

Landscape and Visual

METHOD, VIEWPOINTS AND ZTV

Landscape and visual impacts are a key consideration in any Energiekontor project.

As part of our landscape and visual assessment, we follow industry standard guidance produced by The Highland Council and NatureScot to present a robust assessment of the likely significant effects which may arise as part of the proposed development.

Each photomontage which will accompany the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) is produced from viewpoints within the 45km LVIA Study Area and are selected to represent what the wind farm will look like in the wider area. These viewpoints are often close to residential areas, prominent hilltops and areas which are frequently used by receptors such as tourists, walkers and road users.

In terms of potential visual effects, the Zone of Theoretical Visibility, based on the 15 turbine layout and blade tip height of 250m, illustrates that theoretical visibility would be focused within 20km. Visibility then becomes increasingly fragmented with distance due to the surrounding topography and landscape characteristics. This is based on a bare ground model of topography that does not account for trees, vegetation or buildings screening views.

A map showing the proposed viewpoints overlain with the ZTV is provided below.

