Technical Appendix 7.3: Visual Impact Assessment

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1.0 Visual Receptors

The visual assessment addresses changes to visual amenity as experienced by people, including local residents, tourists, walkers, recreational route users and road users. This is undertaken by firstly identifying viewpoints within the study area that represent the key visual receptors, including settlements, roads/routes and key visitor locations. The sensitivity of visual receptors is set out for each receptor, evaluated using the methodology in Technical Appendix 7.1.

1.1 Scope of Assessment and Reporting

The assessment considered potential effects on views and visual amenity out to 45 km, with viewpoints and receptors for more detailed analysis within approximately 25 km, which is considered to be a standard range used in many Landscape and Visual Impact Assessments (LVIAs) to catch all likely significant effects (likely to be within approximately 15 km), and to consider some more distant (but not significant) effects within that range. Using the Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV, see Figures 7.1 and 7.2), wireline images as indicators of likely visibility, fieldwork, and an initial assessment of potential effects, Table 1 sets out the overview of potential visual effects on selected representative receptors (people at viewpoints, settlements and on routes).

This Technical Appendix considers daytime effects only. For effects of nighttime aviation safety lighting during the hours of darkness see Technical Appendix 7.5.

Viewpoints

The viewpoints included in the LVIA and as agreed with NatureScot, Scottish Borders Council, Dumfries and Galloway Council, and South Lanarkshire Council, and in consultation with attendees at the public exhibitions, are listed in Table 1 and shown on Figure 7.6.

Table 1 - Viewpoints Assessed in the LVIA

Location		Grid reference		Distance from nearest proposed turbine (km)	Reasons for selection and representativeness
VP1	A701 Source of the Tweed layby	305004	614636	9.5	Sequential views – first view of the Proposed Development travelling northeastbound. Also, a static viewpoint marked on the Ordnance Survey (OS) plans.
VP2	A701 Tweedhopefoot	305274	618354	5.9	Sequential views – cumulative viewpoint with Clyde group to the west and Glenkerie directly ahead travelling northeastbound
VP3	A701 layby south of Glenbreck	305593	620850	3.5	Sequential views – within 5 km (northeastbound)
VP4	A701 layby near Hawkshaw	307102	622245	1.6	Sequential views – within 3 km (northeastbound)
VP5	A701 Tweedsmuir Village Hall	310193	624935	1.7	Sequential views – within 3 km (southwestbound)
VP6	A701 by Stanhope	311829	630296	6.4	Sequential views – first view of Proposed Development travelling south- westwards
VP7	Hopehead, Kingledoors Burn	307794	625754	1.1	View from the west side of the ridge representing local landscape character and walkers
VP8	Tweedsmuir Bridge	309752	624346	1.4	View from Tweedsmuir village just before joining the A701, representing views from properties of Tweedsmuir
VP9	Fruid Dam	308926	620549	3.4	View from the dam, representing views from the minor road and local right of way
VP10	Talla Dam	310736	622899	2.8	View from local place of interest at the dam carpark. Sequential along this minor road
VP11	Talla Linn	314100	620071	7.1	View from the top of the Talla Linn, sequential along this minor road
VP12	Broad Law	314595	623812	6.2	View from popular hill summit
VP13	Hart Fell	311310	613642	10.7	View from popular hill summit
VP14	Chalk Rig Edge	307788	613535	10.3	Elevated view from the Annandale Way
VP15	Trahenna Hill	313597	637401	13.6	View from popular hill within the National Scenic Area (NSA)



Location		Grid reference		Distance from nearest proposed turbine (km)	Reasons for selection and representativeness
VP16	Culter Fell	305297	629067	5.2	View from popular hill summit
VP17	Lowther Hill	289040	610511	22.6	View from popular hill and on the Southern Upland Way – visualisation provided for illustrative purposes only
VP18	Tinto	295340	634364	15.6	View from popular hill summit – visualisation provided for illustrative purposes only
VP19	Byrehope Mount	311130	654683	29.9	View from popular hill summit in the Pentland Hills – visualisation provided for illustrative purposes only
VP20	Pykestone Hill	317289	631268	10.9	View from popular hill at the edge of the NSA

The viewpoints above were selected to represent and assess the visual effects of the Proposed Development that would be seen by various groups of people, in various parts of the landscape. It is not an exhaustive list of locations from which the Proposed Development would be visible but is a representative selection of locations selected through desk study, site work, and consultation with NatureScot and the local authorities across the study area. The viewpoints are all publicly accessible and include locations that are representative, specific, and/or illustrative of views of the Proposed Development. They were selected to represent a range of receptors, viewing directions, distances, and elevations, whilst focussing on sensitive visual receptors with the potential to experience significant effects. Iconic viewpoints identified in Scottish Borders Supplementary Guidance (SBC, 2018) were reviewed and included as appropriate. All viewpoints were selected as being suitable for use to illustrate landscape effects, visual effects, cumulative effects and/or sequential assessments where they are located on or adjacent to routes.

Settlements

The study area is relatively well populated with settled valleys and settlements where valleys join (usually at historical watercourse crossing points). Farms and individual dwellings are more scattered across the agricultural lowlands to the north of the study area; the uplands and moorlands are less settled. The ZTV has been used to identify settlements which would have theoretical views of the Proposed Development within approximately 10 km, beyond which significant visual effects on settlements are unlikely.

- The only settlement within 10 km is Tweedsmuir.
- No settlements between 10-15 km from the Proposed Development would have theoretical visibility.
 These settlements include Broughton, Biggar, Coulter, Symington, Abington, Crawford, or Elvanfoot.
- The largest settlements within the wider study area (over 15 km away) are Moffat, Lanark and Peebles, none of these are within the ZTV.

Routes

The main roads through the study area tend to follow river valleys and cross over passes to other valleys. Out of the hills, minor roads criss-cross the lower landscape between the main roads from a network of routes accessing small settlements, farms and individual properties.

The key road routes within the study area that have potential views of the Proposed Development sufficient to potentially result in significant effects are as follows:

- the A701 along the Tweed Valley, from Moffat to Blyth Bridge;
- the minor road from Tweedsmuir to the Talla Reservoir and over Talla Linn to the Megget Reservoir;
- the minor road from Tweedsmuir to the Fruid Reservoir;

Other routes may also have views of the Proposed Development but are considered to be unlikely to have significant effects, or can be represented by the selection of routes above. Major routes within the study area that have very limited, or no visibility of the Proposed Development include:

- the A74(M)/ M74 corridor from Annandale to the Clyde Valley and Lesmahagow;
- the railway route along the M74 corridor, then along the A73 to Biggar;
- the A702 from the Dalveen Pass, Elvanfoot, Biggar and West Linton;
- the A73 from Abington to Lanark;



- the A72 through Biggar to Peebles;
- the A708 from Moffat to St Mary's Loch and Selkirk;
- the A721 from Lanark to Blyth Bridge;
- the B7016 from Biggar to Broughton; and
- the B712 from Broughton to Peebles.
- Recreational paths cross the study area. The Southern Upland Way, which passes south of Moffat will have only very brief theoretical visibility of the Proposed Development at over 15 km away from Hods Hill, and from Lowther Hill at over 22 km away. From these locations there is no likelihood of significant effects and the route is not considered further. The Annandale Way, which is contained within Annandale except for the northern edge (over Chalk Rig Edge) will also not have significant effects on the overall experience and is not considered further.

Core Paths and Rights of Way (ROW) within 10 km are shown on (Figure 7.7)¹ and set out in Table 2.

Table 2 - Paths within 10km

Path	Approximate Distance at Closest Point	Notes on Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) Coverage
Core Path (crossboundary link) along the Glenwhappen Rig to Coomb Hill ridge, into the Holms Water Valley and up to Chapelgill Hill	1.9 km	Visibility from along the ridge and from Chapelgill Hill, but not from within the Holms Water valley. Considered further below.
Core Path/ROW from Hearthstane to Broad Law	2.7 km	Visibility from much of the route. Considered further below.
Core Path/ROW along the north side of Fruid Reservoir to Ballaman Hill and Spout Craig	3.4 km	Brief visibility near Fruid Dam and over Ballaman Hill. Considered further below.
Core Path/ROW Kingledores to Drumelzier	4.7 km	Visibility from much of the route. Considered further below.
Core Path Stanhope to Lairdside Knowe	6.2 km	No theoretical visibility above Stanhope – not considered further.
Core Path Lamington to Lamington Hill	9.5 km	No theoretical visibility – not considered further.
ROW (crossboundary link) Glenhighton to Cow Castle and Goseland Hill	6.8 km	Very little theoretical visibility – not considered further.
ROW around Quarter and Whitslade	8.7 km	No theoretical visibility – not considered further.
ROW Annandale Way to Earlshaugh	9.0 km	Very little theoretical visibility – not considered further.
ROW Thief's Road, Dollar Law	9.3 km	Visibility from west facing flanks of Dollar Law. Considered further below.
Customary path Glenkerie Wind Farm	2.0 km	Theoretical visibility, but the route runs though Glenkerie Wind Farm. Significant effects considered unlikely – not considered further.
Customary path Patervan to Broad Law	6.5 km	Very little theoretical visibility – not considered further.
Wider network path Cardon Hill to Culter Fell and Gathersnow Hill	2.1 km	Visibility from Kings Bank Head to Moss Law. Considered further below.
Other wider network paths west of Culter Fell and through Clyde Wind Farm	2.9km at Holm Nick	No or very limited theoretical visibility – not considered further.

2.0 Viewpoint Assessment

Viewpoint 1: A701 Source of the Tweed Layby

Grid Reference: NGR 305004 614636

Figure Number: Figure 7.13

Landscape Character Type: LCT95 Southern Uplands – Borders

Landscape Designation: Tweedsmuir Uplands SLA

Direction and distance to nearest turbine: 9.5 km north Number of turbines theoretically visible: 4 hubs, 5 tips

Context: This viewpoint is located at a layby on the A701 close to the source of the River Tweed. The layby has an interpretation panel and stone sculpture. It is the first view of the site from the A701 after passing over the watershed from the Annandale catchment. Viewers are north-bound road users and people who stop at this location.

¹ The Scottish Borders and South Lanarkshire online core paths plans indicate that there are no Core Paths within 5km of the site, but these are shown on more recent datasets.



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Baseline: The viewpoint is in the uppermost part of the valley, just below the rim of hills, such that there are no views out to the south, east or west as visibility is contained by immediate slopes. To the north, the view is longer, down the valley which is U shaped but shallow at this point. A small building is located next to the watercourse just below the layby, and the slopes further down are covered with coniferous forest plantations. Pole mounted power lines run along the western side of the road. Distant moor covered hills are Coomb Hill and Gathersnow Hill, with Broomy Law and Chapelgill Hill beyond, seen over Big Dod and to the left of Peat Hill (east of the Tweed). The turbines of Glenkerie are visible on these distant hills. The Clyde group is not visible. Whitelaw Brae blade tips will be visible over the forested slopes on the eastern side of the valley on completion of construction.

Sensitivity: This viewpoint is within the Special Landscape Area (SLA) and is valued as part of the upland. People at this location are road users, including recreational visitors, some of whom may stop to see the source of the Tweed. Susceptibility is judged to be medium, and the sensitivity at this location is judged to be medium.

Changes: The Proposed Development would be seen as large turbines within the framed view downstream to the north, on one of the ridges seen beyond Big Dod. The proposed turbines would appear more visible than the turbines of Whitelaw Brae, which are largely screened by Big Dod, and closer and larger than those of Glenkerie. Short sections of the access track below the proposed turbines would be visible in plantation clearings. Three of the proposed turbines would be seen almost in full, with another turbine partially hidden by the flanks of Big Dod, and a blade tip over higher slopes of the same hill. With Glenkerie and Whitelaw Brae turbines in the framed view, the nature of the view would not alter, but the Proposed Development would increase the presence of turbines in the view. The magnitude of change to the view from this location is judged to be medium.

Effect: The visual effect is judged to be significant (moderate).

Viewpoint 2: A701 Tweedhopefoot

Grid Reference: NGR 305274 618354

Figure Number: Figure 7.14

Landscape Character Type: LCT95 Southern Uplands – Borders

Landscape Designation: Tweedsmuir Uplands SLA
Direction and distance to nearest turbine: 5.9 km north-north-east

Number of turbines theoretically visible: 0 hubs, 1 tip

Context: This viewpoint is located on the A701 between Tweedhopefoot and Badlieu. It represents the first valley views obtained (when travelling northbound) after having descended into the Tweed Valley north of the Tweed source. Viewers are road users, who may include tourists, but people do not generally stop at this location (there is no layby on this stretch of road).

Baseline: The viewpoint is on a straight section of road in the Upper Tweed Valley, with forest plantations on either side of the road. Trees to the east of the road have recently been replanted and do not obscure the view across to the eastern slopes of the valley which are forested or of open moor. In time, these trees would grow and obscure views east of the road. While the eastern horizon is visible, Whitelaw Brae will be seen as two hubs and several blades, the closest turbine will be 1.6 km away. To the west of the valley, the rising slopes are forested, with the turbines of the Clyde group on the horizon. The closest turbines of Clyde are approximately 1.9 km away. Southwards, up the valley away from the site, the forested slopes lead to forested horizons of rolling hills around Tweedhopefoot.

The view towards the site is downstream, where the valley turns to the north-east and the forested flanks of Glenwhappen Dod and White Knowe Head on the north side of the valley run behind Big Dod (which is on the eastern side of the valley). The horizon is the moor covered form of Gathersnow Hill and Coomb Hill, with Hillshaw Head further left (west). The Clyde group turbines are to the west of the valley, the easternmost on Coomb Dod; Whitelaw Brae is east as set out above; and Glenkerie Wind Farm is not visible from this location.

Sensitivity: This viewpoint is within the SLA and is valued as part of the route through Upper Tweeddale. People at this location are road users, including tourists. Susceptibility is judged to be medium, and the sensitivity at this location is judged to be medium.

Changes: The Proposed Development would be seen as a single blade over the flanks of Big Dod, which forms the eastern side of the valley at this location. The proposed turbine would be noticeable as a moving structure with intermittent visibility as blades come into view. Given the presence of Whitelaw Brae and Clyde group turbines in the view, the blade would be legible as part of a turbine round the corner of the valley – and would become more visible as one travels further north along the road. The proposed turbine would appear smaller and more distant than the turbines of Whitelaw Brae. With Whitelaw Brae and the Clyde group present on the horizon, the nature of the view would not alter as a valley with turbines around it, but the Proposed Development would introduce a single turbine further north-east along the valley that is coming into view at this location. The magnitude of change to the view from this location is judged to be low.



Effect: The visual effect is judged to be not significant (minor).

Viewpoint 3: A701 layby south of Glenbreck

Grid Reference: NGR 305593 620850

Figure Number: Figure 7.15

Landscape Character Type: LCT95 Southern Uplands - Borders

Landscape Designation: Tweedsmuir Uplands SLA

Direction and distance to nearest turbine: 3.5 km north Number of turbines theoretically visible: 7 hubs, 7 tips

Context: This viewpoint is located at a layby on the A701 south of the properties at Glenbreck. It represents some of the fullest views of the Proposed Development seen from within the Tweed Valley and from the A701. Viewers are road users who may include tourists on this route.

Baseline: The viewpoint is on the western side of the valley floor, at a point where views open up to the north-east along the valley. The flanks of the hills on the north side of the valley are therefore visible. The view towards the site is therefore across the valley as it turns north-east, across the narrow valley floor that is of grassland, to moorland slopes to the east, and forested slopes to the west. At the end of the valley the bulk of Trahenna Hill forms the horizon. Southwards, the view is up the shallow U-shaped valley with forest blocks and plantations on the valley sides. The A701 runs along the valley, and the houses of Glenbreck are visible. Forest plantations have been partially cut and replanted, and coups have different ages. Pole mounted power lines run along the eastern side of the road and across the lower slopes of Big Dod to the east. No other wind farms are visible from this location.

Sensitivity: This viewpoint is within the SLA and is valued as part of the route through Upper Tweeddale. People at this location are road users, including tourists. Susceptibility is judged to be medium, and the sensitivity at this location is judged to be medium.

Changes: The Proposed Development would be seen over the plantations to the north-east, behind the houses of Glenbreck. With felling of the plantations beyond Glenbreck, the lower parts of the proposed turbines would be more visible, but it is unlikely that much of the ground-level infrastructure would be visible. The proposed turbines would appear large at this distance but would be set beyond forest plantations, and off to the north of the valley as it turns. The proposed turbines would form a relatively regular array, although turbines would overlap to the right of the group. The Proposed Development would introduce turbines to the view from this section of the A701, although existing wind farms are visible from the route. The magnitude of change to the view from this location is judged to be high.

Effect: The visual effect is judged to be significant (major).

Viewpoint 4: A701 layby near Hawkshaw

Grid Reference: NGR 307102 622245

Figure Number: Figure 7.16

Landscape Character Type: LCT95 Southern Uplands – Borders

Landscape Designation: Tweedsmuir Uplands SLA

Direction and distance to nearest turbine: 1.6 km north Number of turbines theoretically visible: 7 hubs, 7 tips

Context: This viewpoint is located at a layby on the A701 east of Hawkshaw. It represents the closer views of the Proposed Development seen when passing the site on the A701 within the Tweed Valley. Viewers are road users who may include tourists on this route, similar views would be possible from Hawkshaw.

Baseline: The viewpoint is on the north-western side of the valley floor, at a layby with long views up and down the valley. The southern side of the valley is of open moorland hills divided by tributary valleys. Forest plantations are seen both upstream and downstream. The northern side of the valley is forested, the layby is in a small quarry below the forest edge. The slopes above the layby are not visible, but oblique views to more distant treetops are seen further along to the north, beyond the nearest trees. The valley floor is of rough grassland with fluvial terraces and a few scattered shrubs. Hawkshaw is visible as a white property set to the south of a clump of trees, a little way from the A701. Distant hills to the northeast include Broad Law and Birkside Law (with an abrupt forest edge). Turbines of the Clyde group are visible to the south-west, up the valley and ahead for south-bound road users, the closest are approximately 3.5 km away from this location. Whitelaw Brae will have three turbine blades visible up the Fingland Burn Valley south of the viewpoint, approximately 1.6 km away.

Sensitivity: This viewpoint is within the SLA and is valued as part of the route through Upper Tweeddale. People at this location are road users, including tourists. Susceptibility is judged to be medium, and the sensitivity at this location is judged to be medium.



Changes: The Proposed Development would be seen over the plantations above the road to the north, behind the immediate forest edge. With felling of the closest plantations, more of the proposed turbines would be visible over the form of Weird Law (compare the wireline (Figure 7.16d) with the photomontage (Figure 7.16e)). Without the forest, two of the proposed turbines would be seen to almost full height, and others would be screened more by Weird Law; with the current foreground trees, visibility would be limited to three turbines and two additional blades seen over nearby trees. The proposed turbines would appear large at this distance and would be on higher ground than the viewpoint. They would be set on the slopes above but away from the road. The substation, BESS, and compound would be visible set back from the A701 on lower slopes, but access tracks are not likely to be visible from this location. The Proposed Development would introduce turbines to the northbound view from this section of the A701, although existing and under construction wind farms (Clyde group and Whitelaw Brae) will have been passed on the A701 when travelling in a north-bound direction prior to reaching this location. The magnitude of change to the view, given the proximity to the site, is judged to be high.

Effect: The visual effect is judged to be significant (major).

Viewpoint 5: A701 Tweedsmuir Village Hall

Grid Reference: NGR 310193 624935

Figure Number: Figure 7.17

Landscape Character Type: LCT113 Upland Valley with Pastoral Floor

Landscape Designation: Tweedsmuir Uplands SLA

Direction and distance to nearest turbine: 1.7 km west Number of turbines theoretically visible: 6 hubs, 7 tips

Context: This viewpoint is located at Tweedsmuir Village Hall car park just off the A701, north of Tweedsmuir. It represents the closer views of the Proposed Development seen when passing the site on the A701 within the Tweed Valley. Viewers are hall users who are local people and visitors and road users on the A701 travelling south-bound. Similar views would be possible from nearby properties.

Baseline: The viewpoint is at the village hall, a simple hall building set in an open car park. Walls along the A701 and recently installed perimeter fencing provide no screening. The hall is set to the south-east of the road, on the valley floor further out than the A701 which hugs the foot of the slope. Being set slightly away from the break of slope means that there are views up the slopes to the north-west slightly more than views from the A701. Views up the slopes include moorland higher up, but rough pasture fields opposite the hall. A clump of trees marks the site of a fort, separate from the woodland edge further west. There are deciduous trees along the woodland edge, along the Bield Burn valley, but there are mixed woodlands around Oliver House and coniferous plantations beyond. Properties are visible along the A701, and Tweedsmuir Church can be seen amongst trees on the valley floor. The southern side of the valley is of forested hills separated by tributary valleys. Turbines of the Clyde group are visible to the south-west but are largely screened by trees from this location. Whitelaw Brae turbines will be present on the horizon beyond Whiteside Hill, visible beyond trees around Tweedsmuir Church. Glenkerie Wind Farm is not visible.

Sensitivity: This viewpoint is within the SLA and is valued as part of the route through Upper Tweeddale, and as a place where people gather. People at the hall are local people and visitors, road users including tourists passing on the A701 will pass to the north-west of the hall. Susceptibility is judged to be high, and the sensitivity at this location is judged to be high.

Changes: The Proposed Development would be seen over the woodlands above the road to the west, behind the deciduous and mixed woodland of Oliver House. Given that these trees are mixed woodland around a property, they are unlikely to be felled, such that screening of the lower parts of the proposed turbines means that only two hubs and two more blade tips would be visible. The proposed turbines would appear large at this distance, they would be on higher ground than the hall and the road and would be moving structures. They would be set on the slopes above but away from the road. The proposed turbines would not be a new feature to the view, but would be the closest to the viewpoint. It is noted that viewers on the A701 passing the hall will have less visibility of theProposed Development due to proximity to the valley slope and intervening trees. The magnitude of change to the view from the hall car park, given the proximity to the site, is judged to be high.

Effect: The visual effect is judged to be significant (major).

Viewpoint 6: A701 by Stanhope

Grid Reference: NGR 311829 630296

Figure Number: Figure 7.18

Landscape Character Type: LCT113 Upland Valley with Pastoral Floor



Landscape Designation: Tweedsmuir Uplands SLA

Direction and distance to nearest turbine: 6.4 km south-west Number of turbines theoretically visible: 4 hubs, 5 tips

Context: This viewpoint is located at a slight rise in the A701 as it passes around the foot of Worm Hill, south of the turn-off to Stanhope. It represents the first views of the Proposed Development seen when travelling southbound on the A701 within the Tweed Valley. Viewers are road users who may include tourists on this route. The Proposed Development will not be visible from Stanhope.

Baseline: The viewpoint is on the north-western side of the valley, on the slopes above the valley floor, with open views up the valley. From further north, the flanks of Worm Hill screen views down the valley. The valley is U-shaped with a flat valley floor with improved pasture and coniferous shelterbelts. The slopes above are open moorland. Coniferous plantations are seen on some of the slopes and the hills on either side are separated by tributary valleys. The view towards the site is upstream to Nether Oliver Dod, which divides the Tweed Valley to the east from the Kingledoors Burn Valley to the west. Glenmuck Height and White Knowe Head are seen to the right of the conical form of Nether Oliver Dod. Two turbine blades of Glenkerie are visible from the viewpoint and for a short section further south along the A701 (for a stretch of approximately 1.5 km). The Glenkerie blades are seen above the rugged slopes of Logan Knowes and are approximately 2.9 km away from the viewpoint. The Clyde group and Whitelaw Brae are not visible from this location but come into view further south along the road.

Sensitivity: This viewpoint is within the SLA and is valued as part of the route through Upper Tweeddale. It is not within the NSA but it is close to the boundary which runs north of Worm Hill. People at this location are road users, including tourists. Susceptibility is judged to be medium, and the sensitivity at this location is judged to be high.

Changes: The Proposed Development would be seen on the horizon to the south-west, behind Nether Oliver Dod and on Glenmuck Height. Three proposed turbines would be seen at almost full height, one further turbine would have its hub low on the horizon, and one further turbine would be seen as a blade only. The proposed turbines would be further away and clearly separate from Glenkerie Wind Farm, but they would occupy a prominent position in the view, appearing framed at the head of the Kingledoors Burn Valley seen from this location. The proposed turbines would appear large at this distance but would be set back behind the horizon. The Proposed Development would introduce turbines to the view ahead from this section of the A701 (southbound), although existing blade tips are visible obliquely to the west. The magnitude of change to the view, given the proximity to the site, is judged to be high.

Effect: The visual effect is judged to be significant (major).

Viewpoint 7: Hopehead, Kingledoors Burn

Grid Reference: NGR 307794 625754

Figure Number: Figure 7.19

Landscape Character Type: LCT95 Southern Uplands – Borders

Landscape Designation: Tweedsmuir Uplands SLA

Direction and distance to nearest turbine: 1.4 km west Number of turbines theoretically visible: 7 hubs, 7 tips

Context: This viewpoint is located in the Kingledoors Burn Valley, upstream of Kingledores², on the track close to Hopehead. It represents the closer views of the Proposed Development seen from the valley immediately north of the ridge that hosts the site. Viewers are few but include occasional walkers. Similar views are visible from the access track to Glenkerie Wind Farm.

Baseline: The viewpoint is on the valley floor within this narrow U-shaped valley that forms a tributary to the Tweed. The watercourse meanders along the valley floor, and a track runs along its north-west side. The flanks of the valley are moor covered, although forest trees are just visible on the skyline of White Knowe Head. Glenkerie turbines are visible to the north, on the high slopes of the valley, and people in the valley will pass Glenkerie closer to Kingledores. Views from this location are contained within the valley, although longer views downstream extend to Logan Head on the east side of the Tweed Valley. Clyde group and Whitelaw Brae are not visible.

Sensitivity: This viewpoint is within the SLA and is valued as part of it. People at this location are few but include occasional walkers. Susceptibility is judged to be low, and the sensitivity at this location is judged to be medium.

² The house and farm names are spelt differently from the watercourse name on OS maps.



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Changes: The Proposed Development would be seen on the skyline above the valley to the south, with turbine bases behind the hill horizon. The proposed turbines would be large and on higher ground than the valley. At this point in the valley, they would be more visible than Glenkerie turbines. The Proposed Development would introduce turbines on the opposite side of the valley to Glenkerie Wind Farm. The magnitude of change to the view, given the proximity to the site and elevation of the turbines, is judged to be high.

Effect: The visual effect is judged to be significant (major).

Viewpoint 8: Tweedsmuir Bridge

Grid Reference: NGR 309752 624346

Figure Number: Figure 7.20

Landscape Character Type: LCT113 Upland Valley with Pastoral Floor

Landscape Designation: Tweedsmuir Uplands SLA

Direction and distance to nearest turbine: 1.4 km west Number of turbines theoretically visible: 7 hubs, 7 tips

Context: This viewpoint is located on the bridge over the River Tweed at Tweedsmuir, approximately 200 m from the A701. It represents the views of the Proposed Development seen from Tweedsmuir Bridge and from the minor road and some of the more open views from properties within the settlement (where local screening allows). Viewers are road users crossing the bridge (including local people and tourists) and similar views are possible from nearby properties.

Baseline: The viewpoint is the bridge which has brief open views south-west upstream, and north-east downstream. Vegetation around the properties of Tweedsmuir screens views east, with riparian woodland along the river. The road crosses the valley towards the A701 with woodland associated with properties around the junction. The view north-east is downstream along sloping fields towards Tweedsmuir Village Hall. Glenkerie Wind Farm is not visible and the horizon is made up of the forested ridge of Polmood Hill. South-westwards is upstream, along the flat valley floor with mixed woodland around Menzion and forested hill slopes to the west. Clyde group turbines form an array on the horizon, and Whitelaw Brae turbines are just visible beyond local woodland. The view towards the site is oblique across the valley, with fields leading up to deciduous woodland that gives way to coniferous plantation on the hill slopes that form the horizon.

Sensitivity: This viewpoint is within the SLA and is valued as part of the route through Upper Tweeddale and as the approach to Tweedsmuir off the A701. People at this location are road users including local people and tourists, and similar views may be seen from some properties of Tweedsmuir. Susceptibility is judged to be high, and the sensitivity at this location is judged to be high.

Changes: The Proposed Development would be seen over the woodlands above the road to the west, behind the deciduous and mixed woodland edge, and oblique to the valley. Felling the coniferous plantations on the slopes would reveal lower parts of the proposed turbines and some sections of access track; with forest present, ground level elements would be screened from view. The proposed turbines would be large at this distance, they would be on higher ground than the valley and would be moving structures. They would be set on the slopes above but away from the valley and would be tall when seen from the valley floor. The Proposed Development would introduce turbines considerably closer to the viewer than those of Whitelaw Brae and Clyde group, set behind the valley on the opposite side. The magnitude of change to the view, given the proximity to the site and elevation of the turbines, is judged to be high.

Effect: The visual effect is judged to be significant (major).

Viewpoint 9: Fruid Dam

Grid Reference: NGR 308926 620549

Figure Number: Figure 7.21

Landscape Character Type: LCT95 Southern Uplands – Borders

Landscape Designation: Tweedsmuir Uplands LLA

Direction and distance to nearest turbine: 3.4 km north Number of turbines theoretically visible: 6 hubs, 7 tips

Context: This viewpoint is located at the Fruid Reservoir Dam at a hardstanding area that can be used for parking or turning, at the end of the public road. The dam is accessed via a single track road from Tweedsmuir. It represents views from the dam. The Proposed Development would not be visible from the right of way along the north shore of the reservoir. Viewers are people who drive to this location to look at the dam, or to make use of paths and workers visiting the reservoir.



Baseline: The dam forms a grassy bank below a 20th century control building, and the reservoir is seen stretching away to the south between moor covered hills. Downstream from the dam, the valley is U shaped and relatively shallow, with moorland hills on the west side, and forest on the eastern slopes. At the head of the valley are forested ridges and distant high moor covered hills. Whitelaw Brae, once constructed, will be seen over the hills on the western side of the reservoir, the closest turbines being approximately 1.5 km away. The turbines of Glenkerie are visible at the end of the valley, to the right (north) of the frame. No Clyde group turbines are visible. There is only a glimpse into the Tweed Valley, limited by topography and forest trees.

Sensitivity: This viewpoint is within the SLA and is valued for the dam and scenic qualities around the reservoir. People at this location are relatively few but are likely to be recreational visitors who stop to see the dam and may walk the right of way. Most viewers are likely to be workers visiting the dam. Susceptibility is judged to be medium, and the sensitivity at this location is judged to be medium.

Changes: The Proposed Development would be seen as large turbines within the framed view downstream, on the forested ridge on the other side of the Tweed Valley The Proposed Development would not be the most prominent development in the view, given the proximity of Whitelaw Brae. The proposed turbines would appear closer and larger than those of Glenkerie Wind Farm. Some sections of access track below the proposed turbines would be visible in plantation clearings. The proposed turbines and blades would be in the framed views down the valley. The scale of change to the view from the dam is judged to be high, due to the proximity and position of turbines in the view. The magnitude of change to the view from this location is judged to be medium.

Effect: The visual effect is judged to be significant (moderate).

Viewpoint 10: Talla Dam

Grid Reference: NGR 310736 622899

Figure Number: Figure 7.22

Landscape Character Type: LCT95 Southern Uplands – Borders

Landscape Designation: Tweedsmuir Uplands SLA

Direction and distance to nearest turbine: 2.8 km north-west Number of turbines theoretically visible: 2 hubs, 4 tips

Context: This viewpoint is on a minor single track road (Talla Road) that runs from the Megget Water Valley to the Talla Water Valley, and along the Talla Reservoir toward Tweedsmuir. The viewpoint is on the Talla Reservoir Dam, at a small area where it is possible to park. It represents views from along the reservoir, including from the top of the dam. Viewers are road users who may include visitors stopping at this location to look at the dam, the intake tower and the view. Similar views are possible from along the reservoir and from the property Victoria Lodge adjacent to the dam.

Baseline: At this point, the road along the reservoir turns to descend down the steep dam slope before going into forest below the dam. The Talla Reservoir is a linear reservoir that takes up much of the Talla Valley. The dam is a large engineering structure built at the end of the 19th century. From the top of the dam, the main view is along the reservoir, but the view below the dam is down a narrow valley with forest plantations on either side and towards forested slopes at the end. The Tweed Valley is not visible as crossing the end of the Talla Valley, the hills beyond are relatively indistinguishable as further forested slopes. Glenkerie turbines are theoretically visible but are screened beyond the forested horizon. No other existing wind farms are visible.

Sensitivity: This viewpoint is within the SLA and is valued for the dam and its architecture. People at this location are road users including visitors who stop to see the dam, and recreational users on the route. The view along the forested valley below the dam is not the main part of the experience of this location, such that the susceptibility to development in that direction is judged to be lower than up the reservoir. The sensitivity at this location is judged to be medium.

Changes: The Proposed Development would be seen as one turbine and two additional blades (partially overlapping) on the forested horizon off to the left (west) of the view looking down beyond the dam. The ground level structures and other proposed turbines would be hidden behind the ridge north of Quarter Hill, and by forest plantations on the horizon. It is noted that the forest plantations show crop rotation, and when taller trees on the horizon are felled there would be less screening of the proposed turbines (unless/until smaller trees in front have grown). The most visible proposed turbine (turbine 6) would appear large on the horizon.

The proposed turbine and blades would be seen in oblique views down the valley and would have been seen from further east by west-bound road users, and from further west by people coming from Tweedsmuir. The scale of change to the view from the dam is judged to be high, due to the proximity and apparent size of the proposed turbine over the forested horizon. The magnitude of change to the view from this location is judged to be medium.



Effect: The visual effect is judged to be significant (moderate).

Viewpoint 11: Talla Linn

Grid Reference: NGR 314100 620071

Figure Number: Figure 7.23

Landscape Character Type: LCT95 Southern Uplands – Borders

Landscape Designation: Tweedsmuir Uplands SLA

Direction and distance to nearest turbine: 7.1 km north-west Number of turbines theoretically visible: 6 hubs, 6 tips

Context: This is a single track road that runs over the pass between the Megget Water Valley and the Talla Water Valley. The viewpoint is at a passing place at the top of the Talla Linn, the steep upper section of the valley. It is the first view down the Talla Valley once over the pass travelling westwards, seen by road users who include local people and visitors. This viewpoint is specific to the framed views from the Talla Linn descent. It is noted that there is a gateway approximately 120m above/east of the viewpoint, but otherwise no places to stop on this section (albeit that there are passing places).

Baseline: At this point the road is starting to descend down the steep back wall of the U shaped glacially formed valley that forms a tributary to the Tweed Valley. The Talla Water forms a small watercourse tumbling down steep rocks and falls, before it reaches the flat floor of the valley where it runs into the Talla Reservoir. From the top of the Linn, the view down the valley is strongly framed by the valley sides, leading the eye to focus on the reservoir and towards the distant land at the end. Views are contained in other directions by the immediate slopes around the road. Two turbines of the Clyde Group (Clyde Extension) are visible at the end of the valley, with additional turbine blades only just visible. The ridge of the site lies below the horizon at the end of the valley, with forest plantations and open moor.

Sensitivity: This viewpoint is within the SLA and is valued for its scenic qualities with the framed view along the valley. People at this location are road users including visitors and recreational users on the steep route that affords framed views along the valley. Susceptibility is judged to be high. The sensitivity at this location is judged to be high. This location is not a place to stop, and this is therefore a transient experience of the descent along this narrow and winding road.

Changes: The Proposed Development would be seen as six turbines on the distant land at the end of the valley, on an intermediate ridge, and partially against the sky. The proposed turbines would appear closer and larger than the turbines of the Clyde group and would be on lower ground. Two of the proposed turbines would be seen as overlapping from this location.

Sections of access track may be visible from this elevated location, where forest allows.

The proposed turbines would be elements in a prominent location within the view from this location, at the end of the framed valley. Although they would not be new features in the view, they would be larger in the view than those of the Clyde group. The scale of change to the view is judged to be high, as although there are existing turbines in the frame, the proposed turbines would be more prominent. The magnitude of change to the view from this location is judged to be high.

Effect: The visual effect is judged to be significant (major).

Viewpoint 12: Broad Law

Grid Reference: NGR 314595 623812

Figure Number: Figure 7.24

Landscape Character Type: LCT95 Southern Uplands – Borders

Landscape Designation: Tweedsmuir Uplands SLA

Direction and distance to nearest turbine: 6.2 km west Number of turbines theoretically visible: 7 hubs, 7 tips

Context: The viewpoint is at the summit of Broad Law (840 m AOD), at the trig point to the south of the radio beacon station. Broad Law is one of the higher tops in the study area, and as such has panoramic views across much of the surrounding landscape. Viewers are mainly walkers and similar views are seen from hills, ridges and tops of the surrounding area. This viewpoint is therefore representative of views from high ground to the east of the site.



Baseline: Broad Law has a rounded summit, such that the view from this viewpoint is one of foreground summit slopes giving way to distant hills, without views of the slopes and valleys below Broad Law. The view towards the site therefore has no middle ground, and distances may be difficult to judge for some viewers. The 360° panorama extends across the Southern Upland range in all directions, as well as northwards to lowlands south of the Pentland Hills. The view to the west, towards the site, is across the summit plateau, to distant hill ridges. The Tweed Valley is glimpsed between the intervening hills. The ridges have turbines on them – Glenkerie turbines are seen in front of Culter Fell, Clyde group turbines are more distant to the south-west. Whitelaw Brae will be located south of the viewpoint on the middle distant hills south of the Tweed Valley. The ridge of the site has patchy forest plantations, with different aged blocks and open rides between.

Sensitivity: This viewpoint is within the SLA and is also valued as a hill summit within it. People at this location are walkers and the susceptibility is high. The sensitivity at this location is judged to be high.

Changes: The Proposed Development would be seen as seven turbines on a ridge of land to the west, to the south and closer than Glenkerie or Whitelaw Brae, and in front of the Clyde group. The proposed turbines would form a relatively regular layout seen from this elevated vantage point. The access tracks would be seen through the forest plantations, further fragmenting the tree cover, but not altering the character of the forested ridge. The substation and other ground level elements would be visible, set within the woodland on the slopes below the turbines. The proposed turbines would be located on a ridge that is closer than that which has the Glenkerie turbines, and within forest plantations.

The proposed turbines would be small elements in the panorama as a whole seen from this location, which includes existing wind farms such that they would not be new features in the view. Although the proposed turbines would be the closest in the view, and would appear larger than other wind farms, with wind farms as existing elements in the view the scale of change to the panorama as a whole is judged to be low. The magnitude of change to the view from this location is judged to be low.

Effect: The visual effect is judged to be not significant (minor).

Viewpoint 13: Hart Fell

Grid Reference: NGR 311310 613642

Figure Number: Figure 7.25

Landscape Character Type: LCT95/LCT177 Southern Uplands – Borders/D&G

Landscape Designation: Tweedsmuir Uplands / Moffat Hills SLA

(Hart Fell Wild Land Area)

Direction and distance to nearest turbine: 10.7 km north Number of turbines theoretically visible: 7 hubs, 7 tips

Context: Hart Fell is a Corbett³ which lies to the east of Annandale. The viewpoint is at the summit trig point at 808 m AOD. Hart Fell is one of the highest tops in the study area, and as such has panoramic views across much of the surrounding landscape. Viewers are mainly walkers and similar views are seen from hills, ridges and tops of the surrounding area. This viewpoint is therefore representative of views from high ground to the south of the site.

Baseline: Hart Fell has a rounded summit such that the view from this viewpoint is one of foreground summit slopes giving way to distant hills, without views of the slopes and valleys of the middle distance. The view towards the site therefore has no middle ground, and no clear sense of distance. The 360° panorama extends across the Southern Upland range in all directions. The view to the north, towards the site, is out across the plateau, with successive hill ridges beyond. The valleys of the Fruid, Talla and Tweed are not visible. The ridges have turbines on them – both the Clyde group and Glenkerie Wind Farms are present in the relative middle distance. Whitelaw Brae will be closer than the Clyde group, at approximately 5.7 km away. The highest point in the view is Tinto Hill, although the steep eastern face of Culter Fell emphasises its pointed summit. The ridge of the site lies between Glenkerie and the Clyde group, with forest plantations on the southern slopes.

Sensitivity: This viewpoint is within the SLA and is also valued for the wild land qualities of the surroundings. People at this location are likely to be walkers and recreational users on the Common as well as road users, so the susceptibility is high. The sensitivity at this location is judged to be high.

Changes: The Proposed Development would be seen as seven turbines on distant land to the north, further away than Whitelaw Brae and between Glenkerie and the Clyde group. The proposed turbines would form a regular array. They would be located in front of Culter Fell, on lower ground and the proposed turbines would not break the skyline. They would appear to be larger and closer than those of Glenkerie and the Clyde group. No ground level infrastructure would be visible from this distance.

³ Corbetts are Scottish Mountains between 2,500–3,000 feet (762 –914 m) AOD.



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The proposed turbines would be small elements in the panorama seen from this location, which includes existing wind farms such that they would not be new features in the view. Although the proposed turbines would be the largest, but not the closest in the view, the scale of change is judged to be low. The magnitude of change to the view from this location is judged to be low.

Effect: The visual effect is judged to be not significant (minor).

Viewpoint 14: Chalk Rig Edge

Grid Reference: NGR 307788 613535

Figure Number: Figure 7.26

Landscape Character Type: LCT95/LCT177 Southern Uplands - Borders/D&G

Landscape Designation: Tweedsmuir Uplands / Moffat Hills SLA

(Hart Fell Wild Land Area)

Direction and distance to nearest turbine: 10.3 km north Number of turbines theoretically visible: 4 hubs, 6 tips

Context: Chalk Rig Edge (500 m AOD) forms part of the ring of hills around the Devil's Beef Tub, at the head of the Annandale catchment. The hill is traversed by a path that forms part of the Annandale Way. Viewers are walkers on the Annandale Way and similar views are seen from hills, ridges and tops of the surrounding area.

Baseline: Chalk Rig edge has views down into Annandale to the south, as well as northwards over hills that surround Upper Tweeddale. This hill forms part of the watershed between these catchments. The view towards the site is over rolling moorland hills with large areas of coniferous forest. The Tweed Valley is not visible, but views south extend down into Annandale. From this location, there are turbines of the Clyde Group from the north-north-west round to the south-west. Whitelaw Brae, once constructed, will be seen as turbine hubs and blades low on intermediate horizons either side of Craigsmaid Hill to the north, at approximately 5.7 km away. Glenkerie is visible in the distance to the north, beyond Whitelaw Brae.

Sensitivity: This viewpoint is within the SLA and is also valued for the wild land qualities of the surroundings, particularly to the east (WLA 2 Talla-Hart Fell lies to the east of the viewpoint). People at this location are walkers and recreational users on the Annandale Way, which is a long distance route, such that susceptibility is high. The sensitivity at this location is judged to be high.

Changes: The Proposed Development would be seen as four turbines and two additional blades, low on the horizon beyond the ridge of Criagmaid Hill. With a forest plantation on Criagsmaid Hill, two of the hubs will be screened from view. The proposed turbines will be amongst Whitelaw Brae turbines and in front of Glenkerie. The proposed turbines would appear indistinguishable from the turbines of Whitelaw Brae. No ground level infrastructure would be visible from this location.

The proposed turbines would be small elements in a part of the panorama seen from this location that includes existing (and under construction) wind farms. The scale of change is judged to be low. The magnitude of change to the view from this location is judged to be low.

Effect: The visual effect is judged to be not significant (negligible).

Viewpoint 15: Trahenna Hill

Grid Reference: NGR 313597 637401

Figure Number: Figure 7.27

Landscape Character Type: LCT92 Plateau Outliers
Landscape Designation: Upper Tweeddale NSA
Direction and distance to nearest turbine: 13.5 km south-south-west

Number of turbines theoretically visible: 7 hubs, 7 tips

Context: The viewpoint is at the summit of Trahenna Hill (549 m AOD). Trahenna Hill is the southernmost hill of the upland area between the Tweed Valley, the Broughton Burn and the Tarth Burn valleys, to the south-east of Broughton Heights. Trahenna Hill has views along the Tweed Valley to the south and east and panoramic views of the Southern Uplands. Viewers are walkers and similar views are seen from hills, ridges and tops of Broughton Heights. This viewpoint is representative of views from high ground to the north of the site, within the NSA.



Baseline: The view from this viewpoint is one of the foreground plateau giving way to views down into the valleys below with undulating glacially formed ridges, and distant smooth hills. There are also views out to the lowlands to the west and north. The view towards the site therefore is along the ridge between Tweeddale and the Holms Water Valley, with Culter Fell at its head. The upper Tweed Valley is visible as a flat floored valley meandering between hills to the south of the viewpoint. The ridge leading to the site includes the successive tops of Wrae Hill, Worm Hill and Middle Head, beyond which the turbines of Glenkerie are visible. Beyond those, the ridge is not clearly visible but leads towards Gathersnow Hill. Clyde group turbines are seen either side of that hill, in the distance. Whitelaw Brae will be located to the south (left) of the overlapping Glenkerie and Clyde group, appearing a similar distance away. Distant wind farms of Andershaw and Middle Muir are visible south of Tinto to the west.

Sensitivity: This viewpoint is within the NSA and is valued as a hill summit within it. People at this location are walkers and the susceptibility is high. The sensitivity at this location is judged to be high.

Changes: The Proposed Development would be seen as seven turbines on a ridge to the west of the Tweed Valley, between Glenkerie and Whitelaw Brae, and with Clyde group turbines beyond. The proposed turbines would appear larger than existing turbines, although they are more distant than Glenkerie, the proposed turbines would be higher on the ridge and more visible from this location. They would form a relatively regular layout seen from this direction, but no ground level elements would be visible.

The proposed turbines would be distant elements in the panorama as a whole, in a part of the view that includes existing wind farms. Although the proposed turbines would appear larger and closer than existing turbines, they would not be new features in the view. The presence of turbines in the view south-south-west from the viewpoint would be increased by the Proposed Development located between Glenkerie and Whitelaw Brae and would appear to bring turbines closer to the viewpoint albeit still beyond hills in the middle distance. Overall, the scale of change to the experience of the panorama is judged to be low. The magnitude of change to the view from this location is judged to be low.

Effect: Although the sensitivity of this viewpoint within the NSA is judged to be high, the visual effect is judged to be not significant **(minor)**.

Viewpoint 16: Culter Fell

Grid Reference: NGR 305297 629067

Figure Number: Figure 7.28

Landscape Character Type: LCT95/LCT217 Southern Uplands – Borders/G&CV

Landscape Designation: Tweedsmuir Uplands/Upper Clyde Valley and Tinto

SLAs

Direction and distance to nearest turbine: 5.2 km south-east Number of turbines theoretically visible: 4 hubs, 7 tips

Context: The viewpoint is at the summit of Culter Fell (748 m AOD), at the trig point. Culter Fell is the highest hill in the northern fringe of the Southern Uplands north of Tweeddale, and forms part of the boundary between The Scottish Borders and South Lanarkshire. Viewers are walkers and similar views are seen from other nearby hills, ridges and tops, albeit from lower elevations. This viewpoint is representative of views from high ground to the north-west of the site.

Baseline: The rounded summit of Culter Fell hides views into the valleys below, and views from the summit plateau are to more distant hills and ridges of the Southern uplands, as well as north-eastwards to lowlands to the north. The view towards the site is of interlocking ridges, with Gathersnow Hill to the south, and Coomb Hill leading to Glenlood Hill, beyond which the Glenkerie turbines are visible. Whitelaw Brae will be visible as three turbines on lower land beyond Gathersnow Hill. Clyde group turbines are to the south-west, seen around and beyond Camps Reservoir (Coulter Reservoir is not visible from the summit plateau). In the wider panorama, Andershaw and Middlemuir Wind Farms are visible to the south (left) of Tinto, and the Hagshaw Hill group is visible further away.

Sensitivity: This viewpoint is on the boundary between two SLAs (on the local authority boundary) and is valued as the highest hill in this area. People at this location are walkers and the susceptibility is judged to be high. The sensitivity at this location is judged to be high.

Changes: The Proposed Development would be seen as seven turbines, four with hubs visible, the others with just blades, over the ridge of Coomb Hill. The proposed turbines would be separated from Glenkerie by a gap but would appear to be of similar spacing. The proposed turbines would appear to be of a similar distance from the viewpoint compared with the turbines of Glenkerie, as the site is hidden from view and with the proposed turbines mostly hidden, there is little indication of distance. The Proposed Development will be notably closer to the viewpoint than Whitelaw Brae



The proposed turbines would be seen as additional turbine blades in this panorama which includes existing wind farms. They would not be new features in the view but would be located between Glenkerie and the Clyde Group. To some viewers it may appear that there is a line of wind farms forming across the hills to the south of the viewpoint, although there will remain clear separation between the schemes. Although the proposed turbines would be relatively hidden in this view, the scale of change to the panorama and the impression of the pattern of development extending along the ridges is judged to be medium. The magnitude of change to the view from this location is judged to be medium.

Effect: The visual effect is judged to be significant (moderate).

Viewpoint 17: Lowther Hill

Grid Reference: NGR 289040 610511

Figure Number: Figure 7.29

Landscape Character Type: LCT217 Southern Uplands – G & CV Landscape Designation: Leadhills and Lowther Hills SLA

Direction and distance to nearest turbine: 22.5 km north-east Number of turbines theoretically visible: 6 hubs, 7 tips

The Proposed Development would be seen as seven turbines on distant land to the north-east, beyond the array of Clyde group turbines. Given the distance to the site, and the intervening wind farm cluster, there is judged to be no likelihood of significant effects. As such the viewpoint is not considered in further detail. The viewpoint is included for information only.

Viewpoint 18: Tinto

Grid Reference: NGR 295340 634364

Figure Number: Figure 7.30

Landscape Character Type: LCT218 Rounded Landmark Hills Landscape Designation: Upper Clyde Valley and Tinto SLA

Direction and distance to nearest turbine: 15.6 km north-east Number of turbines theoretically visible: 0 hubs, 2 tips

Given the limited visibility of the Proposed Development, the distance to the site and the presence of Clyde group turbines across the view at similar distance, there is judged to be no likelihood of significant effects. As such the viewpoint is not considered in further detail and is retained for information only.

Viewpoint 19: Byrehope Mount

Grid Reference: NGR 311130 654683

Figure Number: Figure 7.31

Landscape Character Type: LCT90 Dissected Plateau Moorland

Landscape Designation: Pentland Hills SLA
Direction and distance to nearest turbine: 29.9 km north-east
Number of turbines theoretically visible: 5 hubs, 7 tips

Given the distance to the site, there is judged to be no likelihood of significant effects. As such the visualisation is provided for information only and the viewpoint is not considered in further detail.

Viewpoint 20: Pykestone Hill

Grid Reference: NGR 317289 631268

Figure Number: Figure 7.32

Landscape Character Type: LCT95 Southern Uplands – Borders

Landscape Designation: Upper Tweeddale NSA
Direction and distance to nearest turbine: 10.9 km south-west
Number of turbines theoretically visible: 7 hubs, 7 tips

Context: The viewpoint is at the summit of Pykestone Hill (737m AOD), at the trig point. Pykestone Hill forms part of the southern boundary of the Upper Tweeddale NSA which lies to the north and the Tweedsmuir Uplands SLA which lies to the south. Viewers are walkers and similar views are seen from other nearby hills, ridges and tops. This viewpoint is therefore representative of views from high ground to the north-east of the site.



Baseline: Pykestone Hill, like other hills of the Southern Uplands, has a rounded summit and the view of foreground summit plateau gives way to distant hills without visibility into valleys below. The 360° panorama extends across the Southern Upland hilltops in all directions, as well as north-eastwards to lowlands north of Tinto. The view towards the site includes the top of Taberon Law-Craig Head ridge, with Drumelzier Law in front of Culter Fell. Glenkerie turbines are visible on a lower ridge to the left of Culter Fell and the distant Clyde group turbines are further to the south-west beyond Gathersnow Hill. Whitelaw Brae will be located further south on the middle distant hills south of the Tweed Valley.

Sensitivity: This viewpoint is on the boundary of the NSA and the SLA and is valued as a hill summit with walking routes up to it. People at this location are walkers and the susceptibility is judged to be high. The sensitivity at this location is judged to be high.

Changes: The Proposed Development would be seen as seven turbines on lower land in front of the Clyde group. The proposed turbines would be seen to be closer and larger than those of the Clyde group and would also appear to be larger than the turbines of Whitelaw Brae and Glenkerie, although at similar distances away. The Proposed Development would form a small group of turbines, although with overlapping of turbines to the right of the group. Ground level elements are unlikely to be readily visible from this location.

The proposed turbines would be small elements in the panorama seen from this location, which includes existing wind farms such that they would not be new features in the view. Although the proposed turbines would appear larger than existing turbines, the scale of change to the panorama as a whole is judged to be low. The magnitude of change to the view from this location is judged to be low.

Effect: The visual effect is judged to be not significant (minor).

3.0 Settlements

Sensitivity for all settlements is taken as high.

Effects on properties within 2.5 km are considered in the Residential Visual Amenity Assessment (RVAA) in Technical Appendix 7.7.

Tweedsmuir

Tweedsmuir is a small settlement in the River Tweed Valley, set at the point where the Talla Water Valley meets the Tweed Valley, although not at the confluence of the watercourses. Tweedsmuir is a scattered settlement, with a cluster of properties on the short road from the bridge over the Tweed to the Church, and a few properties scattered along the A701. The village hall lies to the north just off the A701. The main street from above the bridge to the church is orientated south-west to north-east, parallel with the A701 and the valley as a whole. The church is located on a small hill between the Talla Water and the River Tweed. Properties are generally orientated perpendicular to the main street or side streets that serve them. A small parking area at the junction just south-east of the bridge is enclosed by trees on its north-west side. There are trees and vegetation associated with gardens, trees along the river, and woodland and plantations on the slopes above the properties on the A701. As such, there are few open views west, limited to the view from the bridge, and from the road from the Talla Valley. Other views are oblique towards the site (westwards) and affected to varying degrees by trees and vegetation. Private views from upper storey windows may be more open. There are existing views of Clyde group turbines on the horizon to the south-west along the Tweed Valley from open parts of the settlement. Whitelaw Brae, once constructed, will also be visible along the Tweed Valley from some parts of the settlement. Glenkerie Wind Farm is not visible.

The properties of Tweedsmuir are considered (individually or in groups) in the RVAA in Technical Appendix 7.7. The RVAA identifies that the closest properties along the A701, (Newbigging) are approximately 1.1 km from the proposed turbines⁴, and the part of Tweedsmuir to the east of the River Tweed is between approximately 1.4 km and 1.7 km away. The assessment of visual effects above identified significant (major) effects at viewpoint VP8 at the bridge over the Tweed, and at the Village Hall (VP5). As set out above, these represent some the more open views and the changes would be less than this for other parts of the settlement. Ground level elements would not be visible from the settlement, due to intervening (retained) trees. The proposed turbines would be beyond the lower plantations that run along the slopes to the west of the settlement, such that there would be screening of ground level elements and the lower parts of the turbines. The Proposed Development would be closer and appear larger than the Clyde group and Whitelaw Brae turbines and would be on the ridge to the west of the village rather than further away along the valley. Overall, the magnitude of change to the experience of public views within the settlement is judged to be medium, as many views within the settlement are screened. All settlements are considered to be of high sensitivity. The effect on the experience of the settlement as a whole is judged to be **significant (moderate)**.

⁴ Distances may vary slightly from noise monitoring locations at these properties.



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4.0 Routes

A701 along the Tweed Valley

This route runs from Moffat northwards via the Tweed Valley to Broughton and onwards towards Edinburgh. It runs up the western flank of upper Annandale, past the Beef Tub, where views are eastwards or southwards down Annandale, before passing over to the source of the River Tweed. Upper Tweeddale is narrow with steep sides, and dominated by forest plantations, particularly on the north side. Views from the route are contained within the valley except at the uppermost section where there are views into adjoining hills. Turbines of the Clyde group are present close to the road on the west side, seen 1.5-2 km away from the route beyond forest. Clyde group turbines are visible from the pass above the Devil's Beef Tub. The road descends into the Tweed Valley to run along the west side of the valley floor. Plantations and roadside trees obscure some sections, but there are generally views along the valley and to immediate slopes. Whitelaw Brae, once constructed, will be visible continuously from the source of the Tweed to beyond Hearthstane except for a section at Glenbreck, as turbines to the east of the valley. Glenkerie Wind Farm is visible only briefly around Stanhope and Kingledores. Improved agricultural fields on the valley floor start at around Menzion south of Tweedsmuir, but the valley remains narrow. The A701 crosses the Biggar Water at Broughton and runs round Broughton Heights before running north-east towards Penicuik. There are more trees and woodlands obscuring wider views between Wrae Hill and Broughton, but the roadsides are more open within and north of Broughton Burn Vallev.

This is an A road used by local people and visitors. It is the main road through Tweedsmuir from Moffat to Broughton and is the most direct road from Moffat to Edinburgh or Peebles. The route is valued as one of the routes via which the Tweedsmuir Upland SLA is experienced, and it passes through the Upper Tweeddale NSA. Although existing turbines are present along this route, susceptibility is judged to be medium to high as viewers include visitors. Sensitivity is judged to be high overall.

The site crosses the route around Menzion (including land either side), and access would be taken off the A701. The compound and substation would be a short distance from the road, and visible from it as a works area with buildings. The proposed turbines would be located on the hills above the road to the north-west. The ZTV indicates that there would be theoretical visibility from much of this route within Tweeddale.

Northbound:

- The proposed turbines would be first seen at the source of the Tweed, where the road passes round Bog Hill and the view north opens up. Viewpoint VP1 is at the layby at that point (Figure 7.13).
- The road runs into forest a little lower down, which would obscure views till after Tweedhopefoot (see VP2, Figure 7.14).
- From Tweedhopefoot to south of Glenbreck (VP3, Figure 7.15), there is recent planting to the east of
 the road, which would obscure views in time. While trees are still small, there would be views of the
 Proposed Development ahead, appearing at the end of the valley (although the valley turns before it).
 Clyde group turbines are visible to the west from this section and Whitelaw Brae to the east, both are
 closer than the Proposed Development would be.
- From south of Glenbreck to north of Hawkshaw, the proposed turbines would be on forested hills seen along the northern flank of the valley (see VP4. Figure 7.16).
- From Hawkshaw to Tweedsmuir, the proposed turbines would be on the hill above the road. From
 this section the substation, BESS and compound may be visible, set back from the road up the
 western slopes. The site entrance would also meet the A701 in this section.

Southbound:

- The proposed turbines would be first seen at the turn-off to Stanhope, where the valley turns around Worm Hill and a view south opens up (see VP6, Figure 7.18). The view is brief however, with roadside vegetation and screening by Nether Oliver Dod. Glenkerie is briefly seen as turbines on the high flanks to the west.
- From Kingledores to Glenveg there would be no visibility.
- From south of Glenveg to Tweedsmuir the proposed turbines would be high on the forested horizon to the west of the valley (see VP5, Figure 7.17).
- Past Beild to Newbigging, road trees obscure views up the valley sides.



There is considerable topographic screening along this route, such that the Proposed Development would not be visible from within Annandale nor north of Stanhope. However, there are open sections with views along the valley, and it passes close to the Proposed Development. The existing and under construction wind farms form a succession of developments passed along this route. The magnitude of change to views is judged to be high between Glenbreck and Tweedsmuir, with a significant (major) effect. This section is approximately 7 km long and is within 4 km of the Proposed Development. For the section from Stanhope to Kingledores (southbound, approximately 2.5 km), the magnitude of change is judged to be medium and the effect would be significant (moderate), although a brief significant (major) effect would be experienced at VP6 near Stanhope on first view of the Proposed Development. For the section from the source of the Tweed to south of Glenbreck (northbound, approximately 6 km) the overall magnitude of change is judged to be low and the effect would be not significant (minor). Other sections of the route would not have visibility.

Minor road from Tweedsmuir to Talla Linn

This route runs from the A708 by St Mary's Loch, up the Megget Water, past the Megget Reservoir to the watershed above the Talla Linn. The road descends steeply down the Talla Linn gully, to the southern end of the reservoir (Talla Linnfoots). The route runs along the north shore of the Talla Reservoir, before traversing down the flank of the dam and continuing along the south side of the Talla Water to Tweedsmuir where it joins the A701. The route passes through open moorland along its full length except the north-eastern end, where there are forest plantations above the road, north-east of the road along part of the Talla Reservoir, and south-west of the road below the dam. Views along the valley, however, are not generally screened by the forest on slopes above the road, although affected by some roadside vegetation. Clyde group turbines are visible from the top of Talla Linn (see VP11, Figure 7.23).

This is a single track road used by local people, but it is also used by tourists/visitors although the road is rough and steep in places. It is sign posted as unsuitable for lorries at its eastern end. This is a hill pass connecting Tweeddale with the Yarrow Valley. The route is valued as one of the routes via which the Tweedsmuir Upland SLA is experienced, and there are scenic qualities to the reservoirs and pass. The susceptibility is judged to be high as viewers include visitors. Sensitivity is judged to be high overall.

The site lies on the western side of Tweeddale, upstream of where the Talla Valley meets the Tweed Valley. Given the alignment of the Talla Valley however, the Proposed Development would be seen at the end of it from some sections of the route. Ground level elements would not be visible from the route.

The ZTV indicates that there would be theoretical visibility from most of this route within the Talla Valley, but not to the east of the pass.

- The first view of the Proposed Development would be from the top of Talla Linn, where the proposed turbines would be visible on a hill ridge at the end of the Talla Reservoir. This view (see VP11, Figure 7.23) would be framed along the Talla Valley. The proposed turbines would be closer than those of Clyde group and set with hills beyond (partially back-clothed by land).
- From Talla Linnfoots and along the reservoir, not all of the proposed turbines would be visible, with visibility further limited by screening by plantation trees on the northern slopes of the valley.
- Where the valley turns north-north-westwards there would be oblique views, again partially screened by forest trees, and also by the form of Quarter Hill (see VP10 at the Tall Dam, Figure 7.22).
- Below the dam, views are possible along the valley, to the north-west, but would not include the
 proposed turbines (due to roadside vegetation) until views open out above Tweedsmuir settlement.
- The route crosses the River Tweed with a brief glimpse up to the opposite hillside at VP8 (Figure 7.20).

Ground level elements would not be visible due to screening by local vegetation around Tweedsmuir, or by the form of Quarter Hill from further east. The proposed turbines would be visible over Quarter Hill from the elevated section coming down Talla Linn and would be framed in that view. The visual effect at that section (VP11) was identified to be significant (major). At VP10 at the Talla dam the effect was identified to be significant (moderate), and at the Tweedsmuir bridge (VP8), the effect is judged to be significant (major). For much of the route, however, the Proposed Development would be less visible than at these points. The magnitude of change to the experience of the route would be high for the Talla Linn descent to Talla Linfoots, reducing to medium along the eastern part of the reservoir. From the point where the reservoir road turns north, to Tweedsmuir, the magnitude of change would be high due to the closer proximity to the Proposed Development.

Given the high sensitivity of the route, the effect is judged to be significant **(major)** from the top of the Talla Linn to Talla Linnfoots and from approximately 1 km from the dam to Tweedsmuir, and significant **(moderate)** along the eastern half of Talla Reservoir to Talla Linnfoots.



Minor road from Tweedsmuir to the Fruid Reservoir

This route runs from Tweedsmuir to the Fruid Dam via Menzion on the south-eastern side of the Tweed Valley and the eastern side of the Fruid Water Valley. It is a short route of approximately 4.2 km.

The route is marked on OS maps as being through forest plantations, but recent felling means that many views are more open, although roadside vegetation screens views on a local scale. Deciduous woodland and scrub have replaced plantations between Tweedsmuir and the Menzion woods, and recent replanting of deciduous trees further along also means that views will be more contained in future. The southernmost end of the route is open as it climbs to the top of the dam. Whitelaw Brae, once constructed, will be located to the south-west of the reservoir, visible on the horizon from this route where vegetation screening allows, ahead for road users travelling up to the dam (see VP9, Figure 7.21). Clyde group turbines are visible from the route within Tweeddale. Glenkerie, although theoretically visible, is screened from most views by intervening vegetation.

The route is a minor road used by workers accessing the Fruid Reservoir, local people and occasional visitors. It is valued mainly as access to the reservoir, but it is a route within the SLA. Susceptibility is judged to be low as the route is not busy and existing wind farms are visible. It is noted that tree cover would increase as roadside trees grow. The sensitivity is judged to be medium.

The Proposed Development would be seen as turbines on the hills to the north-west when travelling away from the reservoir, on the other side of the Tweed Valley. The route is within 3.5 km of the nearest proposed turbine for its whole length. The proposed turbines would appear large from open sections of the route, on the hill slopes above and opposite, seen ahead of road users traveling northbound from the dam towards Menzion. The substation and compounds may be visible from sections of the route south of Menzion, where regrowth of woodland to the west of the road allows. This also applies to sections of access track between the turbine, which may be visible in places. The magnitude of change to the experience of this route would be medium while views are open, with the Proposed Development introducing turbines onto hills at a similar distance away to Whitelaw Brae, but closer than the Clyde group.

With increasing growth of roadside vegetation and replanted woodland, visibility from this route would decrease and the magnitude of change would be reduced to low. With mixed planting and natural regeneration of woodland along the west of the road, it is unlikely that there would be future clear-felling, such that future screening would be retained.

The effect on the experience of this route is judged to be significant (moderate) for northbound road users while open views remain, reducing to not significant (minor) when roadside trees have grown up.

Recreational Routes

Note that all recreational paths are taken as having high sensitivity.

Core Path Chapelgill Hill to Glenwhappen Rig

This route runs from the Cardon Hill/Chapelgill Hill ridge down to Glenkirk in the Holms Water Valley, up the valley floor, climbing a ridge southwards to Coomb Hill, and then following a fence line along the ridge to Glenwhappen Rig. There is no information relating to how often this route is used for recreational purposes.

The route is within the SLA, with scenic qualities to the ridge walk. Wind farms are part of the experience of the route with Glenkerie and Clyde group, each within 2 km of the route.

The Proposed Development would be visible from the ridge sections over the Cardon Hill/Chapelgill Hill ridge down the slopes into the Holms Water valley, but not from Glenkirk and the valley floor. Ascending the north facing slopes up to Coomb Hill there will be no visibility, but views between Coomb Hill and Glenwhappen Rig will include the Proposed Development. From this latter section, of approximately 1.5 km long, the proposed turbines would be visible on the next ridge south-eastwards, beyond the Kingledoors Burn Valley. The route would be approximately 2.0 km away from the Proposed Development at this section. With Glenkerie and Clyde group along the same ridge as the route, the Proposed Development would be more detached, but would be of perceptibly larger turbines and more prominent in views perpendicular to the ridge. From the section over Chapelgill Hill there will be more distant visibility, over 5 km away, and the Proposed Development will be seen more distant than Glenkerie.

The experience of the route would not be altered from sections of hill ridges from which wind farms are visible, and valley sections where wind farms are less visible. However, the Proposed Development will introduce additional turbines relatively close to the route, visible from the ridge sections. The visual effect on the experience of this route is judged to be significant (moderate) for the two ridge sections of approximately 3.5 km long in total, but not significant (minor) overall.



Core Path/ROW from Hearthstane to Broad Law

This route runs from the A701 through Hearthstane and up a track that runs along the north side of the Hearthstane Burn Valley to climb Broad Law up the flanks of Glenheurie Rig.

The route is a constructed track all the way up as it forms the access to the mast and radio beacon station on the summit of Broad Law. It passes through woodland around Hearthstane, and through forest plantations on Glenheurie Rig, but crop felling in the plantations means that some sections are enclosed by trees and openness of views will vary over time. Glenkerie turbines are visible from higher sections of the route, once views over Crook Head are possible. Clyde group turbines are visible from the lower part of the route along the Tweed Valley. Whitelaw Brae will be visible from much of the route once enough height is gained to see it over intervening ridges.

The route is within the SLA. Wind farms are part of the wider experience of the route with Glenkerie and Clyde group turbines visible from the upper sections, and Clyde group visible from the lower section north of Hog Hill.

The Proposed Development would be visible from the lowest section of the route around Hearthstane, but not from the A701 at this point. Views would be screened by trees around Hearthstane, and more open above it. The Proposed Development would not be visible for the section behind Hog Hill, until the route is high enough for turbines to be seen over Hog Hill and Manyleith Head. Above the forest, the Proposed Development would be seen on the ridge beyond the Tweed Valley, with an elevated view that would also include tracks and ground level elements. From the high section of the route, the view would be similar to that at the summit, at VP12 (Figure 7.24).

Given that existing wind farms are part of the experience of the route, the Proposed Development would not be a new feature in the wider landscape around the route, although it would be the closest when seen from within Tweed Valley and from the upper sections towards the summit. Overall, the magnitude of change to the experience to the route on descent from Broad Law, with framed views further down in addition to Clyde group turbines, is judged to be medium. The visual effect on the experience of this route is judged to be significant (moderate).

Core Path/ROW along the Fruid Reservoir to Spout Craig

This route runs from the Fruid Reservoir dam southwards along the eastern shore of the reservoir towards Fruid, then around the south end of the reservoir before turning southwards up over Macrule Hill, round Ballaman Hill to Spout Craig following valley sides rather than ridge tops. It is a rough single-track tarmac road to Fruid, and a track then path beyond. There is no information relating to how often this route is used for recreational purposes, but the first part is used by the residents of Fruid. The route is open along the full length of the reservoir, with views to moor covered hills on either side. Further south the path runs through open hills. Whitelaw Brae Wind Farm, once constructed, will be seen along the south-western side of the reservoir, and nearby for much of the route. Glenkerie is visible from the dam and the northernmost part of the route, as well as from Macrule Hill and Ballaman Hill. Clyde group turbines are seen on the hills to the west from most of the route.

The route is within the SLA, with scenic qualities to the reservoir. Given visibility of existing turbines, wind farms are part of the experience of the route, and Whitelaw Brae will be within 1.5 km of the route along Fruid Reservoir and over Macrule Hill.

The Proposed Development would be visible from the dam as per VP9 (Figure 7.21), and from the section of the route that runs north-south. Approximately 450 m from the dam, however, the views of the Proposed Development would be screened by the slopes of Craig Law above the route, and there would be no visibility further south along the reservoir. The proposed turbines will theoretically be visible from the south shore of the reservoir, but thereafter only from higher slopes of Ballaman Hill and Barncorse Knowe. The proposed turbines would be seen larger in the views north from the dam than Glenkerie, but will be seen beyond the turbines of Whitelaw Brae and notable more distant for the rest of the route, the experience of the route would not be altered from one along a reservoir with wind farms seen opposite and through hills with wind farms nearby and in the wider landscape. The magnitude of change is judged to be low.

The visual effect on the experience of this route is judged to be not significant (minor).

Core Path/ROW Kingledores to Drumelzier

This route runs from the A701 opposite Kingledores, over the river through Patervan Farm and northwards along the east side of the Tweed Valley towards Drumelzier. It runs through woodland around Stanhope but is otherwise relatively open.

The route is partly with the NSA, with the southern part within the SLA. Glenkerie and Clyde group turbines are visible from sections of the route.



The Proposed Development would be visible from much of the route south of Hopecarton, but not from Stanhope as Laigh Hill stands in the way. There would be some screening by trees south of Stanhope, but it would generally be visible for south-bound walkers. The proposed turbines would be seen along the valley from the section around Hopecarton, but visibility would reduce to tips only south of Stanhope. Overall, the Proposed Development will introduce turbines additional to those of Glenkerie and Clyde group, without being noticeably larger than Glenkerie, given the relative distances. The magnitude of change to the route as a whole is judged to be low. The visual effect on the experience of this route is judged to be not significant (minor).

ROW Thief's Road, Dollar Law

This route runs from Pykestone Hill to Notman Law, over the ridge of Dollar Law to the south of the summit. It connects to routes that continue over the hills and descend to the Megget Valley to the south and the Tweed Valley to the north.

The route is within the SLA and has views of Glenkerie and Clyde group wind farms. Whitelaw Brae will also be visible from this route when it is completed.

The Proposed Development would be visible from the high section of this route that passes below the summit of Dollar Law, between Newholm Cairns Hill and the Fifescar Know ridge, which is approximately 1.5 km of the route. From this section, the Proposed Development would be additional turbines in front of Clyde Group, looking somewhat larger and closer, but beyond several hills that are closer to the route. The magnitude of change to the route as a whole is judged to be low. The visual effect on the experience of this route is judged to be not significant (minor).

Wider network path over Culter Fell

Several routes pass over Culter Fell and run along ridges. From Cardon Hill this route runs along the King Bank Head ridge to Culter Fell and south to Moss Law before descending to Holm Nick and up to Gathersnow Hill. Other paths run west from Culter Fell but pass out of the ZTV on descent.

The route is along the local authority boundary, with SLAs on either side. Glenkerie, Clyde group turbines are visible from the summit of Culter Fell, as are other more distant wind farms (see VP16).

The Proposed Development would be seen as turbines beyond intervening ridges, and partially screened by them, as illustrated at VP16 (Figure 7.28) on Culter Fell. Visibility would be less for other sections of the route, except for the summit of Gathersnow Hill. Given visibility of other wind farms in the wider landscape, and the relative screening of the proposed turbines when passing over Culter Fell, the magnitude of change to the route is judged to be low. Although a significant (**moderate**) effect is identified for the viewpoint at the top of Culter Fell (VP16), the visual effect on the experience of this route overall is judged to be not significant (**minor**).

5.0 Summary of Findings of Visual Effect

The findings of the above assessments of visual effect are set out in Table 3.

Table 3 - Summary of Visual Effects

Receptor		Distance from	Effect (significant effects in bold)
		nearest	
		turbine	
VP1	A701 Source of the Tweed layby	9.5 km	Significant (moderate)
VP2	A701 Tweedhopefoot	5.9 km	Not significant (minor)
VP3	A701 layby south of Glenbreck	3.7 km	Significant (major)
VP4	A701 layby near Hawkshaw	1.6 km	Significant (major)
VP5	A701 Tweedsmuir Village Hall	1.7 km	Significant (major)
VP6	A701 by Stanhope	6.5 km	Significant (major)
VP7	Hopehead, Kingledoors Burn	1.1 km	Significant (major)
VP8	Tweedsmuir Bridge	1.4 km	Significant (major)
VP9	Fruid Dam	3.4 km	Significant (moderate)
VP10	Talla Dam	2.8 km	Significant (moderate)
VP11	Talla Linn	7.2 km	Significant (major)
VP12	Broad Law	6.3 km	Not significant (minor)
VP13	Hartfell	10.6 km	Not significant (minor)
VP14	Chalk Rig Edge	10.3 km	Not significant (negligible)
VP15	Trahenna Hill	13.5 km	Not significant (minor)
VP16	Culter Fell	5.0 km	Significant (moderate)
VP17	Lowther Hill	22.5 km	Not assessed in detail
VP18	Tinto	15.7 km	Not assessed in detail
VP19	Byrehope Mount	29.9 km	Not assessed in detail
VP20	Pykestone Hill	10.9 km	Not significant (minor)
Tweedsmuir		1.1 km	Significant (moderate)



Receptor	Distance from nearest turbine	Effect (significant effects in bold)
A701 along the Tweed Valley	Crosses the site	Significant (major): Glenbreck to Tweedsmuir (approximately 7 km) Significant (moderate): Stanhope to Kingledores (southbound, approximately 2.5 km)
Minor road from Tweedsmuir to Talla Linn	1.2 km	Significant (major) from the top of the Talla Linn to Talla Linnfoots; and within approximately 1 km of the dam to Tweedsmuir; Significant (moderate) along the eastern half of the Talla Reservoir
Minor road from Tweedsmuir to the Fruid Reservoir	1.1 km	Significant (moderate) while open views over young woodland remain, reducing to not significant (minor) when roadside trees have grown
Core Path Chapelgill Hill to Glenwhappen Rig	1.9 km	Significant (moderate) for two ridge sections of approximately 3.5 km long in total, but not significant (minor) overall.
Core Path/ROW from Hearthstane to Broad Law	2.7 km	Significant (moderate)
Core Path/ROW along Fruid Reservoir to Spout Craig	3.7 km	Not significant (minor)
Core Path/ROW Kingledores to Drumelzier	2.0 km	Not significant (minor)
ROW Thief's Road, Dollar Law	9.3 km	Not significant (minor)
Wider network path over Culter Fell	2.1 km	Not significant (minor)

6.0 References

Scottish Borders Council (2024). *Scottish Borders Core paths*. Available at: https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/directory/62/scottish_borders_core_paths. Accessed on 16 May 2024.

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