TECHNICAL APPENDIX 5.9: VISUAL ASSESSMENT TABLES

1 Technical Appendix 5.9: Visual Assessment Tables

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 This Technical Appendix provides an assessment of changes to views from Viewpoints (VPs), Residential Receptor Locations (RRLs), and Routes scoped into the visual assessment of the Proposed Varied Development. It includes a summary of the assessment of the findings of the 2021 EIAR and assessment of the likely changes in effects as a result of the proposed increase in turbine height.

1.1.2 The visual assessment for the 2021 EIAR included a series of 21 viewpoints (VPs), residential areas, and transport and recreational routes. Significant visual effects were identified from six VPs, five Residential Receptor Locations (RRLs), and four Routes (Rs), all of which are included in the visual assessment of the Proposed Varied Development. In addition to these, the visual assessment of the Proposed Varied Development also considers receptor locations where Minor to Moderate effects were previously identified, as well as other visually sensitive areas highlighted by initial ZTV mapping and wirelines, which indicated increased visibility and the potential for greater impacts compared to the Consented Development. Detailed information on the rationale for those locations included in the visual assessment is included in Appendix 5.2: Summary of Scoping Process.

1.1.1 VPs are shown on Figure 5.6 (a larger version is presented on Figure 5.7), RRLs and Routes are shown on Figure 5.8.

1.2 Viewpoint Assessment

Table 1.2.1: Viewpoint Assessment

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
VP1 **2021 EIAR and 2022 AIR**	**A836 above the Crask Inn** (NC 52294 25050) Representative of views obtained by travellers on the public road, residents and visitors at Crask and more broadly of middle distance views obtained from the north.	Slightly elevated, panoramic views across peatland landscape to south and west. Ben More Assynt forms a focal point in the westerly view. Existing Achany and Rosehall wind turbines are distant on the southern skyline. Coniferous shelterbelt screens northerly views and filters views towards Klibreck to north-east. Young forest plantation is present in views to the south. Though this does not currently affect the distant view it would be expected to over time.	15.63km	Turbines would appear in the south-westerly view on the skyline. Seen in the context of existing Achany and Rosehall turbines but slightly larger and closer. Extending wind turbines further westwards in the view, towards Ben More Assynt. The wind turbines would be perceptible but considered unlikely to distract from the existing panoramic qualities of the view or the focus of Ben More Assynt. Following the removal of T20, the horizontal spread of the wind farm would be reduced, creating a larger gap between it and the existing Achany and Rosehall turbines. The removal of T10, the most elevated turbine from this viewpoint, would lower the overall elevation, resulting in a small improvement to the visual composition.	Medium - High	Hubs – ~~7~~ 5 Tips – ~~17~~ 15	Low	Low	Minor (not significant)	Minor (not significant)

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
VP1 **Proposed Varied Development**	**A836 above the Crask Inn**	No change to the distance to the nearest visible turbine since EIAR 2021. The Creag Riabhach wind turbines have been constructed since the 2021 EIAR and 2022 AIR were undertaken. A number of the turbines of this development would be clearly visible in views northward from this VP.		There would be no change to the context of the view within which the Proposed Varied Development would be seen. However, due to the increased height of the turbines, the Proposed Varied Development would appear more noticeable than the Consented Development and the existing Achany and Rosehall wind farms. Larger numbers of hubs would be visible above the skyline, slightly reinforcing their presence. Although the Proposed Varied Development turbines would become more of a focus in views southwest, they are unlikely to distract from the existing panoramic qualities of the landscape or the focal point of Ben More Assynt.	Medium - High	Hubs – 11 Tips – 16	Low	Low	Minor (not significant)	Minor (not significant)

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
VP2 **2021 EIAR and 2022 AIR**	**A836 bridge by Dalnessie entrance** (NC 57475 13940) Representative of views obtained by travellers / recreational users of public road and track and more generally of westerly views at closer middle distance.	Low elevation, open and panoramic views across the peatland landscape to the west, but limited by woodland and forest to east. Existing turbines of Achany and Rosehall wind farms are present on the skyline to the south-west. Small areas of coniferous and mixed woodland and isolated properties form focal points.	11.67km	Turbines would be present on the skyline to the west-south-west, stretching the appearance of existing wind turbines in the view further to the west. Turbines would sit at a low point between hills. They would form a noticeable feature but are considered unlikely to distract from the existing panoramic qualities of the view, appearing to the rear of existing, closer focal points such as woodlands and properties. Views from this location would be typically passing in nature, obtained by road users. The removal of T10 and T20 slightly reduces the horizontal spread of turbines, and eliminates a small, separate area of visibility where T20 tip would have appeared over the ridge, however there would be no change to the level of effect.	Medium	Hubs – ~~7~~ 6 Tips – ~~14~~ 12	Medium	Medium	Minor to Moderate (not significant)	Minor to Moderate (not significant)

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
VP2 **Proposed Varied Development**	**A836 bridge by Dalnessie entrance**	No change to the visual baseline and distance to the nearest visible turbine since EIAR 2021.		Due to the increase in turbine height, the eastern turbines of the Proposed Varied Development would appear more clearly on the skyline, bringing them slightly closer to the existing turbines. The hills to the south-west and west would no longer appear to contain the main cluster of turbines. The Proposed Varied Development would appear slightly more noticeable than the Consented Development, but is considered unlikely to distract from the existing panoramic qualities of the view, appearing to the rear of existing, closer focal points such as woodlands and properties. Views from this location would be typically passing in nature, obtained by road users.	Medium	Hubs – 10 Tips – 15	Medium	Medium	Minor to Moderate (not significant)	Minor to Moderate (not significant)
VP3	VP3 has been scoped out from further assessment. Minor (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from VP3 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									
VP4	VP4 has been scoped out from further assessment. Negligible (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from VP4 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
VP5 **2021 EIAR and 2022 AIR**	**Ben Hee** (NC 42655 33931) Representative of views obtained by hillwalkers and more broadly representative of visibility from mountain summit areas to the north.	Elevated 360° panoramic views around the surrounding extensive landscape. Views of number layers of receding mountains are obtained to south-west, west and north whilst extensive views to the south-east feature an extensive landscape of forestry around Loch Shin and distant existing wind turbines of Rosehall, Achany and Lairg wind farms and other further away sites which are barely perceptible.	22.99km	The Consented Development would feature within the middle to far distant view to the south, in the context of existing Achany and Rosehall turbines, but slightly larger and closer and extending wind turbines slightly further westwards in the view. Turbines would be easily perceptible in the view, but in an area where existing turbines are already present, and are therefore not anticipated to form a newly distracting feature. Following the removal of T10 and T20, turbine overlap and horizontal spread would be slightly reduced, resulting in an improvement to the visual composition, however this would make no difference to the level of effect identified.	Medium	Hubs – ~~12~~10 Tips – ~~19~~ 17	Low	Low	Minor (not significant)	Minor (not significant)

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
VP5 **Proposed Varied Development**	No change to the distance to the nearest visible turbine since EIAR 2021. There would be an increased wind turbine presence within the view due to the construction of Creag Riabhach Wind Farm, now visible to the east.			The increased turbine height would result in more hubs becoming visible above the ridgeline. The turbines would appear slightly closer and more prominent, particularly in relation to the existing Achany and Rosehall turbines. Given the viewing distance and the existing visual context of turbines already present in the view, the Proposed Varied Development is not expected to form a newly distracting feature, especially as Creag Riabhach Wind Farm is now visible in closer proximity to the south-east.	Medium	Hubs – 18 Tips – 18	Low	Low	Minor (not significant)	Minor (not significant)

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
VP6 **2021 EIAR and 2022 AIR**	**Rosehall** (NC 47028 02032) Representative of views obtained by residents and visitors of Rosehall village and travellers passing through on the A837.	Relatively contained view of buildings interspersed with trees and woodland with a backdrop containing hills clad by forest on their slopes but with clear summits. Existing turbines of Rosehall wind farm are prominent in the view to north-east, appearing on the hill summit.	4.79km	The southerly turbines of the Consented Development would appear on the skyline, slightly oblique to the main focus of the view as blades and hubs. These would appear noticeable, though similar to existing turbines which are visible, and would extend the field of view occupied by wind turbines. Further oblique, within the northerly view, more distant turbines may be perceptible up Glen Cassley, but filtered or screened by trees. Following the removal of T10 and T20, the spread of turbines would shift slightly further into the peripheral view, and the overall number of visible turbines would be reduced but this would not alter the level of effect which would still occur in relation to the remaining turbines.	Medium	Hubs – ~~8~~ 6 Tips – ~~15~~ 13	Medium to High	Medium to High	**Moderate (significant)**	**Moderate (significant)**

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
VP6 **Proposed Varied Development**	No change to the visual baseline and distance to the nearest visible turbine since EIAR 2021.			Due to the increased height of the Proposed Varied Development turbines, greater numbers of hubs and tips would be visible on the skyline increasing the appearance of stacking between these northernmost turbines. The Proposed Varied Development turbines would appear more prominent in views and would result in a noticeable change to the view. The Proposed Varied Development turbines would appear larger in scale compared to existing Achany and Rosehall turbines to the east. Within oblique, northerly views up Glen Cassley, more distant turbines would become more perceptible compared to the Consented Development, though they may be partially filtered or screened by trees in the foreground.	Medium	Hubs – 11 Tips – 18	Medium to High	Medium to High	**Moderate - Major (significant)**	**Moderate - Major (significant)**
VP7	VP7 has been scoped out from further assessment. Minor (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from VP7 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									
VP8	VP8 has been scoped out from further assessment. Minor (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from VP8 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
VP9 **2021 EIAR and 2022 AIR**	**Achnairn caravan and camping site entrance** (NC 55793 12701) Representative of views obtained by residents and visitors (including campers), to small settlement area and campsite.	Elevated views to south-east, down Loch Shin and Achany Glen and south-west across Loch Shin, partially reduced by trees and roadside vegetation. Existing turbines of Achany wind farm are present as blades and hubs on the skyline to the south-west and those of Lairg wind farm are present to the south-east.	9.65km	To the west-south-west, generally slightly oblique within the main orientation of the view. Blades and hubs of turbines would appear in a low point on the skyline between two hills with a few additional tips likely to be barely perceptible. Hubs would be below the height of the adjacent skyline hills. Extending existing wind turbines visible further to the west within the main view. The removal of T10 would slightly reduce the perceived horizontal spread of turbines from this viewpoint, although its prominence is already limited by the surrounding ridge hills. T20 would be visible only as an isolated tip, therefore removal of it would have a minimal impact overall. As more prominent turbines would remain visible and noticeable, the overall level of visual effect would remain unchanged.	Medium	Hubs – ~~7~~ 6 Tips – ~~11~~ 9	Medium	Medium	**Moderate (significant)**	**Moderate (significant)**

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
VP9 **Proposed Varied Development**	No change to the visual baseline and distance to the nearest visible turbine since EIAR 2021.			The horizontal extent occupied by the Proposed Varied Development would increase to the southwest as more blade tips would become visible on the skyline due to the increased turbine height. This would bring the turbines closer towards the existing Achany turbines. The increased height of the turbines would mean that they would no longer be contained by the surrounding landform, and additional turbine tips would be visible behind the landform to the south-west. The increased number of hubs visible above the skyline would also result in stacking being more noticeable. The Proposed Varied Development turbines would become more noticeable and may become a detracting feature within this locally valued view.	Medium	Hubs – 8 Tips – 15	Medium - High	Medium - High	**Moderate - Major (significant)**	**Moderate - Major (significant)**

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
VP10 **2021 EIAR and 2022 AIR**	**Ben More Assynt** (NC 31833 20148) Representative of views obtained by hillwalkers and more generally representative of types of view obtained at middle distance from the edge of the Assynt Coigach NSA.	Elevated and expansive 360° views feature layers of receding mountains to the south, through west and north to east but are more open across forested areas and towards eastern settled coastal areas to the south-east. Existing wind turbines are present in the south-easterly view including Achany, Rosehall and Lairg wind farms in the middle distance and Gordonbush and Kilbraur wind farms in the far distance.	15.73km	The Proposed Development would appear within the elevated south-easterly view with turbines and tracks likely to be visible. This part of the view is already affected by wind turbine development and the Proposed Development would only slightly extend the area of the view occupied by turbines, but would appear slightly larger and closer to the VP. This would form a perceptible change within a less sensitive part of the view with the wider views across the mountainous landscapes to north, south and west being unaffected. Removing T10 and T20 would slightly reduce turbine visibility and marginally lessen turbine density, but the change would be minimal and would not affect the overall level of visual effect.	Medium	Hubs – ~~20~~18 Tips – ~~20~~ 18	Medium to Low	Medium to Low	Minor to Moderate (not significant)	Minor to Moderate (not significant)

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
VP10 **Proposed Varied Development**	No change to the distance to the nearest visible turbine since EIAR 2021. There would be an increased wind turbine presence within the view due to the construction of Creag Riabhach Wind Farm, now visible to the northeast.			While the number of visible turbine tips and hubs would remain the same, the Proposed Varied Development would appear somewhat more noticeable, with the taller turbines appearing slightly closer than previously, and closer than the other existing turbines in the view, although the addition of Creag Riabhach Wind Farm increases the overall presence of existing wind farm development in the view. Overall, the Proposed Varied Development would result in a somewhat more perceptible change than the Consented Development. However it would still appear within a less sensitive part of the view, while the wider views across the mountainous landscapes to the north, south, and west would remain unaffected.	Medium	Hubs – 18 Tips – 18	Medium to Low	Medium to Low	Minor to Moderate (not significant)	Minor to Moderate (not significant)

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
VP11 **2021 EIAR and 2022 AIR**	**Glencassley road to south of Castle** (NC 44489 06224) Representative of views obtained by travellers and recreational users of rural road and Glen Cassley.	Low vantage views, framed by valley sides to north and south, but filtered / screened by riverside trees to north. View enclosed and directed by steep heather-clad and forested glen sides. A few tips and one turbine of the Rosehall wind farm appear above the glen-side to the south-east.	2.42km	Two turbines and two blades of the Consented Development would appear above the easterly glenside. These would appear larger than the existing visible turbines but would not distract from the main, funnelled views down the glen from this location. Construction works would also be visible in this view but are not expected to lead to a different level of visual effect to operational effects. Removing T20 would slightly improve the view, however, the prominence of the remaining visible turbines and nature of the limited, fleeting view mean the overall level of effect would remain unchanged.	Medium	Hubs – ~~4~~3 Tips – ~~2~~1	Medium to High	Medium to High	**Moderate (significant)**	**Moderate (significant)**

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
VP11 **Proposed Varied Development**	No change to the visual baseline and distance to the nearest visible turbine since EIAR 2021.			The Proposed Varied Development turbine spread would extend to the north-west due to the increased turbine height and the appearance of additional turbine tips on the skyline. Turbines which were already visible for the Consented Development, turbine 19 in particular, would becoming more prominent, with an increased number of hubs visible. The Proposed Varied Development would result in a noticeable change to the existing view. However, this change would occur within a less important part of the view and would not detract from the main, funnelled views down the glen from this location.	Medium	Hubs – 3 Tips – 7	High	High	**Moderate - Major (significant)**	**Moderate - Major (significant)**

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
VP12 **2021 EIAR and 2022 AIR**	**Glencassley road by Langwell Hill** (NC 40664 12269) Representative of views obtained by travellers and recreational users of rural road and Glen Cassley.	Low vantage views, framed by low valley sides to north and south, up and down the open glen floor, interrupted by occasional mid-ground trees and occasional stands of coniferous trees and native woodland on glen slopes. Ben More Assynt forms a particular focus when looking up the glen.	4.15km	The Consented Development turbines would appear above the skyline of the easterly glen-side between enclosing hills, with a few tips appearing above the skyline of the more distant glen side. Turbines would appear moderately large and form a focus within this part of the view, though would not intrude into the glen and would not affect the open views down the glen, or up towards the mountains which form the main focus of the view. The removal of T10 would reduce the number of turbines visible, though it is not among the most prominent. T20 is not visible from this viewpoint, therefore the level of effect would remain unchanged.	Medium	Hubs – ~~7~~ 6 Tips – ~~14~~ 13	High	High	**Moderate (Significant)**	**Moderate (Significant)**

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
VP12 **Proposed Varied Development**	No change to the visual baseline and distance to the nearest visible turbine since EIAR 2021.			Due to the increased turbine height, more blade tips and hubs would appear above the skyline on the more distant side of the glen, extending the visibility of the Proposed Varied Development further to the southeast and partially affecting the open views down the glen. The closer turbines would appear taller and more prominent than the Consented Development turbines and draw more focus within this part of the view, as they would be less contained by the surrounding hills. As more turbines become visible on the skyline, some increased overlapping between turbines would also seen. Overall, the Proposed Varied Development would become a more noticeable feature during both the construction and operational phases.	Medium	Hubs – 12 Tips – 16	High	High	**Moderate - Major (Significant)**	**Moderate - Major (Significant)**

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
VP13 **2021 EIAR and 2022 AIR**	**Ben Klibreck** (NC 58527 29902) Representative of views obtained by hillwalkers and more generally of more distant elevated views to the north east.	Elevated 360° views across the surrounding extensive landscape are expansive in all directions across surrounding moorland and mountains. There are few existing developed features in the view but existing wind farms are present in the distant view to the south and south-east.	22.91km	The Consented Development would form a feature in the mid-ground to the south-south-west appearing to extend the existing spread of wind turbines within the view further to the north and bringing turbines somewhat closer to the VP. It would appear to the foreground of the distant Seana Bhràigh in the view. This would form a perceptible change to the view overall and a more noticeable change to the particular view towards Seana Bhràigh, but would not affect the impressive qualities of wider expansive 360° view and would be reflective of existing features within the view. Removing T20 would reduce the development's width but could result in greater visual separation from nearby wind farms. T10 is not noticeably more prominent than other turbines, so its removal would not significantly improve the visual composition therefore the level of effect would not be changed.	Medium - High	Hubs – ~~15~~ 13 Tips – ~~20~~ 17	Low	Low	Minor to Moderate (not significant)	Minor to Moderate (not significant)

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
VP13 **Proposed Varied Development**	No change to the distance to the nearest visible turbine since EIAR 2021. There would be an increased wind turbine presence within the view due to the construction of Creag Riabhach Wind Farm, now visible in the foreground to the west.			The increased turbine height would make the Proposed Varied Development turbines appear slightly more noticeable than the Consented Development turbines. However given the considerable distance from the viewpoint this is not likely to result in a perceptible increase in effect, particularly given the presence of Creag Riabhach Wind Farm, in close south-westerly views. .	Medium - High	Hubs – 17 Tips – 17	Low	Low	Minor to Moderate (not significant)	Minor to Moderate (not significant)
VP14 **2021 EIAR and 2022 AIR**	**A838 near West Shinness** (NC 52823 15428) Representative of views obtained by residents and visitors to nearby properties and road users on the A838.	Slightly elevated views across Loch Shin to heather-clad ridge line on far side, with forest and woodland on lower slopes. More panoramic views are available, looking south-east down Loch Shin and west towards Ben More Assynt, slightly filtered by roadside trees and woodland and are more representative of those perceived by road users. Existing wind turbines of Achany wind farm appear as blades above the skyline to the south-south-west.	8.29km	Within the main view looking across Loch Shin, turbines would appear above the skyline on a low point between hills increasing the numbers of turbines visible in the view and moving these further into the main view from properties. This is anticipated to lead to a noticeable change to the view. T20 would not be visible from this viewpoint. Removing T10 would eliminate one noticeable turbine but introduce a gap, making the group appear less balanced. While this may slightly reduce visual impact, the overall effect rating would remain unchanged due to the continued prominence of other turbines.	Medium - High	Hubs – ~~4~~ 3 Tips – ~~11~~ 10	Medium	Medium	**Moderate (significant)**	**Moderate (significant)**

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
VP14 **Proposed Varied Development**	No change to the visual baseline and distance to the nearest visible turbine since EIAR 2021.			The increase in turbine height would result in the Proposed Varied Development appearing more prominent, due to a greater number of hubs and blade tips being visible above the skyline, and would slightly extend the horizontal spread of the turbines. The Proposed Varied Development would be less contained by the surrounding hills, due to the turbines sitting higher on the skyline, with some tips being visible behind the hill to the north-west.	Medium - High	Hubs – 6 Tips –-12	Medium - High	Medium - High	**Moderate -Major (significant)**	**Moderate-Major (significant)**
VP15	VP15 has been scoped out from further assessment. Negligible (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from VP15 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
VP16 **2021 EIAR and 2022 AIR**	**Minor road at Inveroykel forest access** (NC47391 00319) Representative of views obtained by travellers on rural road and nearby rural properties at Ochtow and Inveroykel.	The most open view is to the north although this comprises a passing, side view for travellers. Northerly view is across the valley floor towards the lower reaches of the River Cassley with backdrop of forest and heather-clad hills. Existing Rosehall and Achany turbines are prominent on the skyline of the enclosing hills in the north-north-east to easterly view.	6.~~49~~52km	In the northerly view, the Consented Development turbines would appear on the skyline to the west of the existing Achany and Rosehall turbines, but separated. The Consented Development turbines would be a similar height in the view but would appear perceptibly larger due to the longer blade length and slightly greater sense of distance. It wouldextend the horizontal spread of turbines from this view,. T20 is not considered a notable outlier, but its removal would slightly improve the cohesion of the layout by reducing horizontal spread. T10 appears slightly more elevated but is not among the most prominent turbines. Removing T20 and T10 would slightly reduce turbine density but would not noticeably improve the composition or alter the level of effect from this viewpoint.	Low - Medium	Hubs – ~~12~~ 10 Tips – ~~20~~ 18	Medium	Medium	Minor to Moderate (not significant)	Minor to Moderate (not significant)

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
VP16 **Proposed Varied Development**	No change to the visual baseline and distance to the nearest visible turbine since EIAR 2021.			The increased height of the Proposed Varied Development would result in the turbines appearing taller on the skyline compared to the Consented Development. They would appear taller than the existing Achany and Rosehall turbines to the east, and may appear closer. Although the horizontal spread of turbines within the view would not increase, the Proposed Varied Development would become a more noticeable feature in the view.	Low - Medium	Hubs –17 Tips –18	Medium-High	Medium-High	**Moderate (significant)**	**Moderate (significant)**
VP17 **Proposed Varied Development**	VP17 has been scoped out from further assessment. Negligible (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from VP17 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
VP18 **2021 EIAR and 2022 AIR**	**Carn Chuinneag** (NH 48364 83325) Representative of views obtained by hill-walkers and more generally of distant elevated views obtained from the south.	Elevated 360° panoramic views of surrounding extended landscape with receding layers of mountains to north, south and west and coastal lands to east. Existing turbines are perceptible in the view including Coire na Cloiche and Bein Beinn Tharsuin to the east, Novar and Lochluichart / Corriemoillie to the south and Achany and Rosehall to the north.	23.50km	The Consented Development would appear within the far to middle distance of the northerly view, extending the grouping of turbines of Achany and Rosehall further to the west. This would be a perceptible change but given the existing presence of wind turbines within this view is not anticipated to lead to a new noticeably detracting feature within the view. T20 is not seen as a notable outlier from this location, though its removal would reduce the horizontal spread. T10 is slightly more elevated but does not overlap with other turbines. Given the distance, their removal would not noticeably improve the composition, and the level of effect would remain unchanged.	Medium - High	Hubs – ~~20~~ 18 Tips – ~~20~~ 18	Low	Low	Minor (not significant)	Minor (not significant)
VP18 **Proposed Varied Development**	No change to the distance to the nearest visible turbine since EIAR 2021. There would be an increased wind turbine presence within the view due to the construction of Creag Riabhach Wind Farm, now visible in the foreground to the east.			The increased turbine height would make the Proposed Varied Development turbines appear slightly more perceptible than the Consented Development turbines. However the number of visible turbine tips or hubs would not increase, and the horizontal extent would not change. Given the considerable distance from the viewpoint this is not likely to result in a perceptible increase in effect.	Medium - High	Hubs – 18 Tips – 18	Low	Low	Minor (not significant)	Minor (not significant)

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
VP19 **2021 EIAR and 2022 AIR**	**Seana Bhràigh** NH 28181 87872 Representative of views obtained by hill-walkers and more generally from elevated locations to the south-west and within the Fannichs, Beinn Dearg and Glencalvie SLA.	Elevated 360° panoramic views of surrounding extended landscape. Receding layers of mountains are seen extensively to west with dramatic lone mountain peaks of Assynt to the north. Ben More Assynt and more distantly Ben Loyal and Klibreck form focal points in the view to the north-east behind a mid-ground of forested slopes. The view is more restricted by nearby summits to the east and south but the sea forms a backdrop to the easterly view. Existing Achany and Rosehall wind farms are distantly perceptible to the north-east.	26.59km	The 2021 Proposed Development would appear distantly within the elevated north-east view, extending the spread of the existing Achany and Rosehall turbines to the north and west in the view. Turbines would partially sit to the foreground of Klibreck which forms a focal point within this part of the view, on an intervening ridgeline within a context of forested slopes to the foreground. This would form a perceptible change within the view. However, the wider mountainous views to the west and north would not be affected. This is a very wide and expansive view and the vast majority of it would remain unaffected. T20 is not seen as an outlier, but removing it would reduce the horizontal spread of the wind farm. T10, although slightly higher, is centrally located and not visually prominent from 28 km away. Its removal would create a central gap, making other turbines appear more isolated and disrupting the overall visual composition. However, this would not change the level of visual effect.	High	Hubs – ~~20~~ 18 Tips – ~~20~~ 18	Low	Low	Minor (not significant)	Minor (not significant)

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
VP19 **Proposed Varied Development**	No change to the distance to the nearest visible turbine since EIAR 2021. There would be an increased wind turbine presence within the view due to the construction of Creag Riabhach Wind Farm, now visible in the foreground to the north.			The increased turbine height may make the Proposed Varied Development turbines appear slightly larger than the Consented Development turbines, however given the distance this is unlikely to be perceptible. The number of visible turbine tips or hubs would not increase, and the horizontal extent of the development would not change. The Proposed Varied Development would appear closer than existing wind farm developments in the view, however, the wider mountainous views to the west and north would not be affected. This is a very wide and expansive view and the vast majority of it would remain unaffected.	High	Hubs – 18 Tips – 18	Low	Low	Minor (not significant)	Minor (not significant)

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
VP20 **2021 EIAR and 2022 AIR**	**Cul Mòr** (NC 53103 28638) Representative of views obtained by hillwalkers and more general visibility from isolated peaks to the west of the Proposed Development in the Assynt – Coigach NSA.	Elevated, extensive 360° views across the surrounding extended landscape. Views are particularly focused to north and west featuring the other Assynt mountains and west coast, and south to the mountains of Coigaich and Torridon. Easterly views are extensive featuring Elphin and Lochs Veyatie, Urigill, Borrain and Cam Loch in the foreground with surrounding forest. Existing Rosehall and Achany wind farms are distant and barely perceptible to east.	28.40km	The 2021 Proposed Development would appear distant and small in the extensive easterly view, separate to the existing grouping of turbines, slightly to the north and appearing slightly closer. However, it would be a very small feature, in an area where turbines are already present, although of limited perceptibility, and would not affect the more valued parts of the view which cover the mountains of the Assynt Coigach NSA to north, south and west. It is considered that this would lead to a barely perceptible change in the view. This viewpoint lies over 28 km from the Site, and no turbines are considered visually dominant at this distance. T10 would not be more noticeable than other turbines. Its removal could result in T12–T14 appearing as an outlying group, but these would also be minimally perceptible. As such, the overall level of visual effect would remain unchanged.	High	Hubs – ~~11~~ 10 Tips – ~~16~~ 14	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible (not significant)	Negligible (not significant)

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
VP20 **Proposed Varied Development**	No change to the visual baseline and distance to the nearest visible turbine since EIAR 2021.			The Proposed Varied Development would appear slightly larger than the Consented Development, with some turbine tips appearing above the skyline. The Proposed Varied Development would lead to a more perceptible change in the view in comparison to Consented Development	High	Hubs – 12 Tips –-18	Negligible	Negligible	Minor (not significant)	Minor (not significant)

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
VP21 **2021 EIAR and 2022 AIR**	**Meall an Aonaich** (NC 33603 16417) Representative of views obtained by hillwalkers and elevated views obtained within the south-east corner of the Assynt – Coigach NSA at closer proximity.	Elevated 360° views, most extensive and open to the south with distant mountains seen beyond a forest plantation mid-ground. Westerly views are more restricted by nearby summits. Craggy summits and slopes of Ben More Assynt are striking to the north, and to north-east, the lone mountains of Klibreck, Ben Hope and Ben Loyal are seen. Existing Achany, Rosehall and Lairg turbines are perceptible within the south-easterly view which is limited in extent by the nearby ridge.	12.27km	Turbines and tracks of the 2021 Proposed Development would be seen in the south-easterly view, affecting a similar area to Rosehall, Achany and Lairg wind farms but closer and slightly extending the part of the view affected. The 2021 Proposed Development would not affect any particular mountain views but would form a noticeable new feature in the view which could be somewhat distracting. During construction, borrow pits and other works would also appear within the view and may draw slightly greater focus but are considered unlikely to increase the level of visual effect. From this viewpoint, removing T20 could make T19 appear more isolated. Although T10 is slightly higher, it is not visually prominent and helps connect turbine groups. Removing these turbines would reduce the number of visible turbines but highlight four stacked clusters, leading to a less cohesive composition. Removal of T10 and T20 would not improve the visual arrangement, and the overall level of effect would remain unchanged.	Medium	Hubs – ~~18~~ 16 Tips – ~~20~~ 18	Medium	Medium	**Moderate (significant)**	**Moderate (significant)**

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
VP21 **Proposed Varied Development**	No change to the distance to the nearest visible turbine since EIAR 2021. There would be an increased wind turbine presence within the view due to the construction of Creag Riabhach Wind Farm, now visible in the foreground to the northeast.			The increase in turbine height would be perceptible compared to the Consented Development turbines. While the Proposed Varied Development would not extend the part of the view affected by wind development, the increased turbine height would make them appear slightly closer than other wind turbines in the view. Although the Proposed Varied Development would increase the height of turbines, its overall influence would remain comparable to that of the Consented Development.	Medium	Hubs – 18 Tips – 18	Medium	Medium	**Moderate (significant)**	**Moderate (significant)**

1.3 Residential Areas Assessment

Table 1.3.1: Residential Areas Assessment (refer also to Figure 5.8: Visual Receptors)

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
RRL1	RRL1 has been scoped out from further assessment. Minor (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from RRL1 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									
RRL2	RRL2 has been scoped out from further assessment. Negligible (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from RRL2 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									
RRL3	RRL3 has been scoped out from further assessment. Negligible (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from RRL3 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									
RRL4 **2021 EIAR and 2022 AIR**	**Dalmichy** Residents of 1.5 storey house with garden set on small mound with surrounding pine trees and outbuildings below.	Main orientation to south-west through pine trees with secondary views in other directions and from outdoor areas. Existing turbines present in middle distance to south-south-west.	11.37km	Turbine blades and hubs within south-westerly view, on skyline in middle distance, seen through pine trees. Extending turbines further into main viewing direction although filtered by the trees.	Medium - High	11 - 15	Low to Medium	Low to Medium	Minor to Moderate (not significant)	Minor to Moderate (not significant)
RRL4 **Proposed Varied Development**	No change to the visual baseline and distance to the nearest visible turbine since EIAR 2021.			Due to the increased height of the Proposed Varied Development turbines, a greater number of turbine tips and hubs would be visible on the skyline in the south-westerly view, however its overall influence would remain comparable to that of the Consented Development.	Medium - High	14 - 18	Low to Medium	Low to Medium	Minor to Moderate (not significant)	Minor to Moderate (not significant)

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
RRL 5	RRL5 has been scoped out from further assessment. Minor (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from RRL5 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									
RRL6 **2021 EIAR and 2022 AIR**	**Achfrish** Residents and visitors of a small group of properties (including some holiday pods) in a slightly elevated position to the north-east of Loch Shin.	Main orientation of properties is south-east towards Lairg and down Achany Glen. Some secondary views to south-west across the loch but these are often obscured by garden vegetation. Existing turbines feature in south-easterly and south-westerly views on skyline.	10.11km	Turbine blades and some hubs within the westerly view on a low point of the skyline between two hills in the middle distance. Additional tips further to south likely to be barely perceptible. Rear oblique within main views or oblique within secondary views and often screened or filtered by garden vegetation or outbuildings. Extending existing wind turbines visible further to the west.	Medium	6 - 15	Low	Low	Minor (not significant)	Minor (not significant)
RRL 6 **Proposed Varied Development**	No change to the visual baseline since EIAR 2021.		9.64km	Due to the increased height of the Proposed Varied Development turbines, they would be less contained by the surrounding topography. More blade tips would be visible to the south, extending towards the existing Achany and Rosehall turbines, and extending the part of the view occupied by wind development. However, views would still largely be oblique, and the additional tips visible further south are likely to be barely perceptible. The Proposed Varied Development would result in a more noticeable change, however views would still often be screened or filtered by vegetation or outbuildings.	Medium	9 - 18	Low – Medium	Low – Medium	Minor – Moderate (not significant)	Minor – Moderate (not significant)

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
RRL7 **2021 EIAR and 2022 AIR**	**Achnairn (upper)** Residents and visitors of a small group of around 15 properties, and a camp-site in an elevated position to the north-east of Loch Shin.	Elevated views to south-east and south-west, partially reduced by trees, vegetation and out-buildings for some properties. Existing turbines are present as blades and hubs on the skyline to the south-west, oblique within main view.	8.99km	To the west-south-west, generally slightly oblique within the main views from properties. Blades and hubs of turbines would appear in a low point on the skyline between two hills with a few additional tips likely to be barely perceptible. Extending existing wind turbines visible further to the west within the main view.	Medium	6 - 15	Medium	Medium	**Moderate (significant)**	**Moderate (significant)**

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
RRL7 **Proposed Varied Development**	No change to the visual baseline and distance to the nearest visible turbine since EIAR 2021.		9.06km	Due to the increased height of the Proposed Varied Development turbines they would extend the horizontal spread of turbines, and would be less contained by the surrounding topography. More blade tips would be visible to the south, towards the existing Achany and Rosehall turbines, extending the part of the view occupied by wind development. This more southerly extent would affect a broader portion of the main view across Loch Shin than for the Consented Development, though still within an oblique section of the open or filtered views. The Proposed Varied Development would result in a more noticeable change to the existing view compared to the Consented Development.	Medium	9 - 18	Medium - High	Medium - High	**Moderate - Major (significant)**	**Moderate - Major (significant)**
RRL8 **2021 EIAR and 2022 AIR**	**Achnairn (lower)** Residents and visitors of a group of around 10 houses at low elevation alongside the A838 on north side of Loch Shin.	Main views to south-west across loch with some roadside and garden trees filtering the view. Existing turbines on the skyline are oblique within the south-easterly view down Loch Shin, seen to south-south-west, in the middle distance.	8.77km	Blades and a few hubs appearing slight oblique within the main view on a low point of the skyline to the south-west, extending existing turbines further into the main view. Keeping below the height of the two adjacent hills.	Medium	6 - 10	Medium	Medium	**Moderate (significant)**	**Moderate (significant)**

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
RRL8 **Proposed Varied Development**	No change to the visual baseline and distance to the nearest visible turbine since EIAR 2021.		8.42km	A greater number of turbine hubs and tips would appear on the skyline for the Proposed Varied Development, with the overall spread extending further south with a few very small tips visible above the hill. The turbines would no longer appear to be contained by the hills as the Consented Development was, although the view would remain largely oblique. For receptors with open views across Loch Shin, the Proposed Varied Development would introduce a somewhat more noticeable change to the view than the Consented Development.	Medium	3 - 14	Medium	Medium	**Moderate (significant)**	**Moderate (significant)**

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
RRL9 **2021 EIAR and 2022 AIR**	**Shinness Lodge and West Shinness** Residents and visitors of a group of approximately 15 houses including cottages, farm properties and two lodges, in elevated position to north-west of Loch Shin and at lower elevation alongside A838 road	Predominant orientation of views to south-west, elevated across Loch Shin and to hills on opposite side. Ben More Assynt forms a focus in views to the west-north-west. Existing turbines are present obliquely in the view to the south-south-west, as blades on the skyline.	8.28km	Turbines appearing on low point of hills on skyline in main view, occasionally filtered from some properties by garden or roadside trees and woodland. Extending existing turbines further into main view.	Medium - High	6 - 15	Medium	Medium	**Moderate (significant)**	**Moderate (significant)**
RRL9 **Proposed Varied Development**	No change to the visual baseline and distance to the nearest visible turbine since EIAR 2021.			Due to the increased turbine height, a greater number of turbine blades and hubs would be visible on the skyline in main views. The taller turbines would be less contained by the surrounding hills, making them more noticeable in the view.	Medium - High	9 - 18	Medium - High	Medium - High	**Moderate - Major (significant)**	**Moderate – Major (significant)**

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
RRL10	RRL10 has been scoped out from further assessment. Negligible (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from RRL10 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									
RRL11	RRL11 has been scoped out from further assessment. Negligible (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from RRL11 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									
RRL12	RRL12 has been scoped out from further assessment. Minor (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from RRL12 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									
RRL 13	RRL13 has been scoped out from further assessment. Minor (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from RRL13 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									
RRL14	RRL14 has been scoped out from further assessment. Negligible (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from RRL14 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									
RRL15	RRL15 has been scoped out from further assessment. Negligible (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from RRL15 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									
RRL16	RRL16 has been scoped out from further assessment. Minor (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from RRL16 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									
RRL17	RRL17 has been scoped out from further assessment. Negligible (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from RRL17 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									
RRL18	RRL18 has been scoped out from further assessment. Negligible (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from RRL18 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									
RRL19	RRL19 has been scoped out from further assessment. Negligible (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from RRL19 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									
RRL20	RRL20 has been scoped out from further assessment. Minor (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from RRL20 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
RRL21	RRL21 has been scoped out from further assessment. Negligible (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from RRL21 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									
RRL22	RRL22 has been scoped out from further assessment. Negligible (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from RRL22 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									
RRL23	RRL23 has been scoped out from further assessment. Negligible (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from RRL23 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									
RRL24	RRL24 has been scoped out from further assessment. Negligible (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from RRL24 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									
RRL25	RRL25 has been scoped out from further assessment. Negligible (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from RRL25 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									
RRL26	RRL26 has been scoped out from further assessment. Negligible (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from RRL26 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									
RRL 27	RRL27 has been scoped out from further assessment. Minor (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from RRL27 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
RRL28 **2021 EIAR and 2022 AIR**	**Ochtow and Inveroykel Lodge** Occupants of a large 2 storey shooting lodge and nearby farm set in a wooded, but elevated position overlooking River Oykel.	Northerly and north-easterly views across the strath floor. Existing turbines of Achany and Rosehall wind farms are oblique within the view on the skyline to the north-east.	5.84km	Within the main view, turbines would appear on a low point of the skyline looking up towards Glen Cassley. Would appear separate to the existing turbines of Achany and Rosehall, moving turbines more towards the centre of the view.	Medium	6 - 20	Medium	Medium	**Moderate (significant)**	**Moderate (significant)**
RRL28 **Proposed Varied Development**	No change to the visual baseline and distance to the nearest visible turbine since EIAR 2021.			The horizontal spread of the Proposed Varied Development turbines would remain similar to that of the Consented Development although they would appear taller than the existing Achany and Rosehall turbines to the east. However, due to the increased turbine height, the Proposed Varied Development would appear somewhat more noticeable than the Consented Development on the skyline when viewed looking up towards Glen Cassley	Medium	3 - 18	Medium	Medium	**Moderate (significant)**	**Moderate (significant)**

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
RRL29 **2021 EIAR and 2022 AIR**	**Rosehall village** Residents and visitors of small village including houses and cafe / shop set at the confluence of Glen Cassley and Glen Oykel (no view from hotel)	Varying views, some enclosed by surrounding woodland and buildings. Main orientations of views are: south or south-east, across and down Glen Oykel / Kyle of Sutherland and north or north-east across the River Cassley. Existing Rosehall wind farm turbines are present on the hill top to north-east but not always visible due to trees and woodland.	4.37km	Within main views from some properties including properties on the west side of Cassley Drive, properties to the north of Cassley Drive and other garden and outdoor areas, hubs and blades would appear slightly oblique on the foreground skyline to the north-north-west extending the existing visibility of turbines across the main view. Turbines would appear more distantly up the glen on the northerly side or more oblique views. Trees would often filter these views and therefore all theoretically visible turbines would rarely be seen from the same vantage point. Similar visibility would feature in rear, oblique or side views from other properties in the village.	Medium	11 - 20	Medium to High	Medium to High	**Moderate (significant)**	**Moderate (significant)**
RRL29 **Proposed Varied development**	No change to the visual baseline and distance to the nearest visible turbine since EIAR 2021.			The taller turbines of the Proposed Varied Development would result in a greater number of visible hubs and blades on the skyline compared to the Consented Development. As a result, the Proposed Varied Development would appear more noticeable, and may also affect areas where turbines were previously filtered or screened.	Medium	9 -18	Medium to High	Medium to High	**Moderate - Major (significant)**	**Moderate - Major (significant)**
RRL30	RRL30 has been scoped out from further assessment. Negligible (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from RRL30 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
RRL31	RRL31 has been scoped out from further assessment. Negligible (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from RRL31 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									
RRL32	RRL32 has been scoped out from further assessment. Negligible (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from RRL32 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									
RRL33	RRL33 has been scoped out from further assessment. Negligible (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from RRL33 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									
RRL34	RRL34 has been scoped out from further assessment. Negligible (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from RRL34 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									
RRL35	RRL35 has been scoped out from further assessment. Negligible (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from RRL35 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									
RRL36	RRL36 has been scoped out from further assessment. Negligible (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from RRL36 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									
RRL37	RRL37 has been scoped out from further assessment. Minor (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from RRL37 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									
RRL38	RRL38 has been scoped out from further assessment. Negligible (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from RRL38 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									
RRL39	RRL39 has been scoped out from further assessment. Negligible (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from RRL39 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									

1.4 Routes Assessment

Table 1.4.1: Assessment of Views from Routes

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
R1	R1 has been scoped out from further assessment. Negligible (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from R1 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									
R2	R2 has been scoped out from further assessment. Negligible (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from R2 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									
R3	R3 has been scoped out from further assessment. Minor (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from R3 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
R4 **2021 EIAR and 2022 AIR**	**A838 Dalchork to Corrykinloch** Travellers and recreational users of single track road alongside Loch Shin. Principal transport link but also used by tourers, cyclists etc.	Views are predominantly across, up or down Loch Shin, depending on the direction of travel, sometimes restricted by roadside trees or woodland. Existing turbines at Achany, and Lairg wind farms are seen on the skyline to the south and south-east when travelling and viewing south-east along the route between Fiag Bridge and Dalchork.	8.2km – 10.4km	The Consented Development would be theoretically visibly between Dalchork and Fiag Bridge (approximately 17.5km) and would appear on the skyline on the opposite side of Loch Shin. When travelling north-west, this would be likely to affect views roughly between Dalchork and Shinness (around 7km) and when travelling south-east, would affect views between around Fiag Bridge and Shinness (around 11.5km). There would be no visibility between Fiag Bridge and Corriekinloch. Particularly when travelling south-east along the road, the Proposed Development would be seen in a context of existing turbines, but it would generally appear closer and larger. When travelling north, the turbines would more often be seen on their own, though the viewer may be to some extent desensitised to further turbines after passing the existing turbines earlier. Nevertheless, the Consented Development is anticipated to lead to a noticeable change to the view.	Medium	1 - 15	Medium	Medium	**Moderate (significant)**	**Moderate (significant)**

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
R4 **Proposed Varied Development**	No change to the visual baseline since EIAR 2021.		8.2km – 12.5km	Theoretical visibility the Proposed Varied Development would increase and extend for another approximately 3 km between Fiag Bridge and Carrachan. However, the additional visibility resulting from the Proposed Varied Development is limited to occasional turbine tips when travelling in both directions. There would be no theoretical visibility between Carrachan and Corriekinloch. The Proposed Varied Development would appear larger than the existing turbines to the south-east in comparison to the Consented Development. The horizontal spread and density of the Proposed Varied Development turbines would vary along the route; however, the central section—where Viewpoint 14 (VP14) is located—represents a worst-case view (see Figures V3a-10.1- Figure V3a-10.5). Although the Proposed Varied Development would result in turbines appearing more noticeable from sections of this route, it would not lead to an increase in visual effects.	Medium	1 - 18	Medium	Medium	**Moderate (significant)**	**Moderate (significant)**
R5	R5 has been scoped out from further assessment. Negligible (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from R5 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
R6	R6 has been scoped out from further assessment. Minor (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from R6 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									
R7	R7 has been scoped out from further assessment. Negligible (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from R7 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									
R9 **2021 EIAR and 2022 AIR**	**U2117 Cassley Bridge – Duchally Road** Recreational users, estate workers and residents using single track dead end route through Glen Cassley.	Varying views when travelling up and down the glen. In the lower section south of Glen Rossal, generally more enclosed around the river by woodland but occasional breaks in the trees give views of surrounding glen-side hills. Becoming increasingly open after Glen Rossal. North of Glencassley Castle views are panoramic across, up and down the flat glen floor. Ben More Assynt is seen to the north-west, framed through Gleann na Muic. Visibility of existing Rosehall turbines is limited. These are occasionally seen on the southern skyline from the lower part of the road, through trees.	1.9km – 4.5km	The ZTV indicates that there would be intermittent sections of theoretical intervisibility of the Consented Development between Rosehall and Glencassley Castle and more consistent visibility from a 3.8km section between Badintagairt and Glenmuick. Between Rosehall and Glencassley Castle, the turbines would often be screened or filtered by adjacent woodland and forest but turbines would be seen at relatively close proximity above the eastern glen-side from an approximate 1km section just to the south of Glencassley Castle. Turbines would also appear moderately large on the side slopes between Badintagairt and Glenmuick travelling south, but the open views up and down the glen would be unaffected.	High	1 - 15	Medium	Medium	**Moderate (significant)**	**Moderate (significant)**

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
R9 **Proposed Varied Development**	No change to the visual baseline since EIAR 2021.		1.7km – 8km	The comparative ZTV suggests intermittent, short sections of additional theoretical visibility, however views from most of these sections are likely to be screened by adjacent woodland or forest. Increased numbers of turbines would be visible from the section between Badintagart and Glenmuick (see VP12 (Figures V3a-8.1 - V3a-8.5)) where the Proposed Varied Development would be seen when travelling in a southern direction and also between Rosehall and Glen Rossal where travellers in a northerly direction would be affected. An increased number of turbines would also be visible near Glencassley Castle (see VP11 (Figures V3a-7.1 – V3a-7.5) where the horizontal spread of turbines would extend with additional turbines tips. Where visible the Proposed Varied Development would result in a noticeable change above the eastern side of the glen. However, the most important views up and down the glen would remain largely unaffected.	High	1 - 18	Medium - High	Medium - High	**Moderate (significant)**	**Moderate (significant)**
R10	R10 has been scoped out from further assessment. Negligible (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from R10 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
R11	R11 has been scoped out from further assessment. Negligible (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from R11 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									
R12 **2021 EIAR and 2022 AIR**	**SU21.03: Allt an Tuir Burn Walk** Recreational users of footpath commencing at Invercassley Stores (now the Invercassley Tea Room).	From Invercassley stores, the route initially crosses open fields to the rear of housing with views across the river and glen, somewhat reduced by trees and riverside woodland. The northern part of the route is within forest plantation, though recent felling has opened up elevated views within this part of the route, to east and west and partly to the north from the most northerly section.	3.5km – 4.5km	Turbines would be present on the skyline within the easterly view from the lower and more elevated parts of the path, and also to the north from the most northerly elevated section. The turbines would be very noticeable in this view and, though similar to the existing turbines would increase the occupied area in the view. Trees would screen some or all of the turbines from some parts of the route.	Medium	1 - 18	Medium to High	Medium to High	**Moderate (significant)**	**Moderate (significant)**

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
R 12 **Proposed Varied Development**	Minimal change to the visual baseline, although some growth and maturation of trees along the route. Distance to the nearest visible turbine since EIAR 2021.			The comparative ZTV indicates small sections of additional visibility along this route; however this is likely to be limited by trees. As for the Consented Development, the Proposed Varied Development would be seen primarily from the northern, elevated section of the path where easterly views are afforded and from the southerly section of this route near Rosehall. The Proposed Varied Development turbines would appear taller and more prominent on the skyline, with additional hubs and tips visible. They would appear noticeably larger than existing turbines at Achany and Rosehall. Although much of the route has a sense of enclosure, within open views the Proposed Varied Development would be noticeably larger than the Consented Development and likely act as a visual focal point. However, views would still be screened by trees from much of this route.	Medium	1 - 18	High	High	**Moderate (significant)**	**Moderate (significant)**
R13	R13 has been scoped out from further assessment. Negligible (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from R13 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
R14	R14 has been scoped out from further assessment. Negligible (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from R14 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									
R15	R15 has been scoped out from further assessment. Minor (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from R15 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									
R16	R16 has been scoped out from further assessment. Negligible (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from R16 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
R17 **2021 EIAR and 2022 AIR**	**Scottish Hill Track 332** Recreational users of rough path and track approximately 30km in length between Kylesku and the A837 near Benmore Lodge	Predominantly open views of surrounding hills, mountains and moorland. Elevated and panoramic to the east as the route rises over the shoulder of Meall an Anoxic and traverses the lower slopes of Ben More Assynt. Towards the northern end through the cnocan landscape the views are constantly changing, being more enclosed as the path winds through the cnocan and more expansive as it rises up over small hills.	10.8km – 19.3km	The Consented Development would be visible in south-easterly views for an approximate 6km section of the route crossing the lower slopes of Ben More Assynt and Meall an Aonaich. It would be seen in the context of existing Achany and Rosehall turbines but would appear larger and closer. At the closest point, around the base of Meall and Aonaich this would be more prominent, potentially leading to a significant effect on the view. However, moving further away it's prominence would recede within the expansive surrounding view. The effect would be experienced more when travelling south with the sense of travelling closer towards the Consented Development. However, this would affect a small part of an otherwise expansive view where wind turbines are already perceptible. The contribution of this effect on this short section to the visual amenity of the route overall would be limited.	Medium - High	1-18	Locally Medium, overall Low	Locally Medium, overall Low	Overall Minor (not significant) **Locally Moderate (significant)** for 3km between Loch Sail an Ruathair and Loch Carn nan Conbhairean	Overall Minor (not significant) **Locally Moderate (significant)** for 3km between Loch Sail an Ruathair and Loch Carn nan Conbhairean

Ref.	Name / Location / Type / Context	Nature of Existing View	Distance to nearest visible turbine	Nature of Change	Visual Sensitivity	No. of turbines theoretically visible	Magnitude		Effect	
							Construction	Operation	Construction	Operation
R 17 **Proposed Varied Development**	No change to the visual baseline since EIAR 2021.		10.8km – 19.3km	While there would be only short sections of additional theoretical visibility along this route compared with the Consented Development, the turbines would be taller and more prominent in south-easterly views, appearing closer to the route and larger than existing turbines, particularly from the southern section near the lower slopes of Meall an Aonaich. From some of the northern sections of the route, more hubs and tips may be visible. Overall, the Proposed Varied Development would result in a noticeable change, but this would only be result in a significant effect to a short section of this route around the base of Meall and Aonaich. The effects are not anticipated to change.	Medium - High	1-18	Locally Medium, overall Low	Locally Medium, overall Low	Overall Minor (not significant) **Locally Moderate (significant)** for 3km between Loch Sail an Ruathair and Loch Carn nan Conbhairean	Overall Minor (not significant) **Locally Moderate (significant)** for 3km between Loch Sail an Ruathair and Loch Carn nan Conbhairean
R18	R18 has been scoped out from further assessment. Negligible (not significant) effects were identified for the Consented Development from R18 during construction and operation. See Chapter 7 and Technical Appendix 7.9 of the 2021 EIAR and Chapter 3 of the 2022 AIR for details of the assessment of the Consented Development.									