Parc Ynni Calon y Gwynt

ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

Appendix 7F: LANDMAP VSAA Assessment of Effects



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WSP

1 Capital Quarter
Tyndall Street
Cardiff
CF10 4BZ

Phone: +44 2920 769 200

WSP.com

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 OVERVIEW

1.1.1. The filtering process described in **Appendix 7B**, identified those Visual and Sensory Aspect Areas (VSAAs) within the LVIA Study Area that should be carried through to the assessment of effects. On the basis of the Viewpoint Assessment and analysis of significance threshold set out in **Appendix 7K**, the landscape assessment has concentrated on those VSAAs entirely or partially within 10 km of the Proposed Development, which includes the following 15 VSAAs:

- MNTGMVS179 Trannon Moors;
- MNTGMVS204 Llanidloes Farmland;
- MNTGMVS211 Llandinam;
- MNTGMVS212 Llandinam Hill and Scarp Mosaic;
- MNTGMVS227 Cefn Carnedd Wooded Hillside;
- MNTGMVS235 Carno Mosaic;
- MNTGMVS254 Kerry Ridgeway;
- MNTGMVS363 Newydd Fynyddog;
- MNTGMVS457 Clywedog Upland Grazing;
- MNTGMVS694 Carno Uplands;
- MNTGMVS695 Trannon Uplands Bryn Crugog;
- MNTGMVS733 Esgair Cwmowen Uplands;
- MNTGMVS819 Castle Caereinion Farmlands;
- MNTGMVS865 Caersws River Bowl; and
- MNTGMVS899 Tregynon Rolling Hills.

1.1.2. The location of the VSAAs in relation to the Proposed Development and the blade tip ZTV is illustrated in **Figures 7.8c** and **7.8d**.

1.1.3. The landscape sensitivity of the VSAAs to the Proposed Development is presented in **Appendix 7C** in accordance with the methodology set out in **Appendix 7A**.

2 ASSESSMENT OF DIRECT LANDSCAPE EFFECTS

2.1 HOST VSAAS

2.1.1. The Proposed Development coincides with four VSAAs as follows:

- MNTGMVS235 Carno Mosaic;
- MNTGMVS694 Carno Uplands;
- MNTGMVS733 Esgair Cwmowen Uplands; and
- MNTGMVS865 Caersws River Bowl.

2.1.2. The assessment of direct landscape effects on these host VSAAs is set out in **Table 7F-1**.

Table 7F-1 – Assessment of effects: Host VSAAs

VSAA	Assessment
MNTGMVS235 Carno Mosaic	As set out in **Table 7C-8** of **Appendix 7C**, this VSAA is assessed as being of Medium value and of Medium susceptibility. The overall sensitivity is therefore considered to be Medium. Assessment: Proposed Development Construction Phase The 24-month construction phase would result in direct landscape effects on part of the Site and its component landscape elements which coincide with this VSAA. This would be concentrated along the central section of the access road from the A470, which crosses the eastern edge of the VSAA. The construction of this section of the access road would require cut and fill earthworks along its route, the crossing of six watercourses and the temporary removal of a proportion of the VSAA's constituent landscape elements. This includes areas of improved grassland, individual broadleaved trees, sections of intact, species poor hedgerow and trees within two broadleaved woodlands (the Ancient Semi-Natural Woodlands of Coed yr Henblas and the western edge of Coed Neuadd-newydd), to facilitate both the footprint of the access road and a 10 m buffer either side of the earthworks to ensure sufficient overrun and blade clearance (oversail). This loss would have an effect on the key characteristics relating to this being a "*landscape with well wooded and strongly defined field pattern - overgrown and managed hedgerow boundaries with intermittent grouped broadleaf trees a signature element for many of the boundaries*". All trees would be surveyed post consent in accordance with BS5837:2012 to inform the detailed design of Access Road and an appropriate tree replacement strategy would be prepared to confirm the location of replacement tree and woodland planting[1]. The subsequent use of the access road and the corresponding visual and audible disturbance occurring throughout the 24-month construction phase, would have some slight characterising influence across the VSAA where human access is described as "*frequent*". Reference to **Figure 7.8d** indicates that the deployment of cranes and the gradual erection of up to 11 turbines would potentially be visible from within the majority of the VSAA. The magnitude of change would be High from those parts of the VSAA which host or are closest to the Proposed Development, reducing to Low to Zero with increased

[1] Where individual or groups of trees or hedgerows are removed as part of the Proposed Development, compensatory tree planting would be implemented in accordance with Planning Policy Wales, Edition 12, which sets a minimum ratio of "*at least 3 trees of a similar type and compensatory size planted for every 1 lost*" (paragraph 6.4.42). Compensatory planting in relation to tree groups requiring removal would also be implemented and would be equivalent to a minimum of 1,600 trees per hectare for broadleaves and 2,500 tree per hectare for conifers.

VSAA	Assessment
	separation distance. Landscape effects would therefore be **Major** and locally **Significant**, decreasing elsewhere and across the majority of this landscape to Minor to None and Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be short-term, direct and indirect and adverse. Assessment: Proposed Development Operational Phase The nearest proposed turbines would be sited less than 1km to the north-east of this VSAA. **Figure 7.8d** indicates extensive ZTV coverage across MNTGMVS235 Carno Mosaic, with the blade tips of 1-6 turbine being visible from the closest areas of landscape and 7-11 turbines commonly being visible from areas at 2-6km distance from the turbines. The introduction of Proposed Development would indirectly detract from the views out of this VSAA, as indicated at Viewpoint 1 (**Figure 7.16a-i Viewpoint 1 A470, Clatter**) and Viewpoint 2 (**Figure 7.17a-i Viewpoint 2 A470, Carno**) which are located within or on the boundary of this VSAA and which is described as being an "*Attractive*" landscape, which is of "*Moderate*" scenic quality. The Proposed Development is of a proximity whereby the scale of this contemporary vertical infrastructure may have a partial characterising influence over this "*intimate*" and "*traditional farming landscape*" and where visible, would slightly dilute perceptions of visual tranquillity[2] which is predominantly category 7 (39.8%) or category 8 (59.6%) in areas away from the A470 corridor. The access road would be retained throughout the duration of the operational phase with the continued partial disruption of field patterns, although trees planted as part of the tree replacement strategy would play a landscape role within the latter half of the operational phase. The magnitude of change would range from Medium to Zero and the level of effect would be **Moderate** and locally **Significant** (from within areas of landscape closest to the Proposed Development and away from the vehicle movements along the A470), to None The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), direct and indirect and adverse. Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented Sites + Proposed Development The operational wind turbine schemes at Tirgwynt, Cemmaes and Llandinam together with the consented Llanbrynmair, Llandinam Repowering and Garn Fach would have very limited influence on parts of this VSAA due to scale and/or separation distance (Very Low to Zero magnitude). The operational Carno I & II schemes are located within 1km of this VSAA and would have a slight characterising influence due to their proximity, tempered by their scale (50.6m and 79m to blade tip respectively) (Low magnitude), whilst the consented Carno III (149.9m to blade tip) may have some partial characterising influence over parts of this VSAA (Medium-Low magnitude). The additional and combined effect would remain **Moderate** and **Significant**. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, indirect and adverse. Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented Sites + Applications + Proposed Development The Esgair Cwmowen planning application scheme and the scoping scheme at Llyn Lort would theoretically be visible from within this VSAA as indicated by the cumulative ZTVs in **Figures 7.13.1** and **7.13.6,** although the separation distance would reduce the potential characterising effects (Low magnitude). The additional and combined effect would remain **Moderate** and **Significant.** The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, direct and adverse.
MNTGMVS694 Carno Uplands	As set out in **Table 7C-8** of **Appendix 7C**, this VSAA is assessed as being of Medium value and of Medium susceptibility. The overall sensitivity is therefore considered to be Medium.

[2] The Natural Resources Wales Visual Tranquillity data (rural) ranges from Category 1 (least visually tranquil) to Category 10 (most visually tranquil).

VSAA	Assessment
	Assessment: Proposed Development Construction Phase Whilst the Site overlaps with this VSAA, no physical works would occur within this landscape unit. The level of activity and corresponding visual and audible disturbance occurring throughout the 24-month construction phase would, however, have some characterising influence across the closest parts of this VSAA where human access is described as "*infrequent*", and perceptual qualities are recorded as being "*tranquil*", "*remote*" and "*wild*". The magnitude of change would be High-Medium from those parts of the VSAA which are closest to the Proposed Development, reducing to Low to Zero with increased separation distance and the layers of forestry which are present within this VSAA. Landscape effects would therefore be **Major to Moderate** and locally **Significant,** decreasing elsewhere and across the majority of his landscape to Minor to None and Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, indirect and adverse. Assessment: Proposed Development Operational Phase The ZTV (**Figure 7.8d**) indicates that the proposed turbines would be visible from across a moderately extensive area of the VSAA, where 10-11 turbines would occasionally be visible although in reality, the coniferous forestry (not accounted for in the ZTV calculation) would restrict a proportion of the views. There are no existing wind turbines within the VSAA, as confirmed in **Figure 7.12**. There would be no direct (physical) effects upon any of the attributes for which this landscape is valued. However, the presence of Proposed Development at a minimum separation distance of 100 m would detract from the "*Attractive views*" recorded for this landscape, which has a "*moderate*" scenic quality on account of the "*Underlying upland landscape type compromised by plantations*". The LANDMAP Survey also records this as being a "*tranquil*", "*remote" and "wild"* landscape, with visual tranquillity being recorded as being predominantly category 8 (91.12%) and where visible, the Proposed Development would slightly dilute these perceptual qualities. The magnitude of change as a result of the Proposed Development would be Medium within localised parts of the VSAA closest to the Proposed Development, reducing to Low with increasing separation distance and Zero where no visual effects pathway exists. The resulting **Moderate** effect would be locally **Significant** with effects elsewhere being Minor and Not Significant to None. The nature of these effects would be long-term, indirect and adverse. Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented Sites + Proposed Development The proximity of the operational Tirgwynt scheme would result in some partial characterising influence within the northern fringes of the VSAA (Medium-Low magnitude), whilst the operational Carno I & II, Cemmaes and Llandinam schemes would have very limited influence on this VSAA (Very Low magnitude). The consented Carno III, Llandinam Repowering and Garn Fach schemes would also have very limited characterising influence (Very Low magnitude), with the closer consented Llanbrynmair have a limited influence (Low magnitude). The additional and combined effect would remain **Moderate** and **Significant**. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, indirect and adverse. Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented Sites + Applications + Proposed Development The Esgair Cwmowen planning application scheme would have a limited characterising influence within this VSAA (Low magnitude), with the scoping scheme at Llyn Lort having a characterising influence due to its scale (220 m to blade tip) and proximity to the northern part of the VSAA. The additional and combined effect would remain **Moderate** and **Significant,** with the geographical area across which Significant effects would be experienced extending across a greater proportion of this VSAA. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, indirect and adverse.

MNTGMVS733 Esgair Cwmowen Uplands	As set out in **Table 7C-8** of **Appendix 7C**, this VSAA is assessed as being of Medium value and of Medium susceptibility. The overall sensitivity is therefore considered to be Medium. Assessment: Proposed Development Construction Phase This VSAA comprises three discrete areas of upland landscape separated by other VSAAs. Two sub-areas lie to the south of the Proposed Development (at Pen y Pigyns to the south of Talerddig and Mynydd Garth-pwt/Foel y Belan to the west/south of Clatter), whilst the third covers Esgair Cwmowen and coincides with the Proposed Development Site. The 24-month construction phase would result in direct landscape effects on part of the Site and its component landscape elements which coincide with this VSAA. This would be concentrated around ten of the turbines (T1-T10), the BESS, substation and control building compounds, internal access tracks and the temporary construction compound, all of which are sited within this receptor unit. The upper section of the access road from the A470 also passes through this VSAA although this section would utilise an existing access road with localised widening where required or vegetation (hedgerow and occasional tree) removal to accommodate the blade extents. During this period, there would be a progressive change to the landscape involving the removal of localised areas of grassland (semi-improved acid grassland, semi-improved neutral grassland, marshy grassland) and shrub heath, new access track creation, movement of people and construction vehicles, plant and machinery, and localised construction of turbine foundations and crane pads. Cranage, turbine delivery and the gradual erection of the 11 turbines would subsequently occur within this VSAA. This level of activity would be uncharacteristic within a landscape which is cited as having an "*Occasional*" level of human access in the LANDMAP Survey Sheet and is described as being "*Tranquil*" and "*Remote*" and the magnitude of change would progress from Very Low at the start of construction to High within and around the Site boundary. Across the two remote VSAAs to the south and across the northern half of the extensive Esgair Cwmowen Uplands, the presence of cranes and the gradual erection of the 11 turbines would detract from the "*Attractive views"* and *"High"* scenic quality of the VSAA. Across these areas, the magnitude of change would be Low to Zero. Overall, the landscape effects on the 'host' MNTGMVS733 Esgair Cwmowen Uplands VSAA would range from Negligible (at the start of the construction phase) and increase to **Major** and **Significant** during peak activity, due to the nature of construction activity (contrasting colours, movement, people). The nature of these effects would be short-term, direct and adverse. Assessment: Proposed Development Operational Phase Following completion of the construction activities, the construction compound would be removed and the grassland reinstated although the access tracks would be retained to facilitate occasional access to the turbines, BESS, substation and control building. Any trees and hedgerows removed from along the upper section of the access road to accommodate blade clearance would also be reinstated. The introduction of the turbines themselves would detract from the "*Attractive views"* and *"High"* scenic quality of the VSAA, with the ZTV in **Figure 7.8d** indicating extensive theoretical visibility across the sub-area at Pen y Pigyns, where all 11 turbines would commonly be visible at a distance of approximately 5-7.4 km; across the summit and northern slopes of the sub-area at Mynydd Garth-pwt and Foel y Belan, where 10-11 turbines would be visible at distances of approximately 2-5km; and across the southern half of the Esgair Cwmowen Uplands sub-area to a distance of approximately 4 km. Between 4 km and 10 km, theoretical visibility becomes more fragmented. Whilst this VSSA already hosts 17 operational turbines at Mynydd Clogau and 12 operational turbines at Tirgwynt, the scale of these are smaller than the Proposed Development at a height of 66 m and 150 m to blade tip respectively and reference to the Cumulative ZTVs in **Figures 7**.13.1 and 7.13.2 indicates that there are areas within the VSAA where only the Proposed Development would be visible. Where visible, the Proposed Development would dilute perceptual qualities relating to tranquillity and remoteness.

VSAA	Assessment
	The magnitude of change would be High within the southern part of the Esgair Cwmowen sub-area, particularly areas to the immediate south and to the east of the Site where existing turbines currently have no landscape role, reducing to Medium or Low (or Zero) across the two sub-areas to the south and across the northern areas of the Esgair Cwmowen sub-area, due to increased separation distance and the landscape role of existing wind turbines, with the LANDMAP Survey recording a declining condition of this landscape due to the "*Presence of increasing amounts of wind energy developments*" with a management recommendation that "*the introduction of further wind turbines into the landscape will need careful consideration with regards to the capacity of the landscape to accommodate that wind energy and the type and style of the turbine*". Landscape effects would therefore be **Major** and **Significant**, decreasing elsewhere and across the majority of his landscape to Moderate to None and Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, direct and adverse due primarily to the height and scale of the proposed turbines and less as a result of the associated infrastructure within the VSAA. Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented Sites + Proposed Development The operational wind turbine schemes at Mynydd Clogau and Tirgwynt both of which are located within the Esgair Cwmowen sub-area, and to the lesser extent the operational Carno I and II and consented Carno III Schemes which are located to the west of the sub-area at Pen y Pigyns, all have a characterising influence on this VSAA with the LANDMAP Survey describing "*The presence of wind energy developments of various sizes mean the area could be described as a landscape with wind farms/turbines*" (High-Medium magnitude). The additional and combined effect would remain **Major** and **Significant,** although the geographical extent of the VSAA across which Significant effects would be experienced would be greater. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, direct and adverse. Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented Sites + Applications + Proposed Development The Esgair Cwmowen planning application scheme and the scoping scheme at Llyn Lort would also be located within this VSAA and would have a characterising influence across areas within the Esgair Cwmowen sub-area to the north of the Proposed Development (High magnitude). The additional and combined effect would remain **Major** and **Significant**, although the geographical area across which Significant effects would be experienced would extend across the majority of the VSAA. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, direct and adverse.
MNTGMVS865 Caersws River Bowl	As set out in **Table 7C-8** of **Appendix 7C**, this VSAA is assessed as being of Medium value and of Medium susceptibility. The overall sensitivity is therefore considered to be Medium. Assessment: Proposed Development Construction Phase The Site boundary overlaps with this VSAA, with the southern extent of the access road from the A470 crossing the north-western part of this extensive VSAA. The construction of the access road would require cut and fill earthworks and the temporary removal of a proportion of the VSAA's constituent landscape elements including areas of arable land, improved grassland, individual trees and sections of both intact, native hedgerow and defunct, species poor hedgerow. The latter may have a localised effect on the existing field pattern although this is not recorded in the LANDMAP Survey as being distinctive or playing a characterising role. The subsequent use of the access road and the corresponding visual and audible disturbance occurring throughout the 24-month construction phase, would have some slight characterising influence across the VSAA where human access is described as "*constant*". Reference to **Figure 7.8d** indicates that the deployment of cranes and the gradual erection of up to 11 turbines would be visible from within this VSAA, extending above a section of the "*higher ground giving a 360 view of upland encircling the viewer*", with the strong sense of

VSAA	Assessment
	place derived from this "*Unusual topographical feature within the study area - expansive open area 'bowl' surrounded by higher ground*". The magnitude of change would be Medium from those parts of the VSAA which host or are closest to the Proposed Development, with the proximity to the A470 tempering effects, reducing to Low to Zero with increased separation distance. Landscape effects would therefore be **Moderate** and locally **Significant**, decreasing elsewhere and across the majority of this landscape to Minor to None and Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be short-term, direct and adverse. Assessment: Proposed Development Operational Phase The nearest proposed turbines would be sited approximately 3.7km to the north-west of this VSAA. The ZTV coverage (**Figure 7.8d**) is extensive across this large, lowland VSAA, with the blade tips of up to 10-11 turbines commonly being visible. Whilst the introduction of Proposed Development would indirectly detract from the *"Open and expansive views to surrounding higher ground*", as indicated at Viewpoint 5 (**Figure 7.20a-i Viewpoint 5 Severn Way, South of Bwlch-Y-Ffridd**), Viewpoint 6 (**Figure 7.21a-i Viewpoint 6 B4569, Western Edge of Caersws**) and Viewpoint 9 (**Figure 7.24a-i Viewpoint 9 Llanidloes Road, Newtown**), the "*unusual topographic formation*" formed from the "*broad flat bowl liked shape*" which is "*enclosed by a ring of higher ground*" which defines this VSAA would be maintained. The Proposed Development, where visible, is unlikely to notably dilute perceptions of tranquillity or remoteness due to presence of the A470 and A489 road corridors and associated high levels of movement, with the LANDMAP Survey recording a "*constant*" human presence and a visual tranquillity which is predominantly category 6 (18.9%) or category 7 (52.7%). The effects on the key characteristics and features of this VSAA would therefore not be significant with a magnitude of change would range from Medium-Low to Zero and the level of effect would be Moderate to Minor and Not Significant to None. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), indirect and adverse. Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented Sites + Proposed Development Whilst theoretically visible, the operational wind turbine schemes at Tirgwynt, Mynydd Clogau, Carno I & II, Llandinam, Bryn Titli, Bryn Blaen and Cefn Croes together with the consented Carno III, Llanbrynmair, Llandinam Repowering and Garn Fach would have very limited influence on parts of this VSAA due to the scale of the turbines and separation distance (Very Low to Zero magnitude). The additional and combined effect would remain Moderate to Minor and Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, indirect and adverse. Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented Sites + Applications + Proposed Development The Esgair Cwmowen, Banc Du Energy Park and Rhiwlas Energy Park planning application schemes would have a very limited characterising influence within this VSAA. The additional and combined effect would remain Moderate to Minor and Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, indirect and adverse.

3 ASSESSMENT OF INDIRECT LANDSCAPE EFFECTS

3.1 SURROUNDING VSAAS

3.1.1. The effects on surrounding landscape would be limited to effects on the key visual or perceptual characteristics of these landscapes, resulting from views of the proposed turbines and associated infrastructure where visible. The assessment considers the likely change to landscape character and as such it is different from the visual assessment of particular views, experienced by people.

3.1.2. The assessment of landscape effects on the surrounding VSAAs which have been scoped into the LVIA is set out in **Table 7F-2**.

Table 7F-2 – Assessment of effects: Surrounding VSAAs

VSAA	Assessment
MNTGMVS179 Trannon Moors	As set out in **Table 7C-8** of **Appendix 7C**, this VSAA is assessed as being of Medium value and of Medium susceptibility. The overall sensitivity is therefore considered to be Medium. Assessment: Proposed Development Operational Phase The nearest proposed turbines would be sited approximately 3.5 km to the north-east of this VSAA, with ZTV coverage (**Figure 7.8d**) extending across Bryn y Gadair, Esgair Draenllwyn, Bryn yr Aran, Bryn Amlwg and Bryn Du in the north. There would be no direct (physical) effects upon any of the attributes for which this landscape is valued. The introduction of Proposed Development would detract from the attractive views out of this landscape and whilst no detractive views are recorded, the LANDMAP Survey records "*An extensive wind farm, Carno 1, development dominates the central and southern half of the area and provides a dramatic feature in an otherwise open but dramatic landscape. Carno 2 extends wind energy development to the west…..*". As a consequence, the addition of the proposed turbines, whilst larger in scale than the operational Carno I & II turbines (which are 50.6 m and 79 m to blade tip respectively), would not appear incongruous. The Proposed Development, where visible would also incrementally dilute the perception of this being a "*remote" and "wild"* landscape *with* the LANDMAP Survey noting that these perceptual qualities have been "*disturbed through wind farm development but exhilarating in the open expanse of moorland and contrast between simplicity of the turbine and open natural vegetation"*. The large scale and simple nature of the landscape means that effects on the key characteristics and features of this VSAA would not be significant and the Proposed Development would have an overall limited characterising influence on the VSAA. The magnitude of change would range from Low to Zero and the level of effect would be Minor and Not Significant to None. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), indirect and adverse. Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented Sites + Proposed Development The operational Tirgwynt, Mynydd Clogau and Llandinam wind farm schemes, together with the consented Llanbrynmair, Llandinam Repowering and Garn Fach schemes would have limited influence on this VSAA (Low to Very Low magnitude). Other operational schemes to the south would have no characterising influence due to separation distance. As cited in the LANDMAP Survey, the Carno I & II wind farms do have a characterising role being located within this VSAA, whilst the consented Carno III would also have a characterising influence across this landscape (High magnitude). The additional effect of the Proposed Development would remain Minor and Not Significant. The combined effect would be **Major** and **Significant** as a result of the

VSAA	Assessment
	Carno I, II and III turbines and not the Proposed Development. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, direct and adverse. Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented Sites + Applications + Proposed Development The Esgair Cwmowen, Banc Du Energy Park and Rhiwlas Energy Park planning application schemes together with the scoping scheme at Llyn Lort would have a limited characterising influence within this VSAA (Low-Very Low magnitude). The additional effect of the Proposed Development would remain Minor and Not Significant. The combined effect would also remain as **Major** and **Significant** as a result of the Carno I, II and III turbines and not the Proposed Development. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, direct and adverse.
MNTGMVS204 Llanidloes Farmland	As set out in **Table 7C-8** of **Appendix 7C**, this VSAA is assessed as being of Medium value and of Medium susceptibility. The overall sensitivity is therefore considered to be Medium. Assessment: Proposed Development Operational Phase The nearest proposed turbines would be sited approximately 8.2 km to the north-east of the closest area of theoretical visibility from within this VSAA (at its northern tip), with **Figure 7.8d** indicating moderate ZTV coverage, extending across the upper slopes of the VSAA, from which 10-11 turbines within the Proposed Development would commonly be visible. There would be no direct (physical) effects upon any of the attributes for which this landscape is valued. Whilst no specific attractive or detractive views are recorded in the LANDMAP Survey, this landscape is noted as being "*Attractive*" and of "*Moderate*" scenic quality. The introduction of Proposed Development would indirectly detract from views over this rural landscape (Viewpoint 10, **Figure 7.25a-i Viewpoint 10 Sustrans NCR 81 and Severn Way**), although would not be of a proximity and thereby scale, which would overwhelm the small scale of the landscape or the "*distinct small scale irregular field pattern*" that the management recommendations seek to maintain. The VSAA is not noted (in the perceptual qualities heading of the LANDMAP Survey) as possessing strong perceptions of remoteness and tranquillity, although visual tranquillity is recorded as being predominantly category 8 (89.6%), and where visible, the Proposed Development may contribute to a slight dilution of this perceptual quality, with "*seeing large non-natural infrastructure*" one of six recognised detractors from tranquillity[3]. The overall effects on the key characteristics and features of this VSAA would not be significant with a magnitude of change which would range from Low to Zero and a level of effect would be Minor and Not Significant to None. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), indirect and adverse. Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented Sites + Proposed Development The operational Tirgwynt, Mynydd Clogau, Carno I & II, Llandinam, Bryn Titli, Bryn Blaen and Cefn Croes wind farm schemes would have very limited influence on this VSAA (Very Low magnitude). The consented Carno III, Llandinam Repowering and Garn Fach schemes, would also have limited characterising influence (Low magnitude). The additional and combined effect would remain Minor and Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, indirect and adverse.

[3] Green C, Manson D, Chamberlain K 2022. Tranquillity and Place. NRW Report No: 569. (Online). Available at: https://www.lucmaps.co.uk/NRW_TranquillityPlace/Tranquillity%20and%20Place%20Final%20Report.pdf

VSAA	Assessment
	Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented Sites + Applications + Proposed Development The Esgair Cwmowen, Banc Du Energy Park and Rhiwlas Energy Park planning application schemes together with the scoping scheme at Llyn Lort would have a limited characterising influence within this VSAA (Low magnitude). The additional and combined effect would remain Minor and Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, indirect and adverse.
MNTGMVS211 Llandinam	As set out in **Table 7C-8** of **Appendix 7C**, this VSAA is assessed as being of Medium value and of Medium susceptibility. The overall sensitivity is therefore considered to be Medium. Assessment: Proposed Development Operational Phase The nearest proposed turbines would be sited at a minimum distance of approximately 9km to the north of this VSAA, and whilst **Figure 7.8d** indicates extensive ZTV coverage extending across this compact VSAA, in reality, the high level of built form would restrict some outward views. There would be no direct (physical) effects upon any of the attributes for which this landscape is valued. The introduction of Proposed Development would, to a small degree, indirectly detract from the attractive views out of this VSAA, where scenic quality is described as being "*High*". No detractive views out of the VSAA are identified in the LANDMAP Survey. The VSAA is not noted (in the perceptual qualities heading of the LANDMAP Survey) as possessing strong perceptions of remoteness and tranquillity, although visual tranquillity is recorded as being predominantly category 8 (86%). Effects on the key characteristics and features of this VSAA, which features high levels of existing movement along the A470 (which bisects the settlement) and overt human influence, would not be significant. The magnitude of change which would range from Low-Very Low to Zero and the level of effect would be Negligible and Not Significant to None. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), indirect and adverse. Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented Sites + Proposed Development The operational Tirgwynt, Mynydd Clogau, Carno I & II and Llandinam wind farm schemes together with the consented Carno III and Llandinam Repowering schemes would have very limited influence on this VSAA (Very Low magnitude). The additional and combined effect would remain Negligible and Not Significant**.** The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, indirect and adverse. Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented Sites + Applications + Proposed Development The Esgair Cwmowen planning application scheme together with the scoping scheme at Llyn Lort would have a very limited characterising influence within this VSAA (Very Low magnitude). The additional and combined effect would remain Negligible and Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, indirect and adverse.
MNTGMVS212 Llandinam Hill and Scarp Mosaic	As set out in **Table 7C-8** of **Appendix 7C**, this VSAA is assessed as being of High value and of High-Medium susceptibility. The overall sensitivity is therefore considered to be High. Assessment: Proposed Development Operational Phase The nearest proposed turbines would be sited approximately 7.5 km to the north-west of the closest area of theoretical visibility from within this VSAA. ZTV coverage (as shown in **Figure 7.8d**) is concentrated across the rising slopes above Llandinam which occupy the western spur of this VSAA, from which 10-11 turbines within the Proposed Development would commonly be visible. From elsewhere within the VSAA to the

VSAA	Assessment
	south of Penstrowed, ZTV coverage is absent, with the exception of a small number of localised pockets of theoretical visibility. There would be no direct (physical) effects upon any of the attributes for which this landscape is valued. The introduction of Proposed Development would indirectly detract from the attractive views which are recorded in the LANDMAP Survey, with scenic quality noted as being "*High*". No detractive views are identified. The VSAA is also recorded as being "*tranquil*", with visual tranquillity recorded as being predominantly category 8 (72.32%), and where visible, the Proposed Development may contribute to a slight dilution of this perceptual quality. However, the separation distance and consequent scale of the turbines at a minimum distance of 7.5km means that they will not overwhelm the "*Network of small field parcels*" which contribute to the "*Strong sense of place with small field parcels lending intimacy…*". Overall, effects on the key characteristics and features of this VSAA would not be significant, with a magnitude of change which would range from Low to Zero and a level of effect would be Moderate and Not Significant to None. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), indirect and adverse. Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented Sites + Proposed Development The operational Tirgwynt, Mynydd Clogau, Carno I & II and Llandinam wind farm schemes together with the consented Carno III, Llanbrynmair and Llandinam Repowering schemes would have very limited influence on this VSAA (Very Low magnitude). The additional and combined effect would remain Moderate and Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, indirect and adverse. Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented Sites + Applications + Proposed Development The Esgair Cwmowen planning application scheme together with the scoping scheme at Llyn Lort would have a very limited characterising influence within this VSAA (Very Low magnitude). The additional and combined effect would remain Moderate and Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, indirect and adverse.
MNTGMVS227 Cefn Carnedd Wooded Hillside	As set out in **Table 7C-8** of **Appendix 7C**, this VSAA is assessed as being of Medium value and of High-Medium susceptibility. The overall sensitivity is therefore considered to be High-Medium. Assessment: Proposed Development Operational Phase The VSAA comprises two separate units, one of which is located approximately 7 km to the south of the nearest proposed turbines. The second lies to the south of a southern spur of MNTGMVS865 Caersws River Bowl, which is aligned along the upper River Severn (Afon Hafren) valley, at a minimum distance of approximately 11.5 km. **Figure 7.8d** indicates that ZTV coverage extends across a moderate part of the landscape to the north of the River Severn valley, although the high incidence of woodland across the VSAA (not accounted for in the ZTV calculation) is likely to further limit the geographical extent of landscape which may be indirectly affected. There would be no direct (physical) effects upon any of the attributes for which this landscape is valued. The introduction of Proposed Development may, to a small degree, indirectly detract from the attractive views recorded for this landscape which has a "*High*" scenic quality; no detractive views are recorded on the LANDMAP Survey. Visual tranquillity is recorded as being predominantly category 8 (84.77%) and where visible, the Proposed Development may contribute to a slight dilution of this perceptual quality. The scale of the turbines at a separation distance in excess of 7 km would, however, not dominate or overwhelm the "*Mosaic patchwork of small irregular sized fields*" and "*strong sense of settled domesticity through cultivation and relative intimacy through the sized of field parcels*". The effects on the key characteristics and features

VSAA	Assessment
	of this unit would not be significant, and the Proposed Development would have an overall limited characterising influence on the VSAA, which would continue to feature a "*higher incidence of small/medium sized wooded areas associated with a relatively intimate field pattern*" which defines its overall character. The magnitude of change would range from Low to Zero and the level of effect would be Moderate to Minor and Not Significant to None. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), indirect and adverse. Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented Sites + Proposed Development The operational Tirgwynt, Mynydd Clogau, Carno I and II, and Llandinam Wind Farms would have a very limited characterising influence on this VSAA (Very Low magnitude), whilst the consented Llandinam Repowering and Carno III schemes would also have a limited effect (Low-Very Low magnitude). The additional and combined effect would remain Moderate to Minor and Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, indirect and adverse. Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented Sites + Applications + Proposed Development The planning application scheme at Esgair Cwmowen and the scoping scheme at Llyn Lort would have very limited characterising influence on this VSAA due to scale or separation distance (Very Low magnitude). The planning application schemes at the Banc Du and Rhiwlas Energy Parks to the south-west would have limited influence (Low magnitude). The additional and combined effect would remain Moderate to Minor and Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, indirect and adverse.
MNTGMVS254 Kerry Ridgeway	As set out in **Table 7C-8** of **Appendix 7C**, this VSAA is assessed as being of High value and of High-Medium susceptibility. The overall sensitivity is therefore considered to be High-Medium. Assessment: Proposed Development Operational Phase The north-western spur of this extensive VSAA extends within 10 km of the proposed turbines, with **Figure 7.8d** indicating potential visibility from across a moderate proportion of this landscape, at a minimum distance of approximately 8.8 km from the closest turbine. There would be no direct (physical) effects upon any of the attributes for which this landscape is valued. The introduction of Proposed Development would indirectly detract from the "*attractive views available over the Church Stoke farmland and rolling lowland farmland to the north*" which are recorded in the LANDMAP Survey, with scenic quality noted as being "*High*". No detractive views are identified. The VSAA is also recorded as being "*tranquil*", "*spiritual*" and "*remote*", with visual tranquillity being predominantly category 8 (84.91%) and where visible, the Proposed Development may contribute to a slight dilution of these perceptual qualities. However, the separation distance and scale of this "*open and broad expanse of upland grazing with dominant open skies and wind exposure*" results in effects on the key characteristics and features of this VSAA being not significant. The magnitude of change which would range from Low to Zero and a level of effect would be Moderate to Minor and Not Significant to None. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), indirect and adverse. Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented Sites + Proposed Development The operational Tirgwynt, Mynydd Clogau, Cemmaes and Carno I and II Wind Farms (and other operational scheme to the south-west) and consented Llanbrynmair and Carno III schemes would have a very limited characterising influence on this VSAA due to scale and separation distance (Very Low magnitude). The LANDMAP Survey records "*Two separate single turbines on hillsides are visible in the area close to the*

VSAA	Assessment
	large windfarm to west (Llandinam)" as part of the summary description indicating a partial characterising influence arising from the operational Llandinam Wind Farm, together with the consented Llandinam Repowering and Garn Fach Wind Farm (Medium-Low magnitude). The additional effect would remain Moderate to Minor and Not Significant whilst the combined effect would be up to **Major to Moderate** and **Significant** as a result of the Llandinam, Llandinam Repowering and Garn Fach turbines and not the Proposed Development as a consequence of separation distance. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, indirect and adverse. Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented Sites + Applications + Proposed Development The planning application scheme at Esgair Cwmowen and the scoping scheme at Llyn Lort would have very limited characterising influence on this VSAA due to scale or separation distance (Very Low magnitude). The planning application schemes at the Banc Du and Rhiwlas Energy Parks to the south-west would have limited influence (Low magnitude). The additional effect would remain Moderate to Minor and Not Significant whilst the combined effect would also remain as up to **Major to Moderate** and **Significant** as a result of the Llandinam, Llandinam Repowering and Garn Fach turbines and not the Proposed Development. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, indirect and adverse.
MNTGMVS363 Newydd Fynyddog	As set out in **Table 7C-8** of **Appendix 7C**, this VSAA is assessed as being of Medium value and of High-Medium susceptibility. The overall sensitivity is therefore considered to be High-Medium. Assessment: Proposed Development Operational Phase The ZTV in **Figure 7.8d** indicates potential visibility from across a limited proportion of this VSAA, at a minimum distance of approximately 6.5 km from the closest turbine. There would be no direct (physical) effects upon any of the attributes for which this landscape is valued. The introduction of Proposed Development would indirectly and incrementally (in addition to Carno I and II) detract from the attractive views which are recorded in the LANDMAP Survey, with scenic quality noted as being "*High*". Whilst visual tranquillity is recorded as being predominantly category 8 (85.09%), the VSAA is not noted (in the perceptual qualities heading of the LANDMAP Survey) as possessing strong perceptions of tranquillity, although it is described as being "*remote*" and "*wild*" and where visible, the Proposed Development may contribute to a slight dilution of these perceptual qualities. The scale of the proposed turbines would not however, overwhelm the "*small scale irregular fields associated with a farm settlement to the centre of the area*", with this central area lying a minimum of approximately 7.5 km from the closest turbine. Effects on the key characteristics and features of this VSAA would not be significant, with the landscape continuing to function as a "*transitional landscape between the open and exposed moorland of the Trannon Moors and the more domesticated hill slopes mosaic grazing leading into the Dovey Valley*" and with "*Open, exposed, wide open skies"* continuing to *"dominate most of the area*". The magnitude of change would range from Low to Zero and a level of effect would be Moderate to Minor and Not Significant to None. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), indirect and adverse. Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented Sites + Proposed Development The operational Tirgwynt, Mynydd Clogau, Cemmaes and Llandinam wind farm schemes, together with the consented Llandinam Repowering and Garn Fach schemes would have very limited influence on this VSAA (Very Low magnitude), with the consented Llanbrynmair Wind Farm have a limited influence (Low magnitude). Other operational schemes to the south would have no characterising influence due to separation distance. The summary description in the LANDMAP Survey, records "*Clear*

VSAA	Assessment
	and extensive views are available over the Trannon Moors and to the prominent Carno 2 as well as Carno 1 wind farms south of the aspect area", with the overall evaluation noting that "*the extensive development of the Trannon Windfarm* (with reference to Carno I and II Wind Farms which extend across Trannon Moors to the south) *degrades this visual appreciation of the area*". As a consequence, these operational have a characterising role (Medium magnitude), with the consented Carno III scheme also having a partial characterising role (Medium-Low magnitude). The additional effect of the Proposed Development would remain Moderate to Minor and Not Significant. The combined effect would be **Major to Moderate** and **Significant** as a result of the Carno I, II and III turbines and not the Proposed Development. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, direct and adverse. Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented Sites + Applications + Proposed Development The Esgair Cwmowen, Banc Du Energy Park and Rhiwlas Energy Park planning application schemes would have a very limited characterising influence within this VSAA (Very Low magnitude), with the scoping scheme at Llyn Lort also having a limited influence (Low-Very Low magnitude). The additional effect of the Proposed Development would remain Moderate to Minor and Not Significant. The combined effect would be **Major to Moderate** and **Significant** as a result of the Carno I, II and III turbines and not the Proposed Development. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, direct and adverse.
MNTGMVS457 Clywedog Upland Grazing	As set out in **Table 7C-8** of **Appendix 7C**, this VSAA is assessed as being of High value and of Medium susceptibility. The overall sensitivity is therefore considered to be High-Medium. Assessment: Proposed Development Operational Phase The VSAA comprises two separate units, one of which is located approximately 8.3 km to the south-west of the nearest proposed turbines and whose northern fringes extend within 10 km of the proposed turbines. The second lies to the south of a southern spur of MNTGMVS833 Llyn Clywedog, at a minimum distance of approximately 12.4 km. The ZTV in **Figure 7.8d** indicates that potential visibility extends across a relatively small proportion of the landscape to the north of Llyn Clywedog, concentrated across the upper slopes including The Hill (within 10 km) and Bryn y Fan (just beyond 10 km). There would be no direct (physical) effects upon any of the attributes for which this landscape is valued. The introduction of Proposed Development may, to a small degree, indirectly and incrementally detract from the attractive views recorded for this landscape which has a "*High*" scenic quality. The LANDMAP Survey also records in its summary description that "*two single turbines are apparent in the area, locally prominent, and Carno is visible in glimpses to the north. The area could be described as a very occasional wind turbine landscape."* Whilst visual tranquillity is recorded as being predominantly category 8 (86.18%), the VSAA is not noted (in the perceptual qualities heading of the LANDMAP Survey) as possessing strong perceptions of tranquillity, although it is described as being "*remote*" and "*wild*" and where visible, the Proposed Development may contribute to a slight dilution of these perceptual qualities. The effects on the key characteristics and features of this unit would, however, not be significant and the Proposed Development, would have an overall limited characterising influence on the VSAA. The magnitude of change that would range from Low to Zero and the level of effect would be Moderate to Minor and Not Significant to None. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), indirect and adverse. Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented Sites + Proposed Development The operational Tirgwynt, Mynydd Clogau, Cemmaes and Llandinam wind farm schemes, together with the consented Llanbrynmair, Llandinam Repowering and Garn

VSAA	Assessment
	Fach schemes would have very limited influence on this VSAA (Very Low magnitude). The operational scheme at Bryn Blaen (100m to blade tip) would have a partial influence due to its proximity, as would the operational schemes at Carno I and II (Low magnitude) and the consented Carno III (Medium-Low magnitude). The additional effect of the Proposed Development would remain Moderate to Minor and Not Significant. The combined effect would be up to **Moderate** and locally **Significant** as a result of Carno III turbines and not the Proposed Development. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, direct and adverse. Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented Sites + Applications + Proposed Development The Esgair Cwmowen planning application schemes would have a very limited characterising influence within this VSAA (Very Low magnitude) due to its scale, whilst the scoping scheme at Llyn Lort would have limited influence due to separation distance (Low-Very Low magnitude). The proximity and scale (200m to blade tip) of the of the turbines within the planning application scheme at the Banc Du Energy Park would result in a partial characterising influence across areas of landscape within the southern part of this VSAA (Medium magnitude). The additional effect of the Proposed Development would remain Moderate to Minor and Not Significant. The combined effect would be **Major to Moderate** and **Significant** as a result of the Banc Du Energy Park turbines and not the Proposed Development. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, direct and adverse.
MNTGMVS695 Trannon Uplands Bryn Crugog	As set out in **Table 7C-8** of **Appendix 7C**, this VSAA is assessed as being of Medium value and of High-Medium susceptibility. The overall sensitivity is therefore considered to be High-Medium. Assessment: Proposed Development Operational Phase The ZTV in **Figure 7.8d** indicates potential visibility from across a limited proportion of this VSAA, concentrated across its northern and eastern fringes at a minimum distance of approximately 3.9 km from the closest turbine, with smaller pockets of theoretical visibility occurring along the southern edge the VSAA. There would be no direct (physical) effects upon any of the attributes for which this landscape is valued. The introduction of Proposed Development would indirectly and incrementally detract from the attractive views which are recorded in the LANDMAP Survey, with scenic quality noted as being "*High*" on account of the "*Attractive and intimate scale rural aspect area displaying a number of common attractive and 'traditional' rural farming characteristics. Views within and to the surroundings areas maintain a high aesthetic appearance".* Visual tranquillity is recorded as being predominantly category 7 (26.38%) and category 8 (72.69%), with the VSAA also being described as "*remote*" and "*wild*" on "*upper reaches and plateau edge*". Where visible, the Proposed Development may contribute to a slight dilution of these perceptual qualities. Whilst the summary description states that "*Views on the plateau edge are drawn towards the movement of the wind turbines on the Trannon Moors*" (Carno I and II with a maximum blade tip height of 79 m), the relative proximity and therefore scale of the proposed turbines may locally contrast with the "*intimate and small scale field pattern*" and "*Domestic in settlement scale with a scattered rural farmstead pattern*" which are key characteristics recorded from this VSAA. The magnitude of change would range from Medium-Low to Zero and a level of effect would be **Major to Moderate** and locally **Significant** to Moderate to Minor and Not Significant to None. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), indirect and adverse. Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented Sites + Proposed Development The operational Tirgwynt, Mynydd Clogau and Llandinam wind farm schemes, together with the consented Llanbrynmair, Llandinam Repowering and Garn Fach schemes

VSAA	Assessment
	would have very limited influence on this VSAA. Other operational schemes to the south would have no characterising influence due to separation distance. As cited in the LANDMAP Survey, the Carno I & II wind farms do have a characterising role, whilst the consented Carno III would also have a characterising influence across this landscape (up to a Medium magnitude). The additional and combined effect would be **Major to Moderate** and locally **Significant** as a result of the Carno I, II and III turbines and the Proposed Development. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, indirect and adverse. Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented Sites + Applications + Proposed Development The Esgair Cwmowen, Banc Du Energy Park and Rhiwlas Energy Park planning application schemes (Very Low magnitude) together with the scoping scheme at Llyn Lort (Low magnitude) would have a limited characterising influence within this VSAA. The additional and combined effect would remain **Major to Moderate** and locally **Significant** as a result of the Carno I, II and III turbines and the Proposed Development. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, indirect and adverse.
MNTGMVS819 Castle Caereinion Farmlands	As set out in **Table 7C-8** of **Appendix 7C**, this VSAA is assessed as being of Medium value and of Medium susceptibility. The overall sensitivity is therefore considered to be Medium. Assessment: Proposed Development Operational Phase The western fringes of this large VSAA extends within 10 km of the proposed turbines, with **Figure 7.8d** indicating potential visibility from across a relatively limited proportion of this landscape, at a minimum distance of approximately 9.1 km from the closest turbine. There would be no direct (physical) effects upon any of the attributes for which this landscape is valued. The introduction of Proposed Development would, to a small degree, indirectly detract from the "*attractive views"* which are *"Over successive ridges of traditionally farmed landscape*" as recorded in the LANDMAP Survey, with scenic quality noted as being "*High*". No detractive views are identified. Visual tranquillity within the VSAA is predominantly category 7 (45.27%) and category 8 (53.18%) and where visible, the Proposed Development may contribute to a slight dilution of these perceptual qualities. However, the separation distance results in effects on the key characteristics and features of this VSAA being not significant. The magnitude of change which would range from up to Low to Zero and a level of effect would be Minor and Not Significant to None. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), indirect and adverse. Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented Sites + Proposed Development The operational Tirgwynt, Mynydd Clogau, Carno I & II and Llandinam wind farm schemes, together with the consented Llanbrynmair, Carno III, Llandinam Repowering and Garn Fach schemes would have very limited influence on this VSAA due to scale and separation distance (Very Low magnitude). The additional and combined effect of the Proposed Development would remain Minor and Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, indirect and adverse. Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented Sites + Applications + Proposed Development The Esgair Cwmowen planning application scheme (Very Low magnitude) together with the scoping scheme at Llyn Lort (Low magnitude) would have a limited characterising influence within this VSAA. The additional and combined effect of the Proposed Development would remain Minor and Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, indirect and adverse.

VSAA	Assessment
MNTGMVS899 Tregynon Rolling Hills	As set out in **Table 7C-8** of **Appendix 7C**, this VSAA is assessed as being of High value and of Medium susceptibility. The overall sensitivity is therefore considered to be High-Medium. Assessment: Proposed Development Operational Phase The nearest proposed turbines would be sited approximately 4.5 km to the west of the closest area of theoretical visibility from within this extensive VSAA, with **Figure 7.8d** indicating moderate but fragmented ZTV coverage extending across this landscape. There would be no direct (physical) effects upon any of the attributes for which this landscape is valued. The landscape is described as being "*Attractive*" and of "*High*" scenic quality and the introduction of Proposed Development would indirectly detract from views over this "*archetypal traditionally farmed landscape*" which features "*high aesthetic qualities with well-defined field boundaries and wooded areas and limited intrusion by modern development*", with Viewpoint 8 (**Figure 7.23a-i Minor Road, East of New Mills looking west**) demonstrating its role. Effects would be incremental with the existing Mynydd Clogau and Tirgwynt wind farms being present in outward views from this VSAA, although their scale (66m and 150m to blade tip respectively) reduces their characterising role. Visual tranquillity is recorded as being predominantly category 8 (80.76%), and where visible, the Proposed Development may contribute to a slight dilution of this perceptual quality, with "*seeing large non-natural infrastructure*" one of six recognised detractors from tranquillity. The overall effects on the key characteristics and features of this VSAA would not be significant with a magnitude of change which would range from Low to Zero and a level of effect would be Moderate to Minor and Not Significant to None. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), indirect and adverse. Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented Sites + Proposed Development The operational Tirgwynt and Mynydd Clogau wind farm schemes would have a limited influence on this VSAA (Low-Very Low magnitude) whilst the operational Carno I & II and Llandinam, together with the consented Llanbrynmair, Carno III, Llandinam Repowering and Garn Fach schemes would have very limited influence on this VSAA due to scale and separation distance (Very Low magnitude). The additional and combined effect of the Proposed Development would remain Moderate to Minor and Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, indirect and adverse. Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented Sites + Applications + Proposed Development The Esgair Cwmowen planning application scheme would have a very limited influene due to its scale (Very Low magnitude) whilst the scoping scheme at Llyn Lort may have a partial characterising influence within those parts of the VSAA closest to this scheme due to its scale (220 m to blade tip) (up to a Medium-Low magnitude). The additional effect would remain Moderate to Minor and Not Significant, and the combined effect would be **Major to Moderate** and locally **Significant** (due to Llyn Lort and not the Proposed Development). The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, indirect and adverse.



1 Capital Quarter
Tyndall Street
Cardiff
CF10 4BZ

wsp.com

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