



# **Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm**

## **Category 6: Environmental Statement**

### **Volume 4, Annex 10.3: SLVIA Simple Assessment**

**Date: April 2022**

**Revision: B**

Application Reference: 6.4.10.3

Pursuant to: APFP Regulation 5(2)(a)



REVISION	DATE	STATUS/ REASON FOR ISSUE	AUTHOR	CHECKED BY:	APPROVED BY:
<b>A</b>	August 2021	PEIR	OP-EN	RWE	RWE
<b>B</b>	April 2022	ES	OP-EN	RWE	RWE

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## Glossary of terms

TERM	DEFINITION
Landscape character	A distinct, recognisable and consistent pattern of elements in the landscape that makes one landscape different from another, rather than better or worse.
Landscape effects	Effects on the landscape as a resource in its own right.
Seascape	Landscapes with views of the coast or seas, and coasts and adjacent marine environments with cultural, historical and archaeological links with each other.
Visual amenity	The overall pleasantness of the views people enjoy of their surroundings, which provides an attractive visual setting or backdrop for the enjoyment of activities of the people living, working, recreating or travelling through an area.
Visual effects	Effects on specific views and on the general visual amenity experienced by people.

## Abbreviations and acronyms

TERM	DEFINITION
AyM OWF	Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm
AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
ES	Environmental Statement
ETG	Expert Topic Group
GyM	Gwynt y Môr Offshore Wind Farm

TERM	DEFINITION
IoA	Isle of Anglesey
LCA	Landscape Character Area
LPA	Local Planning Authority
MCA	Marine Character Area
MPA	Marine Plan Area
MDS	Maximum Design Scenario
NLCA	National Landscape Character Area
OWF	Offshore Wind Farm
PEIR	Preliminary Environmental Information Report
SLVIA	Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
SNP	Snowdonia National Park
WTGs	Wind Turbine Generators
ZTV	Zone of theoretical visibility

## Units

UNIT	DEFINITION
m	meter
km	kilometer

# 1 Simple Assessment

## 1.1 Introduction

1 The purpose of this Annex is to inform the detailed assessment of the effects included in Chapter 10: Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (SLVIA). A simple assessment of the seascape, landscape and visual receptors in the study area has been undertaken using plan figures and zone of theoretical visibility (ZTV) analysis based on Maximum Design Scenario A (MDS A) (Volume 6, Annex 10.5), visualisations (Volume 6, Annex 10.6) and site survey, to identify which of these receptors are likely to be affected by the construction, operation and decommissioning of the offshore elements of the Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm Project (AyM ). Key figures are listed below.

- ▲ Figure 1: Array area and SLVIA Study Area with Cumulative Developments;
- ▲ Figure 4: Seascape Character (National);
- ▲ Figure 6: Landscape Character (National);
- ▲ Figure 7a: Landscape Character (Wales, Regional);
- ▲ Figure 7b: Landscape Character (Wales, Regional) – Legend;
- ▲ Figure 11: Visual Receptors and Viewpoint Locations;
- ▲ Figure 12b: Blade Tip Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) for Maximum Design Scenario;
- ▲ Figure 14: Horizontal Angle ZTV for Maximum Design Scenario A;
- ▲ Figure 15: Seascape Character (Wales, Regional) with Blade Tip ZTV;
- ▲ Figure 16a-c Blade Tip ZTV (MDS A) with Landscape Character and Viewpoint Locations;
- ▲ Figure 18a-d Blade Tip ZTV (MDS A) with Landscape Designations and Viewpoint Locations;
- ▲ Figure 25: Blade Tip ZTVs for MDS A and Combined Cumulative OWFs;
- ▲ Figure 26: Combined cumulative ZTV for onshore wind farms (Isle of Anglesey); and
- ▲ Figure 27: Combined cumulative ZTV for onshore wind farms (Conwy and Denbighshire).

- 2 A 'simple assessment' approach for an environmental aspect/ effect which may include secondary baseline data collection (for example desk-based information) and qualitative assessment methodologies has been followed in this Annex. This 'simple assessment' is presented in Table 1 to Table 6 below, which identifies the seascape character areas, landscape character areas/ types and viewpoints that have the potential to undergo significant effects as a result of the construction, operation and decommissioning of the offshore elements of AyM and require a 'detailed assessment'; and those that do not have potential to undergo potential significant effects that can be scoped out of further assessment.
- 3 The assessments in Table 1 to 6 are in some cases supported by information about the acknowledged value of an area (where the % covered by a designation or LANDMAP evaluation is >1%); ZTV information to identify the theoretical visibility of AyM MDS A; the percentage area of the receptor with visibility (%); and the amount of AyM MDS A visible. This is expressed as 'high' to 'none' based on the number of Wind Turbine Generators (WTGs) theoretically visible within the receptor. This is as shown on the ZTV where low visibility would tend to be generally 1-7 WTGs for example and high 29-34 WTGs visible.
- 4 The simple assessment has been undertaken regionally within the SLVIA study area for receptors within England (including the English Marine Plan Area (MPA)) and Welsh MPA and at Local Planning Authority (LPA) level for Wales i.e. Isle of Anglesey (IoA), Gwynedd, Snowdonia National Park (SNP), Conwy, Denbighshire and Flintshire. This level of consideration has been agreed through the EIA scoping and Expert Topic Group (ETG) consultation process.
- 5 A 'detailed assessment' approach is undertaken for seascape, landscape and visual receptors/ effects that are identified in the simple assessment as potentially experiencing significant effect. This detailed assessment is undertaken within Volume 2, Chapter 10: Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, Volume 2 of the Environmental Statement (ES).

## 1.2 Seascape character

### 1.1.1 Marine Character Areas (MCA) (England)

Table 1: Simple assessment of Marine Character Areas - England.

MCA	DIST. TO AYM ARRAY AREA (KM)	THEORETICAL VISIBILITY	SIMPLE ASSESSMENT
MCA 32 - Walney Coastal Waters and Duddon Estuary	41.03	Yes, high	Due to distance, existing seascape character influences of nearby operational OWF and oil and gas platforms and operational OWF context of AyM OWF. No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
MCA 34 - Blackpool Coastal Waters and Ribble Estuary	21.28	Yes, high	Due to distance, existing seascape character influences of nearby operational OWF and oil and gas platforms and operational OWF context of AyM OWF. No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
MCA 35 - Inner Liverpool Bay	7.85	Yes, high	Existing seascape character influence of operational OWF and oil and gas platforms and operational OWF context of AyM OWF whereby AyM array area is located beyond intervening operational OWFs. No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
MCA 36 - Dee and Mersey Estuaries and Coastal Waters	19.19	Yes, high	Due to distance, existing seascape character influence of operational OWF and operational OWF context of AyM OWF whereby AyM array area is located beyond intervening operational OWFs. No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
MCA 38 - Irish Sea South (England)	6.41	Yes, high	Large MCA extending from 6.41 km out to 50 km from the AyM array area. Closest, most susceptible parts of MCA are characterised by visibility of operational OWFs at closer proximity as part of their setting. Horizontal extent of WTGs as part of views to the south west would increase as part of wider context of views in this direction. Large parts of the seascape and its influential context to the west and east remain without OWF influence, ensuring that the character of the MCA is not materially altered by the addition of AyM OWF. No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.

## 1.1.2 Seascape Character Areas (Wales)

Table 2: Simple assessment of seascape character areas within study area – Wales.

SCA	DIST. TO AYM ARRAY AREA (KM)	THEORETICAL VISIBILITY	SIMPLE ASSESSMENT
1 - Conwy Estuary	16.02	Yes, low.	No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
2 - Conwy Bay	10.90	Yes, high.	Potential for significant effects that require detailed assessment.
3 - Traeth Lafan	17.27	Yes, high.	Potential for significant effects that require detailed assessment.
4 - Menai Strait	26.37	Yes, high to low.	Potential for significant effects that require detailed assessment.
5 - Penmon	17.06	Yes, high.	Potential for significant effects that require detailed assessment.
6 - Red Wharf Bay to Moelfre	16.84	Yes, high.	Potential for significant effects that require detailed assessment.
7 - Dulas Bay	24.23	Yes, high.	Potential for significant effects that require detailed assessment
8 - Amlwch and Cemaes	28.25	Yes, high to low.	Due to distance of AyM array area and large scale and expansive nature of seascape to the north, which is key influence. Coastal landscape has baseline influence of settlement/development. No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.

SCA	DIST. TO AYM ARRAY AREA (KM)	THEORETICAL VISIBILITY	SIMPLE ASSESSMENT
9 - Cemlyn Bay	41.09	Yes, high to low.	Due to distance of AyM array area and large scale and expansive nature of seascape to the north, north-east and west, which is key influence. No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
10 - Carmel Head to Penrhyn	46.08	Yes, high to low.	Due to distance of AyM array area and large scale and expansive nature of seascape to the north, north-east and west, which is key influence. No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
11 - Holyhead	46.83	No.	No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
12 - Inland Sea	49.89	No.	No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
13 - Rhoscolyn	49.56	No.	No potential for significant effects - Beyond revised SLVIA Study Area boundary.
15 - Rhosneigr	48.88	No.	No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
16 - Malltraeth	35.65	No.	No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
17 - Caernarfon	40.94	Yes, low.	No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
18 - Abermenai	45.95	Yes, low.	No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.

SCA	DIST. TO AYM ARRAY AREA (KM)	THEORETICAL VISIBILITY	SIMPLE ASSESSMENT
28 - North-east of Anglesey	0.00	Yes, high.	Potential for significant effects that require detailed assessment
29 - North of Anglesey	25.90	Yes, high to low.	Due to distance of AyM array area and large scale and expansive nature of seascape to the north, north-east and west, which is key influence. No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
30 - North-west of Anglesey	46.72	Yes, high to low.	Due to distance of AyM array area and large scale and expansive nature of seascape to the north, north-east and west, which is key influence. No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
32 - Caernarfon Bay	49.93	Yes, low.	No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
A - Llandudno Bay	4.63	Yes, high.	Potential for significant effects that require detailed assessment
B - Colwyn Bay	4.56	Yes, high.	Potential for significant effects that require detailed assessment
C - Vale of Clwyd	8.33	Yes, high.	Potential for significant effects that require detailed assessment
D - Clwydian Hills	13.12	Yes, high.	Potential for significant effects that require detailed assessment
E - Western Deeside	19.26	Yes, high to low.	Due to distance, existing seascape character influence of operational OWF and operational OWF context of AyM OWF whereby AyM array area is located beyond intervening operational OWFs. No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.

SCA	DIST. TO AYM ARRAY AREA (KM)	THEORETICAL VISIBILITY	SIMPLE ASSESSMENT
F - North Wales Open Waters	0.00	Yes, high.	Potential for significant effects that require detailed assessment

## 1.3 Landscape character

### 1.1.3 National Landscape Character Areas (NLCA) - England

Table 3: Simple assessment of National Landscape Character Areas - England.

NLCA	DIST. TO AYM ARRAY AREA (KM)	THEORETICAL VISIBILITY	SIMPLE ASSESSMENT
32 - Lancashire and Amounderness Plain	38.19	Yes, high.	Reference nearby Viewpoint 35: Blackpool Tower and closer range Viewpoint 32: Formby Lighthouse Station and Figure 25. No heightened NLCA sensitivity as not covered by a national landscape planning designation. Due to distance, existing closer range influence of operational OWF and operational OWF context of AyM OWF whereby AyM OWF is located at a greater distance than operational OWFs, limiting its potential magnitude of change in character at this range as part of the wider setting of the NLCA. No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
57 - Sefton Coast	34.13	Yes, high to low.	Reference Viewpoint 32: Formby Lighthouse Station and Viewpoint 33: Southport Pier. No heightened NLCA sensitivity as not covered by a national landscape planning designation. Due to distance, existing closer range influence of operational OWF and operational OWF context of AyM OWF whereby AyM OWF is located at a greater distance than operational OWFs, limiting its potential magnitude of change in character at this range as part of the wider setting of the NLCA. No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
58 - Merseyside Conurbation	35.56	Yes, high to low.	Reference Viewpoint 31: Crosby. No heightened NLCA sensitivity as not covered by a national landscape planning designation. Highly developed, urban NLCA. Due to distance, existing closer range influence of operational OWF and operational OWF context of AyM OWF whereby AyM OWF is located at a greater distance than operational OWFs, limiting its potential magnitude of change in character at this range as part of the wider setting of the NLCA.

NLCA	DIST. TO AYM ARRAY AREA (KM)	THEORETICAL VISIBILITY	SIMPLE ASSESSMENT
			No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
59 - Wirral	29.58	Yes, high to low.	Reference Viewpoint 30: Hilbre Point. No heightened NLCA sensitivity as not covered by a national landscape planning designation. Highly developed, settled NLCA. Due to distance, existing closer range influence of operational OWF and operational OWF context of AyM OWF whereby AyM OWF is located at a greater distance than operational OWFs, limiting its potential magnitude of change in character at this range as part of the wider setting of the NLCA. No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
60 - Mersey Valley	47.54	No	No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.

#### 1.1.4 Landscape Character Areas (LCA) Wales

Table 4: Simple assessment of landscape character areas – Wales.

ID	LCA	DIST. TO AYM ARRAY AREA (KM)	VALUE	% AREA WITH ZTV	AMOUNT OF AYM THEORETICALLY VISIBLE	SIMPLE ASSESSMENT
<b>ISLE OF ANGLESEY</b>						
2	Holy Island	49.83	Anglesey AONB LANDMAP - High	0%	none	No potential for significant effects - Beyond revised SLVIA Study Area boundary.
3	Inland Sea	47.68	Anglesey AONB LANDMAP - High	0.00%	negligible	No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
4	North West Coast	33.16	Anglesey AONB Heritage Coast	17.01%	High to none	Due to distance and orientation of LCA out across sea to north-west rather than towards AyM OWF across intervening landscape.

ID	LCA	DIST. TO AYM ARRAY AREA (KM)	VALUE	% AREA WITH ZTV	AMOUNT OF AYM THEORETICALLY VISIBLE	SIMPLE ASSESSMENT
			LANDMAP – Outstanding/ High			No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
5	North West Anglesey	34.54	Anglesey AONB LANDMAP – Outstanding/ high Special Landscape Area	14.53%	High to none.	Reference to Viewpoint 43: Mynydd y Garn and Figure 26. Due to distance of LCA and also areas of corresponding loA AONB within it. Limited ZTV and intervening landscape which includes onshore wind farm development as part of baseline character. No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
6	Amlwch and Environs	27.84	Anglesey AONB Heritage Coast LANDMAP – Outstanding/ high Special Landscape Area	40.56%	High to none.	Potential for significant effects that require detailed assessment.
7	Parys Mountain	31.11	LANDMAP - Outstanding Special Landscape Area Noted by loA as a sensitive historic landscape area	4.07%	High over very limited area. Elsewhere low to none.	No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
8	Dulas Bay Hinterland	27.03	Anglesey AONB LANDMAP – Outstanding/ high Special Landscape Area	44.89%	High to none	Potential for significant effects that require detailed assessment.

ID	LCA	DIST. TO AYM ARRAY AREA (KM)	VALUE	% AREA WITH ZTV	AMOUNT OF AYM THEORETICALLY VISIBLE	SIMPLE ASSESSMENT
9	Red Wharf Bay	24.21	Anglesey AONB LANDMAP – Outstanding/ high Special Landscape Area	66.63%	High to none.	Potential for significant effects that require detailed assessment.
10	Penmon and Puffin Island	17.36	Anglesey AONB LANDMAP – Outstanding/ high Special Landscape Area	74.25%	High to none.	Potential for significant effects that require detailed assessment.
11	Eastern Menai Strait	20.20	Anglesey AONB LANDMAP – Outstanding/ high Special Landscape Area	44.55%	High to none.	Potential for significant effects that require detailed assessment.
12	East Central Anglesey	22.53	Anglesey AONB LANDMAP – Outstanding/ high Special Landscape Area	14.00%	High (over limited area) to none.	Due to distance of LCA and also areas of corresponding IoA AONB within it.  Limited ZTV. Intervening landscape which includes some scattered settlement and woodland as part of baseline character.  No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
13	Western Menai Strait	33.48	Anglesey AONB LANDMAP – Outstanding/ high Special Landscape Area	15.91%	Low	No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.

ID	LCA	DIST. TO AYM ARRAY AREA (KM)	VALUE	% AREA WITH ZTV	AMOUNT OF AYM THEORETICALLY VISIBLE	SIMPLE ASSESSMENT
14	Newborough	41.04	Anglesey AONB LANDMAP – Outstanding/ high Special Landscape Area	14.64%	Low	No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
15	Afon Cefni	35.29	Anglesey AONB Heritage Coast LANDMAP – Outstanding/ high Special Landscape Area	56.90%	Low to medium.	Due to distance of LCA and also areas of corresponding loA AONB within it.  Limited ZTV. Intervening landscape which includes some infrastructure, scattered settlement and woodland as part of baseline character.  No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
16	Aberffraw	44.75	Anglesey AONB LANDMAP – Outstanding/ high Special Landscape Area	6.27%	Low to medium.	Due to distance of LCA and also areas of corresponding loA AONB within it.  Limited ZTV. Intervening landscape which includes some infrastructure, scattered settlement and woodland as part of baseline character.  No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
17	West Central Anglesey	29.98	Anglesey AONB LANDMAP - High Special Landscape Area	21.64%	High to none.	Due to distance of LCA and also areas of corresponding loA AONB within it.  Limited ZTV. Intervening landscape which includes some infrastructure, settlement and woodland as part of baseline character.  No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
18	Valley Airfield Environs	46.68	Anglesey AONB LANDMAP - High	0%	None	No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.

ID	LCA	DIST. TO AYM ARRAY AREA (KM)	VALUE	% AREA WITH ZTV	AMOUNT OF AYM THEORETICALLY VISIBLE	SIMPLE ASSESSMENT
<b>GWYNEDD</b>						
G01	Bangor Coastal Plain	22.26	LANDMAP - High Special Landscape Area	86%	High	Potential for significant effects that require detailed assessment.
G02	Penisarwaun Plateau	32.06	LANDMAP - High Special Landscape Area	53%	High to none.	Due to distance of LCA and small corresponding area of SLA. Limited ZTV. Intervening landscape which includes some infrastructure, settlement and woodland as part of baseline character. No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
G03	Llanberis - Bethesda	30.15	LANDMAP – High/ outstanding Special Landscape Area	30%	High to none.	Due to distance of LCA and some corresponding area of SLA. Limited ZTV. Intervening landscape which includes some infrastructure, settlement and woodland as part of baseline character. Predominant landscape character influence on setting by SNP to south-east and Menai strait and Anglesey to north-west. No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
G04	Caernarfon - Coast & Plateau	34.49	LANDMAP - High Special Landscape Area	18%	High (over limited area) to low/ none.	Due to distance of LCA and small corresponding area of SLA. Limited ZTV. Intervening landscape which includes some infrastructure, settlement and woodland as part of baseline character. Predominant landscape character influence on setting by SNP to south-east and Menai strait, Anglesey to north-west and Caernarfon Bay to west. No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
G11	Blaenau Ffestiniog	45.83	LANDMAP - Outstanding	2%	Low	No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.

ID	LCA	DIST. TO AYM ARRAY AREA (KM)	VALUE	% AREA WITH ZTV	AMOUNT OF AYM THEORETICALLY VISIBLE	SIMPLE ASSESSMENT
G12	Llandderfel	46.50	LANDMAP - High Special Landscape Area	2%	Low	No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
G16	Menai Coast	28.60	LANDMAP - High Special Landscape Area	40%	Low	No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
<b>SNOWDONIA NATIONAL PARK</b>						
LCA 01	Northern Uplands	16.48	Snowdonia National Park (SNP) LANDMAP - High	42%	High to none.	Potential for significant effects that require detailed assessment.
LCA 02	Carneddau Range	30.11	Snowdonia National Park (SNP) LANDMAP – Outstanding/ high	9%	High to none.	Potential for significant effects that require detailed assessment.
LCA 03	Snowdon Massif	34.57	Snowdonia National Park (SNP) LANDMAP – Outstanding/ high	6%	High (over limited area) to none.	Reference to Viewpoint 34 and Figures 25 and 27 for baseline OWF and onshore wind farm influence.  Due to limited ZTV, distance, strong inherent baseline characteristics of LCA and other character influences on wider setting which includes settled landscape, quarries, and OWF and onshore wind farms.
LCA 04	Moel Hebog Uplands	44.73	Snowdonia National Park (SNP) LANDMAP – Outstanding/ high	2%	Low	No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
LCA 05	Afon Glaslyn & Ysgafell Wen	36.76	Snowdonia National Park (SNP) LANDMAP - High	5%	High (over limited area) to none.	Reference to Figures 25 and 27 for baseline OWF and onshore wind farm influence.  Due to limited ZTV, distance, strong inherent baseline characteristics of LCA and other character influences on wider

ID	LCA	DIST. TO AYM ARRAY AREA (KM)	VALUE	% AREA WITH ZTV	AMOUNT OF AYM THEORETICALLY VISIBLE	SIMPLE ASSESSMENT
			LANDMAP - Outstanding			setting which includes settled landscape and OWF and onshore wind farms. No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
LCA 06	Gwydyr Forest	30.22	Snowdonia National Park (SNP) LANDMAP - Outstanding	17%	High (over limited area) to none.	Reference to Figures 25 and 27 for baseline OWF and onshore wind farm influence. Due to limited ZTV, distance, strong inherent baseline characteristics of LCA and other character influences on wider setting which includes settled landscape, extensive forestry and OWF and onshore wind farms. Limited actual potential for visual interaction between this LCA and AyM OWF as part of setting due to extensive forest cover of LCA. No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
LCA 07	Vale of Conwy	33.12	Snowdonia National Park (SNP) LANDMAP – Outstanding/ high	13%	Low to medium.	Due to distance of LCA, limited ZTV. Intervening landscape which includes some infrastructure, settlement and woodland as part of baseline character. No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
LCA 09	Mignient Uplands	41.03	Snowdonia National Park (SNP)	25%	High to none.	Due to distance of LCA, limited ZTV. Intervening landscape which includes some infrastructure, settlement and woodland as part of baseline character. No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
LCA 15	Arenig Uplands	49.92	Snowdonia National Park (SNP)	0%	None	No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.

## CONWY AND DENBIGHSHIRE

ID	LCA	DIST. TO AYM ARRAY AREA (KM)	VALUE	% AREA WITH ZTV	AMOUNT OF AYM THEORETICALLY VISIBLE	SIMPLE ASSESSMENT
A1	Eastern Lowlands (Cefn Meiriadog Vale Slopes)	24.04	LANDMAP - High	95%	High to low.	Reference to Figures 25 and 27 for baseline OWF and onshore wind farm influence.  Due to distance, strong inherent baseline characteristics of LCA and other character influences on wider setting and within intervening landscape which includes infrastructure, urbanised coastline and OWF and onshore wind farms.  No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
A2	Coastal Slopes (Gronant, Prestatyn Coastal Slopes)	22.41	LANDMAP - Outstanding	95%	High.	Reference to Figure 25 and 27 for baseline OWF influence.  Due to distance, strong inherent baseline characteristics of LCA (which includes extensive development) and other character influences on wider setting and within intervening landscape which includes infrastructure, urbanised coastline and OWF.  No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
A3	Lowland Hills	15.11	LANDMAP - High Special Landscape Area	42%	High to none.	Reference to Figures 25 for baseline OWF influence.  Due to distance, strong inherent baseline characteristics of LCA and other character influences on wider setting and within intervening landscape which includes infrastructure, urbanised coastline and OWF. and onshore wind farms.  No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
A4	Coastal & Estuarine Flats (Prestatyn to Abergele)	17.02	LANDMAP - High	98%	High	Reference to Figure 25 for baseline OWF influence.  Due to distance, strong inherent baseline characteristics of LCA (which includes extensive development) and other character influences on wider setting and within intervening landscape which includes infrastructure, urbanised coastline and OWF.  No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.

ID	LCA	DIST. TO AYM ARRAY AREA (KM)	VALUE	% AREA WITH ZTV	AMOUNT OF AYM THEORETICALLY VISIBLE	SIMPLE ASSESSMENT
A5	Coastal & Estuarine Flats (Colwyn Bay)	11.37	LANDMAP - High	94%	High.	Reference to Figure 25 for baseline OWF influence. Due to distance, strong inherent baseline characteristics of LCA (which includes extensive development) and other character influences on wider setting and within intervening landscape which includes infrastructure, urbanised coastline and OWF. No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
A6	Vale Farmlands (Vale of Clwyd)	19.41	LANDMAP - High	74%	High	Reference to Figure 25 and 27 for baseline OWF influence. Due to distance, strong inherent baseline characteristics of LCA (which includes extensive development) and other character influences on wider setting and within intervening landscape which includes infrastructure, urbanised coastline and OWF. No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
A8	Coastal Landscape Unit (Penmaenmawr to Llanfairechan)(Low land Areas LCT)	19.99	LANDMAP - High	94%	High to none.	Due to distance, strong inherent baseline characteristics of LCA (which includes development) and other character influences on wider setting and within intervening landscape/ seascape which includes infrastructure and settled coastline. No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
A8	Coastal Landscape Unit (Penmaenmawr to Llanfairechan) (Marginal Upland LCT)	19.88	LANDMAP - High	55%	High to none.	Due to distance, strong inherent baseline characteristics of LCA (which includes development) and other character influences on wider setting and within intervening landscape/ seascape which includes infrastructure and settled coastline. No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
B2	Deep Valleys (Aled and Elwy)	22.49	Special Landscape Area	2%	Low	No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.

ID	LCA	DIST. TO AYM ARRAY AREA (KM)	VALUE	% AREA WITH ZTV	AMOUNT OF AYM THEORETICALLY VISIBLE	SIMPLE ASSESSMENT
B4	Hill Slopes (Clwydian Range Hill Slopes)	49.94	LANDMAP - Outstanding	0	None	No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
B7	Conwy Valley (Lower Hills and Valleys LCT)	15.32	LANDMAP - Outstanding Special Landscape Area	38%	High to none.	Reference to Figure 25 and 27 for baseline onshore wind farm and OWF influence.  Due to distance, strong inherent baseline characteristics of valley LCA (which includes development and woodland) and other character influences on wider setting and within intervening landscape/ seascape which includes infrastructure, settled coastline, OWF and onshore wind farm influence.  No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
B7	Conwy Valley (Marginal Upland LCT)	16.16	LANDMAP - Outstanding Special Landscape Area	35%	High to none.	Reference to Figure 25 and 27 for baseline onshore wind farm and OWF influence.  Due to distance, strong inherent baseline characteristics of LCA and other character influences on wider setting and within intervening landscape/ seascape which includes infrastructure, settled coastline, OWF and onshore wind farm influence.  No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
C1	Trelawnyd Plateau	24.16	LANDMAP - Outstanding	27%	High (limited areas only) to none.	Reference to Figure 25 and 27 for baseline onshore wind farm and OWF influence.  Due to distance, strong inherent baseline characteristics of LCA and other character influences on wider setting and within intervening landscape/ seascape which includes infrastructure, settled coastline, OWF and onshore wind farm influence.  No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.

ID	LCA	DIST. TO AYM ARRAY AREA (KM)	VALUE	% AREA WITH ZTV	AMOUNT OF AYM THEORETICALLY VISIBLE	SIMPLE ASSESSMENT
C10	Great Orme and Creuddyn Peninsula (Limestone Country LCT)	10.51	Heritage Coast LANDMAP – High Special Landscape Area	59%	High to none.	Potential for significant effects that require detailed assessment.
C10	Great Orme and Creuddyn Peninsula (Marginal Upland LCT)	15.12	LANDMAP – High Special Landscape Area	79%	High to none.	Potential for significant effects that require detailed assessment.
C3	Limestone Farmlands (West of the Vale of Clwyd)	35.87	LANDMAP - High	27%	High to none.	No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
C4	Limestone Farmlands (Abergele to Denbigh Coastal/ Vale Hills)	14.87	LANDMAP - High	65%	High	Potential for significant effects that require detailed assessment.
C5	Limestone Farmlands (Northern Clwydian Range)	25.24	LANDMAP - High LANDMAP - Outstanding	79%	High to none.	Reference to Figure 25 and 27 for baseline OWF influence. Due to distance, strong inherent baseline characteristics of LCA (which includes extensive development) and other character influences on wider setting and within intervening landscape which includes infrastructure, urbanised coastline and OWF. No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
C6	Limestone Escarpment and Hills (Bryn Alyn – Maeshafn Escarpment)	49.97	LANDMAP - Outstanding	0%	None	No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.

ID	LCA	DIST. TO AYM ARRAY AREA (KM)	VALUE	% AREA WITH ZTV	AMOUNT OF AYM THEORETICALLY VISIBLE	SIMPLE ASSESSMENT
C8	Limestone Escarpment and Hills (Prestatyn - Dyserth Hillside)	23.34	LANDMAP - Outstanding	91%	High	Reference to Figure 25 and 27 for baseline OWF influence. Due to distance, strong inherent baseline characteristics of LCA (which includes extensive development) and other character influences on wider setting and within intervening landscape which includes infrastructure, urbanised coastline and OWF. No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
C9	Limestone Escarpment and Hills	12.54	LANDMAP - High Special Landscape Area	82%	High.	Potential for significant effects that require detailed assessment.
D1	Aled Hiraethog Hills (West)	13.71	Special Landscape Area	29%	High (limited areas) to none.	Reference to Figures 25 and 27 for baseline OWF and onshore wind farm influence. Due to distance, strong inherent baseline characteristics of LCA and other character influences on wider setting and within intervening landscape which includes infrastructure, urbanised coastline and OWF. and onshore wind farms. No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
D10	Moorland Plateau (Denbigh Moors)	30.52	LANDMAP - High Special Landscape Area	21%	High (limited areas) to none.	Reference to Figures 25 and 27 for baseline OWF and onshore wind farm influence. Due to distance, strong inherent baseline characteristics of LCA and other character influences on wider setting and within intervening landscape which includes infrastructure, urbanised coastline and OWF. and onshore wind farms. No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
D11	Moorland Plateau	42.24	LANDMAP - High	23%	High (limited areas) to none.	Reference to Figures 25 and 27 for baseline OWF and onshore wind farm influence.

ID	LCA	DIST. TO AYM ARRAY AREA (KM)	VALUE	% AREA WITH ZTV	AMOUNT OF AYM THEORETICALLY VISIBLE	SIMPLE ASSESSMENT
						Due to distance, strong inherent baseline characteristics of LCA and other character influences on wider setting and within intervening landscape which includes infrastructure, urbanised coastline and OWF. and onshore wind farms. No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
D15	Moorland Ridge	46.82	LANDMAP - High Special Landscape Area	0%	None	No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
D16	Marginal Upland (East Conwy Valley)	18.92	Special Landscape Area	39%	High (limited areas) to none.	Reference to Figures 25 and 27 for baseline OWF and onshore wind farm influence. Due to distance, strong inherent baseline characteristics of LCA and other character influences on wider setting and within intervening landscape which includes infrastructure, urbanised coastline and OWF. and onshore wind farms. No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
D17	Aled Hiraethog Hills (East)	33.78	LANDMAP - High	16%	High (limited areas) to none.	Reference to Figures 25 and 27 for baseline OWF and onshore wind farm influence. Due to distance, strong inherent baseline characteristics of LCA and other character influences on wider setting and within intervening landscape which includes infrastructure, urbanised coastline, OWF and onshore wind farms. No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
D2	Hill Forest (Clocaenog Forest)	37.94	LANDMAP - High	6%	High (limited areas) to none.	Reference to Figures 25 and 27 for baseline OWF and onshore wind farm influence. Due to distance, strong inherent baseline characteristics of LCA and other character influences on wider setting and within

ID	LCA	DIST. TO AYM ARRAY AREA (KM)	VALUE	% AREA WITH ZTV	AMOUNT OF AYM THEORETICALLY VISIBLE	SIMPLE ASSESSMENT
						intervening landscape which includes infrastructure, urbanised coastline and OWF. and onshore wind farms. No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
D3	Cerrig Uplands	38.28	LANDMAP - High Special Landscape Area	0%	None	No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
D4	Maerdy Hills	47.10	Special Landscape Area	0%	None	No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
D5	Edeirnion Hill	46.30	LANDMAP - High	0%	None	No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
D6	Upland Plateau (Mynydd Rhyd Ddu)	48.88	LANDMAP - High	0%	None	No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
D8	Upland Plateau	17.78	LANDMAP - High Special Landscape Area	38%	High (limited areas) to none.	Reference to Figures 25 and 27 for baseline OWF and onshore wind farm influence. Due to distance, strong inherent baseline characteristics of LCA and other character influences on wider setting and within intervening landscape which includes infrastructure, urbanised coastline and OWF. and onshore wind farms. No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
<b>CLWYDIAN RANGE AND DEE VALLEY AONB (FLINTSHIRE AND DENBIGHSHIRE)</b>						
1	Built environment	22.73	Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB	44%	High	Due to developed baseline no potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.

ID	LCA	DIST. TO AYM ARRAY AREA (KM)	VALUE	% AREA WITH ZTV	AMOUNT OF AYM THEORETICALLY VISIBLE	SIMPLE ASSESSMENT
2	Hills, Lower Plateau & Scarp Slopes	23.04	Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB	26%	High to none.	Potential for significant effects that require detailed assessment.
3	Lowland areas	22.73	Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB	45%	High to none.	Reference to Figures 25 and 27 for baseline OWF and onshore wind farm influence. Due to distance, strong inherent baseline characteristics of LCA and other character influences on wider setting and within intervening landscape which includes, former quarries, infrastructure, urbanised coastline and OWF. and onshore wind farms. No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
4	Quarries	47.02	Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB	0%	None	No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.
5	Rolling Lowland	22.88	Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB	57%	High to none.	Potential for significant effects that require detailed assessment.
6	Upland areas	31.10	Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB	36%	High to none.	Reference to Figures 25 and 27 for baseline OWF and onshore wind farm influence. Due to distance, strong inherent baseline characteristics of LCA and other character influences on wider setting and within intervening landscape which includes, former quarries, infrastructure, settlement, urbanised coastline and OWF. and onshore wind farms. No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.

**FLINTSHIRE (BEYOND CLWYDIAN RANGE AND DEE VALLEY AONB BOUNDARY)**

ID	LCA	DIST. TO AYM ARRAY AREA (KM)	VALUE	% AREA WITH ZTV	AMOUNT OF AYM THEORETICALLY VISIBLE	SIMPLE ASSESSMENT
-	Unclassified at regional scale.	22km	No national or local planning designations.	-	High to none.	Reference to Viewpoint 27: Point of Ayr and Figures 25 and 27 for baseline OWF and onshore wind farm influence.  Due to distance, strong inherent baseline characteristics of landscape and other character influences on wider setting and within intervening landscape which includes, infrastructure, settlement, urbanised coastline and OWF. and onshore wind farms.  No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.

## 1.4 Special Qualities

6 Table 5 sets out the Special Qualities that have been identified in the respective management plans for the Isle of Anglesey AONB, Snowdonia National Park, and the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB and determines which ones are applicable to the assessment of the seascape, landscape and visual effects of the offshore infrastructure.

Table 5: Simple assessment of Special Qualities.

SPECIAL QUALITY	APPLICABLE TO SEASCAPE, LANDSCAPE AND VISUAL ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS?
<b>ISLE OF ANGLESEY AONB</b>	
Expansive Views/ Seascapes.	Yes
Peace and Tranquility.	
Islands around Anglesey.	
Geological and Geomorphological Features	No – largely due to the offshore nature of the offshore development.
Broadleaved Woodlands.	

SPECIAL QUALITY	APPLICABLE TO SEASCAPE, LANDSCAPE AND VISUAL ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS?
Lowland Coastal Heath.	
Species Rich Roadside Verges.	
Ecologically Important Coastal and Wetland habitats (including rocky shores, mudflats and estuaries, saltmarshes, beaches and dunes).	
Built Environment including Conservation Areas and Listed Buildings.	
Archaeology and Ancient Monuments/ Historic Landscapes, Parks and Gardens.	
Rural Agricultural/Coastal Communities.	
Welsh Language.	
Soil, Air and Water Quality.	
Public Rights of Way Network.	
Accessible Land and Water.'	

**SNOWDONIA NATIONAL PARK**

Diverse landscapes	Yes
Community cohesion	No – largely due to the offshore nature of the offshore development.
Vibrancy of the Welsh Language	

SPECIAL QUALITY	APPLICABLE TO SEASCAPE, LANDSCAPE AND VISUAL ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS?
Inspiration for the arts	
Tranquility & solitude – Peaceful Areas	Yes
Extensive recreation opportunities	No – largely due to the offshore nature of the offshore development.
Historic landscapes	
Renowned geology	
Internationally important species & habitats	

### CLWYDIAN RAGE AND DEE VALLEY AONB

Landscape Character and Quality – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tranquility</li> <li>• Remoteness and Wildness, Space and Freedom.</li> </ul>	Yes
Habitats and Wildlife - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heather Moorland and Rolling Ridges.</li> <li>• Broadleaved woodlands and Veteran Trees.</li> <li>• River Valleys and the River Dee.</li> <li>• Limestone grasslands, cliffs and screes.</li> </ul>	No – largely due to the offshore nature of the offshore development.
Historic Environment - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Historic Settlement and Archaeology.</li> <li>• Industrial Features and the World Heritage Site.</li> <li>• Historic Defence Features.</li> <li>• Small historic features.</li> <li>• Traditional boundaries.</li> </ul>	No – largely due to the offshore nature of the offshore development.

SPECIAL QUALITY	APPLICABLE TO SEASCAPE, LANDSCAPE AND VISUAL ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS?
Access Recreation and Tourism - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Iconic Visitor and Cultural Attractions.</li> <li>• The Offa's Dyke National Trail and Promoted Routes.</li> </ul>	No – largely due to the offshore nature of the offshore development.
Culture and People - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Built Environment.</li> <li>• People and Communities.'</li> </ul>	No – largely due to the offshore nature of the offshore development.

## 1.5 Viewpoints

Table 6: Simple assessment of representative viewpoints in England.

VIEWPOINT	DIST. TO AYM ARRAY AREA (KM)	IN ZTV	SIMPLE ASSESSMENT
Viewpoint 30: Hilbre Point	29.6	yes	<p>No national landscape planning designation to provide this viewpoint with a heightened value/ sensitivity.</p> <p>AyM OWF visible in very good to excellent visibility conditions at a distance of 31.4 km. It would be entirely beyond North Hoyle and Gwynt y Môr (GyM) OWF which appear to overlap within the same part of the baseline view. AyM would add to this with WTGs appearing slightly taller than those of North Hoyle and markedly taller than those of the more widespread GyM.</p> <p>When considered against the closer range Burbo Bank and Burbo Bank Extension WTGs, which spread across a further wide section of the sea horizon, the AyM WTGs appear small by comparison.</p> <p>The change to this view as a result of the introduction of AyM OWF is low to negligible.</p> <p>No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.</p>
Viewpoint 31: Crosby	37.5	yes	<p>No national landscape planning designation to provide this viewpoint with a heightened value/ sensitivity.</p> <p>AyM OWF visible in very good to excellent visibility conditions. It would be entirely beyond GyM, and Burbo Bank Extension as well as behind part of Burbo Bank. These operational OWFs appear to overlap within the same part of the baseline view. AyM would add to this with WTGs appearing taller than those of GyM and markedly smaller than those of Burbo Bank and Burbo Bank Extension WTGs, which also spread across a further wide section of the sea horizon, the AyM WTGs appear small by comparison.</p> <p>The change to this view as a result of the introduction of AyM OWF is negligible.</p> <p>No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.</p>

VIEWPOINT	DIST. TO AYM ARRAY AREA (KM)	IN ZTV	SIMPLE ASSESSMENT
Viewpoint 32: Formby Lifeboat Station (Formby Point)	34.3	yes	<p>No national landscape planning designation to provide this viewpoint with a heightened value/ sensitivity.</p> <p>The AyM OWF would be seen partially above the sea horizon at distances greater than all of the operational OWFs in very good to excellent visibility conditions. It would slightly extend the developed sea skyline, but also partially occur within the same part of the wide sea view as GyM and for a small extent, behind the substantially closer Burbo Bank Extension.</p> <p>When considered against the closer range Burbo Bank and Burbo Bank Extension WTGs, which spread across a further wide section of the sea horizon, the AyM WTGs appear small by comparison.</p> <p>The change to this view as a result of the introduction of AyM OWF is low to negligible.</p> <p>No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.</p>
Viewpoint 33: Southport (pier)	43.1	yes	<p>No national landscape planning designation to provide this viewpoint with a heightened value/ sensitivity.</p> <p>The AyM OWF would be seen partially above the sea horizon at distances greater than all of the operational OWFs in very good to excellent visibility conditions. It would slightly extend the developed sea skyline, but also partially occur within the same part of the wide sea view as GyM and for a small extent, behind the substantially closer Burbo Bank Extension.</p> <p>When considered against the closer range Burbo Bank and Burbo Bank Extension WTGs, which spread across a further wide section of the sea horizon, the AyM WTGs appear small by comparison.</p> <p>The change to this view as a result of the introduction of AyM OWF is negligible.</p> <p>No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.</p>
Viewpoint 35: Blackpool Tower	51.0	yes	<p>No national landscape planning designation to provide this viewpoint with a heightened value/ sensitivity.</p> <p>The AyM OWF would be seen above the sea horizon, out in the open sea at distances greater than all of the operational OWFs (except for Rhyll Flats) in excellent visibility conditions. It would extend the developed seascape, but also partially occur within the same part of the wide sea view as GyM, which would appear smaller due to its smaller WTGs.</p> <p>When considered against the closer range Burbo Bank and Burbo Bank Extension WTGs, which spread across a further wide section of the sea horizon, the AyM WTGs appear slightly larger by comparison.</p> <p>The change to this view as a result of the introduction of AyM OWF is low.</p> <p>No potential for significant effects - scoped out of detailed assessment.</p>

7 The viewpoints to be assessed in detail in the SLVIA that are located in Wales are as set out in Table 3, Chapter 10, Volume 2.

## 1.6 References

See Volume 2, Chapter 10: Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment for references.



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