

Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm

Appendix 6D: Historic Landscape Aspect Area Assessment of Effects

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LANDMAP HLAA Filtering Process

- 1.1 In accordance with best practice guidance, the following filtering process has been applied to this HLAA detailed assessment set out herein. The filtering process in **Table EDP 1.1** is informed by Natural Resources Wales (NRW) guidance *Using LANDMAP in Landscape and Visual Impact Assessments TGN46*¹, in combination professional judgement to make the assessment proportionate.
- 1.2 Beyond the extents of the Site and following the best practice guidance filtering process, HLAA that overlap with the 26km zone of theoretical visibility (ZTV) to blade tip were identified. In order to take a pragmatic approach to the assessment, additional filters have been applied to reduce the scope of assessment where significant effects are deemed highly unlikely. This aligns with GLVIA3, which requires a proportionate assessment of impacts to be undertaken.
- 1.3 The approach taken in the Environmental Statement considers the extent of visibility verses the likelihood for significant effects. Where the proposals are theoretically visible (tip height ZTV used) from less than 20% of a given aspect area, the aspect areas have been scoped out from further assessment as it is reasonable to assume that potential indirect landscape effects on a small proportion of a LANDMAP aspect area is unlikely to give rise to significant effects.

Table EDP 1.1: HLAA Filtering Process

Filtering Steps
Filter 1: Run initial search area with HLAA 26km study area.
Filter 2: Refine to HLAA visible with ZTV (blade tip ZTV 180m).
Filter 3: Identify and retain filtered aspect areas that are evaluated overall as outstanding or high (LANDMAP Q50).
Filter 4: Remove aspect areas with less than 20% of the area within the blade tip ZTV.
Filter 5: Focus on remaining aspect areas within 26km of site as anything beyond this distance is highly unlikely to have significant effects.

- 1.4 The location of all the filtered HLAA (where they overlap with the ZTV to blade tip) assessed are shown on **Figure 6.25** (Level 3 Classifications of LANDMAP Historic Landscape Aspect Areas included in Assessment) and **Figure 6.26** (Overall Evaluation of LANDMAP Historic Landscape Aspect Areas included in Assessment) which should be referred to in relation to the assessment herein.

¹ Natural Resources Wales. (2021). Using LANDMAP in Landscape and Visual Impact Assessments TGN46.

HLAA Assessment Overview

- 1.5 HLAA within or adjacent to the Site are assessed below in detail as these ‘host’ aspect areas are the only ones with potential for direct landscape effects. Non-host HLAA identified and incorporated into the appraisal are assessed in groups according to distance, and primary direction from the Site (NW, NE, SE, and SW) rather than as individual aspect areas. This is because potential effects upon these HLAA would primarily be in the form of indirect visual influences resulting from a similar direction of view where the proposal is visible. This approach is considered to provide a method of identifying the effects anticipated in a manageable, systematic, and proportionate assessment.
- 1.6 As well as assigning overall evaluation to a given aspect area, LANDMAP also ascribes a value (LANDMAP Q23). The ‘value’ findings set out for each aspect area have been interpreted and overall sensitivity ascribed to a given aspect area or group herein following the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) methodology contained at **Appendix 6A** of the Environmental Statement.
- 1.7 The Historic Landscape character can be defined by prominent historic land uses, patterns and features that contribute to what humans interpret in the present-day landscape. Key characteristics that can denote historic character include field and settlement patterns, boundary types, designations and features of archaeological interest.
- 1.7 The filtering process resulted in 96no. HLAA requiring assessment. The unique area IDs for each HLAA is annotated on **Figures 6.25** and **6.26**, and summarised in **Tables EDP 1.2** to **1.7**, which group the Visual and Sensory Aspect Areas (VSAA) according to their distance bands (i.e., overlapping the Site; within 5km; 5–10km; 10–15km; 15–20km; and 20–26km).

Table EDP 1.2: HLAA on or within the Site

HLAA Within or Adjoining Site (5 No.)	HLAA ID	HLAA Name
1	BLNGWHL025	HAA 25 Mynydd Coety
2	BLNGWHL044	HAA 44 St Illtyd Fieldscape
3	TRFNHL012	HL012 Pontypool
4	TRFNHL017	HL017 Waun-wen and Mynydd Llanhilleth: V
5	TRFNHL019	HL019 Waun-wen and Mynydd Llanhilleth

Table EDP 1.3: HLAA within 5km of the Site

HLAA Within 5km of Site (18 No.)	HLAA ID	HLAA Name
6	BLNGWHL008	HAA 8 Mynydd Carn-y-cefn Fieldscape
7	BLNGWHL022	HAA 22 Mynydd Carn-y-cefn
8	BLNGWHL034	HAA 34 Cwmtillery
9	BLNGWHL035	HAA 35 Abertillery
10	BLNGWHL037	HAA 37 Maes Mawr
11	BLNGWHL041	HAA 41 Hafod y dafal
12	BLNGWHL045	HAA 45 Llanhilleth



HLAA Within 5km of Site (18 No.)	HLAA ID	HLAA Name
13	CynonHL004	Pen-y-fan Industrial Estate
14	CYNONHL465	Ebbwy Settlement Corridor
15	CYNONHL558	Cwm Dows and Cwm Philkins
16	CYNONHL660	Blackwood and the Sirhowy Valley
17	TRFNHL011	HL011 Pontypool Park
18	TRFNHL013	HL013 Cilgoegan and Lasgarn
19	TRFNHL014	HL014 Mynydd Garnlochdy
20	TRFNHL015	HL015 Cwm Afon
21	TRFNHL018	HL018 Glyn Trosnant and Hafod-yr-Ynys
22	TRFNHL020	HL020 Mynydd Coety
23	TRFNHL022	HL022 Mynydd y Garn-fawr

Table EDP 1.4: HLAA Within 5–10km of the Site

HLAA Within 5–10km of Site (12 No.)	HLAA ID	HLAA Name
24	BLNGWHL029	HAA 29 Cefn Manmoel
25	BLNGWHL036	HAA 36 Mynydd Bedwellte
26	CynonHL005	Cefn y Brithdir
27	CYNONHL374	Twmbarlwm and Medart
28	CYNONHL426	Maes Manor Hotel
29	CYNONHL556	Mynydd Bach and Mynydd-y-Grug
30	CYNONHL602	Nant Bargod Rhymni
31	CYNONHL634	Gelligaer and Llancaiach
32	CYNONHL831	Gelligaer Common
33	MNMTHHL053	Tregrug - Llanhunog
34	MNMTHHL059	Estavarney and Kemeys Commander
35	TRFNHL002	HLO02 Edlogan and Tregrug

Table EDP 1.5: HLAA Within 10–5km of the Site

HLAA Within 10–15km of Site (24 No.)	HLAA ID	HLAA Name
36	BLNGWHL001	HAA 1 Trefil Ddu
37	BLNGWHL002	HAA 2 Nant Trefil Quarry
38	BLNGWHL005	HAA 3 Trefil
39	BLNGWHL009	HAA 9 Brynmawr
40	BLNGWHL026	HAA 26 Rhymney Hill
41	BRCKNHL133	Mynydd Llangynidr
42	CYNONHL290	Llanfabon and Llanbradach
43	CYNONHL878	Mynyddau Eglwysilian a Meio
44	MNMTHHL027	Usk
45	MNMTHHL049	East Bergavenny
46	MNMTHHL051	Gaer-fawr: Escarpment and Hinterland
47	MNMTHHL057	Nant Olway and Nant-y-wilcae
48	MNMTHHL070	Usk Castle Park
49	MNMTHHL076	Llanarth



HLAA Within 10–15km of Site (24 No.)	HLAA ID	HLAA Name
50	MNMTHHL077	Clytha Park
51	MNMTHHL079	Gwehelog and Trostrey Commons
52	MNMTHHL080	Tredunnoch
53	MNMTHHL081	Gwehelog and Trostrey
54	MRTHRHL013	HL013 Cwm Cothi
55	MRTHRHL015	HL015 Gelligaer Common (west)
56	NWPRTHL007	Park Farm
57	NWPRTHL015	Celtic Manor Golf Course
58	NWPRTHL016	Caerleon/Isca Silurum
59	NWPRTHL042	Beechwood Park

Table EDP 1.6: HLAA Within 15–20km of the Site

HLAA Within 15–20km of Site (18 No.)	HLAA ID	HLAA Name
60	CYNONHL833	Llanwonno and Cwm Clydach
61	CYNONHL993	Mynydd Meio
62	MNMTHHL026	Raglan
63	MNMTHHL034	White Castle
64	MNMTHHL046	Three Castles
65	MNMTHHL048	Monmouth Rural
66	MNMTHHL050	Cwmcarnfan - Llansoy Hills
67	MNMTHHL058	Wentwood Forest (surviving)
68	MNMTHHL069	The Trothy Valley Transport Corridor
69	MNMTHHL074	Llantilio Crossenny
70	MRTHRHL009	HL009 Pen March
71	MRTHRHL011	HL011 Mynydd Merthyr and Mynydd Gethin
72	NWPRTHL009	Wentwood Forest
73	NWPRTHL014	Bishton and Wilcrick
74	NWPRTHL017	Nash/Goldcliff coastal zone
75	NWPRTHL019	Whitson
76	NWPRTHL022	East Usk and Llanwern Industrial
77	NWPRTHL046	Kemeys House

Table EDP 1.7: HLAA Within 20–26km of the Site

HLAA Within 20–26km of Site (19 No.)	HLAA ID	HLAA Name
78	CRDFFHL005	Garth Upland
79	CRDFFHL011	Southwest Wentloog Level
80	CRDFFHL012	Rumney Intertidal Zone
81	CRDFFHL032	Cardiff Flats
82	CRDFFHL049	Cardiff City Centre
83	CRDFFHL062	Adamsdown, Splott, Roath and Cathays Residential Area
84	CynonHL006	Penmoelallt
85	CYNONHL992	Mynydd Brith-weunydd
86	MNMTHHL001	Caldicot Level



HLAA Within 20–26km of Site (19 No.)	HLAA ID	HLAA Name
87	MNMTHHL002	Magor and Fen Edge
88	MNMTHHL020	Trellech
89	MNMTHHL063	Trellech Plateau
90	MNMTHHL066	Chepstow Park Wood
91	MNMTHHL071	King's Wood
92	MNMTHHL072	The Hendre
93	MNMTHHL073	Grace Dieu
94	MRTHRHL006	HL006 Cwm-glo and Bryn-y-Badell
95	NWPRTHL018	Redwick
96	NWPRTHL047	Peterstone and the Portland Grounds

1.8 Key criteria set out in published LANDMAP Aspect Area Assessments, which has been interpreted and the key considerations used to determine value and susceptibility to change in this study are as follows.

Table EDP 1.8: LANDMAP HLAA Key Criteria

LANDMAP Question	Key Characteristics
C/s_3	Level 3 Classification
Q17	Scheduled Ancient Monuments present?
Q19	Registered Historic Parks and Gardens present?
Q20	Conservation Areas present?
Q21	World Heritage Sites present?
Q22	Is the area within a Registered Landscape of Historic Interest?
Q23	Value
Q24	Condition
Evaluation Matrix	
Q35	Integrity
Q36	Survival
Q37	Condition
Q38	Rarity
Q40	Overall Evaluation

HLAA Assessment of Effects: (5) HLAA Within or Adjacent to the Site

1.9 Five HLAA were identified within or adjacent to the Site. These are assessed individually below. **Table EDP 1.9** provides a summary of their key characteristics as identified by LANDMAP followed by **Table EDP 1.10**, which provides the 'Assessment of Effects'. The methodology shown in **Appendix 6A** of the Environmental Statement.



(1) BLNGWHL025 HAA 25 Mynydd Coety

Table EDP 1.9: BLNGWHL025 HAA 25 Mynydd Coety LANDMAP Summary

LANDMAP Question	Key Characteristics	(1) BLNGWHL025 HAA 25 Mynydd Coety
Q5	Level 3 Classification	Marginal Land. Extractive
Q17	Scheduled Ancient Monuments present?	No
Q19	Registered Historic Parks and Gardens present?	No
Q20	Conservation Areas present?	No
Q21	World Heritage Sites present?	No
Q22	Is the area within a Registered Landscape of Historic Interest?	Yes
Q23	Value	High
Q24	Condition	Good
Evaluation Matrix		
Q35	Integrity	High
Q36	Survival	High
Q37	Condition	Moderate
Q38	Rarity	Moderate
Q40	Overall Evaluation	High

Table EDP 1.10: (1) BLNGWHL025 HAA 25 Mynydd Coety Assessment of Effects

(1) BLNGWHL025 HAA 25 Mynydd Coety summary description, key patterns and elements (LANDMAP Q4): <i>“A large area of moorland (mostly common) with a wide range of archaeological remains varying from mining structures to cairns and sheep folds...”</i>		
Value:	Susceptibility:	Overall Sensitivity:
High	Medium	High
LANDMAP Justification for Overall Evaluation (Q41):		
<p><i>“Mynydd Coety is a largely unenclosed upland landscape with evidence of post-medieval pastoral use, together with remains of quarrying and mining activity. Prehistoric funerary ritual activity is also present within the vicinity. This area falls within the Blaenavon Historic Landscape Character Area of Coety Mountain (HLCA 020), comprising a rich multi-period landscape; its overall evaluation has thus been assessed as high.”</i></p> <p>One turbine (T3) and ancillary development including construction of crane pads, turbine foundations, access road upgrading, short sections of new access track and buried cable connections are proposed within this HLAA as part of the development. Consequently, both direct physical and perceptual changes on the HLAA would occur.</p> <p>Overall, due to the small footprint of construction works for the development within this large-scale landscape and large size of the HLAA, it is considered the susceptibility of the HLAA to the Proposed Development would be medium (some distinctive landscape elements and perceptual aspects; few landscape detractors; landscape receptors in fair condition. Landscape is able to accommodate some change as a result). Overall sensitivity is considered to be high however due to its rich multiperiod landscape.</p>		



<p>Magnitude of Change:</p> <p>Considering the historic landscape context and extent of influence of historic features and patterns within this HLAA the number of designations present is limited. The HLAA does overlap with a Registered Landscape of Historic Interest, however, the Blaenavon Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest does not physically overlap with the Site.</p> <p>Matters relating to key views and setting were investigated and neither were identified as key characteristics of the HLAA or the Blaenavon Historic Landscape Character Area 020 where it overlaps with the part of the HLAA intervisible with the Site.</p> <p>There would be a direct landscape effect on a very small part of the southern tip of this HLAA whereby part of the Proposed Development overlaps with the aspect area. The direct effect on the area would result in a very low magnitude of change. The nature of the change would be permanent and adverse.</p> <p>Operational windfarms are present within the HLAA, therefore the proposals would be seen in addition, rather than as a new man-made element, which is not seen within the HLAA at present.</p> <p>The visual/perceptual change on the aspect area would be medium as over 50% of the HLAA would have a perceptual connection to the proposals. The addition of the proposal would introduce a new phase of development to the rich multi-period landscape and the proposal would be perceived as a change to the HLAA.</p>
<p>Overall Effect:</p> <p>Moderate and Significant at worst for parts of the HLAA identified as having direct landscape effects. The nature of the effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse in terms of visual and perceptual qualities. The nature of physical effects would be permanent, and adverse.</p>

(2) BLNGWHL044 HAA 44 St Illtyd Fieldscape

Table EDP 1.11: BLNGWHL044 HAA 44 St Illtyd Fieldscape LANDMAP Summary

LANDMAP Question	Key Characteristics	(2) BLNGWHL044 HAA 44 St Illtyd Fieldscape
Q5	Level 3 Classification	Woodland. Other Settlement. Extractive
Q17	Scheduled Ancient Monuments present?	Yes
Q19	Registered Historic Parks and Gardens present?	No
Q20	Conservation Areas present?	No
Q21	World Heritage Sites present?	No
Q22	Is the area within a Registered Landscape of Historic Interest?	No
Q23	Value	Outstanding
Q24	Condition	Fair
Evaluation Matrix		
Q35	Integrity	Outstanding
Q36	Survival	High
Q37	Condition	High



LANDMAP Question	Key Characteristics	(2) BLNGWHL044 HAA 44 St Illtyd Fieldscape
Q38	Rarity	High
Q40	Overall Evaluation	Outstanding

Table EDP 1.12: BLNGWHL044 HAA 44 St Illtyd Assessment of Effects

(2) BLNGWHL044 HAA 44 St Illtyd Fieldscape summary description: “An area with important monuments and a well maintained fieldscape of small rectangular fields bounded by stone walls and grown out hedges...”		
Value:	Susceptibility:	Overall Sensitivity:
High	High	High
LANDMAP Justification for Overall Evaluation (Q41):		
<p>“An exceptionally well preserved mixed fieldscape with little evidence of intrusion by industrial activity or modern forestry plantation, distinguished by a cluster of significant medieval monuments in the vicinity of Llanhilleth, including St Illtyd’s Church, an important early medieval ecclesiastical site”.</p> <p>One turbine (T8) and ancillary development including construction of crane pads, turbine foundations, access road upgrading, short sections of new access track and buried cable connections are proposed within the eastern fringe of this HLAA as part of the development. Consequently, both direct physical and perceptual effects on the HLAA would occur.</p> <p>The footprint of construction works for the Proposed Development within the HLAA would be very small and located within the larger scale open field areas of the HLAA on elevated land at its eastern edge. It is considered the susceptibility of the HLAA to the Proposed Development would be high (with many distinctive landscape elements, aesthetic/perceptual aspects, and very few landscape detractors), however, it is identified to be in ‘fair’ condition, which reduced susceptibility slightly. Overall susceptibility to the Proposed Development and sensitivity of the HLAA are considered High.</p>		
Magnitude of Change:		
<p>Important historic landscape features and designations are present within 2km of the Site, namely St Illtyd’s Church and scheduled motte to the west. The condition of the aspect area is reduced by the introduction of large modern farm sheds, silos, telegraph poles and a few post-modern houses in the village. Beyond the village, however, there is relatively little intrusion with respect to detracting man-made features around this part of the HLAA. The introduction of the proposals would not be in conflict with the key characteristics of the HLAA that contribute to its value due to the lack of intervisibility with proposals from this area. Views investigated from St Illtyd’s suggest that the landscape around the village has a more enclosed feel, which is in keeping with the vegetated field boundaries, and the wooded classification assigned by LANDMAP. There is also intervening built form in between St Illtyd’s Church, scheduled motte and the proposals. The proposals would be perceived as a minor constituent in the wider context of St Illtyd’s. From other parts of the aspect area where built form and vegetation does not curtail views, namely from elevated and more open parts of the aspect area key characteristics were not recorded. Considering the historic landscape context and extent of influence of historic features and patterns within this HLAA, the proposals would have a minor impact on the perceived character and distinctiveness of the HLAA in the round. Due to the nature of the proposals, the well preserved fieldscape would remain unchanged.</p> <p>There would be a direct landscape effect on a very small part of the eastern edge of this HLAA whereby part of the Proposed Development overlaps with the aspect area. The physical effects on the area would not result in a change to the key characteristics noted within the HLAA (such as a physical</p>		



<p>change to field boundaries). However, there would be an additional land use as a result of the renewable energy proposals.</p> <p>There are no operational wind farms present within the HLAA, therefore the proposals would be perceived as a new man-made element, which is not currently experienced within the HLAA (which is noted for having minimal intrusion). Over 80% of the HLAA would theoretically have a visual connection to the proposals, however, the ZTV does not take into account the screening effect of vegetation and built form, which does make a considerable difference in a medium scale, vegetated landscape such as this.</p> <p>The perceptual changes on the aspect area would be low overall as the main features of the HLAA for which the 'outstanding' value was in part attributed would only experience a minor alteration as a result of the proposals; a rectilinear field would be characterised by one of the proposed turbines.</p>
<p>Overall Effect:</p> <p>Moderate/Minor and Not Significant at worst for parts of the HLAA identified as having direct visual/perceptual landscape effects. The nature of the effects would be long term, reversible and adverse. The direct physical changes would result in a minor and not significant effect due to the relatively light footprint of the proposal. The nature of the effect would be permanent, and adverse.</p>

(3) TRFNHL012 HL012 Pontypool

Table EDP 1.13: TRFNHL012 HL012 Pontypool LANDMAP Summary

LANDMAP Question	Key Characteristics	(3) TRFNHL012 HL012 Pontypool
Q5	Level 3 Classification	Nucleated Settlement. Processing/- Manufacturing. Communications. Recreational
Q17	Scheduled Ancient Monuments present?	Yes
Q19	Registered Historic Parks and Gardens present?	No
Q20	Conservation Areas present?	Yes
Q21	World Heritage Sites present?	No
Q22	Is the area within a Registered Landscape of Historic Interest?	No
Q23	Value	Outstanding
Q24	Condition	Good
Evaluation Matrix		
Q35	Integrity	High
Q36	Survival	Outstanding
Q37	Condition	High
Q38	Rarity	High
Q40	Overall Evaluation	Outstanding



Table EDP 1.14: TRFNHL012 HLO12 Pontypool Assessment of Effects

(3) TRFNHL012 HLO12 Pontypool summary description: “Post-medieval urban/industrial centre, industrial settlement and industry dominated by nucleated 19th/20th century ribbon development. Iron and steel producing area with industrial features and civic buildings. Communications corridor. Archaeological...”		
Value:	Susceptibility:	Overall Sensitivity:
High	Low	Medium
Justification:		
<p>“Pontypool has been assigned an overall value of outstanding, reflecting its nationally important historic associations with the early development of the ironworking and tin-plate manufacturing industries during the 18th century, the presence of a series”.</p> <p>This large scale aspect area spans over 8km as the crow flies. The area contains nucleated settlements along a valley bottom, and it also contains the industrial development of historic importance. Value is considered high given the nationally important historic associations of iron and steel works. The settled pattern of development follows the main artillery routes, which are orientated broadly north-south/south-east, and the Site is situated broadly to the west of the aspect area. In terms of the important historic features of this HLAA, there are conservation areas present in the aspect area, however, these do not overlap with HLAA ZTV, therefore there is no visual connection with the Site area. Due to the extent of modern built form and the influence of main transport corridors, the susceptibility to change from the Proposed Development is considered low, and sensitivity medium overall.</p>		
Magnitude of Change:		
<p>Direct physical effects on this HLAA would be highly restricted to a very minor junction reconfiguration and upgrading of an access road at the intersection between the B4246 (Heol Albert/Commercial Road) and Pisgah Road to allow for the development at the Site. The change to the HLAA overall would be imperceptible.</p> <p>Nearly 70% of this HLAA is within the ZTV, however, this does not take into account the screening effects of built form, which is likely to greatly reduce the visual envelop of the proposals. The direct perceptual landscape effects on the aspect area would be very low as a change to the key characteristics of the HLAA would be barely discernible.</p>		
Overall Effect:		
<p>Minor/Negligible and Not Significant. The direct perceptual effects would be long-term (reversible), and adverse.</p> <p>Negligible direct physical landscape effects would be incurred through works to the access road junction at the edge of the HLAA, which would be permanent, and adverse.</p>		



(4) TRFNHL017 HL017 Waun-wen and Mynydd Llanhilleth: V

Table EDP 1.15: TRFNHL017 HL017 Waun-wen and Mynydd Llanhilleth: V LANDMAP Summary

LANDMAP Question	Key Characteristics	(4) TRFNHL017 HL017 Waun-wen and Mynydd Llanhilleth: V
Q5	Level 3 Classification	Other fieldscapes. Woodland. Non-nucleated Settlement. Other Settlement. Extractive. Processing/Manufacturing
Q17	Scheduled Ancient Monuments present?	Yes
Q19	Registered Historic Parks and Gardens present?	No
Q20	Conservation Areas present?	No
Q21	World Heritage Sites present?	No
Q22	Is the area within a Registered Landscape of Historic Interest?	No
Q23	Value	Outstanding
Q24	Condition	Good
Evaluation Matrix		
Q35	Integrity	High
Q36	Survival	Outstanding
Q37	Condition	High
Q38	Rarity	Outstanding
Q40	Overall Evaluation	Outstanding

Table EDP 1.16: TRFNHL017 HL017 Waun-wen and Mynydd Llanhilleth: V Assessment of Effects

(4) TRFNHL017 HL017 Waun-wen and Mynydd Llanhilleth: V summary description: <i>“Post-medieval industrial landscape over early post-medieval landscape of hillside enclosure and scattered farmsteads. Ironworking and coal producing area with technological developments. Former monastic grange. Archaeologically Sensitive Area. Industrial extraction and processing of iron and coal. Communication routes, industrial housing, remnant post-medieval agricultural landscape”</i>		
Value:	Susceptibility:	Overall Sensitivity:
Very High	Medium	High
Justification:		
<p>A very high value is attributed to this HLAA due to <i>“the survival of the complex 19th-20th century industrial landscape to the W of Abersychan, which dominates the northern half of this area, including sites such as the British Ironworks, the British Ironworks Colliery, Cwmybyrgwm Colliery and the Lower Navigation Colliery, incorporating remarkably well-preserved structural remains of considerable rarity and national significance”</i>.</p> <p>Two turbines (T1, and T2) and ancillary development including the grid connection route is proposed within this HLAA as part of the development. The major built form of turbines and temporary compounds would be situated within elevated medium-scale fieldscapes located intermittently along the western fringes of the HLAA and cover a very small footprint.</p>		



Direct effects from physical and perceptual changes on the HLAA would occur from the Proposed Development. Susceptibility to the proposed windfarm development is considered to be medium and sensitivity high.
Magnitude of Change:
There would be a direct landscape effect on this HLAA whereby two turbines and associated ancillary is proposed within the aspect area including construction compound and substation, access roads and below ground cabling. The crane pads would result in a permanent adverse effect. The grid connection route also overlaps with this HLAA and there would be temporary disruption to the landscape fabric as a result of grounding the cables.
The uplands are considered medium scale due to the field pattern. The Proposed Development would have small physical changes on the area resulting from the small development footprint associated with wind farm development, but the change would be permanent.
The direct perceptual landscape change to the aspect area would be very high as over 80% of the HLAA would theoretically have a perceptual connection to the proposals.
Overall Effect:
Major and Significant. The nature of the direct effects would be permanent, and adverse for physical changes but long-term (reversible), and adverse with regards to perceptual changes.

(5) TRFNHL019 HL019 Waun-wen and Mynydd Llanhilleth

Table EDP 1.17: TRFNHL019 HL019 Waun-wen and Mynydd Llanhilleth LANDMAP Summary

LANDMAP Question	Key Characteristics	(5) TRFNHL019 HL019 Waun-wen and Mynydd Llanhilleth
Q5	Level 3 Classification	Regular Fieldsapes. Marginal Land. Reclaimed land. Extractive. Communications
Q17	Scheduled Ancient Monuments present?	No
Q19	Registered Historic Parks and Gardens present?	No
Q20	Conservation Areas present?	No
Q21	World Heritage Sites present?	No
Q22	Is the area within a Registered Landscape of Historic Interest?	No
Q23	Value	High
Q24	Condition	Fair
Evaluation Matrix		
Q35	Integrity	High
Q36	Survival	High
Q37	Condition	Moderate
Q38	Rarity	Moderate
Q40	Overall Evaluation	High



Table EDP 1.18: TRFNHL019 HLO19 Waun-wen and Mynydd Llanhilleth Assessment of Effects

(5) TRFNHL019 HLO19 Waun-wen and Mynydd Llanhilleth summary description: “Upland common with exploratory mining and traditional administrative boundaries. Communications route. Former monastic grange land. Traditional boundaries. Upland common with trial shafts.”		
Value:	Susceptibility:	Overall Sensitivity:
High	Medium	High
Justification:		
<p>“... this area has been assigned an overall value of high, which reflects the remarkably intact and coherent state of this remote, largely unenclosed area of upland common, the extent of which has remained essentially unchanged from that shown on the OS 1st edition map, despite encroachment by 20th century open-cast mining on its eastern fringes”.</p> <p>Three turbines (T4, T6, and T7) and ancillary development including construction of crane pads and turbine foundations, upgrading of existing access roads, construction of new access routes and below ground cabling is proposed within this HLAA as part of the development. The development would be situated within ‘vast open landscapes’ that characterise this HLAA and where large vertical components are in proportion to the large scale host landscape in fair condition.</p> <p>Direct effects on the HLAA would occur from the Proposed Development. Susceptibility to the proposed windfarm development is considered to be medium and sensitivity high.</p>		
Magnitude of Change:		
<p>There would be direct physical changes to this HLAA whereby three turbines and associated ancillary is proposed within the aspect area leading to small, scattered development footprint at new turbine and crane pad locations, widening of existing access roads where necessary, creation of short sections of new access roads and below ground cabling (infilled once complete). The uplands are considered vast scale due to their open expansive nature. The Proposed Development would present low magnitude physical changes to this large HLAA. Perceptual changes to this HLAA, however, would be very high as just under 90% of the HLAA would have a perceptual connection to the proposals.</p>		
Overall Effect:		
<p>Major and Significant. The nature of the direct physical effects would be permanent and adverse, and direct perceptual effects long-term (reversible), and adverse.</p>		

Assessment of Effects: HLAA within 5km

1.10 Seventeen HLAA were identified within 5km of the Site at their closest point. **Table EDP 1.19** summarises key characteristics identified by LANDMAP for each HLAA.

Table EDP 1.19: Key Characteristics of HLAA Within 5km

(17) HLAA IN 5KM	HLAA ID	HLAA NAME	HL_5	CONDITION (Q24)	SURVIVAL (Q36)
6	BLNG WHL 008	HAA 8 Mynydd Carn-y- cefn fieldscape	Woodland. Marginal Land. Water and Wetland. Other Settlement. Extractive	Poor	High



(17) HLAA IN 5KM	HLAA ID	HLAA NAME	HL_5	CONDITION (Q24)	SURVIVAL (Q36)
7	BLNG WHL 022	HAA 22 Mynydd Carn-y-cefn	Other fieldscapes. Marginal Land. Extractive	Fair	High
8	BLNG WHL 034	HAA 34 Cwmtillery	Woodland. Marginal Land. Water and Wetland. Other Settlement. Extractive	Fair	High
9	BLNG WHL 035	HAA 35 Abertillery	Nucleated Settlement. Processing/ Manufacturing. Communications	Fair	High
10	BLNG WHL 037	HAA 37 Maes Mawr	Other fieldscapes. Woodland. Extractive	Fair	High
11	BLNG WHL 041	HAA 41 Hafod y dafal	Irregular Fieldscapes. Woodland. Non- nucleated Settlement	Unassessed	Moderate
12	BLNG WHL 045	HAA 45 Llanhilleth	Other fieldscapes. Processing/- Manufacturing. Communications	Fair	High
13	Cyno nHLO 04	Pen-y-fan Industrial Estate	Processing/- Manufacturing. Designed Landscape	Good	Outstanding
14	CYNO NHL4 65	Ebbwy Settlement Corridor	Irregular Fieldscapes. Horticulture. Reclaimed land. Water and Wetland. Extractive. Processing/- Manufacturing. Communications. Military. Designed Landscape	Unassessed	High
15	CYNO NHL5 58	Cwm Dows and Cwm Philkins	Woodland. Non- nucleated Settlement. Recreational	Unassessed	Moderate



(17) HLAA IN 5KM	HLAA ID	HLAA NAME	HL_5	CONDITION (Q24)	SURVIVAL (Q36)
16	CYNO NHL6 60	Blackwood and the Sirhowy Valley	Water and Wetland. Extractive. Processing/- Manufacturing. Communications. Recreational	Unassessed	Moderate
17	TRFN HLO1 1	HLO11 Pontypool Park	Woodland. Processing/- Manufacturing. Designed Landscape. Recreational. Other Settlement	Good	Outstanding
18	TRFN HLO1 3	HLO13 Cilgoegan and Lasgarn	Non-nucleated Settlement. Other Settlement. Processing/- Manufacturing. Communications. Military. Marginal Land. Irregular Fieldsapes. Regular Fieldsapes. Woodland	Good	High
19	TRFN HLO1 4	HLO14 Mynydd Garnlochdy	Marginal Land	Unassessed	High
20	TRFN HLO1 5	HLO15 Cwm Afon	Irregular Fieldsapes. Regular Fieldsapes. Woodland. Non-nucleated Settlement. Extractive. Processing/Manufa cturing. Communications	Good	Outstanding
21	TRFN HLO1 8	HLO18 Glyn Trosnant and Hafod-yr-Ynys	Irregular Fieldsapes. Regular Fieldsapes. Woodland. Marginal Land. Non- nucleated	Good	Outstanding



(17) HLAA IN 5KM	HLAA ID	HLAA NAME	HL_5	CONDITION (Q24)	SURVIVAL (Q36)
			Settlement. Extractive. Communications		
22	TRFN HLO2 0	HLO20 Mynydd Coety	Marginal Land. Extractive	Good	High
23	TRFN HLO2 2	HLO22 Mynydd y Garn-fawr	Extractive. Communications. Marginal Land	Good	High

- 1.11 All of the HLAA in **Table EDP 1.19** have a high value ascribed through LANDMAP with the exception of two (**TRFNHLO11** - Pontypool Park, and **TRFNHLO15** – Cwm Afon), which are deemed outstanding. Condition is generally rated as fair (5no.) or good (7no.), with one poor and five unassessed. The integrity of the HLAAs are generally high or outstanding (one moderate), as is survival (three moderate), however, ratings of rarity are more varied with two low, ten moderate, five high, and one outstanding.
- 1.12 Eight HLAA are located within 5km of the Site to its north-west (**Figure 6.26**) within Blaenau Gwent Local Authority with a further HLAA (**BLNGWHL045** - HAA 45 Llanhilleth) extending south within the ZTV/study area. These HLAA broadly run north to south in direction in bands associated with the landscape’s topography. Four of these HLAA are characterised by woodland/marginal land whilst two as ‘other fieldscapes’ and one distinct as ‘nucleated settlement’. All except for **BLNGWHL041** (HAA 41 Hafod y dafal) also describe either ‘extractive’ or ‘processing/manufacturing’ as important historic patterns for their respective areas indicating the main features are physical elements at these HLAA. They are all considered high value, but fair condition at most. HLAA **BLNGWHL045** HAA 45 Llanhilleth is the closest aspect area to the Site located c.300m west.
- 1.13 It is described as representing a “well-preserved example of a mid-late 19th century planned mining settlement with its original street plan and a significant proportion of workers' housing and associated public buildings surviving intact”. Similarly, **BLNGWHL035** (HAA 35 Abertillery), is considered a nucleated settlement and a post-industrial town whose value “reflects the largely intact survival of an industrial townscape of the mid to late 19th century...”. The Proposed Development would not change these features of importance for the HLAA, with any effects confined to indirect effects upon views. Up to 70% of these HLAA are located within the ZTV of the Proposed Development but they would not affect the current field or settlement patterns of these HLAA and as such, susceptibility and sensitivity would be medium at most.
- 1.14 Built elements are also the primary historic factor influencing the high value for **BLNGWHL037** where “Surviving features of note include a cast-iron pumping engine of 1893 and the extremely rare survival of a mid-19th century colliery ventilation furnace”. Overall just over 55% of these three HLAA are located within the ZTV of the Proposed Development (blade tips) where indirect effects may be possible.



- 1.15 Elsewhere in this area **BLNGWHL008** (HAA 8 Mynydd Carn-y-cefn fieldscape) is located further north-west in the same direction of view from the Site as **BLNGWHL035** towards the edge of the 5km site radius. It is noted to be in poor condition and its value is attributed to “... *the pre-industrial fieldscape and settlement pattern, as well as the presence of extensive and historically important industrial extractive remains and associated water-management features, associated with the Nantyglo Ironworks*”. A similar attribution of high value due to “*fieldscape and dispersed settlement pattern*” is noted for **BLNGWHL034**, and **BLNGWHL041**. Landscape pattern is also a key feature of the historical value associated with **BLNGWHL022** - Mynydd Carn-y-cefn but in this case it is the “... *large area of open moorland crossed by a network of long-established paths and tracks, which contains extensive evidence of extractive activity and the remains of a possible prehistoric ritual landscape, indicated by the presence of the substantial cairn from which the area takes its name... It thus constitutes a multi-period landscape of high overall value*”.
- 1.16 Views and perceptual qualities are therefore more important components of the historic character for these four HLAA for which indirect effects associated with intervisibility with the Proposed Development are likely to be greater. Overall, an average of 60% of these four HLAA are located within the ZTV of the Proposed Development where indirect effects may be possible. Taken together, for HLAA within 5km north-west of the Site, just over half include key visual/perceptual qualities that could be affected by the Proposed Development, associated with fieldscapes or open moorland. Susceptibility of these four HLAA would be high, and medium for the remainder where the inherent built form is the primary feature and would incur no effects from the Proposed Development. Combining with high value and poor to fair condition of the HLAA, the sensitivity for HLAAs in this area would range from high (at worst) to medium generally).
- 1.17 North-east of the Site there are five HLAA within 5km of the Site at their closest points respectively, and all within Torfaen Council area. They do not cross over into the very high valued BBNP, however, four are considered to be of high value within LANDMAP with one (**TRFNHL015** - Cwm Afon) identified as outstanding reflecting “*its importance as a key industrial transport corridor ... with substantial extant remains of disused tramroads and railway lines... the survival of an early 19th century ironmaster's house at Cwmavon House and a remarkably well-preserved row of workers' cottages at Forge Row, adjacent to the site of the Cwmavon Forge, an important historic grouping that has been granted Conservation Area status*” and it includes part of the Blaenavon World Heritage Site. Only 30% of this HLAA located over 3km from the nearest turbine, overlaps with the ZTV for the Proposed Development limiting potential indirect effects to the overall HLAA, and reducing its susceptibility and so sensitivity to High.
- 1.18 The Blaenavon World Heritage site also extends into **TRFNHL020** and **TRFNHL022** but does not raise their value ascribed within LANDMAP above high. Indeed the southern extent of **TRFNHL020**, from which the Proposed Development may be theoretically visible, is stated as being “*very severely disrupted by modern opencast workings, thus detracting from the overall intrinsic value of this landscape*”, whilst for **TRFNHL022** the value reflects the “... *unenclosed upland pasture, relatively undisturbed by the extensive 19th-20th century extractive activity that is such a visible feature within other neighbouring upland landscape*”. Given the high potential



visibility of the Proposed Development from wide upland areas in **TRFNHL022** (95% of the area within the ZTV of the Proposed Development), sensitivity of these HLAA would be High. Of the two remaining HLAA north-east of the Site within 5km, **TRFNHL013** is valued for its “... *distinctive landscape and settlement pattern ... particularly distinguished by a series of well-preserved upland farmsteads of early post-medieval date*”. However LANDMAP also notes the “*long-established woodland plantation (Lasgarn Wood, Company's Wood & Freehold Wood) to the W adjoining the industrial urban settlements of Griffithstown and Abersychan*” that extends along the west of this HLAA, which provides containment and focal feature within the HLAA.

- 1.19 **TRFNHL014** is located further north-east beyond **TRFNHL013** relative to the Site, bordering the BBNP and has extensive areas of potential views of the Proposed Development with virtually 100% of the HLAA included within the ZTV of the Proposed Development, valued for its “*remarkably intact landscape pattern, characterised by uninhabited, largely unenclosed upland common that has remained little changed from that shown on the OS 1st edition map*”. Sensitivity of HLAA to the north-east would be high at most.
- 1.20 Only two HLAA are located south-east of the Site within 5km at their closest point. **TRFNHL011** (HL011 Pontypool Park) contains a designated Registered Historic Park and Garden described as “*Post-medieval park and house with historic associations*”. The HLAA also includes a conservation area and is identified as outstanding overall as despite “... *the southern part of the park has been encroached upon by 20th century leisure facilities, the key components of this designed landscape have survived in a remarkably intact and well-preserved condition, including some features of national importance (e.g. shell grotto, icehouses and arboretum)*”.
- 1.21 To the west of this HLAA and extending around the south of the Site **TRFNHL018** (HL018 Glyn Trosnant and Hafod-yr-Ynys) is evaluated as high value due to “*the survival of extensive, well-preserved industrial remains represented by the Glyn Pits Colliery and the Hafod-yr-ynys Colliery, together with an irregular agricultural fieldscape and pattern of dispersed farmsteads on Cefn-crib at the western end of the area*”. Over 60% of this HLAA extends within the ZTV for the Proposed Development indicating moderate to high intervisibility to blade tips are possible, compared to just over 80% of **TRFNHL011** (HL011 Pontypool Park) being within the ZTV, albeit separated by urban form extending along the valley. Susceptibility of these HLAA to the Proposed Development resulting from north/westerly views towards the Site is likely to be medium and sensitivity high.
- 1.22 Four further HLAA are located south-west of the Site within 5km including **CYNONHL004** (Pen-y-fan Industrial Estate); **CYNONHL465** (Ebbwy Settlement Corridor); **CYNONHL558** (Cwm Dows and Cwm Philkins); and **CYNONHL660** (Blackwood and the Sirhowy Valley). **CYNONHL004** and **CYNONHL465** are the closest of these to the Site and represent areas of existing built development. Although **CYNONHL004** (Pen-y-fan Industrial Estate) is identified in LANDMAP as in good condition it is noted as being “*managed as an industrial estate. There are few historic environment interest here and none of the recorded historic features have survived redevelopment*”.



- 1.23 It is considered the value of this HLAA is actually much less in reality and low from a landscape and visual perspective. The **CYNONHL465** (Ebbwy Settlement Corridor) lies adjacent to the south of **CYNONHL004**, contains Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAM) and is valued for its “*key communications route since the Roman period (if not earlier) and 2/ the rich, extensive 18th-19th century industrial heritage ... of considerable historic importance...*”. Views and visual amenity are not identified as key components of its character, and susceptibility to the Proposed Development is considered low. **CYNONHL660** (Blackwood and the Sirhowy Valley) is described as “*An entirely urbanised aspect area*” includes a SAM and is valued as an “*historically important industrial settlement/transport corridor which connected the Sirhowy and Tredegar Ironworks to the coastal ports of Newport and Cardiff*”. It also notes that the landscape “*has lost some coherence due to the clearance of most of the former colliery sites in recent years for housing or modern manufacturing facilities..*”. The HLAA is considered to be of low susceptibility to the Proposed Development which would, whilst potentially visible, not alter its features of historic importance. These HLAA are therefore considered to be of Low Sensitivity.
- 1.24 **CYNONHL558** (Cwm Dows and Cwm Philkins) is located west and beyond the Ebbw Settlement corridor, characterised by an “*irregular fieldscape, with scattered and isolated Post-medieval farmsteads, and dispersed semi-natural woodland*”, and is considered a “*relatively rare example of a irregular rural upland fieldscape...*”. A little over 60% of this HLAA is located within the ZTV of the Proposed Development and medium susceptibility and sensitivity to the Proposed Development is considered, which would add additional vertical features to distant views north-east beyond a settled urban and industrial valley context.

Table EDP 1.20: HLAA within 5km Assessment of Effects

HLAA within 5km Summary of Effects		
Value:	Susceptibility:	Overall Sensitivity:
Very High - High	High – Low	High – Low
Justification:		
Due to the scale and proportion of the landscape that would be affected at relatively close to medium range within 5km, it's likely that the perceptual and other sensory qualities would be affected.		
Given the high levels of intervisibility with HLAA within 5km in the round, the worst case effects are considered to be for those aspect areas to the north-west and north-east. The greater industrial/urban context of HLAA to the south is considered to reduce susceptibility to the Proposed Development. Overall susceptibility of HLAA within 5km of the Site (being restricted to potential indirect effects which influence only part of the characteristics of each HLAA), is considered to be medium, with sensitivity high at worst but generally Medium.		
Magnitude of Change:		
The indirect landscape effects on the aspect areas would be high at worst as there would be a no alteration of the baseline, which may conflict with the smaller scale parts of the landscape within the more sensitive fieldscape areas or open common land areas. Overall, the magnitude of change would tend to be Medium (partial alteration to one or more key characteristics; addition of elements that are evident but do not necessarily conflict with the key characteristics of the existing landscape).		
Overall Effect:		
Moderate and Significant at worst (11 of 17 HLAA), Moderate/Minor to Minor and Not Significant (6 HLAA). The nature of the indirect effects would be long-term (reversible), and adverse.		

Assessment of Effects: HLAA within 5–10km

1.25 Twelve HLAA were identified within 5–10km of the Site at their closest point. **Table EDP 1.21** summarises key characteristics identified by LANDMAP for each HLAA.

Table EDP 1.21: Key Characteristics of HLAA within 5–10km

(12) HLAA IN 5-10KM	HLAA ID	HLAA NAME	HL_5	CONDITION (Q24)	SURVIVAL (Q36)
24	BLNGWHL029	HAA 29 Cefn Manmoel	Marginal Land. Other Settlement. Extractive. Communications	Fair	High
25	BLNGWHL036	HAA 36 Mynydd Bedwellte	Woodland. Extractive	Fair	High
26	CynonHL005	Cefn y Brithdir	Marginal Land. Extractive. Communications	Good	High
27	CYNONHL374	Twmbarlwm and Medart	Regular Fieldscapes	Unassessed	High
28	CYNONHL426	Maes Manor Hotel	Horticulture. Woodland. Designed Landscape	Good	Outstanding
29	CYNONHL556	Mynydd Bach and Mynydd-y-Grug	Irregular Fieldscapes. Regular Fieldscapes. Woodland. Water and Wetland. Non-nucleated Settlement. Extractive. Communications. Recreational. Marginal Land	Unassessed	Outstanding
30	CYNONHL602	Nant Bargod Rhymni	Woodland. Water and Wetland. Extractive. Communications. Military. Recreational	Unassessed	High
31	CYNONHL634	Gelligaer and Llancaich	Woodland. Non-nucleated Settlement. Extractive. Military. Designed Landscape	Unassessed	Outstanding
32	CYNONHL831	Gelligaer Common	Water and Wetland. Extractive. Recreational	Unassessed	Outstanding

(12) HLAA IN 5- 10KM	HLAA ID	HLAA NAME	HL_5	CONDITION (Q24)	SURVIVAL (Q36)
33	MNMTTHL053	Tregrug - Llanhunog	Regular Fieldscapes. Woodland. Non- nucleated Settlement. Other Settlement. Military	Good	High
34	MNMTTHL059	Estavarney and Kemeys Commander	Regular Fieldscapes. Woodland. Non- nucleated Settlement. Other Settlement	Unassessed	High
35	TRFNHL002	HL002 Edlogan and Tregrug	Irregular Fieldscapes. Regular Fieldscapes. Woodland. Water and Wetland. Non- nucleated Settlement. Communications. Processing/- Manufacturing	Good	High

- 1.26 Of the 12 HLAA within 5–10km of the Site, 4 are valued as outstanding and 8 as high within LANDMAP, with the same scores are identified for each HLAA in terms of survival (**Table EDP 1.21**). Integrity and rarity are more varied across the HLAA ranging from moderate to outstanding and low to outstanding respectively. The predominant landscape type (level 3 LANDMAP) includes marginal land and irregular fieldscapes, with one area of regular fieldscapes, and designed landscape respectively.
- 1.27 There are three HLAA within the north-western quadrant of the study area between 5–10km from the Site at their closest points. They are primarily composed of marginal land. **BLNGWHL036** (HAA 36 Mynydd Bedwellte) is described as “*An unenclosed upland area with remnants of activity from many periods*”, and contains woodland and extractive historic patterns (Q5) as well as a SAM. It is regarded as high value reflecting “*the well-preserved character of this extensive tract of open moorland and the multi-period range of the archaeological resource, with possible traces of prehistoric funerary activity and considerable evidence of 19th-20th century industrial exploitation (represented by the Bedwellty Pits and associated features)*”. **BLNGWHL029** (HAA 29 Cefn Manmoel), located slightly to its north-east on a roughly parallel ridgeline is described as “*An upland area once evidently the focus of mining and quarrying... Large areas of scrub and new tree growth are appearing...*”.
- 1.28 LANDMAP also notes settlement, extractive and communications as important historic patterns to this area. A high value has been attributed to this area due to its “*... multi-period upland landscape containing evidence of prehistoric, early medieval, post-medieval and modern activity ... with significant research potential...*”. **CYNONHL005** (Cefn y Brithdir) is similarly of upland

character described as “used for upland grazing, but there has been some sub-division within the area with the use of post and wire fencing. It includes a number of Bronze Age funerary cairns as well as a group of scheduled medieval long huts and more recent coal levels and quarries. A modern aviation beacon is positioned on top of the hill”. Both **BLNGWHL036** and **BLNGWHL029** are identified within LANDMAP as in fair condition with **CYNONHL005** being in good condition.

- 1.29 Just over 50% of each HLAA cross into the ZTV of the Proposed Development and thus has potential visibility to at least blade tips within the Proposed Development. The areas all comprise upland landscape character which can be considered large-vast in scale, and the Proposed Development would introduce new tall turbine elements to distant views. The Proposed Development would not affect those physical characteristics that are prominent components of their historic value, including extractive activities, and indirect effects upon their visual and contextual characteristics is reduced due to the distance to the development. Susceptibility to the Proposed Development would not exceed medium and sensitivity is considered to be Medium.
- 1.30 North-east of the Site only one HLAA is located within 5–10km at its closest point - **MNMTHHL059** (Estavarney and Kemeys Commander). This primarily comprises an irregular fieldscapes pattern but also includes woodland and settlement, and is described as “... a sub-landscape of the Usk Valley, and is essentially similar in landscape terms, the main distinction being the association of the area with monastic institutions, the Cistercians and the Kni’ht’s Templars.” Located c. 8km northeast of the Site it is valued as high in LANDMAP “as an interest’g ‘lowl’nd’ monastic grange landscape, as yet an understudied resource, with unassessed condition, otherwise moderate to high scores. As condition has been le’t ‘unasses’ed’, though is likely to be deemed at least moderate or high, an overall evaluation of high has been viewed as most realistic”. Although over 60% of the HLAA is within the ZTV for the Proposed Development, with its association with the Wye Valley, its main contextual connections are situated away from the direction of the Site. Susceptibility and sensitivity of the HLAA to the Proposed Development is considered low.
- 1.31 Continuing south, two LHAAA are located within 5–10km south-east of the Site at their closest points. **MNMTHHL053** (Tregrug – Llanhunog), and **TRFNHL002** (HL002 Edlogan and Tregrug) are both listed as predominantly irregular fieldscapes, of high value and good condition. **MNMTHHL053** is described as “an area of undulating hills characterised by irregular fieldscape and small stands of woodland. Settlement is typically of dispersed farmsteads, and a few small settlements with medieval church sites (early medieval foundations) located at road junctions, such as Llandegveth and Llanhennock; these appear to have evolved during the post-medieval period in linear fashion, though remained small-scale. The small post-mediev’l ‘nuclea’ed’ settlement of Common Coed-y-paen is located at the northeast corner of the area“. It contains SAM and its high value is attributed to “high levels of integrity, survival, condition, potential and rarity”. **TRFNHL002** is described as a “Medieval/post-medieval agricultural landscape with dispersed settlement of scattered farmsteads and small ecclesiastical/manorial centres. Wealth of early post-medieval vernacular buildings. Ancient woodland... Communication routes”. Its high value is attributed to “... the coherence of the fieldscape and settlement pattern in this



area ... and ... the survival of a series of exceptionally well-preserved early post-medieval vernacular buildings..”.

- 1.32 An average of just under 60% of these HLAA cross into the ZTV for the Proposed Development and as such, have potential visibility of the proposals. Due to the distance from the Site potential indirect effects on these HLAA would be reduced, but due to the high value and good condition the susceptibility of these HLAA to the Proposed Development would not exceed medium, with sensitivity also considered to be medium.
- 1.33 Due south-west of the Site between 5–10km there are six HLAA. three are classified as predominantly marginal land with one as irregular fieldscapes, one regular fieldscapes, and one designed. They are considered either high (2no.) or outstanding (4no.) value within LANDMAP. The HLAA of predominantly marginal land include **CYNONHL374** (Twmbarlwm and Medart), **CYNONHL556** (Mynydd Bach and Mynydd-y-Grug), and **CYNONHL831** (Gelligaer Common). **CYNONHL374** is described as a *“small aspect area [that] defines the two hills of Medart and Twmbarlwm”* and *“is currently under modern forestry; this was not always the case as the two hills were open moorland until the middle of the last century”*. Consequently, it is considered that the Proposed Development (where any affects would be indirect) would not affect its historic moorland character which has already changed to plantation and is said to have *“significantly detracted from the integrity of the landscape”*.
- 1.34 The Sensitivity of this HLAA is therefore considered to be medium at most. HLAA **CYNONHL556** is described as a *“large boot shaped aspect area, ... characterised by an irregular fieldscape dominated by Mynydd Machen to the east, Mynydd Dimlaith to the west and Mynydd Bach and Mynydd y Grug to the north. The Rhymni Valley Ridgeway, stretching from Upper Ochryth in the southeast to Maescymmer in the northwest, joins all but Mynydd Dimlaith together in an unbroken swath of upland pasture. The slopes of these hills tend to be enclosed, whilst the higher slopes and summits tend to remain unenclosed moorland”*. The northern fringes of the HLAA, associated with the tops and north-east facing aspects of Mynyddistwyn, Mynydd y Lan, and Mynydd Machen towards Upper Ochryth are located within the ZTV of the Proposed Development and represent just over 25% of the HLAA. Given its identification as outstanding value based on its *“remarkably diverse, multi-period upland landscape with particularly significant concentrations of prehistoric ritual/funerary monuments and medieval settlement sites”*, it is considered of very high value, and high sensitivity to the Proposed Development, which would add new tall turbine elements to distant north-east views for a small area of this HLAA.
- 1.35 Similarly, HLAA **CYNONHL831** (Gelligaer Common) comprises an upland landscape and is described as *“increasingly rare survival in Southeast Wales of an area of high upland moor rich in a diverse archaeological resource. The Common and the area lying immediately to the southeast, which is included in the registered landscape, is about 8km long and 1km wide and extends from the pivotal ancient settlement of Gelligaer in the southeast to the summits of Pen Garnbugail and Mynydd Fochriw in the northwest”*. A small area of the south-east fringe of this HLAA at Gelligaer Common is within the ZTV of the Proposed Development, with the remainder of the HLAA’s area within the ZTV located beyond 10km along Cefn Gelligaer further west. A total



of just under 60% of the HLAA extends within the ZTV and indirect views are likely to be possible from much of this area due to its open expansive nature. The Proposed Development would add new vertical elements to distant views representing small parts of wider panoramic views that would be available from across this upland ridge landscape, and susceptibility of the HLAA to the Proposed Development would not exceed medium, albeit remaining high sensitivity overall.

- 1.36 Also within 5–10km south-west of the Site, HSAA **CYNONHL602** (Nant Bargod Rhymni) and **CYNONHL634** (Gelligaer and Llancaiach) are classified as predominantly irregular and regular fieldscapes respectively and are located on slopes of undulating valleysides flanking HLAA **CYNONHL831**. **CYNONHL602** is described as a large rural aspect area “*characterised by an extensive irregular fieldscape, ancient and semi-natural woodland, modern forestry, a small lake and three settlement areas*”. It does contain SAM and is evaluated as high “*based on the fact that it represents an extensive, well-preserved irregular enclosed upland landscape, dominated by significant remains of medieval/post-medieval agricultural settlement and later 19th-20th century industrial extractive activity*”. Just over 40% of this HLAA extends within the ZTV for the Proposed Development and susceptibility would not exceed medium as new distant vertical elements in wide views. The **CYNONHL634** HLAA is described as a “*large enclosed landscape of irregular field-systems defines this aspect south of Gelligaer Common*”.
- 1.37 Views are less prominent from this HLAA given the level of containment by built form and vegetation, which are not included within the ZTV. Much less than the 50% of the aspect area that extends into the ZTV would have actual visibility of the Proposed Development, and where visible would form a small new element in distant views. The susceptibility of the HLAA to the Proposed Development would be medium. The final HLAA within 5-10km of the Site, **CYNONHL426** (Maes Manor Hotel) comprises a Designed parkland/garden landscape. LANDMAP describes it as “*situated on a south-facing slope above the Sirhowy valley Although set in a highly industrialized and built-up area, its immediate surroundings are rural and it is reached up a narrow lane from the main road in the valley bottom (Cadw 1994, 93)*”.
- 1.38 It comprises a formal garden which “*lies to the northeast, east and southeast of the house, on ground sloping gently to the south*”. The HLAA It is evaluated as outstanding due to the “*remarkably well preserved Edwardian formal garden designed by the eminent landscape architect T.W. Mawson, with virtually all of its structural and built components surviving intact, together with most of its original tree and herbaceous planting.*” This is a small HLAA and over 70% lies within the ZTV of the Proposed Development. Existing wind turbines located at Oakdale Business Park are present in the same direction of view (NE) as the Proposed Development, and where visible the new turbines would additional elements to views that are not uncharacteristic of existing views. It is considered the HLAA would be of medium susceptibility to the Proposed Development at most, where existing turbines are already components of the view where visible.



Table EDP 1.22: HLAA within 5–10km Assessment of Effects

HLAA Within 5–10km Summary Of Effects		
Value:	Susceptibility:	Overall Sensitivity:
Very High-High	Medium – Low	High – Low
Justification:		
<p>All of the HLAA within 5–10km of the Site at their closest point are high or outstanding in value. Due to the scale and proportion of the landscape that would be affected at medium to long range to HLAA within 5–10km, it's likely that the perceptual and other sensory qualities, where identified, would be affected.</p> <p>Given the levels of intervisibility, the worst case effects are considered to be for those aspect areas to the west of the Site. As a whole the susceptibility of these HLAA would not exceed medium but generally low.</p>		
Magnitude of Change:		
<p>The magnitude of landscape change on the aspect areas would be medium at most (partial alteration to one or more key characteristics; addition of elements that are evident but do not necessarily conflict with the key characteristics of the existing landscape).</p>		
Overall Effect:		
<p>Moderate and Significant at most (two HLAA), but generally Moderate/Minor to Minor and Not Significant. The nature of the indirect effects would be long-term (reversible), and adverse.</p>		

Assessment of Effects: HLAA within 10-15km

1.39 Twenty-four HLAA were identified within 10–15km of the Site at their closest point. **Table EDP 1.23** summarises key characteristics identified by LANDMAP for each HLAA.

Table EDP 1.23: Key Characteristics of HLAA Within 10–15km

(24) HLAA IN 10– 15KM	HLAA ID	HLAA NAME	HL_5	CONDITION (Q24)	SURVIVAL (Q36)
36	BLNGWHL001	HAA 1 Trefil Ddu	Marginal Land. Extractive	Good	High
37	BLNGWHL002	HAA 2 Nant Trefil Quarry	Other fieldscapes. Other Settlement. Extractive. Regular Fieldscapes	Poor	High
38	BLNGWHL005	HAA 3 Trefil	Marginal Land. Other Settlement. Extractive. Communications	Fair	High
39	BLNGWHL009	HAA 9 Brynmawr	Other Settlement. Processing/- Manufacturing. Communications. Recreational	Fair	High



(24) HLAA IN 10- 15KM	HLAA ID	HLAA NAME	HL_5	CONDITION (Q24)	SURVIVAL (Q36)
40	BLNGWHL026	HAA 26 Rhymney Hill	Marginal Land. Extractive	Good	High
41	BRCKNHL133	Mynydd Llangynidr	Extractive		High
42	CYNONHL290	Llanfabon and Llanbradach	Woodland	Unassessed	High
43	CYNONHL878	Mynyddau Eglwysilian a Meio	Marginal Land. Designed Landscape	Unassessed	Outstanding
44	MNMTHHL027	Usk	Nucleated Settlement. Communications. Military		Outstanding
45	MNMTHHL049	East Bergavenny	Regular Fieldscales. Nucleated Settlement. Non-nucleated Settlement. Other Settlement	Good	Outstanding
46	MNMTHHL051	Gaer-fawr: Escarpment and Hinterland	Woodland. Regular Fieldscales. Non-nucleated Settlement. Military. Designed Landscape	Good	Outstanding
47	MNMTHHL057	Nant Olway and Nant-y-wilcae	Regular Fieldscales. Other fieldscales. Horticulture. Woodland. Non-nucleated Settlement. Other Settlement. Communications. Designed Landscape. Recreational	Unassessed	High
48	MNMTHHL070	Usk Castle Park	Irregular Fieldscales. Horticulture. Woodland. Other Settlement. Military	Unassessed	High
49	MNMTHHL076	Llanarth	Irregular Fieldscales. Woodland. Nucleated	Good	High



(24) HLAA IN 10- 15KM	HLAA ID	HLAA NAME	HL_5	CONDITION (Q24)	SURVIVAL (Q36)
			Settlement. Other Settlement		
50	MNMTHHL077	Clytha Park	Irregular Landscape. Woodland. Other Settlement	Good	Outstanding
51	MNMTHHL079	Gwehelog and Trostre Common	Irregular Landscape. Woodland. Communications. Non-nucleated Settlement. Processing/Manufac turing	Good	High
52	MNMTHHL080	Tredunnoch	Irregular Landscape. Communications	Good	High
53	MNMTHHL081	Gwehelog and Trostre	Woodland. Other Settlement. Processing/Manufac turing. Non-nucleated Settlement	Good	High
54	MRTTHRHL013	HL013 Cwm Cothi	Irregular Landscape. Regular Landscape. Woodland. Marginal Land. Non-nucleated Settlement. Extractive. Communications	Unassessed	High
55	MRTTHRHL015	HL015 Gelligaer Common (west)	Marginal Land. Non- nucleated Settlement. Extractive. Communications	Fair	Outstanding
56	NWPRTL007	Park Farm	Regular Landscape. Woodland. Other Settlement. Military. Designed Landscape	Unassessed	High
57	NWPRTL015	Celtic Manor Golf Course	Woodland. Water and Wetland. Communications. Designed	Unassessed	Outstanding



(24) HLAA IN 10- 15KM	HLAA ID	HLAA NAME	HL_5	CONDITION (Q24)	SURVIVAL (Q36)
			Landscape. Recreational		
58	NWPRTHL016	Caerleon/ Isca Silurum	Regular Fieldscapes. Marginal Land. Water and Wetland. Nucleated Settlement. Other Settlement. Communications. Designed Landscape. Recreational	Good	Outstanding
59	NWPRTHL042	Beechwood Park	Woodland. Water and Wetland. Designed Landscape. Recreational	Fair	High

1.40 Of the 24 HLAA within 10–15km of the Site, 14 are valued as high and 10 as outstanding within LANDMAP. Condition ranges from poor to good with seven unassessed. Integrity and survival are similar and generally high or outstanding, whilst rarity varies from low to outstanding across the HLAA.

1.41 Seven HLAA are located north-west of the Site within this 10–15km area and are predominantly classed as marginal land with extractive patterns present to most and is the defining character of **BLNGWHL002** (HAA 2 Nant Trefil Quarry). The HLAA include **BLNGWHL001**, **BLNGWHL002**; **BLNGWHL005**, **BLNGWHL009**, **BLNGWHL026**, **BRCKNHL133**, and **MRTHRHL015**. Four of these HLAA are associated with high upland and moorland landscapes of unenclosed and vast or large scale, and of these, **BRCKNHL133** is located within the BBNP and as such is considered the highest landscape value of very high. The remaining two (**BLNGWHL005**, and **BLNGWHL009**) are settlement areas valued for their inherent architectural merit and settlement pattern rather than wider perceptual qualities. These HLAA vary in size and on average just under 55% (ranging from c.40% to 80%) of the respective HLAA are within the ZTV of the Proposed Development. Indirect visual effects are likely to be more apparent from upland HLAA with wide, distant views, whilst for settlement and quarry areas the dominant features are internal structures/elements. Where visible the Proposed Development would be seen as additional vertical elements and comprise new features in a small section of long distant views that are not uncharacteristic. The susceptibility and sensitivity of these HLAA to the Proposed Development would range from high to low.

1.42 7 HLAA are located north-east of the Site within this 10–15km area of Monmouthshire and are generally classed as predominantly irregular fieldscapes. The HLAA include **MMMTHHL049**,



MNMTHHL057, MNMTHHL070, MNMTHHL076, MNMTHHL077, MNMTHHL079, and MNMTHHL081. Three of these HLAA are characterised by designed landscapes including two that are designated as Registered Parks and Gardens and one that is associated with a former deer park around Usk Castle. One HLAA (**MNMTHHL079**) is characterised as ‘other settlement’ and described as “*Squatter’ type settlement providing agricultural labour to adjacent agricultural areas*”, whilst settlement pattern and fieldscapes is noted as important for **MNMTHHL049**, and **MNMTHHL057** comprises “*Low-lying and gently undulating agricultural land lying between Nant Olway./ Settlement in the area is predominantly of dispersed farmsteads...*”. **MNMTHHL081** on the other hand is characterised by “*medium to large irregular enclosures with significant stands of woodland*” and further notes “*the area is a significant example of estate managed landscape based on progressive woodland clearance and conversion to coppice woodland...*”.

- 1.43 A variety of HLAA landscape typologies are present within this area, most being intimate smaller scale or designed in nature where the focus is contained within the host HLAA. An average of just over 40% of the respective HLAAs are within the ZTV of the Proposed Development. Susceptibility of these HLAA to the Proposed Development which would form new vertical elements in distant views where available, is considered to be medium at most. Despite the presence of landscape designations across parts of these HLAA, the Proposed Development would not affect their principal qualities/characteristics markedly and their sensitivity is considered medium at most.
- 1.44 Seven HLAA are located south-east of the Site within this 10–15km area of Monmouthshire and are generally classed as predominantly irregular fieldscapes. The HLAA include **MNMTHHL027, MNMTHHL051, MNMTHHL080, NWPRTHL007, NWPRTHL015, NWPRTHL016, and NWPRTHL042** with each listed as either high or outstanding in LANDMAPs value assessment. Three are classified as predominantly nucleated settlement and include; “*the site of the Roman legionary fortress of Usk and that of the medieval and post-medieval urban settlement*” (**MNMTHHL027**) of outstanding value; “*Tredunnoch, with the secondary settlement of Newbridge-on-Usk, located in close proximity just east of the main early route between Caerleon and Usk, both now located within a conservation area*” (**MNMTHHL080**) considered of high value; and the ‘outstanding’ “*...urban landscape of great antiquity, and archaeological potential, centred on the Roman fortress at Caerleon and also including its immediate environs*” (**NWPRTHL016**). The majority of qualities listed concern the built environment within these areas, however, “*good views of the surrounding Usk valley*” away from the Site are noted for Tredunnoch (**MNMTHHL080**). Given the general internal focus of each of these HLAA or being towards the Usk valley, away from the Site, these HLAA are considered to be of low susceptibility to the Proposed Development. **MNMTHHL051**, comprising predominantly irregular fieldscapes, is a very large HLAA c.13km east of the Site at its closest point. It is described as “*dispersed settlement (now dominated by single farms set within their landholdings), and irregular fieldscape, ... and extensive areas of surviving Ancient Woodland, primarily located on the steeper slopes, such as the escarpment extending east and west of Gaer Fawr*”. **NWPRTHL007** is also identified as predominantly ‘irregular fieldscapes’ and described as a “*rural landscape of large regular fields to the north of the modern settlement at Caerleon*” and contains part of a former deer park and possible historic aqueduct.

- 1.45 In both cases views of the Proposed Development where obtainable would be considered a very minor element and would not affect the historic features contained within the HLAA, and as such, it is considered to have low susceptibility to the Proposed Development. **NWPRTHL015** (Celtic Manor Golf Course) is a recreational landscape described as a “*large predominantly designed landscape of great archaeological potential*”. Its outstanding value is based on “*the survival of exceptionally well-preserved remains relating to Roman settlement and industrial activity closely associated with the Roman legionary fortress of Caerleon*”. It is considered the HLAA would have very low susceptibility to the Proposed Development. The final HLAA within the south-eastern segment of HLAA5-10km from the Site is the designed landscape of **NWPRTHL042** (Beechwood Park), which is Grade II listed Registered Historic Park and Garden. Views are not noted within its description, and the Proposed Development is unlikely to affect its intrinsic intimate qualities and as such would be of low susceptibility to the Proposed Development.
- 1.46 Taken together an average of just under 50% (ranging from c.20%–80%) of each HLAA extends within the ZTV to blade tip of the Proposed Development. In reality visibility would be much less due to screening by intervening built form and vegetation, and where visible would form a minor distant element where the primary focus is likely to be away from the Site and within the Usk valley river system. As a whole susceptibility of HLAA 10–15km south-east of the Site would not exceed low and sensitivity would be medium at most.
- 1.47 Lastly there are three HLAA located 10–15km south-west of the Site at their closest point including **CYNONHL290** (Llanfabon and Llanbradach), **CYNONHL878** (Mynyddau Eglwysilan a Meio), and **MRTHRHL013** (HL013 Cwm Cothi). **CYNONHL290** and **MRTHRHL013** are both classed as primarily irregular fieldscapes of high value. **CYNONHL290** is described as “*An enclosed agricultural landscape bounded to the east by the Rhymni Valley transport corridor*” valued for its “*excellent preservation of the fieldscape ...*”. **MRTHRHL013** is described as “*varied fieldscape; regular enclosure pattern with some irregular elements indicating an evolved agricultural landscape. Medieval/post-medieval fields on generally south facing slopes surrounding Cwm-cothi dominate the fieldscape*” and continues that “*The dominant characteristic features on the higher ground in the area comprise cairns and cairnfields; these are largely funerary monuments of prehistoric date (Bronze Age), and include Scheduled Ancient Monuments (GM175 and GM270)*”. The susceptibility of the HLAA would be medium at most from elevated areas. **CYNONHL878** is predominantly marginal land described as “*enclosed aspect area of mountain moorland covering Cefn Eglwysilan, Mynydd Eglwysilan and Mynydd Meio*” and valued as outstanding, however, wind turbines and large pylons are already present within this HLAA reducing susceptibility to distant wind turbines.

Table EDP 1.24: HLA within 10–15km Assessment of Effects

HLAA within 10-15km Summary of Effects		
Value:	Susceptibility:	Overall Sensitivity:
Very High – High	High – Low	High – Medium
Justification:		
Given the levels of intervisibility with HLA within 10–15km in the round, the worst case effects are considered to be for those aspect areas to the north-west within and adjacent to the Brecon Beacons National Park.		
Magnitude of Change:		
The indirect landscape changes to the aspect areas would be low at most (Minor alteration to one or more key landscape characteristics; additional elements may not be uncharacteristic within existing landscape), but generally very low as barely discernible alteration to key components.		
Overall Effect:		
Moderate/Minor – Minor/Negligible and Not Significant . The nature of the indirect effects would be long-term (reversible), and adverse-neutral.		

Assessment of Effects: HLA within 15–20km

1.48 Eighteen HLA were identified within 15–20km of the Site at their closest point. **Table EDP 1.25** summarises key characteristics identified by LANDMAP for each HLA.

Table EDP 1.25: Key Characteristics of HLA Within 15–20km

(18) HLA IN 15-20KM	HLAA ID	HLAA NAME	HL_5	CONDITION (Q24)	SURVIVAL (Q36)
60	CYNONH L833	Llanwonno and Cwm Clydach	Woodland. Extractive	Unassessed	High
61	CYNONH L993	Mynydd Meio	Marginal Land. Designed Landscape	Unassessed	High
62	MNMTH HLO26	Raglan	Nucleated Settlement		Outstanding
63	MNMTH HLO34	White Castle	Other Settlement. Military		Outstanding
64	MNMTH HLO46	Three Castles	Regular Fieldscapes. Woodland. Other Settlement. Non-nucleated Settlement	Good	Outstanding
65	MNMTH HLO48	Monmouth Rural	Regular Fieldscapes. Woodland. Nucleated Settlement. Non-nucleated Settlement. Military	Good	Outstanding
66	MNMTH HLO50	Cwmcarnfan - Llansoy Hills	Regular Fieldscapes. Woodland. Nucleated Settlement. Other Settlement. Military. Designed Landscape	Good	High



(18) HLA IN 15- 20KM	HLAA ID	HLAA NAME	HL_5	CONDITION (Q24)	SURVIVAL (Q36)
67	MNMTH HL058	Wentwood Forest (surviving)	Irregular Fieldsapes. Other Settlement. Extractive. Processing/Manufacturing		Outstanding
68	MNMTH HL069	The Trothy Valley Transport Corridor	Irregular Fieldsapes. Woodland. Water and Wetland. Other Settlement. Designed Landscape		High
69	MNMTH HL074	Llantilio Crossenny	Irregular Fieldsapes. Woodland. Other Settlement	Good	High
70	MRTHRH L009	HL009 Pen March	Regular Fieldsapes. Reclaimed land. Water and Wetland. Non-nucleated Settlement. Extractive. Processing/Manufacturing. Communications	Fair	High
71	MRTHRH L011	HL011 Mynydd Merthyr and Mynydd Gethin	Regular Fieldsapes. Woodland. Marginal Land. Non-nucleated Settlement. Extractive. Communications	Unassessed	High
72	NWPRTH L009	Wentwood Forest	Horticulture. Woodland. Recreational	Unassessed	High
73	NWPRTH L014	Bishton and Wilcrick	Regular Fieldsapes. Woodland. Water and Wetland. Nucleated Settlement. Non-nucleated Settlement	Unassessed	High
74	NWPRTH L017	Nash/Goldclif f coastal zone	Irregular Fieldsapes. Reclaimed land. Water and Wetland. Nucleated Settlement. Designed Landscape	Unassessed	Outstanding
75	NWPRTH L019	Whitson	Regular Fieldsapes. Reclaimed land. Water and Wetland. Nucleated Settlement. Non-nucleated Settlement	Unassessed	Outstanding
76	NWPRTH L022	East Usk and Llanwern Industrial	Marginal Land. Reclaimed land. Water and Wetland. Non-nucleated Settlement. Processing/Manufacturing. Communications	Unassessed	High
77	NWPRTH L046	Kemeys House	Military. Designed Landscape	Good	High

- 1.49 Of the 18 HLAA within 15–20km of the Site, 11 are valued as high and 7 as outstanding within LANDMAP. Five are rated as good in condition, and one fair with the remainder ‘unassessed’. Integrity is classified as high or outstanding across the HLAA as is survival, but rarity is reduced to moderate for 9 of the 18 HLAA within this distance band with the remainder either high or outstanding.
- 1.50 Two HLAA are located north-west of the Site within this 15–20km area, **MRTHRHL009** (HL009 Pen March) and **MRTHRHL011** (HL011 Mynydd Merthyr and Mynydd Gethin), both classed as predominantly marginal land associated with upland terrain of high value. **MRTHRHL009** is described as “*marginal land traditionally used for upland grazing, and part of the extensive Merthyr Common. The area contains numerous water management features, part of the extensive, Dowlais Free Drainage System*”. **MRTHRHL011** is described as “*unenclosed upland pasture, marginal upland ridge straddling the boundary between Merthyr and Rhondda Cynon Tâf*”. It includes a Registered Historic Park and Garden, and notes “*Major landscape changes have resulted from the planting of areas of forestry, from on-going quarrying at Craig y Efail, and most recently from the construction of the A470(T) road which has effectively separated the slopes from the valley bottom to the east*”.
- 1.51 Despite having open aspects from elevated areas the presence of existing wind turbines and large pylons within these HLAA or intervening landscapes, reduces the susceptibility of these HLAA to the Proposed Development to low where additional elements are not uncharacteristic of the landscape. The Sensitivity of the HLAA to the Proposed Development would not exceed medium.
- 1.52 Seven HLAA are located in the north-eastern segment of this distance band within Monmouthshire. All are considered outstanding value within LANDMAP apart from **MNMTHHL050** (Cwmcarfan - Llansoy Hills), and **MNMTHHL069** (The Trothy Valley Transport Corridor) which are identified as high value. Three (**MNMTHHL046**, **MNMTHHL048**, and **MNMTHHL050**) are identified as predominantly irregular fieldscapes, associated with rural agriculture and dispersed settlements. The Proposed Development would not affect the principal characteristics of these HLAA particularly the inherent field patterns and features and susceptibility to the Proposed Development would be low. Two HLAA are predominantly associated with settlement. **MNMTHHL026** (Raglan) is identified as nucleated settlement and includes Raglan Castle and its “*extensive gardens and parkland*”. This is considered outstanding value overall and “*Its elaborate gardens too are of exceptional importance in a national context. Both the castle and gardens are clearly of great educational and amenity value*”. **MNMTHHL034** (White Castle) is a very small aspect area classified as other settlement situated on the summit of a low hill, which together with its immediate environs, “*may represent the site of a small, short-lived medieval urban settlement*”. No effects on their historic perceptual qualities are likely to result from the Proposed Development given the distance from the Site and intervening landscape features and susceptibility to the Proposed Development would be very low.
- 1.53 **MNMTHHL069** (The Trothy Valley Transport Corridor) lies just within 20km of the Site and is described as “*a major communication corridor including a stretch of the modern A40 trunk road which cuts through the low lying meadows within the valley*”. It also contains “*two significant*

*post-medieval parks and gardens, both registered” and is considered high value. Given the distance from the Site and busy developed nature of this LHAA as a whole susceptibility to the Proposed Development would not exceed low. HLAA **MNMTHHL074** (Llantilio Crossenny) is a distinct aspect area located c.18km north-east of the Site that includes a “small polyfocal settlement ... now a Conservation Area, and the associated Registered Historic Park & Garden of Llantilio Court (PGW (Gt) 7; Grade II) a late 18th/early 19th century landscape park with the remains of a terraced garden and walled kitchen garden, together with the park’s essential setting”. The Proposed Development would not alter the key characteristics of this HLAA and its susceptibility to the Proposed Development is considered low at most.*

- 1.54 Seven HLAA are located in the south-eastern segment of this distance band from the Site. Two are predominantly woodland in typology- **MNMTHHL058** and **NWPRTHL009**, which represent two adjacent HLAA associated with Wentwood Forest that covers two local authority areas. As an extensive area of dense woodland the Proposed Development would not affect its key characteristics. Susceptibility would be very low. Two HLAA (**NWPRTHL014** and **NWPRTHL019**) classified as predominantly regular fieldscapes are present within this area and associated with low lying and reclaimed land. Neither are likely to be affected by the Proposed Development and their susceptibility to the Proposed Development is considered to be very low. **NWPRTHL017** (Nash/Goldcliff coastal zone) is a HLAA on low lying land to the south of Newport and relates more closely to the coastal seascape of the Bristol channel rather than inland towards the Site, and who’s character would not be susceptible to the Proposed Development. Similarly, HLAA **NWPRTHL022** (East Usk and Llanwern Industrial), located south-east of Newport is greatly influenced by its industrial context and would not be affected by the Proposed Development. **NWPRTHL046** (Kemeys House) represents a very small HLAA and includes a Registered Historic Park and Garden. Views of the Proposed Development where possible would be distant and form a minor component of wider views. The HLAA is considered to be of low susceptibility to the Proposed Development.
- 1.55 Two further HLAA are located within 15-20km south-west of the Site at their closest point. **CYNONHL993** (Mynydd Meio) comprises predominantly marginal land and is described as “An enclosed aspect area of mountain moorland covering Cefn Eglwysilan, Mynydd Eglwysilan and Mynydd Meio”. As “remarkably well-preserved, discrete tract of mountainous moorland” its key characteristics would not be affected by the Proposed Development located c.17km north-east. **CYNONHL833** (Llanwonno and Cwm Clydach) is said to be “characterised as an agricultural landscape dominated by irregular fieldscape of drystone and hedged enclosures”, and “The decline in traditional upland agriculture and subsequent abandonment, dereliction and during the 20th century, afforestation, have all left a mark on the character of the area”. The Proposed Development would not influence these characteristics and low susceptibility to the Proposed Development is concluded.



Table EDP 1.26: HLAA Within 15–20km Assessment of Effects

HLAA Within 15-20km Summary Of Effects		
Value:	Susceptibility:	Overall Sensitivity:
High	Low – Very low	Medium at most
Justification:		
<p>Given the intervisibility with HLAA within 15–20km in the round, the worst case effects are considered to be for those aspect areas to the west. To the east and south-east the Usk Valley and Bristol channel impart much greater influence over the HLAA drawing attention away from inland areas in the direction of the Site. Overall the Proposed Development would be barely perceptible, not uncharacteristic and/or not affect key characteristics of the HLAA between 15–20m from the Site. The Sensitivity of HLAA in this area would be medium at most.</p>		
Magnitude of Change:		
<p>The indirect landscape changes to the aspect areas would be low at worst but generally very low as there would be ‘barely discernible alteration to key components; addition of elements not uncharacteristic within the existing landscape’ within these areas.</p>		
Overall Effect:		
<p>Minor - Negligible and Not Significant. The nature of the indirect effects would be long-term (reversible), and neutral.</p>		

Assessment of Effects: HLAA within 20–26km

Table EDP 1.27: Key Characteristics of HLAA Within 20–26km

(19) HLAA IN 20– 26KM	HLAA ID	HLAA NAME	HL_5	CONDITION (Q24)	SURVIVAL (Q36)
78	CRDFF HL005	Garth Upland	Irregular Fieldscapes. Marginal Land. Non-nucleated Settlement. Extractive. Communications	Unassessed	High
79	CRDFF HL011	Southwest Wentloog Level	Irregular Fieldscapes. Regular Fieldscapes. Reclaimed land. Water and Wetland. Non-nucleated Settlement. Communications	Fair	High
80	CRDFF HL012	Rumney Intertidal Zone	Regular Fieldscapes. Water and Wetland	Unassessed	High
81	CRDFF HL032	Cardiff Flats	Water and Wetland	Good	Outstanding
82	CRDFF HL049	Cardiff City Centre	Processing/Manufacturing	Good	High
83	CRDFF HL062	Adamsdown, Splott, Roath and Cathays Residential Area	Nucleated Settlement	Good	High



(19) HLAA IN 20– 26KM	HLAA ID	HLAA NAME	HL_5	CONDITION (Q24)	SURVIVAL (Q36)
84	CYNON HLO06	Penmoelallt	Woodland. Processing/ Manufacturing	Good	High
85	CYNON HL992	Mynydd Brith- weunydd	Woodland. Reclaimed land. Water and Wetland. Extractive. Marginal Land. Other Settlement	Unassessed	High
86	MNMT HHL00 1	Caldicot Level	Irregular Fieldscapes. Regular Fieldscapes. Reclaimed land. Water and Wetland		High
87	MNMT HHL00 2	Magor and Fen Edge	Reclaimed land. Water and Wetland. Non-nucleated Settlement. Other fieldscapes		High
88	MNMT HHL02 0	Trellech	Nucleated Settlement. Processing/Manufacturing. Military		High
89	MNMT HHL06 3	Trellech Plateau	Regular Fieldscapes. Woodland. Other Settlement. Processing/Manufacturing	Unassessed	High
90	MNMT HHL06 6	Chepstow Park Wood	Woodland	Good	Outstanding
91	MNMT HHL07 1	King's Wood	Extractive	Unassessed	Unassessed
92	MNMT HHL07 2	The Hendre	Irregular Fieldscapes. Woodland. Non-nucleated Settlement. Other Settlement. Recreational	Good	High
93	MNMT HHL07 3	Grace Dieu	Irregular Fieldscapes. Woodland. Other Settlement	Unassessed	High
94	MRTHR HLO06	HLO06 Cwm- glo and Bryn- y-Badell	Irregular Fieldscapes. Woodland. Marginal Land. Reclaimed land. Water and Wetland. Non-nucleated Settlement. Extractive. Communications	Fair	Outstanding
95	NWPRT HLO18	Redwick	Irregular Fieldscapes. Reclaimed land. Water and Wetland	Unassessed	Outstanding
96	NWPRT HLO47	Peterstone and the Portland Grounds	Marginal Land. Water and Wetland	Unassessed	Outstanding



1.56 Of the 19 HLAA within 20–26km of the Site, 10 are valued as high and 9 as outstanding within LANDMAP. Two are located north-west of the Site. **MRTHRHL006** is predominantly an extractive landscape and also described as a “*largely enclosed hillside*”, whilst **CYNONHL006** (Penmoelallt) is mainly wooded, and both are considered of very low susceptibility to the Proposed Development. Due north-east of the Site there are five HLAA, which are a mix of predominantly irregular fieldscapes (two), woodland (one), nucleated settlement (one) and a designed landscape (one). Due to the distance from the Site and any potential effects being limited to long distance views of the Proposed Development in a very small part of the south-western views their susceptibility to the Proposed Development would be low resulting in a medium sensitivity at most. South-east of the Site there are seven HLAA. One (**MNMTHHL066** -Chepstow Park Wood) is a deigned landscape and includes ancient woodland and deer park. The remainder are low-lying land that relate strongly to the Bristol Channel to their south and away from the Site. Two further HLAA are situated south-west of the Site namely **CRDFFHL005** (Garth Upland), and **CYNONHL992** (Mynydd Brith-weunydd). Both are associated with upland landscapes of predominantly marginal land. Any views of the Proposed Development from these areas would be distant and in the context of existing industry and clutter including extractive works, pylons, and turbines. Their susceptibility to the Proposed Development would therefore be greatly reduced.

Table EDP 1.28: HLAA within 20–26km Assessment of Effects

HLAA within 20–26km Summary of Effects		
Value:	Susceptibility:	Overall Sensitivity:
High	Very low	Medium - Low
Justification:		
Given the intervisibility with HLAA within 20–26km in the round, the worst-case effects are considered to be for those aspect areas to the west. To the east and south-east the Usk Valley and Bristol channel impart a much greater influence over the HLAA drawing attention away from inland areas in the direction of the Site. Overall the Proposed Development would be barely perceptible, not uncharacteristic and/or would not affect key characteristics of the HLAA between 15–20m from the Site.		
Magnitude of Change:		
The indirect landscape changes to the aspect areas would be very low at worst as there would be ‘barely discernible alteration to key components; addition of elements not uncharacteristic within the existing landscape’ within these areas.		
Overall Effect:		
Minor/Negligible and Not Significant at most. The nature of the indirect effects would be long-term (reversible), and neutral.		

HLAA Summary of Effects

1.57 ‘Host’ HLAA and HLAA groups within the study area have been assessed herein and the summary findings are set out below. To keep the scale of the study manageable, and to enable the assessor to draw conclusions on the likely effects on HLAA within the suggested study area set out by NRW, HLAA beyond the Site and site boundary were reviewed by group i.e. in distance bands between 0-5km, 5–10km and so on. The approach taken by the assessor was to find



comparisons and similarities within the LANDMAP summaries for HLAA within a given group, or indeed identify anomalies within a group to draw conclusions on the ranges of sensitivity and magnitude of change that could be considered worst case within a given band distance.

- 1.58 The study finds that of the groups appraised, likely significant effects were limited to host areas, and some HLAA within 10km from the nearest turbine proposed.
- 1.59 Non-host HLAA, i.e. HLAA within a group that were considered to have elevated or significant effects have been described within the body of this appendix. In summary, the majority of HLAA within 0–5km band distance (and within the ZTV to tip) would experience significant effects as a result of the proposals. Within 5–10km (and the ZTV to tip), very few were found to experience significant effects as a result of the proposals. Lastly, between 10–26km, none were found to experience significant effects, and it is considered very unlikely that there would be a perceived change to HLAA that would result in likely significant affects as a result of the Proposed Development assessed herein.
- 1.60 **Table EDP 1.29** provides the summary of effects for Host HLAA and the range of effects per HLAA group assessed. The nature of all indirect effects identified would be long-term (reversible), and adverse or neutral. Where direct landscape effects were identified (Host HLAA only) the nature of these effects physical would be permanent and adverse.

Table EDP 1.29: HLAA Summary of Effects

	HLAA ID	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Level of Effect	Significance
‘Host’ HLAA (Table EDP 1.2)	BLNGWHL025	High	Medium	Moderate	Significant
	BLNGWHL044	High	Very high	Major	Significant
	TRFNHL012	High	Very Low	Minor/- Negligible	Not Significant
	TRFNHL017	High	Very high	Major	Significant
	TRFNHL019	High	Very high	Major	Significant
0-5km	As in Table EDP 1.3	High - Low	Medium	Moderate to Minor	Significant to Not Significant
5-10km	As in Table EDP 1.4	High - Low	Medium	Moderate to Minor	Significant to Not Significant
10km+	As in Table EDP 1.5 to Table EDP 1.7	High - Low	Low to Very Low	Moderate/- minor to Minor/- Negligible	Not Significant