Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm
Appendix 6J: Schedule of Visual Effects on Settlements
edp6367_r029b_FINAL DRAFT

1.1 This appendix sets out the predicted visual effects of the Proposed Development for settlements within 2-15km of the nearest turbine proposed. The visual assessment has been conducted in accordance with the methodology included at **Appendix 6A** of the Environmental Statement.

1.2 **Appendix 6M** of the Environmental Statement sets out the predicted effects for residents within 2km of the nearest turbine proposed, and therefore these closest settlements are not assessed herein.

1.3 This appendix should be read in conjunction with the following figures which are included at **Appendix 6B** of the Environmental Statement:

- **Figure 6.20** Residential Groups within Blade Tip ZTV (2-15km).

1.4 **Table EDP 1.1** below describes the potential of the effects of the Proposed Development assessed herein.

Table EDP 1.1: Visual amenity schedule of effects at operation.

Settlement	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity	Assessment of Effects	Magnitude of Change	Effect
Settlements between 2 – 5km						
Abersychan	Medium to High	High	High	**Figure 6.20** indicates that the vast majority of Abersychan is likely to experience theoretical visibility of 1-7 blade tips of the Proposed Development. This settlement is located c.2.km NE of the Site. Review of these locations indicates that visibility would typically be restricted by adjacent dwellings, urban street trees and woodland. Residents have a high susceptibility to change and the views in the direction of the Site are assessed to be of a medium to high value, resulting in an overall High sensitivity. There is predicted to be a high magnitude of change from a number of locations within the northern areas of the settlement which would include 5+ turbines within views that will albeit, be broken up in views by intervening built form, topography and mature vegetation. However, the proximity and size of the wind turbines would form a notable addition to the view, but wouldn't be the primary focus. A high magnitude of change and a high sensitivity results in a **Major/Moderate** effect that would be long-term, reversible, adverse and **Significant**.	High	**Major/Moderate** Long-term Reversible Adverse **Significant**
Pen-twyn/Trinant	High	High	High	Pen-twyn and Trinant are located on elevated ground c.2.4km west of the Proposed Development and predicted to have 1-7 blade tips theoretically visible from the vast majority of the settlements (see **Figure 6.20**). Visibility of the Proposed Development is likely to increase for dwellings closer in distance to the proposals, due to reducing intervening built form and vegetation. Those dwellings at the eastern edges are likely to have fairly unrestricted views in the direction of the Proposed Development. Residents have a high susceptibility to change and the views in the direction of the Site are assessed to be of a high value, resulting in an overall high sensitivity. The magnitude of change would be high, resulting in a **Major/Moderate** effect that would be **Significant**. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	High	**Major/Moderate** Long-term Reversible Adverse **Significant**
Pontypool	Medium	High	High	**Figure 6.20** indicates that parts of Pontypool are likely to experience theoretical visibility of the Proposed Development. This large settlement is located c.3.1km east of the Site and forms an amalgamation of sub-settlements. Review of these locations indicates that visibility would be largely restricted by adjacent dwellings, urban street trees and woodland. Residents have a high susceptibility to change and the views in the direction of the Site are assessed to be of a medium to high value, resulting in an overall high sensitivity. There is predicted to be a medium magnitude of change from a number of locations within the settlement of Pontypool, which would include 5+ turbines within views that will albeit, be broken up, or in most instances, screened completely by intervening built form, topography and mature vegetation. However, the proximity and size of the wind turbines would form a notable addition to the view but wouldn't be the focus. A high magnitude of change and a high sensitivity results in a **Moderate** effect that would be long-term, reversible, adverse and **Significant**.	Medium	**Moderate** Long-term Reversible Adverse **Significant**
Crumlin	High	High	High	Crumlin is located c.3.8km SW of the Proposed Development and predicted to have 1-7 blade tips theoretically visible from its western slopes and north-eastern edge (see **Figure 6.20**). The western slope of the settlement and the orientation of properties allows for views in the direction of the Proposed Development, which are largely uninterrupted but partially screened by landform and mature vegetation, which would only ever limit visibility of the lower levels of the turbines. Residents have a high susceptibility to change and the views in the direction of the Site are assessed to be of a high value, resulting in an overall high sensitivity. The magnitude of change would be high, resulting in a **Major/Moderate** effect that would be **Significant**. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible, adverse and **Significant**.	High	**Major/Moderate** Long-term Reversible Adverse **Significant**

Settlement	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity	Assessment of Effects	Magnitude of Change	Effect
Swffryd	High	High	High	Swffryd is located 3.2km SW of the Proposed Development and predicted to have 6-7 blade tips theoretically visible from its western edge (see **Figure 6.20**). The settlement is situated on a SW facing hill and as such, visibility rapidly decreases SW with reducing elevation and views upslope to intervening built form and vegetation. Views are likely from Gordon Avenue in the direction of the Proposed Development, and also from streets from Lloyd to Aneurin Avenues. Visibility of the Proposed Development is likely to increase for dwellings closer in distance to the proposals, due to reducing intervening built form and vegetation. Residents have a high susceptibility to change and the views in the direction of the Site are assessed to be of a high value, resulting in an overall high sensitivity. The magnitude of change would be high, resulting in a **Major/Moderate** effect that would be **Significant**. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	High	**Major/Moderate** Long-term Reversible Adverse **Significant**
Newbridge	Medium	High	High	Newbridge lies c.4.6km SW of the Proposed Development. The ZTV at **Figure 6.20** predicts that 6-7 turbine blade tips will be visible from the SW edges of the settlement. Intervening field boundaries and mature vegetation within the landscape would generally restrict visibility at ground level from the settlement edge. There are, however, likely to be several locations where direct views from a limited number of dwellings to a number of turbines would be available. These would generally be views oriented over existing built development and towards settlement nestled on valley sides. Residents have a high susceptibility to change and the views in the direction of the Proposed Development are assessed to be of a medium value, resulting in an overall high sensitivity. There would be a medium magnitude of change for a small group, however there would be no views from the vast majority of dwellings from within the settlement looking towards the Proposed Development. There would be extremely localised parts of the settlement that would experience a **Moderate/Minor** effect (due to low overall change) that would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	Low	**Moderate/Minor** Long-term Reversible Adverse Not Significant
Oakdale	Low	High	Medium	Located c.5km SW of the Proposed Development, the vast majority of Oakdale is indicated to have theoretical visibility as illustrated by the ZTV (**Figure 6.20**). High density of residential buildings within the settlement restricts views of the Proposed Development from the majority of dwellings. Theoretical views of the Proposed Development from the northern edge of the settlement would be prevented by woodland. Residents would have a high susceptibility to change, whilst views in the direction of the Proposed Development are considered to be of low value, resulting a medium sensitivity. There would be a medium magnitude of change, however there would be no views from the vast majority of dwellings from within the settlement looking towards the Proposed Development. There would be extremely localised parts of the settlement that would experience a **Moderate/Minor** effect that would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	Medium	**Moderate/Minor** Long-term Reversible Adverse Not Significant
Abertillery	Low	Medium	Medium	Located 2.8km NW of the Proposed Development, this large settlement is predicted to have limited theoretical visibility of 0-6 turbine blade tips according to the ZTV within **Figure 6.20**. The vast majority of dwellings are outside of the ZTV, and those within are NE or SW facing, both away from the direction of the Proposed Development. The most likely opportunity for views in the direction of the Proposed Development arises when travelling SE on the linear road pattern in the direction of the Site. From these locations there are likely to be oblique, glimpsed views of the Proposed Development. These views across the settlement are considered of low value, whilst the susceptibility to change is medium resulting in a medium sensitivity. The magnitude of change is considered to be medium, given the lack of direct views from properties, resulting in a **Moderate/Minor** effect that would be long-term, reversible, adverse and Not Significant.	Medium	**Moderate/Minor** Long-term Reversible Adverse Not Significant

Settlement	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity	Assessment of Effects	Magnitude of Change	Effect
Settlements between 5 – 15km						
New Inn	Low	High	Medium	The majority of New Inn is predicted to have theoretical visibility of 6-7 turbine blades of the Proposed Development, located c.5.4km west of the settlement according to the ZTV (**Figure 6.20**). In the vast majority of places, views towards the Proposed Development would be limited by intervening built form and mature vegetation. Given the urbanised context of New Inn, nearby Pontypool and Cwmbran, and presence of urban form NW facing views, residents would have a high susceptibility to change, whilst views in the direction of the Site are considered to be of low value, with an overall sensitivity of medium. There would be (at most) a very low magnitude of change, which would result in a **Minor/Negligible** effect that would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	Very Low	**Minor/Negligible** Long-term Reversible Adverse Not Significant
Glascoed	High	Very High	Very High	Glascoed village is located c.8.4km east of the Proposed Development. The ZTV (**Figure 6.20**) indicates theoretical visibility of a varied 1-7 blade tips from this location. Mature vegetation cover within the settlement and the landscape would restrict views in the direction of the Site. Residents would have a very high susceptibility to change, whilst views in the direction of the Site are considered to be of high value, with an overall sensitivity of very high. There would be (at most) a very low magnitude of change, which would result in a **Moderate/Minor** effect and Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	Very Low	**Moderate/Minor** Long-term Reversible Adverse Not Significant
Monkswood	High	Very High	Very High	The dispersed village of Monkswood is located c.10.1km east of the Proposed Development. The ZTV (**Figure 6.20**) indicates theoretical visibility of 6-7 blade tips across the settlement, however mature wooded vegetation within and surrounding the settlement are likely to screen views in the direction of the Proposed Development. Residents would have a very high susceptibility to change, whilst views in the direction of the Site are considered to be of high value, with an overall sensitivity of very high. There would be (at most, if at all) a very low magnitude of change, which would result in a **Moderate/Minor** effect that would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	Very Low	**Moderate/Minor** Long-term Reversible Adverse Not Significant
Penpedairheol (Monmouthshire)	High	Very High	Very High	Penpedairheol village is located c.8.9km east of the Proposed Development. The ZTV (**Figure 6.20**) indicates theoretical visibility of a varied 1-7 blade tips from this location, with theoretical visibility increasing eastwards as elevation within the settlement increases. Mature vegetation cover within the settlement and the landscape would restrict views in the direction of the Site. Residents would have a very high susceptibility to change, whilst views in the direction of the Site are considered to be of high value, with an overall sensitivity of very high. There would be (at most) a very low magnitude of change, which would result in a **Moderate/Minor** effect that would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	Very Low	**Moderate/Minor** Long-term Reversible Adverse Not Significant
Blaina	Medium	Very High	High	The small linear town of Blaina is located c.5.9km NW of the Proposed Development. The settlement is confined to the valley floor and lower valley sides, as with much of the South Wales Valleys. The ZTV at **Figure 6.20** indicates theoretical visibility of 1-4 blade tips from the western valley side of the settlement, of which tend to face east or NE, towards the opposite side of the valley and away from the Proposed Development. Views towards the Site in any instance would be oblique and likely filtered or screened by intervening built form and mature vegetation. Residents would have a very high susceptibility to change, whilst views in the direction of the Site are considered to be of medium value, with an overall sensitivity of high. There would be (at most) a very low magnitude of change for a handful (if any) dwellings, which would result in a **Minor** effect that would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	Very Low	**Minor** Long-term Reversible Adverse Not Significant
Nantyglo	High	Very High	Very High	Nantyglo village is located just south of Beaufort and within Blaenau Gwent. The ZTV at **Figure 6.20** indicates there would be theoretical visibility of 1-2 blade tips within the settlement. Most dwellings are orientated east or west, with distant views available to the south in the direction of the Proposed Development. Residents would have a very high susceptibility to change, whilst views in the direction of the Site are considered to be of high value, with an overall sensitivity of very high. There would be (at most, if at all) a very low magnitude of change, which would result in a **Moderate/Minor** effect that would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	Very Low	**Moderate/Minor** Long-term Reversible Adverse Not Significant

Settlement	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity	Assessment of Effects	Magnitude of Change	Effect
Manmoel	High	Very High	Very High	Manmoel village is a small settlement located within a localised valley c.5.4km west of the Proposed Development. The ZTV (**Figure 6.20**) suggests that 6-7 blade tips would be visible from this group. However, the localised valley nature of the settlement and mature vegetation within the landscape creates a very enclosed, intimate landscape for the village, despite its elevated location. Residents would have a very high susceptibility to change, whilst views in the direction of the Site are considered to be of high value, with an overall sensitivity of very high. There would be (at most, if at all) a very low magnitude of change, which would result in a **Moderate/Minor** effect that would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	Very Low	**Moderate/Minor** Long-term Reversible Adverse Not Significant
Markham	Medium	Very High	High	Markham village is located c.6.5km west of the Proposed Development, on the west side of Sirhowy Valley. The ZTV (**Figure 6.20**) suggests that 6-7 blade tips would be visible from this group. Views towards the Proposed Development would be limited from the vast majority of the settlement, either by intervening nearby built form or mature wooded vegetation within the layers of the landscape. There are also a number of existing wind turbines closer to the settlement that span across views. Residents therefore have a very high susceptibility to change, whilst views in the direction of the Site are considered to be of medium value meriting and overall high sensitivity. There would be, at most a low magnitude of change, which would result in a **Moderate/Minor** effect that would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	Low	**Moderate/Minor** Long-term Reversible Adverse Not Significant
Argoed	Medium	Very High	High	The upper slopes of the linear village settlement of Argoed, c.5.7km west of the Proposed Development, lie within the ZTV (**Figure 6.20**) with 1-7 blade tips theoretically visible. Views towards the Proposed Development would be extremely limited from the vast majority of the settlement, either by intervening nearby built form or mature wooded vegetation within the layers of the landscape. Residents therefore have a very high susceptibility to change, whilst views in the direction of the Site are considered to be of medium value meriting and overall high sensitivity. There would be (at most) a very low magnitude of change to views from this settlement, which would result in a **Minor** effect that would be Not Significant. The nature of the effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	Very Low	**Minor** Long-term Reversible Adverse Not Significant
Bargoed	Medium	High	High	Bargoed is located c.9.4km west of the Proposed Development, with limited visibility predicted according to the ZTV (**Figure 6.20**), of which 1-7 blade tips may be visible from the western valley slope it is located upon. Views towards the Proposed Development would be limited from the vast majority of the settlement, either by intervening nearby built form or mature wooded vegetation within the layers of the landscape. Residents would have a high susceptibility to change, whilst views in the direction of the Site are considered to be of medium value, with an overall sensitivity of high. There would be (at most, if at all) a very low magnitude of change, which would result in a **Minor** effect that would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	Very Low	**Minor** Long-term Reversible Adverse Not Significant
Penpedairheol (Caerphilly)	Medium	Medium	Medium	This settlement is located c.9.8km SW of the Proposed Development. The majority of the settlement lies within the ZTV (**Figure 6.20**) with 6-7 blade tips theoretically visible. Views towards the Proposed Development would be limited from the vast majority of the settlement, either by intervening nearby built form or mature wooded vegetation within the layers of the landscape. There are also a number of existing wind turbines closer to the settlement that span across views. Residents therefore have a medium susceptibility to change, whilst views in the direction of the Site are considered to be of medium value meriting and overall medium sensitivity. There would be (at most) a very low magnitude of change to views from this settlement, which would result in a **Minor/Negligible** effect that would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	Very Low	**Minor/Negligible** Long-term Reversible Adverse Not Significant

Settlement	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity	Assessment of Effects	Magnitude of Change	Effect
Blackwood	Medium	Medium	Medium	Blackwood town is located c.7.7km west of the Proposed Development, with the western areas of the settlement predicted to have theoretical visibility of 6-7 blade tips as illustrated by the ZTV (**Figure 6.20**). Views towards the Proposed Development from this location look towards and over residential built form that characterises the area and settled valley. The susceptibility to change for this group of residential receptors is considered to be medium, whilst views in the direction of the Proposed Development are of medium value, leading to a medium sensitivity. In the vast majority of views, built form and existing mature vegetation would limit views towards the Proposed Development. Greater opportunity for views of the Proposed Development arises from elevated locations where road routes are in the direction of the Site, or from areas of public open space. The magnitude of change is however considered to be low, which when combined with a medium sensitivity, results in a **Minor** effect that would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	Low	**Minor** Long-term Reversible Adverse Not Significant
Pontllanfraith	Medium	Medium	Medium	Pontllanfraith is located c.7km SW of the Proposed Development, with the vast majority of the settlement predicted to have theoretical visibility of 6-7 blade tips as illustrated by the ZTV (**Figure 6.20**). Views towards the Proposed Development from this location are generally limited by adjacent residential built form that characterises the area and settled valley, coupled with gentle rolling topography. The susceptibility to change for this group of residential receptors is considered to be medium, whilst views in the direction of the Proposed Development are of medium value, leading to a medium sensitivity. In the vast majority of views, built form and existing mature vegetation would limit views towards the Proposed Development. Greater opportunity for views of the Proposed Development arises from elevated locations where road routes are in the direction of the Site, or from areas of public open space. The magnitude of change is however considered to be low, which when combined with a medium sensitivity, results in a **Minor** effect that would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	Low	**Minor** Long-term Reversible Adverse Not Significant
Maesycwmmer	Medium	Medium	Medium	The upper slopes of the settlement of Maesycwmmer, c.10km SW of the Proposed Development, lie within the ZTV (**Figure 6.20**) with 1-7 blade tips theoretically visible. Views towards the Proposed Development would be extremely limited from the vast majority of the settlement, either by intervening nearby built form or mature wooded vegetation within the layers of the landscape. There are also a number of existing wind turbines closer to the settlement that span across views. Residents therefore have a medium susceptibility to change, whilst views in the direction of the Site are considered to be of medium value, meriting an overall medium sensitivity. There would be (at most) a very low magnitude of change to views from this settlement, which would result in a **Minor/Negligible** effect that would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	Very Low	**Minor/Negligible** Long-term Reversible Adverse Not Significant
Gilfach	High	Very High	Very High	Gilfach is located c.8.4km SW of the Proposed Development, with limited visibility predicted according to the ZTV (**Figure 6.20**), of which 1-6 blade tips may be visible from a small number of dwellings west of the settlement on elevated ground. Views towards the Proposed Development would be limited from the vast majority of the settlement, either by intervening nearby built form or mature wooded vegetation within the layers of the landscape. Residents would have a very high susceptibility to change, whilst views in the direction of the Site are considered to be of high value, with an overall sensitivity of very high. There would be (at most, if at all) a very low magnitude of change, which would result in a **Moderate/Minor** effect that would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	Very Low	**Moderate/Minor** Long-term Reversible Adverse Not Significant
Tir-y-berth	Medium	Medium	Medium	Tir-y-berth village is located c.1.6km west of Blackwood and c.9.2km SW of the Proposed Development, with limited visibility predicted according to the ZTV (**Figure 6.20**), of which 1-4 blade tips may be visible from a small number of dwellings west of New Road (A469). Views towards the Proposed Development would be limited from the vast majority of the settlement, either by intervening nearby built form or mature wooded vegetation within the layers of the landscape. There are also a number of existing wind turbines closer to the settlement that span across views. Residents therefore have a medium susceptibility to change, whilst views in the direction of the Site are considered to be of medium value meriting and overall medium sensitivity. There would be (at most) a very low magnitude of change to views from this settlement, which would result in a **Minor/Negligible** effect that would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	Very Low	**Minor/Negligible** Long-term Reversible Adverse Not Significant

Settlement	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity	Assessment of Effects	Magnitude of Change	Effect
Croesyceiliog	Medium	Medium	Medium	It is indicated that 1-7 blade tips may be visible from the eastern edge of the suburb of Cwmbran (**Figure 6.20**) located c.7.3km SE of the Proposed Development, however in reality, built form within the settlement and mature vegetation cover within the landscape, in combination with rolling landform would restrict views in the direction of the Site. Residents would have a medium susceptibility to change, whilst views in the direction of the Site are considered to be of medium value, with an overall sensitivity of medium. There would be (at most) a very low magnitude of change, which would result in a **Minor/Negligible** effect that would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	Very Low	**Minor/Negligible** Long-term Reversible Adverse Not Significant
Settlements between 10km – 15km						
Ystrad Mynach	Low	High	Medium	A small area of the western edge of Ystrad Mynach is predicted to have theoretical visibility of the Proposed Development (**Figure 6.20**). In the vast majority of places, views towards the Proposed Development would be limited by intervening built form and mature vegetation. Given the urbanised context of Ystrad Mynach and its valley and presence of urban form NE facing views, residents would have a high susceptibility to change, whilst views in the direction of the Site are considered to be of low value, with an overall sensitivity of medium. There would be (at most) a very low magnitude of change, which would result in a **Minor/Negligible** effect that would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	Very Low	**Minor/Negligible** Long-term Reversible Adverse Not Significant
Nelson	High	Very High	Very High	From the village of Nelson, 1-7 blade tips are predicted to be visible. Nelson is located c.13.2km west (**Figure 6.20**). The SE extent of the village is located on higher ground than the rest of the settlement and is predicted to have visibility of 6-7 blade tips compared with the rest of the settlement. The majority of this group are orientated in a NW or SE direction, away from the Proposed Development, whilst those dwellings with a west or NW front or rear facing elevation are likely to have screened views by adjacent built form or mature vegetation which encloses this residential area to the east. Further east, a series of mature wooded field boundaries provide further screening. Woodland further to the east at Penallta is also likely to add a further layer of screening. The western part of the settlement is also considered very unlikely to experience views of the Proposed Development due to a combination of intervening topography, coupled with intervening built form and vegetation. Residents would have a very high susceptibility to change, whilst views in the direction of the Site are considered to be of high value, with an overall sensitivity of very high. There would be (at most) a very low magnitude of change, which would result in a **Moderate/Minor** effect that would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	Very Low	**Moderate/Minor** Long-term Reversible Adverse Not Significant
Hengoed and Cefn Hengoed	Medium	Medium	Medium	These two adjoining settlements are located 9.8km SW of the Proposed Development. The majority of both settlements lie within the ZTV (**Figure 6.20**) with 6-7 blade tips theoretically visible. Views towards the Proposed Development would be extremely limited from the vast majority of the settlement, either by intervening nearby built form or mature wooded vegetation within the layers of the landscape, particularly woodland located on higher ground at Fair View, Pontllanfraith. Considerable areas of built form also appear present within the view on the opposite side of the valley and into the distance in the direction of the Proposed Development. There are also a number of existing wind turbines closer to the settlement that span across views. Residents therefore have a medium susceptibility to change, whilst views in the direction of the Site are considered to be of medium value meriting and overall medium sensitivity. There would be (at most) a very low magnitude of change to views from this settlement, which would result in a **Minor/Negligible** effect that would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	Very Low	**Minor/Negligible** Long-term Reversible Adverse Not Significant

Settlement	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity	Assessment of Effects	Magnitude of Change	Effect
Gelligaer and Penybryn	Medium	Medium	Medium	These two adjoining settlements are located 10.8km SW of the Proposed Development. The majority of both settlements lie within the ZTV (**Figure 6.20**) with 6-7 blade tips theoretically visible. Views towards the Proposed Development would be extremely limited from the vast majority of the settlement, either by intervening nearby built form or mature wooded vegetation within the layers of the landscape, particularly woodland located on higher ground at Blackwood. Considerable areas of built form also appear present within the view on the opposite side of the valley and into the distance in the direction of the Proposed Development. There are also a number of existing wind turbines closer to the settlement that span across views. Residents therefore have a medium susceptibility to change, whilst views in the direction of the Site are considered to be of medium value meriting and overall medium sensitivity. There would be (at most) a very low magnitude of change to views from this settlement, which would result in a **Minor/Negligible** effect that would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	Very Low	**Minor/Negligible** Long-term Reversible Adverse Not Significant
Tredegar	Medium	Very High	High	Tredegar is located c.11.5km NW of the Proposed Development. Only an extremely small proportion of the settlement falls within the ZTV as illustrated by **Figure 6.20**, of which there would only be 1-2 blade tips theoretically visible. Residents would have a very high susceptibility to change, whilst views in the direction of the Site are considered to be of medium value, with an overall sensitivity of high. There would be (at most) a very low magnitude of change for a handful (if any) dwellings, which would result in a **Minor** effect that would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	Very Low	**Minor** Long-term Reversible Adverse Not Significant
Beaufort	High	Very High	Very High	Beaufort is a village at the north-eastern edge of Ebbw Vale, located c.11km NW of the Proposed Development. The ZTV at **Figure 6.20** indicates there will be theoretical visibility of 3-4 blade tips at the eastern edge of this settlement. Most dwellings are orientated north or south, with distant views available to the south in the direction of the Proposed Development. Residents would have a very high susceptibility to change, whilst views in the direction of the Site are considered to be of high value, with an overall sensitivity of very high. There would be (at most) a very low magnitude of change, which would result in a **Moderate/Minor** effect that would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	Very Low	**Moderate/Minor** Long-term Reversible Adverse Not Significant
Brynmawr	High	Very High	Very High	Brynmawr town is located just east of Beaufort and within Blaenau Gwent. The ZTV at **Figure 6.20** indicates there would be theoretical visibility of 1-2 blade tips at the western edge of this settlement. Most dwellings are orientated north or south, with distant views available to the south in the direction of the Proposed Development. Residents would have a very high susceptibility to change, whilst views in the direction of the Site are considered to be of high value, with an overall sensitivity of very high. There would be (at most) a very low magnitude of change, which would result in a **Moderate/Minor** effect that would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	Very Low	**Moderate/Minor** Long-term Reversible Adverse Not Significant
Betts Newydd	High	Very High	Very High	Bettws Newydd village is located c.12km east of the Proposed Development. The ZTV (**Figure 6.20**) indicates theoretical visibility of a varied 1-7 blade tips from this location, which is primarily due to the undulating nature of the settlement. Residents would have a very high susceptibility to change, whilst views in the direction of the Site are considered to be of high value, with an overall sensitivity of very high. In reality, views towards the Proposed Development are contained by the presence of mature wooded vegetation within the settlement and the nearby context to the west (Alice Springs Golf Club). There would be (at most) a very low magnitude of change, which would result in a **Moderate/Minor** effect that would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	Very Low	**Moderate/Minor** Long-term Reversible Adverse Not Significant
Gwehelog	High	Very High	Very High	Gwehelog village is located c.14.3km east of the Proposed Development. The ZTV (**Figure 6.20**) indicates that 1-6 blade tips could theoretically be visible from this location. Residents would have a very high susceptibility to change, whilst views in the direction of the Site are considered to be of high value, with an overall sensitivity of very high. Views towards the Proposed Development are contained by the presence of mature wooded vegetation within the settlement and the nearby rolling landform context to the west. There would be (at most) a very low magnitude of change, which would result in a **Moderate/Minor** effect that would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	Very Low	**Moderate/Minor** Long-term Reversible Adverse Not Significant

Settlement	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity	Assessment of Effects	Magnitude of Change	Effect
Llantrisant	High	Very High	Very High	Located c.14.9km east of the Proposed Development, Llantrisant village is shown within the ZTV (**Figure 6.20**) to have theoretical visibility of 1-2 blade tips. The low-lying nature of the settlement, mature vegetation within the settlement and aligning stream corridors and enclosure by valley sides ensures that outward visibility is extremely limited, particularly in the direction of the Proposed Development. Residents would have a very high susceptibility to change, whilst views in the direction of the Site are considered to be of high value, with an overall sensitivity of very high. There would be (at most) a very low magnitude of change, which would result in a **Moderate/Minor** effect that would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	Very Low	**Moderate/Minor** Long-term Reversible Adverse Not Significant
Llanllowell	High	Very High	Very High	Similar to the assessment on Llantrisant village above, Llanllowell village is located c.14.9km east of the Proposed Development and is shown within the ZTV (**Figure 6.20**) to have theoretical visibility of 3-4 blade tips. The low-lying nature of the settlement, mature vegetation within the settlement and aligning stream corridors and enclosure by valley sides ensures that outward visibility is extremely limited, particularly in the direction of the Proposed Development. Residents would have a very high susceptibility to change, whilst views in the direction of the Site are considered to be of high value, with an overall sensitivity of very high. There would be (at most) a very low magnitude of change, which would result in a **Moderate/Minor** effect that would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	Very Low	**Moderate/Minor** Long-term Reversible Adverse Not Significant
Tredunnock	High	Very High	Very High	The small settlement of Tredunnock falls within the ZTV at **Figure 6.20** of which 3-4 blade tips may be theoretically visible. The settlement itself is located c.14.5km east-SE of the Proposed Development. Mature vegetation cover within the settlement and the landscape would restrict views in the direction of the Site. Residents would have a very high susceptibility to change, whilst views in the direction of the Site are considered to be of high value, with an overall sensitivity of very high. There would be (at most) a very low magnitude of change, which would result in a **Moderate/Minor** effect that would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	Very Low	**Moderate/Minor** Long-term Reversible Adverse Not Significant
Llandegveth	High	Very High	Very High	Within **Figure 6.20** it is indicated that 6-7 turbine blades would be visible from the small hamlet of Llandegveth, located c.10.4km SE of the Proposed Development. From the vast majority of dwellings, there is little opportunity for views in the direction of the Proposed Development due to property orientations (mostly SW or NE) as well as mature vegetation within curtilages and the surrounding area. Rolling landform and mature vegetation between the hamlet and the Proposed Development are likely to obscure views of the Proposed Development. Residents would have a very high susceptibility to change, whilst views in the direction of the Site are considered to be of high value, with an overall sensitivity of very high. There would be (at most) a very low magnitude of change, which would result in a **Moderate/Minor** effect that would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	Very Low	**Moderate/Minor** Long-term Reversible Adverse Not Significant
Roughton	High	Very High	Very High	It is indicated within **Figure 6.20** that 6-7 turbine blades would be visible from the small hamlet of Roughton, located c.10.4km SE of the Proposed Development. From the vast majority of dwellings, there is little opportunity for views in the direction of the Proposed Development due to property orientations, as well as mature vegetation within curtilages and the surrounding area. Rolling landform and mature vegetation between the hamlet and the Proposed Development are likely to obscure views of the Proposed Development. Residents would have a very high susceptibility to change, whilst views in the direction of the Site are considered to be of high value, with an overall sensitivity of very high. There would be (at most) a very low magnitude of change, which would result in a **Moderate/Minor** effect that would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	Very Low	**Moderate/Minor** Long-term Reversible Adverse Not Significant
Llanhennock	High	Very High	Very High	The small settlement of Llanhennock falls within the ZTV at **Figure 6.20** of which 5-6 blade tips may be theoretically visible. The settlement itself is located c.13.2km SE of the Proposed Development. Mature vegetation cover within the landscape would restrict views in the direction of the Site. Residents would have a very high susceptibility to change, whilst views in the direction of the Site are considered to be of high value, with an overall sensitivity of very high. There would be (at most) a very low magnitude of change, which would result in a **Moderate/Minor** effect that would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	Very Low	**Moderate/Minor** Long-term Reversible Adverse Not Significant

Settlement	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity	Assessment of Effects	Magnitude of Change	Effect
Caerleon	Medium	High	High	The ZTV at **Figure 6.20** indicated theoretical visibility from the northern edge of Caerleon, a town at the edge of Newport. The town is located c.12.2km SE of the Proposed Development. It is indicated that 3-4 blade tips may be visible from this edge, however in reality, built form within the settlement edge and mature vegetation cover within the landscape would restrict views in the direction of the Site. Given the urbanised context of Caerleon and presence of urban form in north facing views, residents would have a high susceptibility to change, whilst views in the direction of the Site are considered to be of medium value, with an overall sensitivity of high. There would be (at most) a very low magnitude of change, which would result in a **Minor** effect that would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	Very Low	**Minor** Long-term Reversible Adverse Not Significant
Ponthir	Medium	Very High	High	It is indicated that 3-4 blade tips may be visible from this village (**Figure 6.20**) located c.11.4km SE of the Proposed Development, however in reality, built form within the settlement and mature vegetation cover within the landscape, in combination with rolling landform, would restrict views in the direction of the Site. Residents would have a very high susceptibility to change, whilst views in the direction of the Site are considered to be of medium value, with an overall sensitivity of high. There would be (at most) a very low magnitude of change, which would result in a **Minor** effect that would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	Very Low	**Minor** Long-term Reversible Adverse Not Significant
Usk	Medium	Very High	High	Usk town is located c.12.8km east of the Proposed Development. With reference to the ZTV at **Figure 6.20** only localised parts of the settlement indicate theoretical visibility of the Proposed Development, however in reality, built form within the settlement and mature vegetation cover within the landscape, in combination with rolling landform, would restrict views in the direction of the Site. Residents would have a very high susceptibility to change, whilst views in the direction of the Site are considered to be of medium value, with an overall sensitivity of high. There would be (at most) a very low magnitude of change, which would result in a **Minor** effect that would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, reversible and adverse.	Very Low	**Minor** Long-term Reversible Adverse Not Significant

1.5 In summary, the potential effects on settlements within 2-15km has been assessed above and the findings show that five settlements were considered to have significant effects as a result of the proposals. These settlements are limited to within 5km of the nearest turbine proposed at their closest point and include Abersychan, Pen-twyn/Trinant, Pontypool, Crumlin, and Swffryd. The significant effects predicted range from **Major/Moderate** to **Moderate** adverse. As is the nature of settlement patterns in the South Wales Valleys, built form follows the pattern of the topography, therefore in some instances, views can be open or completely enclosed by built form within the settlements themselves. The magnitude of change reported for a given settlement is considered the worst case. The ZTV to tip is based on bare earth modelling, therefore it does not take into account the screening effects of vegetation or built form. Although some ground truthing was carried out to supplement the assessment, desktop research was relied upon to keep the study proportionate, and it is likely that the screening effects of vegetation, as well as built form, could further reduce the effects reported.

1.6 **Appendix 6M** considers the anticipated effects on residential groups within 2km of the nearest turbine proposed. The findings show that significant effects would be experienced in parts of Pontnewynydd, Pantygasseg, Llanhilleth, and Brynithel, which are all settlements within 2km of the nearest turbine proposed.