



**APPENDIX 14-3**  
**PHOTOMONTAGE**  
**VIEWPOINT ASSESSMENT**  
**TABLES**

1.

# PHOTOMONTAGE ASSESSMENT TABLES

VP No.	Description	Grid Ref.
VP1	View from the N62 national road in the townland of Shanakill, approximately 2.7km northwest of the nearest proposed turbine (T01). This viewpoint is located along a designated scenic route in the Tipperary County Development Plan 2022-2028.	E: 612,625 N: 679,293
VP2	View from a local road in the townland of Ballycuddihy, approximately 20km southeast of the nearest proposed turbine (T08).	E: 631,937 N: 666,474
VP3	View from the N62 national road, in the townland of Templemore Demesne, approximately 1.5km southwest of the nearest proposed turbine (T07).	E: 611,366 N: 673,057
VP4	View from St Brigid's Church in the townland of Clonakenny, approximately 4.2km northwest of the nearest proposed turbine (T01).	E: 611,212 N: 680,369
VP5	View from a local road in the townland of Lisdalleen and Drummin, approximately 6.3km southeast of the nearest proposed turbine (T08).	E: 618,956 N: 671,168
VP6	View from the R498 regional road in the townland of Toor, overlooking Thurles Racecourse, approximately 14.2km south of the nearest proposed turbine (T09).	E: 611,078 N: 659,538
VP7	View from the Devil's Bit summit, in the townland of Barnane, approximately 7km west of the nearest proposed turbine (T06). This viewpoint is located within a designated Secondary Amenity Area in the Tipperary County Development Plan 2022-2028.	E: 605,402 N: 673,905
VP8	View from a local road, in the townland of Clonmeen North, approximately 8.4km east of the nearest proposed turbine (T08).	E: 621,884 N: 674,085
VP9	View from the R433 regional road, in the townland of Strogue, approximately 1.3km southeast of the nearest proposed turbine (T08).	E: 614,700 N: 673,850
VP10	View from the N62 national road, in the townland of Ballycahill, approximately 1.1km west of the nearest proposed turbine (T04).	E: 612,043 N: 675,441
VP11	View from the L3248 local road in the townland of Knockanroe, approximately 771m northwest of the nearest proposed turbine (T01).	E: 613,002 N: 677,376
VP12	View from the L3246 local road in the townland of Graffin, approximately 870m southeast from the nearest proposed turbine (T01).	E: 614,176 N: 676,282

VP13	View from the L3246 local road, from the village of Clonmore, approximately 2.5km east of the nearest proposed turbine (T03).	E: 615,789 N: 675,694
VP14	View from a local road in the townland of Ballysorrell Big, approximately 3km east of the nearest proposed turbine (T08).	E: 616,133 N: 674,636

1.1

## Viewpoint Selection

The locations chosen for photomontages follow a detailed and extensive process including review of baseline information, site visits and high-quality photo taking at multiple locations within the LVIA Study Area. Many locations, which based on a desktop review had the potential for views of the site, had complete intervening screening or were screened to such an extent that the development of photomontages was not considered useful in terms of the assessment process i.e. little or no visibility towards the Proposed Development. In certain instances, viewpoints were not selected for inclusion in the final EIAR Volume 2: Photomontage Booklet as a nearby viewpoint more appropriate in relation to the nearby receptors was produced instead. The Photomontages presented in the Volume 2 Booklet and assessed in the tables below therefore show some of the most open views of the Proposed Development from sensitive visual receptors.

1.2

## Visual Impact Assessment Methodology

The Visual Impact Assessments reported in the tables below follow the ‘Assessing Visual Effects’ methodology set out in Section 1.5.3 of Appendix 14-1 – LVIA Methodology. The cumulative visual effects associated with other wind farms located within the LVIA Study Area and the Proposed Project are included in the impact assessment tables below.

### Assessment of Cumulative Visual Effects

As reported in Section 14.6 of Chapter 14, the assessment of cumulative visual effects considers all other existing and permitted wind energy developments in the LVIA Study Area and their interactions with the Proposed Project. The descriptions of cumulative visual effects reported in this document use the photomontages in the Volume 2 Booklet and are guided by the identification labels on the wireline views accompanying each photomontage view. Potential for cumulative visual effects are accounted for in the ‘Magnitude of change’ row in each impact assessment table and are considered in the ‘Residual Visual Effect’ determination given for each Viewpoint.

Viewpoint 1 - Shanakill			
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Views from the N62 national road in the townland of Shanakill, approximately 2.7km northwest of the nearest proposed turbine (T01).</li> <li>&gt; This viewpoint is located along a designated scenic route in the Tipperary County Development Plan 2022-2028.</li> <li>&gt; Grid Ref (ITM): E 612,625; N 679,293</li> <li>&gt; Number of turbines visible: 9/9</li> </ul>		
<b>LCA and Sensitivity to Wind Farm Developments</b>	Tipperary LCA 5 - <b>Low</b>	<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	Sensitive Properties – <b>Medium</b> National Road – <b>Medium</b> Scenic Route – <b>High</b>

Viewpoint 1 - Shanakill	
<b>Description of 'Existing View'</b>	<p>The N62 national road is located in the centre of the image with open views of a gently undulating landscape surrounding the road. Local road signs and telegraph poles run parallel to the road and there are views of residential dwellings in the background. Small, localised undulations are present throughout the agricultural fields to the left-hand side of the road with treelines and hedgerows bordering the fields, with treelines seen throughout the background. The type of view seen here is common throughout the surrounding area.</p> <p>There is theoretical visibility of the existing Bruckana, Lisheen I, II and III windfarms. However, the existing turbines are screened from view by the intervening treeline in the left background of the image.</p>
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description</b>	<p>All nine of the proposed turbines are visible as tall vertical elements within the background of the view. The closest turbine, turbine T01 appears slightly visually separated from the main cluster of turbines, although this effect will differ depending on exact viewing location. Partial screening occurs from the hedgerows and deciduous vegetation seen in the background of the view.</p>
<b>Cumulative Effects</b>	<p>No other turbines are visible from this viewpoint; therefore, no cumulative visual effects will arise.</p>
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b>  (See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	<p><b>Medium</b> – This viewpoint is located on a designated scenic route that comprises a part of the N62 national road, which is also one of the main transport routes leading to the town of Templemore. As noted in the description of this scenic route in the TCDP, the focus of the view is to the west, away from the proposed turbines which are located on the eastern side of the road. As noted previously, the view in this direction (east) is typical of views in the surrounding area, with limited unique scenic attributes or qualities. This viewpoint also represents Sensitive Properties located nearby, who are located in medium proximity to the proposed turbines. On Balance, considering the factors outlined above, the sensitivity of the viewpoint is deemed to be Medium.</p>
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>  (See definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	<p><b>Moderate</b>– the proposed turbines are seen to introduce novel elements into the view, where the turbines are partially visible over a limited horizontal and moderate vertical extent.</p>
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<p><b>Medium × Moderate = Moderate/Minor = Moderate (EPA, 2022)</b>  <i>“An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends”</i></p>
<b>Mitigation Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The field structure, vegetation, and other landscape elements seen throughout the view are a physical landscape buffer and provide a sense of scale in relation to the setback distance of the turbines, with turbines viewed as sited beyond multiple fields or behind a treeline.</li> <li>➤ All turbine components are viewed above the horizon and are not visible against the backdrop of any valuable or unique landscape features.</li> <li>➤ The turbines are viewed with only a moderate horizontal extent within the view, even from this close proximity location to the site.</li> </ul>

Viewpoint 1 - Shanakill	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The baseline view is generally unremarkable and is typical of many other views of agricultural fields within the surrounding area.</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Effect</b>  (Incl. mitigating factors)	<b>Moderate (EPA, 2022)</b> <i>“An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends”</i>

Viewpoint 2 – Ballycuddihy			
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from a local road in the townland of Ballycuddihy, approximately 20km southeast of the nearest proposed turbine (T08).</li> <li>➤ This viewpoint is representative of designated Scenic View no. 14 in the KCDP.</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference (ITM): E 631,937; N 666,474</li> <li>➤ Number of turbines visible: 9/9</li> </ul>		
<b>LCA and Sensitivity to Wind Farm Developments</b>	Kilkenny LCA A1 – <b>Low</b>	<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	Local Road – <b>Low</b> Scenic View - <b>High</b>
<b>Description of ‘Existing View’</b>	<p>This is a long-range view of a relatively flat landscape from an elevated vantage point. The agricultural fields in the foreground of the image, along with dwellings and agricultural infrastructure, are bordered by a treeline, with further views of the expansive agricultural landscape available in the background. An undulating ridgeline is visible throughout the background of the view, on the far side of the flat agricultural plain.</p> <p>The existing Bruckana, Lisheen I &amp; II, Lisheen III and Monaincha Bog windfarms are visible in the centre background.</p>		
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description</b>	<p>All of the proposed turbines are seen as very small vertical elements in the background of the view, over a small horizontal extent. The proposed turbines are seen as smaller vertical features than the existing turbines of the Lisheen III wind farm.</p> <p>The permitted Upperchurch wind turbines are seen as distant background features atop the ridgeline in the left background.</p>		
<b>Cumulative Effects</b>	<p>The proposed turbines are viewed in combination with the existing Bruckana and Lisheen I, II and III windfarms, these will be viewed in in a similar direction. The existing Monaincha Bog wind farm and the existing Gortnahalla and permitted Upperchurch wind farms are also visible in the same general direction as the proposed turbines, although there is a larger visual separation between these turbines and the proposed turbines from this viewpoint. The proposed turbines add to the density of the turbines visible within this part of the view, however at this distance they assimilate into the view appearing as part of the existing Lisheen III and Bruckana wind farms. The expansive, flat nature of the view seen here creates a sense of large area of space in which the addition of the Proposed Project does not result in substantial levels of turbines seen across the entirety of the view. There is capacity within the landscape in view to effectively absorb a</p>		

Viewpoint 2 – Ballycuddihy	
	wind energy development of the scale of the Proposed Project. There are no Significant cumulative visual effects that arise at this viewpoint as a result of the proposed turbines. The cumulative visual effects that do arise have been incorporated into the determination of the magnitude of change below.
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b>  (See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	<b>High</b> – This viewpoint has been classified as a High sensitivity viewpoint on account of the designated scenic view. However, it is noted that the described focus of this designed view in the KCDP is to the north and east, not in the direction of the Proposed Project.
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>  (See definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	<b>Slight</b> – The proposed turbines are fully visible but are located a substantial distance away from the viewpoint and consequently result in a low level of change within the view, given their vertical and horizontal extent within the view.
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<b>High × Slight = Moderate/Minor = Moderate (EPA, 2022)</b> <i>“An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends.”</i>
<b>Mitigation Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The addition of the proposed turbines, while increasing the density of turbines seen within this part of the view, does not introduce novel elements into the view in question.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines do not substantially increase the horizontal extent of turbines visible within the view, as they are viewed primarily within the existing extent of turbines visible.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are seen as smaller scaled features than the existing turbines seen within the view.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are not seen above the higher points along the undulating ridgeline in the background.</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Effect</b>  (Incl. mitigating factors)	<b>Slight (EPA, 2022)</b> <i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities.”</i>

Viewpoint 3 – Templemore			
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from the N62 national road, in the townland of Templemore Demesne, approximately 1.5km southwest of the nearest proposed turbine (T07).</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference (ITM) E 611,366; N 673,057</li> <li>➤ Number of Turbines Visible: 6/9</li> </ul>		
<b>LCA and Sensitivity to Wind Farm Developments</b>	Tipperary LCA 5 – <b>Low</b>	<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	Sensitive Properties – <b>Medium</b> Templemore - <b>Medium</b> National Road – <b>Medium</b>

Viewpoint 3 – Templemore	
<b>Description of 'Existing View'</b>	<p>The N62 national road is visible in the foreground of the image. The road is bordered by a low stone wall, overlooking agricultural fields enclosed by tall hedgerows and treelines. This vegetation limits long-range views in this direction. Overhead lines and local road signs are seen throughout the view.</p> <p>The existing Monaincha Bog wind farm is theoretically visible from this viewpoint but in reality, there are no actual views of these turbines due to dense vegetation screening present.</p>
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description</b>	<p>Six of the proposed turbines are visible from this viewpoint. The visible proposed turbines are moderately screened by existing hedgerows in the roadside field. It is noted that the screening effect will differ depending on the exact viewing location and the turbines may also be impacted by seasonal screening. The turbines are moderately scaled vertical features within the view and occupy a limited horizontal extent within the view.</p>
<b>Cumulative Effects</b>	<p>No other turbines are visible from this viewpoint, and therefore, no cumulative visual effects will arise for this viewpoint.</p>
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b>  (See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	<p><b>Medium</b> – This viewpoint has been classified as a Medium sensitivity viewpoint on account of the national road, a well trafficked route as well as the existing Sensitive Properties in medium proximity to the proposed turbines. This viewpoint also represents the settlement of Templemore.</p>
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>  (See definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	<p><b>Moderate</b> – The proposed turbines are partially visible over a moderate extent in medium proximity to the viewpoint, and result in a change to the character of the baseline view.</p>
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<p><b>Medium × Moderate = Moderate/Minor = Moderate (EPA, 2022)</b>  <i>“An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends”</i></p>
<b>Mitigation Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The proposed turbines located closest to the viewpoint (along with several others) are substantially screened by intervening vegetation.</li> <li>➤ The turbines are viewed as a coherent cluster with only a moderate horizontal extent within the view. Following the 2006 WEDGs, the proposed turbines are seen relatively evenly spaced in a regular linear array, providing a simple and obvious rhythm to the turbines in this view (see page 42 and 43 of the 2006 WEDGs).</li> <li>➤ The field structure and hedgerows seen throughout the view are a physical landscape buffer and provide a sense of scale in relation to the setback distance of the turbines, with turbines viewed as sited beyond multiple fields or behind a treeline.</li> <li>➤ The turbines are perpendicular to the direction of travel and, therefore, are not in the direct line of vision of visual receptors along the road. Furthermore, vehicles will be travelling at high speeds along this section of the road, with views towards the proposed turbines likely</li> </ul>

Viewpoint 3 – Templemore	
	intermittent in nature, given the level of roadside screening present (see also Section 14.3.3 of the EIAR).
<b>Residual Effect</b>  (Incl. mitigating factors)	<b>Moderate (EPA, 2022)</b> <i>“An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends.”</i>

Viewpoint 4 - Clonakenny			
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from St Brigid’s Church in the townland of Clonakenny, approximately 4.2km northwest of the nearest proposed turbine (T01).</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference (ITM): E 611,212; N 680,369</li> <li>➤ Number of turbines visible: 6/9</li> </ul>		
<b>LCA and Sensitivity to Wind Farm Developments</b>	Tipperary LCA 5 – <b>Low</b>	<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	Local Road– <b>Low</b> Sensitive Properties (Clonakenny) – <b>Medium</b> Place of Worship (church) – <b>Medium</b>
<b>Description of ‘Existing View’</b>	A low wall separates the road in the foreground from the agricultural field behind it, where the landcover is comprised of shrubs, deciduous trees and grasslands used for grazing. A dwelling is visible to the right of the image. The field is enclosed by vegetation and appears to be rising gently in the left midground, screening any long-ranging views.		
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description</b>	6 no. of the proposed turbines are partially visible as small features in the background of the view, between the gaps in the vegetation. The turbines are viewed as background elements, within a limited horizontal extent within the view, that do not raise the skyline of the view. There is substantial screening of T01 and T03, along with full screening of T09, T07, and T06. Although this effect will differ depending on exact viewing location.		
<b>Cumulative Effects</b>	There is theoretical visibility of the existing Bruckana, Lisheen I, II and III windfarms, however they are predominantly screened from view by the local topography and dense vegetation. Therefore, there are no Significant cumulative visual effects that arise at this viewpoint as a result of the proposed turbines. The cumulative visual effects that do arise have been incorporated into the determination of the magnitude of change below.		
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b>  (See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	<b>Medium</b> – This viewpoint has been classified with Medium sensitivity on account of the settlement of Clonakenny, and the viewpoint’s location outside St. Brigid’s Church.		
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>	<b>Slight</b> – The proposed turbines are seen within a limited vertical and horizontal extent within the view and their addition results in a low level of change.		



Viewpoint 4 - Clonakenny	
(See definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<b>Medium × Slight = Minor = Slight (EPA, 2022)</b> <i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities.”</i>
<b>Mitigation Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are substantially screened by intervening vegetation, and while this effect will differ depending on exact viewing location, the high level of vegetation present within the landscape will mean that this view is typical of the majority of open views towards the proposed turbines from this part of the LVIA Study Area.</li> <li>➤ The turbines appear as small background features, smaller than the surrounding trees.</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Effect</b> (Incl. mitigating factors)	<b>Slight (EPA, 2022)</b> <i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities.”</i>

Viewpoint 5 – Templeouhy			
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from a local road in the townland of Lisdalleen and Drummin, approximately 6.3km southeast of the nearest proposed turbine (T08).</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference (ITM): E 618,956; N 671,168</li> <li>➤ Number of turbines visible: 7/9</li> </ul>		
<b>LCA and Sensitivity to Wind Farm Developments</b>	Tipperary LCA 5 – <b>Low</b>	<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	Local Road – <b>Low</b> Settlement (Templeouhy) – <b>Medium</b>
<b>Description of ‘Existing View’</b>	This view consists of an open agricultural landscape with dwellings in the background. Dense hedgerows and deciduous trees are seen to border the agricultural fields, limiting any long-range views. A large ridgeline is seen in the left background; however, it is partially screened by the tract of commercial forestry seen in the centre background of the image. An overhead line can be seen running throughout the view.		
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description</b>	Proposed turbines T02 and T03 are visible almost to their full extent as small vertical features in the background of the view. Turbine T09, T07, T08, T05 and T04 are well screened by the forestry, with only blades of these turbines visible.		
<b>Cumulative Effects</b>	No existing wind farms are visible in the view shown in this photomontage, although the existing Bruckana, Lisheen I & II, and Lisheen III are visible in the opposite direction to the view shown here. There will be combined (in succession, where an observer has to turn their head to see different developments) views of the proposed turbines from this location, along with views of the existing cumulative turbines seen to the southeast. While this		

Viewpoint 5 – Templetouhy	
	could result in additional cumulative visual effect, the views of the proposed turbines are well screened, with the proposed turbines seen as small background features where they are visible. There are no Significant cumulative visual effects that arise at this viewpoint as a result of the proposed turbines. The cumulative visual effects that do arise have been incorporated into the determination of the magnitude of change below.
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b>  (See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	<b>Medium</b> – This viewpoint is representative of the local road network and the nearby settlement of Templetouhy, as a result it has been classified as a Medium sensitivity viewpoint.
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>  (See definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	<b>Slight</b> – The proposed turbines are partially visible over a moderate horizontal extent and result in a low level of change within the view. The turbines do increase the level of turbines seen from this location.
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<b>Medium × Slight = Minor = Slight (EPA, 2022)</b> <i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities.”</i>
<b>Mitigation Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The turbines are well screened by the intervening vegetation and topography.</li> <li>➤ The relative height of the turbines in relation to the mountainous terrain in the background means that they do not raise the skyline of the view at the highest points along the ridgeline.</li> <li>➤ The turbines are not in the direction of travel, therefore, are not in the direct line of vision of motorists along the road.</li> <li>➤ This viewpoint is the only open view towards the turbines along this stretch of the road, the dense hedgerows bordering the road screen any views of the proposed turbines along the majority of the road.</li> <li>➤ The turbines are seen in the background and the most noticeable of the proposed turbines, T03 and T02, are seen as small elements in the background of the view.</li> <li>➤ Given the distance, other man-made features, such as the overhead line appear as larger man-made elements within the landscape.</li> <li>➤ There is a large separation distance between the cumulative turbine seen in the opposite direction to the view shown here, and the proposed turbines.</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Effect</b>  (Incl. mitigating factors)	<b>Not Significant (EPA, 2022)</b> <i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences.”</i>

Viewpoint 6 – Thurles Racecourse			
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from the R498 regional road in the townland of Toor, overlooking Thurles Racecourse, approximately 14.2km south of the nearest proposed turbine (T09).</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference (ITM): E 611,078; N 659,538</li> <li>➤ Number of turbines visible: 8/9</li> </ul>		
<b>LCA and Sensitivity to Wind Farm Developments</b>	Tipperary LCA 5 - <b>Low</b>	<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	Regional Road – <b>Low</b> Thurles – <b>Low</b> Racecourse (Recreational Users) – <b>Low</b>
<b>Description of ‘Existing View’</b>	The R498 regional road is seen fenced with a low-lying hedgerow overlooking the racecourse. Dense treelines and shrubs are throughout the background of the image, preventing clear longer-range views in this direction. Knockanora, the Devil’s Bit and Kilduff mountains are visible behind the treeline to the left-hand side of the image.		
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description</b>	The proposed turbines are only partially visible as small background elements, viewed in the far background of the image through intermittent gaps in the dense vegetation, occupying a limited horizontal extent. The majority of the turbines are screened by the vegetation with only two turbine hubs and the blades of three other proposed turbines visible. This screening effect may differ in winter months when there is less foliage on the intervening vegetation.		
<b>Cumulative Effects</b>	No other turbines are visible from this viewpoint, and therefore, no cumulative visual effects will arise for this viewpoint.		
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b>  (See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	<b>Low</b> – This viewpoint represents visual receptors located a substantial distance from the proposed turbines, who are generally engaged in travel along the regional road or in an activity where the focus is not on the landscape or surrounding views. On balance, the sensitivity of the viewpoint is deemed to be Low.		
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>  (See definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	<b>Negligible</b> – the proposed turbines are seen in such a small horizontal extent and are screened to a degree that the change is barely distinguishable from the do-nothing scenario, with the character of the view substantially unaltered.		
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<b>Low × Negligible = Negligible = Imperceptible (EPA, 2022)</b> <i>“An effect capable of measurement but without significant consequences.”</i>		
<b>Mitigation Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The turbines are not in the direction of travel, therefore, are not in the direct line of vision of motorists along the road. Furthermore, due to vehicles travelling 60km/hr on this regional road, any views towards the turbines will be intermittent.</li> </ul>		
<b>Residual Effect</b>  (Incl. mitigating factors)	<b>Imperceptible (EPA, 2022)</b> <i>“An effect capable of measurement but without significant consequences.”</i>		

Viewpoint 7 – Devil’s Bit Summit			
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from the Devil’s Bit summit, in the townland of Barnane, approximately 7km west of the nearest proposed turbine (T06).</li> <li>➤ This viewpoint is located within a designated Secondary Amenity Area in the Tipperary County Development Plan 2022-2028.</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference (ITM): E 605,402; N 673,905</li> <li>➤ Number of turbines visible: 6/9</li> </ul>		
<b>LCA and Sensitivity to Wind Farm Developments</b>	Tipperary LCA 22 - <b>High</b>	<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	Devil’s Bit summit (Hill Walkers) – <b>High</b>
<b>Description of ‘Existing View’</b>	<p>The image shows open and long ranging views from the Devil’s Bit summit across a primarily flat landscape where landcover is dominated by an agricultural field pattern. The agricultural fields are defined by treelines and hedgerows with a scatter of dwellings seen throughout. A rocky outcrop is seen in the left and centre foreground, partially screening views in this direction. An undulating ridgeline can be seen on the far side of the flat agricultural plain.</p> <p>The existing Lisheen I &amp; II, Lisheen III, and Bruckana windfarms are visible in the background located within the flat agricultural plain in view.</p>		
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description</b>	<p>6 no. of the proposed turbines are visible in a staggered linear array within the flat agricultural landscape in view. The remaining turbines are hidden behind the rock formation on the Devil’s Bit Mountain. The turbines are viewed as slightly larger than the existing turbines seen in the background, but do not raise the skyline of the view. The turbines are seen relatively evenly spaced within a relatively small horizontal extent of the view.</p>		
<b>Cumulative Effects</b>	<p>There are several other existing wind farms visible from this viewpoint which will be seen in combination with the turbines of the Proposed Project. There is visual separation between the proposed turbines and these other existing developments. The expansive, flat nature of the view seen here creates a sense of large area of space in which the addition of the Proposed Project does not result in substantial levels of turbines seen across the entirety of the view. There is capacity within the landscape in view to effectively absorb a wind energy development of the scale of the Proposed Project. The cumulative visual effects that do arise have been incorporated into the determination of the magnitude of change below. There are no Significant cumulative visual effects that arise at this viewpoint as a result of the proposed turbines.</p>		
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b>  (See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	<p><b>High</b> – This viewpoint is deemed to be of High sensitivity due to the visual receptors at this location acting in a recreational capacity and the aesthetic quality and value of the long-range expansive views.</p>		
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>	<p><b>Moderate</b> – The proposed turbines are seen as small elements in the background over a relatively small horizontal extent, although considering the distant views available from this viewpoint, are visible at a moderate</p>		

Viewpoint 7 – Devil’s Bit Summit	
(See definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	distance from the viewpoint. Change is readily noticeable but remains similar to the baseline.
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<b>High × Moderate = Moderate = Significant (EPA, 2022)</b> <i>“An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration or intensity alters a sensitive aspect of the environment.”</i>
<b>Mitigation Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are seen within an area designated as ‘Open for Consideration’ by the TCDP. The proposed turbines are therefore visible within an area of the landscape where it is envisioned for turbines to be seen, as guided by local planning policy.</li> <li>➤ This viewpoint is located within a designated Secondary Amenity Area, however, the proposed turbines are seen within the flat agricultural landscape to the east that does not form part of the landscape of the Secondary Amenity Area.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines are partially screened by the intervening topography. This type of partial screening will also occur along the majority of the walking route to the summit (see also PWVP J), with additional screening occurring from screening by commercial forestry at locations lower down the slopes.</li> <li>➤ The proposed turbines do increase the horizontal extent of turbines visible across the view in this direction. However, the expansive, flat nature of the view seen here (including beyond the part of the view shown in the photomontage) creates a sense of large area of space in which the addition of the Proposed Project does not result in substantial levels of turbines seen across the entirety of the view.</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Effect</b>  (Incl. mitigating factors)	<b>Moderate (EPA, 2022)</b> <i>“An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends.”</i>

Viewpoint 8 – Clonmeen North			
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from a local road in the townland of Clonmeen North, approximately 8.4km east of the nearest proposed turbine (T08).</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference (ITM): E 621,884; N 674,085</li> <li>➤ Number of turbines visible: 7/9</li> </ul>		
<b>LCA and Sensitivity to Wind Farm Developments</b>	Laois LCA 3 – <b>Medium</b>	<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	Local Road – <b>Low</b>
<b>Description of ‘Existing View’</b>	The view is of a local road (right-hand side of the image) bordered by tall, dense hedgerow with short-range views available from the fence in the centre midground of an agricultural field. A dwelling is visible above the hedgerows. Elevated mountainous terrain is visible in the background of the view.		

Viewpoint 8 – Clonmeen North	
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description</b>	7 no. of the proposed turbines are partially visible within this image. The turbines are situated at a lower elevation than the viewpoint on the opposite side of slope, limiting the visibility of the proposed turbines. The hedgerows bordering the agricultural field further screen the visibility of the proposed turbines with only the hubs and blades of 4 no. proposed turbines visible within this view. The blades of 3 no. other proposed turbines are also visible.
<b>Cumulative Effects</b>	No other turbines are visible from this viewpoint, and therefore, no cumulative visual effects will arise for this viewpoint.
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b>  (See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	<b>Low</b> – This viewpoint represents the nearby local road network and has been deemed to be a Low sensitivity viewpoint.
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>  (See definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	<b>Slight</b> – The proposed turbines are partially visible over a moderate horizontal extent and result in a low level of change within the view.
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<b>Low × Slight = Minor/Negligible = Not Significant (EPA, 2022)</b> <i>“An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences.”</i>
<b>Mitigation Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The turbines are well screened by the intervening vegetation and topography.</li> <li>➤ The relative height of the turbines in relation to the mountainous terrain in the background means that they do not raise the skyline of the view.</li> <li>➤ The turbines are not in the direction of travel, therefore, are not in the direct line of vision of motorists along the road.</li> <li>➤ This viewpoint is one of the only open views towards the turbines along this stretch of the road, the dense hedgerows bordering the road screen any views of the proposed turbines along the majority of the road.</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Effect</b>  (Incl. mitigating factors)	<b>Imperceptible (EPA, 2022)</b> <i>“An effect capable of measurement but without significant consequences.”</i>

Viewpoint 9 – Strogue	
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from the R433 regional road, in the townland of Strogue, approximately 1.3km southeast of the nearest proposed turbine (T08).</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference (ITM): E 614,700; N 673,850</li> </ul>

Viewpoint 9 – Stroogue			
	<p>➤ Number of Turbines Visible: 9/9</p>		
LCA and Sensitivity to Wind Farm Developments	Tipperary LCA 5 - <b>Low</b>	Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	Sensitive Properties– <b>High</b> Regional Road - <b>Medium</b>
Description of ‘Existing View’	<p>The view looks over an agricultural field to the side of the R433 regional road. The field is bordered by hedgerows comprised of shrubs and deciduous trees. This hedgerow screens views of the surrounding fields. There are views of the Devil’s Bit and Kilduff mountain ridgelines in the background. An overhead line is seen running through the field. The overall character of this landscape is rural and agricultural.</p>		
Proposed Photomontage Description	<p>The proposed turbines are visible as tall vertical elements, aligned in an evenly spaced linear array behind the treeline in the background of the view. Open visibility is afforded of turbines T06, T08, T05 and T04, while the remaining turbines are moderately screened by the existing vegetation. Turbines T03 and T02 are substantially screened by trees and hedgerows, with only the blades of each turbine partially visible.</p>		
Cumulative Effects	<p>No other turbines are visible from this viewpoint, and therefore, no cumulative visual effects will arise for this viewpoint.</p>		
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)  (See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	<p><b>High</b> – This viewpoint has been classified as a High sensitivity viewpoint on account of the Sensitive Properties located near this viewpoint in close proximity to the proposed turbines. Also represented is the R433 regional road, the main transport route from Clonmore Village (and Errill) to Templemore.</p>		
Magnitude of Change  (See definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	<p><b>Substantial</b> – The proposed turbines are seen as prominent features and are visible over a wide horizontal extent, with several turbines seen almost in their full extent.</p>		
Significance of Effect	<p><b>High × Substantial = Major/Moderate = Very Significant (EPA, 2022)</b>  <i>“An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration or intensity alters most of a sensitive aspect of the environment”</i></p>		
Mitigation Factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ With regard to the siting of turbines in proximity to residential dwellings, the Proposed Project adheres to the minimum 500m set back distance in the current 2006 WEDGs and also the 4 times tip height set-back distance set out for visual amenity purposes, prescribed by the 2019 draft WEDGs.</li> <li>➤ Following the 2006 WEDGs, the turbines are evenly spaced in a regular linear array, providing a simple and obvious rhythm to the turbines in this view (see page 42 and 43 of the 2006 WEDGs).</li> <li>➤ The field structure and hedgerows seen throughout the view are a physical landscape buffer and provide a sense of scale in relation to the setback distance of the turbines, with turbines viewed as sited beyond multiple fields or behind a treeline.</li> </ul>		



Viewpoint 9 – Strogue	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Whilst the turbines appear as tall vertical features in the view, the proposed turbines are located within a landscape character area of Low sensitivity.</li> <li>➤ There is a high level of vegetation present in this flat landscape, with high levels of screening towards the proposed turbines from other locations nearby along the road.</li> <li>➤ The turbines are not in the direction of travel, therefore, are not in the direct line of vision of motorists along the road. Furthermore, due to vehicles travelling 80km/hr on this regional road, any views towards the turbines will be intermittent.</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Effect</b>  (Incl. mitigating factors)	<b>Moderate (EPA, 2022)</b> <i>“An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends.”</i>

Viewpoint 10 – Ballycahill			
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from the N62 national road, in the townland of Ballycahill, approximately 1.1km west of the nearest proposed turbine (T04).</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference (ITM): E 612,043; N 675,441</li> <li>➤ Number of Turbines Visible: 7/9</li> <li>➤ This view is split into two separate viewing angles presented as 16A and 16B.</li> </ul>		
<b>LCA and Sensitivity to Wind Farm Developments</b>	Tipperary LCA 5 - <b>Low</b>	<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	Sensitive Properties – <b>High</b> National Road – <b>Medium</b>
<b>Description of ‘Existing View’</b>	<p><b>16A:</b> This view looks over the national road which is bordered by a hedgerow comprised of trees and shrubs in the left foreground, which continues around a roadside field seen in the centre and right midground. This hedgerow prevents longer-range views of the landscape beyond. An overhead line is seen running parallel to the road in the left-hand side of the view.</p> <p>The existing Monaincha Bog wind farm is theoretically visible from this viewpoint but in reality, there are no actual views of these turbines given the level of screening present.</p> <p><b>16B:</b> The view in this direction looks out over the same field discussed in 16A above, with a small gap in the hedgerow seen in the left background, permitting longer range views over a flat agricultural landscape in this direction. Further to the right, the hedgerow bordering the field increases in density and provides substantial screening of longer-range views in this direction. The national road can also be seen in the right foreground, with an overhead line seen running parallel to the road and running through the field.</p> <p>The character of the view is rural and agricultural.</p>		



Viewpoint 10 – Ballycahill	
	<p>The Lisheen I &amp; II turbines are theoretically visible from this viewpoint but in reality, there are no actual views of these turbines given the level of screening present.</p> <p>There are distant partial views of the existing Bruckana and Lisheen III wind turbines, which are visible in the left background.</p>
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description</b>	<p><b>16A:</b> Turbines T01 and T02 are screened from view by the intervening trees, Turbine T03 is viewed above the hedgerow bordering the nearby field, with this turbine located 1.1km away.</p> <p><b>16B:</b> The turbines appear aligned in a staggered linear array with turbine T04 visible almost to its full extent to the left of the image. Turbines T05 and T08 are partially screened by the hedgerow, and the remaining turbines (T06, T07 and T09) are well screened by the intervening vegetation and electricity poles. The hub of T06 is visible above the hedgerow in the right background.</p>
<b>Cumulative Effects</b>	<p>The cumulative turbines visible in this view are seen as very small background elements and are difficult to discern without the aid of the wireline. The cumulative visual effects that do arise have been incorporated into the determination of the magnitude of change below. There are no Significant cumulative visual effects that arise at this viewpoint as a result of the proposed turbines.</p>
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b>  (See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	<p><b>High</b> – This viewpoint has been classified as a High sensitivity viewpoint on account of the nearby Sensitive Properties located near this viewpoint in close proximity to the proposed turbines. Also represented is the N62 national road.</p>
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>  (See definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	<p><b>Substantial</b> – The proposed turbines will result in large-scale change in the view, as they are visible over a wide horizontal extent at close proximity to the viewpoint.</p>
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<p><b>High × Substantial = Major/Moderate = Very Significant (EPA, 2022)</b>  <i>“An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration or intensity alters most of a sensitive aspect of the environment.”</i></p>
<b>Mitigation Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ With regard to the siting of turbines in proximity to residential dwellings, the Proposed Project adheres to the minimum 500m set back distance in the current 2006 WEDGs and also the 4 times tip height set-back distance set out for visual amenity purposes, prescribed by the 2019 draft WEDGs.</li> <li>➤ The field structure and hedgerows seen throughout the view are a physical landscape buffer and provide a sense of scale in relation to the setback distance of the turbines, with turbines viewed as sited beyond multiple fields or behind a treeline.</li> </ul>

Viewpoint 10 – Ballycahill	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Whilst the turbines appear as tall vertical features in the view, the proposed turbines are located within a landscape character area of Low sensitivity.</li> <li>➤ There is a high level of vegetation present in this flat landscape, with high levels of screening towards the proposed turbines from other locations nearby along the road.</li> <li>➤ The turbines are not in the direction of travel, therefore, are not in the direct line of vision of motorists along the road. Furthermore, due to vehicles travelling 80km/hr on this regional road, any views towards the turbines will be intermittent.</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Effect</b>  (Incl. mitigating factors)	<b>Significant (EPA, 2022)</b> <i>“An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration or intensity alters a sensitive aspect of the environment.”</i>

Viewpoint 11 - Knockanroe			
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Views from the L3248 local road in the townland of Knockanroe.</li> <li>➤ Located approximately 771m northwest of the nearest proposed turbine (T01).</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference (ITM): E 613,002; N 677,376</li> <li>➤ Number of Turbines Visible: 9/9</li> </ul>		
<b>LCA and Sensitivity to Wind Farm Developments</b>	Tipperary LCA 5 - <b>Low</b>	<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	Sensitive Properties – <b>High</b> Local Road – <b>Low</b>
<b>Description of ‘Existing View’</b>	<p>This is a medium-range view over relatively flat agricultural farmland, with a gentle dip in elevation in the background. A number of shrubs and trees can be seen bordering the fields forming hedgerows, which serve to screen views of the fields further from the viewpoint. A single residential dwelling is visible in the left background. The character of the view is primarily rural and agricultural.</p> <p>There are intermittent views of the existing Bruckana, Lisheen I &amp; II and Lisheen III windfarms, which are seen in a linear array in the far-left background. From this distance, the turbines appear as very small elements within the background of the view, partially screened by the shrub vegetation in the left foreground. The temporary met mast is discernible as a slender vertical element within the agricultural field. However, it is noteworthy that this temporary structure is to be removed.</p>		
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description</b>	<p>All of the proposed turbines are visible from this viewpoint. The closest turbines, T01, and T02, appear as large vertical elements within the view, whilst the remaining turbines are viewed at a medium vertical extent. T01 appears visually separated from the remainder cluster of turbines, extending the horizontal extent of the windfarm. There is some overlap between turbines components for turbines T03 and T08, and T02, T05 and T04, although this effect will differ depending on exact viewing location.</p>		

Viewpoint 11 - Knockanroe	
<b>Cumulative Effects</b>	The proposed turbines increase the overall density of windfarms within the landscape, however there is a large separation distance between the existing turbines and the proposed turbines. The existing cumulative turbines are barely discernible from this distance without the aid of the wireline image and there are no Significant cumulative visual effects that arise at this viewpoint as a result of the proposed turbines. The cumulative visual effects that do arise have been incorporated into the determination of the magnitude of change below.
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b>  (See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	<b>High</b> – This viewpoint has been classified with a High Sensitivity on account of the Sensitive Properties near this location in close proximity to the proposed turbines.
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>  (See definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	<b>Substantial</b> – The proposed turbines will result in large-scale change in the view, as they are visible over a moderate horizontal extent at close proximity to the viewpoint.
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<b>High × Substantial = Major/Moderate = Very Significant (EPA, 2022)</b> <i>“An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration or intensity alters most of a sensitive aspect of the environment.”</i>
<b>Mitigation Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ With regard to the siting of turbines in proximity to residential dwellings, the Proposed Project adheres to the minimum 500m set back distance in the current 2006 WEDGs and also the 4 times tip height set-back distance set out for visual amenity purposes, prescribed by the 2019 draft WEDGs).</li> <li>➤ The field structure and hedgerows seen throughout the view are a physical landscape buffer and provide a sense of scale in relation to the setback distance of the turbines, with turbines viewed as sited beyond multiple fields or behind a treeline.</li> <li>➤ Whilst the turbines appear as tall vertical features in the view, the Proposed Project is located within a landscape character area of Low sensitivity.</li> <li>➤ The baseline view is generally unremarkable and is typical of many other views of agricultural fields within the surrounding area.</li> <li>➤ Visibility of the existing cumulative turbines is substantially mitigated by distance, and given the difficulty in discerning the existing turbines in the view, substantial cumulative visual effects are not deemed to arise at this location as a result of this in combination view of the turbines.</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Effect</b>  (Incl. mitigating factors)	<b>Significant (EPA, 2022)</b> <i>“An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration or intensity alters a sensitive aspect of the environment.”</i>

Viewpoint 12 – Graffin			
Viewpoint Description and Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from the L3246 local road in the townland of Graffin, approximately 870m southeast from the nearest proposed turbine (T01).</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference (ITM): E 614,176; N 676,282</li> <li>➤ Number of turbines visible: 9</li> </ul>		
LCA and Sensitivity to Wind Farm Developments	Tipperary LCA 5 - <b>Low</b>	<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	Local Road – <b>Medium</b> Sensitive Properties – <b>High</b>
Description of ‘Existing View’	<p><b>29A:</b> This view looks over some roadside features including a hedgerow and gate that border an agricultural field adjacent to the viewpoint. In the right background, a number of treelines and hedgerows can be seen, along with a small rise in elevation where the landcover is comprised of agricultural fields.</p> <p>An existing Gortnahalla turbine can theoretically be seen in the background, but in reality, this turbine is screened from view by vegetation.</p> <p><b>29B:</b> This view looks over a number of relatively flat agricultural fields, defined by hedgerows and treelines. The topography can be seen to undulate gently in the left and right background, with a large ridgeline formed by the Devil’s Bit and Kilduff Mountains seen in the background. The character of this view is a modified working rural landscape.</p>		
Proposed Photomontage Description	<p><b>29A:</b> The proposed turbines are seen in a staggered linear array, with turbine T03 visible almost to its full extent, and turbine hubs of T05, T07 and T04 seen with the towers partially screened by the intervening hedgerows. Turbines T08, T09 and T06 are well screened by the intervening vegetation.</p> <p>Several turbines of the permitted Upperchurch wind farm are on the ridgeline in the background of the view, at a substantial distance (approx. 21.6 km away) from the viewpoint.</p> <p><b>29B:</b> The proposed turbines (T01 and T02) are viewed almost to their full extent as large vertical elements within the view, seen within agricultural fields that are screened by intervening hedgerows bordering closer fields.</p>		
Cumulative Effects	<p>There will be combined views of the proposed turbines with the permitted Upperchurch wind turbines. Although, considering the distance between these two wind farms and the scale of the cumulative turbines visible, there are no significant cumulative visual effects that arise at this viewpoint as a result of the proposed turbines. The cumulative visual effects that do arise have been incorporated into the determination of the magnitude of change below.</p>		
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)	<p><b>High</b> – This viewpoint has been classified as a High sensitivity viewpoint on account of the nearby residential receptors located near this viewpoint in close proximity to the proposed turbines.</p>		

Viewpoint 12 – Graffin	
(See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>  (See definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	<b>Substantial</b> – The proposed turbines will result in large-scale change in the view, as they are visible over a wide horizontal extent at close proximity to the viewpoint.
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<b>High × Substantial = Major/Moderate = Very Significant (EPA, 2022)</b> <i>“An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration or intensity alters most of a sensitive aspect of the environment.”</i>
<b>Mitigation Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ With regard to the siting of turbines in proximity to residential dwellings, the Proposed Project adheres to the minimum 500m set back distance in the current 2006 WEDGs and also the 4 times tip height set-back distance set out for visual amenity purposes, prescribed by the 2019 draft WEDGs.</li> <li>➤ The field structure and hedgerows seen throughout the view are a physical landscape buffer and provide a sense of scale in relation to the setback distance of the turbines, with turbines viewed as sited beyond multiple fields or behind a treeline.</li> <li>➤ Whilst the turbines appear as tall vertical features in the view, the proposed turbines are located within a landscape character area of Low sensitivity.</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Effect</b>  (Incl. mitigating factors)	<b>Significant (EPA, 2022)</b> <i>“An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration or intensity alters a sensitive aspect of the environment.”</i>

Viewpoint 13 - Clonmore			
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Views from the L3246 local road, from the village of Clonmore.</li> <li>➤ Located approximately 2.5km east of the nearest proposed turbine (T03).</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference (ITM): E 615,789; N 675,694</li> <li>➤ Number of Turbines Visible: 9/9</li> </ul>		
<b>LCA and Sensitivity to Wind Farm Developments</b>	Tipperary LCA 5 - <b>Low</b>	<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	Clonmore – <b>Medium</b> Sensitive Properties – <b>Medium</b> Local Road – <b>Low</b>
<b>Description of ‘Existing View’</b>	The view is of an agricultural field enclosed by hedgerows and trees. Dwellings are seen in the left and centre midground. An overhead line is seen in the right-hand side of the field. Intermittent views of the Devil’s Bit and Kilduff Mountains are available in the background of the image, comprising the largest topographical features seen in the view. There is also a small rise in topography		

Viewpoint 13 - Clonmore	
	<p>seen in the right background, where the level of the agricultural fields is seen to rise slightly forming a small hummock.</p> <p>The existing Gortnahalla Wind Farm is theoretically visible from this viewpoint but in reality, there are no actual views of these turbines given the level of screening present.</p>
<b>Proposed Photomontage Description</b>	<p>All 9 no. turbines are partially visible within the view. The majority of the turbines are substantially screened by the built infrastructure and vegetation seen in the view. As is clearly seen in the wireline view, there is also partial screening of the turbine towers of all proposed turbines as a result of the topography, with the turbines sited at a slightly lower elevation than the viewpoint, and with screening provided by a small ridgeline west of Clonmore village.</p> <p>There is theoretical visibility of the permitted Upperchurch Wind Farm, however, these turbines are screened from view by the intervening vegetation and built infrastructure.</p>
<b>Cumulative Effects</b>	No other turbines are visible from this viewpoint; therefore, no cumulative visual effects will arise.
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b>  (See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	<b>Medium</b> – This viewpoint has been classified as a Medium sensitivity viewpoint on account of the existing Sensitive Properties located in Clonmore, in medium proximity to the proposed turbines.
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>  (See definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	<b>Moderate</b> – The proposed turbines are partially visible over a moderate extent in medium proximity to the viewpoint, and result in a partial change to the character of the baseline view.
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<b>Medium × Moderate = Moderate/Minor = Moderate (EPA, 2022)</b> <i>“An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends.”</i>
<b>Mitigation Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ This location provides one of the most open views towards the proposed turbines from within Clonmore village, with buildings and other infrastructure, as well as high levels of vegetation, providing substantial screening in the direction of the proposed turbines from other locations.</li> <li>➤ The small ridgeline to the west of Clonmore will provide greater levels of screening of the proposed turbines from locations west of this viewpoint, closer to the ridgeline and the proposed turbines (see also Section 14.3.2.2 of the chapter).</li> </ul>

Viewpoint 13 - Clonmore	
Residual Effect (Incl. mitigating factors)	<b>Slight (EPA, 2022)</b> “An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities.”

Viewpoint 14 – Ballysorrell Big			
Viewpoint Description and Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from a local road in the townland of Ballysorrell Big, approximately 3km east of the nearest proposed turbine (T08).</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference (ITM): E: 616,133 N: 674,636</li> <li>➤ Number of turbines visible: 9/9</li> </ul>		
LCA and Sensitivity to Wind Farm Developments	Tipperary LCA 5 – <b>Low</b>	<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	Local Road– <b>Low</b> Sensitive Properties– <b>Medium</b>
Description of ‘Existing View’	<p>This is a view over a gently undulating agricultural field, with a small rise in topography seen in the left-hand side of the view. The field is bordered by a hedgerow comprised of shrubs and several trees, with a number of other hedgerows also visible throughout the background of the view. The Kilduff and Devil’s Bit Mountains are visible in the background of the view, seen as an undulating ridge in the centre background. An existing overhead line is seen throughout the background, with a number of wooden poles and metal tower seen above the hedgerows.</p>		
Proposed Photomontage Description	<p>All of the proposed turbines are seen as moderately scaled vertical elements in the background of the view, over a wide horizontal extent. The proposed turbines are seen relatively evenly spaced across the view and are seen partially above the ridgeline in the background. There is partial screening of the lower parts of the proposed turbine towers.</p> <p>Two proposed electricity towers that form part of the Proposed Grid Connection can be seen to the left of T09. These towers are slightly larger in scale than the existing nearby tower that forms part of the existing overhead line, but are generally similar in scale and appearance.</p>		
Cumulative Effects	<p>There will be combined views of the proposed turbines with the permitted Upperchurch wind turbines. Although, considering the distance between these turbines and the proposed turbines, and the scale of the cumulative turbines visible, there are no Significant cumulative visual effects that arise at this viewpoint as a result of the proposed turbines. The cumulative visual effects that do arise have been incorporated into the determination of the magnitude of change below.</p>		
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)	<p><b>Medium</b> – This viewpoint has been classified as a Medium sensitivity viewpoint on account of the residential receptors nearby, located in medium proximity to the proposed turbines.</p>		

Viewpoint 14 – Ballysorrell Big	
(See definition in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>  (See definitions in LVIA Methodology Appendix 14-1)	<b>Moderate</b> – The proposed turbines are visible in medium proximity to the viewpoint, and are seen within a relatively wide horizontal extent of the view, resulting in a change to the character of the baseline view.
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<b>Medium × Moderate = Moderate/Minor = Moderate (EPA, 2022)</b> <i>“An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends”</i>
<b>Mitigation Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Following the 2006 WEDGs, the proposed turbines are seen relatively evenly spaced in a regular linear array, providing a simple and obvious rhythm to the turbines in this view (see page 42 and 43 of the 2006 WEDGs).</li> <li>➤ The field structure and hedgerows seen throughout the view provide a physical landscape buffer and provides a sense of scale in relation to the setback distance of the turbines, with turbines viewed as sited beyond multiple fields or behind a treeline.</li> <li>➤ The addition of the proposed end mast towers does not add novel elements within the view, as they are seen to form part of an existing overhead line.</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Effect</b>  (Incl. mitigating factors)	<b>Moderate (EPA, 2022)</b> <i>“An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends.”</i>