

APPENDIX 5.4: VIEWPOINT ANALYSIS

Introduction

1. A viewpoint assessment has been carried out from a selection of key representative viewpoint locations to inform the assessment of the likely magnitude and significance of landscape and visual effects arising as a result of the Proposed Development.
2. Following desk-top analysis and site survey work and consultation with NatureScot and the Council a total of 22 photographic viewpoint locations and three wireline only locations were selected to represent the main landscape and visual receptors found in the study area.
3. The locations of the selected viewpoints are shown on Figures 5.1 – 5.18. Details for each photographic viewpoint are provided below. Panoramic photographs, wireline diagrams and photomontages (in most cases) are provided to illustrate the existing view at each viewpoint location and the likely extent of the Proposed Development within the view (see Viewpoints 1-25). A summary of the viewpoint analysis is provided in Table 5.7 in the main LVIA (see Chapter 5).
4. This viewpoint assessment considers the nature of the predicted view and describes the potential change. The wider extent of the effect (beyond the individual viewpoint considered), and its duration, are not captured in the viewpoint analysis (as a single viewpoint cannot capture extent or duration), and are considered in the main body of the assessment (see Chapter 5). Extent and duration are factors in the overall judgement on magnitude of change, therefore judgements on magnitude of change and overall level of effect and significance are also provided in the main assessment.
5. The method of assessment used for the viewpoint analysis, which is described in Appendix 5.1, accords with current best-practice guidance for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management, 2013). Observations are made of the baseline landscape and visual characteristics at each of the representative viewpoints. Observations, computer modelling and professional judgement are applied to determine the scale of change attributable to the Proposed Development (**Large, Medium, Small and Negligible**) upon landscape character and visual amenity at each individual viewpoint in order to determine the scale of effect.
6. The visual assessment takes into account the screening effect of intervening landform, vegetation and built form and the potential for changes to those baseline features. It assumes excellent clear weather conditions; although the influence of different seasons, weather, sunlight and visibility conditions have been considered, where relevant.

VP	Location	Key features of existing view	Predicted Visual Change	Predicted Change to Landscape Character
1	Core Path Allt Phocaichain On core path IN16.16 on the old military road near Allt Phocaichain. 3.5 km, ENE	The viewpoint is situated in an area of forestry that extends between Glen Moriston and the Great Glen. The core path on which the viewpoint is situated follows a track alongside an overhead transmission line on pylons. Forestry and the transmission line are notable features of views which encompass areas of heather moorland and operational Millennium wind farm.	Ground level construction activity such as the upgrading of access tracks, creation of new tracks and crane pads and creation of the turbine foundations for T6 would be visible. The erection of turbines using cranes would be visible. Turbines of the Proposed Development would be visible in the middle distance in front of operational Millennium wind farm. The turbines would be seen as a linear array similar to that of operational Millennium. A section of new access track would be visible. The substation and BESS would not be visible. In night-time views the nacelle lights of T5 and T7 would be visible. The nacelle lights of T1 and T8 would be screened by intervening forestry. No Consented or In Planning sites would be visible. Beinneun 2 (Scoping) would not be visible.	LCT 220: Rugged Massif – Inverness (NatureScot 2019) The viewpoint is situated in the host LCT at a pass between two areas of plateau. This part of the LCT is strongly influenced by forestry plantation and a transmission line on pylons to the east of the viewpoint. Operational Millennium wind farm is an influencing feature. The Proposed Development would introduce additional turbines into a part of the LCT where operational wind turbines already influence landscape character. The proposed turbines would be larger and closer than operational Millennium turbines and would increase the influence of wind turbines on landscape character to a degree. At this viewpoint there would be no cumulative effects on landscape character with Consented or In Planning sites or in addition to Beinneun 2 (Scoping).

VP	Location	Key features of existing view	Predicted Visual Change	Predicted Change to Landscape Character
2	Dalchreichart On the south side of the minor road to the west of Dalchreichart. 3.6 km, N	Views from this location tend to be focused mainly to the east or west along the valley. There are views across forested slopes to the southern skyline where turbines of operational Millennium wind farm are visible.	Ground level construction activity would not be visible due to screening by landform. The erection of turbines using cranes would be visible. Turbines of the Proposed Development would be visible on the skyline in the same part of the view as the smaller turbines of operational Millennium wind farm. Turbines would be partly screened by landform with T3, T4 and T8 being more noticeable than others in the array. Access tracks, the substation and BESS would not be visible. In night-time views the nacelle lights of T1, T5 and T8 would be visible. Consented Bunloinn wind farm would be visible to the south west as would Tomchrasky (In Planning). Neither of these would be seen in the same field of view as the Proposed Development. Lights on Bunloinn may be discernible. Those on Tomchrasky would be less noticeable due to the oblique nature of views.	LCT 226: Wooded Glen – Inverness (NatureScot 2019) The viewpoint is situated in the ‘lower glen’ part of LCT 226 where the glen is broader. Key characteristics of LCT 226 may be viewed at this location. The Proposed Development would be a noticeable new feature on the skyline. The proposed turbines would be seen in combination with the existing turbines of Millennium wind farm and appear larger. The smaller existing turbines are associated with an area of irregular topography and an undulating skyline whereas the larger proposed turbines are mainly associated with an area of gradual, evenly sloping moorland with a horizontal skyline. The Proposed Development would be noticeable and influence views up the sides of the glen to adjacent hills but would have limited influence on landscape character. Tomchrasky (In Planning) would influence views along the glen to the south-west where the glen opens out into LCT 220 Rugged Massif – Inverness. The addition of the Proposed Development would increase the amount of large scale turbine development visible from LCT 226.

VP	Location	Key features of existing view	Predicted Visual Change	Predicted Change to Landscape Character
3	A887 Layby near site entrance At the western entrance to a lay-by on the A887, near the existing site entrance to Millennium wind farm. 3.6 km, NNW	Gently sloping valley sides provide a degree of enclosure to views which are directed east and west along Glen Moriston. Local topographic screening and vegetation also restrict outward views to a degree although views to the west are more open towards distant hills. Landcover of moorland, rough pasture and forestry plantation gives a simple view composition. Millennium wind farm is a minor feature on the horizon.	Creation of the new bell mouth at the site entrance would be visible from this location as would the movement of construction traffic to and from the site and on lower parts of the access track. The erection of turbines using cranes would be visible. Most of the proposed turbines would be screened by landform or by a small block of forestry plantation in the foreground. The proposed turbines would be more noticeable from the eastern entrance to the lay-by and appear different in size to those of operational Millennium wind farm. In night-time views the nacelle lights of T1, T5 and T7 would be screened by landform with the nacelle lights of T8 screened by forestry although visible from the east entrance to the lay-by. Consented Bunloinn wind farm would be visible to the south west. Tomchrasky (In Planning) would be visible to the north and north-west in the opposite direction to the Proposed Development. Neither of these would be seen in the same field of view as the Proposed Development. Lights on Tomchrasky would be noticeable and those on Bunloinn would be less noticeable due to intervening distance and screening vegetation.	LCT 226: Wooded Glen – Inverness (NatureScot 2019) Key characteristics of LCT 226 are less evident at this viewpoint location where landscape character is influenced by the A887, forestry plantation and undulating moorland to the north. The viewpoint is on the valley side where the scale of the landscape is larger than in the valley floor. Existing turbines of Millennium wind farm are visible and the Proposed Development would slightly increase the number of turbines visible; and the difference in size would be apparent. The turbines would influence views up the sides of the glen to adjacent hills but would have limited influence on landscape character. Tomchrasky (In Planning) would be very noticeable in the opposite direction to the Proposed Development in the adjacent LCT 220: Rugged Massif – Inverness. There would be very limited cumulative effects arising from the addition of the Proposed Development to Tomchrasky.

VP	Location	Key features of existing view	Predicted Visual Change	Predicted Change to Landscape Character
4	Core Path Loch Lundie On core path LO11.02 on the east side of Loch Lundie. 5.2 km, S	The viewpoint is situated in a natural basin in the landscape in which Loch Lindie has formed. The topography provides a degree of containment to views which are focused on the woodland beside Loch Lundie and on the Loch itself. There are expansive, longer distance views to the south-west of uplands between Loch Garry and Loch Arkaig. Operational Millennium wind farm is a notable feature on the skyline to the north and north-west.	Ground level construction activity would not be visible due to screening by landform. The erection of turbines using cranes would be visible. The proposed turbines would be visible as a linear array overlapping with turbines of operational Millennium and partly screened by intervening landform. The turbines would follow the contours of landform in a similar way to operational Millennium and would appear mainly in the same horizontal extents as the existing turbines. Access tracks, the substation and BESS would not be visible. In night-time views the nacelle lights of T1, T5 and T7 would be visible with the nacelle lights of T8 screened by landform. There would be combined visibility of Beinneun 2 (Scoping) turbines and the Proposed Development. Beinneun 2 turbines would be separated from those of the Proposed Development by landform with existing Millennium turbines visible between the two developments. Lights on Beinnuen 2 turbines could be visible although the lighting scheme is not yet available.	LCT 237: Rocky Moorland – Lochaber (NatureScot 2019) Key characteristics of LCT 237 are evident at this viewpoint which is situated adjacent to an isolated upland lochan in an area of undulating heather moorland. There is forestry plantation to the south and east of the viewpoint. Operational Millennium wind farm is a notable feature on the horizon to the north-west. The proposed turbines would be visible overlapping with those of operational Millennium wind farm. The difference in size of rotors would be noticeable although the vertical extent of the Proposed Development would be similar to that of the operational wind farm. The Proposed Development would increase slightly the influence of wind turbines on landscape character as perceived at this viewpoint. At this viewpoint there would be no cumulative effects on landscape character with Consented or In Planning sites. Turbines of Beinneun 2 (Scoping) would be visible in combination with the Proposed Development and appear larger than. There would be very limited cumulative effects arising from the addition of the Proposed Development to Beinneun 2.

VP	Location	Key features of existing view	Predicted Visual Change	Predicted Change to Landscape Character
5	Caledonian Canal/Great Glen Way On core path IN16.07 and the Great Glen Way long distance trail on the west side of the Caledonian Canal near Cullochy Locks. 5.3 km, SE	Views are enclosed by vegetation and directed along the Caledonian Canal. The canal and the woodland on either side are the main focus of views. There are views through trees to the upper slopes of the valley and the hills beyond to the north in the direction of the Site where turbines of Millennium wind farm are discernible.	Ground level construction activity would not be visible due to screening by landform. The erection of turbines using cranes would be visible. Four turbines of the Proposed Development would theoretically be visible on the skyline in oblique views to the direction of travel along the canal and towpath. It is likely that T6 and T7 would be readily apparent with T4 and T5 being less noticeable due to intervening vegetation alongside the canal towpath and on rising ground beyond. Access tracks, the substation and BESS would not be visible. In night-time views the nacelle lights of T7 would be visible. The nacelle lights of T5 would theoretically be visible although it is likely they would be screened by intervening vegetation. The nacelle lights of T1 and T8 would not be visible. No Consented or In Planning sites would be visible. Beinneun 2 (Scoping) would not be visible.	LCT 225: Broad Steep Sided Glen (NatureScot 2019) There is a degree of enclosure by vegetation at this viewpoint reflecting some of the key characteristics of this LCT. The immediate locality is influenced mainly by the linear feature of the Caledonian Canal waterway and the deciduous woodland on either side of the route. Open moorland and hilltops in adjacent LCT are visible beyond deciduous woodland and large block of forestry plantation. Three turbines of Millennium wind farm are discernible at this location. Four turbines of the Proposed Development would theoretically be visible on the skyline although it is likely that intervening woodland would screen views of a blade tip of one turbine. The turbines would appear as minor features on the skyline and would not affect the scale of the glen or distract from the visual focus along the glen. The Proposed Development would have a negligible influence on landscape character as perceived at this viewpoint. At this viewpoint there would be no cumulative effects on landscape character with Consented or In Planning sites or in addition to Beinneun 2 (Scoping).

VP	Location	Key features of existing view	Predicted Visual Change	Predicted Change to Landscape Character
6	A887 at Dundregan On the verge on the north side of the A887. 5.8 km, NNE	Views are directed south-west and north-east along the valley floor and valley sides. The river Moriston is a notable feature with views towards it across pasture fields in the valley floor. Deciduous woodland interrupts longer distance views along the valley and the enclosing ridges form an undulating, and in places irregular skyline above forestry plantation. Turbines of Millennium wind farm are visible and pylons are visible in the valley floor and sides amidst forestry plantation.	Some ground level construction activity would be visible at T3 and T8. The erection of turbines using cranes would be visible. Seven of the eight turbines would be visible to hub height with blades only of T7 visible. The proposed turbines would overlap with those of operational Millennium wind farm and appear larger in size. Part of the access track leading to T3 would be visible. The substation and BESS would not be visible. In night-time views the nacelle lights of T1, T5 and T8 would be visible with the nacelle lights of T7 screened by landform. No Consented or In Planning sites would be visible. Beinneun 2 (Scoping) would not be visible.	LCT 226: Wooded Glen – Inverness (NatureScot 2019) The viewpoint is situated in the ‘lower glen’ part of LCT 226 where the glen is broader. Key characteristics of LCT 226 may be viewed at this location. The proposed turbines would be seen beyond the plateau edge and separated from the valley by terrain. The proposed turbines would appear larger than existing Millennium turbines and the Proposed Development would increase the number of turbines visible. The turbines would influence views up the sides of the glen to adjacent hills but would have limited influence on landscape character. At this viewpoint there would be no cumulative effects on landscape character with Consented or In Planning sites or in addition to Beinneun 2 (Scoping).

VP	Location	Key features of existing view	Predicted Visual Change	Predicted Change to Landscape Character
7	A82 near Newtown, Aberchalder On the east side of the A82 north of Netherwood Cottage. 6.1 km, SE	Views are directed south-west and north-east along the valley and tend to be short distance due to the presence of forestry plantation. At the viewpoint location views are directed towards the undulating skyline in the direction of the Site where turbines of Millennium wind farm form an irregular array with turbines of Beinneun wind farm discernible in eth distance.	Ground level construction activity would not be visible due to screening by landform. The erection of turbines using cranes would be visible. The proposed turbines would be visible on the skyline in combination with existing turbines of operational Millennium wind farm. The proposed turbines would increase slightly the horizontal extent of turbines across the skyline and the nearer turbines (T6 and T7) would appear noticeably larger than the existing turbines. Access tracks, the substation and BESS would not be visible. In night-time views the nacelle lights of T1, T5 and T7 would be visible with the nacelle lights of T8 screened by landform. Beinneun 2 (Scoping) would be visible in combination with the Proposed Development and in front of operational Beinneun turbines.	LCT 225: Broad Steep Sided Glen (NatureScot 2019) The viewpoint is situated beside the A82 on the east side of the glen between Aberchalder and Fort Augustus. The viewpoint provides a slightly elevated view looking across the floor of the valley to the forested west side of the glen and the open moorland hills beyond on which Millennium, Beinneun and Beinneun Extension wind farms are visible. Eight turbines of the Proposed Development would be visible overlapping partly with existing Millennium turbines. The proposed turbines would be positioned where the skyline profile is simple and slightly undulating with the valley side strongly influenced by forestry plantation. The proposed turbines would slightly increase the amount of wind turbines visible although would not affect the contrast in scale between the smaller scale landscape of the valley floor and the moorland and forest backdrop. The Proposed Development would have a negligible influence on landscape character as perceived at this viewpoint. At this viewpoint there would be no cumulative effects on landscape character with Consented or In Planning sites. The Proposed Development would be seen in combination with Beinneun 2 (Scoping) and would add to the amount of larger scale turbines visible from this location.

VP	Location	Key features of existing view	Predicted Visual Change	Predicted Change to Landscape Character
8	Core path Creag an Larlain On core path IN16.03 to the north-west of Creag an larlain. 6.3 km, E	The viewpoint is situated on south-east facing slopes of a ridge that extends from Fort Augustus to Invermoriston. Much of the lower ridge slopes are covered in forestry plantation and the viewpoint is at a gap where views are directed north-east and south-west along the Great Glen and south-east towards the other side of the glen and the hills beyond. Views are strongly influenced by forestry plantation which interrupts longer distance views. Pylons are visible to the west in the direction of the Site. Turbines of operational Millennium wind farm are just visible above intervening forestry.	Ground level construction activity would not be visible due to screening by landform. The erection of turbines using cranes would be visible. The nacelles of four turbines would theoretically be visible. However, it is likely that nacelles of T6 and T7 only would be seen due to intervening forestry. Blades of three other turbines in the array would not be readily discernible due to screening by forestry. Access tracks, the substation and BESS would not be visible. In night-time views the nacelle lights of T5 and T7 would theoretically be visible. However, it is likely that the lights on T5 would not be readily discernible due to screening by forestry. While Aberarder and Corriegarth 2 Consented sites would theoretically be visible in the distance intervening trees would interrupt views at this location. Culachy (In Planning) would be visible although not in the same field of view as the proposed turbines. Beinneun 2 (Scoping) would not be visible.	LCT 225: Broad Steep Sided Glen (NatureScot 2019) The viewpoint is situated at the edge of the LCT overlooking a part of the LCT where forestry plantation has a strong influence. Proposed turbines would be discernible above intervening forestry where operational Millennium turbines are visible. The proposed turbines would result in a barely discernible increase in the amount of wind turbines visible and would have a negligible influence on landscape character as perceived at this viewpoint. Culachy (In Planning) would be noticeable to the south-east in the adjacent LCT 236: Smooth Moorland Ridges. There would be very limited cumulative effects arising from the addition of the Proposed Development to Culachy.

VP	Location	Key features of existing view	Predicted Visual Change	Predicted Change to Landscape Character
9	A82 Fort Augustus On the pedestrian footway on the east side of the A82. 7.3 km, E	This part of Fort Augustus is slightly more elevated than the village centre although wider topography truncates longer distance views. The upper slopes of the Great Glen form the enclosing skyline to the north and south. The immediate context to the viewpoint is urban.	Ground level construction activity would not be visible due to screening by landform. The erection of turbines using cranes would be visible. Four turbines would theoretically be visible. The nacelle of T7 and part of T6 would be visible. Blade tips of T5 would be seen with the blade tips of T4 screened by intervening forestry. The proposed turbines would be seen in combination with two turbines of Millennium and with blades tips of two others. Access tracks, the substation and BESS would not be visible. In night-time views the nacelle lights of T7 would be visible with the nacelle lights of the other three lit turbines screened by landform. No Consented or In Planning sites would be visible. Beinneun 2 (Scoping) would not be visible due to intervening vegetation.	LCT 225: Broad Steep Sided Glen (NatureScot 2019) There is an urban character to the landscape at this location. The characteristic large scale of the glen, linear emphasis and forestry landcover are evident. Operational Millennium does not influence landscape character. Three proposed turbines would be visible on the horizon above forestry and in the same field of views as operational Millennium turbines. The proposed turbines would appear larger than those of Millennium although they would have no influence on landscape character. At this viewpoint there would be no cumulative effects on landscape character with Consented or In Planning sites or in addition to Beinneun 2 (Scoping).
10	Loch Oich Great Glen Way On core path LO11.06 and the route of the Great Glen Way on the southern shore of Loch Oich. 7.4 km, SSE	Steeply rising, wooded terrain to the east of the viewpoint and gentler forested slopes to the west direct views north-east and south-west along Loch Oich and the Great Glen. Short range views are influenced by the loch, the deciduous woodland on the edges and lower slopes of the foreground hills and by the darker forestry plantation. Views open up to the north-east and south-west where the hills above Loch Ness and Loch Lochy are visible.	The Proposed Development would not be visible during construction and operation due to screening by landform and vegetation. No Consented or In Planning sites would be visible. Beinneun 2 (Scoping) would not be visible.	LCT 235: Broad Forested Strath (NatureScot 2019) The Proposed Development would not be visible due to screening by landform and vegetation. No Consented or In Planning sites would be visible. Beinneun 2 (Scoping) would not be visible.

VP	Location	Key features of existing view	Predicted Visual Change	Predicted Change to Landscape Character
11	Caledonian Canal Boat Lift At the west end of Banavie Locks on the north side of the Caledonian Canal. 7.5 km, E	The immediate context to the viewpoint is urban. The viewpoint is at an elevated position in the village and there are views to the uplands on the east side of Loch Ness. There are restricted views south-west along the route of the Caledonian Canal where pylons are visible in the middle distance where the cross the Great Glen. Views in the direction of the Site are to a forested, horizontal skyline where blades of operational Millennium turbines are discernible.	Ground level construction activity would not be visible due to screening by landform. The erection of turbines using cranes would be visible. Up to three turbines would theoretically be visible. The nacelle of T7 would be visible. The nacelle of T6 would be screened by intervening forestry and blade tips of T5 would be seen. Access tracks, the substation and BESS would not be visible. In night-time views the nacelle lights of T7 would be visible with other lit turbines screened by landform. No Consented sites would be visible. Blade tips of two Cullachy (In planning) turbines would potentially be visible. Beinneun 2 (Scoping) would not be visible.	LCT 225: Broad Steep Sided Glen (NatureScot 2019) There is an urban character to the landscape at this location. The characteristic large scale of the glen, linear emphasis, enclosure by valley sides and forestry landcover are evident. Operational Millennium does not influence landscape character. Three proposed turbines would be visible on the horizon above forestry and in the same field of views as operational Millennium turbines. The difference in size compared to operational Millennium turbines is unlikely to be readily discernible and the Proposed Development would have no influence on landscape character. At this viewpoint there would be no cumulative effects on landscape character with Consented or In Planning sites or in addition to Beinneun 2 (Scoping).

VP	Location	Key features of existing view	Predicted Visual Change	Predicted Change to Landscape Character
12	Old Military Road north of the A87 On the old military road that runs north of and parallel to the A87. 7.5 km, WNW	Situated in a small area of undulating plateau moorland views are influenced by the simple moorland landcover, lochans and large boulders scattered throughout the landscape. Local topography restricts low level views to a degree but there are views all-around of mountains with the trough of Glen Moriston apparent in the middle ground. Turbines of Beinneun wind farm are a notable feature and turbines of Millennium are also visible.	Ground level construction activity would not be visible due to screening by landform. The erection of turbines using cranes would be visible. The proposed turbines would be seen with existing Millennium turbines and would be noticeably larger and occupy a similar part of the skyline. The proposed turbines would be seen in the same field of view as operational Beinneun wind farm. Access tracks, the substation and BESS would not be visible. In night-time views the nacelle lights of T1, T5 and T8 would be visible with the nacelle lights of T7 screened by landform. Consented Bunloinn would be visible to the south-west and not in the same field of views as the Proposed Development. Tomchrasky (In Planning) would be visible to the north-east and closer to the viewpoint than the proposed turbines. Beinneun 2 (Scoping) would be visible in combination with the Proposed Development and in front of operational Beinneun turbines.	LCT 220: Rugged Massif - Inverness (NatureScot 2019) Some of the key characteristics of this LCT are evident at this viewpoint location in the host LCT. The viewpoint is on lower moorland with views all-around of steeper hills and peaks including those where the Proposed Development would be located. Turbines of operational Millennium and Beinneun and Extension are visible on the skyline from east through to south with those of Beinnuen and Extension more noticeable. The Proposed Development would introduce turbines into part of the LCT where existing turbines are noticeable. The Proposed Development would increase slightly the number of turbines present on the skyline with a limited influence on key characteristics of the landscape. The addition of the Proposed Development to Bunloinn (Consented) and Beinneun 2 (Scoping) would increase slightly the influence of wind energy development on landscape character as perceived at this viewpoint.

VP	Location	Key features of existing view	Predicted Visual Change	Predicted Change to Landscape Character
13	Core Path Meall Ruigh Uisdein On core path IN05.03 where it passes east of Beinn Bhan. 8 km, N	Views at this location are expansive and wide ranging. There are views all around in this locality although at the viewpoint location landform restricts views north and east. The focus of views is to the west and south-west where there are long range views of hills and mountains forming an irregular skyline of pointed summits and angular ridges across a vast area of open moorland. Turbines of Millennium wind farm and Beinneun wind farm are visible on the skyline. The immediate locality is influenced by pylons and overhead transmission lines.	Ground level construction activity would be visible in the eastern part of the Site. The erection of turbines using cranes would be visible. All eight of the proposed turbines would be visible overlapping with the operational Millennium turbines and extending slightly beyond the horizontal extent of the existing development. The turbines would appear larger than the existing turbines and would follow the shape of the landform at the Site in a similar way. Short sections of access track would be visible. The substation and BESS would not be visible. In night-time views the nacelle lights of all four lit turbines would be visible. The main cumulative interactions would be successive visibility with Consented Bunloinn, combined visibility with Cullachy (In Planning) and successive visibility with Tomchrasky (In Planning). Beinneun 2 (Scoping) would be visible in combination with the Proposed Development.	LCT 222: Rocky Moorland Plateau - Inverness (NatureScot 2019) Some of the key characteristics of LCT 222 are strongly evident at this viewpoint. The overhead power line on pylons is a notable feature to the east and south-east of the viewpoint and reduces the perception of remoteness and lack of human artefacts. Operational Bhlaraidh wind farm is situated in the east of this LCT although not visible from the viewpoint due to screening by landform. The Proposed Development would introduce more wind turbines into an area of LCT 220 Rugged Massif – Inverness where wind farm development is an established feature. The proposed turbines would appear larger than the existing ones but would occupy a similar horizontal extent with vertical scale in keeping with that of the host LCT and intervening landscape. The addition of the Proposed Development to Bunloinn (Consented), Tomchrasky and Culachy (In Planning and Beinneun 2 (Scoping) would increase slightly the influence of wind energy development on landscape character as perceived at this viewpoint.

VP	Location	Key features of existing view	Predicted Visual Change	Predicted Change to Landscape Character
14	South Loch Ness Trail On the route of the South Loch Ness Trail east of the B862. 9.5 km, E	The viewpoint is situated at an elevated location above the B862 which is also the route of NCR 78. The focus of views is south-west to the village of Fort Augustus and the wooded alluvial plain around the village beyond which the larger hills around Ben Tee are noticeable. In views to the south-west the small hill of Torr a' Choiltreich is a notable feature as are pylons that pass west of this hill. Turbines of Millennium wind farm are visible on the horizontal skyline above Fort Augustus where forestry plantation is a notable feature. Beinnuen wind farm is also visible beyond Millennium.	Ground level construction activity would not be visible due to screening by landform. The erection of turbines using cranes would be visible. All eight turbines of the Proposed Development would be visible beyond the edge of the plateau and set back from the upper edge of the valley. The proposed turbines would overlap with operational Millennium turbines and would appear closer and larger in size. Access tracks, the substation and BESS would not be visible. In night-time views the nacelle lights of all four lit turbines would be visible. No Consented or In Planning sites would be visible. Beinneun 2 (Scoping) would be visible in combination with the Proposed Development.	LCT 225: Broad Steep Sided Glen (NatureScot 2019) The key characteristics of LCT 225 are strongly evident at this viewpoint. Turbines of operational Millennium along with Beinneun and Beinneun Extension are visible on the skyline. The Proposed Development would be situated on the broad, horizontal skyline beyond the edge of the upper valley side where forestry plantation is a notable influence on landscape character. The Proposed Development would slightly increase the amount of wind turbines visible and these would appear larger and closer than existing ones. The proposed turbines would be a noticeable new feature beyond LCT 225 and would fit the simple horizon profile and large scale of the landscape. At this viewpoint there would be no cumulative effects on landscape character with Consented or In Planning sites. The Proposed Development would be seen in combination with Beinneun 2 (Scoping) and would add to the amount of larger scale turbines visible from this location.

VP	Location	Key features of existing view	Predicted Visual Change	Predicted Change to Landscape Character
15	Meallan Odhar Near the summit of Meallan Odhar. 10.7 km, NW	Meallan Odhar is a low rounded hill easily accessed off a path between Glen Affric and Glen Moriston. There are views all-around of hills and moorland. The focus of views is to the south-west west and south-west where there are long range views of hills and mountains forming an irregular skyline of rounded summits and angular ridges across undulating moorland. Turbines of Beinneun wind farm are visible on lower ground with some turbines on the skyline. Turbines of Millennium wind farm are visible with the simple, horizontal skyline on the east side of the Great Glen forming a backdrop.	Ground level construction activity would be visible in the eastern part of the Site. The erection of turbines using cranes would be visible. All eight turbines of the Proposed Development would be visible partly overlapping with operational Millennium turbines and appear larger than the existing turbines. Sections of access track would be visible in the eastern part of the array at T4, T5 and T8. The substation and BESS would not be visible. In night-time views the nacelle lights of all four lit turbines would be visible. The main cumulative interaction would be combined visibility of the Proposed Development and Tomchrasky (In Planning). Beinneun 2 (Scoping) would be visible in combination with the Proposed Development.	LCT 220: Rugged Massif - Inverness (NatureScot 2019) The viewpoint is at an elevated location in the host LCT and some key characteristics are strongly expressed. The Proposed Development would introduce larger turbines into a part of the host LCT where turbines are already present. The proposed turbines would occupy an area of lower moorland on a broad ridge that extends from higher hills and is separated from the viewpoint location by an intervening strath. The addition of the Proposed Development would result in a limited influence on landscape character at this location which is strongly influenced by the more complex upland massif to the south-west in adjacent LCT 230 Interlocking Sweeping Peaks – Inverness. Tomchrasky would be situated in this part of the LCT and would have a notable influence on landscape character. The Proposed Development would be visible beyond Tomchrasky although its addition would be of very limited influence on key characteristics.

VP	Location	Key features of existing view	Predicted Visual Change	Predicted Change to Landscape Character
16	Beinn Loinne At the triangulation pillar at 789 m AOD approximately 2 km west of the summit of Beinn Loinne. 14.2 km, W	The viewpoint is situated on a narrow, rocky ridge which provides an elevated vantage point between Loch Cluanie and Loch Loyne. There are views all around which are strongly influenced by the rugged landform of the ridge extending east and west, the Cluanie Ridge to the west and the hills on the north side of Loch Cluanie. Beinnuen wind farm is a notable focal point in views to the east and turbines of Millennium are visible. Turbines of Bhlairaidh wind farm are also noticeable to the north-east.	Ground level construction activity would not be visible due to screening by landform. The erection of turbines using cranes would be visible. Seven of the eight proposed turbines would be visible with four nacelles visible. The proposed turbines would be seen behind two existing Millennium turbines and mostly behind the same ridge. Access tracks, the substation and BESS would not be visible. In night-time views the nacelle lights of T1, T5 and T8 would be visible with the nacelle lights of T7 screened by landform. The main cumulative interaction at this viewpoint would be combined visibility with Consented Bunloinn wind farm which would be visible between the viewpoint and the Proposed Development in the middle distance. Beinneun 2 (Scoping) would be visible in combination with the Proposed Development and in front of operational Beinneun turbines.	LCT 365: Rugged Massif – Skye and Lochalsh (NatureScot 2019) Key characteristics of LCT 365 are strongly evident at this viewpoint which is situated towards the eastern edge of this LCT unit. Operational wind farm development is present in the adjacent host LCT 220 Rugged Massif – Inverness between the viewpoint and the Proposed Development. The Proposed Development would slightly increase the amount of wind turbines visible and would have a negligible influence on landscape character. Consented Bunloinn wind farm would be situated at the edge of LCT 365 and visible in combination with the Proposed Development and Beinneun 2 (Scoping). Bunloinn would be the main influence on landscape character.

VP	Location	Key features of existing view	Predicted Visual Change	Predicted Change to Landscape Character
17	A887 Loch Cluanie At the Lundie car park off the A87 towards the east end of Loch Cluanie. 12.9 km, W	Steeply rising ground to the north and south provides containment to views which are directed east along Loch Cluanie towards Glen Moriston. Turbines of operational Millennium wind farm are visible on the skyline.	Ground level construction activity would not be visible due to screening by landform. The erection of turbines using cranes would be visible. Five proposed turbines would theoretically be visible although it is unlikely the blade tip of T5 would be readily discernible. The proposed turbines would be seen in combination with existing Millennium turbines and behind the same ridge. Access tracks, the substation and BESS would not be visible. In night-time views the nacelle lights of T8 would be visible with the nacelle lights of the three other lit turbines screened by landform. No Consented or In Planning sites would be visible. Beinneun 2 (Scoping) would not be visible.	LCT 220: Rugged Massif - Inverness (NatureScot 2019) The viewpoint is situated in the host LCT in an intervening strath between upland areas. There is a strong sense of enclosure due to the nearby steep sided hills particularly to the south looking onto the ridge between Loch Cluanie and Loch Loyne that includes the adjacent LCT 365 Rugged Massif – Skye and Lochalsh. The Proposed Development would introduce turbines where existing turbines are a feature of the landscape. While the Proposed Development would increase the number of turbines visible on the skyline the sense of enclosure would not be affected. There would be no cumulative effects on landscape character with Consented or In Planning sites or in addition to Beinneun 2 (Scoping).

VP	Location	Key features of existing view	Predicted Visual Change	Predicted Change to Landscape Character
18	Corrieyairack Pass On General Wade's military road on the west side of the Corrieyairick Pass. 13.5 km, SE	Views are directed north-west through to north-east by landform. In the immediate locality views are influenced by an overhead transmission line on pylons that passes through the Corrieyairick Pass in a v-shaped valley to the west of the viewpoint. Views north-west through to north-east are expansive across a vast area of undulating moorland with forestry plantation in the middle distance. The irregular horizon of pointed and rounded peaks and ridges lies beyond Millennium and Beinneun wind farms which are a focal point in the middle distance.	Ground level construction activity would be visible. The erection of turbines using cranes would be visible. All eight proposed turbines would be visible partly overlapping with operational Millennium wind farm and slightly increasing the horizontal extent of turbines in the view. Access tracks at T1-T3 and T6, T7 would be visible. The substation and BESS would not be visible. In night-time views the nacelle lights of all four lit turbines would be visible. The main cumulative interaction at this viewpoint would be combined visibility with Culachy wind farm (In Planning) which would be visible between the viewpoint and the Proposed Development in the middle distance. Beinneun 2 (Scoping) would be visible in combination with the Proposed Development and in front of operational Beinneun turbines.	LCT 221: Rolling Uplands - Inverness (NatureScot 2019) The viewpoint is located at the south-western edge of the LCT near the boundary with adjacent LCT 236 Smooth Moorland Ridges. There are operational wind farms (Stronelairg and Corriegarth) to the east and north-east of the viewpoint although these are screened by landform from the viewpoint location. The Proposed Development would introduce larger scale turbines where wind farm development is already present and forms a feature of views from LCT 221 at the viewpoint. While the Proposed Development would be visible it would have a negligible influence on landscape character of LCT 221. Culachy (In Planning) would be situated between the viewpoint and the Proposed Development in the adjacent LCT 236 Smooth Moorland Ridges. It would be the main influence on landscape character and the Proposed Development would result in negligible additional effects.

VP	Location	Key features of existing view	Predicted Visual Change	Predicted Change to Landscape Character
19	Meall Coire nan Saobhaidh Near the summit cairn of Meall Coire nan Saobhaidh. 16.5 km, SW	There are views all around from the summit with the main focus being upon the group of mountains to the east including the conical hill of Ben Tee. Another focus of views is to the west and north-west to more remote mountains to the north of Loch Arkaig and at Loch Cuaich and Glen Cluanie. Views towards the Site are influenced by Beinneun wind farm and Millennium wind farm which occupy a broad ridge above Loch Garry.	Ground level construction activity would not be visible due to screening by landform. The erection of turbines using cranes would be visible. All eight of the proposed turbines would be visible overlapping entirely with operational Millennium wind farm turbines. The Proposed Development would not increase the horizontal extent of turbines in the view and the maximum vertical extent of the array would be similar to the that of the exiting turbines. Access tracks, the substation and BESS would not be visible. In night-time views the nacelle lights of all four lit turbines would be visible. The main cumulative interaction would be combined visibility of the Proposed Development with Beinneun 2 (Scoping).	LCT 238: Rugged Massif - Lochaber (NatureScot 2019) The viewpoint is situated in the eastern part of a small LCT unit which forms part of a range of hills extending west from Loch Lochy and along the north side of Loch Arkaig. There are qualities of wildness and remoteness due to the separation of the LCT from roads and habitation. The cluster of wind farms at Millennium, Beinneun and Beinneun Extension is a notable feature of views to the north-east. The Proposed Development would result in a very slight increase in wind turbines in the landscape when seen from this viewpoint in LCT 238. There would be no change to landscape character. The main cumulative interactions would be combined visibility of the Proposed Development with Bunloinn (Consented), Tomchrasky (In Planning) and Beinneun 2 (Scoping). The addition of the Proposed Development would result in a very limited increase in the amount of wind farm development and there would be no change to landscape character of LCT 238 as perceived from this viewpoint.

VP	Location	Key features of existing view	Predicted Visual Change	Predicted Change to Landscape Character
20	Toll Creagach Near the triangulation pillar on the summit of Toll Creagach. 20.9 km, NNW	There are views all around from the summit of Toll Creagach with the focus of views being on the mountains visible to the south through west to north-east. These contrast with the lower lying land to the east and south-east that is visible as a vast area undulating, broad ridges with forestry plantation and pockets of farmland. Several wind farms are visible with Bhlairstaidh and Corrimony being the more noticeable arrays.	Ground level construction activity would not be discernible although seen as a distant feature. The erection of turbines using cranes would be visible. All eight turbines of the Proposed Development would be visible partly overlapping with operational Millennium turbines and slightly increasing the horizontal extent of turbines in the view. The turbines would appear slightly closer and larger than those of operational Millennium. Access tracks are unlikely to be readily discernible. The substation and BESS would not be visible. In night-time views the nacelle lights of all four lit turbines would be visible although at this distance would not appear strongly. The main cumulative interactions would be combined visibility of the Proposed Development with Culachy and Tomchrasky both In planning and combined visibility with Beinneun 2 (Scoping).	LCT 230: Interlocking Sweeping Peaks - Inverness (NatureScot 2019) The viewpoint is situated in the north-eastern part of the LCT unit at the east end of a range of hills on the north side of Glen Affric. The key characteristics of LCT 230 are strongly evident at this viewpoints and Millennium, Beinneun and Beinneun Extension wind farms are visible as distant features to the south-south-east. The Proposed Development would be discernible as a minor addition to existing turbines at Millennium wind farm. The difference in height would barely be discernible and there would be no effects on landscape character as perceived from this viewpoint. There would be no cumulative effects on landscape character with Consented or In Planning sites or in addition to Beinneun 2 (Scoping).

VP	Location	Key features of existing view	Predicted Visual Change	Predicted Change to Landscape Character
21	Core Path West of Aberchalder On core path IN25.02 at Wester Aberchalder. 27.4 km, ENE	The viewpoint is situated on the plateau to the east of Loch Ness in the Loch Mhor basin. Topography is flat in the floor of the basin. Steep ground to the east and south and local landform to the west directs views south-west across the Loch Mhor basin towards the Site. Views are influenced by forestry plantation, Scots pine woodland and low ridges with deciduous woodland with large areas of grassland on lower lying ground. Turbines of Millennium wind farm are discernible as distant features on the horizon.	Ground level construction activity would not be visible due to screening by landform. The erection of turbines using cranes would barely be discernible. Seven turbines of the Proposed Development would theoretically be visible with blade tips only of three turbines potentially visible. The proposed turbines would overlap entirely with those of operational Millennium. The difference in height may be discernible although the turbines would appear as part of the same array and would not increase the horizontal or vertical extent of turbines in the view. Access tracks, the substation and BESS would not be visible. In night-time views the nacelle lights of T1, T5 and T7 would theoretically be visible although at this distance would not appear strongly. The nacelle lights of T8 would be screened by landform. Blade tips of Bhlairaidh Extension (Consented) may be discernible. Blade tips of Beinneun 2 (Scoping) may be visible in combination with the Proposed Development.	LCT 227: Farmed Strath - Inverness (NatureScot 2019) The viewpoint is situated in the south-western part of this LCT unit where key characteristics are evident although not as strongly as more settled and intensively farmed areas to the north-east. The Proposed Development would be a distant object on the horizon where Millennium wind farm is already discernible. The Proposed Development would result in a negligible increase in wind turbine development and there would be no change to the key characteristics of LCT 227. There would be no cumulative effects on landscape character with Consented Bhlairaidh or Beinneun 2 (Scoping).

VP	Location	Key features of existing view	Predicted Visual Change	Predicted Change to Landscape Character
22	Creag Meagaidh Near the summit cairn of Creag Meagaidh. 23.8 km, SE	There are views all around from the summit of Creag Meagaidh with the focus of views being north-west through south to south-east and east. The vast scale of the uplands stretching to the horizon, the varied shapes and colours of the mountains are the main influence on views. Several wind farms are visible on lower lying ridges between the main mountain massifs. Millennium and Beinneun wind farms are noticeable.	Ground level construction activity is unlikely to be discernible due to intervening distance. The erection of turbines using cranes may be discernible. All eight of the proposed turbines would be visible partly overlapping with operational Millennium turbines and increasing slightly the horizontal extent of turbines visible. The difference in height compared to the existing turbines would be discernible although the array would appear as part of the same groups of turbines. Access tracks are unlikely to be discernible due to intervening distance. The substation and BESS would not be visible. In night-time views the nacelle lights of all lit turbines would theoretically be visible although at this distance would not appear strongly. The main cumulative interactions would be combined visibility with Bunloinn (Consented) and combined visibility with Beinneun 2 (Scoping).	LCT 238: Rugged Massif - Lochaber (NatureScot 2019) Key characteristics of LCT 238 are strongly evident at the viewpoint which is situated in the eastern edge of the LCT unit. Millennium, Beinneun, Beinneun Extension and Bhlaraidh wind farms are visible as distant minor features. While these wind farms are visible, they do not affect key characteristics of LCT 238. The Proposed Development would be discernible as a minor addition to existing turbines at Millennium wind farm. The difference in height would barely be discernible and there would be no effects on landscape character as perceived from this viewpoint. While there would be combined visibility of the Proposed Development with Bunloinn (Consented) and Beinneun 2 (Scoping), the addition of the Proposed Development would not give rise to cumulative effects on landscape character.