

4. Landscape and Visual

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 This assessment defines the landscape and visual baseline environments and any known future changes; assesses their sensitivity to change; describes the key features and design rationale of the Proposed Development in relation to the mitigation of landscape and visual effects; describes the nature of the anticipated changes to the landscape and views and assesses the effects arising during all stages of development.

4.1.2 Supporting appendices and figures have been prepared as listed below. These are important to the assessment and should be read alongside this chapter:

- Volume 3b:
 - Figure 4.1: Bare Ground ZTV;
 - Figure 4.2: ZTV;
 - Figure 4.3: Topography and Landcover;
 - Figure 4.4: Landscape Character;
 - Figure 4.5: Landscape Character and ZTV study;
 - Figure 4.6: Visual Receptors and ZTV study;
 - Figure 4.7: Cumulative Sites;
 - Figure 4.8: Cumulative ZTV - operational and consented wind farms;
 - Figure 4.9: Cumulative ZTV - wind farms in planning;
 - Figure 4.10: Existing Light Environment;
 - Figure 4.11: Aviation Lighting ZTV; and
 - Figure 4.12: Cumulative ZTV - Aviation lighting in planning.
- Volume 3c:
 - Representative Viewpoints 1-16.
- Volume 4:
 - Technical Appendix 4.1: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) Methodology;
 - Technical Appendix 4.2: Non-significant Effects;
 - Technical Appendix 4.3: Illustrative Views; and
 - Technical Appendix 4.4: Residential Visual Amenity Assessment.

4.2 Consultation

4.2.1 Consultation undertaken during the EIA Scoping stage was described in the EIA Scoping Report and the Gatecheck 1 Report previously submitted to the Energy Consents Unit. A summary of the consultee responses to the Scoping and Gatecheck Reports and subsequent consultation and responses is presented in the Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report which has been submitted as part of the application for Section 36 consent. Table C1-3 of Appendix C of the PAC Report



focuses on consultation responses relating to the landscape and visual assessment, and confirms how those responses have been addressed as part of the EIA process.

4.3 Assessment Methodology and Significance Criteria

- 4.3.1 The full methodology is described in **Technical Appendix 4.1**, which also references the key guidance documents which inform the approach. A summary of key points is provided below.

Proposed Development

- 4.3.2 The maximum design parameters used in this chapter in considering landscape and visual effects include:
- 14 wind turbines, each with maximum heights as follows:
 - 9 turbines at 200 m to blade tip; and
 - 5 turbines at 149.9 m to blade tip.
- 4.3.3 As described in **Section 2.2 of Chapter 2: Project Description**, three of the 200 m turbines would be fitted with red aviation lights as shown by **Figure 4.10**.
- 4.3.4 The BESS units and control building would have a maximum height of 3 m above ground level. Other aspects of the Proposed Development, as described in detail in **Chapter 2**, are considered throughout this chapter where relevant.
- 4.3.5 A connection to the grid is not being applied for as part of the Section 36 application and is therefore not part of the Proposed Development. However, as described in **Section 2.3 of Chapter 2**, this assessment considers the likely significant effects of an assumed grid connection in combination with the Proposed Development, for which an indicative grid connection corridor has been identified (see also **Chapter 3: Design Evolution and Alternatives**). It is assumed that the grid connection would be provided via a wooden pole overhead line of the maximum proportions described in **Section 2.3 of Chapter 2** via the corridor shown on **Figure 2.13**.

Study Area

- 4.3.6 A study area of 25 km from the proposed wind turbines has been used within this chapter, as agreed through Scoping and illustrated on **Figure 4.2**. A bare ground Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) study has also been prepared extending to 45 km from the proposed turbines, as shown on **Figure 4.1**, in line with NatureScot guidance.
- 4.3.7 A 2 km study area for the Residential Visual Amenity Assessment (RVAA), included as **Technical Appendix 4.4**, has also been agreed.

Desk Study

- 4.3.8 The assessment is informed by initial desk study to identify receptors (landscape character areas, landscape designations and groups of people who may be affected by changes to views). The desk study includes the preparation of ZTV studies to identify potential areas of visibility of the Proposed Development. This information is used to aid identification of the study area and receptors likely to be affected.
- 4.3.9 Documented baseline studies of relevance to this chapter are considered at **Section 4.4**.



Field Surveys

- 4.3.10 To inform the assessment, site visits were made to locations including representative viewpoints, the Site and wider study area by the assessment team in March, May and July 2026.

Assessment of Potential Effect Level and Significance

Sensitivity

- 4.3.11 Sensitivity (high, medium, low) judgements take account of consideration of the value and susceptibility of the receptor as illustrated by the diagrams below. Where sensitivity is judged to lie between levels, an intermediate assessment will be adopted. As comparison of the two diagrams indicates, a slightly greater weight is given to susceptibility in judging sensitivity of visual receptors.

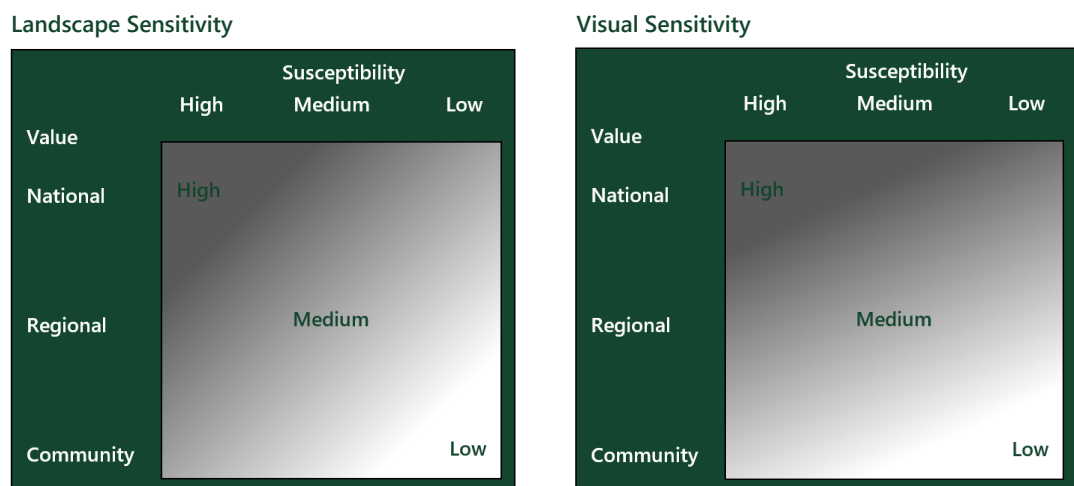


Diagram 4.3-1: Indication and Comparison of Landscape and Visual Sensitivity

Magnitude

- 4.3.12 Magnitude of change (large, medium, small, negligible) judgements take account of the degree of change arising from the proposed development at any particular location in terms of its size or scale; extent of the area or receptor that is influenced, and the duration and reversibility of the change.
- 4.3.13 The maximum scale of change on the receptor is the primary factor in determining magnitude. However, for particularly widespread and/or long-lasting effects the magnitude judgement may be slightly greater than the scale of change; or for effects that are constrained in geographic extent and/or short-lived the magnitude of change may be slightly lower than the scale of change.

Level of Effect

- 4.3.14 The level (major, moderate, minor, minimal) of any identified landscape or visual effect reflects a professional judgement as to the relative importance of the effects identified, taking account of the sensitivity of the receptor and the predicted magnitude of change as illustrated by the diagram below.



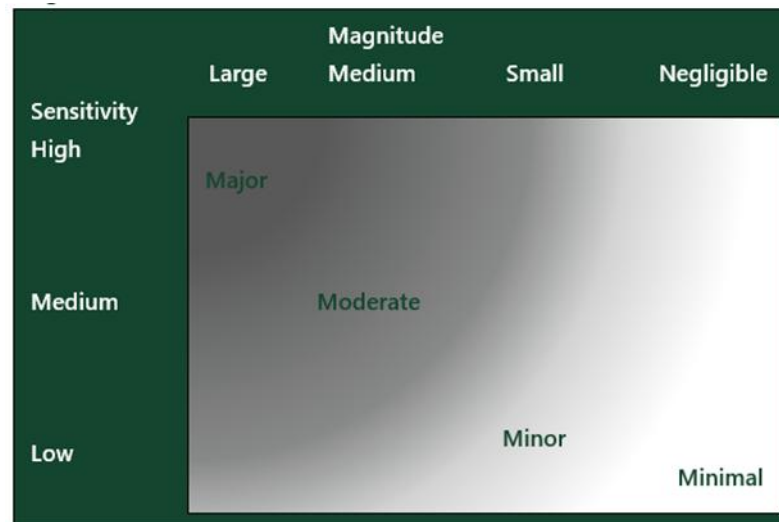


Diagram 4.3-2: Level of Effect taking Account of Sensitivity and Magnitude

- 4.3.15 Where the effect has been classified as major or major/moderate this is considered to be equivalent to likely significant effects referred to in the EIA Regulations. Where moderate effects are predicted, these have been judged to be not significant and, before making this decision, professional judgement has been applied to ensure that the potential for significant effects arising has been thoroughly considered. The indication that some effects are 'significant' should not be taken to imply that they should warrant refusal in any decision-making process. In respect of wind energy development in Scotland, national planning policy (as appraised in the standalone Planning Statement submitted in support of the Section 36 application) explicitly notes that significant landscape and visual effects are to be expected.

Positive/Adverse

- 4.3.16 Landscape and visual effects can be positive, adverse or neutral (different but neither better nor worse taking all factors into account). Taking a precautionary approach in making an assessment of the 'worst case scenario', the assessment considers that all effects which would result in a notable difference to the existing features, character, views or special qualities would be adverse unless indicated otherwise. It should be noted however that people's individual responses to change arising from development can vary markedly.

Night-time Assessment

- 4.3.17 The Proposed Development includes a requirement for visible aviation lighting on some of the turbines for which assessment of potential night-time impacts is provided in **Section 4.8**. The methodology for that assessment is included within **Technical Appendix 4.1**. The scope of the night-time assessment as agreed with consultees is:
- A 25 km study area;
 - Inclusion of all LVIA viewpoints as wirelines, and
 - Night-time photomontages from VP2: Cronberry, VP5: Barshare, VP8: Auchinleck and VP14: Smallburn.
- 4.3.18 East Ayrshire Council also requested consideration of effects on landscape character at night. As set out within **Technical Appendix 4.1**, effects on landscape character are not considered, as notable effects on character at night are unlikely



to arise. Effects on designated areas focus on those qualities that are likely to be appreciated at night. In relation to visual effects, the assessment considers locations where visual receptors are most likely to be present at night. The sensitivity of both visual receptors and designated areas may not be the same during the night as it is in the day.

Cumulative Assessment

- 4.3.19 Cumulative assessment relates to the assessment of the effects of more than one development (as set out within **Technical Appendix 4.1**). Operational developments are included in the baseline, and consented development forms part of the future baseline.
- 4.3.20 The main focus of the cumulative assessment in this case is on developments in planning. The full list of developments considered within the cumulative assessment is provided within **Section 4.11**.

Residential Amenity

- 4.3.21 Effects on private views are a separate matter not considered as part of LVIA, which focuses on public views and is subject to different guidance. As set out within TGN 02/19 'Residential Visual Amenity Assessment (RVAA)' (Landscape Institute, 2019):

"Changes in views and visual amenity are considered in the planning process. In respect of private views and visual amenity, it is widely known that, no one has 'a right to a view.' ...

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."

- 4.3.22 The methodology for and assessment of effects on residential visual amenity for properties within 2 km is included as **Technical Appendix 4.4**.

Distances

- 4.3.23 Where distances are given in this chapter, these are approximate distances between the nearest proposed turbine and the nearest part of the receptor in question, unless explicitly stated otherwise. In practice these distances may vary by up to 100 m due to the micro-siting allowance and this is taken into account in the assessment of effects.

Visualisations

- 4.3.24 Photographs of the existing views, and wirelines and photomontages showing the Proposed Development, are included within **Volume 3c**. The method of visualisation selected has been informed by 'Visual Representation of Wind Farms' (NatureScot, 2017). The methodology of production for the visualisations (undertaken by SLR) is described in **Technical Appendix 4.1**.



Committed Mitigation and Enhancement

- 4.3.25 In EIA, where potentially significant effects are identified, taking account of embedded (primary) and standard (tertiary) mitigation, additional mitigation measures (secondary mitigation) can be recommended. These measures would be presented as commitments, with information provided on how the mitigation can be secured, for example through planning conditions. No secondary mitigation is proposed in relation to landscape and visual effects. Secondary mitigation is therefore not considered in this assessment.

Assessment of Residual Effect Level and Significance

- 4.3.26 Since secondary mitigation measures are not relevant to this assessment, residual effects are identical to the assessed potential effects.

Limitations, Difficulties and Uncertainties

- 4.3.27 The means of grid connection and its location has not been finalised. Effects are assessed based on an assumed routeing corridor and connection method. The derivation of the grid corridor and rationale for an assumption of wooden pole overhead line is set out in **Section 2.3 of Chapter 2**.
- 4.3.28 No other limitations, difficulties or uncertainties have affected the preparation of the assessment in this chapter.

4.4 Baseline Conditions

- 4.4.1 LVIA is an iterative process; baseline studies have informed both design and early assessment before the final design and final assessment were prepared as documented in this chapter. This section provides a review of documented baseline studies and a baseline description of the Site and its landscape and visual context. The baseline description of the individual landscape and visual receptors is provided alongside the assessment in **Section 4.7** for ease of reference.

Baseline Studies

- 4.4.2 This chapter is informed by the following published documents and guidance:
- East Ayrshire Landscape Wind Capacity Study (EAWLCS) (2018);
 - South Ayrshire Landscape Wind Capacity Study (SAWLCS) (2018);
 - National Landscape Character Assessments (NatureScot, 2019);
 - East Ayrshire Council Local Landscape Areas Supplementary Guidance (2024); and
 - South Ayrshire Local Landscape Designations Review (2018).

Review and Use of Landscape Capacity Studies

- 4.4.3 Both of the above-listed landscape capacity studies (which cover East Ayrshire and South Ayrshire) are used to inform consideration of landscape sensitivity within their areas of coverage. In considering the findings of these studies, the following advice within Landscape Sensitivity Assessment Guidance (NatureScot, 2022) is noted.
- 4.4.4 This guidance, which post-dates the above studies, states that a sensitivity-based approach should be used to *"inform plans, policies, guidance and strategies at a range of scales"* including (inter alia) *"individual proposals, where their indication of*



relative sensitivity can inform the site selection process, pre application stages, and can provide information for subsequent ... LVIA."

- 4.4.5 The guidance specifically notes the following key points which have a bearing on the application of the above studies in relation to this assessment:

"A finding of 'high' sensitivity does not necessarily mean that there is no ability to accommodate development and 'low' sensitivity does not necessarily mean that there is definitely potential for development..."

"In the past, many so-called capacity studies actually dealt with susceptibility rather than capacity Capacity is determined by wider spatial planning, societal and technical considerations. Most older studies should be considered as landscape sensitivity assessments, or even susceptibility assessments if value was not included, unless relevant quantities, e.g. for housing, were set for the study area...."

"Existing assessments provide useful evidence and understanding to inform spatial planning. However, updating may well be beneficial, particularly for wind farm studies, as development patterns and technology change."

- 4.4.6 As there are no development targets or quantities set for wind development within either area, these local landscape studies are considered as providing relevant sensitivity information within this LVIA. Both GLVIA3 and the 2022 NatureScot guidance identify landscape value, alongside susceptibility, as contributory judgements to overall landscape sensitivity (as set out within the LVIA methodology in **Technical Appendix 4.1**). TGN 02/21 'Assessing landscape value outside national designations' (Landscape Institute, 2021) is the most recent guidance which identifies which factors should be considered in relation to landscape value. In line with these guidance documents, the factors of the two landscape capacity studies are used to inform the assessment as set out below.

- 4.4.7 The capacity studies for East and South Ayrshire were produced by the same landscape consultant and use the same criteria, so they have been reviewed together. In the EALWCS and SALWCS, the criteria used to identify sensitivity are considered suitable for use in this assessment as follows:

- 'Landscape context', 'scale', 'landform', 'landscape pattern', and 'built environment (together with some aspects of the perceptual qualities)' relate to susceptibility. The 'landscape context' criterion deals with the potential for development within a Landscape Character Type (LCT) to affect adjoining LCTs and is only considered relevant to the susceptibility of the host LCTs.
- 'Visual amenity' describes the potential for visual effects and is not relevant to landscape character sensitivity.
- The 'Cumulative effects' relates to potential interactions between wind farms within an area of landscape and is not relevant to landscape sensitivity.

- 4.4.8 The study methodologies for both the EAWLCS and SAWLCS state that their respective briefs *"required that landscape designations and other recognised values should not be considered in the sensitivity assessment"* but notes that the presence of the Galloway Dark Sky Park and/or the Merrick Wild Land Area are addressed within the 'perceptual qualities' criterion. The studies exclude landscape value from their analysis, but as noted at 4.4.11 and 4.4.12 below, there are recent documents that have considered this matter in both authority areas to inform the local landscape designations. On this basis the primary indicator of landscape value used within this LVIA is the presence or absence of designated landscapes and/or other recognition



of landscape qualities such as the designated historic landscapes, the Wild Land Area, the Dark Sky Park and the Core and Buffer Zones of the Galloway and South Ayrshire Biosphere.

- 4.4.9 These EALWCS and SALWCS do not provide baseline descriptions for the character areas, and the descriptions for the equivalent LCTs in the 2019 NatureScot Landscape Character Assessment are used as a source reference.

National Landscape Character Assessments

- 4.4.10 This is the most recently updated characterisation of the study area and is used as the primary reference in relation to baseline landscape character.

East Ayrshire Council Local Landscape Areas Supplementary Guidance (2024)

- 4.4.11 This document provides “*more detail on the particular landscape qualities of each area, demonstrating why these areas are important and worthy of protection*” and informs the assessment of effects on Local Landscape Areas (LLAs) within East Ayrshire.

South Ayrshire Local Landscape Designations Review (2018)

- 4.4.12 This document sets out the reasons for designation and provides a description of the character and special qualities of LLAs within South Ayrshire. It informs the assessment of effects on these areas.

Site and Context

- 4.4.13 The Site is located in East Ayrshire, approximately 4 km east of Cumnock. It includes areas of previous opencast coal mining, improved grazing and moorland with occasional shelterbelts, forming part of a gently undulating area of higher ground between the River Ayr and A70 corridor, and the valleys of Glenmuir Water and Gass Water. A small area of commercial forestry lies immediately east of the Site and is the subject of an application for The Drum Wind Farm, refused by East Ayrshire Council in October 2025 and currently the subject of an appeal.
- 4.4.14 The Site is largely encompassed within LCT 18a East Ayrshire Plateau Moorlands, as defined by the EALWCS, with the south, west and northern edges extending into the eastern edge of LCT 10 Upland River Valley. It exhibits characteristics of both host LCTs, with the varied landcover, presence of former opencast workings and transport corridors more typical of LCT 10 and the more expansive scale and presence of coniferous forestry more typical of LCT 18a.
- 4.4.15 The nearest settlement is a linear hamlet at Cronberry, approximately 1.5 km to the west and there are a number of larger settlements within 5-10 km to the west of the Site, including Lugar at 1.8 km, Logan at 2.5 km, Cumnock, which is the closest large settlement at 4 km, and Auchinleck at 6 km. A pattern of nucleated settlements continues to the northwest and west. In other directions, settlement is sparser with New Cumnock (including Pathhead and Mansfield) approximately 4.8 km to the south and Smallburn and Muirkirk 7 km to the northeast.
- 4.4.16 There are few Core Paths within 5 km of the Site, with the closest being short routes through the edges of Cumnock, and the long-distance River Ayr Way which follows the river approximately 3 km to the north of the Site (see **Figure 4.6**).
- 4.4.17 There are consented and operational wind farms within 10-15 km in all directions except to the west of the Site, as illustrated by **Figure 4.2**.



Future Baseline in Absence of Proposed Development

- 4.4.18 In the absence of the Proposed Development, the Site and immediate surroundings would remain largely in their current state, though over time, natural regeneration and further vegetation growth would result in the restored and part-restored areas of the former opencast mines becoming a less apparent feature that would more readily blend into the surrounding landscape. It is not anticipated that areas of moorland or improved pasture would markedly change from their present state and it is likely that the existing land uses would continue.
- 4.4.19 The area of commercial forestry to the east of the Site is c. 40 years old and is likely to be felled at some point in the future, although there is not a current forest plan that sets out when this may occur or what (if any) restocking would occur. Should The Drum Wind Farm gain planning consent then a wind farm would be present adjacent to the Site and felling and restocking plans for that development would be adopted¹.
- 4.4.20 Climate change may drive long-term changes in the landscape, including land cover and land uses, although specific changes in this area cannot be readily anticipated. It is not expected that the Site or the surrounding landscape will materially change in the foreseeable future as a direct result of climate change.

4.5 Embedded and Standard Mitigation

Relevant Local Guidance

- 4.5.1 The EALWCS sets out development guidance for different development typologies within individual LCTs. The Proposed Development falls under the 'very large turbines' typology which includes all turbines over 130 m tall. Relevant aspects of guidance provided for the two host LCTs are considered in **Table 4-1** below.

Table 4-1: EALWCS Siting and Design Guidance

Development Guidance	Response of the Proposed Development
LCT 18a East Ayrshire Plateau Moorlands	
<i>"Turbines should be set back from more sensitive outer edges of this landscape."</i>	The guidance notes sensitivity in relation to outer slopes which form skylines to smaller scale adjacent LCTs. The Proposed Development would be seen on the skyline from the adjacent valleys (see viewpoints 1-5) although the skyline is not particularly distinctive or notable and the valley to the north is not particularly small scale.
<i>Turbines "should not be sited close-by, or significantly intruding on key views to and from the landmark hills of Blackside, Corsencon, Cairn Table and Wardlaw Hill."</i>	Annex E of the EALWCS describes some key views to these hills. The description for LCT 18a also notes dramatic views west across Ayrshire and the Firth of Clyde from Cairn Table and the Blackside hills. The proposed turbines would be over 5 km from the nearest of these hills which, given that they are some of the highest hills within the LCT, offer open, panoramic views from their summits. While the Proposed Development would be visible from the hilltops, views of other operational and consented wind turbines at around 5 km (or less) are typical of the existing views from these hills as illustrated by viewpoint 15 (Cairn Table). Cairn Table and Wardlaw Hill are noted as being prominent from the A70 near Muirkirk, where they are seen when looking to the east or

¹ The wind farm forest plan sets out the proposed felling and restocking of the wind farm site should the development gain consent. Details are provided as part of the application, reference [22/0792/PP](#).



Development Guidance	Response of the Proposed Development
	south. The ZTV on Figure 4.2 indicates intermittent visibility of the Proposed Development from this general area. Where visible, it would be sited to the southwest and seen in a different direction to the hills. It is also noted that these hills “<i>unexpectedly pop up in views from elevated roads such as the B741 west of New Cumnock</i>” where the ZTV illustrates there would be limited visibility of the Proposed Development. From elevated roads in this area, the Proposed Development may be visible to one side of the hills, largely screened by lower hills between New Cumnock and Cumnock as illustrated by Illustrative View M in Technical Appendix 4.3. In respect of Corsencon Hill it is noted that the “<i>steep slopes and distinctive conical form makes it a landmark feature seen from the A76 and from the New Cumnock area.</i>” The ZTV illustrates that there would generally not be any visibility of the Proposed Development from this area. Blackside comprises a group of similar height summits located c. 7-8.5 km northwest. Annex E of the EALWCS notes that “<i>Blackside is particularly prominent being seen extensively across the East Ayrshire Lowlands and Ayr/Lugar valleys</i>” which in most instances would mean it is viewed in a different direction to the Proposed Development. In the areas where they may be seen within a similar part of the view, viewpoints 7 and 11 illustrate that the proposed turbines would be set well away from Blackside.
<i>“The lower, gently undulating hills in the eastern part of this landscape... offer opportunities to accommodate this typology.”</i>	The Site is at the western edge of the LCT in an area that is notably lower lying, as illustrated by Figure 4.3, and more gently undulating than is typical of the wider LCT. The EALWCS notes the LCT as an “<i>expansive and undulating upland plateau with rounded hills rising to below 400m but with occasional hills extending above this</i>” while the Site ranges between 192 - 285 m AOD and is more gently sloping.
LCT 10 Upland River Valley	
The EALWCS does not consider the possibility of turbines over 50 m being located within this LCT so the guidance for development that it provides is focussed on smaller turbines. Only aspects that are relevant to the Proposed Development are considered below.	
<i>“Turbines [...] should be located on more sparsely settled lower hill slopes ... at the transition with the adjacent upland landscapes.”</i>	As illustrated by Figure 4.4, only one of the proposed turbines is located within this LCT, on open upper valley slopes in a transitional area adjacent to the plateau moorlands (LCT 18a) as illustrated by viewpoint 3.
<i>Turbines” should avoid impacting on the ‘landmark’ hills of Corsencon and Cairn Table seen in key views from these valleys.”</i>	From locations within this LCT where Cairn Table and Corsencon Hill are visible, the ‘landmark’ hills would generally be seen in a different direction to the Proposed Development, or the Proposed Development would not be visible.
<i>“Turbines should avoid more obviously disturbed areas in order to avoid exacerbating visual clutter and fragmentation associated with opencast mining.”</i>	The proposed turbine located within this LCT is set within undisturbed farmland.



Development Guidance	Response of the Proposed Development
<i>“turbines should avoid more prominent knolls and higher hill slopes”</i>	As shown by viewpoint 3, the turbine within this LCT is not sited on or near these types of landform.
<i>“turbines should ... be sited to avoid impacting on the open floodplains of these valleys which often provide a focal point in views from settlement and roads.”</i>	The Proposed Development would be located on the upper valley side of the narrower Glenmuir Water valley, away from the main transport corridors and settlements.
<i>“turbines should ... be sited to avoid impact on designed landscapes and areas with a more diverse pattern including wetlands, water bodies and policy woodlands.”</i>	As illustrated by Figure 4.2 and viewpoint 9 (Dumfries House), views of the Proposed Development from accessible designed landscapes would be limited as described at Section 4.7 . The Proposed Development would be located on open, undulating hills and open valley sides away from more diverse areas of landcover as illustrated by viewpoint 3. The only nearby waterbodies are flooded voids associated with former opencast mining.

Mitigation Measures

- 4.5.2 Embedded mitigation measures are those measures that are inherent to the Proposed Development. This includes mitigation by design (also known as primary mitigation), implemented through design iteration works as described in **Chapter 3**.
- 4.5.3 The proposed turbines are a mix of 200 m and 149.9 m to blade tip. Turbines have been located largely out of the more sensitive valley LCT where feasible whilst taking account of other potential impacts and constraints. Turbine locations and tip heights have also been selected to take account of the views from the settlements to the northwest of the Site, and potential effects on residential visual amenity from nearby homes.
- 4.5.4 A reduced lighting scheme is proposed for the Proposed Development, as described in **Chapter 2** and as shown on Figure 4 of **Technical Appendix 1.5: Aviation and Radar**. This includes nacelle lighting only on turbines 5, 10 and 12.
- 4.5.5 Standard mitigation (also known as tertiary mitigation) includes all mitigation usually assumed to be in place during construction, operation and decommissioning, and is generally regarded as industry standard or best practice. Committed standard mitigation measures are set out in **Chapter 2**, the following being specifically applicable to landscape and visual matters:
- Dimming of the aviation light in good visibility conditions from 2000 candela to 200 candela; and
 - The design of aviation lights means that they are brighter when seen from the horizontal or above, and appear dimmer when seen from below. The degree to which this reduces the brightness varies by manufacturer and is not relied upon in assessing effects in this chapter.

4.6 Scope of Assessment

- 4.6.1 Effects arising from the Proposed Development are considered at the following key stages. The nature of the potential effects relevant to this assessment are described for each stage:



Construction

- 4.6.2 The construction of the Proposed Development would involve the delivery of materials and components to Site; groundworks to form the tracks, turbine foundations and hardstanding areas and the construction of the substation, battery storage and control building. Cranes would be used to erect the turbines and would be on site for a small part of the short-term construction period. Full details of activities arising during the construction phase are set out at **Section 2.6 of Chapter 2**.
- 4.6.3 Effects during construction on landscape fabric would be expected to arise from:
- Groundworks for the turbine foundations, crane hardstandings, control building/substation/batteries and associated compounds, hardstanding areas, grid connection and access tracks (including some localised areas of forestry felling).
 - The construction and reinstatement of the overrun areas of the abnormal indivisible load (AIL) route, as described at **Chapter 2**. The overrun areas would utilise the previously restored overrun areas used for the consented Hare Craig Wind Farm (expected to start construction in 2027²) which would limit changes to landscape fabric in these areas.
- 4.6.4 Effects during construction on landscape character would arise from:
- Short-term construction activity within the Site.
 - Changes to landscape fabric as described above.
- 4.6.5 Effects during construction on visual receptors would arise from:
- Short-term movement of vehicles and plant, including large cranes, within and travelling to and from the Site to deliver and install the turbines and other site infrastructure.
 - Changes to views towards the Site which would include the cranes (when on site), completed and partially completed turbines, with increasing similarity to the operational scheme as turbine construction is completed.
- 4.6.6 Effects during construction on designated landscapes would arise from:
- Short-term changes to the special qualities as a result of the construction activity taking place within the Site.

Operation

- 4.6.7 The Proposed Development would be in operation for 40 years. Effects during operation on landscape fabric would arise from:
- The presence of the wind farm infrastructure and grid connection.
 - Changes as a result of the implementation of the proposed Biodiversity Enhancement Management Plan (BEMP) (refer to **Chapter 6: Ecology and Technical Appendix 6.5** for more detail on proposed biodiversity enhancements).
- 4.6.8 Effects during operation on visual receptors would arise from:

² <https://www.uniper.energy/united-kingdom/news/uniper-set-to-build-wind-farm-in-east-ayrshire-scotland>



- Changes to views towards the Site to include the presence and motion of the wind turbines, other onsite infrastructure and the grid connection, both from static locations and when moving along routes.

4.6.9 Effects during operation on designated landscapes would arise from:

- Changes to the special qualities as a result of visibility of the wind turbines and grid connection when viewed from designated landscapes.

4.6.10 Potential night-time effects during operation would arise from:

- Visibility of red aviation lighting on three of the turbine nacelles and towers.

Summary of Assessment Scope

4.6.11 **Table 4-2** provides a summary of which receptors and impacts have been scoped in for assessment during construction and operation. The scoping out of all other receptors was agreed with consultees as set out in Appendix C of the Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report³ (dated July 2026) for the reasons set out in the EIA Scoping Report (dated January 2026).

Table 4-2: Summary of Assessment Scope

Receptors Scoped In
Landscape Fabric of the Site
Landscape Character Types
LCT 18a Plateau Moorlands (includes Site and 4.1 km north);
LCT 10 Upland River Valley (includes Site, and 2.3 km north and 4.5 km south)
LCT 7c East Ayrshire Lowlands (1.3 km, north)
LCT 9 Lowland River Valley (4.5 km, west)
LCT 15 Upland River Basin (4.4 km, southwest)
LCT 7d South Ayrshire Lowlands (14.3 km and 17.7 km west)
LCT 9 Lowland River Valley (14.7 km, west)
LCT 16 Lowland Hills (17.5 km, west)
Visual Receptors within 25 km
Visual receptors (residents, road users, users of core paths) with theoretical visibility as indicated by Figure 4.2 .
Visitors to designated historic landscapes with public access and theoretical visibility including Dumfries House Garden and Designed Landscape (GDL).
Users of key routes: River Ayr Way (3.1 km, north); A70 (0.7 km, north), A76 (4.9 km, southwest) and the railway between Kilmarnock and New Cumnock (4.0 km southwest)
Designated Landscapes
LLA2 Uplands and Moorlands (0.1 km, east)
LLA1 River Ayr Valley (3.1 km, northwest)

³ Appendix C of the Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report includes the information that was submitted as part of the Gatecheck 1 Report in July 2026.



Receptors Scoped In
Ayr Valley LLA (14.9 km, west)

- 4.6.12 As discussed in the EIA Scoping Report and agreed with the EAC and ECU, effects associated with the construction phase can be considered to be representative of reasonable worst-case decommissioning effects, therefore no separate assessment of the decommissioning phase is presented in this chapter⁴.

4.7 Assessment of Potentially Significant Effects

- 4.7.1 This section sets out the effects that the Proposed Development would have on landscape and visual receptors. Some receptors are only briefly discussed and for these receptors effects *“have been judged unlikely to occur or so insignificant that it is not essential to consider them further”* (GLVIA3, para. 3.19).
- 4.7.2 Effects on landscape character and visual receptors are set out before those on designated areas as it is common for designations to encompass both character and visual considerations within their special qualities or purposes of designation.

Construction and Decommissioning

- 4.7.3 The effects on landscape character, designations and visual receptors during construction would arise for a short-term period from a noticeable presence of vehicles and plant on the Site and along the grid connection route during groundworks, and the use of cranes to erect/dismantle the turbines. There would also be some highly localised changes arising from the construction and reinstatement of overrun areas on the AIL route. While standing turbines are on the Site, the most notable effects would arise from these and effects during the construction stage are assessed to be the same as during operation except where otherwise specifically noted in the assessment below.

Operation

Effects on Landscape Fabric

- 4.7.4 Aside from the presence of the equipment and infrastructure of the Proposed Development, described in **Chapter 2**, changes to landscape fabric would consist of:
- The removal of 4.8 ha of forestry outside of the anticipated pre-development forestry cycle as set out in **Technical Appendix 1.4**.
 - The presence of maturing vegetation, including reseeded areas along verges and around turbine bases, and biodiversity enhancements as part of the proposed habitat management measures, as set out in the BEMP (**Technical Appendix 6.5**).
- 4.7.5 These changes would affect limited areas of relatively commonplace landscape elements and effects would be **not significant**.

⁴ See also Section 1.7 of **Technical Appendix 1.1** for more detail on EIA Approach and Methodology.



Geographic Distribution of Effects

ZTV Studies

- 4.7.6 Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) studies have been prepared to indicate the potential visibility of the Proposed Development; inform viewpoint selection and site assessment work; and ensure that this assessment focusses on the most important / significant effects. Where receptors are outside of the area of visibility indicated by the ZTV study, no effects would arise and they are not considered further.
- 4.7.7 **Figure 4.1** shows a bare ground ZTV study taking account of topography alone. It indicates that higher ground to the east, north and south would largely restrict visibility in those directions to areas within 10-15 km of the Site, and beyond this the limited areas of visibility would tend to be restricted to more elevated hilltops. Within 15 km, the bare ground ZTV indicates that there would be fairly widespread visibility within 5-8 km across the nearby uplands and upper Ayr valley before it begins to break up and become notably more intermittent. This happens more rapidly to the south, where the landform of the Nith valley results in a large gap in visibility to the north of New Cumnock. To the west and northwest, more extensive areas of visibility extend beyond 15 km, out to the edge of the study area, although undulations in the smaller grained landform in these areas result in generally patchy visibility.
- 4.7.8 **Figure 4.2** shows a more detailed ZTV study taking account of screening by woodland and settlement. Whilst some of the woodland is forestry, and thus its role in screening would vary with the felling cycle, it provides a more realistic model of likely visibility than bare ground alone. This shows a similar pattern of visibility to that described above, but less extensive in areas where woodland and/or forestry is prevalent, particularly to the north beyond the Uplands and Moorlands LLA, and to the southwest around the upper Nith valley and the Carsphairn Forest.
- 4.7.9 Visibility within 5 km would be relatively widespread in most directions although would be more patchy within 2-3 km to the south and northeast across the Nith and Ayr valleys. There are also some gaps and areas of more restricted visibility in the smaller valleys of the Bellow Water and Glenmuir Water and the associated areas of settlement, resulting from localised undulations in the terrain along with vegetation and buildings along the valley bottoms. Between 5-15 km, the most extensive areas of visibility would occur from open hills north of the Ayr valley and south of the Nith valley, including areas within or adjacent to existing and consented wind farms. Visibility would be more patchy within the upper Ayr valley, from Muirkirk and surrounding areas of settlement to the northeast, while the combination of landform, vegetation and buildings within settlements would result in increasingly patchy visibility extending away across lower lying landscapes to the west.
- 4.7.10 **Figure 4.8** shows a ZTV Study of the Proposed Development with existing and consented wind farms. Areas of new visibility, where the Proposed Development would be seen, but not any existing or consented wind farms, would be limited to small areas predominantly focussed within the valley, and northwest and west facing slopes, to the northwest of the Site and east of Muirkirk. With the exceptions of the area within 4-5 km of the Site and the area beyond 5 km to the northwest; the Proposed Development would typically be seen from locations where closer operational and consented turbines are visible.

Viewpoint Analysis

- 4.7.11 Viewpoint analysis has been undertaken from 16 viewpoints. The final list of viewpoints was prepared following consultation as set out in **Section 4.2**.



4.7.12 **Table 4-3** below provides a summary of the scale and nature of the changes to views at each viewpoint. The viewpoint locations are shown on **Figures 4.1 to 4.12**. Visualisations are provided in **Volume 3c** with reference to the viewpoint numbers listed below, and additional illustrative views are provided in **Technical Appendix 4.3**.

Table 4-3: Viewpoint Analysis

VP	Location	Distance, Direction	Scale and Nature of Change
1	A70	0.9 km, NW	Large, Adverse
2	Cronberry	1.8 km, W	Large/medium, Adverse
3	Glenmuir valley	0.6 km, SW	Large, Adverse
4	Logan	3.7 km, W	Medium/small, Adverse
5	Barshare	4.6 km, W	Medium, Adverse
6	Craigens	4.6 km, SW	Medium, Adverse
7	Cairn Road	7.5 km, SW	Medium/small, Adverse
8	Auchinleck	7.2 km, W	Medium/small, Adverse
9	Dumfries House	8.9 km, W	Negligible, Neutral
10	Ochiltree	12.2 km, W	Small/negligible, Adverse
11	Tarbolton	19.1 km, NW	Negligible, Neutral
12	B743	4.4 km, N	Medium, Adverse
13	River Ayr Way	3.0 km, NE	Medium, Adverse
14	Smallburn	5.8 km, NE	Medium/small, Adverse
15	Cairn Table	9.0 km, E	Small, Adverse
16	New Cumnock	7.2 km, S	Small/negligible, Adverse

Outcomes

4.7.13 Each of the viewpoints is a ‘sample’ of the potential effects, representing a range of visual receptors including people at the viewpoint and nearby, at a similar distance and/or direction. From the ZTV and viewpoint analysis it can be seen that changes to views would arise as follows:

- Large and Large/medium scale changes to views, where the nearby turbines would be seen as a primary focal element of the view, would arise within 2 km;
- Between 3 km and 7.5 km, while turbines may remain prominent, they would be a lesser component of the wider view and changes to views would be Medium and Medium/small scale; and
- Small scale changes to views would arise to approximately 10 km, decreasing to Negligible beyond 13-15 km.

4.7.14 The ZTV and viewpoint analysis also inform the consideration of effects on character. Typically, the scale of change to character at a particular location will be slightly less than the changes to views, as character derives from a more holistic



experience of the landscape, not just views. The degree to which a proposal changes character depends on a combination of:

- the degree to which it is ‘in keeping’ with the existing character;
- proximity and visibility; and
- the importance of views towards the Site to the existing character.

4.7.15 These factors vary by character area/type and are considered below.

Effects on Landscape Character

4.7.16 Descriptions for each of the assessed character types are provided below, based on review of the baseline documents discussed in **Section 4.4**.

4.7.17 Effects arising from the turbines and other infrastructure within the Site are the primary focus of this assessment. Where the only part of the wider project potentially within an LCT would be the grid connection, it is not considered as a host LCT and impacts arising from the grid connection on character would tend to be Negligible, given they would be sited within settled rural landscapes where such features are common.

LCT 18a East Ayrshire Plateau Moorlands (includes most of the Site)

4.7.18 As illustrated by **Figure 4.4**, this LCT is comprised of two distinct units which are situated to the north and south of the upper Ayr valley, with the Site located along the western edge of the southern unit. This extends away to the east, along with the more northerly unit, to encompass the open uplands along the eastern edge of East Ayrshire.

4.7.19 The equivalent LCT within the NatureScot landscape character assessment is 78 Plateau Moorland – Ayrshire which is described as an “*expansive, exposed landscape with a rather wild and remote character*” although it’s noted that this is lessened in areas where wind farms have been introduced and forestry has modified the character in some areas. The NatureScot LCT description sets out the following key characteristics:

- *“Topography is comparatively level with extensive plateaux rising to soft contoured ridges.*
- *Underlain by basalts to the east and greywackes to the south-west.*
- *Covered by blanket bog, heather and grass moorland, with extensive mosses and peatland forming an important component of this landscape type.*
- *Frequent extensive areas of coniferous forest of uniform age which, in places, have significantly modified the original character of these areas in terms of colour, texture and views.*
- *Largely undeveloped with a sparse network of roads.*
- *Wind farm development on the north-eastern margins.*
- *Open, exposed and rather remote landscape, wild in character, although this is lessened in places by the presence of wind turbines and associated infrastructure.*
- *Views are open and medium to longer distance depending on undulations in the local topography.”*



- 4.7.20 The Site is situated on the western edge of the LCT and occupies a transitional area, modified by past opencast mining and adjacent to a smaller area of forestry. It does not have the same sense of openness, exposure or sense of wildness that is typical elsewhere in the LCT and the landcover is more notably modified, comprising partly restored opencast and improved pasture. The assumed grid connection corridor passes through this LCT within the Site, and to the south as it passes over Airds Hill and Cairnscadden Hill and along the upper slopes of the Nith valley.
- 4.7.21 The EALWCS identifies susceptibility factors for turbines of 130 m+ for this LCT as set out in **Table 4-4** below.

Table 4-4: LCT 18a Susceptibility Factors

Criteria	Description	Susceptibility
Landscape Context	Turbines on the outer edges of the LCT could be highly visible from LCT 7c East Ayrshire Lowlands, LCT 15 Upland Basin and LCT 10 Upland River Valleys. Turbines <i>“located on less dramatic lower and more even skylines set well back into the core of these uplands would be likely to have less of an effect on these adjoining landscapes.”</i>	High/medium
Scale	Turbines <i>“would fit with the more expansive scale of the interior of these uplands although they would dominate smaller scale buildings and woodlands on lower hill slopes and within valleys generally lying on the outer fringes of this upland plateau.”</i>	Medium
Landform	<i>“the predominantly simple, gently undulating landform of this landscape reduces sensitivity, turbines of this size would significantly detract from the more defined Blackside, Wardlaw, Cairn Table and Corsencon Hills if sited on them or close-by”,</i> which the Proposed Development is not.	High/medium
Landscape Pattern	The <i>“relatively simple land cover pattern of this landscape reduces sensitivity although turbines of this size would detract from more diverse small woodlands and stronger field enclosure pattern on settled lower hill slopes and valleys on the periphery of these uplands.”</i>	Medium/low
Built Environment and Perceptual Qualities	Turbines <i>“could exacerbate the fragmented and degraded nature of this landscape where it is disturbed by open cast mining if sited close-by workings.”</i> <i>“Sensitivity is generally reduced in relation to this criterion although areas less affected by consented wind farm development, forestry and mining will be more sensitive.”</i>	Medium/low

- 4.7.22 Taking the factors considered above into account, the susceptibility of the LCT is judged to be Medium. The LCT largely coincides with the Uplands and Moorlands LLA (although the Site is not within it) and is judged to be of Regional value and Medium sensitivity.
- 4.7.23 As shown by **Figure 4.5**, and illustrated by viewpoints 12 and 15, there would be widespread visibility of the turbines from the open higher ground of the moorlands to the east, north and south of the Site. The Proposed Development would be located at the western edge of this LCT, giving rise to Large scale changes within the Site and the area within 1-2 km; across Dornal Moss and the western slopes of Cairn Hill. Between 2 km and 4 km to the east and southwest, Medium scale



changes to character would arise as a result of relatively close views of the turbines. The grid connection would also pass through this LCT in the same parts of the LCT to the southwest. Beyond this area, the proposed turbines would be seen at a similar or greater distance to existing turbines, albeit in a different direction giving rise to a sense of being within a landscape with wind farms rather than being just beyond such an area which is the baseline perception. The proposed overhead line grid connection would be located in an area where the proposed turbines would typically not be visible where it runs along the upper valley slopes of the Nith to the southeast of Cairnscaden Hill. Changes to character arising would be Negligible scale. Changes to character would be Small between 4-6 km to the east and north of the Site, decreasing to Negligible beyond. Taking account of these changes to character within a Localised extent of the LCT, the magnitude of impact would be Large/medium and effects would be **major/moderate, adverse and significant**.

LCT 10 Upland River Valley (includes part of Site)

- 4.7.24 As illustrated by **Figure 4.4**, this LCT is comprised of five distinct units which are situated around the rivers Doon, Nith, Ayr, Irvine and the Glenmuir Water. **Figure 4.5** illustrates that there would be no visibility of the Proposed Development within the Doon and Irvine units of this LCT and these are not considered further. The Site is located along the eastern edge of the Glenmuir Water unit, which extends east from Cumnock and encompasses the Bellow and Glenmuir Water Valleys.
- 4.7.25 The equivalent LCT within the NatureScot landscape character assessment is 69 Upland River Valleys - Ayrshire which is described as a series of medium sized valleys which cut through the rim of hills surrounding the Ayrshire agricultural lowlands. They are noted as having a *“strong sense of enclosure provided by surrounding uplands”* but also that open views are common from within the base of valleys. The NatureScot LCT description sets out the following key characteristics:
- *“Varying river valley landform with broad open sections which contrast with steeper valley slopes and narrow, more enclosed valleys...”*
 - *Characterised by moorland vegetation, with increasing amounts of improved pasture on lower slopes and valley floors.*
 - *Confined landscape scale.*
 - *Together with adjacent moorlands, these valleys often provide the focus for opencast coal mining activity.*
 - *A focus for industrial settlement in all but the Upper Nithsdale valley, where settlement is scarce, confined to farmsteads on the lower valley slopes.*
 - *Often act as a focus for transport routes.*
 - *Open views in the broad valley sections, changing to quite enclosed and intimate views within narrow sections.”*
- 4.7.26 The Site is situated on the eastern edge of the LCT and occupies a transitional area between open and partially modified areas of the Moorland Plateau LCT and the smaller scale of the valley to the south and west. The area covered by the Site is larger scale and more open than other parts of the LCT and comprises partly restored opencast mining, improved pasture, small areas of forestry and shelterbelts.
- 4.7.27 The EALWCS identifies susceptibility factors for turbines of 70 m+ for this LCT as set out in **Table 4-5** below.



Table 4-5: LCT 10 Susceptibility Factors

Criteria	Description	Susceptibility
Landscape Context	Turbines could detract from views of <i>“the more dramatic ‘landmark’ hills lying on the fringes of the Southern Uplands (20a), Plateau Moorlands (18a) [...] Sensitivity is reduced where adjacent uplands are simple and less scenic.”</i>	Medium
Scale	Turbines <i>“would appear very large in relation to the limited width of these valleys and the vertical scale of containing hill slopes. Turbines of this size would dominate the small buildings, woodlands and trees which ... provide ready scale references.”</i>	High
Landform	Turbines <i>“could relate to simpler gently graded hill slopes and flatter broader areas. Smaller landform features including knolls, steeper hill slopes, more deeply incised complex side valleys and ‘landmark’ hills would be more sensitive.”</i>	High/medium
Landscape Pattern	Turbines could <i>“detract from the more diverse areas of policy woodlands, floodplain wetlands and water bodies and smaller enclosed fields which lie on lower slopes. Simple, more open areas of pasture would be less sensitive.”</i>	Medium
Built Environment and Perceptual Qualities	Turbines could <i>“affect the setting of settlements particularly within the well-settled Irvine and Doon valleys”</i> and designed landscapes are also identified as sensitive. <i>“Sensitivity is reduced due to the modified and settled nature of this landscape although multiple turbines [...] could be perceived as accentuating industrial aspects of character.”</i>	High/medium and Medium/low

4.7.28 Taking the factors considered above into account, the susceptibility of the LCT is judged to be High/medium. The Glenmuir Water and Irvine units are not covered by landscape designations or other recognitions of landscape value and are considered to be of Community value. The Nith unit is included in the Uplands and Moorlands LLA and is considered to be of Regional value. Considering their susceptibility and value, all three of these LCT units are considered to be of High/medium sensitivity.

4.7.29 As shown by **Figure 4.5**, one of the turbines would be located within the upper valley slopes of the Glenmuir Water unit of this LCT, with the remainder of the turbines located on higher ground of the adjacent moorlands character type. In this area the transition between this LCT and the adjacent moorlands is relatively gradual, with generally gentle undulating slopes and open fields within both the moorland edges and across the upper valley sides. There would be Large scale changes to character within the Site and within 1 km of the turbines where they would be perceived as nearby along the valley skyline as illustrated by viewpoints 1 and 3, with the substation, BESS and overhead line for the grid connection also visible near viewpoint 3 where it would traverse the valley. With greater distance, the turbines would be seen looking across or along the valleys as illustrated by viewpoint 2, and changes to character would reduce to Medium scale and less where settlement becomes a more dominant characteristic (as at viewpoint 4).

4.7.30 As shown by **Figure 4.5** and viewpoints 12, 13 and 14, the Ayr valley to the north of the Site is wider and has valley sides which are shallower and less complex in terms of their landform and vegetation cover than the Glenmuir Water unit. The turbines would generally be perceived as part of a larger landscape to the south beyond the valley and changes to character would be Small scale within the area



west of Smallburn and Muirkirk. Beyond these settlements to the east, reducing visibility of the Proposed Development with distance, and views of closer wind farms to the east and south would mean that changes to character would be Negligible scale.

- 4.7.31 As shown by **Figure 4.5** and viewpoint 16 which is located nearby but not within the Nith unit of the LCT to the south, the blades of the proposed turbines would be seen above the skyline of the north side of the valley from the upper valley slopes at distances of 7-8 km and in the context of the closer turbines of the consented turbines to the northeast at Lethans and Glenmuckloch. The proposed grid connection would also pass through part of the northern upper valley sides of this unit. The changes to character in this unit of the LCT would be Negligible scale.
- 4.7.32 Considered together, these changes to character would arise for a Wide extent of the character type. The magnitude of impact would be Large/medium and effects would be **major/moderate, adverse** and **significant**.

Other Character Types

- 4.7.33 Effects on the following character types have been assessed as **not significant** and are considered in detail in **Technical Appendix 4.2**:
- **LCT 7c East Ayrshire Lowlands (1.3 km, N)** – This medium to small scale undulating landscape is host to towns and villages and traversed by major and minor roads. The large area is mostly undesignated and judged to have Medium sensitivity. As illustrated by **Figure 4.5** and viewpoint 8, there would be widespread visibility of the turbines, which would feel very nearby from Airds Moss. With increasing distance and in the more settled areas, changes to character would reduce, becoming Negligible beyond 7 km. Effects would be **moderate, adverse** and **not significant**.
 - **LCT 9 Lowland River Valleys (4.5 km, NW)** – This LCT consists of the “*narrow, entrenched valleys as they leave the bold landscapes of the uplands and flow towards the coast.*” Pastoral farming and limited settlement within the wooded valleys create “*intimate small-scale landscapes*” that are locally designated and of High/medium sensitivity. Both terrain and vegetation would limit visibility of the Proposed Development such that changes to character would arise to the east of Sorn, becoming Negligible beyond 7 km. Effects would be **minor, adverse** and **not significant**.
 - **LCT 15 Upland Basin (4.4 km, SW)** – This LCT forms an “Open basin ... partially enclosed by foothills and moorland plateau,” with “extensive views across the basin to the rising ground that encloses it.” The LCT is not designated and is judged to be of Medium sensitivity. The area is surrounded by closer operational and consented wind farms seen to the east, west and south, and views of the blade tips of the Proposed Development at distances of 6 km or more would not noticeably alter the character. Effects would be **minimal, neutral** and **not significant**.
- 4.7.34 Impacts on the following character types have been assessed Negligible and are not set out in detail. As set out at **Section 4.7.13** above, changes to views would be Negligible beyond 10 km and as such would not give rise to changes to character:
- LCT 7d South Ayrshire Lowlands (14.3 km and 17.7 km W);
 - LCT 9 Lowland River Valley (14.7 km, W), and
 - LCT 16 Lowland Hills (17.5 km, W).



Visual Effects

- 4.7.35 Two types of visual receptors are considered within this assessment:
- Groups – Based around settlements or rural areas and representing effects on the community within public spaces including streets and local recreational routes in that place. Views from groups of homes may also be noted in the descriptions, but as noted at **Section 4.3**, effects on these are a separate matter.
 - Routes – Users of longer distance transport and recreational routes through the study area.
- 4.7.36 There are no specific viewpoints considered within the study area.
- 4.7.37 Unless stated otherwise, the sensitivity of visual receptors is as follows:
- Residents and recreational walkers are deemed to have a High susceptibility to changes to views, with the value of those views reflecting the scenic value of the area they are located within as indicated by designation (i.e. Regional value within locally designated landscapes and Community value elsewhere). Users of local roads near their homes are also included within the area-based and settlement receptor groups. Unless stated otherwise, these groups of residents, recreational walkers and local road users are deemed to have High/medium sensitivity to changes to views.
 - Users of longer distance driving routes will have much of their focus on the road, their journey and other traffic. They are judged to be of Low susceptibility for major arterial routes and Medium otherwise. The value of views reflects the value of the area they are located within as indicated by designation, and any recognition as a scenic driving route.

Glenmuir and Bellow Water Valleys (0.3 km, S and 0.7 km, N)

- 4.7.38 This receptor group includes residents and local road users along the valleys to the southwest and northwest of the Site, who have a High/medium sensitivity to changes to views.
- 4.7.39 As illustrated by **Figure 4.5** and viewpoints 1 and 3, there would be close and open views of the Proposed Development from much of these valleys. In some places, particularly from the western area where the valleys converge near Lugar and along the more vegetated Glenmuir Water valley, terrain and tree cover would screen views, particularly in summer. The substation and BESS compound would also be visible from a relatively short stretch of the local road through the Glenmuir Water valley in the vicinity of viewpoint 3 and, during construction, these compound areas would see a greater concentration of activity. The overhead line of the assumed grid connection would also likely be seen crossing the Glenmuir Water valley in this area, extending south or southwest from the substation compound of the Proposed Development.
- 4.7.40 Large scale visual changes to views would arise for a Wide extent of the receptor group, giving rise to a Large magnitude of impact. Effects would be **major, adverse** and **significant**.

Cronberry (1.8 km, W)

- 4.7.41 This receptor group includes residents and local road users, who have a High/medium sensitivity to changes to views.



- 4.7.42 As illustrated by **Figure 4.6** and viewpoint 2, there would be views from the street through this small linear settlement towards the Proposed Development looking out over the valley to the southeast. Properties on the south side of the road would have similar views from the communal parking areas and gardens. Large/medium scale visual changes would arise for a Wide extent of the settlement, giving rise to a Large/medium magnitude of impact. Effects would be **major/moderate, adverse and significant**.

Rural area between Cronberry, Auchinleck and Cumnock (1.8 km, W)

- 4.7.43 This receptor group includes residents and local road users along the local roads between the A70 and Auchinleck. This receptor group has a High/medium sensitivity to changes to views.
- 4.7.44 As illustrated by **Figure 4.6**, viewpoints 2 and 8, visibility from this area would vary from very open views, to views of blade tips where the terrain provides some localised screening. Changes to views would range between Large/medium and Medium/small scale, reducing with distance. A Wide extent of the receptor group would be affected, giving rise to a Medium magnitude of impact. Effects would be **major/moderate, adverse and significant**.

B743 and rural area between Sorn and A70 (3.6 km, N)

- 4.7.45 This receptor group includes residents of the properties along this route and local road users, who have a High/medium sensitivity to changes to views.
- 4.7.46 As illustrated by **Figure 4.6** and viewpoint 12, visibility from the B743 east of Sorn and west of viewpoint 12 would be limited by woodland belts and there would be only occasional views of the Proposed Development from the road. Between viewpoint 12 and the A70, there would be more frequent open views of the Proposed Development, looking out over the valley to the south, giving rise to an Intermediate extent of Medium scale changes to views. The magnitude of impact would be Medium and effects would be **major/moderate, adverse and significant**.

A70 (0.7 km NW)

- 4.7.47 Users of this single carriage-way main road through the study area would have a Medium sensitivity to changes to views.
- 4.7.48 As illustrated by **Figure 4.6** and viewpoint 1, there would be open, close views of the Proposed Development, seen above gently rising ground to the south for approximately 5km of the route as it passes between Boghead and Lugar, giving rise to Large and Large/medium scale changes to views. Beyond this area, visibility would markedly reduce due to the presence of settlement, vegetation and changes in landform, with the main areas of visibility arising for eastbound road users passing Logan (see illustrative view I in **Technical Appendix 4.3**) and westbound users passing through Smallburn (see illustrative view E). Small scale changes to views would arise for both of these stretches of the route. As set out at **Section 4.7.13** above, beyond 10 km from the turbines, the scale of change to views would be Negligible. The Localised changes to views would give rise to a Large/medium magnitude of impact. Effects would be **major/moderate, adverse and significant**.

Other visual receptors

- 4.7.49 Effects on the following visual receptors have been assessed as **not significant** and are considered in detail in **Technical Appendix 4.2**. Unless stated otherwise the receptor groups are of High/medium sensitivity. The illustrative views referenced are provided in **Technical Appendix 4.3**.



- **Lugar (2.4 km, W)** – As shown by **Figure 4.6** and illustrative view A, visibility from the village would be restricted by nearby rising ground, vegetation and buildings. Glimpsed views from parts of the village would give rise to **moderate, adverse and not significant** effects.
- **Logan (3.1 km, W)** – As shown by **Figure 4.6**, viewpoint 4 and illustrative view B, visibility from the village would be restricted by nearby embankments to the southwest, vegetation and buildings. Glimpsed views would arise where there are longer views along streets or from slightly elevated locations. Effects would be **moderate/minor, adverse and not significant**.
- **Cumnock – including Netherthird, Barshare and Craighs (4.4 km W)** – As illustrated by **Figure 4.6** and viewpoints 5 and 6, visibility would be restricted by nearby vegetation and buildings to occasional views from the more open eastern edges of Barshare and Craighs, and from streets which are aligned towards the Site as shown by illustrative views C, D and E. Effects would be **moderate, adverse and not significant**.
- **Smallburn & Muirkirk (5.7 km NE)** – As shown by **Figure 4.6** and viewpoint 14, visibility would be restricted to more elevated and open areas around the settlement edges. Views from the A70 at Smallburn would be markedly more open in winter. There would be more limited visibility from the A70 at Muirkirk (see illustrative view F). Effects would be **moderate/minor, adverse and not significant**.
- **Auchinleck (6.6 km, W)** - As shown by **Figure 4.6**, viewpoint 8 and illustrative view G, visibility would arise from the more elevated north and eastern edges of the settlement. Views would typically be less open than illustrated, with occasional glimpses of a small number of turbines along aligned streets. Effects would be **moderate/minor, adverse and not significant**.
- **Rural area southwest of A76 (5 km, SW)** - As shown by **Figure 4.6** and viewpoints 7, 10 and 16, visibility from this area would arise from more elevated open areas where slopes face towards the Site, principally from Cairn Road, Glaisnock Road, the road and Core Path that connects these two roads, and Skares Road. Effects would be **moderate/minor, adverse and not significant**.
- **Cairn Table and Wardlaw Hill (5 km, E)** - As shown by viewpoint 15 and **Figures 4.6** and **4.8**, there would be widespread open views of the Proposed Development, along with existing and consented wind farms seen in other directions from the hill summits, and west and north facing slopes. Visitors to Wardlaw Hill would have closer views of the Proposed Development as they reach the summit and more distant views of the other wind farms from this less visited area. Effects would be **moderate, adverse and not significant**.
- **Visitors to Dumfries House GDL (6.1km, W)** - This receptor group is considered to be of High sensitivity. As shown by **Figure 4.6** and viewpoint 9, the density of vegetation within the formal gardens and parkland would limit visibility to very occasional glimpses of blade tips in both summer and winter. Some more open views may arise from the paths through the less visited outer areas of the parkland, such as the path leading to Barony A-frame. Effects would be **minor, adverse and not significant**.
- **River Ayr Way (2.9 km, N)** - Users of this long-distance walking route are judged to have High sensitivity within the Local Landscape Area and High/medium elsewhere. As shown by **Figure 4.6**, viewpoint 13, and illustrative



view H, landform and woodlands would often limit visibility from this low-lying route and the main area of visibility would arise close to where the route crosses the A70 and to the south of Muirkirk. Effects would be **moderate, adverse and not significant**.

- **A76 (5 km, SW)** – Users of this single carriage-way main road would have a Medium sensitivity to changes to views. As shown by **Figure 4.6** and illustrative view J, there would be short stretch of visibility of turbine blades above the skyline for northbound road users to the northeast of New Cumnock and near the railway line south of Netherthird. For southbound road users, views of the turbines would arise intermittently above the roadside hedges along a 2 km stretch near the junction with the B713 at Catrine (see illustrative view K). Effects would be **minimal, neutral and not significant**.

4.7.50 Impacts on the following visual receptors have been assessed to be Negligible for the reasons summarised below and are not set out in detail:

- **All visual receptors beyond 10 km** from the turbines - as set out at **Section 4.7.13** above changes to views would be Negligible beyond 10 km.
- Local roads to the north of the A70 and B743 – visibility would be very limited as shown by **Figure 4.6**.
- **New Cumnock (5.6 km, S)** - As shown by **Figure 4.6**, viewpoint 16 and illustrative view K in **Technical Appendix 4.3**, visibility of the Proposed Development would be limited to views of blade tips above the far side of the valley from the more open streets which are aligned towards the Site and a short stretch of the A76 on the northeast edge of the settlement.
- **Catrine (9.3 km, NW)** – As shown by **Figure 4.6**, visibility of the Proposed Development would be limited to glimpsed, distant views over hedges from roads leaving the village.
- **Rural area between Auchinleck, Sorn, and Catrine (7.3 km, NW)** - As shown by **Figure 4.6**, visibility of the Proposed Development would be limited by woodlands and terrain in this area, with only occasional relatively distant views of the turbines such as that shown for illustrative view L in **Technical Appendix 4.3**.
- **Railway between Kilmarnock and New Cumnock (4.0 km southwest)** - As shown by **Figure 4.6**, visibility of the Proposed Development would be limited by woodlands and terrain, and where theoretical visibility is indicated as the route passes Cumnock and Auchinleck, the route mostly runs within cutting.
- **Nith Valley (5 km, S)** – Localised visibility of the wooden pole grid connection would give rise to Negligible scale changes to views for local residents and road users where it passes along the northern upper valley side.

4.7.51 In theory, visual effects of High to Medium magnitude would be expected to arise within the Site and across the western slopes of Wardlaw Hill and Dornal Moss. However, given this is a location which is not readily accessible, few people are likely to be present and this group is not treated as a visual receptor in this assessment.



Effects on Designated Landscapes

Uplands and Moorlands Local Landscape Area (0.1 km, E)

- 4.7.52 As shown by **Figure 4.2**, this extensive local designation extends across the open moorlands to the east, north and south of the Site. There are some operational, consented and proposed turbines within the southern part of the designated area, and there is a noticeable pattern of wind farm development in forestry adjacent to the north, east and south boundaries of the LLA.
- 4.7.53 The summary of character and qualities of the LLA in the East Ayrshire Council Local Landscape Areas Supplementary Guidance (LLASG) is as follows: *“In the main a bold and large-scale but simple, rolling landscape of open, rounded top hills that form the backdrop to the eastern parts of East Ayrshire, the yellow and ochre colours of the moorland areas contrast with the dark greens of the coniferous and plantation woodlands. The combination of natural features and the lack of roads and access gives an impression of landscapes that are more extensive, remote and higher than is actually the case. The boundary encapsulates the Southern Upland LCT and Plateau Moorland LCT and also takes in the majority of the area designated as SNCI.”*
- 4.7.54 The detailed evaluation of value indicators included at Table 3 of the LLASG indicate that this LLA was identified as being of High ‘rank’ only in relation to its *“Dramatic, large-scale, simple rolling hills which act as the backdrop to East Ayrshire in the east and south, contrasting strongly with the valleys and open agricultural areas”*. Medium value aspects are its *“striking moorland character”* and *“some perception of wildness as more difficult to access due to lack of footpaths”* and use for recreation, though each of these aspects are noted as having some limitations.
- 4.7.55 **Table 4-6** considers effects on each of these aspects as being special qualities of the same susceptibility as the ‘rank’ identified in the LLASG. Other aspects are identified as being of ‘Low’ rank and as such could not be considered to be special qualities.

Table 4-6: Effects on Special Qualities of Uplands and Moorlands LLA

Special Quality	Susceptibility	Effects
<i>“Dramatic, large-scale, simple rolling hills which act as the backdrop to East Ayrshire in the east and south, contrasting strongly with the valleys and open agricultural areas.”</i>	High	The proposed turbines might be expected to be seen in views towards the LLA from the Ayr valley and from the settled areas within 7 km to the west of the Site as illustrated by viewpoints 1-8 and 12. However in practice, nearby farmland tends to screen views of the moorlands except in the more distant and elevated views (e.g. viewpoints 7, 8 and 12), where the turbines would generally be seen in the context of other operational and consented wind energy development. Where both the moorlands and the turbines would be seen, the Proposed Development would be seen in the foreground and appear larger than the hills, giving rise to Large/medium scale changes to this quality for an Intermediate extent of views towards the LLA. Views towards the skyline formed by the hills from lower lying areas and settlements would still be able to be appreciated in low light conditions. In the more elevated and open locations from which the lights will be visible, lights on operational and consented wind farms will also be seen – typically more numerous and/or more distant than the lights on the Proposed Development. In the early mornings the skyline



Special Quality	Susceptibility	Effects
		would be seen in the most contrast with the sunrise behind the hills, but the lights would be seen against a brightening sky. In the evening, the skyline would be less defined and the lights would be seen against a mostly dark sky. There would be Small/negligible scale changes to this quality for an Intermediate extent of views towards the LLA at night.
<i>“striking moorland character”</i>	Medium	Effects on this quality would be the same as for LCT 18a (outside the Site) set out at 4.7.23 above and Airds Moss as set out in Technical Appendix 4.2 : Large scale changes would arise in the area within 1-2 km to the east; across Dornal Moss and the western slopes of Cairn Hill. Across Airds Moss and between 2 and 4 km to the east and southwest, Medium scale changes to character would arise as a result of relatively close views of the turbines. Changes to character would be Small between 4-6 km to the east and north of the Site, decreasing to Negligible beyond. These changes to character would arise for a Localised extent of the LLA. This quality cannot be readily appreciated at night.
<i>“some perception of wildness due to lack of access”</i>	Medium	As noted in the description of this quality in the LLASG, existing and consented wind farms and other features such as overhead lines already limit this quality to some degree. This quality would only be affected in the more remote parts of the LLA within 5 km of the site, where existing and consented wind farms, roads and forestry are more distant. Small scale changes to this quality would arise to the east of the Site across the west-facing slopes of Wardlaw Hill and Dornal Moss, affecting a Limited extent of the LLA. Whilst this quality may be affected by lights, the more inaccessible parts will have very few visitors during the night.
Recreational use	Medium	The Proposed Development would not be close to the more frequently visited parts of the LLA such as Cairn Table, and the area within 5 km has limited access as shown by Figure 4.6 , though some walkers may choose to visit Wardlaw Hill. The Proposed Development would not directly affect recreational access to the LLA but may decrease the enjoyment of those visitors to Wardlaw Hill, Airds Moss and the uplands within 5 km north of the Site if they dislike views of nearby wind farms. In other areas, existing and consented wind farms would be closer than the Proposed Development. Changes to this quality would be Small scale within a Localised extent of the LLA. Recreational use of this landscape is likely to be limited at night.

- 4.7.56 Taking account of the Regional value of the LLA, it is judged to have a High/medium susceptibility and High/medium sensitivity to development of the type proposed.
- 4.7.57 The most notable changes to the special qualities would be Large and Medium scale changes to the moorland character within 4 km, and Small scale changes to 6 km (affecting a Localised area); and Large/medium scale changes for an Intermediate extent of views towards the moorland backdrop provided by the LLA to lower-lying and settled areas. Taking account of these, and the more limited changes to



recreational enjoyment and perceptions of wildness; the magnitude of impact would be Large/medium and effects would be **major/moderate, adverse and significant**.

Effects on Other Designated Landscapes

4.7.58 Effects on the following designated landscapes have been assessed to be **not significant**:

- **River Ayr Valley LLA (3.3 km, NW)** – This designation covers an area with *“Complex and intricate mix of rolling landform, river corridor landscapes, small settlements, deciduous and mixed woodlands, open farmland, and designed landscape of Dumfries House Estate”*, which is considered to have a High/medium sensitivity. As set out in the assessment provided in **Technical Appendix 4.2**, most of the special qualities would not be affected, but the quality of *“some localised high points offering panoramic views”* would be affected during the day, giving rise to effects which would be **moderate, adverse and not significant**.
- **The Ayr Valley LLA (14.9 km, west)** – As set out at **Section 4.7.13**, effects on views at this distance would be Negligible and as such would tend to have a Negligible impact on the special qualities of this LLA, particularly given the very limited visibility as illustrated by **Figure 4.6**.

4.8 Night-time Effects

Introduction

- 4.8.1 The lighting requirements and embedded mitigation measures for the Proposed Development are described in **Section 4.5** above. As shown by **Figure 4.10**, three of the turbines would be lit with visible lights at night.
- 4.8.2 The aviation lights would be visible as points of light, especially where there would be a high degree of contrast at the viewpoint (i.e. the lights were seen against a dark sky / dark landmass or where there would be little or no existing artificial light sources present).
- 4.8.3 During periods of greater ambient light, (e.g. sunset, twilight, dusk, dawn) there would be a reduced effect as the contrast of the aviation lighting against the background would be less. The lights would be switched on 30 minutes after sunset until 30 minutes before sunrise. This variation means that in summer the lighting would not be switched on when people are predominantly active and contrast with the background would be reduced. However, in winter the lighting would be switched on during peak active times.
- 4.8.4 Due to the location of the lighting on the turbines relative to the rotating blades, this can result in a blinking effect caused by the screening effect of blades as they travel past the lights. These effects are dependent upon the rotation speed of the blades, the direction of the wind and the location of the receptor. Where a number of lit turbines are present in the view, such blinking is likely to be at the same frequency but uncoordinated.

Approach and Scope

- 4.8.5 There is a distinction between light pollution or nuisance and the effect of lighting on the visual amenity of the landscape at night. This is not a technical lighting assessment but focuses on the night-time effects resulting from the introduction of new artificial lighting.



- 4.8.6 East Ayrshire Council have requested an assessment of effects on landscape character at night, however as set out in **Technical Appendix 4.1**, the key characteristics of landscapes which distinguish the landscape character areas described in character assessments are generally obscured after dark. Potential changes to landscape character at night would arise from changes to skylines and to perceptions of darkness and an absence of development. Changes to this small subset of characteristics would not be likely to give rise to significant effects on landscape character and are not considered in detail within the assessment.
- 4.8.7 As such, this assessment focuses on visual effects at night.

Baseline & Future Baseline

- 4.8.8 **Figure 4.10** gives a broad impression of the level of existing lighting within the study area based on satellite observations of light pollution. It illustrates that the study area is generally dark, with existing lighting associated with settlements (typically the larger the settlement, the greater the intensity of lighting) or floodlighting at industrial and commercial sites (e.g. the Barony chipboard plant). It should be noted that the 2023 light pollution data⁵ do not show the presence of aviation lights on operational turbines, given the relatively low intensity and dispersed nature of such light sources.
- 4.8.9 Travelling around the study area, the rural areas tend to be very dark at night with settlements appearing as very bright islands but with limited associated sky glow – a feature of the modern LED street lighting widely used in this area. There is occasional flood lighting on farm buildings which appears as bright points in otherwise dark surroundings and more notable flood lighting and skyglow is present around the Barony chipboard plant and at the haulage yard on the A70 to the northwest of the Site. Existing aviation lights can be seen on the mast south of Darvel and are quite prominent in the northern part of the study area, while the flashing aviation light on the single turbine just south of New Cumnock is frequently visible from the A76 and rural areas south of Cumnock. The aviation lights on operational turbines west of the M74 and in the southern part of the study area are not widely visible in closer proximity to the site, typically being screened by intervening topography. However, red aviation lighting will be a more frequent sight travelling around the study area in future, given the number of under-construction and consented wind farms with aviation lights as shown by **Figure 4.10**.
- 4.8.10 The Galloway Dark Sky Park buffer zone is located 21 km to the southwest of the Proposed Development. The Core Area of the Dark Sky park is located beyond the 25 km study area.

Zone of Theoretical Visibility

- 4.8.11 **Figure 4.11** provides a ZTV study showing the visibility of the proposed aviation lighting. It shows that in more elevated and open areas, all three of the lights would typically be seen, with patchier visibility and areas of visibility of one or two lights in the valleys and where vegetation constrains visibility. The more open and elevated areas are also more likely to have views of aviation lights on the operational and consented wind farms in the study area.

⁵ Earth Observation Group VIIRS Nighttime Lights 2023 Annual Composite



Night-time visual effects

- 4.8.12 For visual receptors, night-time views are considered to be of Community value unless there is a particular element that can be best appreciated in the hours of darkness. This may include views of landmarks that are lit at night or recognised dark skies areas (e.g. Dark Sky Parks and Discovery Sites as identified by <https://www.darkskydiscovery.org.uk/>), or Special Qualities of designated areas.
- 4.8.13 The susceptibility of visual receptors also differs at night reflecting the different activities people undertake in the hours of darkness. For example, drivers using roads at night tend to be more focused on the road and the area illuminated by their headlights than during the day and may have oncoming headlights, cats eyes or reflective signage drawing their attention, resulting in low susceptibility. This is particularly the case on unlit rural roads that may be narrow and winding. People taking part in activities such as stargazing, would be of high susceptibility. People in settlements would be of similar sensitivity as in the daytime.
- 4.8.14 The assessment focusses on locations where people are likely to be present at night. Recreational routes and other outdoor recreational locations are generally unlikely to be used at night (unless they are lit or specifically promoted for e.g. stargazing) and are not usually considered.

Glenmuir Water and Bellow Water valleys

- 4.8.15 People moving around the rural area between Cronberry, Auchinleck and Cumnock and the Glenmuir Water and Bellow valleys at night would have a High/medium sensitivity to changes to views. Generally, these areas are dark at night, apart from lights of infrequent passing vehicles and outdoor lighting at homes and farms, along with the more prominent lighting at the haulage yard northwest of the Site. Aviation lights on consented turbines and those currently under construction (particularly Cumberhead West and Mill Rig) will also be visible looking northeast and north along the Bellow Water valley (viewpoint 1). One or more of the aviation lights would be widely visible as shown by **Figure 4.11** and viewpoint 3, seen in close views above the nearby skyline from the valleys, giving rise to Large scale changes to views. The magnitude of impact would be Large and effects would be **major/moderate, adverse and significant**.

Cronberry

- 4.8.16 People moving around Cronberry at night would have a High/medium sensitivity to changes to views. The southeastern outlook from Cronberry is currently dark apart from some lights on the buildings seen along the A70, and on traffic moving along the A70. This outlook is seen in the context of nearby street lighting looking along the road. To the northeast, aviation lights on some of the currently under-construction turbines (Mill Rig and Cumberhead West) will be visible on the distant skyline (see viewpoint 2) and, moving around the settlement, aviation lights on other consented wind farms will also be occasionally visible to the north and southwest. This will be most notable in winter months when deciduous vegetation in the immediate vicinity of the settlement offers a lesser degree of screening.
- 4.8.17 As shown by viewpoint 2, the lights on the Proposed Development would be seen above the nearby skyline to the southeast. The aviation lights would be the most prominent of those visible from the settlement, albeit not a completely novel introduction to the night sky, and would give rise to Medium scale changes to views for a Wide extent of the settlement. The magnitude of impact would be Medium and effects would be **major/moderate, adverse and significant**.



Other visual receptors

- 4.8.18 Effects on the following visual receptor groups at night have been assessed to be **not significant** and are considered in detail in **Technical Appendix 4.2**:
- **Other Settlements within 7 km** - From Lugar, Logan, Cumnock, Netherthird, Barshare, Craighens, Smallburn, Muirkirk and Auchinleck people would see the aviation lights (as shown by viewpoints 4, 5, 6, 8 and 14) in the context of more nearby street lighting, and alongside lights on operational and consented turbines from Auchinleck. Effects would be **minor, adverse** and **not significant**.
 - **Other rural areas within 5 km, and southwest of the A76** - Generally these areas are dark at night but lighting at settlements, farms, on passing vehicles and at the Barony chipboard plant are often seen. In the more elevated parts of each of these areas, which is also where the Proposed Development is more likely to be seen, lights on consented wind farms will be visible as shown by viewpoints 7, 8 and 12. Effects would be **moderate/minor, adverse** and **not significant**.
 - **A70 (0.7 km NW)** - The most noticeable light sources would be taillights, headlights and (in places) reflectors along the route, along with streetlighting where the road passes through settlements and outdoor lights on farms and homes. Northeast of Lugar, aviation lights on under-construction and consented turbines will be seen by northeast bound travellers. The main changes would be as the route passes the Site, where there would be occasional views of one or two of the aviation lights above the skyline. Effects would be **minor, adverse** and **not significant**.
- 4.8.19 Visual receptors for which impacts would be negligible during the day are not considered further as impacts at night would also be likely to be negligible.
- 4.8.20 The following visual receptors are also not considered in detail as people are less likely to be in these recreational locations at night:
- Cairn Table and Wardlaw Hill (5 km, E);
 - Dumfries House GDL (6.1km, W); and
 - River Ayr Way (2.9 km, N).

Night-time effects on designated areas

- 4.8.21 Effects are considered within the assessments provided in Table 4-6 and Technical Appendix 4.2.

4.9 Additional Mitigation and Enhancement

- 4.9.1 There are no additional mitigation measures (also known as secondary mitigation, comprising measures beyond embedded/standard mitigation) proposed for landscape or visual receptors.

4.10 Residual Effects

- 4.10.1 No additional mitigation is required or proposed in relation to landscape and visual matters, and residual effects would be the same as set out in **Section 4.7**.



4.11 Cumulative Assessment

Introduction

- 4.11.1 The cumulative assessment is based on the same landscape and visual baseline and receptor groups as the main LVIA, and the methodology is the same in terms of forming and expressing judgements. Two types of judgement are provided:
- Additional effects – The effects that would arise from the addition of the Proposed Development to a baseline which includes the cumulative development(s) being considered.
 - Combined effects – The effects that would arise from the addition of both the Proposed Development and the cumulative development(s) being considered to the main assessment baseline.
- 4.11.2 Typically, only the additional effects need to be considered and the cumulative assessment is provided to inform decision-making in the event that one or more of the cumulative developments have been consented prior to the Proposed Development (i.e. the future baseline has changed). The combined effects may be relevant where two or more development applications are determined together.

Assessment Scenarios

- 4.11.3 All cumulative schemes within 25 km of the Site considered within this assessment are illustrated on **Figure 4.7**.
- 4.11.4 Operational and consented developments have been included within the landscape and visual baseline within the main assessment. Wind farms in planning and scoping stages within 25 km that are considered in detail in this cumulative assessment include:

- The Drum (in planning) – 8 turbines of up to 220 m tip height (0.4 km, E);
- Glen Water (in planning) – 6 turbines of up to 200 m tip height (1.9 km, S).

As shown by **Figure 4.7**, there are a number of other wind farms at the planning and scoping stage. These are all beyond 7 km from the Site and either form part of, or are beyond, clusters of operational and consented wind farms. In this context the presence or absence of the wind farms proposed beyond 7 km from the Site would not notably alter the cumulative effects arising from the Proposed Development and these are not considered further.

- 4.11.5 Scenarios considered within this cumulative assessment are:
- Scenario 1 – The Proposed Development with operational and consented development – i.e. the effects of the Proposed Development compared to the current baseline – as described in the main LVIA.
 - Scenario 2D – The Proposed Development with operational and consented development and The Drum Wind Farm.
 - Scenario 2G – The Proposed Development with operational and consented development & Glen Water Wind Farm.
 - Scenario 3 – The Proposed Development with operational and consented development and both The Drum and Glen Water wind farms.
- 4.11.6 The consented Greenburn Wind Farm is currently subject to a variation application to increase the height of turbines from 149.9 m to a mix of 167.5 m and 180 m tip heights. This would not give rise to notably different effects on any receptors during



the day compared to the consented development (as considered in Scenario 1) but would introduce a requirement for visible aviation lighting. Cumulative night time effects with Greenburn Variation are also considered separately.

Cumulative ZTV Studies and Viewpoint Analysis

4.11.7 **Figure 4.8** shows a ZTV study of the Proposed Development with existing and consented wind farms and is described at 4.7.9 above as part of the main LVIA.

4.11.8 **Figure 4.9** shows a ZTV study of the Proposed Development with The Drum and Glen Water wind farms. It shows that the three proposed wind farms have very similar visibility patterns, except that:

- Glen Water wind farm would be extensively visible along the A76 corridor and the River Nith valley, to the south and southeast of Cumnock, where neither The Drum or the Proposed Development would be visible; and
- Both The Drum and the Proposed Development would be seen along the A70 corridor and valley of the River Ayr to the north of Cumnock, where Glen Water would not be visible.

4.11.9 **Table 4-7** provides an assessment of the scale of cumulative effects that would arise from adding the Proposed Development to a baseline including The Drum and/or Glen Water wind farm. The Scenario 1 (main LVIA) assessment is provided for comparison, and for other scenarios only effects that differ from Scenario 1 are entered into the table.

Table 4-7: Viewpoint Analysis – Scale of Cumulative Effects

VP	Location	Scenario 1	Scenario 2D	Scenario 2G	Scenario 3
1	A70	Large	Medium		Medium
2	Cronberry	Large/medium	Medium		Medium
3	Glenmuir valley	Large	Medium	Large/medium	Medium
4	Logan	Medium/small	Small		Small
5	Barshare	Medium	Small	Medium/small	Small
6	Craigens	Medium	Small		Small
7	Cairn Road	Medium/small	Small		Small
8	Auchinleck	Medium/small	Small		Small
9	Dumfries House	Negligible			
10	Ochiltree	Small/negligible	Negligible		Negligible
11	Tarbolton	Negligible			
12	B743	Large/medium	Small		Small
13	River Ayr Way	Medium	Medium/small		Medium/small
14	Smallburn	Medium/small	Small		Small
15	Cairn Table	Small	Small/negligible	Negligible	Small/negligible
16	New Cumnock	Small/negligible		Negligible	

4.11.10 The analysis above indicates that:



- There would only be a limited interaction between the Proposed Development and Glen Water Wind Farm in terms of significant effects on views, because of the separation of the main close areas of visibility outside the wind farm sites as indicated by the ZTV study.
- The Drum and the Proposed Development would often be seen together. The Drum would typically be seen beyond of the Proposed Development, slightly reducing the changes to views from the valleys and settled areas to the northwest and west. In views from the northeast and east, The Drum would be seen in front, again slightly reducing changes to views.

Cumulative Effects

Cumulative Effects on Visual Receptors

- 4.11.11 Landscape and visual receptors that are considered to receive impacts of Small/negligible or Negligible magnitude from the Proposed Development are not included in this assessment, as an impact of such low magnitude adds nothing or very little regardless of the effects of other developments.
- 4.11.12 Effects on landscape character and designated landscapes are assessed to be **not significant** in all scenarios and are described in **Technical Appendix 4.2**, and summarised below and in **Table 4-11**:
- **LCT 18a East Ayrshire Plateau Moorlands** - As shown by **Figures 4.5 and 4.9**, all three wind farms would be located within this Medium sensitivity LCT. As a result, in any scenario in which Glen Water or The Drum is present, the Site and nearby areas of the LCT would already be affected by the nearby presence of turbines as illustrated by viewpoints 12 and 15.
 - **LCT 10 Upland River Valley** - As shown by **Figures 4.5 and 4.9** and viewpoint 3, the Proposed Development would be located partly within the edge of this High/medium sensitivity LCT in the Glenmuir Water valley, and Glen Water Wind Farm would be located adjacent to the opposite valley side to the south. As shown by viewpoints 12, 13 and 14, The Drum and the Proposed Development would be seen alongside each other, appearing as a single wind farm in views from the Bellow Water valley to the north. As a result, in any scenario in which Glen Water or The Drum Wind farm is present, the Site and nearby areas of the LCT would already be affected by the nearby presence of turbines.
 - **LCT 7c East Ayrshire Lowlands** - As shown by **Figures 4.5 and 4.9** and viewpoints 8 and 12, the Proposed Development and The Drum wind farm would be seen as a single wind farm from the areas of this LCT to the northwest of the Site, and the addition of the Proposed Development if The Drum were already present would not noticeably alter the character. Within the part of the LCT south of Cumnock, as illustrated by viewpoints 5 and 6, this would also be the case. In this area, Glen Water Wind Farm would also be visible at a similar distance to the Proposed Development and would have an influence on the character, which would slightly reduce the degree of change that would arise from adding the Proposed Development.
 - **Uplands and Moorlands LLA** – The presence of Glen Water and/or the Drum wind farms would affect views towards the moorland skyline, the moorland character, perceptions of wildness and recreational enjoyment, which would slightly reduce the degree of change that would arise from adding the Proposed Development.



- **River Ayr Valley LLA** - As illustrated by nearby viewpoint 12, the Proposed Development and The Drum would be seen as a single development from Tincorn hill, with Glen Water Wind Farm being more distant and adjacent. The degree of change to the quality of panoramic views within the LLA would be reduced when adding the Proposed Development to a baseline already including one or both wind farms.

4.11.13 For each of the relevant visual receptors and scenarios, **Table 4-8** below summarises the main assessment (Scenario 1) and describes any differences which give rise to significant effects in one or more scenarios.

Table 4-8: Cumulative Effects on Visual Receptors

Glenmuir and Bellow Water Valleys			
As shown by Figure 4.9 and viewpoints 1 and 2, the Proposed Development and The Drum would be seen as a single wind farm from the Bellow Water Valley, but the Proposed Development would be noticeably closer. As shown by viewpoint 3, Glen Water and the Proposed Development would both be visible from Glenmuir Water valley, seen in opposite directions, with the Proposed Development appearing closer from the northern part of the valley and the assumed grid connection passing through the valley.			
Scenario 1	Scenario 2D	Scenario 2G	Scenario 3
Large scale	Medium scale	Large scale within the Bellow Water valley. Large/medium scale at the northern end of Glenmuir Water valley, reducing to Medium scale further south.	Medium scale
Wide extent	Wide extent	Wide extent	Wide extent
Large magnitude	Medium magnitude	Large/medium magnitude	Medium magnitude
Major, adverse (significant)	Major/moderate, adverse (significant)	Major/moderate, adverse (significant)	Major/moderate, adverse (significant)
Cronberry			
As shown by Figure 4.9 and viewpoint 2, the Proposed Development and The Drum would be seen as a single wind farm from Cronberry, but the Proposed Development would be noticeably closer. Glen Water would be seen in the same general direction but would be more distant and mostly screened by landform.			
Scenario 1	Scenario 2D	Scenario 2G	Scenario 3
Large/medium scale	Medium scale	As scenario 1	Medium scale
Wide extent	Wide extent	As scenario 1	Wide extent
Large/medium magnitude	Medium magnitude	As scenario 1	Medium magnitude
Major/moderate, adverse (significant)	Major/moderate, adverse (significant)	As scenario 1	Major/moderate, adverse (significant)



Cumulative Effects on Other Visual Receptors

4.11.14 Effects on other visual receptors are assessed to be **not significant** in all scenarios and are described in **Technical Appendix 4.2**, and summarised below and in **Table 4.13**:

- **Lugar** - In the occasional views out from Lugar above the landform and trees which largely screen the outlook towards the Site, the Proposed Development would be seen in front of the turbines of The Drum, though these would be notably less visible than the Proposed Development. Glen Water Wind Farm is unlikely to be visible.
- **Logan** - As illustrated by **Figure 4.9** and viewpoint 4, the Proposed Development and The Drum would appear as a single wind farm with the Proposed Development slightly closer. Where visible, Glen Water would be seen from different places in the settlement which have an outlook to the southeast.
- **Cumnock – including Netherthird, Barshare and Craigens** - As illustrated by **Figure 4.9** and viewpoints 5 and 6, the Proposed Development and The Drum would appear as a single wind farm with the Proposed Development slightly closer. Glen Water would be seen in a separate location along the skyline from open places at the edges of the settlements. There may also be some glimpsed views of Glen Water from streets aligned towards that site, but these would be different aligned views from those where The Drum and the Proposed Development would be seen.
- **Rural area between Cronberry, Auchinleck and Cumnock** - As illustrated by **Figure 4.9** and viewpoints 2 and 8, all three wind farms would be seen in the same general direction from this area, with The Drum and the Proposed Development appearing as a single wind farm and Glen Water seen separately along the skyline. In closer views the Proposed Development would be noticeably closer than The Drum, but with distance this perspective would reduce and the Glen Water turbines would also appear to be at a more similar distance and scale.
- **B743 and rural area between Sorn and A70** – As illustrated by **Figure 4.9** and viewpoints 12 and 13, the Proposed Development and The Drum would appear as a single wind farm with the Proposed Development slightly closer to the western part of this area. Glen Water would be less frequently visible, at a greater distance and often partly screened by landform and/or the forestry at Airds Moss.
- **Smallburn and Muirkirk** - As illustrated by **Figure 4.9** and viewpoint 14, the Proposed Development and The Drum would appear as a single wind farm with the Proposed Development slightly more distant. Glen Water would not be visible.
- **Auchinleck** - As illustrated by **Figure 4.9** and viewpoint 8, where they are visible the Proposed Development and The Drum would appear as a single wind farm. Glen Water Wind Farm would be seen separately along the skyline at a similar distance.
- **Rural area southwest of A76** – As illustrated by **Figure 4.9** and viewpoints 7, 10 and 16, the Proposed Development and The Drum would be seen as a single wind farm from this area. Glen Water Wind Farm would be seen separately and would be more distant from the areas west of Cumnock but



would be the closer and more visible of the developments from the southern parts of this area.

- **Cairn Table and Wardlaw Hill** - As illustrated by **Figure 4.9** and viewpoint 15, all three wind farms would be seen from the summits, with the Proposed Development and The Drum seen as a single wind farm from this upland area, with The Drum turbines appearing closer. Glen Water would be seen slightly to one side and slightly further away. From the paths ascending the northern slopes, Glen Water Wind Farm would not be visible.
- **River Ayr Way** - As illustrated by **Figure 4.9** and viewpoints 13 and 14 (which is not on the route, but shows a nearby view from Smallburn), the Proposed Development and The Drum would be seen as a single wind farm. Glen Water would not be visible (or would be barely visible) from the route.
- **A70** - As illustrated by **Figure 4.9** and viewpoints 1 and 13 and 14 (which are not on the route but nearby), The Drum and the Proposed Development would be seen as a single development from this route, with the Proposed Development being notably closer in the closest views, and The Drum being closer in views from Smallburn and Muirkirk. Glen Water Wind Farm would not be visible (or would be barely visible) from the route.

Cumulative Effects at Night

- 4.11.15 As shown by **Figure 4.12**, both The Drum and Glen Water Wind Farm would include visible aviation lights. Lights are proposed on all eight of the turbines of The Drum and on four of the six Glen Water turbines. Only receptors for which the impact of the Proposed Development would be greater than Small/negligible magnitude are considered for each development scenario.

Cumulative Effects with The Drum wind farm (Scenario 2D)

- 4.11.16 As shown by **Figure 4.12**, the lights on the Proposed Development would almost always be seen alongside those of The Drum; there are very limited areas where this would not be the case. The additional visibility of 1-3 lights on the Proposed Development alongside the typically more numerous lights seen on The Drum, would give rise to Small scale cumulative effects in those locations where only 1 or 2 of the lights on The Drum would be visible and the Proposed Development would be either be markedly closer and/or more of its lights would be seen than those on The Drum. This would be a Limited area, giving rise to a Negligible impact and effects are not considered in further detail for either scenario including The Drum.

Cumulative Effects with Glen Water Wind Farm (Scenario 2G and Scenario 3)

Glenmuir water and Bellow Water valleys

- 4.11.17 As shown by **Figure 4.12** and viewpoint 3, the lights of both Glen Water and the Proposed Development would mostly be seen together in this area, with small areas of visibility of Glen Water only towards the southern end of the Glenmuir Water valley, and more extensive areas of visibility of just the Proposed Development within the Bellow Water valley. The effects of adding views of the lights on the Proposed Development to those at Glen Water would be Large scale for an Intermediate extent receptor group in the Bellow Water valley, where the Glen Water lights would not be visible; and Medium scale for an Intermediate extent of the receptor group in Glenmuir Water valley. The magnitude of impact would be Large/medium and effects would be **major/moderate, adverse and significant**.



Effects on other visual receptors

4.11.18 Cumulative effects with Glen Water Wind Farm on other visual receptors at night are assessed to be not significant in all scenarios and are described in **Technical Appendix 4.2**, and summarised below and in **Table 4-11**.

- **Cronberry** - As shown by viewpoint 2, one of the lights at Glen Water would be visible, and the three lights on the Proposed Development would be seen noticeably closer and higher above the skyline. Effects would be **moderate, adverse** and **not significant**.
- **Other rural areas within 5 km, and southwest of the A76** - In the more elevated parts of each of these areas, which is also where the Proposed Development is more likely to be seen, the lights on Glen Water Wind Farm would also be visible as shown by viewpoints 7, 8 and 12 and **Figure 4.12**. In closer and/or lower lying areas, only the Proposed Development is likely to be seen, as shown by viewpoints 2 and 13. Effects would be **moderate/minor, adverse** and **not significant**.
- **A70 (0.7 km NW)** - As shown by **Figure 4.12** and viewpoint 1, the lights on Glen Water Wind Farm would typically not be seen from this route and effects would be the same as for the Proposed Development alone.

Cumulative Effects with Greenburn Variation

4.11.19 The only receptor group where cumulative effects at night with Greenburn Variation are likely to notably differ to those of other scenarios is the rural area southwest of A76. Here, Greenburn Variation would be notably closer than the Proposed Development (and lights on other operational, consented and proposed wind farms) and the lights on the turbines would generally appear as the closest and most prominent aviation lights in the night sky. In any scenario where Greenburn Variation is present, the lights on the Proposed Development would appear as a distant and more peripheral feature and their addition would give rise to a Negligible impact.

4.12 Summary and Statement of Significance

4.12.1 A summary of the effects of the Proposed Development is provided in the following tables.

- **Table 4-9** sets out effects on landscape and visual receptors assessed as likely to experience **significant effects** (including those experiencing significant cumulative effects).
- **Table 4-10** sets out **not significant** effects on landscape and visual receptors.
- **Table 4-11** sets out **not significant** cumulative effects on landscape and visual receptors.



Table 4-9: Summary Table – Significant Effects During Operation, Construction & Decommissioning

Receptor	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Significance of Residual Effect	
			Level and Significance	Beneficial/ Adverse
Landscape Character				
LCT 18a East Ayrshire Plateau Moorlands (includes Site)	Medium	Large/medium	Major/moderate (significant)	Adverse
LCT 10 Upland River Valley (includes part of Site)	High/medium	Large/medium	Major/moderate (significant)	Adverse
Visual Receptors				
Glenmuir and Bellow Water Valleys (0.3km, S and 0.7km, N)	High/medium	Large – <i>daytime</i> Large/medium – <i>at night</i>	Major (significant) – <i>daytime</i> Major/moderate (significant) – <i>at night</i>	Adverse
Cronberry (2.2 km, NW) – <i>both day and night</i>	High/medium	Large/medium	Major/moderate (significant)	Adverse
Rural area between Cronberry, Auchinleck and Cumnock (1.8 km, W)	High/medium	Medium	Major/moderate (significant)	Adverse
B743 and rural area between Sorn and A70 (3.6 km, N)	High/medium	Medium	Major/moderate (significant)	Adverse
A70 (0.7 km NW)	Medium	Large/medium	Major/moderate (significant)	Adverse
Designated Landscapes				
Uplands and Moorlands LLA (0.1 km, E)	High/medium	Large/medium	Major/moderate (significant)	Adverse
Cumulative effects				
Glenmuir and Bellow Water Valleys <i>(with The Drum, or both The Drum and Glen Water)</i>	High/medium	Medium	Major/moderate (significant)	Adverse
Glenmuir and Bellow Water Valleys <i>(with Glen Water)</i> – <i>both day and night</i>	High/medium	Large/medium	Major/moderate (significant)	Adverse
Cronberry <i>(with The Drum, or both The Drum and Glen Water)</i>	High/medium	Medium	Major/moderate (significant)	Adverse
Cronberry <i>(with Glen Water wind farm)</i>	High/medium	Large/medium	Major/moderate (significant)	Adverse



Table 4-10: Summary Table – Not Significant Effects (only effects which are greater than Minimal are listed)

Receptor	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Significance of Residual Effect	
			Level and Significance	Beneficial/ Adverse
Landscape Character				
LCT 7c East Ayrshire Lowlands (1.3km, N)	Medium	Medium/small	Moderate (not significant)	Adverse
LCT 9 Lowland River Valleys (4.5 km, NW)	High/medium	Small/negligible	Minor (not significant)	Adverse
Visual Receptors				
Lugar (2.4 km, W)	High/medium	Medium/small	Moderate (not significant)	Adverse
Logan (3.1 km, W)	High/medium	Small	Moderate/minor (not significant)	Adverse
Cumnock – inc. Netherthird, Barshare and Craigens (4.4 km, W)	High/medium	Medium/small	Moderate (not significant)	Adverse
Smallburn & Muirkirk (5.7 km, NE)	High/medium	Small	Moderate/minor (not significant)	Adverse
Auchinleck (6.6 km, W)	High/medium	Small	Moderate/minor (not significant)	Adverse
Rural area southwest of A76 (5 km, SW)	High/medium	Small	Moderate/minor (not significant)	Adverse
Cairn Table and Wardlaw Hill (5 km, E)	High/medium	Medium/small	Moderate (not significant)	Adverse
Visitors to Dumfries House GDL (6.1 km, W)	High	Small/negligible	Minor (not significant)	Adverse
River Ayr Way (2.9 km, N)	High/medium	Medium/small	Moderate (not significant)	Adverse
Visual Receptors at night				
Other settlements (except Cronberry) within 7 km	High/medium	Small/negligible	Minor (not significant)	Adverse
Other rural areas (except Glenmuir Water and Bellow Water valleys) within 5 km, and southwest of the A76	High/medium	Small	Moderate/minor (not significant)	Adverse
A70 (0.7 km, NW)	Low	Medium/small	Minor (not significant)	Adverse
Designated Landscapes				
River Ayr Valley LLA (3.3km, NW)	High/medium	Medium/small	Moderate (not significant)	Adverse



Table 4-11: Summary Table – Not Significant Cumulative Effects (only effects that are different to those reported for the main LVIA (scenario 1) are listed)

Receptor	Scenario 2D (with The Drum wind farm)	Scenario 2G (with Glen Water wind farm)	Scenario 3 (with both The Drum and Glen Water)
Landscape Character			
LCT 18a East Ayrshire Plateau Moorlands	Moderate/minor, adverse (not significant)	Moderate/minor, adverse (not significant)	Moderate/minor, adverse (not significant)
LCT 10 Upland River Valley	Moderate, adverse (not significant)	Moderate, adverse (not significant)	Moderate, adverse (not significant)
LCT 7c East Ayrshire Lowlands	Minimal, Neutral (not significant)		Minimal, Neutral (not significant)
Visual Receptors			
Lugar	Moderate/minor, adverse (not significant)		Moderate/minor, adverse (not significant)
Rural area between Cronberry, Auchinleck and Cumnock	Moderate, adverse (not significant)		Moderate, adverse (not significant)
Logan	Minor, adverse (not significant)		Minor, adverse (not significant)
Cumnock – inc. Netherthird, Barshare and Craighs	Minor, adverse (not significant)		Minor, adverse (not significant)
B743 and rural area between Sorn and A70	Moderate/minor, adverse (not significant)		Moderate/minor, adverse (not significant)
Smallburn & Muirkirk	Minor, adverse (not significant)		Minor, adverse (not significant)
Auchinleck	Minor, adverse (not significant)		Minor, adverse (not significant)
Rural area southwest of A76	Minor, adverse (not significant)		Minor, adverse (not significant)
Cairn Table and Wardlaw Hill	Minimal, neutral (not significant)	Minor, adverse (not significant)	Minimal, neutral (not significant)



Receptor	Scenario 2D (with The Drum wind farm)	Scenario 2G (with Glen Water wind farm)	Scenario 3 (with both The Drum and Glen Water)
River Ayr Way	Moderate/minor, adverse (not significant)		Moderate/minor, adverse (not significant)
A70	Moderate, adverse (not significant)		Moderate, adverse (not significant)
Cronberry – <i>at night</i>		Moderate, adverse (not significant)	Moderate, adverse (not significant)
Designated Landscapes			
Uplands and Moorlands LLA	Moderate/minor, Adverse (not significant)	Moderate, adverse (not significant)	Moderate/minor, Adverse (not significant)
River Ayr Valley LLA	Minor, adverse (not significant)	Moderate/minor, adverse (not significant)	Minimal, Neutral (not significant)



4.13 References

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