

Table 1-1: Viewpoints

VP No	Description	Grid Ref.
1	View from the L-3060 local road in the townland of Loginsherd, approximately 0.5 km northwest from the nearest turbine.	E 711,681 N 605,051
2	View from The Lane of Stones local road in the townland of Shilmore, which is also located within a designated Landscape of Greater Sensitivity, approximately 0.57 km west from the nearest turbine.	E 711,359 N 604,739
3	View from Lady's Island Castle off the L-3060 in the townland of Glanerdalliv, which is also located within a designated Landscape of Greater Sensitivity and located along the Normans Way Walking Trail, approximately 3.2 km northwest from the nearest turbine.	E 710,636 N 607,575
4	View from the Carne Beach in the townland of Hilltown, which is also located along the Ballytrent Loop, approximately 3.8 km southeast from the nearest turbine.	E 713,384 N 608,419
5	View from a L-3060 local road in the townland of Ballyfane, which is also located within a designated Landscape of Greater Sensitivity, approximately 1.9 km northwest from the nearest turbine.	E 711,148 N 606,464
6	View from the L-3061 local road in the townland of Carna, approximately 1.7 km north of the nearest turbine.	E 712,613 N 606,426
7	View from a local road in the townland of Clougheast, approximately 0.9 km north from the nearest turbine.	E 712,238 N 605,592
8	View from Nethertown Lane local road in the townland of Nethertown, approximately 49.7 meters north from the nearest turbine.	E 712,253 N 604,741
9	View from Our Lady's Island GAA field off the L-3060 in the townland of Buncarrick, approximately 2.6 km northwest from the nearest turbine.	E 711,116 N 607,121
10	View from the L-3065 local road in the townland of Ballytory Upper, which is also located along the Wexford Cycle Hub Loop, Normans Way Walking Trail and located within a designated Landscape of Greater Sensitivity, approximately 4.7 km northwest from the nearest turbine.	E 708,602 N 607,936
11	View from a cul-de-sac off the L-3065 in the townland of Rostonstown Burrow, which is also located within a designated Landscape of Greater Sensitivity, approximately 3.7 km west of the nearest turbine.	E 708,236 N 605,411
12	View from Nethertown Lane local road in the townland of Shilmore, approximately 273 meters northwest of the nearest turbine.	E 711,785 N 604,795

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## Visual Effects: Mitigating Factors:

The locations chosen for photomontages follow a detailed and extensive process including review of baseline information, site visits and high-quality photo taking at multiple locations within the LVIA study area.

In general, Hilly and Flat Farmland windfarm sites tend to be capable of absorbing suitably designed wind farm projects of similar scale to the Carnsore development. Key reasons enabling the proposed wind energy development to be effectively absorbed by the landscape of the site and surrounding area are outlined below and will be evident in the photomontages:

### ***Flat Topography of the Site and Surrounds including the seascape in the vicinity of the site***

*The low-lying elevation and relatively flat topography of the Carnsore site and the surrounding landscape and seascape, contributes to the landscape's capacity to accommodate a wind farm. The low-level terrain in which the development is sited results in an even overall height of all the wind turbines, this means that visual confusion caused by turbines at various heights does not arise. For Carnsore, most visual receptors to the north, west and north-west are also of similar elevation to the base level of the proposed turbines i.e. the turbines are not situated on elevated lands and so the potential for clear and open views of the project from receptors at lower elevations does not arise. This topographic feature of the Carnsore site and surrounds mitigates the potential for overbearing or domineering effects on the landscaper and seascape.. It also means that separation distances between receptors and turbines becomes important as the turbines appear smaller in scale quickly when viewed in this planar view. Due to the flat nature of the site and the surrounds, all 12 viewpoints were taken from within 5km of the Carnsore development, as it is deemed visibility beyond 5km are and will continue to be imperceptible.*

### ***Highly Vegetated Nature of the Landscape***

*The landscape surrounding this site is often seen as a patchwork of agricultural fields bordered by lines of trees, hedgerows and pockets of woodland shrub. In close proximity to the site, mature hedgerows and mature treelines reduce the potential for clear and open views and any associated potential domineering effects. Located between visual receptors and the proposed turbines, these vegetational elements of the landscape provide screening, obscuring large numbers of turbines or making those views of the turbines intermittent in nature. The ZTV does not take into account this screening and hence ZTV mapping can only be considered accurate where no visibility is indicated. In areas where theoretical visibility is indicated, actual visibility on the ground is diminished by screening factors, as was evident in the results of the route screening analysis.*

### ***The Carnsore Site's Wide Expanse***

*The site of the Carnsore development and the wider study area is considered a rural area, however, a significant human influence is evident within the landscape. This can be attributed to the agricultural and residential developments throughout southern Wexford. The scale of the turbines and number of turbines is considered modest in the context of the wide expanse of the landscape and the seascape. Also, any receptors using the sea for transport or leisure will be limited to brief views of the turbines.*

Viewpoint 1 – Loginsherd			
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from the L-3060 local road in the townland of Loginsherd.</li> <li>➤ Approximately 0.5 km northwest from the nearest turbine.</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference: E 711,681, N 605,051</li> <li>➤ No. of turbines visible: 9/14</li> </ul>		
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	LCU 4 – Coastal Zone <b>High</b> Landscape Sensitivity	<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	Residents – <b>High</b> Road Users – <b>Low</b>
<b>Baseline Description</b>	The image was taken along the L-3060 local road looking southeast in front of a row of residential dwellings. The foreground of the view comprises of mature scrub vegetation. The view is occasionally populated by houses and farmsteads across the landscape but are indiscernible due to the mature vegetation that exists within much of this view. Vertical element such as electricity powerlines are dotted throughout much of this view.		
<b>Photomontage Description</b>	Nine of the fourteen turbines will be visible from approximately mid-hub and mid-blade in the centre of this view. The vertical extent of the turbines within this view is moderate, however, the mature vegetation in the foreground and the flatness of the local landscape allows for shortened views and reduces visibility of the turbines. The spatial extent of the turbines within the view is moderate due to the intervening distance c.0.5km from this location. Even at a close distance, the turbines do not appear large and do not crowd or obstruct views of the local landscape.		
<b>Cumulative Effects</b>	Cumulative visual effects do not arise in this viewpoint.		
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b>	<b>High:</b> Includes viewers at designated views or landscapes. Viewers such as residents in medium proximity to the viewpoint; viewers at well-known heritage or popular tourist or recreational areas, viewers along scenic or tourist routes		
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>	<b>Slight:</b> The proposals would be partially visible or visible at sufficient distance to be perceptible and result in a low level of change in the view and its composition and a low degree of contrast. The character of the view may be altered but will remain similar to the baseline existing situation. This change could be short term or of a short duration.		
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<b>High X Slight = Moderate/Minor = Moderate (EPA, 2017)</b> An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends		
<b>Mitigation Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Siting and design were developed in accordance with the guidelines for hilly and flat farmland landscape character type.</li> <li>➤ Partial screening of the turbines by local topography and vegetation</li> <li>➤ Coherent wind farm layout with no other permitted or proposed projects anticipated from this view.</li> <li>➤ No scenic coastal views of the sea is visible from this view due to the mature vegetation that exists within the foreground.</li> <li>➤ Intervening distance (c 0.5 km).</li> <li>➤ Sparsely populated local road, hence very few residential visual receptors.</li> </ul>		



Viewpoint 1 - Loginsherd	
	> The magnitude of change of the viewpoint is considered Moderate, due to the intervening distance of c.0.5 km to the closest turbine.
<b>Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)</b>	<b>Slight (EPA, 2017)</b> An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities.

Viewpoint 2 - Shilmore			
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from The Lane of Stones local road in the townland of Shilmore.</li> <li>➤ Located within a designated Landscape of Greater Sensitivity (WCDDP)</li> <li>➤ Approximately 0.57 km west from the nearest turbine.</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference: E 711,359, N 604,739</li> <li>➤ No. of turbines visible: 13/14</li> </ul>		
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	LCU 4 – Coastal Zone <b>High</b> Landscape Sensitivity	<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	Landscape Receptor (Landscape of Greater Sensitivity) - <b>High</b> Residents - <b>High</b> Road users - <b>Low</b>
<b>Baseline Description</b>	View from the Lane for Stones Local Road and located within a Landscape of Greater Sensitivity. The foreground comprises of a raised embankment approximately 1 meter high which runs parallel along the road from where this image was taken. This local road is lined by mature vegetation on either side including grass verge and shrubs. Beyond this, one-off residential dwellings are seen dotted throughout the midground and background of the view. Vertical elements such as electricity poles and powerlines are a common vertical element within much of this view. The vegetated embankment in the foreground reduces visibility of the low-land valley beyond.		
<b>Photomontage Description</b>	Thirteen of the fourteen turbines will be visible from this viewpoint. All thirteen turbines will be visible from approximately mid-hub, with visual stacking of two turbines. The grass embankment on the left side of the view slightly restricts visibility of the turbines in the midground. From this viewpoint location, the turbines do not appear dominant and are seen as a coherent cluster of turbines behind the residential dwellings in the midground and background of the view. The spatial extent of the turbines within the view is moderate to high as the intervening distance is c. 0.57km from this location. While the turbines will be visible over a wider extent than in the baseline view, the open expansive view allows the turbines to be absorbed into the landscape without creating a domineering effect.		
<b>Cumulative Effects</b>	Cumulative visual effects do not arise in this viewpoint.		
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b>	<b>High:</b> Includes viewers at designated views or landscapes. Viewers such as residents in medium proximity to the viewpoint; viewers at well-known heritage or popular tourist or recreational areas, viewers along scenic or tourist routes.		
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>	<b>Moderate:</b> The change in the view may involve partial obstruction of existing view or partial change in character and composition of the baseline through the introduction of new elements or removal of existing elements. Likely to occur at locations where the development is partially visible over a moderate or medium extent, and which are not in close proximity to the development. Change may be readily noticeable but not substantially different in scale and character from the surroundings and wider setting.		
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<b>High X Moderate = Moderate = Significant (EPA, 2017)</b> An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration or intensity alters a sensitive aspect of the environment.		

<b>Mitigation Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Siting and design were developed in accordance with the guidelines for hilly and flat farmland landscape character type.</li> <li>➤ Partial screening of the turbines by the grass embankment which lines the road from where this image was taken.</li> <li>➤ The sensitivity of the viewpoint is considered Moderate, due to the alignment of the local road.</li> <li>➤ The turbines appear relatively large to the receptor from this location due to the intervening distance (c .57 km).</li> <li>➤ Coherent wind farm layout, cumulatively reading as one coherent project.</li> <li>➤ Sparsely populated local road, hence very few visual receptors.</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)</b>	<p><b>Moderate (EPA, 2017)</b>          An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends</p>

Viewpoint 3 - Glanerdalliv			
Viewpoint Description and Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from Lady’s Island Castle off the L-3060 in the townland of Glanerdalliv.</li> <li>➤ Located within a designated Area of Greater Sensitivity (WCDP).</li> <li>➤ Located along the Normans Way Walking Trail.</li> <li>➤ Approximately 3.2 km northwest from the nearest turbine.</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference: E 710,636, N 607,575</li> <li>➤ No. of turbines visible: 12/14</li> </ul>		
LCA and Sensitivity	LCU 4 – Coastal Zone <b>High</b> Landscape Sensitivity	Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity	Visitors: (Lady’s Island Castle and Walkway) - <b>High</b> Recreational Route: (Wexford Cycle Hub Loop and Normans Way Walking Trail) - <b>High</b> Landscape Receptor (Landscape of Greater Sensitivity) - <b>High</b> Residents: Lady’s Island Village - <b>High</b> Road users - <b>Medium</b>
Baseline Description	<p>The view was taken in front of the Lady’s Island Castle, which is located within a Landscape of Greater Sensitivity. The foreground of this view overlooks Lady’s Island Lake to the south lined by grass verge and aquatic vegetation. A foot path, which runs parallel to the lake, is seen on the right side of the view. Lady’s Island Lake is seen in the midground and is an attractive landscape feature within this view. Views beyond the lake and in the background of the view, rolling agricultural fields formed by mature treelines and hedgerows are seen. Residential dwellings and farmhouses are dotted throughout the landscape and can be seen indiscernibly within the background. Vertical elements such as electricity poles and pylons are seen scattered throughout much of the background of the view.</p>		
Photomontage Description	<p>Twelve of the fourteen turbines will be slightly visible from this location from approximately mid-blade in the background of the image. The majority of the turbines will be screened due to the mature vegetation found along the background and skyline of the view. From this location, 4 No turbines appear to have visual stacking of the blades but visibility of this is indiscernible. The intervening distance is c 3.2 km from this location. The spatial extent of the turbines within this view is moderate given the scale and distance from this viewpoint location. Views of Lady’s Island Lake are not obscured due to visibility of the turbines as the turbines do not appear large and appear as one coherent cluster. From this viewpoint location, the turbines achieve a visual balance with the landscape, as the turbines are not domineering and do not interfere with views of special amenity value.</p>		
Cumulative Effects	Cumulative visual effects do not arise in this viewpoint.		
Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)	<b>High:</b> Includes viewers at designated views or landscapes. Viewers such as residents in medium proximity to the viewpoint; viewers at well-known		

Viewpoint 3 - Glanerdalliv	
	heritage or popular tourist or recreational areas, viewers along scenic or tourist routes
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>	<b>Slight:</b> The proposals would be partially visible or visible at sufficient distance to be perceptible and result in a low level of change in the view and its composition and a low degree of contrast. The character of the view may be altered but will remain similar to the baseline existing situation. This change could be short term or of a short duration.
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<b>High X Slight = Moderate/Minor = Moderate (EPA, 2017)</b> An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends.
<b>Mitigation Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Siting and design were developed in accordance with the guidelines for hilly and flat farmland landscape character type.</li> <li>➤ Coherent wind farm layout, cumulatively reading as one coherent project.</li> <li>➤ The turbines do not appear large or domineering to the receptor from this location due to the intervening distance (c 3.2 km).</li> <li>➤ Viewpoint is in close proximity to Lady’s Island Village therefore receptor sensitivity is considered Moderate to High.</li> <li>➤ The mature vegetation that exists within the skyline mitigates visibility of the turbines. Additionally, the scenic views of Lady’s Island Lake are not obstructed or impacted with the addition of the turbines as the turbines appear behind the mature vegetation in the background of the view.</li> <li>➤ The residential properties within Lady’s Island village have sufficient separation distance from the turbines to ensure residential visual amenity is not affected. In addition to this, the residences along this roadway are screened either to the front of rear of the dwellings by either mature tree lines, hedgerows or farm buildings, restricting potential views of the site.</li> <li>➤ Road users will be travelling at speeds close to the speed limit of 80kmph on this straight section of road, hence any views are likely to be fleeting.</li> <li>➤ The visual impact is low due to the small size of the turbines and the distance from the viewer across the flat landscape thereby allowing the turbines to blend into the background without creating domineering effects.</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)</b>	<b>Slight (EPA, 2017)</b> An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities.



Viewpoint 4– Hilltown			
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from the Carne Beach in the townland of Hilltown.</li> <li>➤ Located along the Ballytrent Loop walking trail.</li> <li>➤ Approximately 3.8 km southeast from the nearest turbine.</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference: E 713,384, N 608,419</li> <li>➤ No. of turbines visible: 14/14</li> </ul>		
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	LCU 4 – Coastal Zone <b>High</b> Landscape Sensitivity	<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	Visitors (Carne Beach) - <b>High</b> Recreational Routes: (Ballytrent Loop) and Carnsore Point Coastal Walking Trail (nearby) - <b>High</b> Residents - <b>Low</b>
<b>Baseline Description</b>	This image was taken from the Carne Beach as well as along the Ballytrent Loop walking trail looking south. The key characteristics of this view is that of a coastal landscape, as it encompasses both views of the sea and associated views of the beach and a sand embankment. The landscape in this view is vast and open with long-distance views towards the skyline. Residential dwellings and adjacent vegetation are seen scattered throughout the background and skyline of the centre of the view. Vertical elements such as electrical powerlines are seen within much of the skyline of the view.		
<b>Photomontage Description</b>	All fourteen turbines will be entirely visible from approximately mid-hub on the left side of the view along the skyline. The turbines appear behind the roves of the residential dwellings and adjacent vegetation that exists within the background of the view and therefore are partially screened. The intervening distance is c.3.8km from this location and therefore the turbines do not appear large or domineering. Due to the flatness and openness of the landscape within the view, the proposed turbines will appear incongruous and read as one coherent cluster from this location. From this viewpoint location, the turbines achieve a visual balance with the landscape, as the turbines are not domineering and do not interfere with views of special amenity value.		
<b>Cumulative Effects</b>	Cumulative visual effects do not arise in this viewpoint.		
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b>	<b>High:</b> Includes viewers at designated views or landscapes. Viewers such as residents in medium proximity to the viewpoint; viewers at well-known heritage or popular tourist or recreational areas, viewers along scenic or tourist routes		
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>	<b>Slight:</b> The proposals would be partially visible or visible at sufficient distance to be perceptible and result in a low level of change in the view and its composition and a low degree of contrast. The character of the view may be altered but will remain similar to the baseline existing situation. This change could be short term or of a short duration.		
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<b>High X Slight = Moderate/Minor = Moderate (EPA, 2017)</b> An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends.		
<b>Mitigation Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Siting and design were developed in accordance with the guidelines for hilly and flat farmland landscape character type.</li> <li>➤ Coherent wind farm layout, cumulatively reading as one coherent project.</li> </ul>		

Viewpoint 4- Hilltown	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The turbines do not appear large to the receptor from this location due to the intervening distance (c 3.8 km).</li> <li>➤ The mature vegetation and residential dwellings that exist with the background between the viewer and the turbines limit views of the turbines and creates visual diversion.</li> <li>➤ View of turbines is perpendicular to the direction of the sea hence, the turbines will not be in the direct line of vision of road users.</li> <li>➤ The visual impact is low due to the small size of the turbines and the distance from the viewer across the flat landscape thereby allowing the turbines to blend into the background without creating domineering effects</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)</b>	<p><b>Slight (EPA, 2017)</b>            An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities.</p>

Viewpoint 5 - Ballyfane			
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from a L-3060 local road in the townland of Ballyfane.</li> <li>➤ Located within a designated Landscape of Greater Sensitivity.</li> <li>➤ Approximately 1.9 km northwest from the nearest turbine.</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference: E 711,148, N 606,464</li> <li>➤ No. of turbines visible: 4/14</li> </ul>		
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	LCU 4 – Coastal Zone <b>High</b> Landscape Sensitivity	<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	Residences – <b>Medium</b> Road users – <b>Medium</b>
<b>Baseline Description</b>	<p>This location was chosen as it is representative of visual receptors travelling and living along the L-3060 and is in close proximity to a local restaurant. This view was taken from the car park of the restaurant looking south adjacent to the L-3060 local road. The foreground of the view consists of mature roadside hedge planting. From where this image was taken, the hedge planting extends from the foreground to the background of the image running parallel along the road. One off residential dwelling and their adjacent gardens are indiscernibly visible within the view behind the mature vegetation. Vertical elements such as electrical powerlines and roadside signage are a common feature throughout much of this view. No other wind farms can be seen within this view.</p>		
<b>Photomontage Description</b>	<p>The turbines will appear as a coherent cluster within the background of this view. Four of the turbines will be seen from approximately mid-tower upwards in the centre of the view between the gaps of vegetation. The mature vegetation that exists along this roadway in the foreground mitigates views of the turbines. The spatial extent of the wind farm within the view is moderate given the intervening distance is c.1.9 km from this location. From the majority of this roadway, the turbines will not be visible due to intermittent roadside screening.</p>		
<b>Cumulative Effects</b>	Cumulative visual effects do not arise in this viewpoint.		
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b>	<b>Medium:</b> Includes viewers who may have some susceptibility to a change in view, such as those from views which are not designated but may have local recreational uses or those travelling along routes or at view which are considered moderately scenic.		
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>	<b>Slight:</b> The proposals would be partially visible or visible at sufficient distance to be perceptible and result in a low level of change in the view and its composition and a low degree of contrast. The character of the view may be altered but will remain similar to the baseline existing situation. This change could be short term or of a short duration.		
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<b>Medium X Slight = Minor = Slight (EPA, 2017)</b> An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities		
<b>Mitigation Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Siting and design were developed in accordance with the guidelines for hilly and flat farmland landscape character type.</li> <li>➤ Screening by hedgerow and tree lines along the L-3060. This location was chosen to give a ‘worst case’ scenario due to the open and expansive</li> </ul>		

Viewpoint 5 - Ballyfane	
	<p>views and potential visibility of the development due to gaps in the existing vegetation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Coherent wind farm layout reading as one coherent project.</li> <li>➤ The residential properties have sufficient separation distance from the proposed turbines to ensure residential visual amenity is not affected. In addition to this, the residences along this roadway are screened either to the front or rear of the dwellings by either mature tree lines, hedgerows or farm buildings, restricting potential views of the site.</li> <li>➤ Intervening distance (c 1.9 km).</li> <li>➤ Road users will be travelling at speeds close to the speed limit of 80kmph on this straight section of road, hence any views are likely to be fleeting.</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)</b>	<p><b>Not Significant (EPA, 2017)</b>            An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences.</p>

Viewpoint 6 - Carna			
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from the L-3061 local road in the townland of Carna.</li> <li>➤ Approximately 1.7 km north of the nearest turbine.</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference: E 712,613, N 606,426</li> <li>➤ No. of turbines visible: 10/14</li> </ul>		
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	LCU 4 – Coastal Zone <b>High</b> Landscape Sensitivity	<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	Tourist Area: Carne Beach (nearby)– <b>High</b> Residences (Carne Beach Caravan Park) – <b>High</b> Road users (L-3061) - <b>Medium</b>
<b>Baseline Description</b>	<p>This view was taken as it is representative of visual receptors from Carne Beach Caravan Park and Carne Beach (nearby). The character of this view is rural and comprises of planar and expansive views. The foreground of this image shows a road outlined by a roadside grass verge and a vegetated embankment approximately 1 meter in height. Towards the midground and into the background of the view, an open field comprising of grasses and low shrub vegetation can be seen. Denser tree coverage and mature shrubs can be seen in the background of the view. One-off residential dwellings and farmhouses are scattered throughout much of the view. Electrical powerlines area a common vertical element throughout much of this landscape. At this distance it is very difficult to identify any other wind farms in the image that may be theoretically visible from this view.</p>		
<b>Photomontage Description</b>	<p>From this location looking southwards, the Carnsore turbines appear in the centre background of the image. Approximately nine turbines will be visible from mid tower upwards and only one turbine will be visible from mid blade, as the majority of the turbines are screened from distance over the flat landscape and the mature vegetation that exists within the mid ground and background of the view. The intervening distance to the nearest turbine is c. 1.7km from this location. Given the proximity of this viewpoint location to the site, the scale and extent of the turbines is not incongruous and is readily absorbed into what is a relatively open expansive view. The turbines appear indiscernible from this location and are significantly screened by the mature vegetation that exists within much of this view.</p>		
<b>Cumulative Effects</b>	Cumulative visual effects do not arise in this viewpoint.		
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b>	<b>High:</b> Includes viewers at designated views or landscapes. Viewers such as residents in medium proximity to the viewpoint; viewers at well-known heritage or popular tourist or recreational areas, viewers along scenic or tourist routes		
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>	<b>Slight:</b> The proposals would be partially visible or visible at sufficient distance to be perceptible and result in a low level of change in the view and its composition and a low degree of contrast. The character of the view may be altered but will remain similar to the baseline existing situation. This change could be short term or of a short duration.		
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<b>High X Slight = Moderate/Minor = Moderate (EPA, 2017)</b> An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends.		

Viewpoint 6 - Carna	
<b>Mitigation Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Siting and design were developed in accordance with the guidelines for hilly and flat farmland landscape character type.</li> <li>➤ The mature vegetation that exists within this view mitigates visibility of the turbines.</li> <li>➤ The sensitivity of the viewpoint is considered High, due to the nearby residential and tourist designations (Carna Beach and Carna Beach Caravan Park)</li> <li>➤ Coherent wind farm layout reading as one coherent project.</li> <li>➤ The scale and size of the turbines, given the close proximity to the site (c. 1.7km) do not appear large and are readily absorbed into the landscape.</li> <li>➤ View of turbines is perpendicular to the direction of travel. Hence, the turbines will not be in the direct line of vision of road users.</li> <li>➤ Road users will be travelling at speeds close to the speed limit of 80 kmph on this straight section of road, hence any views are likely to be fleeting.</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)</b>	<p><b>Slight (EPA, 2017)</b>          An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities</p>

Viewpoint 7 – Clougheast			
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from a local road in the townland of Clougheast.</li> <li>➤ Approximately 0.9 km north from the nearest turbine.</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference: E 712,238, N 605,592</li> <li>➤ No. of turbines visible: 14/14</li> </ul>		
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	LCU 4 – Coastal Zone <b>High</b> Landscape Sensitivity	<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	Residences – <b>High</b> Clougheast Castle (nearby) - <b>High</b> Road users – <b>Low</b>
<b>Baseline Description</b>	<p>This viewpoint was taken from a local road adjacent to a residential development and Clougheast castle (nearby). The foreground of the view comprises of a hedge running parallel along the road and a single residential dwelling on the right side of the image. Beyond the hedges in the foreground, an agricultural field is seen running towards the background of the view ending in a row of denser tree cover. Other residential dwellings are seen scattered throughout this view but are indiscernible due to the mature tree coverage that exists within this landscape. Vertical elements such as electrical powerlines are seen throughout much of this view. Skyline views of the sea are seen on the left side of the image, adding aesthetic quality to the view.</p>		
<b>Photomontage Description</b>	<p>From this location looking southwards, the Carnsore turbines appear in the centre midground of the image. All 14 No turbines will be visible from approximately mid-tower due to the open and expansive views of the landscape and limited vegetation screening in the foreground. Given the spatial extent and angle of view from this direction, the turbines appear in a relatively coherent cluster and are readily absorbed into what is a relatively open expansive view. The Carnsore turbines do not deter from the seascape coastal views and are readily absorbed into the flat landscape.</p>		
<b>Cumulative Effects</b>	Cumulative visual effects do not arise in this viewpoint.		
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b>	<b>High:</b> Includes viewers at designated views or landscapes. Viewers such as residents in medium proximity to the viewpoint; viewers at well-known heritage or popular tourist or recreational areas, viewers along scenic or tourist routes		
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>	<b>Moderate:</b> The change in the view may involve partial obstruction of existing view or partial change in character and composition of the baseline through the introduction of new elements or removal of existing elements. Likely to occur at locations where the development is partially visible over a moderate or medium extent, and which are not in close proximity to the development. Change may be readily noticeable but not substantially different in scale and character from the surroundings and wider setting.		
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<b>High X Moderate = Moderate = Significant (EPA, 2017)</b> An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration or intensity alters a sensitive aspect of the environment.		

Viewpoint 7 – Clougheast	
<b>Mitigation Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Siting and design were developed in accordance with the guidelines for hilly and flat farmland landscape character type.</li> <li>➤ The sensitivity of the viewpoint is considered High, due to the nearby residential receptors.</li> <li>➤ Intermittent visibility of the turbines due to the mature vegetation screening that exists along this road.</li> <li>➤ Coherent wind farm layout reading as one coherent project.</li> <li>➤ The scale and size of the turbines, given the close proximity to the site (c. 0.9 km) do not appear large and are readily absorbed into the landscape.</li> <li>➤ View of turbines is perpendicular to the direction of travel. Hence, the turbines will not be in the direct line of vision of road users.</li> <li>➤ Road users will be travelling at speeds close to the speed limit of 80 kmph on this straight section of road, hence any views are likely to be fleeting.</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)</b>	<p><b>Moderate (EPA, 2017)</b>            An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends</p>



Viewpoint 8 - Nethertown			
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from Nethertown Lane local road in the townland of Nethertown.</li> <li>➤ Approximately 49.7 meters north from the nearest turbine.</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference: E 712,253, N 604,741</li> <li>➤ No. of turbines visible: 14/14</li> </ul>		
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	LCU 4 – Coastal Zone <b>High</b> Landscape Sensitivity	<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	Recreational Trail: Carnsore Point Coastal Walking trail (Way Marked Trail) - <b>Medium</b> Nethertown Beach - <b>Medium</b> Road Users - <b>Low</b>
<b>Baseline Description</b>	<p>This view was chosen as it is representative of visual receptors travelling along the Carnsore Point Coastal Walking Trail as well as those visiting the Nethertown Beach. These visual receptors are often visited by locals in the area and are not highly visited locations. Coastal seascape views are seen on the left side of the image. The majority of the view comprises of an arable grass field outlined by hedges and scrub vegetation. Wooden fences are seen throughout much of the view as a boundary to the enclosed grass fields. Vertical elements such as electrical power lines are a common vertical element throughout much of the view.</p>		
<b>Photomontage Description</b>	<p>All fourteen turbines will be fully visible from this location. Due to the intervening distance of c. 49.7 meters to the nearest turbine and the flatness of the landscape, the turbines appear prominent from this viewpoint location. Shrub vegetation found within the midground of the view partially mitigates visibility of the lower parts of the turbines in the background. The vertical extent of the turbines is large given the close proximity to the nearest turbine. The horizontal extent is appropriate given the turbines read as one collective unit.</p>		
<b>Cumulative Effects</b>	Cumulative visual effects do not arise in this viewpoint.		
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b>	<p><b>Medium:</b> Includes viewers who may have some susceptibility to a change in view, such as those from views which are not designated but may have local recreational uses or those travelling along routes or at view which are considered moderately scenic.</p>		
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>	<p><b>Substantial:</b> Substantial change, where the proposals would result in large-scale, prominent or very prominent change, leading to substantial obstruction of existing view or complete change in character and composition of the baseline though removal of key elements or addition of uncharacteristic elements which may or may not be visually discordant. This includes viewpoints where the proposed development is fully or almost fully visible over a wide extent, at close proximity to the viewer. This change could be long term or of a long duration.</p>		
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<p><b>Medium X Substantial = Moderate = Significant (EPA, 2017)</b>          An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration or intensity alters a sensitive aspect of the environment.</p>		
<b>Mitigation Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Siting and design were developed in accordance with the guidelines for hilly and flat farmland landscape character type.</li> </ul>		

Viewpoint 8 - Nethertown	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The Nethertown Beach is not a popular tourist designation and is of local recreational value.</li> <li>➤ Coherent wind farm layout reading as one coherent project.</li> <li>➤ View of turbines is perpendicular to the direction of travel. Hence, the turbines will not be in the direct line of vision of road users.</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)</b>	<p><b>Moderate (EPA, 2017)</b>            An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends</p>

Viewpoint 9- Buncarrick			
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from Our Lady’s Island GAA field off the L-3060 in the townland of Buncarrick.</li> <li>➤ Approximately 2.6 km northwest from the nearest turbine.</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference: E 711,116, N 607,121</li> <li>➤ No. of turbines visible: 14/14</li> </ul>		
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	LCU 4 – Coastal Zone <b>High</b> Landscape Sensitivity	<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	Our Lady’s Island GAA Pitch – <b>Medium</b> Road Users – <b>Low</b>
<b>Baseline Description</b>	<p>This view was taken from Our Lady’s Island GAA Pitch looking south. The foreground of the view shows the GAA pitch and associated infrastructure. The GAA club house can be seen on the left side of the image. Vertical elements including electrical powerlines and light posts are scattered throughout the view. The local road adjacent to the GAA pitch is lined with mature vegetation, as seen on the right side of the image. Behind the GAA field and in the background of the view, denser vegetation becomes more apparent. One off residential dwellings are scattered throughout this view, but are indiscernible due to vegetation screening.</p>		
<b>Photomontage Description</b>	<p>All fourteen turbines will be slightly visible from this viewpoint location from approximately mid-hub. The turbines are seen in the background of the image located behind the GAA pitch. The intervening distance across the flat landscape and the denser vegetation in the background mitigates visibility of the turbines.</p>		
<b>Cumulative Effects</b>	Cumulative visual effects do not arise in this viewpoint.		
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b>	<p><b>Low:</b> Includes viewers engaged in activities where the focus is not on the landscape or view. These including those travelling along a busy route, viewers at work or engaged in sport not related to views or experience of the landscape.</p>		
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>	<p><b>Slight:</b> The proposals would be partially visible or visible at sufficient distance to be perceptible and result in a low level of change in the view and its composition and a low degree of contrast. The character of the view may be altered but will remain similar to the baseline existing situation. This change could be short term or of a short duration.</p>		
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<p><b>Low X Slight = Minor/Negligible = Not Significant (EPA, 2017)</b>          An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences.</p>		
<b>Mitigation Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Siting and design were developed in accordance with the guidelines for hilly and flat farmland landscape character type.</li> <li>➤ The intervening distance is c. 2.6km from this viewpoint location.</li> <li>➤ Central focus of this view is on the GAA pitch and not on the turbines.</li> <li>➤ Coherent wind farm layout reading as one coherent project.</li> </ul>		
<b>Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)</b>	<p><b>Not Significant (EPA, 2017)</b>          An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences.</p>		

Viewpoint 10 – Ballytory Upper			
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from the L-3065 local road in the townland of Ballytory Upper.</li> <li>➤ Located along the Wexford Cycle Hub Loop and Normans Way Walking Trail.</li> <li>➤ Designated Landscape of Greater Sensitivity.</li> <li>➤ Approximately 4.7 km northwest from the nearest turbine.</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference: E 708,602, N 607,936</li> <li>➤ No. of turbines visible: 14/14</li> </ul>		
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	LCU 4 – Coastal Zone <b>High</b> Landscape Sensitivity	<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	Recreational Route: Wexford Cycle Hub Loop and Normans Way Walking Trail – <b>High</b> Landscape Designation: Landscape of Greater Sensitivity – <b>High</b> Road Users – <b>Low</b>
<b>Baseline Description</b>	<p>This view was chosen due to the open and expansive views to the east, as this road is commonly populated with mature vegetation. Vegetated embankments approximately 1 metre in height, run parallel along the road from where this image was taken. Behind the embankment, larger trees and shrubs are seen. From this viewpoint location, a metal farm gate is seen in the centre of the image, providing open and expansive views of the landscape beyond. The landscape in the midground and background of the view consists of agricultural field patterns outlined by treelines and hedgerows. Lady’s Island Lake is slightly seen in the centre background of the image. Vegetation becomes denser towards the background of the image.</p>		
<b>Photomontage Description</b>	<p>From this location, the Carnsore turbines appear in the centre background of the image and are visible between the gaps in the agricultural fence. The Carnsore turbines appear progressively more obscured with distance and are partially screened by the vegetation in the background. The view is open and expansive and the reduction in scale of the Carnsore turbines with distance mitigates any potential domineering or incongruous effects. From this viewpoint location, the turbines achieve a visual balance with the landscape, as the turbines are not domineering and do not interfere with views of special amenity value.</p>		
<b>Cumulative Effects</b>	Cumulative visual effects do not arise in this viewpoint.		
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b>	<b>High:</b> Includes viewers at designated views or landscapes. Viewers such as residents in medium proximity to the viewpoint; viewers at well-known heritage or popular tourist or recreational areas, viewers along scenic or tourist routes		
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>	<b>Slight:</b> The proposals would be partially visible or visible at sufficient distance to be perceptible and result in a low level of change in the view and its composition and a low degree of contrast. The character of the view may be altered but will remain similar to the baseline existing situation. This change could be short term or of a short duration.		

Viewpoint 10 – Ballytory Upper	
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<p><b>High X Slight = Moderate/Minor = Moderate (EPA, 2017)</b>            An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends.</p>
<b>Mitigation Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Screening obscures views of the project and distance over the flat landscape reduces the perceived scale.</li> <li>➤ The turbine bases are at a similar level to the receptor which means the intervening distance (c 4.7 km) mitigates the potential for domineering impacts.</li> <li>➤ Mature hedgerows outlining this roadway restricts visibility of the development from the majority of this road</li> <li>➤ View of turbines is adjacent to the direction of travel. Hence, the turbines will not be in the direct line of vision of road users.</li> <li>➤ Road users will be travelling at speeds close to the speed limit of 80 kmph on this straight section of road, hence any views are likely to be fleeting.</li> <li>➤ The visual impact is low due to the small size of the turbines and the distance from the viewer across the flat landscape thereby allowing the turbines to blend into the background without creating domineering effects</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)</b>	<p><b>Slight (EPA, 2017)</b>            An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities.</p>

Viewpoint 11 - Rostonstown Burrow			
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from a cul-de-sac off the L-3065 in the townland of Rostonstown Burrow.</li> <li>➤ Located within a designated Landscape of Greater Sensitivity.</li> <li>➤ Approximately 3.7 km west of the nearest turbine.</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference: E 708,236, N 605,411</li> <li>➤ No. of turbines visible: 14/14</li> </ul>		
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	LCU 4 – Coastal Zone <b>High</b> Landscape Sensitivity	<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	Landscape Designation: Landscape of Greater Sensitivity - <b>High</b> Recreational Trail: Carnsore Point Coastal Walking Trail (nearby) - <b>Medium</b>
<b>Baseline Description</b>	<p>The view was taken from a cul-de-sac road south of the L-3065 looking east. The view looks out across the Lady-s Island Lake. The lake is surrounded by low shrubs and grasses which populate much of the view. Small, vegetated hills form the background. Vertical elements such as electrical power lines are scattered throughout the background of the view. One-off residential dwellings and farmhouses are slightly visible in the skyline but are hard to distinguish from this distance due to the vegetation screening that exists within the background of the image.</p>		
<b>Photomontage Description</b>	<p>All fourteen turbines will be visible from this location from approximately mid-hub. In general, the photomontage shows that the turbines, from a landscape perspective, read as one coherent layout of turbines (cluster) with no differences in layout, scale or design. While the turbines will be visible over a wider extent than in the ‘Baseline’ scenario, the open expansive view can accommodate the addition of the Carnsore turbines. The distance of this location to the site means that the turbines will not be incongruous or domineering from this location. Aesthetic views of the lake in the foreground and the associated adjacent vegetation allows the turbines to not be the central focus and can readily be absorbed into the view.</p>		
<b>Cumulative Effects</b>	Cumulative visual effects do not arise in this viewpoint.		
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b>	<b>Medium:</b> Includes viewers who may have some susceptibility to a change in view, such as those from views which are not designated but may have local recreational uses or those travelling along routes or at view which are considered moderately scenic.		
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>	<b>Slight:</b> The proposals would be partially visible or visible at sufficient distance to be perceptible and result in a low level of change in the view and its composition and a low degree of contrast. The character of the view may be altered but will remain similar to the baseline existing situation. This change could be short term or of a short duration.		
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<b>Medium X Slight = Minor = Slight (EPA, 2017)</b> An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities		
<b>Mitigation Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Screening obscures views of the project and distance over the flat landscape reduces the perceived scale.</li> </ul>		

Viewpoint 11 - Rostonstown Burrow	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; The turbine bases are at a similar level to the receptor which means the intervening distance (c 3.7 km) mitigates the potential for domineering impacts.</li> <li>&gt; Sparsely populated road with very few visual receptors</li> </ul>
<b>Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)</b>	<p><b>Not Significant (EPA, 2017)</b>            An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences.</p>

Viewpoint 12 - Shilmore			
<b>Viewpoint Description and Details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ View from Nethertown Lane local road in the townland of Shilmore.</li> <li>➤ Approximately 273 meters northwest of the nearest turbine.</li> <li>➤ Grid Reference: E 711,785, N 604,795</li> <li>➤ No. of turbines visible: 14/14</li> </ul>		
<b>LCA and Sensitivity</b>	LCU 4 – Coastal Zone <b>High</b> Landscape Sensitivity	<b>Visual Receptor(s) and Sensitivity</b>	Residences - <b>Medium</b> Road Users - <b>Low</b>
<b>Baseline Description</b>	<p>The view is directed south from the Nethertown Lane local road, offering coastal views of the sea. The road is outlined by small shrubs and scrub vegetation. A single residential dwelling is seen on the left side of the image in the foreground. On the left side of the image in the foreground, a metal farm gate is seen. Middle distance views consist of a patchwork of fields interspersed with vegetation. Vertical elements such as electrical power lines are a common vertical element throughout much of the view.</p>		
<b>Photomontage Description</b>	<p>Due to the close proximity of the site from this viewpoint location at c. 273 meters, all fourteen turbines will be entirely visible from approximately mid-hub in the centre of the image. The turbines appear to be located within the agricultural fields in the centre of the image, slightly hidden behind the vegetation that forms the field boundaries in the midground of the view. Given the close proximity of this viewpoint location to the site, the scale and extent of the turbines is not incongruous and is readily absorbed into what is a relatively open expansive view.</p>		
<b>Cumulative Effects</b>	Cumulative visual effects do not arise in this viewpoint.		
<b>Sensitivity of Visual Receptor(s)</b>	<p><b>Low:</b> Includes viewers engaged in activities where the focus is not on the landscape or view. These including those travelling along a busy route, viewers at work or engaged in sport not related to views or experience of the landscape.</p>		
<b>Magnitude of Change</b>	<p><b>Substantial:</b> Substantial change, where the proposals would result in large-scale, prominent or very prominent change, leading to substantial obstruction of existing view or complete change in character and composition of the baseline though removal of key elements or addition of uncharacteristic elements which may or may not be visually discordant. This includes viewpoints where the proposed development is fully or almost fully visible over a wide extent, at close proximity to the viewer. This change could be long term or of a long duration.</p>		
<b>Significance of Effect</b>	<p><b>Low X Substantial = Moderate/Minor = Moderate (EPA, 2017)</b>          An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends.</p>		
<b>Mitigation Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Siting and design were developed in accordance with the guidelines for hilly and flat farmland landscape character type.</li> <li>➤ Coherent wind farm layout, cumulatively reading as one coherent project.</li> <li>➤ The turbines do not appear large to the receptor from this location due to the intervening distance (c 273 meters).</li> <li>➤ Sparsely populate road with very few road users</li> <li>➤ The flat and open expansive views allow the turbines to be absorbed into the landscape without creating domineering effects.</li> </ul>		



Viewpoint 12 - Shilmore	
<b>Residual Effect (incl. mitigating factors)</b>	<b>Moderate (EPA, 2017)</b> An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends