernible to the naked-eye. As such, these

	existing and proposed wind farms will have no bearing on the overall cumulative visual effects with the proposed turbines. In an uncertain receiving environment, the proposed Slieveacurry and Illaunbaun Wind Farms will be seen in the same general direction as the proposed turbines. Though, there is visual separation between these turbines and the proposed turbines. The proposed turbines add to the extent of turbines visible form this viewpoint. However, the expansive nature of the view effectively accommodates the addition of the proposed turbines with other wind energy developments. The receiving landscape is capable of effectively absorbing multiple wind energy developments. The cumulative visual effects that do arise have been incorporated into the determination of the magnitude of change below.
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) (See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	**Very High:** The viewpoint has been classed as a very high sensitivity viewpoint on account of the Burren and Cliffs of Moher UNESCO Global Geopark.
Magnitude of Change (See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	**Slight:** The proposed turbines are seen but are largely set back from the viewpoint (23km away) and are of small scale, comprising a very small portion of the 53.5-degree field of view shown in the Photomontage Booklet.
Significance of Effect	**Very High × Slight = Moderate = Significant (EPA 2022)** *"An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration, or intensity alters a sensitive aspect of the environment."*
Mitigating Factors	› The primary high-value views from this location are orientated westwards towards Branan Mór and the Cliffs of Moher. The Proposed Wind Farm is located to the east, in the opposing field of view. › The proposed turbines are viewed in the distant background (23km away), set back beyond the far ridgeline from Liscannor Bay, within a wider landscape where existing wind energy developments are already present. › The proposed turbines are located well inland from the Cliffs of Moher, viewed as background features and do not intrude upon the key coastal landscape sensitivities or the immediate seascape setting as perceived from the Cliffs of Moher. › From this location, the proposed turbines occupy a very small portion – approx. 03 degrees (0.83%) of the expansive panoramic vista (360 degrees) available form this location and elsewhere on Cliffs of Moher. › The introduction of turbines into the background of this view slightly alters the character of the background landscape. However, at this distance, and within the scale of the view and landscape type, the turbines appear appropriately scaled, and are seen as very small features in the very background of the view. › All visible turbines will be seen above the horizon with no landscape as a backdrop.

	› The large scale of the landscape and expansive panoramic views have the capacity to effectively accommodate the proposed turbines of this scale as well as other wind energy developments. › The proposed turbines will largely not be visible from walking paths at the Cliffs of Moher, where the focus of views remains towards the Atlantic coastline. › Turbines are already established in the landscape in this general direction of views.
Residual Effect Incl. mitigating factors	**Slight (EPA 2022)** *"An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities"*

1.2.7 Viewpoint 07 – Boolyneaska

Viewpoint 07 – Boolyneaska	
Viewpoint Description and Details	› View west from the L-4074 Local Road in the townland of Boolyneaska. › This viewpoint is located on the Mid-Clare Way, beside Lough Naminna. › This viewpoint is located approximately 9.5km west of the nearest proposed turbine (T6). › Grid Reference: E: 518,363, N: 671,127. › No. of turbines visible 8/8
LCA and Sensitivity	› Clare LCA 17 – Slieve Callan Upland – **Medium to Low**
Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	› Mid Clare Way - **Medium** › Local Road - **Low**
Description of 'Existing View'	The image shows a medium range view overlooking Lough Naminna and bog lands. Dense shrub vegetation and commercial plantations are seen throughout this view. The existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm, Booltiagh and Booltiagh Extension Wind Farms are seen within the view. The existing Kiltumper Wind Farm is seen in the distant background of the view.
Proposed Photomontage Description	The proposed turbines are seen in the distant background of this view, occupying a small horizontal extent within the view. The proposed turbines are largely visually screened by the intervening topography and vegetation.
Cumulative Effects	In combination views will occur where the proposed turbines will be seen in the distant background of an established wind farm landscape where the existing Booltiagh and Booltiagh Extension Wind Farms comprise a moderate extent of this view. The proposed turbines will be seen in the same line of sight as the existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm, where they are of similar scale and height, and therefore read as an extension of the existing turbine arrangement. The proposed turbines will be seen in the same general direction as the existing Kiltumper turbines, although there is a large visual separation between the two windfarms. The existing Moanmore and Glenmore Windfarms, and the proposed Ballykett and Moanmore Lower Windfarms are theoretically visible in the far left hand side of the view, although are visually screened from view by intervening vegetation. Other existing developments, including the existing Letteragh, Boolynagleragh and Boolynagleragh Extension Wind Farms are viewed in an opposing field of view to the south and east, resulting in cumulative sequential (in-succession) views, where turbines are viewed in opposing directions from a specific viewpoint.

	Overall, while the Proposed Wind Farm increases the overall extent of turbines visible within the wider landscape, the turbines are seen at a large set-back distance. No Significant cumulative visual effects are deemed to arise at this viewpoint. The cumulative visual effects that do arise have been incorporated into the determination of the magnitude of change below.
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) (See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	**Medium:** This viewpoint has been classified as a medium sensitivity viewpoint on account of being located on the Mid Clare Way, a designated recreational walking route.
Magnitude of Change (See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	**Slight:** The proposed turbines are partially visible, comprising a small portion of the 53.5-degree field of view shown in the Photomontage Booklet.
Significance of Effect	**Medium × Slight = Minor = Slight (EPA 2022)** *"An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities."*
Mitigating Factors	› The proposed turbines are viewed as small elements in the background of a landscape where wind energy is already established. › There is a large expansive view of turbines existing within the landscape from this viewpoint. › The proposed turbines will not extend the horizontal extent of turbines seen when compared with the existing baseline view. › The Proposed Wind Farm is primarily sited within the Slieve Callan Uplands Landscape Character Area (LCA), an LCA of the lowest landscape sensitivity rating for wind energy development in County Clare, as set out in local planning policy. The landscape characteristics of this LCA make it highly suitable and capable of absorbing multiple large scale wind energy developments.
Residual Effect (Incl. mitigating factors).	**Not Significant (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences"*

1.2.8 Viewpoint 08 – Doo Lough

Viewpoint 08 – Doo Lough	
Viewpoint Description and Details	› View southwest from local road overlooking Doo Lough in the townland of Cloonlaheen West › This viewpoint is located approximately 4.8km northwest of the nearest proposed turbine (T2). › Grid Reference: E: 512,132, N: 672,847 › No. of turbines visible 8/8
LCA and Sensitivity	› Clare LCA 17 – Slieve Callan Upland – **Medium to Low**
Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	› Doo Lough - **Medium** › Local Road - **Low**
Description of 'Existing View'	The viewpoint is captured from a local road overlooking Doo Lough. The foreground consists of small agricultural fields delineated by stone walls. Coniferous plantations cover the hillside on the opposite side of the lough, where the surrounding topography limits visibility beyond this shallow valley. The existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm is visible in the background of the view beyond the ridgeline.
Proposed Photomontage Description	All 8 no. proposed turbines are visible along the ridgeline beyond Doo Lough, occupying a moderate horizontal extent. The proposed turbines appear in a staggered linear array, appearing as a coherent extension to the existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm turbines. The proposed met mast is seen as a slender vertical feature to the left of proposed turbine T7.
Cumulative Effects	The proposed turbines are seen in combination with the existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm turbines, increasing the overall extent of wind energy developments seen within the view. Although the existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm turbines are located on an elevated ridgeline, and the proposed turbines are located on the descending ridgeline, the two windfarms are viewed with a relatively even height profile of turbine hub relative to the existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm. In succession views will occur where the existing Booltiagh, Booltiagh Extension, and Glenmore Wind Farms are visible in the opposing field of view of the proposed turbines to the south and east. Overall, while the Proposed Wind Farm increases the overall extent of turbines visible within the view, the turbines are well assimilated within the view. No Significant cumulative visual effects are deemed to arise at this viewpoint. The cumulative visual effects that do arise have been incorporated into the determination of the magnitude of change below.
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) *(See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)*	**Medium:** Although Doo Lough is not a designated landscape within the CCDP, on-site surveys determined Doo Lough to be of scenic value. Therefore, this warrants the overall sensitivity of this viewpoint to be Medium.

Magnitude of Change *(See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)*	**Moderate:** The proposed turbines are seen over a moderate extent of the 53.5-degree field of view, while also clearly set back from the viewpoint shown in the Photomontage Booklet.
Significance of Effect	**Medium × Moderate = Moderate/Minor = Moderate (EPA 2022)** *"An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends"*
Mitigating Factors	› All turbine components are viewed on or beyond the ridgeline and do not obstruct or intrude upon views of any valuable or unique landscape features of county, regional or national sensitivity from this viewpoint. › The proposed turbines do not affect the sensitivity of the view derived from the lake's amenity value nor the character of its surrounding environment. › From this viewpoint, the proposed turbines are not obstructing or intruding upon any scenic views of county, regional or national renown; › The proposed turbines exhibit irregular spacing along a ridgeline in a linear layout within different landscape types which is appropriate for undulating terrain of this landscape type ('Transitional Marginal Landscape' type) according to the siting and design recommendations in the WEDGs (2006) and Draft WEDGs (2019); › The Proposed Wind Farm site is primarily comprised of a marginal upland landscape with commercial forestry. As such, it is a modified working landscape with low sensitivity. › The Proposed Wind Farm is primarily sited within the Slieve Callan Uplands Landscape Character Area (LCA), an LCA of the lowest landscape sensitivity rating for wind energy development in County Clare, as set out in local planning policy. The landscape characteristics of this LCA make it highly suitable and capable of absorbing multiple large scale wind energy developments. › The proposed turbines are viewed with a relatively even height profile of turbine hub relative to the existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm.
Residual Effect Incl. mitigating factors	**Slight (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities"*

1.2.9 Viewpoint 09 - Doughmore

Viewpoint 09 - Doughmore	
Viewpoint Description and Details	› View northeast from Doonbeg Golf Course adjacent to Doughmore Beach in the townland of Carrowmore. › The viewpoint is located approximately 8.7km southwest of the nearest proposed turbine (T3). › Grid Reference (ITM): E, 499,142; N 667,959 › No. of proposed turbines visible: 8/8
LCA and Sensitivity	› LCA 20 - Malbay Coastal Farmland – **High** › Heritage Landscape – **Very High**
Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	› Visitors to Doughmore Beach **– High** › Wild Atlantic Way **– Medium** › Doonbeg Golf Course **– Low**
Description of 'Existing View'	The image is an expansive long-ranging view captured from an elevated vantage point overlooking the Doonbeg Golf Course and landscape beyond. The image shows a view across a relatively flat, rural and sparsely populated landscape. The Slieve Callan upland is visible in the distant background of the view. The existing Slieve Callan Wind Farm is visible in the left background of the image. The existing Cahermurphy, Glenmore, and Kiltumper Wind Farms are visible in the centre background of the image.
Proposed Photomontage Description	The proposed turbines are visible in the centre background of the view within the Slieve Callan Upland landscape. The proposed turbines are arranged in a staggered linear array, where turbines T7 and T8 appear as slightly visually separated from the remaining proposed turbines. The proposed met mast is barely discernible to the naked eye at this distance.
Cumulative Effects	The proposed turbines are seen in combination with the existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm turbines, where they are sited in front of them. The difference in location and scale of the proposed turbines (closer proximity) and the existing turbines (at a greater set-back distance from this location) defines them as separate entities from this perspective. The existing Kiltumper and Glenmore Wind Farms are visible to the right of the proposed turbines where they appear as smaller elements at a lower elevation in the distant background. The existing Booltiagh Wind Farm is located behind the proposed turbines. However, due to the distance and intervening landform these existing turbines are discernible to the naked eye. The existing Slieve Callan Wind Farm is visible in the same general direction as the proposed turbines, although there is a large visual separation between the two windfarms. In the 90-degree field of view, in an uncertain future receiving environment, the proposed Slieveacurry and proposed Illaunbaun Wind Farms may be viewed to the left of Slieve Callan Wind Farm.

	The existing Tullabrack and Moanmore Wind Farms, and, in an uncertain future receiving environment, the proposed Moanmore Lower, and Ballykett Wind Farms are sited to the south of this viewpoint, behind the dune on which this viewpoint was captured. Overall, while the proposed turbines increases the spatial extent of turbines visible in the landscape, they assimilate well within the view and are clearly separated from other wind developments within the expansive view. The existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm turbines are recessive features in the view, and hence seen as background features with limited visual influence. There are no Significant cumulative visual effects that arise at this viewpoint as a result of the proposed turbines. The cumulative visual effects that do arise have been incorporated into the determination of the magnitude of change below.
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) (See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	**High:** Considering the scenic amenity of Doughmore Beach and Doughmore bay, and the expansive views available from this viewpoint, the sensitivity of this viewpoint is deemed to be high.
Magnitude of Change (See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	**Slight:** The proposed turbines are seen but clearly set back from the viewpoint and are of small scale, comprising a relatively small portion of the 53.5-degree field of view shown in the Photomontage Booklet.
Significance of Effect	**High × Slight = Moderate/Minor = Moderate (EPA 2022)** *"An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities."*
Mitigating Factors	› This viewpoint does not represent any designated scenic view. › The scenic qualities from this area are directed along the Atlantic Coast, in the opposing field of view. The Proposed Wind Farm is sited further inland to the east, within a landscape of lower sensitivity. › The proposed turbines are set-back at a sufficient distance from this viewpoint and will not impact the high sensitivity landscape designations of County Clare ('Heritage Landscapes'). › The proposed turbines exhibit irregular spacing along a ridgeline in a linear layout within different landscape types which is appropriate for undulating terrain of this landscape type ('Transitional Marginal Landscape' type) according to the siting and design recommendations in the WEDGs (2006) and Draft WEDGs (2019); › The proposed turbines are sited in a marginal upland landscape of large scale capable of effectively accommodating multiple wind energy developments, a landscape where wind energy is well-established.
Residual Effect Incl. mitigating factors	**Slight (EPA 2022)** *An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences".*

1.2.10 Viewpoint 10 – Knocknahila More North

Viewpoint 10 – Knocknahila More North	
Viewpoint Description and Details	› View southeast from a crossroads in the townland Knocknahila More North on a EuroVelo Route. › This viewpoint is located approximately 2.4km northwest of the nearest proposed turbine (T1). › Grid Reference: E: 505739, N: 670974 › No. of turbines visible 8/8
LCA and Sensitivity	› Clare LCA 20 – Malbay Coastal Farmland - **High**
Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	› Residential Receptors in close proximity - **Medium** › EuroVelo - **Medium** › Local Road - **Low**
Description of 'Existing View'	The image is of a medium range view overlooking a section of a local junction. The view consists of rolling agricultural landscape with fields bordered by dense shrubs and treelines. The existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm is visible in the background of the image beyond the coniferous plantations.
Proposed Photomontage Description	The proposed turbines are seen to occupy a moderate horizontal extent within the view, arranged in a staggered linear array beyond the ridgeline. Turbines T3 and T1 are the most visually prominent features within the view. The remaining turbines are partially screened by intervening landform and vegetation. The proposed met mast is seen as a slender vertical feature to the right of T7, beyond the local landform.
Cumulative Effects	The proposed turbines are seen to the right of the existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm. The difference in location and scale of the proposed turbines (closer proximity) and the existing turbines (at a greater set-back distance from this location) defines them as separate entities from this perspective. The blade tips of the existing Booltiagh and Booltiagh Extension turbines are theoretically visible beyond the distant ridgeline in the wireline view, however, due to distance, and vegetative screening are barely discernible to the naked eye. Overall, the Booltiagh and Booltiagh Extension turbines would have no bearing on the overall cumulative visual effects. There may be partial visibility of the existing Slieve Callan Wind Farm to the north from locations further along this local road.
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) (See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	**Medium:** The viewpoint is representative of residential receptors to the northwest of the Proposed Wind Farm which are in medium proximity to the proposed turbines.

Magnitude of Change (See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	**Moderate:** The proposed turbines are seen of a moderate scale comprising a moderate horizontal extent of views, comprising all of the 53.5-degree field of view shown in the Photomontage Booklet.
Significance of Effect	**Medium × Moderate = Moderate/Minor = Moderate (EPA 2022)** *"An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends"*
Mitigating Factors	› Siting of the proposed turbines adheres to the >500m set-back distance from residential receptors recommended in the WEDGs (2006) and the 4-times-tip-height set-back distance set out in the Draft WEDGs (2019)); › The Proposed Wind Farm is primarily sited within the Slieve Callan Uplands Landscape Character Area (LCA), an LCA of the lowest landscape sensitivity rating for wind energy development in County Clare, as set out in local planning policy. The landscape characteristics of this LCA make it highly suitable and capable of absorbing multiple large scale wind energy developments. › All proposed turbines of the Proposed Project are sited in a "Strategic Area" for wind energy development in the Clare Wind Energy Strategy, an area of the landscape envisioned for wind energy development in local planning policy. › The proposed turbines are sited in a sparsely populated area with appropriate setback distances from local population centres. › The proposed turbines exhibit irregular spacing along a ridgeline in a clustered layout within different landscape types which is appropriate for undulating terrain of this landscape type ('Transitional Marginal Landscape' type) according to the siting and design recommendations in the WEDGs (2006) and Draft WEDGs (2019); › The proposed turbines are viewed as a coherent cluster with only a relatively moderate horizontal extent within the view, even from locations in close proximity to the Proposed Wind Farm. › From this viewpoint, the proposed turbines are not obstructing or intruding upon any scenic views of county, regional or national renown. › The Proposed Wind Farm is viewed above the horizon and does not obstruct any other sensitive landscape features.
Residual Effect Incl. mitigating factors	**Moderate (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends"*

1.2.11 Viewpoint 11 - Cloghaun More East (NorthWest)

Viewpoint 11 – Cloghaun More East (NorthWest)	
Viewpoint Description and Details	› View from a local road in the townland of Cloghaun More East. › This viewpoint is located approximately 1.1km west of the nearest proposed turbine (T1). › Grid Reference: E: 506,654 N: 669,775 › No. of turbines visible 8/8
LCA and Sensitivity	› Clare LCA 20 Malbay Coastal Farmland –**High**
Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	› Residential Receptors in close proximity – **High**
Description of 'Existing View'	The image is of a relatively short view overlooking agricultural fields and dense tracts of coniferous plantations within a rural upland. The turbines of the existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm is visible in the background of the view.
Proposed Photomontage Description	Turbine T3 and T1 appear as tall vertical features within the view, while the remaining turbines appear as moderately scaled features occupying a moderate horizontal extent within the view. The proposed turbines appear to be irregularly spaced and are sited in a staggered layout. Some visual stacking occurs between proposed turbines T1 and T2.
Cumulative Effects	The proposed turbines are seen in combination with existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm, increasing the overall extent of wind energy developments seen within the view. The existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm is located behind proposed turbines T1, T2 and T5, where some visual overlap occurs between the existing and proposed turbines. The difference in location and scale of the proposed turbines (closer proximity) and the existing turbines (at a greater set-back distance from this location) defines them as separate entities from this perspective, where the proposed turbines appear larger in scale than the existing turbines. The blade tips of the existing Booltiagh and Booltiagh Extension turbines are theoretically visible beyond the distant ridgeline in the wireline view, however, due to distance, are barely discernible to the naked eye. Overall, the Booltiagh and Booltiagh Extension turbines would have no bearing on the overall cumulative visual effects. In succession views will occur where the existing Slieve Callan Wind Farm, and proposed Slievacurry and proposed Illaunbaun Wind Farms are viewed in the opposing view, to the north of this viewpoint. Cumulative effects are not deemed to be Significant from this location. Cumulative effects that do occur have been incorporated into the magnitude of change below.
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) *(See definition in*	**High:** This viewpoint has been assigned a high sensitivity on account of the residential receptors in close proximity to the Proposed Wind Farm.

LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	
Magnitude of Change (See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	**Substantial:** The proposed turbines are seen of large scale comprising a large horizontal extent of views, comprising all of the 53.5-degree field of view shown in the Photomontage Booklet.
Significance of Effect	**High × Substantial = Major/Moderate = Very Significant (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration, or intensity alters most of a sensitive aspect of the environment"*
Mitigating Factors	› Siting of the proposed turbines adheres to the >500m set-back distance from residential receptors recommended in the WEDGs (2006) and the 4-times-tip-height set-back distance set out in the Draft WEDGs (2019); › All proposed turbines of the Proposed Project are sited in a "Strategic Area" for wind energy development in the Clare Wind Energy Strategy, an area of the landscape envisioned for wind energy development in local planning policy. › The proposed turbines are sited in a sparsely populated area with appropriate setback distances from local population centres. › The proposed turbines exhibit irregular spacing along a ridgeline in a clustered layout within different landscape types which is appropriate for undulating terrain of this landscape type ('Transitional Marginal Landscape' type) according to the siting and design recommendations in the WEDGs (2006) and Draft WEDGs (2019) ; › There are more scenic views to the north and west from this viewpoint, away from the Proposed Wind Farm and towards the coastline. › The proposed turbines are viewed above the horizon and do not obstruct any other sensitive landscape features. › This is a short-range view of a rural working landscape and it is not a distinctive view comprising any special scenic qualities and is therefore not a view of local, county, regional or national value or sensitivity. › This viewpoint is representative of only a select few residences between the townlands of Knocknahila More North, Knocknahila Beg and Moyglass Beg.
Residual Effect Incl. mitigating factors	**Significant (EPA, 2022)** "*An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration, or intensity alters most of a sensitive aspect of the environment"*

1.2.12 Viewpoint 12 – Cahermurphy (South)

Viewpoint 12 – Cahermurphy (South)	
Viewpoint Description and Details	› View north from a local road in the townland of Cahermurphy › This viewpoint is located approximately 1.2km south of the nearest proposed turbine (T7). › Grid Reference: E: 508,446, N: 667,497 › No. of proposed turbines visible: 8/8
LCA and Sensitivity	› Clare LCA 19 Kilrush Farmland– **Medium**
Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	› Residential Receptors in close proximity – **High** › Local Road - **Low**
Description of 'Existing View'	The image is of a relatively short-range view overlooking agricultural fields bordered by dense boundary vegetation and treelines. Coniferous forestry is seen throughout the background of the view. The existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm turbines are visible to the right of the image, on elevated terrain, beyond the coniferous forestry.
Proposed Photomontage Description	All of the proposed turbines are visible within this field of view, within a relatively moderate horizontal extent. The closest turbines (T7), appears as a large and prominent feature within the view, while the remaining turbines appear as moderately scaled features, visually set-back from this viewpoint, partially screened by intervening landform and vegetation. The met mast is visible as a slender lattice structure to the right of proposed turbine T1.
Cumulative Effects	The proposed turbines are seen in combination with existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm, increasing the overall extent of wind energy developments seen within the view. The existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm is located to the right of the proposed turbines, where some visual overlap occurs between the existing and proposed turbine T8. The difference in location and scale of the proposed turbines (closer proximity) and the existing turbines (at a greater set-back distance from this location) defines them as separate entities from this perspective, where the proposed turbines appear larger in scale than the existing turbines. The blade tips of the existing Slieve Callan turbines are theoretically visible beyond the distant ridgeline in the wireline view, however, due to the intervening landform and vegetation, are barely discernible to the naked eye. Sequential in combination views may occur where the existing Kiltumper, existing Glenmore, and existing Booltiagh Wind Farms will be visible in another field of view to the northeast and east. The existing Crossmore or existing Moneypoint Wind Farms may be viewed in the opposing field of view from this viewpoint. Cumulative effects that do occur have been incorporated into the magnitude of change below.

Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) (See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	**High:** Due the to the residential amenity in close proximity to the proposed turbines, the overall sensitivity of this viewpoint is High.
Magnitude of Change (See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	**Substantial:** Turbines may be of a large scale and very prominent within views, comprising large vertical and/or horizontal extent of views, turbines might typically comprise all of, or greater than the 90-degree field of view shown in the Photomontage Booklet.
Significance of Effect	**High × Substantial = Major/Moderate = Very Significant (EPA, 2022)** **"***An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration, or intensity alters most of a sensitive aspect of the environment".*
Mitigating Factors	› All proposed turbines of the Proposed Project are sited in a "Strategic Area" for wind energy development in the Clare Wind Energy Strategy, an area of the landscape envisioned for wind energy development in local planning policy. › The proposed turbines are sited in a sparsely populated area with appropriate setback distances from local population centres. › Siting of the proposed turbines adheres to the >500m set-back distance from residential receptors recommended in the WEDGs (2006) and the 4-times-tip-height set-back distance set out in the Draft WEDGs (2019) ; › The proposed turbines exhibit irregular spacing along a ridgeline in a clustered layout within different landscape types which is appropriate for undulating terrain of this landscape type ('Transitional Marginal Landscape' type) according to the siting and design recommendations in the WEDGs (2006) and Draft WEDGs (2019); › This view is of a typical total working landscape, and the proposed turbines are not obstructing or intruding upon any scenic views of county, regional or national renown. › The proposed turbines are viewed above the horizon and do not obstruct any other landscape elements › Turbine T5 and T2 are largely screened from view by intervening vegetation › The proposed turbines appear visually set back from this viewpoint. Beyond the landform and tracts of commercial forestry, giving a sense of set back and spatial separation from the viewpoint › This location represents one of the few areas along this road where such open views toward the proposed turbines occur. Many receptors in the surrounding area, such as residences, will not experience comparable levels of visibility and visual impact due to mature boundary vegetation surrounding their properties, which will further reduce visibility of the proposed turbines and effects on their visual amenity.
Residual Effect Incl. mitigating factors	**Significant (EPA, 2022)** "*An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration, or intensity alters a sensitive aspect of the environment"*

1.2.13 Viewpoint 13 – Cahermurphy (North)

Viewpoint 13 – Cahermurphy (East of Proposed Wind Farm)	
Viewpoint Description and Details	› View from the townland of Cahermurphy, approximately 680m east from the nearest proposed turbine (T6) › Grid Reference: E: 509,658, N: 669,471 › No. of turbines visible 8/8
LCA and Sensitivity	› Clare LCA 17 – Slieve Callan Upland – **Medium to Low**
Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	› Residential Receptors in close proximity - **High**
Description of 'Existing View'	The view extends across the immediate foreground where the landform gently descends away from the viewpoint towards lower ground. The view is predominantly comprised of coniferous forestry and lands characterised of upland boglands. The Atlantic coast can be seen in the distant background of the view. 1 no. turbine of the exiting Cahermurphy Wind Farm is visible in the foreground of the view.
Proposed Photomontage Description	All of the proposed turbines are visible within this field of view, within a relatively moderate horizontal extent. The closest turbines (T6 and T5), appear as large and prominent features within the view, while the remaining turbines appear as moderately scaled features, visually set-back from this viewpoint, partially screened by intervening landform and vegetation. The proposed met mast is seen a slender vertical feature to the left of turbine T7.
Cumulative Effects	The proposed turbines are viewed in combination with the existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm turbines, where they are seen to extend the line of turbines further back in the view. The Proposed Wind Farm is located on a slightly lower section of the ridgeline compared to the nearest existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm turbine, which provides a clear sense of set-back within the landscape. The remaining three existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm turbines are located in the opposing direction, resulting in cumulative in-succession views of the proposed and existing turbines. The blade tips of the existing Moanmore and Tullabrack turbines are theoretically visible in the distant background in the wireline view, however, due to intervening coniferous treelines, are not visible. Overall, the existing Moanmore and Tullabrack turbines would have no bearing on the overall cumulative visual effects. From this viewpoint intervening topography and treelines limits visibility in another field of view, east towards other existing wind farms such as the existing Kiltumper, existing Glenmore, and existing Booltiagh Wind Farms. These cumulative wind farms would be viewed sequentially to the Proposed Wind Farm given their proximity. In another field of view, the existing Crossmore and existing Moneypoint Wind Farms would be viewed to the south in succession from this location.

	Cumulative effects that do occur have been incorporated into the magnitude of change below.
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) (See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	**High:** This viewpoint has been classified as a High sensitivity viewpoint on account of the existing residential receptors living along the local road near the proposed turbines.
Magnitude of Change (See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	**Substantial:** The proposed turbines are of a large scale and very prominent within the view, comprising large vertical and/or horizontal extent of views. The proposed turbines comprise a large extent of the 90-degree field of view shown in the Photomontage Booklet.
Significance of Effect	**High × Substantial = Major/Moderate = Very Significant (EPA, 2022)** "*An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration, or intensity alters most of a sensitive aspect of the environment".*
Mitigating Factors	› All proposed turbines of the Proposed Project are sited in a "Strategic Area" for wind energy development in the Clare Wind Energy Strategy, an area of the landscape envisioned for wind energy development in local planning policy. › The proposed turbines are sited in a sparsely populated area with appropriate setback distances from local population centres. › Siting of the proposed turbines adheres to the >500m set-back distance from residential receptors recommended in WEDGs (2006) and the 4-times-tip-height set-back distance set out in the Draft WEDGs (2019); › This is representative of a small number of residences in the area, located further south and north along this local access road, where views west are more limited by intervening topography and vegetation. › The proposed turbines exhibit irregular spacing along a ridgeline in a clustered layout within different landscape types which is appropriate for undulating terrain of this landscape type ('Transitional Marginal Landscape' type) according to the siting and design recommendations in the WEDGs (2006) and Draft WEDGs (2019). › The proposed turbines read coherently in the view. The arrangement and spacing of the proposed turbines gives an orderly and visually coherent appearance within the view, with limited overlap of turbine components, avoiding visual confusion and supporting their assimilation into the landscape. › This viewpoint location is in close proximity to the Proposed Wind Farm and therefore it is inevitable that there will be a significant magnitude of change as a result.
Residual Effect Incl. mitigating factors	**Significant (EPA, 2022)** "*An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration, or intensity alters a sensitive aspect of the environment."*

1.2.14 Viewpoint 14 – Cloghaun More East (West)

Viewpoint 14 – Cloghaun More East (South Viewpoint)	
Viewpoint Description and Details	› View east from unnamed local road on the EuroVelo recreational route in the townland of Cloghaun More east. › This viewpoint is located approximately 1.1km west of the nearest proposed turbine (T3). › Grid Reference: E: 506702, N: 669124 › No. of turbines visible 8/8
LCA and Sensitivity	› Clare LCA 17 – Slieve Callan Upland– **Medium to Low**
Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	› Residential Receptors in close proximity - **Medium** › EuroVelo - **Medium** › Local Road - **Low**
Description of 'Existing View'	The image is of a relatively short-range view overlooking an agricultural field enclosed by mature boundary vegetation, with coniferous plantations in the background of this rural upland landscape. Gaps in coniferous vegetation permit open long-range views into the distant background. Two residential dwellings are seen in the view. The existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm is visible in the centre background of the view.
Proposed Photomontage Description	All of the proposed turbines are visible within this field of view, within a relatively moderate horizontal extent. The closest turbine (T3), appears as large and prominent features within the view, while the remaining turbines appear as moderately scaled features, visually set-back from this viewpoint, partially screened by intervening landform and vegetation. There is some visual stacking of proposed turbines T4 and T6.
Cumulative Effects	The proposed turbines are seen in combination with existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm, increasing the overall extent of wind energy developments seen within the view. The existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm turbines are visible in the background behind the proposed turbines, where they appear smaller in scale due to their greater set-back distance. As such, the existing and proposed turbines are read as two separate turbine groups within the landscape. The blade tips of the existing Kiltumper turbines are theoretically visible beyond the distant ridgeline in the wireline view, however, due to intervening coniferous treelines, are not visible. Overall, the existing Kiltumper turbines would have no bearing on the overall cumulative visual effects. The existing Slieve Callan Wind Farm is partially visible in the 90-degree view, seen in the distant background. And in an uncertain future receiving environment, the proposed Slievacurry and proposed Illaunbaun Wind Farms may also be viewed to the north, in the same general direction of the Slieve Callan turbines . These cumulative turbines are partially screened by vegetation from this location. Overall, no Significant cumulative effects are deemed to arise from this location.

Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) *(See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)*	**High:** Due to the residential receptors in close proximity with views towards the proposed turbines, the overall sensitivity of this viewpoint is deemed to be high.
Magnitude of Change *(See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)*	**Substantial:** Turbines may be of a large scale and very prominent within views, comprising large horizontal extent of views, comprising all of the 53.5-degree field of view shown in the Photomontage Booklet.
Significance of Effect	**High x Substantial = Major/Moderate = Very Significant (EPA, 2022)** **"***An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration, or intensity alters most of a sensitive aspect of the environment".*
Mitigating Factors	› Although the residential receptors in close proximity to the viewpoint are orientated towards the proposed turbines, the key scenic views are in the opposite direction overlooking the Atlantic Coast. The proposed turbines do not disrupt the views of the Atlantic Coast from the residential receptors. › All proposed turbines of the Proposed Project are sited in a "Strategic Area" for wind energy development in the Clare Wind Energy Strategy, an area of the landscape envisioned for wind energy development in local planning policy. › The proposed turbines are sited in a sparsely populated area with appropriate setback distances from local population centres. › Siting of the proposed turbines adheres to the >500m set-back distance from residential receptors recommended in the WEDGs (2006) and the 4-times-tip-height set-back distance set out in the Draft WEDGs (2019) ; › The proposed turbines exhibit irregular spacing along a ridgeline in a clustered layout within different landscape types which is appropriate for undulating terrain of this landscape type ('Transitional Marginal Landscape' type) according to the siting and design recommendations in the WEDGs (2006) and Draft WEDGs (2019).
Residual Effect Incl. mitigating factors	**Significant (EPA, 2022)** "*An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration, or intensity alters a sensitive aspect of the environment"*
Turbine Envelope Range: VP 14	
VP14: Assessment of Turbine Envelope Range	Viewpoint VP14 was utilised to assess the potential visual impacts of the full range of proposed turbine scenarios: Scenario 2 Median and Scenario 3 Minimum (refer to the LVIA Chapter 14, Section 14.1.4 Range of Turbine Dimensions Assessed in this Chapter). VP14 represents a short-distance viewpoint, located at 1.1km west from the proposed turbines. In the Photomontage Booklet, VP14 has two additional section headings: Scenario 2 and Scenario 3. Each section shows the comparative wireline

	imagery for the different scenarios, overlaid on the Scenario 1 turbine model used in all previous assessments. **Scenario 2:** There is slight variation of hub height in this view, where the blade length appears slightly larger, but the difference is negligible where the turbines would appear at a relatively similar scale as Scenario 1 **Scenario 3:** There is slight variation of turbine height in this view, where the turbines appear slightly smaller due a hub height difference of 12m compared to Scenario 1. However, with a lower tip height of 5m, the difference is negligible where the turbines would appear at a relatively similar scale as Scenario 1.

1.2.15 Viewpoint 15 – Carrownagry North

Viewpoint 15 – Carrownagry North	
Viewpoint Description and Details	› View from the townland of Carrownagry North, approximately 1.3km north of the nearest of proposed turbine (T1). › Grid Reference: E: 507530, N: 671109. › No. of turbines visible 8/8
LCA and Sensitivity	› Clare LCA 20 Malbay Coastal Farmland – **High**
Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	› Residential receptors in close proximity – **High** › Local Road - **Low**
Description of 'Existing View'	The image is of rolling, sparsely populated agricultural landscape, with pockets of dense shrubs and trees along field boundaries. A linear row of residential receptors is seen in the midground of the view. The existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm is located in the left background of the view.
Proposed Photomontage Description	The Proposed Wind Farm occupies a moderate horizontal extent across the background of the view. The proposed turbines are seen above the horizon, arranged in a staggered linear array. There is some minor visual stacking between proposed turbines T1 and T3. The proposed met mast appears as a short, thin lattice tower between proposed turbine T7 and T1, where it is seen above the coniferous treeline.
Cumulative Effects	The Proposed Wind Farm is seen in combination with the existing Cahermurphy Wind Farm turbines, located further left of the proposed turbines. The difference in location and scale of the proposed turbines (closer proximity) and the existing turbines (at a greater set-back distance from this location) defines them as slightly separate entities from this perspective. However, similarity in turbine enables them to be viewed as separate groups of turbines in a collective array that assimilate well together with no visual complexity or visual clutter. On-site appraisals found that the topography and intervening vegetation at this viewpoint location limits views of other cumulative wind farm developments. Other existing Wind Farms such as the Booltiagh, Booltiagh Extension and Glenmore Wind Farms would be visible sequentially from locations further east along this local road. No Significant cumulative effects arise at this viewpoint.
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s) *(See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)*	**High:** The viewpoint is deemed to be high sensitivity on account of the residential receptors in close proximity to the Proposed Wind Farm.
Magnitude of Change *(See definition in LVIA*	**Moderate:** The proposed turbines are seen of large scale comprising a large horizontal extent of views, comprising all of the 53.5-degree field of view shown in the Photomontage Booklet.

Methodology Appendix 14-1)	
Significance of Effect	**High × Moderate = Moderate = Significant (EPA 2022)** *"An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration, or intensity alters a sensitive aspect of the environment"*
Mitigating Factors	› All proposed turbines of the Proposed Project are sited in a "Strategic Area" for wind energy development in the Clare Wind Energy Strategy, an area of the landscape envisioned for wind energy development in local planning policy. › The proposed turbines are sited in a sparsely populated area with appropriate setback distances from local population centres. › Siting of the proposed turbines adheres to the >500m set-back distance from residential receptors recommended in the WEDGs (2006) and the 4-times-tip-height set-back distance set out in the Draft WEDGs (2019).; › The Proposed Wind Farm site is primarily comprised of a marginal upland landscape with commercial forestry. As such, it is a modified working landscape with low sensitivity. › The staggered linear arrangement of the proposed turbines and their differing set-back distances as seen within the view allows the turbines to be read as a coherent cluster within the view. › The Proposed Wind Farm appears as a coherent development in an established wind farm landscape. › This is a short-range view of a rural working landscape and it is not a distinctive view comprising any special scenic qualities and is therefore not a view of local, county, regional or national value or sensitivity.
Residual Effect (Incl. mitigating factors).	**Moderate (EPA, 2022)** *"An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends"*
Turbine Envelope Range: VP 15	
VP14: Assessment of Turbine Envelope Range	Viewpoint VP15 was utilised to assess the potential visual impacts of the full range of proposed turbine scenarios: Scenario 2 Median and Scenario 3 Minimum (refer to the LVIA Chapter 14, Section 13.1.4 Range of Turbine Dimensions Assessed in this Chapter). VP15 represents a short-distance viewpoint, located at 1.3km north from the proposed turbines. In the Photomontage Booklet, VP15 has two additional section headings: Scenario 2 and Scenario 3. Each section shows the comparative wireline imagery for the different scenarios, overlaid on the Scenario 1 turbine model used in all previous assessments. **Scenario 2:** There is slight variation of hub height in this view, where the blade length appears slightly larger, but the difference is negligible where the turbines would appear at a relatively similar scale as Scenario 1 **Scenario 3:** There is slight variation of turbine height in this view, where the turbines appear slightly smaller due a hub height difference of 12m compared to Scenario 1. However, with a lower tip height of 5m, the difference is negligible where the turbines would appear at a relatively similar scale as Scenario 1.

APPENDIX 14-3

PHOTOMONTAGE VIEWPOINT ASSESSMENT TABLES