



IN ASSOCIATION WITH

PRIMENERGY LTD

LANDSCAPE AND VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

LAND SOUTH WEST OF INGFIELD FARM, INGBIRCHWORTH, PENISTONE, SHEFFIELD

S36 7GG

**PROPOSED SITING OF 1 x 50M HIGH (HUB) WIND TURBINE PLUS ASSOCIATED
DEVELOPMENT**

CO-ORDINATES:

TURBINE 1: X422035, Y405235

AAH/2905/12PLA

DECEMBER 2012

LANDSCAPE AND VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

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1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 AAH Planning Consultants has been commissioned to prepare a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) for a wind turbine at land west of Ingfield Farm, Ingbirchworth, West Yorkshire. AAH Planning Consultants comprises professionally accredited individuals with extensive experience within wind and solar development. Our consultants are chartered members of the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) and associated members of the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA).
- 1.2 This LVIA assesses the potential landscape and visual implications of locating 1no. 500kW three bladed EWT wind turbine at land west of Ingfield Farm, Ingbirchworth.

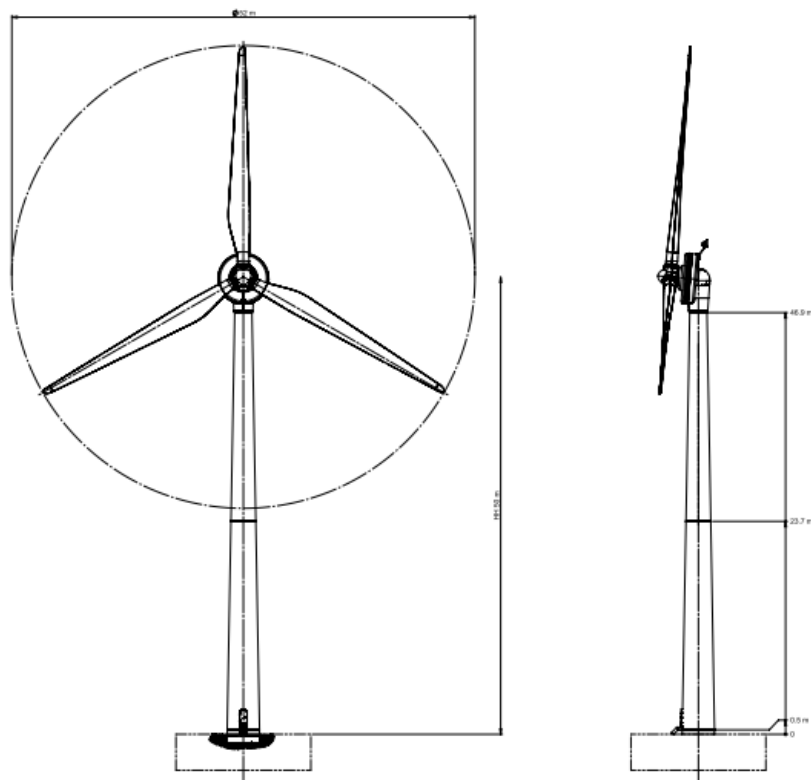


Image 1: Elevation Plan of proposed EWT 52-500kW (also attached separately)

- 1.3 The LVIA is divided into the following sections;
- Introduction and methodology
 - Assessment of existing views and extent of visibility of the site
 - Proposed mitigation measures
 - Predicted impacts on views, landscape and amenity

- Visual impacts and conclusions

Assessment Methodology

- 1.4 The format of this assessment is based on the principles described in The Countryside Agency and Scottish Natural Heritage's Landscape Character Assessment Guidance for England and Scotland, published 2002 and The Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, Second Edition, also published 2002. The assessment is also in accordance with the requirements of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 1999.
- 1.5 A desktop study was made of published information to establish the landscape context of the site and identify potential viewpoints which may be affected by the development. These viewpoints were considered to illustrate the impact from all directions of the application site. The photomontages are found in Appendix B of this report.
- 1.6 The need to take into account cumulative effect is also considered in order to ensure that the addition of the turbine does introduce a significant level of cumulative landscape effect on the landscape. With each photomontage a statement relating to cumulative effect is also provided to demonstrate the potential for this phenomena.
- 1.7 The application site and surrounding area were visited in June 2012, where the weather conditions were sunny and fine with clear visibility.

2.0 Landscape Impact Assessment

- 2.1 The Landscape Impact Assessment describes the likely nature and scale of changes on individual landscape elements known as 'receptors' and the resultant effect on the landscape character due to the proposed development. The extent to which a landscape can accommodate change due to development varies according to a range of factors such as land use, the scale and pattern of the landscape, visual enclosure, and quality of view and the value of the landscape. Changes to the fabric and character of a particular landscape area may affect the perceived value of that landscape, giving rise to changes in its quality. The scale or magnitude of landscape effects ranges from negligible, through to minor, moderate and major. Such changes are described as either adverse or beneficial.
- 2.2 The Countryside Agency's guidelines make a clear distinction between the characterisation process (in which the attributes of the landscape are described) and the judgment making process. This section of the assessment, the characterisation process, is considered and later sub-sections make judgments about the potential effects of the proposed development based upon the characterisation.
- 2.3 The Countryside Agency guidelines describe how landscape character assessment can be applied at different scales, from the national or European level, to the parish level. Assessments are ideally prepared at different scales that should fit together as a nested series or a hierarchy of landscape character types and/or areas, such that each level of assessment adds more detail. The three main levels identified by The Countryside Agency are: national and regional scale; local authority scale; and local scale. This assessment uses and presents a summary of the relevant published assessments at national and regional scale and local authority scales. These wider character assessments are then used to provide the context for the local scale landscape assessment for the application site.
- 2.4 The Countryside Agency's guidance recommends that the characterisation process should be based on an assessment of natural, cultural and social factors and aesthetic and perceptual factors. These factors have been examined for the site's surroundings, the existing site as it stands today and the site, as it would be, following completion of the development.
- 2.5 The assessment of visual effects describes the changes in the visual character of available views and in the visual amenity of local receptors arising from the development. The sensitivity of visual receptors and views will be dependent on the context of the view, the

importance of the view and the nature of the receptor. The scale or magnitude of visual change is affected by scale, the degree of contrast, the permanence of the effect, angle of view, distance and the extent of change.

- 2.6 Principal viewpoints are selected on the basis of which points provide the clearest views of the site, accessibility and sensitivity, with the photomontages prepared for each of the chosen receptors included in Appendix B, as stated above.

3.0 Significance Criteria

3.1 The potential significance of landscape and visual impact is determined by a combination of the magnitude of the potential impact and the sensitivity of the receptor to change. These two variables can be correlated as illustrated in Table 1.1, below. Thus, a landscape impact of low magnitude may nevertheless be assessed to have a moderate impact in a highly sensitive landscape such as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) or a National Park. In general the following principles apply:

Sensitivity of Receptor to Change	Magnitude of Impact			
	Negligible	Low	Medium	High
High	Negligible	Minor/Moderate	Moderate	Moderate/Major
Medium	Negligible	Minor	Minor/Moderate	Moderate
Low	Negligible	Negligible	Minor	Minor/Moderate

Table 1.1 – Principles of Assessing Significance of Landscape and Visual Impacts Magnitude of Impact Sensitivity of Receptor to change

3.2 The above consideration of the sensitivity of the receptors with the magnitude of the potential impacts provides an overall assessment of the potential significance of impacts. However, this process is not a quantitative process; there is not an absolute scoring system. Although considerations are made according to recognised features and methods of working, as outlined in this report, the correlation of the two factors is in the end a matter of professional judgement.

3.3 Table 1.2, shown overleaf, provides a brief definition of the full range of significance criteria. It must be emphasised that both landscape and visual impacts can be either adverse or beneficial in nature.

3.4 These ratings reflect the existing site condition, established use and existing planning consents, but also the nature and scale of the proposed development. The visual impacts arising from visual changes in the appearance of the landscape associated with the development and perceived by the visual receptor may be beneficial or adverse and are assigned a significance rating.

Significance	Definition
Negligible	The proposed scheme is appropriate in its context. It may be difficult to differentiate from its surroundings and would affect very few or no receptors.
Minor	The proposed scheme would cause a barely perceptible impact, and would affect few receptors.
Moderate	The proposed scheme would cause a noticeable difference to the landscape, and would affect several receptors.
Major	The proposed scheme would completely change the character and/or appearance of the landscape for a long period of time or permanently. It would affect many receptors.

Table 1.2 – Landscape and Visual Impact Significance Definitions

Cumulative Effects

- 3.5 In order to assess cumulative impact it is necessary to understand and define what cumulative effects are in relation to wind turbines. Onshore wind energy development (consisting of single turbines, wind clusters of 2-5 turbines and wind farms of 6-100 or more turbines) may have a cumulative landscape effect, either directly or indirectly affecting landscape character and qualities, as well as a cumulative visual effect. The Landscape Institute defines cumulative landscape and visual effects as:

‘Additional changes to landscape and visual amenity caused by the proposed development in conjunction with other developments (associated with or separate to it) or actions that have occurred in the past, present or are likely to occur in the foreseeable future’.

- 3.6 **Cumulative Landscape Effects** may be described as follows:

Cumulative landscape effects include changes to landscape elements, characteristics, character, and qualities of the landscape as a result of two or more on-shore wind energy developments.

- 3.7 Wind development is cited in ‘state of the countryside reports’ as an area of anticipated landscape change connected with climate change. The effects on the landscape could well be as marked as the advent of commercial forestry and changes to agricultural practices which have occurred over the last century.

3.8 **Cumulative Visual Effects** may be described as follows:

Cumulative visual effects are a subset of landscape effects and are concerned wholly with changes in the character of available views and the changes in the visual amenity perceived by receptors as a result of two or more on-shore wind energy developments. Cumulative visual effects may occur as follows:

- **Simultaneously** - where a number of turbines may be viewed from a single fixed viewpoint simultaneously, within the viewer's field of view without moving;
- **Successively** - where a number of turbines may be viewed from a single viewpoint successively by turning around at a viewpoint; and
- **Sequentially** - where a number of turbines may be viewed sequentially or repeatedly from a range of locations when travelling along a route.

3.9 The potential for a cumulative effect itself arises from a number of specific factors related to scheme layout and turbine selection, these include:

- Overall scale of development in relation to landscape capacity for development;
- Proportion of the view occupied by developments and interaction with how the view may be appreciated; and
- Composition of the combined scheme (coherence of design, extent of blade overlap from key viewpoints, rotational speed variation, etc.).

3.10 One important point to note is that once considered acceptable individually, multiple wind turbines in the landscape should be sited in a manner that presents 'order' to the extent that the developments may appear as relatively simple and easily understood components of the landscape. A consistency of image by the use of similar turbine heights, specification, and layout design is a reasonable approach to take when assessing the cumulative impact of turbines and how they relate to each other.

4.0 Determining Landscape Capacity and Sensitivity

4.1 Topic Paper 6 of Landscape Character Assessment Guidance for England and Wales seeks to define concepts of Capacity and Sensitivity. The following definitions are suggested:

- Overall Landscape Sensitivity refers primarily to the inherent sensitivity of the landscape itself, irrespective of the type of change that may be under consideration.
- Landscape Sensitivity to a specific type of change is used where it is necessary to assess the sensitivity of the landscape to a particular change or development.
- Landscape Capacity describes the ability of a landscape to accommodate different amounts of change or development of a specific type.

4.2 Sensitivity is the degree to which a particular landscape type or area can accommodate change arising from a particular development, without detrimental effects on its character and will vary with:

- Existing land use;
- The pattern and scale of the landscape;
- Visual enclosure/openness of views, and distribution of visual receptors;
- The scope for mitigation, which would be in character with the existing landscape;
- The value placed on the landscape.

4.3 Overall landscape sensitivity to change will be judged using a three point verbal scale of high, medium or low. Judgements are then made for each of the constituent aspects of sensitivity and these assessments are tabulated to provide a profile of a particular landscape area. An overview is then taken of the distribution of the assessments of each aspect and this is used to make an informed judgement about the sensitivity of the landscape to accommodate the specific change.

4.4 In order to make an informed assessment, the landscape character should be considered in context with the application site. The study area lies within Character Area 37 'Yorkshire Southern Pennine Fringe' as defined in The Countryside Commission's Countryside Character, 'The character of England's natural and man-made landscape', Volume 3: Yorkshire and The Humber (Ref. 11.3). The key characteristics of area 37 'Yorkshire Southern Pennine Fringe' are as follows:

- Eastern slopes of the Pennines, dropping from upland in the west down to the east, dissected by numerous steep-sided valleys;
- Extensive urban influences from the matrix of large and small towns;
- Close conjunction of large-scale industry, urban areas and transport routes with open countryside;
- Predominance of local sandstone and 'gritstone' as a building material notably in large and dominant industrial buildings;
- Urban development mainly confined by valleys creating dramatic interplay of views between settlements and the surrounding hillsides;
- Predominantly pastoral farming with strong linear patterns of walled enclosures on plateaux;
- Predominantly broadleaved woodlands on steep valley sides forming important backdrops to industrialised areas;
- Impression of a well-wooded landscape even though tree cover is relatively sparse overall;
- Dense network of roads, canals and railways.

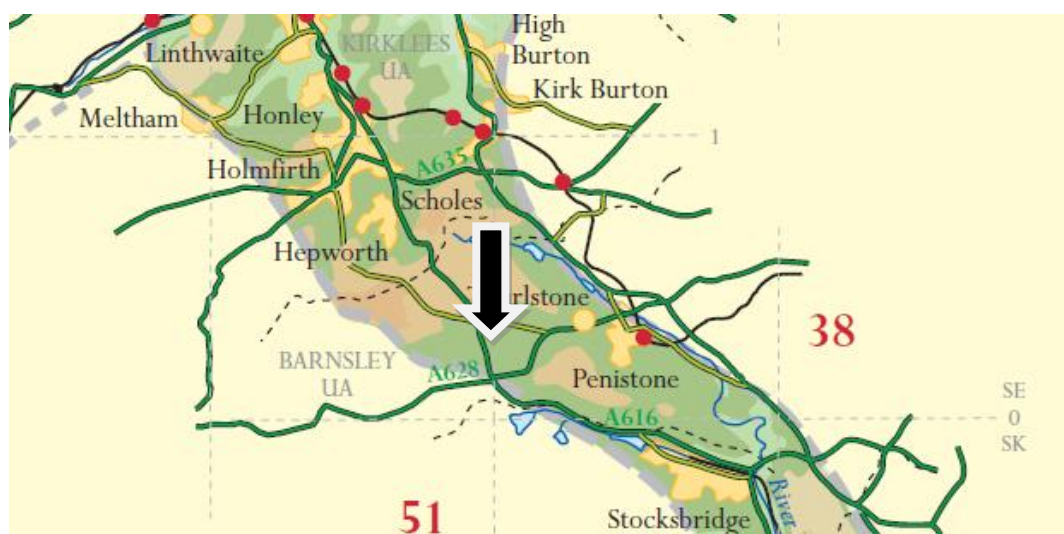


Image 4.1 - NCA Map Extract - 37 - South Pennine Fringe

Local Landscape Character

4.5 In terms of local character the site sits within Character Area F1: 'Ingbirchworth Upland Farmland' as defined in ECUS and Land Use Consultants 'Barnsley Borough Landscape Assessment' 2002. The key characteristics of this local landscape include:-

- *Stepped landform rising to 367m at Upper Whitley Edge.*
- *Fields of pasture comprising medium geometric field units strongly defined by distinctive stone walls.*
- *Beech plantations stand out on the skyline, sometimes enclosed by stone walls.*
- *Unimproved pasture with scrub on steeper slopes.*
- *Scattered farmsteads of sandstone, quarried from the local area.*
- *Villages of Thurlstone and Millhouse Green on the character area border with the valley of the River Don, both with links to the former fulling mills along the river.*
- *Wind farm at Spicer Hill is visually prominent on the skyline.*
- *Single lane rural roads criss-cross the open countryside, bounded by stone walls.*
- *Disused industrial quarries, shafts and mines indicate the importance of the area for the extraction of coal and stone.*
- *Man made reservoirs at Broadstone, Ingbirchworth, Royd Moor and Scout Dike.*
- *Panoramic views over adjacent river valleys and towards the open moorland of the Peak District National Park.*

4.6 The Barnsley Borough Landscape Assessment (2002) defines the F1 Ingbirchworth Upland Farm Area as a good example of Upland Rolling Farmland landscape types more predominant to the west of Barnsley. Representing large area of upland hill country in the north-west of the Borough it snetwork of intact gritstone walls providing a strong and distinctive, geometric field pattern. The landscape assessment also defines local area as follows:

"The area's field size varies corresponding to elevation with the older, smaller fields located in the lower and more sheltered areas and the larger, later enclosure fields over the higher ground. Some of the largest fields occur on Ingbirchworth Moor alongside 'The Whams', a marshy area of unimproved upland grassland. A large wind farm, built in 1993, is another feature of this area. Its graceful turbines are visible from many miles around, including from some elevated areas in the far extremes of Barnsley Borough 23 kilometres to the east, providing a prominent landmark in this large-scale landscape. Wood land cover is relatively low, although

ribbons of deciduous woodland exist in the shelter of the incised valleys of the streams that drain south to the River Don.

These becks, brooks and dikes drain the hills and have been artificially dammed in the 20th century to produce large reservoirs that sit surprisingly comfortably within the rural landscape. Stands of beech and sycamore are common features of the upland landscape, standing silhouetted against the skyline. This hill country is a good example of the established pattern of farming, in which stonewalled fields, hamlets and isolated farmsteads, together with valley woodlands, form a landscape of natural beauty. Sheep have been a familiar feature of the landscape for many centuries and it has strong links to the wool industry. Ingbirchworth is a more recent rural village settlement, located by the side of the Ingbirchworth reservoir.

Most of the farmland is now improved grassland, but remaining unimproved areas on the steeper or more elevated slopes, and damp pastures alongside dikes and springs, are valuable for nature conservation. Straight rural lanes, bounded by stone walls, cut across the hills linking adjacent farms.

The A616 cuts across the area, at the foot of Whitley Edge, and is a busy route through the upland landscape. A large clay works sits, well enclosed by landform, by the side of the A616.

Other past industrial activities are indicated by the presence of disused mines. Views are panoramic, stretching over the valley of the River Don to the south and into Denby Dale to the north. The wind farm at Royd Moor is a prominent feature in views.

- 4.7 In terms of the Council's evaluation of the landscape, especially in relation to new development going forward, the assessment concluded the following:

- Strength of Character: **Strong** - in terms of its distinctive stepped topography, dry stone wall network, overall rural upland character and panoramic views
- Condition: **Moderate** - condition of some individual features that make up the character of the landscape is in decline (stone walls eroding and natural tree cover is diminishing).

- Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity: **High/ Low** - Despite its open character, the river and dikes and surrounding topography provide some visual enclosure. The rural character of the area, its low density settlement pattern and field patterns and views from the Peak District National Park to the south west however make the landscape sensitive to built development.
- Landscape Objectives: **Conserve and Restore**

Condition	Good	Strengthen	Conserve & Strengthen	Conserve
	MODERATE	Strengthen & Enhance	Conserve & Enhance	CONSERVE & RESTORE
	Poor	Creation	Restore & Enhance	Restore
		Weak	Moderate	STRONG
		Strength of Character		

- 4.8 With the above analysis of the local landscape character in mind, the date of the assessment (i.e. 2002) suggests that individual wind turbine developments may not have been envisaged as being a potential mainstream type of development at the time - notwithstanding the references to the Royd Moor Wind Farm. While the sensitivity of the landscape to general built development is acknowledged, its capacity to accommodate wind turbine development is judged to be higher, based on subsequent wind turbine development that has been deemed acceptable by the local authority and the nature of wind turbine development which help to maintain the openness and character of areas where they are situated due to their narrowness in design and aesthetically pleasing appearance - the latter point however being more subjective in its interpretation.

Landscape Designations

- 4.9 Having viewed the Magic website (Ref 1-5) it was found that, other than the site being located adjacent to a Greenbelt, there are no other national or local landscape designations within 10km of the site. The exception to this being the Peak District National Park boundary is located around 4km to the south west.

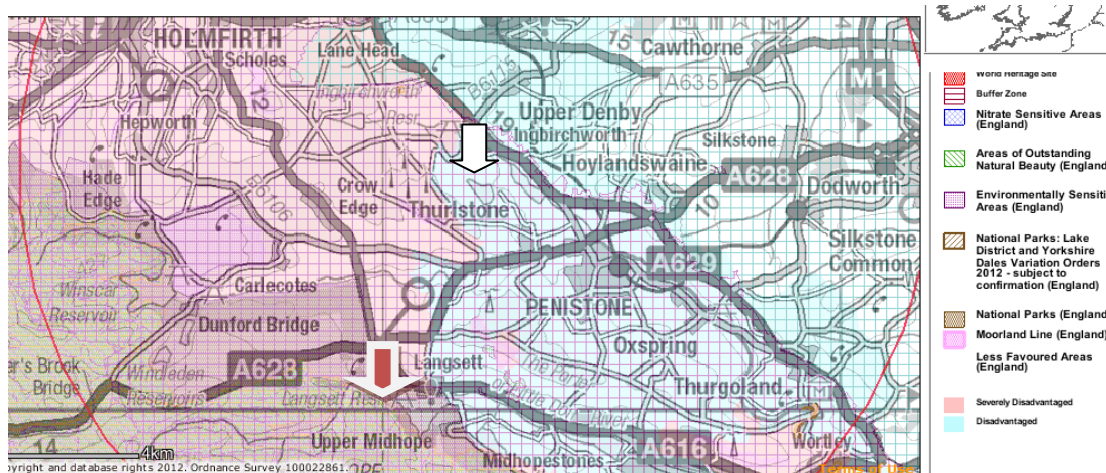


Image 4.2 - MAGIC Extract - White arrow turbine site and red arrow denoting National Park Boundary (DEFRA)

- 4.10 While this National Park designation is within the 10km area of search, sensitive receptors from the north easterly part of the park already take into account the presence of the Royd Moor turbine site, which has been a prominent feature in terms of views and the setting of the Park since 1993. The addition of one turbine to impact over and above what is already existing (in the form of the Royd Moor scheme) should be taken into account.
- 4.11 Such clear examples of an operational wind farm and smaller scale wind turbines within the area show that such structures have and can be sensitively assimilated within the landscape through careful siting, scale and using the natural undulation of the landscape. These measures have ensured that while the turbines are visible from varying vantage points, their scale and layout does not overly dominate or compromise the wider and micro landscape features which remain predominant throughout.

Cumulative Effect

- 4.12 The need to take into account cumulative effect is also considered in order to ensure that the addition of the turbine does introduce a significant level of cumulative landscape effect on the landscape. With each photomontage a statement relating to cumulative effect is also provided to demonstrate the potential for this phenomena.

5.0 Determining the Sensitivity of Visual Receptors

- 5.1 Principal viewpoints are selected on the basis of which points provide the clearest views of the site and are also the most accessible to the public. Secondary viewpoints represent views from areas which are not commonly used by the public, or which would provide less clear views of the proposed development. Secondary viewpoints also represent areas which may be perceived to be sensitive to the visual impact of the proposed development due to their nature or proximity, but which in reality have restricted views of the site.
- 5.2 Sensitivity of visual receptors is typically assessed by ascribing one of the following levels: very high, high, medium or low sensitivity to change. The sensitivity of visual receptors and views will depend on the context of the view, the importance of the view and the nature of the receptor.
- 5.3 Table 1.3 below provides a description of the criteria used to define the sensitivity of the visual receptors:

Sensitivity	Definition of Visual Receptor
High	Strategic recreational footpaths, areas or rights of way; important landscape features with physical, cultural or historic attributes; principal views from residential buildings; views from beauty spots and picnic areas;
Medium	Other footpaths and open spaces; secondary, oblique or distant views from residential buildings; views from institutional buildings (hospitals, schools etc); pedestrians and cyclists travelling on public roads.
Low	Views from industrial or commercial buildings or areas; views experienced by people engaged in active sport / recreation; drivers and passengers of vehicles; views from primarily functional main roads*; and views from trains.

Table 1.3 – Criteria for Assessing Sensitivity of Visual Receptors

**** Views from faster roads (e.g. 'A' and 'B' class roads and motorways) are normally considered to be of low sensitivity to change due to the transitory nature of such views. Views from minor country lanes, which potentially have a higher recreational value, have been assessed as being of high sensitivity.***

Determining Magnitude of Impacts on Landscape Character and Visual Receptors

- 5.4 Magnitude is determined by the distance from the viewer, the extent of change in the field of vision, the proportion or number of views affected and the duration of each from each viewpoint, or a sequence of viewpoints that may have transient views (e.g. along a road).
- 5.5 Generally, greater weight is given to visual impacts on public viewpoints than on private properties. Table 1.4 below provides a description of the criteria used to assess the magnitude of impacts on landscape and visual receptors:

Visual Receptor Magnitude	Assessment
High	Total loss of or major alteration to key elements/ features/ characteristics of the baseline i.e. pre-development landscape or view and/or introduction of elements considered to be totally uncharacteristic when set within the attributes of the receiving landscape.
Medium	Partial loss or alteration to one or more key elements/ features/ characteristics of the baseline i.e. pre-development landscape or view and/or introduction of elements that may be predominant but may not necessarily be considered to be substantially uncharacteristic when set within the attributes of the receiving landscape.
Low	Minor loss of or alteration to one or more key elements/ features/ characteristics of the baseline i.e. pre-development landscape or view and/or introduction of elements that may not be uncharacteristic when set within the attributes of the receiving landscape.
Negligible	Very minor loss or alteration to one or more key elements/ features/ characteristics of the baseline i.e. pre-development landscape or view and/or introduction of elements that are not uncharacteristic within the surrounding landscape – approximating the ‘no change’ situation.

Table 1.4 – Assessing Magnitude of Impacts on Landscape and Visual Receptors
Magnitude: Typical Criteria

Nature of the Development

- 5.6 The proposal is for the erection of 1no. 50m (hub) high wind turbine within agricultural land owned by and associated with Ingfield Farm, Ingbirchworth, West Yorkshire. The turbine would have an overall height of approximately 74m to the tip. Information on the location, structure and specification of the wind turbine and associated infrastructure is shown on the drawings which accompany this application.

Baseline Conditions

- 5.7 The proposed wind turbine would be positioned within established agricultural land to the west of Ingfield Farm, west of the nearest settlement of Ingbirchworth and south east of the conservation adjacent High Lane. The proposal would measure approximately 50m high to the hub, with the blades extending to reach a tip height of 74m. In this rural location and at this height the turbine would be visible from areas to the south and west, but less so to the north and east due to the natural elevation of the land and presence of natural screening. Direct views would be less prominent from Ingbirchworth, where the turbine would be screened by local topography and tree belts. Views from the adjacent conservation area to the north east would also be interrupted, as the lay of the land and man-made features would prohibit direct views of the whole turbine. While views of the turbine from south would be more open and prominent, especially to dwellings and footpaths in the local area, views from settlements further south, such as Thurlstone and parts of Penistone, would not be possible. While views towards the site are achievable from a couple of properties to the west, the ridge (Spicer Hill) which accommodates the prominent Royd Moor wind farm rises up and screens more long distance views from beyond this point, again ensuring visual impact is contained to the local scale.

6.0 Zone of Theoretical Visibility

- 6.1 In order to quantify the likely visual impact of the proposed wind turbine, a series of photomontages have been prepared of the turbines in situ and how the scheme relates to the surrounding landscape features. These photomontages have been taken following an appraisal of the likely sensitive receptors and following the preparation of a Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) Map.
- 6.2 The Zone of Theoretical Visibility Map is attached as Appendix A and has been undertaken with a radius of 15km. The Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (2nd edition) do not state minimum or maximum zones for ZTVs, however 10km is often given as a best practice measurement. In addition, paragraph 63 of the Scottish Natural Heritage Visual Representation of Wind Farms Guidance (2006) also suggests that for turbines between 53m and 85m in height, it is not possible to identify the taper of a turbine tower or identify nacelle detail at distances of 10km. In addition, the same report notes that while blade movement is visible up to 15km, the casual observer may find blade movement unnoticeable beyond 10km. At 15km the attached ZTV assessment is therefore considered a reasonable distance to judge the potential of the turbines' impact on the surrounding landscape. It shows that the turbine would theoretically be visible from the surrounding settlements of Ingbirchworth to the east, settlements further south such as Penistone, and north east towards Cawthorne. Views from further afield, such as from Emley, are also possible. Views of the turbine from the south west are less prominent, with long range views theoretically possible from Little Moor (A628), Bleaklow Hill and Mid Hope Moors. Views towards the site would however take into account Royd Moor wind farm, diminishing the significance of impact the additional turbine might introduce. Views from the turbine from the northwest are much more limited due to topography.
- 6.3 While the ZTV suggests that direct views of the turbine would be obtainable from all of these areas provided above, the tool does not factor in any landscape features - such as trees, pylons, communications towers - situated in-between the turbine and these various view point. In addition, due to the scale of the turbine and the relative narrowness of the mast and blades, it is less likely to be appreciated to the naked eye in the longer distance views. Any significant visual impact is therefore more likely to be contained to more local areas.

7.0 Visual Impact Assessment

7.1 Photomontages are provided as part of the application pack and attached as Appendix B, to provide a comprehensive assessment of the likely visual impact of the 1no. EWT500 wind turbine in situ from the selected points in the surrounding area. As stated earlier, these locations have been chosen on the basis of which points provide the clearest views of the site, are generally accessible and considered most sensitive to the impact of development, whilst also illustrating the potential impact from all directions. An individual assessment for each viewpoint is, therefore, provided below. In addition to the above, a statement on cumulative impact has also been provided at each Vantage Point, in the context of the Red Tile Wind Farm and the potential of the two sites to be viewed in quick succession or together.

Vantage Point 1

7.2 The following table summarises the results of the analysis of the likely effects from vantage point 1 and links with Photomontage 1 of Appendix B.

<i>Site/Feature</i>	<i>Location and Distance from Turbine</i>	<i>Receptor Sensitivity</i>	<i>Magnitude of Impact</i>	<i>Impact Assessment</i>
Vantage Point 1 – New Lane Road/ Edge of Ingbirchworth Conservation Area (X422323, Y405653)	Approximately - 503m to east	High	Medium	Moderate

7.3 This vantage point is situated adjacent to the edge of the Ingbirchworth Conservation Area, and represents the principal view of the adjacent Grade II* listed barn (which has been converted for residential use). As a result the sensitivity of this receptor is deemed to be high due to potential impact on these designated heritage assets and the view from a residential dwelling.

7.4 From this location, the proposed turbine appears just above the top of an agricultural building, as seen in the image. While the turbine is visible, its full extent is not exposed.

While there is some skylining, its potential to significantly detract from the character of the Conservation Area is limited as the barn reinforces the sense of separation between the sites. In addition, the reasonably substantial barn which obscures the turbine is itself limited in terms of architectural merit and sympathy to the adjacent vernacular of the 17th - 19th (circa) farm buildings located further within the Conservation Area. The turbine's turning blades will attract viewers' gaze, as they progress along the edge of the Conservation Area. However the turbine's impact diminishes as one heads south east towards the centre of the heritage designation, eventually with associated tree screening, buildings and the lay of the land obscuring the turbine. In terms of the potential for impact on the Conservation Area and the listed building, the medium scale of the proposal and its screening behind the agricultural shed should help ensure it does not introduce '*substantial harm to or total loss of significance of a designated heritage asset*' - as set out in the NPPF (para 133) and therefore the presence of the turbine should be, in landscape terms, acceptable.

- 7.5 The photo was taken slightly north of the grade II* listed barn. As such, the barn will more fully obscure the view of the turbine than is shown within proposed photomontage 1. Only the nacelle and the portion of the blades visible above the ridge line of the building would be visible from the property, and only if its residents look out at an angle from their main ground floor living room window. It is therefore considered that in light of the above factors and mitigation available, the overall impact of the proposed development would be moderate.

Cumulative Effect

- 7.6 From this receptor, the Royd Moor Wind Farm is not visible and neither are other small scale turbines located further afield. The two developments would not be viewed together from this point, or from further south; only potentially from users of the footpath further west - discussed later. The proposal is therefore situated far enough apart from other existing and proposed developments to limit cumulative views from this point.

Vantage Point 2

- 7.7 The following table summarises the results of the analysis of the likely effects from vantage point 2 and links with Photomontage 2 of Appendix B.

<i>Site/Feature</i>	<i>Location and Distance from Turbine</i>	<i>Receptor Sensitivity</i>	<i>Magnitude of Impact</i>	<i>Impact Assessment</i>
Vantage Point 2 – Footpath adjacent Caravan Park (under operation of the applicant) (X422346, Y405529)	Approximately 428m from the east of the turbine site	High	Medium	Moderate

- 7.8 This location was taken from relatively close range, to the east of the site. The footpath is reasonably well screened along a large portion of the view to the west, with sporadic and fleeting views towards the site. This represents one of the openings along its boundary, with a view towards the adjacent caravan site and the turbine located to the background of the view. As a public right of way and proximity to the caravan site (which is a recognised leisure use) the vista is deemed to have high receptor sensitivity due to its high associated recreational value.
- 7.9 From this vantage point, only a portion of the turbine is visible, with local tree screening to the boundary of the caravan park helping to limit views of only the nacelle and turbine blades. This said, the turning motion of the blades and yawing of the turbine head (i.e. 360 degree rotation of the nacelle around the tower) could be noticeable. Due to the proximity of the turbine to the caravan site, views from other parts of the site, away from the associated tree screening, would suggest a fuller extent of the turbine would be visible to users. While the interpretation of the turbine's visibility to users of the caravan site would be more subjective, users of the site would be likely to suffer some visual impact due to the turbine's presence. This potential for impact however must be taken in the context of the equally prominent Royd Moor Wind Farm, which although sits peripherally in views to the west, nonetheless provides a reasonable base-line which to gauge the potential impact of additional turbines such as this. The fact the landscape already accommodates Royd Moor suggests that users of the camp site would be aware of and tolerant to the principle of such development; otherwise why continue to camp at the site. The fact that the applicant also owns the camp site also strongly suggests that forms of mitigation are available (e.g. tree planting to the western boundaries) and could be utilised if required.

The turbine's potential to impact on views of the footpath also requires consideration, and while there are fleeting views towards the site, as suggested by the photomontage, these views are obscured by localised tree screening which helps to offset the magnitude of impact on landscape views available from the receptor. Views would be more prominent on the approach from the south to the north, with fleeting views towards the site possible at different intervals. However, the footpath is quite substantially screened by shrubs and hedgerows which prohibit any prolonged views of the turbine, reducing incidences of overall impact. While the turbine has the potential to take up a portion of the landscape view from this direction, it is concluded that the resultant magnitude of impact on this receptor due to the presence of vegetation helps to ensure impacts on landscape character from this orientation, would be moderate only.

Cumulative Effect

- 7.10 From this vista, while some of the Royd Moor Turbines as well as some of the three additional Spicer Hill Wind turbines could theoretically be visible (see cumulative impact wireframe 2), the same screening provided by tree screening as visible within the picture also helps to reduce the potential for cumulative effect. The proposed turbine and those 3 Spicer Hill turbines cannot be viewed in the same view, although some sequential views may be possible as one travels from the south further north, or further north from the site. The presence of farm buildings and tree screening should ensure that sequential views of this and other turbines is reduced, and only applicable if one heads onto the adjacent public right of way known as High Lane and over the ridge towards Spicer Hill. Successive views would not be possible if users carried on north towards Ingbirchworth, via the edge of the Conservation Area.

Vantage Point 3

- 7.11 The following table summarises the results of the analysis of the likely effects from vantage point 3 and links with Photomontage 3 of Appendix B.

<i>Site/Feature</i>	<i>Location and Distance from Turbine</i>	<i>Receptor Sensitivity</i>	<i>Magnitude of Impact</i>	<i>Impact Assessment</i>
Vantage Point 3 – Bridleway - Huddersfield Road, - Ingboroughworth X422429, Y405858	Approximately 738m east of the turbine	High	Low	Slight

7.12 The photomontage from this receptor illustrates the landscape impact of the proposed turbine from a bridleway located within Ingbirchworth. The view also shows the potential visual impact view from houses located along the Huddersfield Road. Despite being located on a bridleway, when the author tried to access this right of way further north, it appeared to have been blocked by operational development and so the potential for this right of way to be used to its full extent is limited. However, due to the right of way location and in terms of the potential for impact on views for some of the properties located along the road, its sensitivity is deemed to be high. This view was also chosen in terms of views from Ingbirchworth as it represents one of the most exposed in terms of clear views towards the turbine site.

7.13 While many of the principal views from houses aligning this road would not have a clear view to the site due to obvious tree screening provided to the west of this route (see photomontage 3) there are some gaps in the foliage where views would be apparent. In this instance, only the turbine head and blades are visible above the tree lines situated further west. The turbine is obviously separated from the village boundary and seen in terms of its distant location. It is not overly imposing on the village and its form as a single turbine should ensure that it does not introduce a significant impact on the residents of the village or the views from properties which align the Huddersfield Road. The visible portion of the turbine would skyline however, and is somewhat prominent against the foreground which encompasses views towards. The turbine's impact is however offset by the presence of other man made features, such as telegraph poles and tall chimneys which align the roof tops of houses. Such features help to ensure that the turbine is not viewed as a single alien entity in the skyline, making its appearance less stark to viewers. The resultant magnitude of impact is deemed to be low, as only fleeting views of the turbine are possible from the village and the bridleway is restricted in terms of its use. If the right of way is functionally

operational, it is thought that views towards the turbine might be more prominent as users approach from the north east, as the land rises in this direction, however significance concluded as being low, due to the good level of screening available, intermittent views and the small portion of the turbine that is visible.

Cumulative Effect

- 7.14 Royd Moor Wind Farm is located further west, beyond the section of the turbine which is visible from this point. As such, it is unlikely that this turbine and the Royd Moor turbines would be viewed in parallel from this view point.

Vantage Point 4

- 7.15 The following table summarises the results of the analysis of the likely effects from vantage point 4 and links with Photomontage 4 of Appendix B.

<i>Site/Feature</i>	<i>Location and Distance from Turbine</i>	<i>Receptor Sensitivity</i>	<i>Magnitude of Impact</i>	<i>Impact Assessment</i>
Vantage Point 4 – Ingbirchworth Reservoir (X421677, Y406128)	Approximately 965m to the north west	Medium	Medium	Moderate

- 7.16 This receptor has a medium sensitivity value resulting from its location adjacent Ingbirchworth reservoir, and in terms of its proximity to housing further north east and the potential for secondary views. Taken from the roadside, this viewpoint was taken looking towards the south east and provides a good indication of the potential for visual impact on properties situated further north and east (albeit secondary views), and so its sensitivity has taken into account these factors.
- 7.17 From this vantage point, the turbine would be seen in the context of the adjacent field system and tree screening, which provides the proposal with a suitable scale. The turbine's full extent is visible against the skyline, and there is little in terms of mitigation to prevent this phenomenon. This said, the turbine's off-white colour and appearance should ensure that when viewed against the skyline, it would be less noticeable. In addition, the distance

from the turbine ensures that its medium size scale can be appreciated. While more significant than a smaller scale machine, the proposed turbine is not of the same ilk as larger scale turbines which can reach to over 100m in height. The overall magnitude of the proposal is therefore limited, as the introduction of a single turbine would not overly substantially change the characteristics of the wider landscape, which has the capacity to absorb such development. Features prominent with the foreground of the view also help to distract the viewer's gaze away from the turbine, including the substantial works located in the foreground of the vista. In addition, with the majority of properties located further north of the site having aspects facing east to west, the potential for the turbine to impact on principal views of these properties is substantially reduced. Where there is potential to impact on the outlook, the proposal's medium scale, the rising topography of the site and the presence of tree screening between the residential areas and the site should help to ensure that the presence of the additional turbine would not significantly and detrimentally impact on these views.

Cumulative Effect

- 7.18 From this view looking south east, towards the site, only the proposed turbine would be visible, from the same viewpoint and looking further south west, the turbines of Royd Moor wind farm are also visible. This is a successive form of cumulative impact, with the viewer only able to view both the proposed and existing sites when turning their gaze further west towards Royd Moor (or vice-versa). The potential for impact is not gauged to be overly significant, as this is just one additional turbine and not a wind farm and as such, the above does not constitute a landscape of turbines.

Vantage Point 5

- 7.19 The following table summarises the results of the analysis of the likely effects from vantage point 5 and links with Photomontage 5 of Appendix B.

Site/Feature	Location and Distance from Turbine	Receptor Sensitivity	Magnitude of Impact	Impact Assessment
Vantage Point 5 – Property on Horn Lane (National Trail / Long Distance Route) (X420772, Y406029)	Approximately 1.5km to the north west of the turbine	High	Low	Slight

7.20 This vantage point is situated to the west of Horn Lane. Although opposite a dwelling, substantial local screening is provided in-between the site and the view from this house, ensuring negligible impact would result. The site was chosen to reflect the potential impact of the proposed turbine from a north westerly direction, including this route as part of a national trail.

7.21 While the turbine is visible from this location, the medium scale of the turbine has helped to ensure that impact is not overly substantial. The turbine is seen in the context of adjacent tree screening which is located further north west of the site. Although not local to the site, such screening helps to offset the impact of the turbine and provides some context in terms of its medium scale. The level of screening provided is not overly substantial, however the turbine is considered to introduce a minor loss in the overall view from this point. Users travelling east on the right-of-way would endure this small level of impact, however the road descends in terms of topography, further south towards Ingbirchworth reservoir, where more substantial tree screening and steeply rising topography help to obscure views towards the turbine. More substantial impacts are therefore considered to be localised in this instance.

Cumulative Effect

7.22 Again, there is some potential for successive cumulative views of the proposed and the existing Royd Moor wind farm (as well as those six additional turbines proposed at Spicer Hill and Crow Edge). The additional six turbines would be viewed in the context of Royd Moor, which as a substantial wind farm already introduces a level of visual impact. This said, from this location, the single turbine introduced at Ingfield Farm could be argued to introduce a level of successive cumulative impact, as in addition to the existing and proposed at Royd

Moor/ Crow Edge, users of the footpath would have successive views of the wind farm and of the proposed development. In addition, there are other existing turbines to the north of this location albeit at a smaller scale, suggesting that the proposed might add an additional degree of cumulative effect. The scale of the turbine should help to offset at least some of this potential impact.

Vantage Point 6

- 7.23 The following table summarises the results of the analysis of the likely effects from vantage point 6 and links with Photomontage 6 of Appendix B.

<i>Site/Feature</i>	<i>Location and Distance from Turbine</i>	<i>Receptor Sensitivity</i>	<i>Magnitude of Impact</i>	<i>Impact Assessment</i>
Vantage Point 6 - Bridleway (High Lane) to the north/north west of the proposed site X421086, Y405269	Approximately 953m to the west of the turbine	High	Medium	Moderate

- 7.24 This vantage point, situated on the bridleway to the north (i.e. High Lane) is situated within 953m to the west of the proposed turbine. As a public right of way, this is regarded as an important vantage point towards the site. It has been chosen to reflect the potential impact of the proposal from a north westerly direction. The sensitivity of the receptor has therefore been chosen as High, due to its bridleway status.
- 7.25 The turbine is visible from the receptor, taking up a relatively small portion of the view from this point. The turbine's grey colour would however help to mask the potential for impact for most of the year. There is little in terms of mitigation available at the site, in terms of existing vertical structures or localised screening (etc). In this instance, the turbine appears as a sole structure within the vista, although towards the background of the shot. Some tree plantations are visible towards the right of the photo, which helps provide a form of scale; although providing little mitigation to offset the turbine's somewhat apparent presence. The turbine is visible from where the footpath commences, and as one heads further east

would become larger and more significant in its scale and impact on views further south towards Royd Moor reservoir - see photomontage 13. As a sole turbine in the landscape from this direction, however such impact is less substantial than a collective wind farm and the proposal must be judged in this context. The turbine is also not as substantial as potentially larger turbines, demonstrating that the applicant has taken into account the need to limit overt impacts on the local area. The turbine is also not totally skylined, either, with the back drop of the wider Barnsley landscape limiting the turbine's impact, in this sense. The resultant impact of the turbine on the visual amenity afforded this public right of way is therefore considered to be moderate, as although the turbine appears a more isolated feature, its narrowness and medium scale and should ensure that the wider openness of this view is not significantly impacted upon.

Cumulative Effect

- 7.26 The potential for successive cumulative impact is also reduced from this viewpoint, due to the distances involved between this receptor and the two different sites. Royd Moor is however just visible on the horizon facing south, and although both schemes are visible in the same context (successively), the introduction of this single turbine is not considered enough to substantially detract from a user's enjoyment of this route. Indeed, any cumulative impact from this viewpoint would be limited in terms of overall timescales, with the wind farm scheduled for decommission at 2018. Suffice to say, the more substantial (and consented) turbines at Spicer Hill (x 3) turbines and Blackstone Edge Red (x3) would still be present.

Vantage Point 7

- 7.27 The following table summarises the results of the analysis of the likely effects from vantage point 7 and links with Photomontage 7 of Appendix B.

Site/Feature	Location and Distance from Turbine	Receptor Sensitivity	Magnitude of Impact	Impact Assessment
Vantage Point 7 – View west of Annat Royd (Gr II) Farm House X421098, Y404890	Approximately 1km from turbine	High	Low	Slight

- 7.28 This vantage point has been chosen to reflect the potential impact of the proposed turbine from a westerly direction, as well as on the outlook of Grade II listed Annat Royd Farm House and the setting of the same building. Annat Royd Farm House is located to the west of the site, in-between Royd Moor Reservoir and Annat Royd Lane. Due to the sensitivity of the listed building, receptor sensitivity is judged as being high. While the ZTV shows blanket views of the turbine from this point, the presence of trees and thickets in-between the vista and the turbine suggest that the overall impact on the landscape and amenity will be substantially reduced from this location. As a result the turbine is harder to make out than from other points, as telegraphy poles and aforementioned tree cover help to disguise its presence. That said the turbine's nacelle and blades would be visible from the approach to the listed building, although its overall setting would be protected due to the tree cover and the distances involved between the sites - suggesting that they are suitably divorced from each other. The potential to impact on outlook from the farm house is also reduced, mainly due to the fact that the main farmhouse has a north-west to south-east aspect. Part of the farmhouse does face towards the turbine site however, suggesting that the potential of some impact cannot be ruled outright. Adjacent vegetation should however offset adverse impact of the turbine and other features in the landscape, including the Emley Moor structure, in the far distance to the north already occupy parts of the landscape view. The distance of the turbine away from the receptor also helps to limit the potential to impact on views from the site.

Cumulative Effect

- 7.29 The potential for cumulative impact is once again present in the successive categories, whereby the turbine would be able to see the partially screened turbine, as well as the more substantial Royd Moor development, located to the south. On clearer days, the two developments may be viewed in the same context, and by most observers, and some

cumulative impact is expected to result. However, the scale and number of turbines proposed should ensure that cumulative effect is not adverse, and would not represent a landscape of turbines, preserving the landscape character in this area.

Vantage Point 8

- 7.30 The following table summarises the results of the analysis of the likely effects from vantage point 8 and links with Photomontage 8 of Appendix B.

<i>Site/Feature</i>	<i>Location and Distance from Turbine</i>	<i>Receptor Sensitivity</i>	<i>Magnitude of Impact</i>	<i>Impact Assessment</i>
Vantage Point 8 – Far Royd Moor Farm (incl. Gr II listed barn/ stable) X421414, Y404494	Approximately 968m to the west of the turbine	High	Medium	Moderate

- 7.31 This vantage point is situated to the west of the site, west of Royd Moor reservoir. The buildings to the right of the photo are those of Far Royd Moor Farm, which can be seen are well screened by adjacent and substantial tree screening. It has been chosen to reflect the potential impact of the proposed turbine on views from the west, as well as views from Far Royd Farm. The ZTV shows that the turbine would be visible from this location, as is seen in the accompanying photomontage which displays a clear view of the turbine. As the aspect of the farm house faces east to west, the sensitivity of this receptor is therefore judged to be medium, as a secondary view from a residential dwelling and as the route is an attractive country lane.
- 7.32 This view shows that the entire turbine is visible, however it does not skyline due to the surrounding countryside providing an adequate backdrop. Although out of shot, the Emley Moor transmitter is also visible from this vista, a principal vertical structure in the local and wider area which helps provide a context to the medium scale of the development proposed. The local and wider area therefore has endured a form of substantial vertical development for a significant period of time, although it is acknowledged that there are

differences between a static structure such as Emley Moor (and one that has become part of the landscape's cultural history) and a wind turbine which has rotating blades. While the turbine appears in almost full view, it is thought that from the farm buildings and farm dwelling, the turbine would be substantially screened, and the main dwelling's aspect also faces north west to south east, away from the site - therefore lowering the potential for adverse impact on outlook. The turbine's presence would however introduce some difference to landscape views by its nature, as can be seen in the photomontage - hence the moderate overall level of impact significance.

Cumulative Effect

- 7.33 The potential for successive cumulative impact is quite high from this receptor on Spicer House Lane, as Royd Moor Wind Farm would be visible to viewers if they turned 180 degrees to the west. The addition of the forthcoming six additional turbines to further north east would also add to the presence of wind turbines in the area. The addition of one medium scale to the north east, while would be visible in the same context as these more substantial turbines, is not thought to introduce a landscape of turbines effect, due to its single nature and due to the fact it is not skylined.

Vantage Point 9

- 7.34 The following table summarises the results of the analysis of the likely effects from vantage point 9 and links with Photomontage 9 of Appendix B.

<i>Site/Feature</i>	<i>Location and Distance from Turbine</i>	<i>Receptor Sensitivity</i>	<i>Magnitude of Impact</i>	<i>Impact Assessment</i>
Vantage Point 9 – Royd Moor Farm (incl. Gr II listed barn/ stable) X422050, Y404155	Approximately 1.1km to the south of the turbine	High	Low	Slight

- 7.35 This vantage point is situated slightly west of Royd Moor Farm, to the south of Royd Moor reservoir. It has been chosen to reflect the potential impact of the proposed turbine on

views from the south west, as well as on the potential to impact on the Grade II heritage asset and its setting, as well as the main farm house located at the farm. The ZTV shows that the turbine would be visible from this location, as seen in the photomontage. The sensitivity of this receptor is therefore judged to be high, due to the setting of the listed barns.

- 7.36 This view shows that the entire turbine is visible, with its backdrop cloaked by the surrounding land form in the area. This helps to offset the turbine's impact and ensures the turbine does not skyline, helping it to blend into the wider landscape. In the distance is Emley Moor transmitter and structure which is a principal vertical structure in the local and wider area. This helps to provide a context to the development and helps demonstrate the medium scale of the turbine. As can be seen, the turbine is suitably divorced from the listed building to ensure that its setting remains intact. Additional screening on site (see accompanying Heritage Section within DAS) also helps to reduce direct views towards the turbine from the actual listed building. The resultant impact of the turbine on the visual amenity afforded to the farm dwelling on this receptor is therefore considered to be negligible, as the turbine does not take up a disproportionate amount of the view and the dwelling's aspect also faces east to west, away from the site. Furthermore, while there is some impact on the character of the landscape area from this orientation, at this distance, the scale of the turbine is such that its impact dramatically reduces as the distance from the site increases. The turbine's visibility would cause some minor loss to the landscape by its nature, hence the slight overall level of significance. This said, the topography of the surrounding landscape should ensure that this impact is kept to the local scale.

Cumulative Effect

- 7.37 The potential for successive cumulative impact is negligible from this receptor, with only the tips of the Royd Moor Wind Farm visible as the viewer turns their head to the west, due to the intervening topography which rises before Spicer Hill. Simultaneous impacts are however more evident (see cumulative impact photomontage 9) whereby a smaller Endurance turbine is visible (High Flats application - Kirklees) to the rear of the view; albeit not as visible due its small scale. Here the presence of the Emley Moor tower helps to demonstrate the small scale nature of the turbine being proposed and provides some perspective in terms of the cumulative effect.

Vantage Point 10

- 7.38 The following table summarises the results of the analysis of the likely effects from vantage point 10 and links with Photomontage 10 of Appendix B.

<i>Site/Feature</i>	<i>Location and Distance from Turbine</i>	<i>Receptor Sensitivity</i>	<i>Magnitude of Impact</i>	<i>Impact Assessment</i>
Vantage Point 10 – Footpath/ trail to south of Royd Moor Reservoir X422302, Y404525	Approximately 762m to the south of the turbine	High	Medium	Moderate

- 7.39 This vantage point is situated south of Royd Moor reservoir, to south of the site. The receptor was taken from a footpath, which is well screened to the east and west by substantial tree cover and associated foliage. The site was chosen to reflect the potential impact of the proposed turbine on views from this recreational route. Once again, the ZTV shows that the turbine would be visible from this location, as is demonstrated by its presence in the photomontage. The sensitivity of this receptor is therefore judged to be high, due its recreational function.
- 7.40 This view demonstrates that the majority of the turbine is visible, with limited background to cloak the structure, meaning it will appear skylined from this vista. The turbine is however viewed in the context of adjacent trees and associated vegetation, meaning that it does not appear overly harsh in its appearance to the north of the lake. On approach from the south, the turbine's presence does however emerge out of local screening and is relatively prominent in terms of the current landscape view. From this distance, the turbine and its rotating blades would command the attention of viewers, whether they appreciate such structures or not and so this must be taken into account. The change in view/ significance is therefore viewed as medium, the turbine would represent a predominant element in the landscape, and there would be a partial loss of view beyond the turbine. The turbine would however not continue to dominate views once users of the footpath pass towards the east, towards Scout Dike Reservoir. At this point looking north, the turbine would introduce a noticeable difference to landscape character from this point and so its effect significance is viewed as moderate.

Cumulative Effect

- 7.41 The potential for successive cumulative impact is negligible from this receptor, as the footpath is so well screened from this point, as well as from the approach further south. Users approaching from the east would also have no combined views of this turbine and the more predominant wind farm schemes further west. There may be a slight chance of simultaneous impact (see the Photomontage 10 - Cumulative impact), with the blade tips of one of the 50kW Endurances located to the north just visible on the horizon. This potential for simultaneous impact is however viewed as negligible, especially with the distance involved to the other small scale turbine and the small percentage of the view taken up by the proposals.

Vantage Point 11

- 7.42 The following table summarises the results of the analysis of the likely effects from vantage point 11 and links with Photomontage 11 of Appendix B.

<i>Site/Feature</i>	<i>Location and Distance from Turbine</i>	<i>Receptor Sensitivity</i>	<i>Magnitude of Impact</i>	<i>Impact Assessment</i>
Vantage Point 11 – View from Car Lane/ Huddersfield Road (Near to Cockle Edge Sewage Works) X423018, Y405579	Approximately 1 km to the east of the turbine	Medium	Low	Slight

- 7.43 This vantage point is situated east of the site, along the A629, where Car Lane meets Huddersfield Road. The view has been chosen to reflect the potential impact of the proposed turbine on views from the east, as well as on the potential to impact on views from dwellings in this direction. The ZTV shows that the turbine would be visible from this location, as is seen in the photomontage. Although located on a busy A-road where cars would be travelling at high speeds past the site, the sensitivity of this receptor has been judged as medium, due to the secondary views that might be possible from this property.

- 7.44 This view shows that while the entire turbine is visible, only its upper half would skyline and the turbine would be read together with those turbines at Royd Moor wind farm, further west. The turbine's medium scale can be appreciated at this location, as the turbine does not dominate the view helping to reduce the potential for adverse visual impact on the property in the foreground. The turbine is not thought to dominate the vista or the visual amenity afforded to the farm dwelling, due to its main aspect facing north to south. The potential visual impact on this receptor is therefore considered to be low, as the turbine does not take up a disproportionate amount of the view. Other local features also help to absorb the turbine's presence, with telegraph poles and tree plantings helping to ensure that it is not read as a single vertical structure. There is a small level of impact on the character of the landscape area from this easterly location, hence the slight overall level of effect significance. The wide open plateau panorama on offer however ensures that the EWT only takes up only a portion of the view.

Cumulative Effect

- 7.45 There is some potential for a degree simultaneous cumulative impact from this receptor, with the turbine visible in the context of Royd Moor wind farm and the three 95m turbines proposed at Spicer Hill also present (see PM 11 Proposed + Cumulative), albeit these larger turbines being located substantially in the distance. The scale of the proposed turbine however helps to ensure that it presents order to the view, as a larger turbine would look out of proportion with the linear perspective that the current medium scale EWT 500 lends itself to (i.e. the decrease in scale towards the Royd Moor/ Spicer Hill site). Some successive cumulative effect may also be possible when the viewer travels further north towards High Flatts, however the landscape does help to absorb visibility between this and other sites, offering a degree of separation also.

Vantage Point 12

- 7.46 The following table summarises the results of the analysis of the likely effects from vantage point 12 and links with Photomontage 12 of Appendix B.

<i>Site/Feature</i>	<i>Location and Distance from Turbine</i>	<i>Receptor Sensitivity</i>	<i>Magnitude of Impact</i>	<i>Impact Assessment</i>
Vantage Point 12 – Reservoir House - Mill Lane X421837, Y405830	Approximately 630m to the north of the turbine	High	Low	Slight

7.47 This vantage point is situated off Mill Lane, around 600m north of the turbine site and south east of Ingbirchworth Reservoir. It has been chosen to reflect the potential impact of the proposed turbine on views from this area, including from the principal elevation of a residential dwelling located adjacent to the receptor. The sensitivity of this receptor is therefore judged to be high, due to the potential impact on outlook of the property. The accompanying ZTV extract shows correctly that the site would not be visible from this location, however as a residential property it was thought to show such impact in any case.

7.48 Photomontage 12 shows that the turbine is not visible from this location due to the immediate uprising topography of the area, which represents steeply rising farmland towards Mill Lane, which continues to rise towards Mill Lane. The lack of visibility of the turbine from this point suggests slight/ no change in terms of effect significance, preserving the outlook from this dwelling and ensuring impact is kept to the local scale.

Cumulative Effect

7.49 There is not potential of cumulative effect from this receptor.

Vantage Point 13

<i>Site/Feature</i>	<i>Location and Distance from Turbine</i>	<i>Receptor Sensitivity</i>	<i>Magnitude of Impact</i>	<i>Impact Assessment</i>
Bridleway to the north of the proposed site/ High Lane X422092, Y405508	Approximately 278m to the north of turbine	High	Medium	Moderate

- 7.50 This vantage point, situated on the bridleway to the north (i.e. High Lane) is situated within 278m of the proposed turbine. As a public right of way, this is regarded as a key public vantage point towards the site. It has been chosen to reflect the potential impact of the proposal from a northerly direction. The sensitivity of the receptor has therefore been chosen as High, due to its nature as a bridleway/ public right of way.
- 7.51 The turbine is quite prominent from the receptor, taking up a reasonable portion of the view from this point. There is little in terms of mitigation against its skylining, and the lack of other vertical structures or localised screening means the structure stands out and draws the viewer's gaze. As there is limited potential to mitigate the appearance of the turbine and due to the close proximity to the development, the magnitude of change been judged as medium, as siting of the turbine and the turning of its blades would not result in a total loss of the key elements of landscape characteristics (as a high magnitude categories would suggest). The turbine would be visible from where the footpath commences, further west (see Vantage Point 6), increasing in prominence towards the site as its scale increases. Views from High Lane from the east would be less prominent, with the turbine coming into view as one passes the farm buildings to the south.

Cumulative Effect

- 7.52 Overall, some level of simultaneous cumulative effect would result from the siting of the turbine, due to the prominence of the 13 turbines which make up the Royd Moor site, further west. Users of the footpath coming from the east and travelling west would see both the full extent of the proposed turbine (once past the adjacent farm buildings and caravan site), and the spinning blades of the wind farm when looking west. At most, however views of both developments would still only fill less than 90 degrees of the field of view at this location.

8.0 Conclusion

- 8.1 Any visual and landscape impact does not necessarily equate to unacceptable harm and any change in vista must be balanced against policy expectations and guidance encouraging renewable energy. The photomontages and associated assessment of effects demonstrate that the main visual impact is likely to be confined to particular viewpoints close to the site, where unobstructed views are afforded towards the siting point of the proposed turbine. Such viewpoints include the associated caravan site to the east, the public bridleway to the north and most parts of Annat Royd Lane to the west, and easterly parts of the Huddersfield Road. Areas further south east (such as the B6462) and the south (the A628 which goes through Thurlstone) have limited to no visibility of the site, albeit the land does rise much further south east and so some views from Penistone would be possible. Views from the adjacent Conservation Area would be limited; however it is acknowledged that the turbine would be visible to the edge of this designation. The nearest neighbour to the site is located 450m to the north east and would be unlikely afforded a view of the turbine due to features located in-between the two sites and the orientation of the house. The introduction of a medium scale turbine within the site is concluded as having a moderate impact from receptors to the north, west, east, including from listed buildings situated further west, although none of these suffered adversely detrimental impacts on their outlooks or settings. Longer distance views from these directions would also be more negligible due to the distances involved or the presence of isolated tree screening and man-made features which would shield and interrupt views towards the site. The majority of views from Ingbirchworth would be interrupted by the presence of intense localised screening, only fully visible from the north of the settlement (near Ingbirchworth Reservoir), where more open views are possible. Adjacent housing developments however have aspects facing away from the site and as such impact is not considered as high. Overall, impact significance is generally found to be within both the moderate and slight categories, with the balance tipping towards the former. When factoring in the associated Green Belt designation which covers this and the wider area, the overall effect significance is deemed to be moderate, with the designation impacting on the sensitivity of all receptors. This said, such development is considered to have very special circumstances to overcome Green Belt constraint, which needs consideration also.
- 8.2 In terms of cumulative landscape effect, a large proportion of views displayed some relationship with the more substantial Royd Moor turbines and those six additional turbines

which have been granted consent, but which have not yet been erected. This is either within the successive or simultaneous categories, with the most substantive impact on views from the east looking towards the west (simultaneous), although successive views were also relatively high from the west looking east, due to the proximity of the Royd Moor wind farm. Overall the level of cumulative effect this scheme would present is considered to be low-moderate, as the turbine's presence in the context of Royd Moor cannot be easily mitigated, however the scale of the turbine is not significant enough to warrant introduce adverse effect.

- 8.3 In summary, by virtue of the type and location of the proposed turbine, the significance of impact is considered to be moderate, although there is still sufficient capacity within the landscape to accommodate the development without material harm to the wider landscape characteristics of the area.

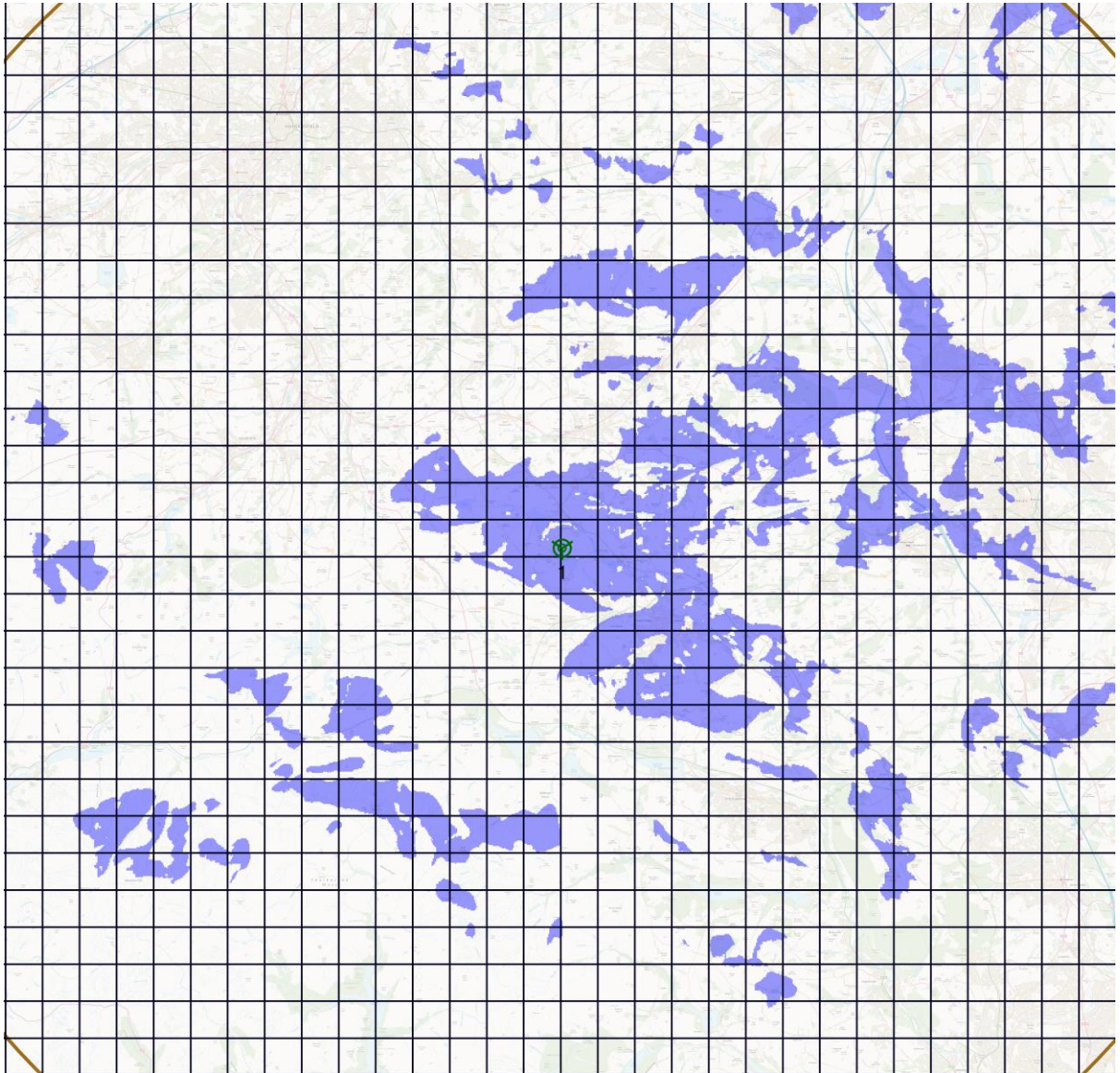
9.0 References

Countryside Agency and Scottish National Heritage (2002); Landscape Character Assessment Guidance for England and Scotland.

Countryside Commission (1998); Countryside Character. The Character of England's natural and man-made landscape, Volume 1: North East.

The Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment, Second Edition (2002); Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment.

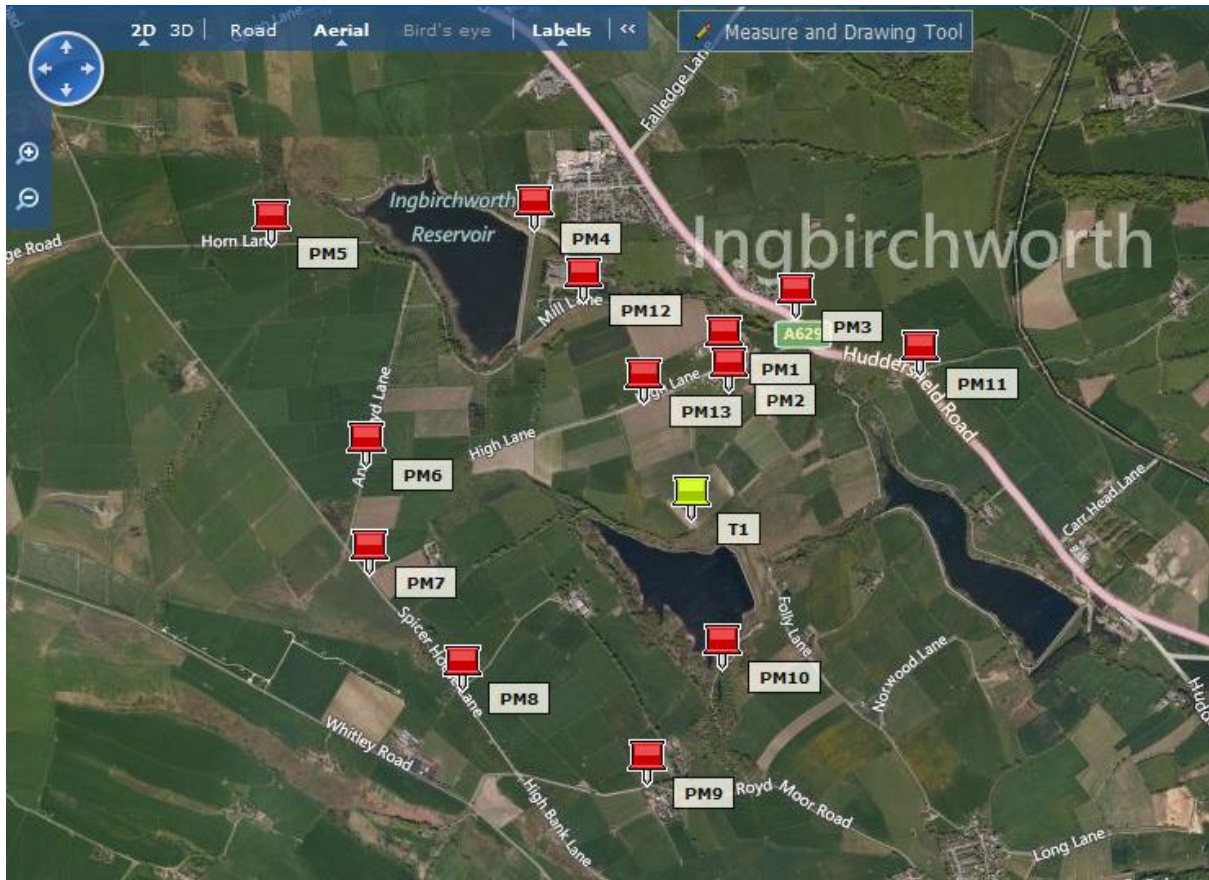
Appendix A: Zone of Theoretical Visibility Plan



Appendix B: Photomontages

(Attached as a separate document due to file size)

Appendix C - Photomontage Locations



Grid Reference	X (Eastings)	Y (Northings)	Latitude	Longitude	Description (Click to Edit)	Post Code	Link	Email	Twitter	Center	Zoom Birds Eye	Zoom Aerial	Style	Show	Delete	
SE 22214 05083	422214	405083	53.541925	-1.6662607	T1											
SE 22327 05642	422327	405642	53.546944	-1.6645158	PM1											
SE 22344 05531	422344	405531	53.545946	-1.6642672	PM2											
SE 22577 05790	422577	405790	53.548264	-1.6607323	PM3											
SE 21671 06084	421671	406084	53.550944	-1.6743854	PM4											
SE 20754 06034	420754	406034	53.550532	-1.6882290	PM5											
SE 21086 05269	421086	405269	53.543643	-1.6832695	PM6											
SE 21098 04890	421098	404890	53.540236	-1.6831138	PM7											
SE 21420 04493	421420	404493	53.536655	-1.6782821	PM8											
SE 22073 04160	422073	404160	53.533635	-1.6684531	PM9											
SE 22324 04568	422324	404568	53.537291	-1.6646374	PM10											
SE 23007 05593	423007	405593	53.546475	-1.6542572	PM11											
SE 21839 05842	421839	405842	53.548762	-1.6718666	PM12											
SE 22049 05490	422049	405490	53.545590	-1.6687220	PM13											