

MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

Seascape Assessment – Errata Clarification Note

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Image of an offshore wind farm

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Context

1.1.1.1 This Errata Note comprises information regarding the amendments included in the errata sheet (S_PD_1 F04) for seascape and visual resources matters, errata numbers 140 to 144.

1.1.1.2 These amendments have been identified in response to Natural Resources Wales’ (NRW’s) comment in its Written Representation (REP1-056) which stated the following:

393. *“The underestimation of sensitivity within the SLVIA has implications for the conclusions of effect....”*

1.2 Schedule of Changes

1.2.1.1 GLVIA3 (Landscape Institute and IEMA, 2013) provides guidance with assigning value to views. Judgements made about the value of views should take account of: *“recognition of the value attached to particular views, for example in relation to heritage assets, or through planning designations; and, indicators of value attached to views by visitors, for example through appearances in guidebooks or on tourist maps, provision of facilities for their enjoyment (such as parking places, sign boards or interpretive material) and references to them in literature or art...”* (Landscape Institute and IEMA, 2013; paragraph 6.37).

1.2.1.2 This note amends the definition of the value of views (as reported in Volume 2, Chapter 8: Seascape and visual resources (APP-060; Table 8.13) and Volume 6, Annex 8.4: Seascape, landscape and visual resources impact assessment methodology (APP-104; Table 1.2)), which, when combined with the susceptibility of the viewer to the Mona offshore wind project, determines the sensitivity of the visual receptor. These changes correlate with GLVIA3 (Landscape Institute and IEMA, 2013).

Table 1.2: Visual sensitivity to change.

Visual receptor sensitivity	Typical descriptors
	Visual receptor susceptibility Value of view
Very high	<p>Might be visitors to an internationally or nationally designated landscape or recognised visitor attraction where views to and from the designated landscape or visitor destination are integral to the quality of the visual amenity experienced at that location.</p>
High	<p>Might be visitors to a nationally designated landscape or recognised visitor destination or route where views to and from the designated landscape or attraction are integral to the visual amenity experienced at that location. People engaged in outdoor recreation using public rights of way or Access Land in nationally designated landscapes. Users of a national trails or other tourist routes may also be of high</p>

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Visual receptor sensitivity	Typical descriptors	Value of view
	Visual receptor susceptibility	
	susceptibility although susceptibility to change can vary along a route depending on the nature of the locality through which the route passes.	
Medium	Might include those people whose attention or interest is focussed on their surroundings to a degree but is not integral to the activity being pursued. This may include transitory views from local roads or public transport including ferries.	Regional may include views identified in Conservation Area Appraisals, views from regionally important landscapes, such as Special Landscape Areas, or Areas of Great Landscape Value, promoted paths/regional trails and views noted in landscape character assessments.
Low	Might include those people whose attention or interest is not immediately focussed on their surroundings and may include people using rapid transport routes such as major road and rail links. It may also include people at their place of work where their surroundings are not integral to the work being undertaken.	Community may include views that are not recognised through a designation and are undocumented. The views may be valued locally (e.g. through Neighbourhood Plans) although not of importance in the wider area.
Negligible	Might include those people whose attention or interest is not focussed on their surroundings or whose immediate surroundings truncate views.	Views that are not noted in any documentation and are simply those gained as people go about their day-to-day activities.

1.2.1.3 Corresponding changes to Volume 6, Annex 8.4: Seascape, landscape and visual resources impact assessment methodology (APP-104) Table 1.3 are also required.

Table 1.3: Visual sensitivity evaluation.

Sensitivity of receptor (value) Value	Susceptibility				
	Negligible	Low	Medium	High	Very High
<u>Negligible</u>	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Low	Low
<u>Community Low</u>	Negligible	Low	Medium to low	High to medium	High
<u>Regional Medium</u>	Negligible	Low	Medium	High to medium	High
<u>National High</u>	Low	Low	High to medium	High	Very high to high
<u>International Very High</u>	Low	Medium	High	Very high to high	Very high

1.2.1.4 This change to the visual sensitivity evaluation correlates with how the Applicant undertook the seascape and visual resources assessment, and therefore does not result in any changes to the conclusion of assessment.

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1.3 References

Landscape Institute and IEMA (2013) Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment: Third edition (GLVIA3).