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Appendix 5.2

Landscape Assessment

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Glossary

Term	Definition
The Applicant	The applicant is "RWE Renewables UK Developments Limited".
Proposed Development	The proposed Daer Wind Farm.
Proposed Development Area	The project development area within the site boundary.
Daer Land Portion	Scottish Water Land Ownership, comprising of land east and south of Daer Reservoir. Wholly within the South Lanarkshire Local Authority Area.
Kinnelhead Land Portion	The Kinnelhead Land Portion is situated wholly within the Dumfries & Galloway Local Authority Area.
Rivox Land Portion	This Forestry and Land Scotland (formerly Forestry Commission) owned area of commercial forestry sits to the east of the Daer Land Portion. Situated wholly within the Dumfries & Galloway Local Authority Area.

List of Abbreviations

List and describe your abbreviations here.

Abbreviation	Description
AOD	Above Ordnance Datum
LCT	Landscape Character Types
LVIA	Landscape & Visual Impact Assessment
NATS	National Air Traffic Services
RSA	Regional Scenic Area

Abbreviation	Description
RWE	RWE Renewables UK Ltd, the Applicant
SLA	Special Landscape Area
ZTV	Zone of Theoretical Visibility

A5.1 INTRODUCTION

- A5.1.1 This Appendix of the EIAR identifies and assesses the potential effect of the Proposed Development on Landscape Character Types (LCTs) and protected and designated landscapes within the 45 km study area.
- A5.1.2 Analysis of the Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) maps (see Figures 5.5 – 5.6) established which of the LCTs and protected and designated landscapes located within 45 km of the Proposed Development would potentially be affected.
- A5.1.3 This Appendix should be read in conjunction with the following appendices and figures:
- Appendix 5.1: LVIA Methodology;
 - Appendix 5.3: Wild Land Assessment;
 - Figure 5.2a: ZTV to Tip Height (A3 Size);
 - Figure 5.2b: ZTV to Tip Height (A0 Size);
 - Figure 5.3: ZTV to Hub Height (A3 Size);
 - Figure 5.5: Landscape Character;
 - Figure 5.6: Protected & Designated Landscapes;
 - Figure 5.11: Cumulative Sites considered within Cumulative Assessment;
 - Figure 5.12: Cumulative ZTV - Scenario 1: Daer & Operational / Construction;
 - Figure 5.13: Cumulative ZTV - Scenario 2: Daer & Operational / Construction / Consented Sites;
 - Figure 5.14: Cumulative ZTV - Scenario 3: Daer & Operational / Constructed / Consented / Application Sites; and
 - Figure 5.15: Cumulative ZTV - Scenario 4: Daer & Operational / Constructed / Consented / Application / Scoop Hill Sites.

A5.2 LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPES

- A5.2.1 For the initial review, LCTs have been identified following a review of NatureScot’s Landscape Character database¹. Table A5.2.1 provides an overview of the extent of theoretical visibility within each LCT and justification for being scoped in or out of the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA). Landscape character identified in the South Lanarkshire Council Landscape Character Assessment (2010) and the Dumfries and Galloway Council Local Development Plan, Supplementary Guidance Appendix C: Dumfries & Galloway Wind Farm Landscape Capacity Study (2017) have been referred to where relevant.

Table A5.2.1: Initial Assessment of Landscape Character Types

LCT Ref	Landscape Character Type	Extent of Theoretical Visibility	Included in the Assessment
66	Agricultural Lowlands - Ayrshire	Located approximately 40.1 km to the north west of the Proposed Development, the ZTV predicts very limited theoretical visibility of 1-4 turbines in an area to the south of Auchenleck.	No - there is no potential for significant effects as there is only a very distant and isolated patch of theoretical visibility predicted.
68	Lowland River Valleys - Ayrshire	Located in two separate locations within the 45 km study area to the north and south of Auchenleck at approximately 42.6 km to the north west of the Proposed Development. The ZTV indicates no theoretical visibility.	No

LCT Ref	Landscape Character Type	Extent of Theoretical Visibility	Included in the Assessment
69	Upland River Valleys - Ayrshire	Located in three locations covering the River Ayr between Douglas and Auchencleck; to the east of Auchencleck covering the Bellow and Glenmuir Water, and the River Nith near New Cumnock. The ZTV predicts theoretical visibility of 1-4 turbines in a very limited area north east of New Cumnock 31.4 km to the north west of the Proposed Development.	No - there is no potential for significant effects as there is only a very distant and isolated patch of visibility predicted.
73	Upland Glen - Ayrshire	Covers the Afton Water to the south of New Cumnock. The ZTV predicts no theoretical visibility.	No
74	Upland Basin - Ayrshire	This LCT covers New Cumnock and an area of land to the west of the settlement. The ZTV shows theoretical visibility in a very limited area to the north of Mansfield comprising 1 - 4 turbines at 37.1 km.	No - there is no potential for significant effects as there is only a very distant and isolated patch of visibility predicted.
76	Foothills - Ayrshire	Located to the west of New Cumnock, the ZTV indicates theoretical visibility of 1-4 turbines within this LCT covering Carsgailoch Hill at 41.6 km to the west of the Proposed Development.	No - there is no potential for significant effects as there is only a very distant and isolated patch of visibility predicted.
78	Plateau Moorland - Ayrshire	Located in two locations either side of the River Ayr between Douglas and Auchencleck. The ZTV predicts very limited theoretical visibility covering a small area to the south of Nutberry in the northern unit of the LCT, and Corsencon Hill and Craigdullyear Hill in the southern unit. This would comprise of 1-4 turbines 31.2 km to the west of the Proposed Development.	No - there is no potential for significant effects due to distance and limited visibility predicted.
81	Southern Uplands - Ayrshire	Located in two locations either side of the Afton Water, the ZTV predicts theoretical visibility in the most easterly unit covering Hare Hill, Knipe, Quintin Knowe and Blackcraig Hill. This varies between 1-14 turbines at 30.6 km.	No - there is no potential for significant effects as there is only a very distant and isolated patch of visibility predicted.
82	Southern Uplands with Forest - Ayrshire	Located on the northern edges of Carsphairn Forest, the ZTV predicts no theoretical visibility.	No
90	Dissected Plateau Moorland	Located in two locations, to the north of Innerleithen and south west of West Linton, the ZTV predicts no theoretical visibility.	No
92	Plateau Outliers	Found in two locations to the west of Peebles covering the Broughton Heights and Crailzie Hill, the ZTV predicts that theoretical visibility would be limited to summits within both units of the LCT and include Broughton Heights, Trahenna Hill, and Crailzie Hill where 1-17 turbines would theoretically be seen at a distance of 31.2 km.	No - there is no potential for significant effects as there is only a very distant and isolated patch of visibility predicted.
93	Southern Upland with Scattered Forest - Borders	Located in three locations in the eastern part of the study area covering Elibank, Traquir and Ettrick Forests, theoretical visibility would be limited to 1-4 turbines in the northern unit at 27.5 km, and 1-17 turbines in the southern unit covering Pikethaw Hill, Eweshope Fell, Comb Hill and a ridgeline extending between Skelfhill Pen and Tudhope Hill. This would occur at 36.2 – 45 km from the Proposed Development.	No - limited theoretical visibility predicted on higher ground and distant.

LCT Ref	Landscape Character Type	Extent of Theoretical Visibility	Included in the Assessment
94	Rolling Moorland	Located to the west of Hawick, no theoretical visibility is predicted by the ZTV.	No
95	Southern Upland - Borders	Covering a large part of the north eastern part of the study area, the ZTV indicates that theoretical visibility of 1-17 turbines would occur on a series of ridges and high ground from distances of 7.7 km – 30 km.	Yes - included due to the part of the LCT located within 12.5 km from the Proposed Development being likely to be significantly affected.
96	Southern Uplands with Forest - Borders	This LCT covers the Craik Forest and Wauchope/Newcastleton in the eastern side of the study area. The ZTV indicates that theoretical visibility would be very limited and confined to high areas within the western part of the LCT between 16.2 and 20 km of the Proposed Development. This would include 1-17 turbines from Pot Law, Ettrick Pen, and Wind Fell, reducing to 1-8 further east covering Black Knowe, Nether Craig and Glenkerry Hill.	No - there is no potential for significant effects as there is only distant and isolated patch of visibility predicted.
99	Rolling Farmland - Borders	Located to the south west of West Linton, this LCT is not predicted by the ZTV to obtain any theoretical visibility.	No
101	Rocky Upland Fringe	Located in three locations either side of the Borthwick Water and the River Teviot in the east of the study area, The ZTV predicts no theoretical visibility.	No
102	Upland Fringe with Prominent Hills	Located to the east of Biggar, the ZTV predicts no theoretical visibility within this LCT.	No
113	Upland Valley with Pastoral Floor	Situated in five different locations within the north eastern side of the study area, the ZTV predicts theoretical visibility occurring in one unit of the LCT to the south of Biggar. Within this unit, theoretical visibility is limited to the upper valley sides on the boundary with neighbouring LCTs at 18.9 km.	No - there is no potential for significant effects as there is only a very distant and isolated patch of visibility predicted.
114	Pastoral Upland Fringe Valley	Characteristic of one location to the north west of Peebles, no theoretical visibility is predicted within this LCT.	No
116	Upland Valley with Woodland	This LCT is in the east of the study area in three separate locations covering the Middle Tweed and the Lower Ettrick and Yarrow Waters. All three units of the LCT are not predicted to receive theoretical visibility.	No
117	Pastoral Upland Fringe Valley	Located to the west and south west of Hawick, no theoretical visibility is predicted.	No
158	Coastal Flats – Dumfries & Galloway	This LCT is in the south of the study area covering an area of land lying to the south of Dumfries and west of Gretna on the Solway coastline. The ZTV indicates that theoretical visibility would be widespread within the western part of the LCT comprising 1-8 turbines. However, this would be at distances greater than 28.0 km.	No - it is not considered that the introduction of the Proposed Development would affect the key characteristics of this LCT due to distance.
160	Narrow Wooded River Valley – Dumfries & Galloway	Situated in four separate locations within the southern half of the study area, only the most eastern units are predicted to receive theoretical visibility. This would occur on the upper slopes and	No - there is no potential for significant effects as there is only a very distant and

LCT Ref	Landscape Character Type	Extent of Theoretical Visibility	Included in the Assessment
		boundaries with neighbouring LCTs in the valleys containing the White Esk at Eskdalemuir and Kirtle Water between 26 – 40 km to the south east.	isolated patch of visibility predicted.
161	Pastoral Valley – Dumfries & Galloway	Situated in three separate areas within the southern half of the study area, two are shown to receive theoretical visibility of 1-17 turbines. Firstly, to the north of Lockerbie covering the Dryffe Water where limited theoretical visibility of 14-17 turbines is predicted and from elevated locations 21.4 km away. The second unit covering the Cairn Water located to the north west of Dumfries would receive limited visibility of 1-8 turbines from the upper valley sides at 21.9 km.	No - it is not considered that the introduction of the Proposed Development would affect the key characteristics of this LCT.
162	Lower Dale – Dumfries & Galloway	Located in three separate locations, the nearest of which is 19.6 km covering Dumfries, and Annandale. The ZTV indicates widespread theoretical visibility ranging between 1-17 turbines along the Annandale unit, and 1-8 turbines covering Dumfries.	No – none of the units have been included in the assessment due to the distance between the Proposed Development and LCT where it is not considered that the key characteristics would be significantly affected.
163	Middle Dale – Dumfries & Galloway	This LCT is in three locations within the southern half of the study area covering Mid Nithsdale, Mid Annandale and Mid Eskdale. All three units are predicted to receive theoretical visibility which would be widespread within the Annandale unit and range between 1-17 turbines at 8.2 km. The entrance to the access track and approximately 210 m of access track would be located within this LCT.	Yes - due to the LCT's proximity to the Proposed Development and extent of theoretical visibility predicted. A 7.2 km section of access track will also cross this LCT.
164	Flooded Valley	This LCT covers the River Dee and Loch Ken. No theoretical visibility is predicted within this LCT.	No
165	Upper Dale – Dumfries & Galloway	Situated in two locations to the west and south west of the Proposed Development covering Upper Glenkens and Upper Nithsdale. The ZTV indicates that only the Upper Nithsdale unit is predicted to receive very limited theoretical visibility confined to the western extent covering the lower slopes of White Hill and Polshag Hill at 25.7 km.	No - due to the distance involved and limited theoretical visibility predicted, this LCT has not been considered further.
166	Upland Glens – Dumfries & Galloway	This LCT is found in eight locations to the east, south east and west of the Proposed Development. The ZTV predicts that all eight units would receive limited theoretical visibility. To the east, this would occur on the eastern side of the Moffat unit and comprise limited coverage of 1-17 turbines at 7.6 km. The unit covering Moffat Dale is predicted to receive limited theoretical visibility of 1-17 turbines in the southern part at 10.5 km. To the south east, the unit covering the Ewes Water would be limited to its boundary at approximately 29.5 km. Similarly, to the west and south west, theoretical visibility would be confined to the boundary with neighbouring LCTs for	No – due to the limited extent of theoretical visibility predicted.

LCT Ref	Landscape Character Type	Extent of Theoretical Visibility	Included in the Assessment
		the units covering the Dalveen Pass, Mennock Water, Scar Water, Shinnel Water and Dalwhat Water.	
169	Drumlin Pastures	Covering a large area of land to the west of Dumfries, this LCT is partially divided by the Urr Water. Theoretical visibility is predicted in the eastern part comprising 1-11 turbines visible from elevated areas at 30.1 km.	No - it is not considered that the introduction of the Proposed Development would affect the key characteristics due to distance.
170	Coastal Plateau – Dumfries & Galloway	This LCT occurs in two separate locations to the south and south east of Lockerbie. The ZTV predicts that 1-17 turbines would be theoretically visible from both units. However, this would be at 32.1 – 41.4 km.	No - there is no potential for significant effects as there is only a very distant visibility predicted.
171	Flow Plateau	Located to the south east of Lockerbie and north of Gretna Green, this LCT is predicted to receive very limited visibility of 1-4 turbines at Woodhouse Mains 40.1 km away.	No - there is no potential for significant effects as there is only a very distant and isolated patch of visibility predicted.
172	Upland Fringe – Dumfries & Galloway	This LCT occurs in eight separate locations within the southern half of the study area. The two units covering Annandale are predicted to receive the greatest theoretical visibility experiencing widespread coverage of 1-17 turbines in the northern component and confined to upper areas in the southern component of the unit. This would be at distances between 11.8 – 31.7 km. Elsewhere, the other units including Ae, Torthorwold, Dunscore, Cairn, Corsock and Liddersdale are all predicted to receive limited theoretical visibility of 1-8 turbines at greater distances.	Yes - the northern Annandale unit of this LCT has been included in the assessment due to its proximity to the Proposed Development and widespread visibility predicted. The other units of the LCT mentioned have not been included in this assessment due to the limited extent of theoretical visibility and numbers of turbines visible.
175	Foothills – Dumfries & Galloway	This LCT occurs in seven separate locations within the southern half of the study area. The two units covering Beattock and Annandale to the south east are predicted to receive the greatest theoretical visibility of 1-17 turbines between 4.6 – 21.1 km. Approximately 5.4 km of access track will also cross the Beattock unit of this LCT. Elsewhere, the other units including Nithsdale, Keir and Dalmacallan are all predicted to receive limited theoretical visibility of 1-8 turbines at greater distances.	Yes – a section of the access track will be located within the Beattock unit of this LCT. Both the Beattock and Annandale units of this LCT have been included in the assessment due their proximity to the Proposed Development and extent of visibility predicted. The other units of the LCT mentioned have been scoped out in this assessment due to the limited extent of theoretical visibility and number of turbines visible.
176	Foothills with Forest – Dumfries & Galloway	This LCT can be found in five separate locations within the southern half of the study area. The ZTV indicates theoretical visibility within all five units with the greatest extent occurring within the Ae unit which lies directly to the east and south of the Proposed Development.	Yes – A section of access track crosses the Ae unit of this LCT. The Ae unit has also been included due to its proximity to the Proposed Development. The remaining units within the study area

LCT Ref	Landscape Character Type	Extent of Theoretical Visibility	Included in the Assessment
		Approximately 11.2 km of access track will also cross the Ae unit of this LCT. Elsewhere, the other units including Oer, Eskdale, Stroan and Rhinns of Kells are all predicted to receive very limited theoretical visibility at distances beyond 20 km.	have not been included due to distance and limited theoretical visibility predicted.
177	Southern Uplands – Dumfries & Galloway	This LCT is sub-divided into 9 separate units located in the southern half of the study area. The Proposed Development is partially located within the Lowther unit of this LCT including turbines 12 – 16; 1 met mast; 1 borrow pit; and access tracks. Additionally, the North and East Moffat units are predicted to receive theoretical visibility of 14-17 turbines. The remaining units covering Nithsdale, Carsphairy, North Langholm, Tarras and West Langholm are all predicted to have limited theoretical visibility.	Yes - there is the potential for significant effects due to the Proposed Development being located within the Lowther unit of this LCT. Additionally, the North and East Moffat units have been included due to the potential for indirect significant effects. The remaining units have not been included as a result of the limited theoretical visibility predicted.
178	Southern Uplands with Forest – Dumfries & Galloway	Occurs in five locations to the east and west of the Proposed Development. The Eskdalemuir unit of the LCT located to the east is predicted to receive very limited visibility of 1-17 turbines on three ridgelines, the most westerly of these includes Glengap Head and Craig Fell which would experience open views, whilst the second ridgeline extending between Ewelairs Hill and Laverhay Height visibility would be reduced by forestry. The third ridgeline would also receive open views and cover Dun Moss and Jocks Shoulder between 12.7 and 18 km from the Proposed Development. Visibility in the unit covering Drygutter Brae is predicted to be more extensive. However, much of this unit is covered by forestry which would reduce the extent of theoretical visibility experienced at distances between 29.7 - 35.4 km. Two of the western components covering the Ken and Carsphairn are predicted to receive visibility of 1-8 turbines at between 26.8 – 33.5 km.	No - it is not considered that the introduction of the Proposed Development would affect the key characteristics due to the limited extent of theoretical visibility and distances involved.
179	Coastal Uplands	This LCT covers two areas within the study area to the south west of Dumfries. 1-8 turbines are predicted to be visible from this LCT at distances of 30.6 – 45 km.	No - it is not considered that the introduction of the Proposed Development would affect the key characteristics of this LCT due to distance.
180	Rugged Uplands – Dumfries & Galloway	Two units of this LCT are in the south west of the study area, both are not predicted to receive theoretical visibility of the Proposed Development.	No
200	Rolling Farmland – Glasgow and the Clyde Valley	Covering Lanark, this LCT is not predicted to receive theoretical visibility of the Proposed Development.	No
201	Plateau Farmland – Glasgow & Clyde Valley	Two units of this LCT are located within the 45 km study area to the south of Forth and surrounding Lesmahagow to the north west of the Proposed Development. The ZTV indicates the theoretical visibility would be limited to a very small area at Carluke and on the A721 road to the south east between approximately 42 – 45 km from the	No - Both units of the LCT are predicted to receive theoretical visibility of between 1 – 8 turbines and it is not considered that this will lead to a significant effect on

LCT Ref	Landscape Character Type	Extent of Theoretical Visibility	Included in the Assessment
		Proposed Development. Within the north west unit, theoretical visibility is predicted in elevated areas to the east and west of Lesmahagow, on the edge of Broken Cross Muir, and along a short section of the B7078 road at distances between 31.6 – 45 km away.	the key characteristics due to the distances involved.
204	Incised River Valleys	Two units of this LCT are located within the 45 km study area covering the River Nethen and the Mouse Water / River Clyde. The ZTV indicates that no visibility would occur in either units.	No
207	Upland River Valley – Glasgow & Clyde Valley	Four units of this LCT are situated within the 45 km study area covering Avon Water, Douglas Water, Duneaton Water, and Nethan / Scots Burn and Logan Water. The ZTV indicates very limited visibility within the Douglas Water and Nethan / Scots Burn / Logan Water units. This would occur on the upper slopes of Hareshaw Hill and north west of Skellyhill between approximately 29.2 – 35.5 km and comprise 1 – 8 turbines.	No - due to distance and limited theoretical visibility predicted, this LCT has not been considered further in this assessment.
208	Broad Valley Upland	This LCT occurs within the Clyde Valley and covers the valley between Douglas, Biggar and Abington. The ZTV indicates that very limited theoretical visibility is predicted in the south of the LCT covering the south facing slopes of Foreside Hill at approximately 19.3 km to the nearest turbine.	No - due to distance and limited theoretical visibility, this LCT has not been considered further within this assessment.
209	Upland Glen – Glasgow & Clyde Valley	This LCT occurs in two locations within the 45 km study area covering the Culter Water and Upper Clyde and Tributaries. The ZTV indicates that the Culter Water unit would receive views of 1-17 turbines in a limited area covering the west facing slopes of the ridgeline extending north west from Culter Fell to Fell Shin at approximately 20.6 km from the nearest turbine. The unit covering the Upper Clyde and Tributaries would receive theoretical visibility of between 1 – 17 turbines along the east facing hills to the west of the River Clyde, Brown Hill, White Hill and to the east of Wintercleugh. Visibility is also predicted within the valley comprising 1 – 14 turbines between approximately 2.9 - 10.8 km to the north west of the nearest turbine.	Yes - there is the potential for a significant effect due to the Proposed Developments proximity to the LCT.
210	Undulating Farmland & Hills	This LCT is in two locations within the 45 km study area to the north of the Proposed Development covering an area to the north east of Douglas and north of Biggar. The Biggar unit of the LCT is not predicted to receive theoretical visibility; however, the area north east of Douglas is predicted to obtain theoretical visibility of 1 – 17 turbines on the summit and south facing slopes of Howgate Hill at approximately 26.0 km from the nearest turbine.	No - due to distance and the limited theoretical visibility predicted, this LCT has not been considered further in this assessment.
212	Moorland Hills – Glasgow & Clyde Valley	This LCT is located approximately 29.3 km to the north east of the Proposed Development covering the western Pentland Hills. The ZTV indicates that no theoretical visibility would occur within this LCT.	No

LCT Ref	Landscape Character Type	Extent of Theoretical Visibility	Included in the Assessment
213	Plateau Moorlands – Glasgow & Clyde Valley	Situated in two locations within the 45 km study area covering the western part of Glasgow on the Ayrshire Rim and separated by the Douglas Water. The ZTV indicates that the southern unit covering Middle Muir and Robertson Law is predicted to receive theoretical visibility of 1 – 17 turbines. This would occur to the east of the M74 motorway in the more elevated areas including Robert Law, Ewe Hill, Robertson, Scour Hill and Wildshaw Hill. To the west of the M74 two very small areas are predicted to receive theoretical visibility of 1 – 4 turbines on Parkhead Hill and north of Parkhead. The most northerly unit is predicted to receive theoretical visibility of 1 – 4 turbines on a limited number of hill tops. Additionally, Nutberry Hill would receive theoretical visibility of 5 – 8 turbines. This would occur at distances between 20.8 km to 38.2 km.	No - there is no potential for significant effects as there is only a very distant and isolated patch of visibility predicted.
217	Southern Uplands – Glasgow & Clyde Valley	The Proposed Development is partially located within this LCT including turbines 1 – 11 and 17; 1 met mast; 3 borrow pits; substation; control building; compound; and access tracks.	Yes - there is the potential for direct significant effects due to the Proposed Development being located within this LCT.
218	Rounded Landmark Hills	This LCT covers the Tinto Hills to the north of Abington. The ZTV indicates that the summit and south facing upper slopes of Tinto Hill, Scout Hill, Lochlyoch Hill, and Dungavel Hill, would receive theoretical visibility of 1 – 17 turbines between approximately 21.7 – 26.5 km to the nearest turbine.	No - there is no potential for significant effects on key characteristics due to distance and the limited extent of theoretical visibility predicted within the LCT.
219	Broad River Valley	Very limited visibility predicted to a small area to the east of Braidwood at approximately 42.1 km to the nearest turbine.	No - due to the limited theoretical visibility predicted and distance between the area potentially affected and the Proposed Development.

Source: Figure 5.5: Landscape Character

A5.3 LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT

Landscape Character Types Scoped into Assessment

A5.3.1 Following the initial review of LCTs undertaken in the previous section, the following LCTs have been scoped into the assessment:

- LCT 95: Southern Uplands – Scottish Borders;
- LCT 163: Middle Dale – Dumfries & Galloway;
- LCT 172: Upland Fringe – Dumfries & Galloway;
- LCT 175: Foothills – Dumfries & Galloway;
- LCT 176: Foothills with Forest – Dumfries & Galloway;

- LCT 177: Southern Uplands – Dumfries & Galloway;
- LCT 209: Upland Glen – Glasgow & Clyde Valley; and
- LCT 217: Southern Uplands – Glasgow & Clyde Valley.

A5.3.2 Five LCTs listed above are predicted to receive both direct and indirect effects as a result of project components being located in each LCT and the extent of theoretical visibility predicted of the Proposed Development. The remaining three LCTs are predicted to receive indirect effects as a result of their proximity to the Proposed Development and extent of theoretical visibility predicted.

A5.3.3 The Proposed Development including turbines, met mast, compound, substation, borrow pits and access tracks would be located in the following LCTs:

- LCT 177: Southern Uplands – Dumfries & Galloway; and
- LCT 217: Southern Uplands – Glasgow & Clyde Valley.

A5.3.4 Turbines 1 – 11 and 17 of the Proposed Development area lie within the Southern Uplands – Glasgow & Clyde Valley LCT, and Turbines 12 – 16 within the Southern Uplands – Dumfries and Galloway LCT. Sharing similar characteristics, the LCTs have been distinguished separately in NatureScot’s Landscape Character database (2019) owing to previously being covered by separate Landscape Character Assessments published by SNH in the late 1990s.²

A5.3.5 The access track linking the proposed site with the A701 road would include the upgrading of existing sections of track and the creation of short sections of new tracks. This would be approximately 19.3 km in total length and pass-through farmland and forestry and involve crossing three LCTs as follows:

- LCT 163: Middle Dale – Dumfries & Galloway;
- LCT 175: Foothills – Dumfries & Galloway; and
- LCT 176: Foothills with Forest – Dumfries & Galloway.

Verifying the Baseline

A5.3.6 In accordance with GLVIA3 (para 5.13), the second stage of the Landscape Assessment verified the baseline as follows:

‘Existing assessments must be reviewed critically as their quality may vary, some may be dated and some may not be suited to the task in hand. Before deciding to rely on information from an existing assessment a judgement should be made as to the degree to which it will be useful in informing the LVIA process.

It should be reviewed in terms of:

- *When it was carried out and the extent to which the landscape may have changed since then;*
- *It’s status, and whether or not it has been formally adopted, for example, as supplementary planning guidance;*
- *The scale and level of detail of the assessment and therefore its suitability for use in the LVIA, while noting the larger-scale assessments can often provide valuable context;*
- *Any other matters which might limit the reliability or usefulness of the information.*

Justification should be provided for any departure from the findings of an existing established LCA.’

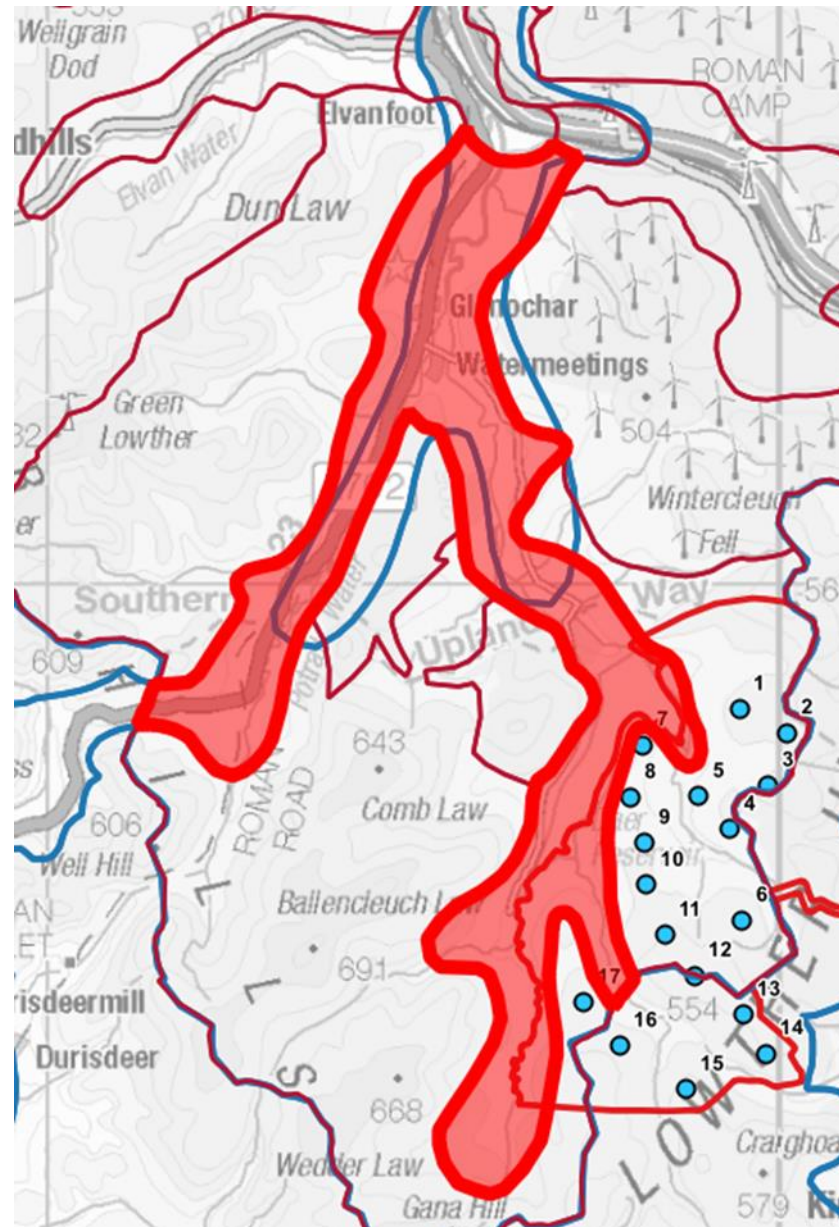
A5.3.7 This assessment has been based on the Landscape Character Types set out in NatureScots Landscape Character Database (2019). This is due to this dataset being more than the South Lanarkshire Council Landscape Character

² Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Landscape Character Assessment (SNH, 1999) and Dumfries & Galloway Landscape Character Assessment (SNH, 1998) / Dumfries and Galloway landscape assessment (SNH, 1998).

Assessment (2010), and the consistency that it provides when LCTs span local authority administrative boundaries. This was verified on site during the assessment work.

A5.3.8 One departure from the NatureScot database was identified relating to the Upland Glen LCT. The South Lanarkshire Council Landscape Character Assessment shows this LCT extending further south encompassing Daer Reservoir and the Daer Water before abruptly coming to a stop at the boundary with Dumfries & Galloway Council (as shown in red, Map A5.2.1). In the NatureScot database this area is shown as Southern Uplands – Glasgow & Clyde Valley LCT with the Upland Glen – Glasgow & Clyde Valley LCT stopping short of Daer Reservoir (shown in blue on Map A5.2.1) further to the north. During the site visit it was agreed that the predominant characteristics of this area were indeed related to the Upland Glen LCT and it has been assessed as such in this assessment.

Map A5.2.1: Upland Glen LCT Revised Boundary



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A5.3.9 The following tables set out the baseline, sensitivity, and assessment for each of the LCTs scoped into the LVIA as follows:

Table A5.2.2: Southern Uplands – Glasgow & Clyde Valley LCT Assessment

LCT 217 Southern Uplands – Glasgow & Clyde Valley	
Baseline	
Wider LCT:	<p>Covering a large part of southern South Lanarkshire, the Southern Uplands – Glasgow & Clyde LCT is characteristic of the land surrounding the Upland Glens LCT of the Daer and Culter Waters. The LCT extends from Coulter in the north, to Ganna Hill in the south and includes the Lowther Hills and part of the Southern Uplands. Occupying an area to the south of the Southern Upland Fault line, the LCT comprises a series of large, rounded hills divided by U-shaped valleys. Landcover is predominantly grass moorland with areas of heather, extensive coniferous forestry and the operational Clyde Wind Farm is situated in the central part of the LCT. Settlement is sparse and mainly confined to lower hill slopes within U-shaped valleys which also form the main transport corridors through the LCT and includes the M74/A74, West Coast Railway Line and the A702 road.</p> <p>NatureScot identify the key characteristics as follows³:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extensive, large-scale upland landscape with strong but smooth relief. • Glacial carved and smothered landforms, including u-shaped valleys, hanging valleys and corries. • Extensive mosaics of heath, with a transition to rough grazing on lower tops or slopes. • Prominent isolated conifer forests and old stands of Scots pine. • Largely undeveloped, except for occasional upland farms, shielings and Clyde wind farm. • Important travel and transmission lines pass through the area are the A74, west coast mainline railway and Scotland-England interconnector pylon line. • Significant archaeological sites, particularly from the Bronze and Iron Age periods. • Prominent hill ranges in views from many areas. • Wide ranging panoramic views from the hill summits. <p>The South Lanarkshire Landscape Character Assessment⁴ identifies the key characteristics of the LCT as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large scale upland landscape with strong but smooth rolling relief and extensive panoramic views from summits and ridges; • Glacial carved and smoothed landforms, including U-shaped valleys, hanging valleys and corries; • Extensive mosaics of heath and rough grassland; • Significant archaeological sites, particularly from the Bronze and Iron Age periods; • Prominent isolated coniferous plantations and old stands of Scot's pine; • With the exception of Clyde windfarm largely undeveloped, except for occasional upland undeveloped, except for occasional upland farms and shielings, the M74 corridor and occasional masts and pylons. • Wide ranging panoramic views from the hill summits.
Proposed Site:	<p>The Daer Land Portion of the proposed site lies within this LCT and comprises an upland landscape extending between Hods Hill (567 m (Above Ordnance Datum AOD)) in the north, Rivox Forest to the east, Whiteside Hill (554 m AOD) to the south, and Daer Reservoir to the west. Topography within the site typically ranges between 340 m to 567 m AOD, generally sloping westwards towards Daer Reservoir. The site is drained by a series of small watercourses including Sweetshaw Burn, Shiel Burn, White Burn and Crook Burn.</p> <p>Landcover comprises mostly marshy rush/purple moor grass pasture and upland acid grassland and land use is predominantly rough grazing associated with nearby tenant farms.</p> <p>A site visit confirmed that the site is generally consistent with the key characteristics set out by NatureScot. The exception being that there are no travel or communication lines traversing the proposed site, nor is there forestry or prominent hills. Additionally, panoramic views can be obtained from the site looking outwards, but their extent is limited by the surrounding high ground to the north, south and west, and forestry to the east. The operational Clyde Wind Farm, Daer Reservoir and associated waterworks all located to the north are important man-made features which influence the character and perceptual qualities of the proposed site.</p>

LCT 217 Southern Uplands – Glasgow & Clyde Valley	
Landscape Sensitivity	
Landscape Value:	The proposed site and LCT are not covered by any national designations but do lie in the south eastern corner of the Leadhills & Lowther Hills Special Landscape Area (SLA) which is a local designation identified within the South Lanarkshire Local Development Plan 2015. There are no recreational interests within the proposed site; however, there is permitted fishing on Daer Reservoir to the west and Stage 7 of the Southern Upland Way (SUW) between Wanlockhead and Beattock passes through the LCT along the northern boundary of the proposed site. The cultural heritage assessment (Chapter 9) of the proposed site identified several medieval/post-medieval settlements and agrarian activity resulting in some small pockets of historical value. Overall, landscape value for the proposed site and LCT is considered to be High .
Landscape Susceptibility:	The proposed site and LCT are large in scale and geographical extent with an open character, simple pattern, land cover and gentle landform. It is inter-visible with neighbouring character areas with strong mixed developed / undeveloped skylines owing to the operational Clyde Wind Farm and presence of man-made features such as the National Air Traffic Services (NATS) sites on Green Lowther and Lowther Hill, Daer Reservoir and associated waterworks. It is considered that the landscape characteristics of the proposed site have some ability to accommodate certain elements of the development without undue adverse effects resulting in a Medium susceptibility to landscape change.
Landscape Sensitivity:	Overall, it is considered that the Southern Uplands – Glasgow & Clyde Valley LCT has a High landscape sensitivity.
Landscape Magnitude of Change	
Proposed Site during Construction:	<p>During the construction phase of the Proposed Development, there will be potential for short-term direct effects of activities associated with the construction of infrastructure and turbines. Potential effects during this phase are reversible unless otherwise stated (e.g. creation of permanent new features such as earthworks, access tracks, hardstanding's and components of the development that will be retained post decommissioning).</p> <p>The construction stage of the Proposed Development would result in direct physical effects to the proposed site. The following provides a summary of activities related to the construction phase specific to the Daer Land Portion in the Southern Uplands – Glasgow & Clyde Valley LCT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction/decommissioning of access tracks (including upgrades) and 12 crane pad hardstandings; • Creation of 3 borrow pits and the extraction of material followed by reinstatement; • Construction/restoration of a temporary construction compound; • Construction/Decommissioning of a control building, energy storage area and compound; • Construction/decommissioning of 12 wind turbines and associated crane operations; • Excavation/reinstatement of cable trenches; • Construction/decommissioning of 1 met mast; • General reinstatement works; and • Vehicular/personnel movements on site. <p>Such operations would result in direct effects on the landscape fabric of the Proposed Development site area. This will include excavation of ground vegetation, earthworks, the introduction of new elements and activity associated with construction which would contrast with the existing land use and moorland context.</p> <p>It is considered the magnitude of change on the landscape resource of the site would be Substantial resulting from the direct physical effects and size and scale of proposed changes over a localised area within the Daer Land Portion. This would be temporary in nature and reversible in the long-term.</p>
Proposed Site during Operation:	<p>Following reinstatement post construction, the site area would enter the operational stage with activity within the proposed site reducing to works associated with the operation and maintenance of 12 wind turbines. The nature of the effects on landscape character would be long term during the operational life of the Proposed Development and reversible beyond this period as a result of decommissioning. There are currently no consented or proposed wind farm developments located within, or in close proximity which could contribute to direct cumulative landscape effects for the site.</p> <p>Magnitude of change on the landscape resource of the site would remain as Substantial during operation because of the size and scale of the changes including the introduction of 12 operational wind turbines, 1 met mast, access tracks, compound, battery storage and substation.</p>

LCT 217 Southern Uplands – Glasgow & Clyde Valley	
Wider LCT - Scenario 1	<p>This is an extensive landscape with large central areas that are relatively inaccessible due to main roads and settlement being located within surrounding valleys. Visibility of Scenario 1 wind farms is widespread generally as a result on the operational Clyde Wind Farm and Extension which is located within the LCT to the north of the Proposed Development.</p> <p>The size and scale of the change to landscape character would be focussed on a localised area in the south of the LCT. The ZTV indicates that theoretical visibility would be confined to the immediate vicinity of the proposed site within the LCT as a result of rising landform to the north at Hods Hill and extend 4.3 km to the west by Comb Law and Ballinluech Law. Thereafter, theoretical visibility would be experienced from higher ground within Clyde Wind Farm to the north up to 21. 5 km away, as well as to the north west covering Lowther Hill, Green Lowther and Wellgreen Dod.</p> <p>There would also be a slight increase in visibility of turbines currently experienced within the proposed site boundary; however, this would be confined to a few small pockets covering hollows, south and west facing slopes where Clyde and Harestanes Wind Farms are screened by surrounding landform. To the north, the extent of theoretical visibility would reduce and would be experienced within Clyde Wind Farm which has a significant influence on the character of the LCT.</p> <p>The introduction of the Proposed Development would alter the key characteristics and perceptual qualities of the LCT within a 5 km area surrounding the Proposed Development Area. Thereafter, the key characteristics and perceptual qualities would be less affected due to a combination of reduced visibility and distance.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be Substantial within 5 km of the Proposed Development, thereafter, reducing to a Slight level as distance and the influence of Clyde Wind Farm increases.</p>
Wider LCT - Scenario 2	<p>Scenario 2 baseline would result in an additional 8 turbines being located within this LCT at two separate sites, namely Crookedstane and Lion Hill to the north west of the Proposed Development. Both developments, if constructed would appear as an extension to Clyde Wind Farm as a result of no separation distance between the operational and consented sites. The addition of these two sites would not increase the extent of theoretical visibility experienced of wind turbines within the LCT as a result of being located next to the much larger Clyde Wind Farm. Both developments would extend the influence of wind turbines westwards towards the edge of the LCT adjoining the neighbouring Upland Glen – Glasgow & Clyde Valley LCT.</p> <p>Both Clyde and Lion Hill would be the closest wind farms to the Proposed Development with Crookedstane located further west and would have less of an influence due to intervening landform. Through the design evolution of the Proposed Development, a separation distance between Clyde and the proposed site has been a key objective. The addition of Lion Hill would extend turbines to the north west of the proposed site; however, the distance between the Proposed Development and Lion Hill would be broadly similar to Clyde Wind Farm.</p> <p>The magnitude of change associated with the introduction of the Proposed Development would be similar to Scenario 1 and would remain as Substantial within 5 km, reducing to Slight overall as a result of the small increase in turbines of this Scenario in proximity to the Proposed Development which would be long-term reversible.</p>
Wider LCT - Scenario 3	<p>No further wind farms would be located within this LCT in Scenario 3 with the main changes occurring indirectly from North Lowther and Scoop Hill developments which would be experienced indirectly from parts of this LCT. Scoop Hill would have the biggest influence with the Proposed Development appearing in the foreground in elevated views from Green Lowther and Lowther Hill (see Figures 5.24a – 5.25f). Magnitude of change would remain as Substantial within 5 km, reducing to a Slight overall level beyond 8.5 km, and long-term reversible.</p>
Landscape Effect	
Proposed Site during Construction:	Major (significant) on the physical landscape fabric of the proposed site. The nature of these effects would be short-term (reversible), direct and negative.
Proposed Site during Operation:	Major (significant) on the physical landscape fabric of the proposed site. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), direct and negative.
Wider LCT – Scenario 1	Major (significant) effect within 5 km reducing to a Moderate (not significant) effect overall on account of the limited part of the whole LCT affected and areas being within Clyde Wind Farm. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, indirect and negative.
Wider LCT – Scenario 2	Major (significant) effect reducing to a Moderate (not significant) effect overall as above.

LCT 217	Southern Uplands – Glasgow & Clyde Valley
Wider LCT – Scenario 3	Major (significant) effect reducing to a Moderate (not significant) effect overall as above.

Table A5.2.3: Southern Uplands – Dumfries & Galloway LCT Assessment

LCT 177	Southern Uplands – Dumfries & Galloway
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Baseline

Wider LCT:	<p>Covering a smaller part of the site than the Southern Uplands – Glasgow & Clyde Valley LCT, the Southern Uplands – Dumfries & Galloway LCT occupies the southern part of the proposed site. Located in several locations within the southern half of the study area, the LCT is predicted to receive theoretical visibility of the Proposed Development in 9 Units, although only the Lowther, North Moffat and East Moffat units are predicted to receive potential significant effects due to their proximity to the Proposed Development.</p> <p>NatureScot identify the key characteristics of the Southern Uplands – Dumfries & Galloway as follows⁵ :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large, smooth dome/conical shaped hills, predominantly grass-covered. • Open and exposed character except within incised valleys. • Dramatically sculpted landforms and awe-inspiring scale. • Distinctive dark brown/purple colour of heather on some of the higher areas. • Pockets of woodland in incised valleys. • Stone dykes occasionally define the lower limit. • Legacy of lead and other mining activity, with extensive archaeological remains around the former mining village of Wanlockhead. • Wind farms locally characteristic, away from the more dramatic, scenic and sculptural slopes and skylines.
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Proposed Site:	<p>The Kinnelhead Land Portion of the site is located within this LCT and there are distinct differences from the Daer Land Portion to the north covered by the Southern Uplands – Glasgow & Clyde Valley LCT. The Kinnelhead Land Portion is much more elevated with hill tops over 500 m AOD including Lamb Hill (542 m AOD) and Hamrty Hill (542 m AOD). These hills are dissected by steep valleys containing several small watercourses. Landcover is predominantly acid grassland with some larger areas of flush and fen.</p> <p>A site visit confirmed that the site is generally consistent with the key characteristics set out by NatureScot above except for no evidence of mining activity.</p>
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Landscape Sensitivity

Landscape Value:	<p>This LCT is not covered by any national designations but the Lowther's unit does lie in the north eastern corner of the Thornhill Uplands RSA which is a local designation identified within the Dumfries & Galloway Local Development Plan 2019. The North Moffat unit partially falls within the Talla – Hart Fells WLA and the Moffat Hills RSA, and the East Moffat unit is partially covered by the Moffat Hills RSA. There is no recreational interest within the proposed site but there are several cultural heritage assets including medieval/post-medieval settlements and examples of agrarian activity.</p> <p>Within the wider LCT, there are several hill tops within the Lowther, North Moffat and East Moffat units that are popular with walkers such as Queensberry Hill and the Southern Upland Way, Roman Reivers Route and Annandale Way long-distance footpaths . Landscape value is considered to be High for the Lowther, East Moffat and North Moffat unit.</p>
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Landscape Susceptibility:	<p>This LCT is large in scale and geographical extent with an open character, simple pattern and land cover, and characterised by rounded domed or slightly conical hills. The LCT is inter-visible with neighbouring character areas with strong mixed developed/undeveloped skylines owing to operational wind farm developments located to the south beyond the LCT, namely Harestanes and Minnygap. It is considered that the landscape characteristics of this LCT have some ability to accommodate certain elements of the Proposed Development without undue adverse effects resulting in a Medium susceptibility to landscape change.</p>
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Landscape Sensitivity:	<p>Overall, it is considered that the Lowther and East Moffat units of the LCT have a High landscape sensitivity.</p>
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LCT 177	Southern Uplands – Dumfries & Galloway
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Landscape Magnitude of Change

Proposed Site during Construction:	<p>During the construction phase of the Proposed Development, there will be potential for short-term direct effects of activities associated with the construction of infrastructure and turbines. Potential effects during this phase are reversible unless otherwise stated (e.g., creation of permanent new features such as earthworks, access tracks, hardstanding's and components of the development that will be retained). The construction stage of the Proposed Development would result in direct physical effects to the proposed site. The following provides a summary specific to the Southern Uplands – Dumfries & Galloway LCT.</p>
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- Construction/decommissioning of access tracks (including upgrades) and 5 crane pad hardstandings;
- Creation of 1 borrow pit and the extraction of material followed by reinstatement;
- Construction/decommissioning of 5 wind turbines and associated crane operations;
- Excavation/reinstatement of cable trenches;
- Construction/decommissioning of 1 met mast;
- General reinstatement works; and
- Vehicular/personnel movements on site.

Such operations would result in direct effects on the landscape fabric of the development site area. This will include excavation of ground vegetation, earthworks, the introduction of new elements and activity associated with construction which would contrast with the existing land use and moorland context. There are currently no operational wind farm developments within this LCT.

It is considered the magnitude of change on the landscape resource of the site would be **Substantial** resulting from the direct physical effects and the size and scale of proposed changes over a localised area within the Kinnelhead Land Portion which would be temporary in nature.

Proposed Site during Operation:	<p>Following reinstatement post construction, the site area would enter the operational stage with activity within the proposed site reducing to works associated with the operation and maintenance of wind turbines. The nature of the effects on landscape character would be long term during the operational life of the Proposed Development and reversible beyond this period as a result of decommissioning. Therefore, the magnitude of change on the landscape resource of the site would remain Substantial, resulting from the size and scale of the changes including the introduction of 5 wind turbines, 1 met mast, and access tracks. These would-be long-term features within the landscape but reversible.</p>
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Wider LCT - Scenario 1	<p>Theoretical visibility of the Proposed Development would extend for 3.5 km to Queensberry Hill and include the hill tops of Mid Height, Harestanes Heights and Earnsraig in the intervening area with 1 – 17 turbines being visible depending on elevation. Thereafter, theoretical visibility would be limited to summits and east facing slopes of Hard Hill, Haggie Hill, Crightons Cairn and Tod Craig Hill to the south where 1-8 turbines are predicted to be visible; and to the south west at Garroch Fell where 12 – 14 turbines would be seen from the summit; and 9 -11 turbines on Glenleith Fell.</p>
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Within the North Moffat unit, the ZTV shows that the western part of the unit would receive theoretical visibility of 15 – 17 turbines from the western side of Hart Fell including Cocklaw Knowe, Auldton Fell, Merecleuch Hill. Similarly, the East Moffat unit is predicted to receive theoretical visibility along the southern slopes of Moffat Dale including Yadburch Hill, Gathshaw, Croft Head and Cape Fell. The extent of theoretical visibility would be limited to above the tree line as there is extensive forestry on the mid to lower slopes of both Moffat units of the LCT.

The change in experience of wind farm development as a result of the addition of the Proposed Development would be very limited geographically in the Lowther unit of the LCT. A separation distance of 3.7 km would be maintained between the Proposed Development and Harestanes Wind Farm to the south.

The introduction of the Proposed Development would alter the key characteristics and perceptual qualities of the LCT within a 5 km area surrounding the Proposed Development Area. Thereafter, the key characteristics and perceptual qualities would be less affected due to a combination of reduced visibility and distance. A **Substantial** change is considered to occur within 5 km of the Lowther unit between the Proposed Development and Queensberry Hill, thereafter, reducing to **Negligible** due to the very limited extent of Lowther unit affected.

Elsewhere, both the North Moffat and East Moffat units are predicted to experience widespread theoretical visibility; however, much of the area of the two units affected is covered by forestry plantation and changes would be experienced from higher ground. This would result in a **Slight** magnitude of change.



⁵ NatureScot (2019) SNH National Landscape Character Assessment, Landscape Character Type 177: Southern Uplands – Borders

LCT 177	Southern Uplands – Dumfries & Galloway
Wider LCT - Scenario 2	The addition of consented schemes to the baseline would not result in further wind turbine developments within this LCT. The addition of Lion Hill will be experienced from the North and East Moffat Units of the LCT, but the change would be minimal and not alter the key characteristics. When the Proposed Development is added to this cumulative baseline, it is predicted that the magnitude of change would be Negligible .
Wider LCT - Scenario 3	No further sites would be located within the 3 units of this LCT considered in cumulative Scenario 3 baseline. However, Scoop Hill would be located on the edge of the East Moffat unit and will result in further turbines being located closer to the LCT. Due to landform, only the elevated parts of the East Moffat unit would be affected with greater extent of theoretical visibility of Scoop Hill predicted in the North Moffat unit. The addition of the Proposed Development into this baseline scenario would extend turbine development in the Lowther unit of the LCT increasing the number of turbines visible. However, the Proposed Development would be experienced over a small part of the overall LCT and it is not considered that their addition will change the overall characteristics of this LCT to a predominantly wind farm landscape. Magnitude of change is considered to be Substantial within 5 km in the Lowther unit, and remain as Slight in the North and South Moffat units of the LCT.
Landscape Effect	
Proposed Site during Construction:	Major (significant) effect on the physical landscape fabric of the proposed site. The nature of these effects would be short-term (reversible), direct and negative.
Proposed Site during Operation:	Major (significant) effect on the physical landscape fabric of the proposed site. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), direct and negative.
Wider LCT – Scenario 1	Major (significant) effect within the Lowther unit and Moderate (not significant) effect in the North and East Moffat units of the LCT. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, indirect and negative.
Wider LCT – Scenario 2	Negligible (not significant) effect within all three units due to the limited extent of theoretical visibility predicted within each unit of the consented sites, combined with distance.
Wider LCT – Scenario 3	Major (significant) effect within the Lowther unit and Moderate (not significant) effect in the North and East Moffat units of the LCT as above.

Table A5.2.4: Middle Dale – Dumfries & Galloway Assessment

LCT 163	Middle Dale – Dumfries & Galloway
Baseline	
Wider LCT:	This LCT is in located in three locations within the southern half of the study area. This includes Mid Annandale which covers an extensive area between Moffat and Lockerbie, a smaller area to the south of Lockerbie, and Mid Nithsdale extending between Thornhill and Dalswinton. All three units are predicted to receive theoretical visibility of the Proposed Development. However, only the one of the units covering Mid Annandale is included in the assessment due to the distance between the Proposed Development and the Mid Nithsdale unit which is predicted to receive limited theoretical visibility. NatureScot identify the key characteristics as follows ⁶ : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Broad valley with complex undulating topography and locally narrow sections.</i> • <i>River meanders eroding bluffs in the valley moraines.</i> • <i>Landcover predominantly improved pastures, lush green, sheep and cattle grazed.</i> • <i>Medium scale field enclosures, a mixture of hedgerows and dry stone dykes.</i> • <i>Extensive pattern of shelterbelts and farm woodlands with semi-natural woodlands on bluff slopes.</i> • <i>Dale contained by uplands with forests and rough grazing on horizons.</i> • <i>Semi-natural hanging woodlands on steep bluff slopes.</i>

LCT 163	Middle Dale – Dumfries & Galloway
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Country houses and designed landscapes.</i> • <i>Settlements of high townscape quality.</i> • <i>Communication routes.</i> • <i>'Red-earth' qualities relating to underlying red sandstones.</i>
Landscape Sensitivity	
Landscape Value:	A small section in the north of the LCT is covered by the Moffat Hills Regional Scenic Area (RSA) and a limited part of the south western side by the Torthorwold Ridge RSA. One Garden and Designed Landscape (GDL), Raehills is partially located between Beattock and Johnstonbridge resulting in an area of higher value. However, overall, the LCT is considered to have a Medium landscape value.
Landscape Susceptibility:	This LCT consists of a wide dale situated between the foothills of the Southern Uplands and is medium in scale. Landform is generally flat to gently undulating contrasting with the foothills landscape to the east and west. This is a settled landscape which is predominantly managed for agriculture with smaller areas of forestry, broadleaf woodland and industrial units resulting in a complex landscape pattern. This is further emphasised with numerous linear features including transmission lines, a railway line and road network. Landscape susceptibility to change is considered to be Medium
Landscape Sensitivity:	Overall landscape sensitivity is considered to be Medium for the Middle Dale – Dumfries & Galloway LCT.
Landscape Magnitude of Change	
Proposed Site during Construction:	A small portion of the access site near Raeknowes Moss would be located within this LCT and include an upgrading to the existing forestry track entrance and 210 m of upgraded access track. The overall scale of the change would be very limited both in the overall land take required and construction works whilst not introducing any new features into the LCT. Magnitude of change is considered to be Negligible .
Proposed Site during Operation:	On completion, any disturbed areas would be reinstated following best practice methods. During operation, there would be a slight increase in vehicle movements along the track from maintenance vehicles which would occur daily but of low frequency. Magnitude of change is considered to be Negligible .
Wider LCT - Scenario 1	The ZTV indicates that theoretical visibility would occur mainly in the eastern side of the dale extending between Moffat in the north to the outskirts of Lockerbie in the south. In this location 14-17 turbines are predicted to be visible. Elsewhere, theoretical visibility is predicted around Lochwood although screening from forestry to the west located in the neighbouring LCT is likely to reduce the extent of visibility at this location. To the south, where the dale broadens, theoretical visibility is predicted to be widespread but distant. The size and scale of the change would be experienced mostly in the north of the LCT due to the closer proximity to the Proposed Development where the proposed turbines would occupy an area between Clyde and Harestanes Wind Farms. However, the proposed turbines would be set back from the dale and would have limited impact upon the small-scale characteristics of the LCT and its backdrop. Magnitude of change is considered to be Slight .
Wider LCT - Scenario 2	Consented sites in this cumulative baseline scenario are set back from the LCT and are not considered to increase or decrease the cumulative effect assessed for Scenario 1 resulting in a Negligible magnitude of change.
Wider LCT - Scenario 3:	The application site of Scoop Hill and scoping site of Harestanes South are likely to increase the influence of wind turbines within this LCT. This is due to a combination of factors such as their proximity to the LCT, increase in tip height, and in the case of Scoop Hill, a larger number of turbines encroaching on the fringes of the LCT to the east. The introduction of the Proposed Development into this baseline is not considered to increase the magnitude of change described for Scenario 1 and would remain as Slight , long-term and reversible..
Landscape Effect	
Proposed Site during Construction:	Negligible (not significant) on the physical landscape fabric of the proposed site due to the very limited part of the LCT affected. The nature of these effects would be short-term (reversible), direct and neutral.

⁶ NatureScot (2019) SNH National Landscape Character Assessment, Landscape Character Type 163: Middle Dale – Dumfries & Galloway

LCT 163	Middle Dale – Dumfries & Galloway
Proposed Site during Operation:	Negligible on the physical landscape fabric of the proposed site. The nature of these effects would be short-term (reversible), direct and neutral.
Wider LCT – Scenario 1:	Moderate/minor (not significant) due to being set back from the dale and limited effect on the key characteristics. These effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, indirect and negative.
Wider LCT – Scenario 2:	Negligible (not significant) due to the limited effect from Consented sites on the key characteristics of the LCT.
Wider LCT – Scenario 3:	Moderate/minor (not significant) As per Scenario 1.

Table A5.2.5: Foothills – Dumfries & Galloway Assessment

LCT 175	Foothills – Dumfries & Galloway
Baseline	
Wider LCT:	This LCT occurs in seven separate locations within the southern half of the study area. The two units covering Beattock and Annandale to the south east are predicted to receive the greatest theoretical visibility of 1-17 turbines between 4.6 – 21.1 km. Elsewhere, the other units including Nithsdale, Keir and Dalmacallan are all predicted to receive limited theoretical visibility of 1-8 turbines at greater distances. NatureScot identify the key characteristics as follows ⁷ : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generally undulating land between 170 and 250 metres, with rounded peaks. Higher in the west, up to nearly 550 metres with craggier peaks. • Foothills dissected by incised valleys. • Semi-improved pasture enclosed in medium-large fields by stone walls. Grazed by sheep and cattle. Some rough pastures and heath on higher ground. • Trees in sheltered pockets with some copses on top of hills. • Many scattered farmsteads and small settlements. • Network of minor roads. • Numerous archaeological sites particularly Bronze Age funerary and ritual sites. • Iron Age settlements and forts.
Landscape Sensitivity	
Landscape Value:	The Raehills GDL is located within the Beattock unit of this LCT resulting in an area of higher value. Overall, both the Annandale and Beattock units of this LCT are not covered by any formal landscape designation. Landscape value is considered to be Medium .
Landscape Susceptibility:	The LCT is an important transitional landscape between the upland and lowland landscapes providing the backdrop to the Middle Dale LCT. Landform comprises small moorland hills with rough pasture and some smaller areas of woodland and forestry. Land pattern is less complex with larger areas contained by a series of post and wire fences. Landscape susceptibility to change is considered to be Medium .
Landscape Sensitivity:	Overall, it is considered that the Foothills – Dumfries & Galloway LCT has a Medium landscape sensitivity.
Landscape Magnitude of Change	
Proposed Site during Construction:	The proposed access track would pass through this LCT between near Raeknowes Moss and Broadshaw Rig in an east to west direction. This would utilise the existing track which passes through farmland and forestry for approximately 5.4 km within the LCT. During construction, existing tracks would be upgraded by widening and straightening sharp bends and new sections created to allow access by abnormal loads. Works associated with the upgrading of access tracks and creation of new tracks would involve the removal of vegetation, creation of a track sub-base and running surface which would include new drainage. The overall scale of the change to the

LCT 175	Foothills – Dumfries & Galloway
	LCT would be small whilst not introducing any new feature into the LCT. Magnitude of change is considered to be Negligible , temporary and reversible.
Proposed Site during Operation:	On completion, any disturbed areas would be reinstated following best practice methods. During operation, there would be a slight increase in vehicle movements along the track from maintenance vehicles which would occur daily but of low frequency. Magnitude of change is considered to be Negligible level during operation.
Wider LCT - Scenario 1:	Within the wider LCT, theoretical visibility is predicted to be prevalent throughout both units of the LCT assessed. Theoretical visibility in the Beattock unit would mainly be widespread in the west reducing eastwards and be smaller due to screening by forestry in the neighbouring LCT to the west. Within this unit 1-17 turbines are predicted to be theoretically visible. Within the Annandale unit, theoretical visibility of 14-17 turbines is predicted from west facing slopes. The presence of forestry would reduce this somewhat; nevertheless, all 17 turbines are likely to be visible situated between Clyde and Harestanes/Minnygap Wind Farms at distances of 4.5 – 21.1 km. Magnitude of change is considered to be Slight within both the Annandale and Beattock units, long-term reversible.
Wider LCT - Scenario 2:	No consented schemes would be located within this LCT or in the vicinity and it is considered that magnitude of change would be Negligible .
Wider LCT - Scenario 3:	Two application developments would result in a change to the baseline characteristics of this LCT. Firstly, Harestanes South located to the south of the operational Harestanes Wind Farm would be situated close to the western boundary of the Beattock unit. Secondly, Scoop Hill would be located partially within the Annandale unit of the LCT and would have a greater influence on both the Annandale and Beattock units. The addition of the Proposed Development to this baseline would result in additional wind turbines being viewed to the west between the operational Clyde and Harestanes Wind Farms. As described for Scenario 1, the size and scale of the change would be small whereas the addition of the application and scoping sites to the baseline scenario would increase the influence of turbines within this LCT. Magnitude of change is considered to remain as Slight .
Landscape Effect	
Proposed Site during Construction:	Negligible (not significant) on the physical landscape fabric of the proposed site due to the very limited part of the LCT affected. The nature of these effects would be short-term (reversible), direct and neutral.
Proposed Site during Operation:	Negligible on the physical landscape fabric of the proposed site. The nature of these effects would be short-term (reversible), direct and neutral.
Wider LCT – Scenario 1:	Moderate/minor (not significant) due to being set back from the dale and limited effect on the key characteristics. These effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, indirect and negative.
Wider LCT – Scenario 2:	Negligible (not significant) due to the limited effect from Consented sites on the key characteristics of the LCT.
Wider LCT – Scenario 3:	Moderate/minor (not significant) As per Scenario 1.

Table A5.2.6: Foothills with Forest – Dumfries & Galloway Assessment

LCT 176	Foothills with Forest – Dumfries & Galloway
Baseline	
Wider LCT:	This LCT can be found in five separate locations within the southern half of the study area. The unit covering Ae which lies directly to the east and south of the Proposed Development is predicted to receive the greatest extent of theoretical visibility. Elsewhere, the other units including Oer, Eskdale, Stroan and Rhinns of Kells are all predicted to receive very limited theoretical visibility at distances beyond 20 km from the Proposed Development. NatureScot identify the key characteristics as follows ⁸ :



⁷ NatureScot (2019) SNH National Landscape Character Assessment, Landscape Character Type 175: Foothills – Dumfries & Galloway

⁸ NatureScot (2019) SNH National Landscape Character Assessment, Landscape Character Type 176: Foothills with Forest – Dumfries & Galloway

LCT 176	Foothills with Forest – Dumfries & Galloway
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dark green blanket of forest covering undulating foothills.</i> • <i>Changing landscape with areas with large and medium scale forestry operations and wind farm development.</i> • <i>Forested areas dominated by Sitka Spruce, interspersed with mixed conifers and broadleaf planting, undergoing felling and replanting in large coupes.</i> • <i>Tall mature conifers at roadside.</i> • <i>Areas of more complex, locally distinctive and smaller-scale landscapes, with semi improved pasture with walled enclosures on open ground, occasional lochs and estate policies, distinctive ridges and landmark summits.</i> • <i>Areas of relict landscape with remains of pre-improvement settlement and agriculture clustered in burn valleys.</i> • <i>Wind farms, locally defining the character in some areas of central Dumfries and Galloway.</i>

Landscape Sensitivity

Landscape Value:	Partially covered by the Thornhill Uplands RSA to the east of Thornhill, the majority of the LCT is not covered by any formal landscape designation. Landscape value is considered to be Medium .
Landscape Susceptibility:	Despite being heavily forested in coniferous species, the LCT does provide an important backdrop to the Middle Dale LCT in combination with the Foothills – Dumfries & Galloway LCT. The LCT is an important transitional landscape between the upland and lowland landscapes. Landform comprises small forested covered hills which masks the underlying landscape features and pattern. Landscape susceptibility to change is considered to be Medium .
Landscape Sensitivity:	Overall, it is considered that the Foothills with Forest – Dumfries & Galloway LCT has a Medium landscape sensitivity.

Landscape Magnitude

Proposed Site during Construction:	The proposed access track would pass through this LCT between Broadshaw Rig and the proposed site in a north easterly to south westerly direction. This would occur in forestry and would utilise the existing forestry track for approximately 11.2 km. During construction, existing tracks would be upgraded by widening and straightening sharp bends and new sections created to allow access by abnormal loads. Works associated with the upgrading of access tracks and creation of new tracks would involve the removal of vegetation, creation of a track sub-base and running surface which would include new drainage. The overall scale of the change to the LCT would be small whilst not introducing any new features into the LCT. Magnitude of change is considered to be Negligible , long-term and reversible.
Proposed Site during Operation:	On completion, any disturbed areas would be reinstated following best practice methods. During operation, there would be a slight increase in vehicle movements along the track from maintenance vehicles which would occur daily but of low frequency. Magnitude of change is considered to reduce to a Negligible level during operation.
Wider LCT - Scenario 1	Within the wider LCT, theoretical visibility is predicted to predominantly be directly to the east of the Proposed Development extending to high ground on the west side of the M74 motorway up to 4.9 km from the nearest turbine. This would mainly cover areas of forestry with some open areas being affected such as Peat Hill near Kinnelhead. In the southern extent of the LCT, theoretical visibility would be limited to elevated areas, occurring within the Harestanes Wind Farm comprising 1-8 turbines. Theoretical visibility within this heavily modified landscape would be reduced considerably owing to the presence of coniferous forestry; in particular, within the Rivox Land Portion to the east of the Proposed Development. This would reduce visibility within the LCT to glimpses through forest glades and clearings, as well as the small areas of open ground. Magnitude of change is considered to be Slight within the LCT, long-term reversible.
Wider LCT - Scenario 2	No consented sites have been identified as being located within or near the unit of this LCT assessed. Magnitude of change would be Negligible .
Wider LCT - Scenario 3	Harestanes South would be located within this unit of the LCT to the south of the operational Harestanes. This would result in an increase in turbines located within the unit and would appear as part of the operational Harestanes/Minnygap cluster, albeit there would be a noticeable difference in turbine heights between the operational and scoping site. The application site of Scoop Hill would also increase the influence of turbines

LCT 176	Foothills with Forest – Dumfries & Galloway
	within this unit of the LCT due to its proximity to the east in a neighbouring LCT. The introduction of the Proposed Development into this baseline would result in further turbines being experienced in the north of the unit, successively with Scoop Hill. However, the extent of forestry within the LCT would reduce the extent of visibility of the Proposed Development and magnitude of change is predicted to remain as Slight long-term reversible.

Landscape Effect

Proposed Site during Construction:	Negligible (not significant) on the physical landscape fabric of the proposed site due to the very limited part of the LCT affected. The nature of these effects would be short-term (reversible), direct and neutral.
Proposed Site during Operation:	Negligible on the physical landscape fabric of the proposed site. The nature of these effects would be short-term (reversible), direct and neutral.
Wider LCT – Scenario 1:	Moderate/minor (not significant) due to being set back from the dale and limited effect on the key characteristics. These effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, indirect and negative.
Wider LCT – Scenario 2:	Negligible (not significant) due to the limited effect from Consented sites on the key characteristics of the LCT.
Wider LCT – Scenario 3:	Moderate/minor (not significant) As per Scenario 1.

Table A5.2.7: Southern Uplands – Scottish Borders LCT Assessment

LCT 95	Southern Uplands – Scottish Borders
	<p>Baseline</p> <p>Covering a large part of the Tweedsmuir Uplands in the north east quadrant of the study area, this LCT extends for over 30 km between the Devils Beeftub, and Hundleshope Heights. NatureScot identify the key characteristics as follows⁹:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Extensive, large scale rolling upland landscape with dome or cone-shaped summits and ridges.</i> • <i>Glacial carved and smoothed landforms, including u-shaped valleys, hanging valleys and corries.</i> • <i>Steep-sided valleys with numerous burns</i> • <i>Open, exposed character.</i> • <i>Significant areas of peatland and heather moorland on higher slopes.</i> • <i>Transition to rough grazing on lower slopes, with some sizeable areas of conifer woodland at base of main glens.</i> • <i>Upland areas largely undeveloped, except for occasional upland farms.</i> • <i>Reservoirs and roads in main glens.</i> • <i>High degree of remoteness, wild character and grandeur of scale within the region.</i> • <i>Wide ranging panoramic views from summits.</i>
	<p>Landscape Sensitivity</p> <p>Landscape Value: The majority of this LCT is covered by the Tweedsmuir Uplands SLA, which is a local designation identified in the Scottish Borders Local Development Plan 2016. There are areas within the LCT considered to be of High sensitivity including the northern part covered by the Tweeddale National Scenic Area (NSA), and in the south in an area covered by the Talla – Hart Fells WLA.</p> <p>Landscape Susceptibility: This LCT is large in scale and geographical extent with an open character, simple pattern and land cover, and characterised by rounded domed or slightly conical hills. The LCT is inter-visible with neighbouring character areas with strong mixed developed/undeveloped skylines owing to operational wind farm developments located to the west, namely Clyde on the western boundary, and Glenkerrie located within. It is considered that the</p>



⁹ NatureScot (2019) SNH National Landscape Character Assessment, Landscape Character Type 95: Southern Uplands – Borders

LCT 95	Southern Uplands – Scottish Borders
	landscape characteristics of this LCT have some ability to accommodate certain elements of the development without undue adverse effects resulting in a Medium susceptibility to landscape change.
Landscape Sensitivity:	Overall, it is considered that the LCT has a High landscape sensitivity.
Landscape Magnitude	
Scenario 1	The ZTV indicates that theoretical visibility is predicted throughout the LCT extending between 7.7 – 30 km from the Proposed Development. This will mainly occur on high ground on summits, south west facing slopes and on a series of ridgelines. From these location 14 – 17 turbines would be visible situated beyond Clyde Wind Farm, and from some locations occupying an area between Clyde and Harestanes Wind Farms. Clyde Wind Farm is a prominent feature experienced from this LCT and several turbines of Clyde Extension are located just within the western extent of the LCT. Overall, the scale of the change would be medium occurring over a small and limited area where the change to the perceptual qualities of the LCT would be long-term and reversible resulting in a Slight magnitude of change.
Scenario 2	One wind farm would be added into this cumulative baseline namely Whitelaw Brae which would be located to the west of the Fruid Reservoir. Once constructed, this development will further increase the number of turbines experienced from this LCT especially around the more sensitive parts of the LCT covered by the Talla – Hart Fells WLA. The introduction of the Proposed Development into this baseline scenario would also contribute to further turbines being experienced from this LCT. However, this would be at distances of 7.7 km at its nearest point and the scale and size of the change would remain as minor over a small part of the LCT where the changes would be long-term reversible. Magnitude of change would therefore remain as Slight .
Scenario 3	No further wind farm developments are currently planned within this LCT. The nearest of the application sites would be Scoop Hill located 4.4 km to the south. Theoretical visibility of this development would be limited to the south western extent of the LCT in an area covered by the Talla - Hart Fells WLA. Wind turbines are a prominent feature from this part of the LCT already due to Clyde Wind Farm to the west. The addition of the Proposed Development into this cumulative baseline would be like that experienced in the other cumulative scenarios, where intervisibility would be experienced from an area already influenced by wind farms. The size and scale of the change on the LCT would be small over a limited part of the LCT, long-term and reversible. This would result in a Slight magnitude of change.
Landscape Effect	
Scenario 1	Moderate (not significant) in the area around Talla – Hart Fell WLA, reducing to a Minor (not significant) level due to distance and influence of Clyde Wind Farm on the LCT. These effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, indirect and negative.
Scenario 2	Moderate (not significant) As above.
Scenario 3	Moderate (not significant) As above.

Table A5.2.8: Upland Fringe – Dumfries & Galloway Assessment

LCT 172	Upland Fringe – Dumfries & Galloway
Baseline	
Wider LCT:	This LCT occurs in eight separate locations within the southern half of the study area. The two units covering Annandale are predicted to receive the greatest theoretical visibility experiencing widespread coverage of 1-17 turbines and have been included in the assessment. Elsewhere, the other units including Ae, Torthorwold, Dunscore, Cairn, Corsock and Liddersdale are all predicted to receive limited theoretical visibility of 1-8 turbines at greater distances and have not been included in this assessment. NatureScot identify the key characteristics as follows ¹⁰ : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Elevated rolling pastures.</i> • <i>Improved and rough grassland in close proximity.</i> • <i>Hedgerow banks and treelines along roads in some lower areas.</i>

LCT 172	Upland Fringe – Dumfries & Galloway
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dry stone dykes.</i> • <i>Squared areas of forestry.</i> • <i>Contrast between wide open areas and more intimate landform.</i> • <i>Panoramic views over valley and coastal lowlands.</i> • <i>Small bridges over incised burns.</i> • <i>Notable landmark features, including Iron Age fortifications, designed landscapes and grand houses.</i>
Landscape Sensitivity	
Landscape Value:	No national or local designations cover the Annandale unit of this LCT although it does form an important backdrop to the more settled Middle and Lower Dale LCTs. Landscape value is considered to be Medium .
Landscape Susceptibility:	This LCT is settled with many small-scale characteristics such as field enclosures, woodland shelter belts and historic features which increases susceptibility. However, there are many man-made features also within the LCT including overhead lines and large forestry plantations. Landscape susceptibility to change is considered to be Medium extending south to the northern and southern outskirts of Lockerbie.
Landscape Sensitivity:	Overall landscape sensitivity is considered to be Medium for the Upland Fringe – Dumfries & Galloway LCT.
Landscape Magnitude of Change	
Scenario 1:	Theoretical visibility is predicted to be widespread within the most northerly part of the Annandale unit where 14-17 turbines are predicted to be consistently experienced. This would be at distances of 12.3 – 22.0 km. The southern part of the Annandale unit is predicted to receive theoretical visibility to the north east and south east of the town of Lockerbie where the majority of predicted theoretical visibility would be 14-17 turbines albeit from a limited part of the overall unit at distances of 21.5 – 31.9 km. No wind farms are located within this LCT although it is influenced by the presence of Harestanes and Minnygap located to the west, and Minsca and Solwaybank to the east. The size and scale of the change would mostly be experienced in the northern part of the Annandale unit where the Proposed Development would be experienced between Harestanes Wind Farm and part of Clyde Wind Farm to the north. In the southern component of the unit, a combination of distance and overall limited extent of the unit affected would not alter the perceptual qualities of the LCT. Magnitude of change is considered to be Slight for the northern component of the unit, reducing to a Negligible magnitude of change in the component of the LCT to the south east of Lockerbie.
Scenario 2:	No consented schemes are proposed within this LCT or nearby and the magnitude of change is predicted to be Negligible both units of the LCT.
Scenario 3:	No further developments would be located in this LCT for Cumulative Scenario 3, However, Scoop Hill would influence the LCT due to its size, scale and close proximity to the northern component of the Annandale unit. Additionally, Harestanes South would also have an influence which would be viewed in conjunction with the operational sites of Harestanes and Minnygap. The introduction of the Proposed Development into this cumulative baseline would extend turbines further to the north west from the Harestanes development. However, this would be experienced from an area that is already influenced by wind farms and the introduction of the proposed turbines would not lead to any changes to the key characteristics of the LCT. Magnitude of change is predicted to be Slight for the northern component of the Annandale unit reducing to Negligible in the southern component.
Landscape Effect	
Scenario 1:	Minor (not significant) due to a combination of distance and overall effect on the key characteristics. These effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, indirect, and negative.
Scenario 2:	Negligible (not significant) due to the limited effect from Consented sites on the key characteristics of the LCT.
Scenario 3:	Minor (not significant) as per Scenario 1 above.

¹⁰ NatureScot (2019) SNH National Landscape Character Assessment, Landscape Character Type 172: Upland Fringe – Dumfries & Galloway

Table A5.2.9: Upland Glen – Glasgow & Clyde Valley Assessment

LCT 209 Upland Glen – Glasgow & Clyde Valley	
Baseline	
Wider LCT:	<p>This LCT is located to the north west and directly to the west of the Proposed Development covering the River Clyde and its tributaries the Daer Water and Potrail Water (see Map A5.2.1). NatureScot identify the key characteristics as follows¹¹:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Glacial enlarged, smoothly contoured, U-shaped valleys cutting into the upland mass of the Southern Uplands.</i> • <i>Transition from moorland vegetation on upper slopes, through rough grassland and pastures on valley floor;</i> • <i>Topography creates distinctive scenic vistas.</i> • <i>Limited amounts of broadleaf woodland which tends to be concentrated along the course of rivers, on steeper sheltered slopes and in gullies and side glens.</i> • <i>Important corridors for communication and settlement.</i> • <i>Scattering of the remains of later prehistoric settlement and pre-improvement agriculture along the valley sides.</i> • <i>Significant cumulative impacts of transport infrastructure in glen of the River Clyde, with large scale wind development on the surrounding Southern Upland hill.</i> • <i>Small scale, domesticated character of glen floors, despite dominant transport infrastructure, which contrasts with the enclosing uplands.</i> <p>The South Lanarkshire Landscape Character Assessment identifies the key characteristics of the LCT as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Glacially enlarged, smoothly contoured, U-shaped valleys cutting into the upland mass of the Southern Upland;</i> • <i>Transition from moorland vegetation on upper slope, through rough grassland and enclosed, improved pastures on valley floor;</i> • <i>Limited amounts of broadleaf woodland which tends to be concentrated along the course of rivers, on steeper sheltered slopes and in gullies and side glens;</i> • <i>Some are important corridors for communication and settlement;</i> • <i>Significant cumulative impacts of transport infrastructure in the areas either side of Beattock Summit.</i>
Landscape Sensitivity	
Landscape Value:	This LCT lies within the Leadhills & Lowther Hills SLA which is a local designation identified within the South Lanarkshire Local Development Plan 2015. Landscape value is considered to be High .
Landscape Susceptibility:	This LCT forms a narrow glen located between the higher ground of the Southern Uplands. Predominantly agricultural, the landscape is heavily managed and includes several watercourses prone to flooding, a large reservoir, rough pasture, forestry, broadleaf woodland. Settlement is limited usually in the form of small villages, and individual properties found close to the road network increasing susceptibility to the type of development proposed. Landscape susceptibility is considered to be High .
Landscape Sensitivity:	Overall landscape sensitivity is considered to be High for the Upland Glen – Glasgow & Clyde Valley LCT
Landscape Magnitude of Change	
Wider LCT - Scenario 1:	<p>Theoretical visibility would extend approximately between 100 – 19.7 km to the west and north west of the Proposed Development and cover the Daer Water directly to the west of the Proposed Development where the magnitude of change would be Substantial due to the close proximity of the Proposed Development to this part of the LCT.</p> <p>To the north west, theoretical visibility would occur mostly high ground to the north west and limited to areas at Brown Knees, Watermeetings, White Hill, Brown Hill, Watermeetings Rig, Glenochar, and Elvanfoot. From here, 14-17 turbines would be visible. At Watermeetings, theoretical visibility would extend down into the valley where a reduced number of turbines are predicted to be visible located in the northern part of the Daer Land Portion. In this area, a Moderate magnitude of change is predicted due to the relatively close proximity to the proposed</p>

LCT 209 Upland Glen – Glasgow & Clyde Valley	
	<p>turbines which would be experienced at the head of the valley in an area heavily influenced by Clyde Wind Farm.</p> <p>However, overall, magnitude of change is considered to be Slight for the LCT due to limited extent of theoretical visibility predicted and effect on the key characteristics.</p>
Wider LCT - Scenario 2:	<p>The addition of Lion Hill and Crookedstane would have a large effect on this LCT as a result of extending turbines further down into the valley from Clyde Wind Farm. Crookedstane would occupy an area to the north of Brown Hill and form a prominent feature at a junction of the valley where the Potrail and Daer Waters meet. The Lion Hill development would extend turbines further to the south west from Clyde Wind Farm.</p> <p>The introduction of the Proposed Development into this cumulative baseline would result in further turbines extending over the horizon southwards from Clyde Wind Farm with Lion Hill occupying the gap between the Proposed Development and Clyde Wind Farm. However, this would occur in a localised area near Watermeetings to the north west of the Proposed Development resulting in a Moderate magnitude of change, but Slight overall, long-term reversible.</p>
Wider LCT - Scenario 3:	<p>The Scoop Hill development would increase the number of turbines that can be experienced from this LCT. However, combined visibility would be confined to the edges of the LCT in very limited areas. Magnitude of change is predicted to remain Slight overall, long-term reversible.</p>
Landscape Effect	
Wider LCT – Scenario 1:	Major (significant) to the west of the Proposed Development due to its proximity, reducing to a Moderate (significant) effect to the north west around Watermeetings, and thereafter a Minor (not significant effect overall due to distance and limited extent of theoretical visibility).
Wider LCT – Scenario 2:	Major/Moderate (significant) to a small area at Watermeetings reducing to Minor (not significant) overall due to the limited part of the LCT affected.
Wider LCT – Scenario 3:	Moderate (significant) due to its proximity to the Proposed Development, overall Minor (not significant) .

A5.4 PROTECTED & DESIGNATED LANDSCAPES

A5.4.1 Protected and designated landscapes have been identified following a review of designation data available from NatureScot, South Lanarkshire Council, Dumfries & Galloway Council and Scottish Borders Council. Table A5.2.10 provides an overview of the extent of theoretical visibility within each designation and justification for being scoped in or out of the LVIA. The Talla – Hart Fells Wild Land Area is assessed separately in Appendix A5.3.

A5.4.2 The following landscape designations have been reviewed:

- National Scenic Areas (NSA);
- Garden & Designed Landscapes (GDL);
- Special Landscape Areas (SLA); and
- Regional Scenic Areas (RSA).

Table A5.2.10: Protected and Designated Landscapes Review

Designation	Extent of Visibility	Included in the Assessment
Upper Tweeddale NSA	Located approximately 24.9 km to the north east of the Proposed Development, the ZTV indicates limited theoretical visibility occurring mainly on the upper hill slopes and summits.	No - due to the limited extent of visibility predicted within the NSA, it is not considered that the special qualities will be significantly affected by the Proposed Development.

Designation	Extent of Visibility	Included in the Assessment
Nith Estuary NSA	The Nith Estuary NSA is located approximately 30.4 km to the south of the Proposed Development. The ZTV indicates that theoretical visibility would be widespread within the NSA covering the estuary, coastline and more elevated areas such as Criffel and high ground to the north of Caerlaverock Castle.	No - due to the distances involved between the Proposed Development and the NSA combined with the focus of the designation being towards Criffel and the Nith Estuary, it is not considered that the special qualities will be affected.
East Stewarty Coast NSA	Only a small part of this NSA falls within the 45 km study area and it is not predicted to receive visibility of the Proposed Development within the study area.	No
Bowhill GDL	No theoretical visibility predicted within this GDL.	No
Arbigland GDL	This GDL is located approximately 44.1 km to the south of the Proposed Development. The ZTV shows that theoretical visibility of 1-8 turbines may be possible in the northern half of the GDL.	No - due to distance from the Proposed Development, no significant adverse effects upon the GDL are predicted.
Cowhill Tower GDL	No theoretical visibility predicted within this GDL.	No
Dalswinton GDL	No theoretical visibility predicted within this GDL.	No
Dawyck GDL	No theoretical visibility predicted within this GDL.	No
Drumlanrig House GDL	No theoretical visibility predicted within this GDL.	No
Dumfries House GDL	No theoretical visibility predicted within this GDL.	No
Kailzie GDL	No theoretical visibility predicted within this GDL.	No
Kinmount GDL	Located approximately 36.7 km to the south of the Proposed Development, the ZTV predicts theoretical visibility throughout the GDL with 9 – 11 turbines predicted in the north and west, and 1 – 8 turbines elsewhere. Kinmount House is noted in the citation to be in an elevated location to take advantage of views towards the Solway to the south. Policy woodland to the north would provide screening towards the Proposed Development.	No – a combination of distance and screening would not result in significant effects to the GDL.
Lee Castle GDL	No theoretical visibility predicted within this GDL.	No
Little Sparta (Stonypath) GDL	No theoretical visibility predicted within this GDL.	No
Maxwelton (Glencairn Castle) GDL	No theoretical visibility predicted within this GDL.	No
Raehills GDL	Located approximately 11.0 km to the south east of the Proposed Development, the ZTV indicates theoretical visibility occurring mainly in the east of the GDL covering the west facing slopes of Kinnel Knock and Hazelbank Plantation descending towards the A701 road and the Kinnel Water. 14 – 17 turbines are predicted to be visible in the highest parts of the GDL, reducing to 1-4 as elevation decreases. Intervening screening in the form of woodland and forestry to the north west would reduce the extent of visibility of the Proposed Development experienced within the GDL.	No – due to a combination of being located in a lowland landscape with intervening screening in the form of woodland screening views beyond the policies in the direction of the Proposed Development.
Scot's Mining Company House GDL	No theoretical visibility predicted within this GDL.	No
Stobo Castle GDL	No theoretical visibility predicted within this GDL.	No
The Falls of Clyde GDL	No theoretical visibility predicted within this GDL.	No
The Glen GDL	No theoretical visibility predicted within this GDL.	No

Designation	Extent of Visibility	Included in the Assessment
Traquair House GDL	No theoretical visibility predicted within this GDL.	No
Leadhills & Lowther Hills SLA	The Proposed Development is partially located within this SLA including turbines 1 – 11 and 17; 1 met mast; 3 borrow pits; substation; control building; compound; and access tracks.	Yes - there is the potential for a significant effect due to the Proposed Development being located within the SLA.
Clyde Valley SLA	Located approximately 32.4 km to the north west, the ZTV predicts that theoretical visibility would be very limited to two small areas north and north east of Lesmahagow.	No - there is no potential for significant effects as there is only a very distant and isolated patch of visibility predicted.
Douglas Valley SLA	Located approximately 22.8 km to the north west of the Proposed Development, the ZTV indicates that theoretical visibility would be very limited within the SLA and confined to the upper slopes of Robert Law, Limmer Hill, Burnt Rig and Common Hill.	No - there is no potential for significant effects as there is only a very distant and isolated patch of visibility predicted.
Pentlands (South Lanarkshire) SLA	No theoretical visibility predicted within this SLA.	No
Upper Clyde Valley SLA	Located 17.1 km to the north of the Proposed Development, this designation covers a large area within the northern part of the study area. The ZTV indicates that theoretical visibility would be limited to a few elevated locations such as Tinto Hill and Dungavel Hill further to the south, and in the south eastern corner of the designation covering Culter Fell and Dod Hill.	No - due to the very limited theoretical visibility predicted and distant, this designation has not been considered further in this assessment.
Pentland Hills (Scottish Borders) SLA	No theoretical visibility predicted within the part of this SLA located in the study area.	No
Tweedsmuir Uplands SLA	The ZTV indicates that theoretical visibility would be limited throughout the SLA extending between 7.5 – 30 km from the Proposed Development. This will mainly occur on high ground on summits, south west facing slopes and on a series of ridgelines. From these location 14 – 17 turbines would be visible situated beyond Clyde Wind Farm, and from some locations occupying an area between Clyde and Harestanes Wind Farms. Clyde Wind Farm is a prominent feature experienced from this SLA and several turbines of Clyde Extension are located just within the western extent of the SLA.	No - limited theoretical visibility is predicted for this SLA and it is not considered that a significant effect will occur to its special qualities in relation to an additional wind farm experienced from a limited area.
Tweed, Ettrick and Yarrow Confluences SLA	No theoretical visibility predicted within this SLA.	No
Tweed Valley SLA	No theoretical visibility predicted within this SLA.	No
Thornhill Uplands RSA	The Proposed Development is partially located within this RSA including turbines 12 – 16; 1 met mast; 1 borrow pit; and access tracks.	Yes - there is the potential for significant effects due to the Proposed Development being located within the RSA.
Galloway Hills RSA	This RSA is located approximately 34.7 km to the south west of the Proposed Development. The ZTV indicates that the part of the designation located within the study area would receive very limited theoretical visibility of 1 – 8 turbines on the east facing upper slopes of Cairnsmore of Carsphairn, Beninner, Moorbrock Hill, Gallows Knowe, and to the west of Loch Roan.	No - there is no potential for significant effects as there is only a very distant and isolated patch of visibility predicted.

Designation	Extent of Visibility	Included in the Assessment
Langholm Hills RSA	Located approximately 33.5 km to the south east, the ZTV indicates that theoretical visibility would be limited within the RSA. This would be confined to a ridgeline on the north western edge of the RSA covering Great Hill and Broad Head; and summits within the SLA including Mellion Muir, Longgrain Head, Bauchie Hill and Dowglen Hill. From these areas it is predicted that 1 – 17 turbines would be visible.	No - this designation has not been considered further in this assessment due to distance and the limited extent of visibility.
Moffat Hills RSA	This RSA is located approximately 5.7 km to the east of the Proposed Development. The ZTV predicts that theoretical visibility of 1 – 17 turbines would be visible from west facing hills extending north and north east of Moffat.	Yes - there is the potential for a significant effect due to the proximity of the proposed development to the RSA.
Terregles Ridge RSA	Located approximately 24.2 km to the south west of the Proposed Development, the ZTV indicates that theoretical visibility would be experienced from the north facing slopes and summits of hills to the north west, west and south west of Dumfries as well as the coastline to the south. This would comprise mainly 1 – 8 turbines with a small area predicted to see 9 – 11 at Morris Hill and Bishop Forest Hill in the north western part of the designation.	No - due to distance and the limited number of turbines viewed from the designation.
Torthorwold Ridge RSA	Located 18.1 km to the south of the Proposed Development, the ZTV predicts that 1 – 8 turbines would be visible in the northern part of the designation rising to 9 – 11 in the southern half.	No - there is no potential for significant effects as there is only very distant visibility predicted.

Source: Figure 5.6: Protected and Designated Landscapes

A5.5 PROTECTED & DESIGNATED LANDSCAPES ASSESSMENT

A5.5.1 The following landscape designations have been scoped into the assessment:

- Leadhills & the Lowther Hills Special Landscape Area;
- Thornhill Uplands Regional Scenic Area;
- Moffat Hills Regional Scenic Area; and

A5.5.2 Turbines 1 – 11 and 17 of the Proposed Development area lie within the Leadhills & the Lowther Hills SLA, and Turbines 12 – 16 within Thornhill Uplands RSA. The assessment of all 5 designations considered are detailed in Tables A5.2.11 – A5.2.13 as follows:

Table A5.2.11: Leadhills & the Lowther Hills Special Landscape Area Assessment

Leadhills & the Lowther Hills Special Landscape Area
Baseline
Covering an extensive area in the Southern Uplands to the north west of the study area, the Proposed Development is located within this SLA. South Lanarkshire Councils citation for the SLA states: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘An extensive area of high, smooth, rolling, hills and varied upland glens with a sense of emptiness engendered by a lack of extensive forestry or windfarm; development. • Cultural features include the mining heritage surrounding Leadhills and remains of settlements on the sides of glens.



¹² South Lanarkshire Validating Local Landscape Designations (South Lanarkshire Council, 2010)

Leadhills & the Lowther Hills Special Landscape Area
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extensive areas of rough grassland and heather moorland vegetation. • The Southern Upland Way and other walking routes accessible via the M74 and main roads passing through to the west, visitor attractions at Leadhills and fishing at Daer reservoir. • Designation recognises Leadhills and the Lowther Hills as a landscape exemplifying the characteristics of the Southern Uplands to the west of the Clyde, together with considerable industrial heritage interest and recreational access.¹²

Landscape Sensitivity

Landscape Value:	The proposed site and SLA are not covered by any national designations, but the SLA identified within the South Lanarkshire Local Development Plan 2015. Therefore, landscape value for the proposed site and SLA is High .
Landscape Susceptibility:	This proposed site and LCT are large in scale and geographical extent with an open character, simple pattern, land cover and gentle landform. It is inter-visible with the surrounding landscape with strong mixed developed / undeveloped skylines owing to the operational Clyde Wind Farm, and its perceptual qualities are reduced owing to the presence of man-made features such as the NATS site on Green Lowther and Lowther Hill, Daer Reservoir and associated waterworks. It is considered that the landscape characteristics of the proposed site have some ability to accommodate certain elements of the development without undue adverse effects resulting in a Medium susceptibility to landscape change.
Landscape Sensitivity:	Overall, it is considered that the Leadhills & the Lowther Hills SLA has a High landscape sensitivity.

Landscape Magnitude of Change

Wider LCT - Scenario 1	<p>Visibility of Scenario 1 wind farms is widespread generally as a result on the operational Clyde Wind Farm and Extension which is located within the SLA to the north of the Proposed Development.</p> <p>The size and scale of the change would be focussed on a localised area in the south of the SLA. The ZTV indicates that theoretical visibility would be confined to the immediate vicinity of the proposed site within the SLA as a result of rising landform to the north at Hods Hill and extend 4.3 km to the west by Comb Law and Ballinluech Law. Thereafter, theoretical visibility would be experienced from higher ground within Clyde Wind Farm to the north up to 21. 5 km away, as well as to the north west covering Lowther Hill, Green Lowther and Wellgreen Dod.</p> <p>There would also be a slight increase in visibility of turbines currently experienced within the proposed site boundary; however, this would be confined to a few small pockets covering hollows, south and west facing slopes where Clyde and Harestanes Wind Farms are screened by surrounding landform. To the north, the extent of theoretical visibility would reduce and would be experienced within Clyde Wind Farm which has a significant influence on the character of the SLA.</p> <p>The introduction of the Proposed Development would alter the special qualities of the SLA within a 5 km area surrounding the Proposed Development Area. Thereafter, the special qualities would be less affected due to a combination of reduced visibility and distance. The magnitude of change would be Substantial within 5 km of the Proposed Development, thereafter, reducing as distance and the influence of Clyde Wind Farm increases to a Slight level, long-term reversible.</p>
Wider LCT - Scenario 2	<p>Scenario 2 baseline would result in an additional 8 turbines being located within close proximity in this SLA at two separate sites, namely Crookedstane and Lion Hill to the north west of the Proposed Development. Both of these developments, if constructed would appear as an extension to Clyde Wind Farm as a result of no separation distance between the operational and consented sites. The addition of these two sites would not increase the extent of theoretical visibility experienced of wind turbines within the SLA as a result of being located next to the much larger Clyde Wind Farm. Both developments would extend the influence of wind turbines westwards.</p> <p>Through the design evolution of the Proposed Development, a separation distance between Clyde and the proposed site has been a key objective. The addition of Lion Hill would extend turbines to the north west of the proposed site; however, the distance between the Proposed Development and Lion Hill would be broadly the same as Clyde Wind Farm.</p> <p>The magnitude of change associated with the introduction of the Proposed Development would be similar to that experienced in Scenario 1 and would remain as Substantial within 5 km, reducing as distance and the influence of Clyde Wind Farm increases to Slight overall, long-term reversible.</p>

Leadhills & the Lowther Hills Special Landscape Area	
Wider LCT - Scenario 3	No further wind farms would be located within this SLA in Scenario 3 with the main changes occurring indirectly from North Lowther and Scoop Hill developments which would be experienced from parts of this LCT. Scoop Hill would have the biggest influence with the Proposed Development appearing in the foreground in elevated views from Green Lowther and Lowther Hill (see Figures 5.24a – 5.25f). Magnitude of change would remain as Substantial within 5 km although it should be noted that Scoop Hill would have a limited influence due to landform screening, reducing to a Slight overall level beyond 8.5 km.
Landscape Effect	
Wider LCT – Scenario 1	Major (significant) within 5 km reducing to a Moderate (not significant) overall on account of the limited part of the whole SLA affected and areas being within Clyde Wind Farm. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, indirect and negative.
Wider LCT – Scenario 2	Major (significant) reducing to a Moderate (not significant) overall as above.
Wider LCT – Scenario 3	Major (significant) reducing to a Moderate (not significant) overall as above.

Table A5.2.12: Thornhill Uplands Regional Scenic Area Assessment

Thornhill Uplands Regional Scenic Area	
Baseline	
<p>This RSA is centred on the Middle and Upper Dale of the Nith from Mennock south to Auldgirth, and the series of glaciated Upland Glens of the Mennock, Dalveen, Scar, Shinnel, Dalwhat and Castlefairn. Dumfries & Galloway Council describe the RSA as: <i>which form its tributaries, carving their way southwards through the hills of the Southern Uplands. It is based on the Mid Nithsdale and Lowther Hills ARSS.</i></p> <p><i>‘The boundaries of the designated area were amended to include the entire valley floor and visual envelope of the Thornhill Middle Dale, south to the pinch point at Auldgirth; the visual envelopes of the Moniaive valley and the Scar, Shinnel and Dalwhat Upland Glens; and those parts of the Southern Uplands in the north and east where the characteristics of the landscape type are most strongly expressed, including the summits of the uplands to the north of Queensberry.</i></p> <p><i>The area encompasses varied and contrasting upland and valley scenery ranging from the exposed, remote summits of the Lowther Hills, through the wooded gorge of the Nith above Drumlanrig to the pastoral character of the wide, enclosed upper Cairn and Mid Nithsdale valleys. Overall, though there are strong contrasts in relief, the topography is smoother and rounder than the Galloway Uplands to the west and the area is more highly populated and has a more managed feel.</i></p> <p><i>The hills of the Southern Uplands form large, smooth steep sided domes with complex spurs and ridges, dissected by numerous steeply sided clefts and several long, deep, U shaped Upland Glens. The uplands are patterned with a mosaic of rough grassland, bracken and rushes, combined with heather moorland on the higher areas. The lower slopes of the glens are enclosed by stone dykes, and some valley floor pastures have been improved. There is relatively little tree cover though the forestry plantations to the west have encroached on the heads and sides of certain valleys. Roads to the heads of the glens give access to isolated farms. Further south the valleys become wider and less steeply sided and start coalescing to form Intimate Pastoral Valleys with scattered farms, hamlets and villages. The improved pastures of the valley sides are patterned with drystone dykes, and interspersed by farm and streamside woodlands. The intervening Foothills and Upland Fringe form open, sculptural ridges, though conifer plantations on the uplands outwith the designated area sometimes lap over the southern horizons.</i></p> <p><i>The main valley of the Nith has a varied character of strong contrasts. In the north it forms a steep wooded gorge, before opening out to the policy woodlands of Drumlanrig. The broad valley centred around Thornhill has a lush feel near the town with hedgerows rather than dykes, woodland and a little arable land. Further afield the landscape becomes more open, with pastures enclosed by stone dykes, and some plantation forestry, leading upwards to the remote, exposed landscape of the enclosing Southern Uplands.</i></p> <p><i>The main valleys are accessible from Dumfries, and the Middle Dale and Intimate Pastoral Valleys and are subject to pressure for residential development, as well as being popular for informal recreation. The flanks of the valleys see continued demand for forestry, and the flanks and summits have seen interest from windfarm developers..¹³</i></p>	
Proposed Site:	The part of the proposed site located within this LCT covers Kinnelhead Land Portion and there are distinct differences from the Daer Land Portion of the site described under the Southern Uplands – Glasgow & Clyde Valley LCT. The Kinnelhead Land Portion is much more elevated with hill tops over 500 m AOD including Lamb Hill (542 m AOD) and Hamrty Hill (542 m AOD). These hills are dissected by steep valleys containing several

Thornhill Uplands Regional Scenic Area	
<p>small watercourses and Crookburn. Landcover is predominantly acid grassland with some larger areas of flush and fen.</p> <p>Following a site visit, it was confirmed that the site is generally consistent with the key characteristics set out by NatureScot above except for no evidence of mining activity.</p>	
Landscape Sensitivity	
Landscape Value:	This RSA is not covered by any national designations but identified within the Dumfries & Galloway Local Development Plan 2014. Landscape value is considered to be High for the Thornhill Uplands RSA.
Landscape Susceptibility:	This RSA is large in scale and geographical extent with an open character, simple pattern and land cover, and characterised by rounded domed or slightly conical hills. It is considered that the landscape characteristics of this RSA have some ability to accommodate certain elements of the development without undue adverse effects resulting in a Medium susceptibility to landscape change.
Landscape Sensitivity:	Overall, it is considered that the Thornhill RSA have a High landscape sensitivity.
Landscape Magnitude of Change	
Wider LCT - Scenario 1	<p>Theoretical visibility of the Proposed Development would extend for 3.5 km to Queensberry Hill and include the hill tops of Mid Height, Harestanes Heights and Earnscraig in the intervening area with 1 – 17 turbines being visible depending on elevation. Thereafter, theoretical visibility would be limited to summits and east facing slopes of Hard Hill, Haggie Hill, Crightons Cairn and Tod Craig Hill to the south where 1-8 turbines are predicted to be visible; and to the south west at Garroch Fell where 12 – 14 turbines would be seen from the summit; and 9 -11 turbines on Glenleith Fell.</p> <p>The introduction of the Proposed Development would alter the special qualities of the RSA within a 3.5 km area surrounding the Proposed Development Area. Thereafter, the special qualities would be less affected due to a combination of reduced visibility and distance.</p> <p>A Substantial change is considered to occur between the Proposed Development and Queensberry Hill, thereafter, reducing to Negligible due to the very limited extent of the RSA affected.</p>
Wider LCT - Scenario 2	The addition of consented schemes to the baseline would not result in further wind turbine developments within this RSA. When the proposed development is added to this cumulative baseline, it is predicted that the magnitude of change would be Negligible .
Wider LCT - Scenario 3	No further sites would be situated within this RSA considered in cumulative Scenario 3 baseline. The addition of the Proposed Development into this baseline scenario would extend turbine development in the RSA increasing the number of turbines visible. However, the Proposed Development would be experienced over a small part of the overall LCT and it is not considered that their addition will change the overall characteristics of this LCT to a predominantly wind farm landscape. Magnitude of change is considered to be Slight long-term reversible on account of the presence of Scoop Hill further to the east.
Landscape Effect	
Wider LCT – Scenario 1	Major (significant) reducing to Minor (not significant) effect due to the limited extent of the RSA affected.
Wider LCT – Scenario 2	Negligible (not significant) due to the limited influence of the consented sites on the RSA.
Wider LCT – Scenario 3	Major (significant) effect within 3.5 km, reducing to a Minor effect overall due to the very limited part of the RSA affected.

Table A5.2.13: Moffat Hills Regional Scenic Area Assessment

Moffat Hills Regional Scenic Area	
Baseline	

Moffat Hills Regional Scenic Area

This RSA is located 5.7 km to the east of the Proposed Development and extends eastwards to 22.6 km. Dumfries & Galloway Council described the RSA as follows:

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

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

The area centres on the Southern Uplands of Hart Fell, with their characteristic smooth, high, steep sided rounded hills, dissected by steep clefts and patterned with a mosaic of rough grassland, heather, scree, and montane vegetation on the high summits. Conifer plantations on the lower slopes combine with small scale valley woods to give an intermittently wooded character to the archetype long, straight, U shaped, glaciated Moffat Upland Glen. Plantations are also starting to encroach on the contrasting open character of upper Annandale, and the fine views across the valley from the A701. Both valleys have scattered farms with improved pastures enclosed by stone walls. Major roads run along both glens linking Moffat to the M74 to the east, making the area readily accessible from other parts of the country. Moffat forms an important tourist centre. Pressures for landscape change include forestry, tourism and residential expansion of the town.¹⁴

Landscape Sensitivity

Landscape Value:	The Moffat Hills RSA is recognised in the Dumfries & Galloway Local Development Plan 2014. There are areas within the SLA considered to be of High sensitivity including the southern part of the SLA covered by the Talla – Hart Fells WLA.
Landscape Susceptibility:	This RSA is large in scale and geographical extent with an open character, simple pattern and land cover, and characterised by rounded domed or slightly conical hills. It is considered that the landscape characteristics of this RSA have some ability to accommodate certain elements of the Proposed Development without undue adverse effects resulting in a Medium susceptibility to landscape change.
Landscape Sensitivity:	Overall, it is considered that the Moffat RSA has a High landscape sensitivity, with areas of High sensitivity in the Tala – Hart Fells WLA.

Landscape Magnitude of Change

Scenario 1:	The ZTV shows that the western part of the RSA would receive theoretical visibility of 15 – 17 turbines from the western side of Hart Fell including Cocklaw Knowe, Auldton Fell, Merecleuch Hill. Similarly, the East Moffat unit is predicted to receive theoretical visibility along the southern slopes of Moffat Dale including Yadburch Hill, Gateshaw, Croft Head and Cape Fell. The extent of theoretical visibility would be limited to above the tree line as there is extensive forestry on the mid to lower slopes. The RSA is predicted to experience widespread theoretical visibility in the south west of the designation; however, much of the area is covered by forestry plantation and would be limited to higher ground. This would result in a Slight magnitude of change.
Scenario 2:	The addition of consented schemes to the baseline would not result in further wind turbine developments within this RSA. When the Proposed Development is added to this cumulative baseline, it is predicted that the magnitude of change would remain as Slight .
Scenario 3:	No further sites would be located within the RSA although Scoop Hill would be situated on the edge of the RSA and will result in further turbines being located closer to the designation. Due to landform, only the elevated parts of the RSA would be affected by Scoop Hill. Magnitude of change is considered to remain as Slight .

Landscape Effect

Scenario 1:	Moderate (not significant)
Scenario 2:	Moderate (not significant)
Scenario 3:	Moderate (not significant)

A5.6 SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE EFFECTS

A5.6.1 Tables A5.2.14 and A5.2.15 provide a summary of landscape effects on the receptors scoped into the assessment as follows:

Table A5.2.14: Landscape Character Assessment

Landscape Character Type	Direct Effects	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Scenario 3
LCT 217: Southern Uplands – Glasgow & Clyde Valley	Major (significant) Slight overall (not significant)	Major (significant) Minor overall (not significant)	Major (significant) Minor overall (not significant)	Major (significant) Minor overall (not significant)
LCT 95: Southern Uplands – Dumfries & Galloway	Major (significant) Slight overall (not significant)	Major (significant) Slight overall (not significant)	Major (significant) Slight overall (not significant)	Major (significant) Slight overall (not significant)
LCT 163: Middle Dale – Dumfries & Galloway	Negligible (not significant)	Moderate/minor (not significant)	Negligible (not significant)	Moderate/minor (not significant)
LCT 175: Foothills – Dumfries & Galloway	Negligible (not significant)	Moderate/minor (not significant)	Negligible (not significant)	Moderate/minor (not significant)
LCT 176: Foothills with Forest – Dumfries & Galloway	Negligible (not significant)	Moderate/minor (not significant)	Negligible (not significant)	Moderate/minor (not significant)
LCT 172: Upland Fringe – Dumfries & Galloway	N/A	Moderate (not significant)	Negligible (not significant)	Moderate (not significant)
LCT 209: Upland Glen – Glasgow & Clyde Valley	N/A	Major (significant) Moderate overall (not significant)	Major/moderate (significant) Moderate overall (not significant)	Moderate (significant) Minor overall (not significant)

Table A5.2.1: Landscape Designations Assessment

Landscape Character Type	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Scenario 3
Leadhills & The Lowther Hills SLA	Major (significant) Moderate (not significant)	Major (significant) Moderate (not significant)	Major (significant) Moderate (not significant)
Thornhill Uplands RSA	Major (significant) Minor (not significant)	Negligible (not significant)	Major (significant) Minor (not significant)
Moffat Hills RSA	Moderate (not significant)	Negligible (not significant)	Negligible (not significant)
Talla – Hart Fell WLA	Moderate (not significant)	Moderate (not significant)	Moderate (not significant)

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