

# MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

## Environmental Statement

### Volume 2, Chapter 8: Seascape and visual resources

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Image of an offshore wind farm

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

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### Deadline 7 Changes

This document has been updated at Deadline 7 of the Mona Offshore Wind Project examination in order to address the errata included in Errata Sheet (REP4-088).

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Annex 8.2: Seascape and landscape character baseline technical report

Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report - offshore development

Annex 8.4: Seascape, landscape and visual resources impact assessment methodology

Annex 8.5: International and nationally designated landscape study - offshore development

Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations

## Glossary

Term	Meaning
Access land	Land designated as open access as defined in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (the CROW Act).
Characteristics	Elements, or combinations of elements, which make a contribution to distinctive landscape character.
Designated landscapes	Areas of landscape identified as being of importance at international, national or local levels, either defined by statute or identified in development plans or other documents.
Effect	Best practice guidance defines effect as the change resulting from an impact (which is defined as “ <i>the action being taken</i> ”) (e.g. the effect erecting a building/structure or removing a tree on seascape/landscape character or views/visual amenity). (GLVIA3, pages 8-9).
Elements/components	Individual parts of a thing (e.g. different elements of a landscape which make up the whole, such as, for example, trees, hedges and buildings).
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)	A statutory process by which certain planned projects must be assessed before a formal decision to proceed can be made. It involves the collection and consideration of environmental information, which fulfils the assessment requirements of the EIA Directive and EIA Regulations, including the publication of an Environmental Statement.
Feature	Prominent elements in the landscape, such as tree clumps, church towers or wooded skylines.
Heritage	The historic environment and especially valued assets and qualities, such as historic buildings and cultural traditions.
Hydrological, Ecological and Landscape Management Plan	A Hydrological, Ecological and Landscape Management Plan will be prepared for the application. It will include details of the landscape mitigation works required for the onshore elements (cable route and substation) and the maintenance and management of the proposed mitigation.
Impact	Best practice guidance defines impact as “ <i>the action being taken</i> ” (as opposed to the change resulting from the action) e.g. a tree being removed or building/structure being erected. (GLVIA3, pages 8-9).
Key characteristics	Elements which are particularly important to the current character of the landscape and help to give an area its particularly distinctive sense of place.
Landform	The shape and form of the land surface which has resulted from combinations of geology, geomorphology, slope, elevation and physical processes.
LANDMAP	LANDMAP is a complete all-Wales GIS based landscape resource where landscape characteristics, qualities and influences on the landscape are recorded and evaluated into a nationally consistent data set.
LANDMAP Aspect Areas	LANDMAP comprises five spatially related datasets: Geological Landscape; Landscape Habitats; Visual and Sensory; Historic Landscape; and, Cultural Landscape Services. LANDMAP Aspect Areas define the character within each layer.
Landscape	An area, as perceived by people, the character of which is a result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors.
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 Character Areas	These are single unique areas which are the discrete geographical areas of a particular landscape type.

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Term	Meaning
Landscape effects	Effects on the landscape as a resource in its own right.
Landscape quality (condition)	A measure of physical state of the landscape. It may include the extent to which typical character is represented in individual areas, the intactness of the landscape and the condition of individual elements.
Landscape receptors	Defined aspects of the landscape resource that have the potential to be affected by the proposal.
Landscape value	The relative value that is attached to different landscapes by society. A landscape may be valued by different stakeholders for a whole variety of reasons
Magnitude (of impact)	A term that combines judgements about the size and scale of the impact or change, the extent of the area over which it occurs, whether it is reversible or irreversible and whether it is short or long-term in duration.
Marine character area	Each marine character area has its own individual character and identity, even though it can share the same generic characteristics as other areas. The use of MCAs provides a good framework within which to draw out patterns of local distinctiveness and those factors influencing sense of place. They can be used to develop more tailored policies or strategies, reflecting the things that make a particular area different, distinctive or special. Character areas may also be more recognisable and identifiable for non-specialists (than 'character types').
Photomontage	A visualisation which superimposes an image of a proposed development upon a photograph or series of photographs of the existing landscape.
Seascape	The visual and physical conjunction of land and sea which combines maritime, coast and hinterland character.
Sensitivity	A term applied to specific receptors, combining judgements of the susceptibility of the receptor to the specific type of change or development proposed and the value related to that receptor.
Significance (of effect)	A judgement of the environmental effect resulting from a combination of the sensitivity of the receptor and the magnitude of the impact of a proposed development.
Special Qualities	A term usually used in relation to National Parks or Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty. It is given to those qualities for which the area is designated.
Susceptibility	The ability of a defined landscape or visual receptor to accommodate the specific proposed development without undue negative consequences.
Tranquillity	A state of calm and quietude associated with peace, considered to be a significant feature in the landscape.
Visual amenity	The overall pleasantness of the views people enjoy in their surroundings, which provides an attractive visual setting or backdrop for the enjoyment of activities of the people living, working, recreating, visiting or travelling through an area.
Visual effects	Effects on specific views and on general visual amenity experienced by people.
Visual receptors	Individuals and/or defined groups of people who have the potential to be affected by a proposal.
Visualisation	A computer simulation, photomontage or other technique illustrating the predicted appearance of a proposed development.
Zone of Theoretical Visibility	A map, usually digitally produced, showing areas of land within which, a development is theoretically visible.



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### Acronyms

Acronym	Description
AfL	Agreement for Lease
AOD	Ordnance Datum
AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
CEA	Cumulative Effect Assessment
DCO	Development Consent Order
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ELC	European Landscape Convention
GLVIA3	Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Third Edition
IEMA	Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment
IoM	Isle of Man
LCA	Landscape Character Area
LI	Landscape Institute
MCA	Marine Character Area
MDS	Maximum Design Scenario
MLWS	Mean Low Water Springs
MMO	Marine Management Organisation
NCA	National Character Area (England)
NCR	National Cycle Route
NL	National Landscape
NLCA	National Landscape Character Area (Wales)
NP	National Park
NPS	National Policy Statement
NRW	Natural Resources Wales
NSIP	Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project
OSP	Offshore substation platform
PEIR	Preliminary Environmental Impact Assessment
PROW	Public Right of Way
SCA	Seascape Character Area
SLA	Special Landscape Area
SLVIA	Seascape and Landscape Visual Impact Assessment
SSZ	Seascape Sensitivity Zone
ZTV	Zone of Theoretical Visibility

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### Units

Unit	Description
%	percentage
km	kilometres
m	metres
NM	nautical miles
°	degrees

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## 8 Seascape and visual resources

### 8.1 Introduction

#### 8.1.1 Overview

8.1.1.1 This chapter, Volume 2, Chapter 8: Seascape and visual resources of the Environmental Statement presents the assessment of the potential impact of the Mona Offshore Wind Project on seascape and visual resources, comprising a Seascape Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (SLVIA). Specifically, this chapter considers the potential impact of the Mona Offshore Wind Project seaward of Mean Low Water Springs (MLWS) during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases. An assessment of the effects of the Mona Offshore Wind Project on the Historic Seascape is in Volume 3, Chapter 5: Historic Environment of the Environmental Statement.

8.1.1.2 This chapter also draws upon the following information contained within Volume 6 of the Environmental Statement, referenced as follows:

- Volume 6, Annex 8.1: Seascape and visual resources legislation and planning policy context of the Environmental Statement
- Volume 6, Annex 8.2: Seascape and landscape character baseline technical report of the Environmental Statement
- Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement
- Volume 6, Annex 8.4: Seascape, landscape, and visual resources impact assessment methodology of the Environmental Statement
- Volume 6, Annex 8.5: International and nationally designated landscape study - offshore development of the Environmental Statement
- Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations of the Environmental Statement.

8.1.1.3 Mona Offshore Wind Limited (the Applicant), a joint venture of bp Alternative Energy investments Ltd (hereafter referred to as bp) and Energie Baden-Württemberg AG (hereafter referred to as EnBW) is developing the Mona Offshore Wind Project. The Mona Offshore Wind Project is a proposed offshore wind farm located in the east Irish Sea with a landfall on the North Wales coastline and a connection to the existing Bodelwyddan National Grid substation.

8.1.1.4 The Applicant entered into Agreement for Lease (AfL) for the Mona Offshore Wind Project in January 2023.

#### 8.1.2 Study area

8.1.2.1 The SLVIA offshore study area for the generation and transmission assets of the Mona Offshore Wind Project, hereafter referred to as ‘the 50 km SLVIA Study Area’, is shown in Figure A.1. This study area has been based on the findings of an analysis of the Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV). The 50 km SLVIA study area comprises the area of sea to be temporarily and permanently occupied during construction, operations and maintenance and decommissioning of the Mona Offshore Wind Project together with a 50 km buffer from the Mona Array Area. This study area incorporates the Mona Offshore Cable Corridor and Access Area.

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- 8.1.2.2 This distance threshold aligns with recommendations in the White Consultants report for Natural Resources Wales (NRW) ‘Seascape and Visual Buffer Study for Offshore Wind Farms’ (White Consultants, 2020).
- 8.1.2.3 The buffer used to define the 50 km SLVIA Study Area is based on the Maximum Design Scenario (MDS) set out in section 8.6.
- 8.1.2.4 The 50 km SLVIA study area from the outer boundary of the Mona Array Area was formulated in accordance with relevant best practice guidance (Visual Representation of Wind Farms: Version 2.2, NatureScot, 2017) and was discussed in the SLVIA workshop (held in September 2022) (see [Table 8.6](#)~~Table 8.6~~). NRW agreed in its Scoping Response that the 50 km SLVIA study area set out in the Scoping Report was appropriate ([Table 8.6](#)~~Table 8.6~~).
- 8.1.2.5 A 60 km buffer from the Mona Array Area is also identified solely for the purpose of assessing effects on nationally and internationally designated landscapes. This assessment is documented in Volume 6, Annex 8.5: International and nationally designated landscape study – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

## 8.2 Policy context

- 8.2.1.1 The policy context for the Mona Offshore Wind Project is set out in Volume 1, Chapter 2: Policy and legislation of the Environmental Statement. Specific policy relevant to seascape, landscape and visual resources is set out in Volume 6, Annex 8.1 Seascape and visual resources legislation and planning policy context of the Environmental Statement.

### 8.2.2 Legislation

- 8.2.2.1 National government policy and underpinning legislation is summarised in [Table 8.1](#)~~Table 8.1~~ together with how and it has been considered in the SLVIA of the Mona Offshore Wind Project.

**Table 8.1: Summary of national government legislation and policy relevant to seascape, landscape and visual resources.**

Summary of national legislation/policy	How and where considered in the Environmental Statement
<b>Primary Legislation</b>	
National Parks (NPs) and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 Relevance: Nationally designated landscapes fall within the Mona Array Area SLVIA study area.	The effect on the Isle of Anglesey National Landscape (NL) the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley NL and Eryri National Park documented in Volume 6, Annex 8.5: International and nationally designated landscapes study of the Environmental Statement.
Environment Act 1995 Relevance: Nationally designated landscapes fall within the Mona Array Area SLVIA study area.	The effect on nationally designated landscapes’ special qualities and landscape character is documented in Volume 6, Annex 8.5: International and nationally designated landscapes study, of the Environmental Statement.

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Summary of national legislation/policy	How and where considered in the Environmental Statement
<p>Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CRoW)</p> <p>Relevance: Access Land (mountain, moor, heath and down) is designated under the CroW Act 2000. There are areas of Access Land within the Mona Array Area SLVIA study area.</p>	<p>The effects on Eryri National Park, the Isle of Anglesey NL and the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley NL documented in Volume 6, Annex 8.5: International and nationally designated landscapes study – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.</p> <p>The effect on land within the 50 km SLVIA Study Area designated as Access Land – addressed in the impact assessment in section 2.</p>
<p>The Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009</p> <p>Relevance: Areas of the sea fall within the Mona Array Area SLVIA study area.</p>	<p>The effect on sea and land adjacent to the coast within the 50 km SLVIA Study Area – addressed in the impact assessment in Section 0 where appropriate.</p>
<p><b>Planning Policy and Guidance</b></p>	
<p>UK Marine Policy Statement (MPS) (2011)</p>	<p>Reviewed in Volume 6, Annex 8.1: Seascape, landscape and visual resources legislation and planning policy context of the Environmental Statement.</p>
<p>Future Wales The National Plan 2040 – policy 17</p>	
<p>Future Wales The National Plan 2040 – policy 18</p>	
<p>Planning Policy Wales Edition 11</p>	
<p>Welsh National Marine Plan November 2019</p>	
<p>National Policy Statements (NPS EN-1 Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy and NPS EN-3 National Policy Statement for Renewable Energy) (2024)</p>	<p>Discussed in section 0. Reviewed in Volume 6, Annex 8.1: Seascape and visual resources legislation and planning policy context of the Environmental Statement.</p>
<p>National Planning Policy Framework (July 2021)</p>	<p>Reviewed in Volume 6, Annex 8.1: Seascape and visual resources legislation and planning policy context of the Environmental Statement.</p>

### 8.2.3 National Policy Statements

- 8.2.3.1 Planning policy on renewable energy infrastructure is presented in Volume 1, Chapter 2: Policy and legislative context of the Environmental Statement.
- 8.2.3.2 Planning policy on offshore renewable energy Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs), specifically in relation to seascape, landscape and visual resources, is contained in the Overarching National Policy Statement (NPS) for Energy (EN-1; DECC, 2024a) and the NPS for Renewable Energy Infrastructure (EN-3, DECC, 2024b).
- 8.2.3.3 NPS EN-1 and NPS EN-3 include guidance on what matters are to be considered in the assessment. These are summarised in [Table 8.2](#) and [Table 8.3](#). [Table 8.2](#) and [Table 8.3](#) also highlight several factors relating to NPS EN-1 and NPS EN-3 and the determination of an application and in relation to mitigation.

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**Table 8.2: Summary of the NPS EN-1 and NPS EN-3 provisions relevant to seascape, landscape, and visual resources.**

Summary of NPS EN-1 and EN-3 provision	How and where considered in the Environmental Statement
<p><b>Summary of NPS EN-1 policy</b></p>	
<p>Whilst the applicant may not have any or very limited choice in the physical appearance of some energy infrastructure, there may be opportunities for the applicant to demonstrate good design in terms of siting relative to existing landscape character, landform, and vegetation. Furthermore, the design and sensitive use of materials in any associated development such as electricity substations will assist in ensuring that such development contributes to the quality of the area. Applicants should also, so far as is possible, seek to embed opportunities for nature inclusive design within the design process. [Paragraph 4.7.6 of NPS EN-1]</p>	<p>Impact Assessment Criteria 8.4.2 and Volume 1, Chapter 5: Environmental Impact Assessment methodology of the Environmental Statement.</p>
<p>Landscape effects arise not only from the sensitivity of the landscape but also the nature and magnitude of change proposed by the development, whose specific siting and design make the assessment a case-by-case judgement. [Paragraph 5.10.4 of NPS EN-1]</p>	<p>Impact Assessment Criteria 8.4.2; Volume 1, Chapter 5: Environmental Impact Assessment methodology of the Environmental Statement; Section 2: SLVIA of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project Assessment of significant effects</p>
<p>Virtually all nationally significant energy infrastructure projects will have adverse effects on the landscape, but there may also be beneficial landscape character impacts arising from mitigation. [Paragraphs 5.10.5 of NPS EN-1].</p>	
<p>Projects need to be designed carefully, taking account of the potential impact on the landscape. Having regard to siting, operational and other relevant constraints the aim should be to minimise harm to the landscape, providing reasonable mitigation where possible and appropriate. [Paragraphs 5.10.6 of NPS EN-1].</p>	
<p>The landscape and visual assessment should include reference to any landscape character assessment and associated studies as a means of assessing landscape impacts relevant to the proposed project. The applicant's assessment should also take account of any relevant policies based on these assessments in local development documents in England and local development plans in Wales. [Paragraph 5.10.17 of NPS EN-1]</p>	<p>The existing seascape and landscape character and assessments are described (reviewed in Volume 6, Annex 8.2: Seascape and landscape character baseline technical report of the Environmental Statement).</p>
<p>The applicant's assessment should also take account of any relevant policies based on these assessments in local development documents in England and local development plans in Wales. [Paragraph 5.10.17 of NPS EN-1]</p>	<p>Relevant planning policy used to inform the assessment is outlined in Volume 6, Annex 8.1: Seascape and visual resources legislation and planning policy context of the Environmental Statement and national policy summarised in <a href="#">Table 8.1</a> <del>Table 8.1</del>.</p>
<p>For seascapes, applicants should consult the Seascape Character Assessment and the Marine Plan Seascape Character Assessments, Marine Plan Seascape Character Assessments any and any successors to them. [Paragraph 5.10.18 of NPS EN-1]</p>	



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Summary of NPS EN-1 and EN-3 provision	How and where considered in the Environmental Statement
<p>The applicant should consider landscape and visual matters in the early stages of siting and design, where site choices and design principles are being established. This will allow the applicant to demonstrate in the ES how negative effects have been minimised and opportunities for creating positive benefits or have been recognized and incorporated into the design, delivery and operation of the scheme.</p> <p>[Paragraph 5.10.19 of NPS EN-1]</p>	<p>The maximum design scenario is set out in <a href="#">Table 8.17</a> <del>Table 8.17</del>. Assessment of effects on the seascape and landscape elements are assessed in section 8.8.2 and section 8.8.3.</p>
<p>The assessment should include the effects on landscape components and character during construction and operation. For projects which may affect a National Park, The Broads or an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs) [now National Landscapes] the assessment should include effects on the natural beauty and special qualities of these areas.</p> <p>[Paragraph 5.10.20 of NPS EN-1]</p>	<p>Assessments of effects on seascape and landscape resources are assessed in section 0. The special qualities of nationally designated landscapes are assessed in Volume 6, Annex 8.5: International and nationally designated landscapes study, of the Environmental Statement.</p>
<p>The assessment should include the visibility and conspicuousness of the project during construction and of the presence and operation of the project and potential impacts on views and visual amenity. This should include light pollution effects, including on local amenity, and nature conservation.</p> <p>[Paragraph 5.10.21 of NPS EN-1]</p>	<p>Assessments of effects on visual resources are assessed in section 8.8.3. Night time effects on visual receptors are assessed in section 8.8.5.</p>
<p><b>Summary of NPS EN-3 policy</b></p>	
<p>When considering applications for CNP [critical national priority] Infrastructure in sites with nationally recognised designations (such as SSSIs, National Nature Reserves, National Parks, the Broads, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Registered Parks and Gardens, and World Heritage Sites), the Secretary of State will take as the starting point that the relevant tests in Sections 5.4 and 5.10 of EN-1 have been met, and any significant adverse effects on the qualities for which the area has been designated are clearly outweighed by the urgent need for this type of infrastructure</p> <p>[Paragraph 2.3.6 of NPS EN-3]</p>	<p>The Mona Offshore Wind Project is CNP Infrastructure. The Mona Offshore Wind Project has no direct effects on National Parks or National Landscapes.</p> <p>The Mona Array Area would be visible from the Isle of Anglesey NL, Eryri National Park and the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley NL. These landscapes have the potential to be indirectly affected.</p> <p>The effects on the special qualities of the Isle of Anglesey NL, Eryri National Park and the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley NL are considered in detail in Volume 6, Annex 8.5: Internationally and nationally designated landscapes study, of the Environmental Statement.</p>
<p>Where a proposed offshore wind farm will be visible from the shore and would be within the setting of a nationally designated landscape with potential effects on the area's statutory purpose, an SLVIA should be undertaken in accordance with the relevant offshore wind farm Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) policy and the latest Offshore Energy SEA, including the White 2020 Report. The SLVIA should be proportionate to the scale of the potential impacts. This will always be the case where a coastal National Park or AONB, or a Heritage Coast or their setting is potentially affected.</p> <p>[Paragraph 2.8.208 of NPS EN-3]</p>	<p>The methodology used to assess the effects of the Mona Offshore Wind Project offshore elements, is set out in Volume 6, Annex 8.4: Seascape, landscape and visual impact assessment methodology, of this Environmental Statement.</p> <p>The assessment in this SLVIA Environmental Statement chapter is in proportion to the scale of the Mona Offshore Wind Project.</p>

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Summary of NPS EN-1 and EN-3 provision	How and where considered in the Environmental Statement
<p>Where necessary, assessment of the seascape should include an assessment of four principal considerations on the likely effect of offshore wind farms on the coast:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the limit of visual perception from the coast under poor, good and best lighting conditions</li> <li>the effects of navigation and hazard prevention lighting on dark night skies;</li> <li>individual landscape and visual characteristics of the coast and the special qualities of designated landscapes, such as World Heritage Sites and National Parks, which limits the coast's capacity to absorb a development; and</li> <li>how people perceive and interact with the coast and natural seascape.</li> </ul> <p>[Paragraph 2.8.209 of NPS EN-3]</p>	<p>The Mona Offshore Wind Project array will be visible from the shore on days with good visibility. Meteorological Office visibility data for the years 2012 to 2022 is set out in Volume 6, Annex 8.4: Seascape, landscape and visual impact methodology of the Environmental Statement.</p> <p>Night time impacts are assessed in section 8.8.5 of this chapter.</p> <p>The effects on the special qualities of designated landscapes are assessed in Volume 6, Annex 8.5: International and nationally designated landscapes study, of the Environmental Statement.</p>
<p>As part of the SLVIA, photomontages will be required. Viewpoints to be used for the SLVIA should be selected in consultation with the statutory consultees at the EIA Scoping stage.</p> <p>[Paragraph 3.8.210 of NPS EN-3]</p>	<p>Photomontages and wirelines have been produced for representative viewpoints in Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations of the Environmental Statement.</p>
<p>Applicants should assess the magnitude and significance of change to both the identified seascape receptors (such as seascape and landscape units, visual receptors, and the special qualities of designated landscapes) in accordance with the standard methodology for SLVIA.</p> <p>[Paragraph 3.8.211 of NPS EN-3]</p>	<p>The SLVIA has been undertaken in accordance with Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment: 3rd Edition (GLVIA3).</p> <p>Additional guidance, specifically pertaining to offshore windfarms has also been used in the SLVIA (see Table 8.7).</p> <p>The assessment of effects on seascape and landscape resources and receptors is at section 8.8.2 and section 8.8.3 of this chapter.</p> <p>The effects on visual receptors is at section 8.8.3 of this chapter.</p> <p>The effects on the special qualities of designated landscapes are assessed in Volume 6, Annex 8.5: International and nationally designated landscapes study, of the Environmental Statement.</p> <p>The methodology used to assess the effects on seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors is set out in Volume 6, Annex 8.4: Seascape, landscape and visual impact assessment methodology.</p>
<p>Where appropriate, cumulative SLVIA should be undertaken in accordance with the policy on cumulative assessment outlined in Section 5.10.16-17 of EN-1.</p> <p>[Paragraph 3.8.212 of NPS EN-3]</p>	<p>A cumulative impact assessment has been undertaken and is presented in 8.8.3 of this chapter.</p>

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**Table 8.3: Summary of NPS EN-1 and NPS EN-3 policy on decision making relevant to seascape, landscape and visual resources.**

Summary of NPS EN-1 and EN-3 provision	How and where considered in the Environmental Statement
<b>Summary of provisions in NPS EN-1</b>	
<p>The Secretary of State will have to judge whether the visual effects on sensitive receptors, such as local residents, and other receptors, such as visitors to the local area, outweigh the benefits of the project.</p> <p>[Paragraphs 5.10.14 of NPS EN-1]</p>	<p>The effects on visual receptors are assessed in section 8.8.3 of this chapter.</p>
<p>Reducing the scale of a project can help to mitigate the visual and landscape effects of a proposed project. However, reducing the scale or otherwise amending the design of a proposed energy infrastructure project may result in a significant operational constraint and reduction in function – for example, electricity generation output. There may, however, be exceptional circumstances, where mitigation could have a very significant benefit and warrant a small reduction in function. In these circumstances, the Secretary of State may decide that the benefits of the mitigation to reduce the landscape and/or visual effects outweigh the marginal loss of function.</p> <p>[Paragraph 5.10.26 of NPS EN-1]</p>	<p>Given the dynamic nature of most of the visual receptors and the location of the project offshore, no additional measures are proposed specifically in relation to the location, scale or arrangement and layout of the wind turbines.</p>
<p>The duty to seek to further the purposes of nationally designated landscapes also applies when considering applications for projects outside the boundaries of these areas, which may have impacts within them. The aim should be to avoid harming the purposes of designation or to minimise adverse effects on designated landscapes, and such projects should be designed sensitively given the various siting, operational, and other relevant constraints. The fact that a proposed project will be visible from within a designated area should not in itself be a reason for the Secretary of State to refuse consent.</p> <p>[Paragraph 5.10.34 of NPS EN-1]</p>	<p>No elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project are located within any designated landscapes.</p> <p>The effects on the special qualities of nationally designated landscapes are assessed in Volume 6, Annex 8.5: International and nationally designated landscape study, of the Environmental Statement.</p>
<p>The scale of energy projects means that they will often be visible across a very wide area. The Secretary of State should judge whether any adverse impact on the landscape would be so damaging that it is not offset by the benefits (including need) of the project.</p> <p>[Paragraph 5.10.35 of NPS EN-1]</p>	<p>The Maximum Design Scenario was used to identify potential impacts on seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors (<a href="#">Table 8.17</a> <del>Table 8.17</del>).</p> <p>effects of the temporary and permanent elements of the offshore components of the project on seascape, landscape and visual receptors are considered within section 8.8.2 and section 8.8.3 of this chapter.</p>
<p>In reaching a judgement, the Secretary of State should consider whether any adverse impact is temporary, such as during construction, and/or whether any adverse impact on the landscape will be capable of being reversed in a timescale that the Secretary of State considers reasonable.</p> <p>[Paragraph 5.10.36 of NPS EN-1]</p>	
<p>The Secretary of State should consider whether the project has been designed carefully, taking account of environmental effects on the landscape and siting, operational and other relevant constraints, to minimise</p>	<p>See Volume 1, Chapter 4: Site Selection and Consideration of Alternatives of the Environmental Statement for further detail on site selection criteria.</p>

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Summary of NPS EN-1 and EN-3 provision	How and where considered in the Environmental Statement
<p>harm to the landscape, including by appropriate mitigation. [Paragraph 5.10.37 of NPS EN-1]</p>	<p>The AfL dictates the area within which the Mona Offshore Wind Project has to be located. The boundary of the Mona Array Area has been revised (reduced) to minimise effects on shipping and navigation, other sea users and to increase separation from landscape and visual resources and receptors.  Given the dynamic nature of the majority of the visual receptors and the location of the Mona Offshore Wind Project offshore, no additional measures are proposed specifically in relation to the location or arrangement of the wind turbines.</p>
<p><b>Summary of provisions in NPS EN-3</b></p>	
<p>The Secretary of State should assess the proposal in accordance with the policy set out in the landscape and visual impacts Section 5.10 of EN-1. [Paragraph 2.8.349 of NPS EN-3]</p>	<p>The assessment of the Mona Offshore Wind Project has considered the likely significance of effects, considering each phase of the development process. The likely significance of effects is outlined in this chapter (refer to Table 8.21 and Table 8.22 for the summary of potential environmental effects).</p>
<p>Where a proposed offshore wind farm is within sight of the coast, there may be adverse effects. The Secretary of State should not refuse to grant consent for a development solely on the ground of an adverse effect on the seascape or visual amenity unless:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• it considers that an alternative layout within the identified site could be reasonably proposed which would minimise any harm, taking into account other constraints that the applicant has faced such as ecological effects, while maintaining safety or economic viability of the application; or</li> <li>• it takes account of the sensitivity of the receptor(s) and impacts on the statutory purposes of designated landscapes as set out in Section 5.10 of EN-1; and decides that the harmful effects outweigh the benefits of the proposed scheme. See also Critical National Priority (Section 3 of this NPS</li> </ul> <p>[Paragraph 2.8.351 of NPS EN-3]</p> <p>Where adverse effects are anticipated either during the construction or operational phases, in coming to a judgement, the Secretary of State should consider the extent to which the effects are temporary or reversible. [Paragraph 2.8.352 of NPS EN-3]</p>	<p>The assessment of effects on seascape and landscape resources and receptors is at section 8.8.2 and section 8.8.3 of this chapter.  The effects on visual receptors is at section 8.8.3 of this chapter.  The effects on the special qualities of designated landscapes are assessed in Volume 6, Annex 8.5: International and nationally designated landscapes study, of the Environmental Statement.</p>
<p>Neither the design nor scale of individual wind turbines can be changed without significantly affecting the electricity generating output of the wind turbines. Therefore, the Secretary of State should expect it to be unlikely that mitigation in the form of reduction in scale will be feasible.  However, the siting layout of the turbines should be designed appropriately to minimise harm, considering other constraints such as ecological effects, safety reasons or engineering and design parameters. [Paragraphs 2.8.263 to 2.8.264 of NPS EN-3]</p>	<p>Alternatives of the Environmental Statement for details for further detail on site selection criteria.  The AfL dictates the area within which the Mona Offshore Wind Project has to be located. The boundary of the Mona Array Area has been revised (reduced) to minimise effects on shipping and navigation, other sea users and to increase separation from landscape and visual resources and receptors.</p>

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**8.2.4 UK Marine Policy Statement, Welsh National Marine Plan and Northwest Inshore and Northwest Offshore Marine Plans**

8.2.4.1 The assessment of potential changes to seascape, landscape and visual resources has also been made with consideration to the specific policies set out in the Welsh National Marine Plan (Welsh Government, 2019) and Northwest Inshore and Northwest Offshore Marine Plans (MMO, 2021). Key provisions are set out in [Table 8.4](#), along with details as to how these have been addressed within the assessment. Further detail on the policies is provided in Volume 6, Annex 8.1: Seascape and visual resources planning policy context, of the Environmental Statement.

**Table 8.4: UK Marine Policy Statement, Welsh National Marine Plan and Northwest Inshore and Northwest Offshore Marine Plan policies relevant to seascape, landscape and visual resources.**

Policy	How and where considered in the Environmental Statement
<b>UK Marine Policy Statement</b>	
<p>The effects of activities and developments in the marine and coastal area on the landscape, including seascape, will vary on a case-by-case basis according to the type of activity, its location and its setting. There is no legal definition for seascape in the UK but the European Landscape Convention (ELC) defines landscape as “<i>an area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors</i>”. In the context of this document, references to seascape should be taken as meaning landscapes with views of the coast or seas, and coasts and the adjacent marine environment with cultural, historical and archaeological links with each other (paragraph 2.6.5.1).</p>	<p>The chapter considers both offshore and onshore seascape and landscape and visual resources and receptors, as defined both in the ELC and in Guide to Best Practice in Seascape Assessment (Hill <i>et al.</i>, 2001, INTERREG Report No. 5).</p>
<p>When developing Marine Plans, marine plan authorities should consider at a strategic level visual, cultural, historical and archaeological impacts not just for those coastal areas that are particularly important for seascape, but for all coastal areas, liaising with terrestrial planning authorities as necessary. In addition, any wider social and economic impacts of a development or activity on coastal landscapes and seascapes should be considered (paragraph 2.6.5).</p>	<p>Seascape landscape and visual resources and receptors are considered within this Environmental Statement chapter.</p> <p>Historic seascape and the setting of historic assets are considered in Volume 2, Chapter 9: Marine archaeology of the Environmental Statement.</p> <p>The socio-economic effects of the Mona Offshore Wind Project are considered in Volume 4, Chapter 3: Socio-economics of the Environmental Statement.</p>
<p>In considering the impact of an activity or development on seascape, the marine plan authority should take into account existing character and quality, how highly it is valued and its capacity to accommodate change specific to any development. Landscape Character Assessment methodology may be an aid to this process (paragraph 2.6.5.2).</p>	<p>Where available published seascape and landscape assessments have been used. Where not available, such as the outer Isle of Man territorial waters, baseline information from other chapters in the Environmental Statement have been used to characterise the seascape and establish seascape sensitivity.</p>
<b>Welsh National Marine Plan</b>	
<p>SOC_06: Designated landscapes</p>	<p>No element of the Mona Offshore Wind Project lies within a nationally designated seascape or landscape.</p> <p>A 60 km SLVIA study area is identified for the assessment of effects on the special qualities of nationally and internationally designated landscapes. This is documented</p>



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Policy	How and where considered in the Environmental Statement
	in Volume 6, Annex 8.5: International and nationally designated landscapes study of the Environmental Statement.
SOC_07: Seascapes	<p>The assessment of the Mona Offshore Wind Project on seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors is considered in section 0 and summarised in Table 8.21.</p> <p>There are limited opportunities for mitigating seascape or visual effects for the Mona Array Area. However, Table 25.19 details those that are proposed for the Mona Array Area.</p>
GOV_01: Cumulative effects	Cumulative effects are considered in section 8.9 and summarised in Table 8.21.
GOV_02: Cross-border and plan compatibility	Cross-border and transboundary impacts are considered in section 8.12 of this chapter. For the offshore elements of the Mona Array Area, these consist of the different landmasses framing this part of the Irish Sea - the Isle of Man, Wales and England, as well as the territorial waters that lie within the 50 km SLVIA Study Area.
ELC_01a: Low carbon energy (supporting) wind	The Mona Offshore Wind Project is an offshore wind project located wholly in Welsh territorial waters.

### Northwest Inshore and Northwest Offshore Coast Marine Plans

NW-CO-1 Proposals that optimise the use of space and incorporate opportunities for co-existence and co-operation with existing activities will be supported.	The Agreement for Lease (AfL) area is the result of the UK Offshore Wind Leasing Round 4 including the plan-level Habitat Regulations Assessment undertaken by The Crown Estate. Within that area and given other 'hard' constraints, there is little opportunity for relocating the Mona Array Area. Other mitigation is considered in <a href="#">Table 8.16</a> <a href="#">Table 8.16</a> .
NW-REN-1 Proposals that enable the provision of renewable energy technologies and associated supply chains, will be supported.	The socio-economic effects of the Mona Offshore Wind Project are considered in Volume 4, Chapter 3: Socio-economics of the Environmental Statement.
NW-REN-2 Proposals for new activity within areas held under a lease or an agreement for lease for renewable energy generation should not be authorised, unless it is demonstrated that the proposed development or activity will not reduce the ability to construct, operate or decommission the existing or planned energy generation project.	The Applicant entered into the AfL for the Mona Offshore Wind Project in 2022.
NW-REN-3 Proposals for the installation of infrastructure to generate offshore renewable energy, inside areas of identified potential and subject to relevant assessments, will be supported.	The proposed Mona Offshore Wind Project aligns with this policy. See Volume 1, Chapter 4: Site Selection and Consideration of Alternatives of the Environmental Statement for details for further detail on site selection criteria.
NW-SCP-1 Proposals should ensure they are compatible with their surroundings and should not have a significant adverse impact on the character and visual resource of the seascape and landscape of the area.	<p>The assessment of potential impacts is set out within section 0. Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project are set out within section 8.7. A summary of potential effects is set out within .</p> <p>The Mona Array Area will be visible from the Eryri National Park, the Isle of Anglesey National Landscape and</p>



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<b>Policy</b>	<b>How and where considered in the Environmental Statement</b>
	Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape. The effects on these landscapes are documented in Volume 6, Annex 8.5: International and nationally designated landscapes study – offshore development of the Environmental Statement and includes consideration of the Lake District National Park and the English Lake District World Heritage Site.
NW-TR-1 Proposals that promote or facilitate sustainable tourism and recreation activities, or that create appropriate opportunities to expand or diversify the current use of facilities, should be supported.	The effects on tourism and recreation are considered in Volume 3, Chapter 7: Land use and recreation of the Environmental Statement.
NW-CBC-1 Proposals must consider cross-border impacts throughout the lifetime of the proposed activity. Proposals that impact upon one or more marine plan areas or terrestrial environments must show evidence of the relevant public authorities (including other countries) being consulted and responses considered.	Cross-border and transboundary impacts are considered in section 8.14.6. For the Mona Offshore Wind Project, these are limited to the landmasses framing this part of the Irish Sea, namely Wales, the Isle of Man and England, as well as the territorial waters that lie within the 50 km SLVIA Study Area.

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### 8.2.5 Planning Policy Wales

8.2.5.1 The assessment of potential changes to seascape, landscape and visual resources has also been made with consideration to the specific policies set out in Planning Policy Wales and Future Wales: The National Plan 2040. Key provisions are set out in [Table 8.5](#) ~~Table 8.5~~ along with details as to how these have been addressed within the assessment.

**Table 8.5: Welsh Planning Policy relevant to seascape, landscape and visual resources.**

Policy	Key provisions	How and where considered in the Environmental Statement
Effect Planning Policy Wales Edition 11	Maximising environmental protection and limiting environmental impact.  National Parks and National Landscapes (paragraphs 6.3.5 to 6.3.11 of the Welsh Planning Policy).	No elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project lie within internationally or nationally designated landscapes. However, the SLVIA study area for the offshore elements include areas of internationally and/or nationally designated areas of land. The effect on the Isle of Anglesey National Landscape, the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape and Eryri National Park documented in Volume 6, Annex 8.5: International and nationally designated landscapes study of the Environmental Statement.  The policies relevant to the Mona Offshore Wind Project are set out in Volume 6, Annex 8.1: Seascape, and visual resources planning policy context of the Environmental Statement.

### 8.3 Consultation

8.3.1.1 A summary of the key issues raised during consultation activities undertaken to date specific to seascape, landscape and visual resources is presented in [Table 8.6](#) ~~Table 8.6~~, together with how these issues have been considered in the production of this Environmental Statement chapter. Feedback on the candidate representative viewpoints was requested from the following stakeholders:

- Natural England
- Natural Resources Wales
- Eryri National Park
- Anglesey County Council
- Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape
- Conwy County Borough Council
- Denbighshire County Council
- Gwynedd Council
- West Lancashire Borough Council
- Preston City Council

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- Chorley Council
- Lancashire County Council
- Sefton Council
- Fylde Borough Council
- Blackpool City Council
- Lake District National Park
- Isle of Man Government.

8.3.1.2 Responses received from stakeholders are listed in [Table 8.6](#)~~Table 8.6~~. Further detail is presented in Volume 6, Annex 8.2: Seascape and landscape character baseline technical report of the Environmental Statement and Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

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**Table 8.6: Summary of key consultation issues raised during consultation activities undertaken for the Mona Offshore Wind Project relevant to seascape, landscape and visual resources.**

Date	Consultee and type of consultation	Issues raised	Response to issue raised and/or where considered in this chapter
March 2022	Natural England (Email) - Response to Applicant's request for feedback on the candidate representative viewpoints for the landscape photography	Natural England stated that they would provide feedback following the submission of the Preliminary Environmental Impact Assessment (PEIR).	The representative viewpoints selected for assessment of the Mona Offshore Wind Project array are assessed in section 2, section 8.8.4. The photography and full descriptions of the existing views and those receptors that might experience the views are set out in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.
March 2022	Natural Resources Wales (NRW) (Email) – Response to Applicant's request for feedback on the candidate representative viewpoints for the landscape photography	<p>With regards to the Ynys Môn AONB, NRW considers that the number and geographical distribution along the north and east coastal edges of the AONB looks appropriate.</p> <p>For Eryri National Park – NRW advises the deletion of viewpoint 5 (Yr Wyddfa). The Mona Array Area is at some 60 km from the summit; there is a considerable area of upland landmass in the views looking northwards to the coastline. The coastal edge of Ynys Môn is sometimes just evident from the summit of Yr Wyddfa, otherwise there are no obvious views of the North Wales seascape due to the viewing distance.</p> <p>NRW agreed with representative viewpoint 6 (Carnedd Llewellyn).</p> <p>The ZTV shows the coastal hills within the north edge of the National Park could be influenced by the development. The coastal outlook strongly contributes to sense of place and perceptual qualities here therefore, NRW recommend the following additional viewpoints are assessed: Foel Lus (SH732761) and the North Wales Path above Abergwyngregyn (SH646711).</p> <p>For the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB, NRW agree with representative viewpoint 10 (Graig Fawr); they advise the deletion of representative viewpoint 11 (Moel y Parc summit) as the North Wales coastline is inconspicuous from this location. Instead, NRW recommend a replacement viewpoint with a view from</p>	<p>The Mona Array Area is further from the North Wales coastline than Awel y Môr. The chosen viewpoints for the Mona Array Area will not necessarily be the same, or as numerous as those for Awel y Môr.</p> <p>The wirelines and photomontages used in the assessment of seascape effects of the Mona Array Area are in Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement.</p> <p>The photomontages used in the assessment of landscape effects of the Mona onshore substation are in Volume 7, Annex 6.5: Landscape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement.</p> <p>The assessment of the effects of both the onshore and offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project, on nationally designated landscapes is in Volume 6, Annex 8.5: International and nationally designated landscape study, of the Environmental Statement.</p>

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Date	Consultee and type of consultation	Issues raised	Response to issue raised and/or where considered in this chapter
March 2022	Eryri National Park (Email) – Response to Applicant’s request for feedback on the candidate representative viewpoints for the landscape photography	<p>Offa’s Dyke footpath above Meliden where the path contours Prestatyn Hillside in the area of SJ066808.</p> <p>Eryri National Park recently gave feedback on the representative viewpoints for Awel y Môr wind farm and suggests that it is worth considering similar representative viewpoints for the Mona Offshore Wind Project. They assume that the ZTV maps for Mona Offshore Wind Project would be very similar to Awel y Môr , and that there wouldn’t be any drastically different areas which have a view of the offshore wind farm. Therefore, in terms of viewpoints within the National Park (or on the boundary), they suggest the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carnedd Llewellyn</li> <li>• Tal y Fan</li> <li>• Mynydd Conwy (Conwy Mountain)</li> <li>• Agree with NRW’s recommendation about Foel Lus, and the path by Abergwyngregyn</li> <li>• Agree with NRW with regards to the exclusion of Yr Wyddfa as a viewpoint.</li> </ul> <p>Eryri National Park also point out that Awel y Môr considered views from a path above Capelulo and to Cefn Goch Stone Circle.</p>	
March 2022	Isle of Anglesey County Council (Email)- – Response to Applicant’s request for feedback on the candidate representative viewpoints for the landscape photography	<p>Isle of Anglesey County Council has recently agreed viewpoints for inclusion in Awel y Môr. They identified overlaps in the viewpoints proposed by the Mona Offshore Wind Project, but it was important to include a similar number of lower Ordnance Datum (AOD) viewpoints in the assessment. Isle of Anglesey County Council provided links to exhibition information from Awel y Môr and highlighted representative viewpoint 7 was of interest. There will be a need for some micro-siting at the proposed representative viewpoint 4 (Bwrdd Arthur trig point) as there are more open viewed from some of the open access land.</p>	<p>The Mona Array Area is further from the Isle of Anglesey coastline than Awel y Môr and the chosen viewpoints for the Mona Array Area will not necessarily be the same or as numerous as Awel y Môr.</p> <p>The representative viewpoints selected for assessment of the Mona Array Area, onshore cable route and onshore substation are assessed in section 2, section 8.8.4. The photography and full descriptions of the existing views and those receptors that might</p>

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Date	Consultee and type of consultation	Issues raised	Response to issue raised and/or where considered in this chapter
		<p>For representative viewpoints of the onshore infrastructure, Isle of Anglesey Council confirmed that the viewpoints were suitably distributed but suggests that a viewpoint from the A5025 east between Bettws and Neaudd is added for completeness.</p> <p>[Note – we have presumed that this is a reference to the offshore infrastructure as the Mona onshore substation is not visible from the viewpoint suggested by NRW, due to topography (Eryri) and distance (the study area for the Mona onshore substation was agreed with NRW as 10 km)]</p>	<p>experience the views are set out Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.</p> <p>The suggested viewpoint from the A5025 east between Bettws and Neaudd length of road on Anglesey was investigated, but as the ZTV of the Mona Array Area only coincided with a very small part of publicly accessible road, it was considered that other more widely representative viewpoints towards the Mona Array Area were more appropriate.</p>
March 2022	Natural England (email in response to an invite to engage on the Morgan Wind Energy Project, but is also applicable to the Mona Offshore Wind Project)	<p>Natural England do not normally give advice at this stage [Scoping] for Landscape and Seascape impacts, there is best practice guidance that is available that is very good and we usually would respond to developers that they should use this advice of their consultants alongside this best practice guidance to identify locations. Natural England has commissioned a best practice guide on seascapes project that is due to be complete before the end of the financial year.</p> <p>Natural England usually provide advice at the PIER stage once there are some visuals to provide advice on. Local Planning Authorities usually have viewpoints they would advise on and AONB managers would also be able to advise. It is also recommended for the developer to look at other offshore windfarm applications to look at their approaches.</p>	<p>The methodology used in this assessment is set out in Volume6, Annex 8.4: Seascape, landscape and visual impact assessment methodology, of the Environmental Statement.</p> <p>Wirelines were included in the PEIR and wirelines and photomontages are in Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement.</p>
June 2022	The Planning Inspectorate (Scoping Opinion)	The Mona Offshore Wind Project EIA Scoping Report (Mona Offshore Wind Ltd, 2022) states that the SLVIA study area is to be based on a ZTV and that receptors would be agreed with relevant stakeholders for both generation and transmission assets. The Applicant should seek to agree the extent of the ZTV with relevant consultation bodies.	The 50 km SLVIA Study Area was identified to stakeholders in the request for feedback on the representative viewpoints (February 2022). During the SLVIA Workshop in September 2022 (see below) stakeholders were asked to comment on the 50 km SLVIA Study Area. The Applicant did not receive any specific comments on the extent of the 50 km SLVIA Study Area, therefore the Applicant intends to



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Date	Consultee and type of consultation	Issues raised	Response to issue raised and/or where considered in this chapter
			use the statutory consultation process to agree that the 50 km SLVIA Study Area for the SLVIA assessment is appropriate.
June 2022	The Planning Inspectorate (Scoping Opinion)	The Inspectorate acknowledges that export cables would be fully submerged or buried underground. The Inspectorate agrees that in general the introduction of the export cables is unlikely to give rise to significant long-term effects on seascape and landscape character and visual resources during operation of the Proposed Development.	Noted.
June 2022	The Planning Inspectorate (Scoping Opinion)	The Scoping Report anticipates that all cabling equipment would be left in situ when the Proposed Development is decommissioned. As such, the Inspectorate is content to scope out impact decommissioning of the offshore and onshore export cables on seascape and landscape character and visual resources.	Noted.
June 2022	The Planning Inspectorate (Scoping Opinion)	On the basis that all cables would be fully submerged or underground during operation and would be left in situ when the Proposed Development is decommissioned, the Inspectorate is content that cumulative effects are unlikely to be significant. Therefore, the cumulative effect of the operation, maintenance and decommissioning of the offshore and onshore export cables can be scoped out.	Noted
June 2022	The Planning Inspectorate (Scoping Opinion)	A 50 km buffer from the outer edge of the wind turbine array is proposed. Justification should be provided within the that this is sufficient to identify and likely significant effects, based on the wind turbine height for the Proposed Development.	During the SLVIA Workshop in September 2022, ZTVs of the Mona Array Area were presented and stakeholders were asked to comment on the 50 km SLVIA Study Area. The Applicant did not receive any specific comments on the extent of the 50 km SLVIA Study Area, therefore the Applicant intends to use the statutory consultation to agree that the 50 km SLVIA Study Area for the SLVIA assessment is appropriate with stakeholders.
September 2022	NRW (email in response to an invite to the Mona Offshore Wind Project stakeholder workshop)	Based on the location of the Mona Offshore Wind Project, the current design envelope turbine parameters, the distance from Welsh sites, alongside existing (and	Following a later response from Natural England regarding increasing the study area to 60 km study area (from the Mona Array Area)

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Date	Consultee and type of consultation	Issues raised	Response to issue raised and/or where considered in this chapter
		<p>proposed) developments in the foreground, NRW Advisory do not currently have any concerns relating to SLVIA for the Mona Offshore Wind Project, and are of the opinion that the likelihood of significant visual effects on North Wales's National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, singularly or in combination, is low. However, should the scale of the project / turbine parameters increase we would obviously be keen to be included in further discussions and retain the opportunity to comment at a later stage.</p> <p>At this preliminary stage, therefore, our SLVIA specialist will not attend the upcoming workshop.</p>	<p>where the study area includes nationally designated landscapes, the same increase in study area was included for the Welsh site. Where the extended study area includes a nationally designated landscape, the effects on that landscape have been assessed. The effects of the Mona Offshore Wind Project on the special qualities of nationally designated landscapes are assessed in Volume 6, Annex 8.5: International and nationally designated landscape study, of the Environmental Statement.</p>
September 2022	Natural England – Response to attend SLVIA Workshop	<p>Natural England do not have further comment to input into discussions on SLVIA for the Mona Offshore Wind Project than is available in our Best Practice Guidance (advice documents can be viewed from the following SharePoint Online (SPOL) site. To gain access to the SPOL site, external partners need to request access from the NEOffshoreWindStrategicSolutions@naturalengland.org.uk shared mailbox) and advising that a 60 km buffer to assess seascape impacts is used due to the elevated viewpoints within the local area. This will enable any impacts to be fully assessed, although we acknowledge that the Mona Offshore Wind Project may be visible but not dominant within the seascape, or justification if provided for use of a 50 km buffer to assess seascape, landscape and visual resources due to the height of the proposed wind turbines. Therefore, we will not be attending the Mona Offshore Wind Project SLVIA workshop next week.</p>	<p>Noted. The assessment has followed best practice guidance as set out in the methodology in Volume 6, annex 8.4 Seascape, landscape and visual resources impact assessment methodology of the Environmental Statement.</p> <p>The effects of the Mona Offshore Wind Project on the special qualities of nationally designated landscapes are assessed in Volume 6, Annex 8.5: International and nationally designated landscape study, of the Environmental Statement.</p>
September 2022	<p>Mona Offshore Wind Project SLVIA Workshop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Denbighshire County Council</li> <li>• Isle of Anglesey County Council</li> <li>• Isle of Man Government</li> <li>• Welsh Government</li> </ul>	<p>The purpose of the workshop was to introduce the Mona Offshore Wind Project; to agree the SLVIA study area; and to present the layout options.</p> <p>The principal guidance used to identify the baseline character of the seascape was the GLVIA3 and technical guidance notes from the Landscape Institute (LI).</p>	<p>The Applicant did not receive any specific comments on the extent of the 50 km SLVIA Study Area, therefore the Applicant has used the statutory consultation process to agree that the 50 km SLVIA Study Area for the SLVIA assessment is appropriate.</p> <p>Stakeholders did not respond on the MDS scenarios during the meeting. The Applicant</p>

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Date	Consultee and type of consultation	Issues raised	Response to issue raised and/or where considered in this chapter
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conwy County Borough Council</li> <li>Gwynedd Council</li> <li>NRW</li> <li>Eryri National Park Authority.</li> </ul>	<p>All relevant documentation from the 2003 BMT Cordah report, to date has been reviewed, including the detailed DTI Guidance on the Assessment of the Impact of Offshore Wind Farms: Seascape and Visual Impact Report (2005). The following proposed study areas were discussed: 50 km for the array; 10 km for the onshore substation; and 1 km for the onshore cable corridor.</p> <p>The options were presented using wireline visualisations from five representative viewpoints. At the end of the meeting stakeholders were asked to confirm which option was most likely to give rise to the maximum design scenario seascape, landscape and visual impacts taking existing operational wind farms and future cumulative schemes into account.</p> <p>Other matters discussed during the meeting were the characterisation of the baseline environment and the identification of the representative viewpoint locations.</p>	<p>provided a follow-up slide pack to stakeholders. No specific comments had been received from stakeholders and the Applicant intends to use the scenario with the tallest wind turbine. The effects of the tallest turbines on both seascape landscape character and views and visual amenity are assessed in section 8.8.3.</p> <p>The photography and full descriptions of the existing views and those receptors that might experience the views are set out Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.</p> <p>The Applicant notes that within section 9.4 of the Scoping Opinion provided for the Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm, the Planning Inspectorate stated the following with respect to the SLVIA study area:</p> <p><i>“The Inspectorate is content that at distances greater than 50 km significant effects are unlikely and agrees that this matter can be scoped out”.</i></p> <p>In addition, Anglesey County Council, NRW and the Isle of Man Government were all satisfied with the 50 km study area for the purposes of the SLVIA for Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm.</p>
November 2022	Natural England – in response to an invite to a stakeholder workshop	<p>Natural England have provided comments on the EIA Scoping report advising that the visual buffer be extended from 50km to 60km due to the height of the turbines. Beyond that Natural England does not have further comment to provide regarding SLVIA and do not consider impacts are within the setting of any National Park or AONB. As such we will not be attending the SLVIA workshop. Please do let us know if there are any changes in future or our understanding is incorrect and we can consider any further advice.</p>	<p>Where an extended 60 km study area (from the Mona Array Area) includes a nationally designated landscape, the effects on that landscape have been assessed. The effects of the Mona Offshore Wind Project on the special qualities of nationally designated landscapes are assessed in Volume 6, Annex 8.5: International and nationally designated landscape study, of the Environmental Statement.</p>

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Date	Consultee and type of consultation	Issues raised	Response to issue raised and/or where considered in this chapter
December 2022	Isle of Anglesey County Council (Email)	Following the SLVIA workshop in September, the Isle of Anglesey County Council confirmed that the maximum design scenario layout scenario was the edge weighted layout. L22, 107 wind turbines - blade tip 293 m.	The effects of the tallest turbines on both seascape landscape character and views and visual amenity are assessed in section 0.  The photography and full descriptions of the existing views and those receptors that might experience the views are set out in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

### Section 42 consultation responses

A range of issues were raised by prescribed bodies and individuals. The main issues related to the study area extents and the effects on nationally / internationally designated landscapes. Consultation feedback on the SLVIA methodology was also provided. The full S.42 consultation responses to the PEIR are set out in the Consultation Report (Document Reference No. E3).

A separate assessment of the effects of the Mona Offshore Wind Project on the special qualities of nationally designated landscapes has been undertaken. This is documented in Volume 6, Annex 8.5: International and nationally designated landscapes study, of the Environmental Statement. This is summarised in section 8.5.4.3 of this chapter.

The detail within the SLVIA methodology has been expanded to take account of consultation feedback. This is presented in Volume 6, Annex 6.4: Seascape, landscape and visual impact assessment methodology, of the Environmental Statement.

The S.42 consultation responses below are from statutory consultees.

June 2023	Natural Resources Wales (NRW)	NRW is concerned that there appears to be under-reporting of effects in the LVIA methodology used for the assessment of LVIA at PEIR and suggests making use of the guidance material for the points made in PEIR Volume 8, Annex 26.2: Seascape and landscape character baseline technical report.	All three NRW (2020) guidance documents were reviewed for the PEIR. However, transcription errors were discovered from the DTI (2005) guidance, therefore methodology in Volume 7, Annex 6.4: Landscape, seascape and visual resources impact assessment methodology, of the Environmental Statement reverted to the source guidance on SLVIA (DTI, 2005 and GLVIA3).
June 2023	NRW	NRW acknowledges that no components of the Mona Offshore Wind Project are located within nationally designated landscapes. However, there are still concerns that the Offshore Generation Assets (Mona Array Area) would be visible within the seascape setting of the Isle of	The effects of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (offshore and onshore infrastructure) on the special qualities of the nationally and internationally designated landscapes within the Mona Array Area SLVIA study area and the Mona Onshore Substation LVIA study area are

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Date	Consultee and type of consultation	Issues raised	Response to issue raised and/or where considered in this chapter
		<p>Anglesey NL, Eryri National Park, and the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley NL.</p> <p>NRW advises that there should be changes to the assessment of the effects on designated landscapes. The changes relate to assessment of potential impacts on the Anglesey NL, Eryri National Park, and the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley NL.</p> <p>NRW considers that the proposals are likely to result in significant adverse effects on visual receptors within these designated landscapes. This would result in the potential for harm to their Special Qualities.</p>	<p>assessed in detail in Volume 6, Annex 8.5: Internationally and nationally designated landscapes study, of the Environmental Statement. The findings are summarised in section 8.8.2 of this chapter.</p> <p>NPS EN-1, paragraph 5.10.13 notes that <i>'all proposed energy infrastructure is likely to have visual effects for many receptors around proposed sites'</i> and that <i>'reducing the scale of a project can help to mitigate the visual and landscape effects'</i> ... <i>'however, reducing the scale or otherwise amending the design of a proposed energy infrastructure project may result in a significant operational constraint and reduction in function'</i> (paragraph 5.10.26).</p>
June 2023	NRW	<p>Local landscape character areas (LCAs) have not been included. NRW recommend the assessment of not only high-level receptors, such as National Character Areas (NCAs) and Seascape Sensitivity Zones (SSZs), but also the consideration of local landscape and seascape character areas (SCA) that are relevant local character areas.</p> <p>These are identified in the Anglesey Landscape Strategy 2011 and Anglesey Seascape Character Assessment, 2013, and should be referenced to provide further detail on the landscape/ seascape character of the designations and their Special Qualities.</p>	<p>The effects of the offshore infrastructure on seascape and landscape character is assessed in section 8.8.2 of this chapter. The detail of the seascape and LCAs for that chapter are in Volume 6, Annex 8.2: Seascape and landscape character baseline technical report, of the Environmental Statement.</p> <p>The effects of both the onshore and offshore infrastructure on the special qualities of the internationally and nationally designated landscapes within the various study areas are assessed in Volume 6, Annex 8.5: Internationally and nationally designated landscapes study, of the Environmental Statement.</p>
June 2023	NRW	NRW agrees that there are significant adverse cumulative visual effects in relation to views from the Isle of Anglesey NL and Eryri National Park. As these visual changes have the potential to harm Special Qualities of the designated	The extent of the Mona Array Area has reduced since PEIR. The effects of the offshore infrastructure on seascape and landscape character is assessed in section 8.8.2 of this chapter. The detail of the seascape and LCAs for that chapter are in Volume 6, Annex 8.2: Seascape and landscape character baseline

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Date	Consultee and type of consultation	Issues raised	Response to issue raised and/or where considered in this chapter
		landscapes, particularly those relating to perceptual and scenic qualities.	<p>technical report, of the Environmental Statement.</p> <p>The effects of both the onshore and offshore infrastructure on the special qualities of the internationally and nationally designated landscapes within the various study areas are assessed in Volume 6, Annex 8.5: Internationally and nationally designated landscapes study, of the Environmental Statement.</p>
June 2023	NRW	<p>In reference to the Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (NPS EN-1) on Table 26.3 at Volume 4, Chapter 26. NRW does not consider that sufficient evidence has been provided to demonstrate that seascape, landscape, and visual impacts have been minimised in this case. Further work on this aspect is advised in the Environmental Statement (ES).</p>	<p>The AfL for the Mona Offshore wind Project was entered into in 2022.</p> <p>The AfL dictates the area within which the Mona Offshore Wind Project has to be located. The boundary of the Mona Array Area has been revised (reduced) to minimise effects on shipping and navigation, other sea users and to increase separation from landscape and visual resources and receptors, since PEIR.</p> <p>Draft NPS EN-1, paragraph 5.10.13 notes that <i>all proposed energy infrastructure is likely to have visual effects for many receptors around proposed sites</i> and that <i>reducing the scale of a project can help to mitigate the visual and landscape effects</i> ... <i>however, reducing the scale or otherwise amending the design of a proposed energy infrastructure project may result in a significant operational constraint and reduction in function</i>' (paragraph 5.10.26).</p>
June 2023	NRW	<p>NRW advises that photomontages for the offshore turbines should be prepared in accordance with Nature Scot Visual Representation of Wind Farms Guidance, 2017 and LI Technical Guidance Note 06/19 Visual representation of development proposals.</p>	<p>The methodology used for the photography and used to generate and present the photomontages follows the Nature Scot Visual Representation of Wind Farms Guidance (2017) and LI Technical Guidance Note 06/19 Visual representation of development proposals. It is detailed in Volume 7, Annex 6.4:</p>



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Date	Consultee and type of consultation	Issues raised	Response to issue raised and/or where considered in this chapter
June 2023	Isle of Anglesey Council	<p>The Council advocates that the threshold for measuring significant effects needs amending and supports the argument that any effect classified Moderate or greater is considered 'significant' as this is considered to align with common practice. However, the SLVIA mentions that only effects with a significance level of Substantial or Major are deemed to be significant.</p> <p>Split categories have been used in the assessment of sensitivity and magnitude. The council advocates that this is not aligned with best practice and rectifying this would help to improve clarity. The Council suggests, that where effects fall into matrices of dual categories, for example a receptor or group of receptors that receives a range of effects, that might vary geographically or with the seasons; the SLVIA should confirm which level applies in each case and provide an explanation to justify each decision.</p>	<p>Landscape, seascape and visual impact assessment methodology, of the Environmental Statement.</p> <p>SLVIA is not a scientific discipline and so magnitude, sensitivity and effects do not readily fall into different categories as the context changes. Split categories are commonly used in SLVIA, e.g. the DTI guidance (Guidance on the assessment of the impact of offshore wind farms: Seascape and visual impact report, DTI, 2005) uses split categories (Table 6, page 80). The DTI (2005) guidance considers that most moderate effects will not be significant (page 80, second paragraph). This principle still applies.</p> <p>The SLVIA methodology is set out at Volume 6, Annex 8.4: Seascape, landscape and visual impact assessment methodology, of the Environmental Statement.</p>
June 2023	Isle of Anglesey Council	<p>The receptor for National Character Areas NLCA 1 Afordir Môn/Anglesey Coast has not assessed, as well as construction and decommissioning cumulative effects and operations and maintenance cumulative effects is not assessed.</p> <p>The Council considers that there are insufficient mitigation measures adopted as part of the project, or in relation to cumulative visual effects referred in on the Viewpoints representing the Wales Coast Path on Anglesey and Anglesey NL (represented by VP 2, 3, 27 and 28).</p> <p>The Council also considers important to distinguish between mitigation measures and any measures included in the design; and recommends a discussion with the Applicant to produce appropriate and reasonable mitigation or enhancement measures.</p>	<p>This chapter considers the effects of the proposed offshore infrastructure on seascape and landscape resources and receptors at section 8.8.2. Assessments of effects on visual resources are assessed in section 8.8.3. Night time effects on landscape and seascape receptors are assessed in section 8.8.2. Night time effects on visual receptors are assessed in section 8.8.5.</p>

## 8.4 Baseline environment

### 8.4.1 Methodology to inform baseline

8.4.1.1 This section deals with the seascape, landscape and visual resources baseline of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project, the separate aspects of which are described in detail in the following two technical reports:

- Volume 6, Annex 8.2: Seascape and landscape character baseline technical report, of the Environmental Statement
- Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development, of the Environmental Statement.

8.4.1.2 In summary, the seascape, landscape and visual baseline environments were assessed by means of desk study and fieldwork, informed by consultation with the relevant authorities and stakeholders. This process, the activities involved and the consultees engaged, are recorded in this section by providing information regarding:

- Baseline studies and surveys undertaken in relation to the Mona Offshore Wind Project
- Any difficulties (e.g. technical deficiencies or limitations in available data) encountered in compiling the required information
- Agreement on methodology reached through consultations or otherwise, including where deviations from standard methods had been agreed.

8.4.1.3 A record and summary description of these desk study and fieldwork activities is provided in Volume 6, Annex 8.2: Seascape and landscape character baseline technical report of the Environmental Statement and Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement, as referred to above.

### 8.4.2 Desktop study

8.4.2.1 Information on the seascape, landscape and visual baseline environment within the 50 km SLVIA Study Area was collected through a detailed desktop review of existing studies and datasets. These are summarised in Table 8.7.

**Table 8.7: Summary of desktop reports.**

Title	Source	Year	Author
Isle of Man Landscape Character Assessment	Isle of Man Government	2008	Chris Blandford Associates
National Character Area Profile	Natural England <a href="http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/">http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/</a>	Various (2012 to 2014)	Natural England
National Landscape Character	NRW <a href="https://cdn.cyfoethnaturiol.cymru/">https://cdn.cyfoethnaturiol.cymru/</a>	Various (2013)	NRW
Marine Plan Areas in England	Marine Management Organisation (MMO)	2014	MMO
National Seascape Assessment for Wales	NRW	2015	Land Use Consultants

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Title	Source	Year	Author
Seascape Character Assessment for the Northwest Inshore and Offshore Marine Plan Areas	MMO	2018	Land Use Consultants
Welsh National Marine Plan	Welsh Government	2019	Welsh Government
Seascape and visual sensitivity to offshore wind farms in Wales: Strategic assessment and guidance – Stage 3, Report No. 331	NRW	2019	White S., Michaels S., King H.

### 8.4.3 Identification of designated sites

8.4.3.1 All nationally and internationally designated landscape areas within the wider 60 km SLVIA study area that could be affected by the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases of the Mona Offshore Wind Project were identified and considered for assessment. Further detail on this is documented in Volume 6, Annex 8.5 International and nationally designated landscape study - offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

### 8.4.4 Site specific surveys

8.4.4.1 In order to inform the Environmental Statement, site-specific surveys were undertaken in relation to the photography and assessment of the representative viewpoints agreed with statutory consultees (see [Table 8.8](#) ~~Table 8.8~~ for further details). In addition, extensive fieldwork was carried out during preparation of the SLVIA to support the seascape, landscape and visual resources baseline and impact assessments.

8.4.4.2 A summary of the site-specific surveys undertaken is provided in [Table 8.8](#) ~~Table 8.8~~.

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**Table 8.8: Summary of site specific surveys.**

Title	Extent of survey	Overview of survey	Survey contractor	Date	Reference to further information
SLVIA Photography	Onshore substation	Onshore candidate viewpoint photography	RPS	17 and 18 March 2022	The baseline photography undertaken during the site visit is presented in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development, of the Environmental Statement.
SLVIA Photography	North Wales	Offshore candidate viewpoint photography	RPS	22 to 23 March 2022	
SLVIA Photography	Isle of Man and Irish Sea	Offshore candidate viewpoint photography	RPS	22 to 24 March 2022	
SLVIA Photography	North Wales	Offshore candidate viewpoint photography	RPS	21 to 22 April 2022	
SLVIA Photography	North Wales	Offshore candidate viewpoint photography	RPS	20 June 2022	
SLVIA Photography	Onshore substation	Onshore candidate viewpoint photography	RPS	21 June 2022	
SLVIA Photography	Eryri National Park	Offshore candidate viewpoint photography	RPS	13 July 2022	
SLVIA Photography	Onshore substation options	Onshore candidate viewpoint photography	RPS	26 to 27 July 2022	
SLVIA Photography	Isle of Man and Irish Sea	Offshore candidate viewpoint photography	RPS	27 to 28 July 2022	
SLVIA Photography	Northwest England	Offshore candidate viewpoint photography	RPS	07 September 2022	
SLVIA Photography	North Wales	Offshore candidate viewpoint photography	RPS	11 to 15 September 2022	
SLVIA Photography	Northwest England	Offshore candidate viewpoint photography	RPS	15 to 17 September 2022	
SLVIA Photography	North Wales and Lake District	Offshore representative viewpoint photography	Photo Energy	08 to 11 August 2023	

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Title	Extent of survey	Overview of survey	Survey contractor	Date	Reference to further information
SLVIA Photography	North Wales	Offshore representative viewpoint photography	Photo Energy	05 to 07 September 2023	
SLVIA Photography	Lake District	Offshore representative viewpoint photography	Photo Energy	08 October 2023	

## 8.4.5 Seascape, landscape and visual baseline

- 8.4.5.1 The SLVIA baseline environment comprises two distinct but connected aspects, described in the following separate technical reports:
- Seascape and landscape character baseline (Volume 6, Annex 8.2: Seascape and landscape character baseline technical report of the Environmental Statement)
  - Visual baseline (Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement).
- 8.4.5.2 Summaries of the baseline seascape, landscape, and visual environments of the 50 km SLVIA Study Area are provided below.

## 8.4.6 Seascape and landscape character baseline

- 8.4.6.1 With respect to the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project MDS, national marine and seascape character areas and national LCAs within the 50 km SLVIA Study Area with the potential to be affected by the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project have been identified.
- 8.4.6.2 The seascape and landscape characteristics with potential to be affected have been identified and described in Volume 6, Annex 8.2: Seascape and landscape character baseline technical report – offshore development, of the Environmental Statement. Extracts of published assessments reproduced in appendix A of Volume 6, Annex 8.2: Seascape and landscape character baseline technical report, of the Environmental Statement, provide further detail on seascape/marine and landscape characteristics for relevant character areas.
- 8.4.6.3 Where no published seascape character assessment coverage is available for the 50 km SLVIA Study Area, as is the case with the Isle of Man, appropriate marine character areas defined and described by RPS, in accordance with relevant best practice guidance, are included in the baseline.
- 8.4.6.4 Seascape and LCAs within the 50 km SLVIA Study Area with little or no overlap with the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project and/or which are likely to experience negligible or no change due to intervening offshore wind farms, distance from the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project, or where that the same area of land is within a nationally designated landscape, with a higher sensitivity (where the potential for significant effects is more likely) have been scoped out of the assessment, these are:

Welsh national landscape character areas (NLCAs):

- NLC02 Canolbarth Môn/Central Anglesey
- NLC03 Arfon
- NLC06 Eryri/Snowdonia
- NLC07 Dyffryn Conwy/Conwy Valley
- NLC09 Bryniau Rhos/Rhos
- NLC11 Dyffryn Clwyd/Vale of Clwyd
- NLC12 Bryniau Clwyd/Clwydian Range
- NLC13 Wrecsam a Gannau Dyfrywy/Deeside and Wrexham.



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English NLCAs:

- NCA57 Sefton Coast
- NCA59 Wirral.

8.4.6.5 [Table 8.9](#) ~~Table 8.9~~ lists the seascape and LCAs scoped into the SLVIA. Designated areas of landscape and seascape are covered in the next section. The key characteristics of all the national seascape areas/marine character areas (NSCs and MCAs) and NLCAs are detailed in sections 1.3.7, 1.3.8 and in Appendix A of Volume 6, Annex 8.2: Seascape and landscape character baseline technical report of the Environmental Statement.

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**Table 8.9: National seascape and landscape character areas assessed in the SLVIA.**

Character area ref.	Title	Level	Jurisdiction	Source
<b>Wales National Marine Character Areas (MCAs)</b>				
MCA 01	Dee Estuary (Wales)	National	Wales – Flintshire	NRW/Land Use Consultants
MCA 02	Colwyn Bay and Rhyl Flats	National	Wales – Conwy/Denbighshire	
MCA 03	Red Wharf and Conwy Bays	National	Wales – Anglesey/Conwy	
MCA 04	North Wales Open Waters	National	Wales – Anglesey/Conwy	
MCA 05	Northwest Anglesey Open Waters	National	Wales – Anglesey	
MCA 06	North Anglesey Coastal Waters	National	Wales – Anglesey	
<b>Welsh Seascape Sensitivity Zones (SSZs)</b>				
Zone No. 1 (SSZ 1)	Northeast Wales Inshore	National	Wales – Conwy/Denbighshire/Flintshire	NRW – Seascape and visual sensitivity to offshore wind farms in Wales: Strategic assessment and guidance – Stage 3, Report No. 331
Zone No. 2 (SSZ 2)	Northeast Wales Offshore	National	Wales	
Zone No. 3 (SSZ 3)	North Wales and North Anglesey Inshore	National	Wales – Anglesey/Conwy	
Zone No. 4 (SSZ 4)	North Wales and North Anglesey Offshore	National	Wales	
Zone No. 5 (SSZ 5)	North Wales and Anglesey Outer Offshore	National	Wales	
<b>England Marine Character Areas (MCAs)</b>				
MCA 32	Walney Coastal Waters and Duddon Estuary	National	England	MMO/Land Use Consultants
MCA 34	Blackpool Coastal Waters and Ribble Estuary	National	England	
MCA 35	Inner Liverpool Bay	National	England	
MCA 36	Dee and Mersey Estuaries and Coastal Waters	National	England	
MCA 37	Irish Sea North (England)	National	England	
MCA 38	Irish Sea South (England)	National	England	
<b>Isle of Man Seascape/Marine Character Areas</b>				
MCA A	Dreswick Point to Maughold Head	National/Local	Isle of Man	RPS
MCA E	Bradda Head to Dreswick Point	National/Local	Isle of Man	
<b>Wales National Landscape Character Areas (NLCAs)</b>				
NLCA 01	NLCA 01 Afordir Môn/Anglesey Coast	National	Wales	NRW
NLCA 08	Arfordir Gogledd Cymru/North Wales Coast	National	Wales	

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8.4.6.6 Regarding seasonal and medium to long-term temporal seascape character change, these issues are intrinsic to SLVIA and are considered as part of both the baseline and the impact assessment stages. A summary of the issues involved follows.

- Seasonal temporal change: Diurnal and seasonal variations in tidal regimes and sea state, in particular the intertidal zone. Also, diurnal and seasonal variations in weather and natural lighting. Volume 6, Annex 8.4: Seascape, landscape, and visual resources impact assessment methodology of the Environmental Statement, sets out Meteorological Office data relevant to the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. Visibility is given for increasing distances for every month of the year for the last 10 years. The distances given in the assessment of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project relate to these tables and the Meteorological Office, definitions:
  - Very Poor – visibility less than 1 km
  - Poor – visibility between 1 km to 4 km
  - moderate – visibility between 4 km and 10 km
  - Good – visibility between 10 km to 20 km
  - Very Good – visibility between 20 km and 40 km
  - Excellent – visibility over 40 km
- Medium and long-term temporal change: seascape character inevitably changes over time (i.e. years/decades). Change may result in new seascape characteristics, e.g. natural resource exploitation, or as a result government legislation, policy, or funding.

### 8.4.7 Visual baseline

8.4.7.1 The visual baseline reporting involved a desktop exercise, site surveys and consultation process to identify appropriate visual receptors and representative viewpoints within the 50 km SLVIA Study Area and falling within the ZTVs of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. The representative viewpoints are illustrated in Figure A.3

8.4.7.2 The representative viewpoints were selected to represent a broad range of locations and sensitive visual receptors across the 50 km SLVIA Study Area. The viewpoints are identified in [Table 8.10](#) ~~Table 8.10~~. Fieldwork was undertaken to verify the visual receptors and representative viewpoint locations and photography captured. Following further consultations, an additional representative viewpoint no 51 Blackpool Tower was included. One viewpoint from Yr Wyddfa summit (representative viewpoint 5) was scoped out by agreement with NRW/Eryri National Park Authority due to the distance from the Mona Array Area. Representative viewpoints 41 Southport Pier and 43 Old Laxey, Isle of Man were excluded as these lie outside the revised 50 km study area.

8.4.7.3 Additional viewpoint locations within nationally and internationally designated landscapes were also included, some of which, fall within an extended study area of 60km from the Mona Array Area to inform the assessment of the effects of the Mona Offshore Wind Project on the special qualities of these landscapes. This assessment is documented in Volume 6, Annex 8.5: International and nationally designated landscape study - offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

8.4.7.4 Visual receptor categories are considered in the SLVIA, include:

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- People using National Trails and promoted paths (e.g. Offa's Dyke Path National Trail, Wales Coast Path and Millennium Way, Isle of Man)
- People using Access Land (CRoW Act, 2000)
- People using public rights of way (PRoW) or bridleways
- Cyclists using National Cycle Routes (NCRs) or National Cycleways
- People accessing main coastal settlement seafronts and shorelines (e.g. Llandudno and Douglas promenades, and Blackpool promenade/piers)
- People travelling along main coastal roads (e.g. A55 and A547)
- People using coastal railways (e.g. Liverpool/Manchester to Holyhead)
- Ferry passengers, recreational sailors and other sea users.

8.4.7.5 [Table 8.10](#) ~~Table 8.10~~ presents the list of agreed representative viewpoints. The representative viewpoint locations and photography are provided in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement. The photomontages and wirelines are included within this chapter.

**Table 8.10: Representative viewpoints used in the offshore SLVIA.**

Representative viewpoint ref.	Location	Receptor type	Receptor category	Note
1 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 1.1 and 1.2.	Mynydd y Garn trig point, Isle of Anglesey National Landscape  Distance to Mona Array Area 42.4 km	Walkers using National Landscape, National Trust, Open Country Land	People using Access Land (or public access equivalent)	None
2 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 2.1 and 2.2.	Llanlleiana Head, Isle of Anglesey National Landscape  Distance to Mona Array Area 33.8 km	Walkers using Wales Coast Path, National Trust, Access Land	People using National Trails and promoted paths	None
3 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 3.1 and 3.2.	Mynydd Eilian  Distance to Mona Array Area 31 km	Walkers using PRoW	People using Access Land (or public access equivalent)	None
4 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 4.1 and 4.2.	Bwrdd Arthur trig point, Isle of Anglesey National Landscape  Distance to Mona Array Area 36.6 km	Walkers using Access Land	People using Access Land (or public access equivalent)	None

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Representative viewpoint ref.	Location	Receptor type	Receptor category	Note
5	Viewpoint 5 at the summit of Yr Wyddfa was scoped out, after consultation with Eryri National Park and NRW, as it lies over 60 km from the edge of the Mona Array Area			
6 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 6.1 and 6.2.	Carnedd Llewelyn, Eryri National Park  Distance to Mona Array Area 50.7 km	Walkers using Access Land, National Park	People using Access Land (or public access equivalent)	None
7 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 7.1, 7.2 and 7.3.	Great Orme's Head, Llandudno  Distance to Mona Array Area 31.2 km	Visitors using Access Land and Y Gogarth/Great Orme Country Park	People using Access Land (or public access equivalent)	None
8 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 8.1 and 8.2.	Mynydd y Gaer  Distance to Mona Array Area 45.7 km	Walkers using Access Land	People using Access Land (or public access equivalent)	None
9 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 9.1, 9.2 and 9.3.	Rhyl  Distance to Mona Array Area 38.1 km	Visitors to public beach	People using settlement seafront	None
10 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 10.1 and 10.2.	Graig Fawr, Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape  Distance to Mona Array Area 42.3 km	Walkers using Access Land	People using Access Land (or public access equivalent)	None
11 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 11.1 and 11.2.	Moel y Parc, Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape  Distance to Mona Array Area 54.1 km	Walkers using Access Land, National Landscape	People using Access Land (or public access equivalent)	None
12 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 12.1, 12.2 and 12.3.	Wallasey embankment, Leasowe Common  Distance to Mona Array Area 50.4 km	Walkers using Access Land	People using Access Land (or public access equivalent)	None

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<b>Representative viewpoint ref.</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Receptor type</b>	<b>Receptor category</b>	<b>Note</b>
13 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 13.1 and 13.2.	Sefton Coastal Footpath at Massam's Slack/Ainsdale National Nature Reserve, Formby  Distance to Mona Array Area 46.9 km	Walkers using Sefton Coastal Footpath	People using Long distance path	None
15 Annex 8.6 Seascape visualisations, Figures 14.1, 14.2 and 14.3.	Blackpool North Pier  Distance to Mona Array Area 51.4 km	Visitors to public pier	People using settlement seafront	None
18 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 15.1 and 15.2.	Herring Tower Trig Point, Langness Peninsula, Isle of Man  Distance to Mona Array Area 47.5 km	Walkers on PRoW at local landmark and Trig	People using Access Land (or public access equivalent)	None
19 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 16.1 and 16.2.	Panoramic Viewpoint at Arch Southwest of Douglas Head, Isle of Man  Distance to Mona Array Area 46.8 km	Visitors to the binocular viewpoint, walkers and vehicle users	People using Access Land (or public access equivalent)	None
21 No photography undertaken  Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figure 17.1.	Liverpool to Dublin (Ireland) Ferry  Distance to site varies (dynamic receptors) - of this wireline	Passengers on ferry, recreational sailors and other sea users	Passengers on key ferry route (public transport)	No photography. Dynamic receptor – no photomontages will be undertaken
22 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figure 18.1.	Liverpool to Douglas (Isle of Man) Ferry  Distance to site varies (dynamic receptors) - of this wireline	Passengers on ferry, recreational sailors and other sea users	Passengers on key ferry route (public transport)	Dynamic receptor – no photomontages will be undertaken
23 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figure 19.1.	Heysham to Douglas (Isle of Man) Ferry  Distance to site varies (dynamic	Passengers on ferry, recreational sailors and other sea users	Passengers on key ferry route (public transport)	Dynamic receptor – no photomontages will be undertaken



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Representative viewpoint ref.	Location	Receptor type	Receptor category	Note
	receptors) - of this wireline			
24 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 20.1 and 20.2.	Bull Bay, Amlwch, Isle of Anglesey National Landscape Distance to Mona Array Area 31.9 km	Walkers using Wales Coast Path, National Landscape	People using long distance path	None
25 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 21.1 and 21.2.	Moelfre Headland, Isle of Anglesey National Landscape Distance to Mona Array Area 33.2 km	Walkers using Wales Coast Path, National Landscape	People using long distance path	None
26 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 22.1 and 22.2.	Yr Arwydd trig point, near Mynydd Bodafon, Isle of Anglesey National Landscape Distance to Mona Array Area 36.4 km	Walkers using Access Land, National Landscape	People using Access Land (or public access equivalent)	None
27 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 23.1, 23.2 and 23.3.	Benllech Distance to Mona Array Area 37.1 km	Walkers using seafront within settlement	People using settlement seafront	None
28 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 24.1 and 24.2.	Penmon Point, Isle of Anglesey National Landscape Distance to Mona Array Area 35.2 km	Walkers using Wales Coast Path, beach, National Landscape	People using long distance path	None
29 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 25.1 and 25.2.	Base of Moel Wnion, Eryri National Park Distance to Mona Array Area 45.5 km	Walkers using North Wales Path, Eryri National Park	People using long distance path	None
30 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations,	Garreg Fawr, Eryri National Park	Walkers using North Wales Path, Access Land	People using long distance path	None

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<b>Representative viewpoint ref.</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Receptor type</b>	<b>Receptor category</b>	<b>Note</b>
Figures 26.1 and 26.2.	Distance to Mona Array Area 42.1 km			
31 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 27.1 and 27.2.	Tal y Fan, summit, Eryri National Park Distance to Mona Array Area 42 km	Walkers using Access Land	People using Access Land (or public access equivalent)	None
32 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 28.1 and 28.2.	Foel Lus, summit, Eryri National Park Distance to Mona Array Area 38.5 km	Walkers using Access Land	People using Access Land (or public access equivalent)	None
33 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 29.1 and 29.2.	Conwy Mountain, summit, Eryri National Park Distance to Mona Array Area 36.7 km	Walkers using Access Land	People using Access Land (or public access equivalent)	None
34 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 30.1 and 30.2.	Little Orme's Head, Llandudno Distance to Mona Array Area 31.8 km	Walkers using Access Land	People using Access Land (or public access equivalent)	None
35 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 31.1 and 31.2.	Bryn Euryn Nature Reserve Distance to Mona Array Area 34.6 km	Visitors to Bryn Euryn Nature Reserve	People using Access Land (or public access equivalent)	None
36 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 32.1 and 32.2.	Bryn y Maen Distance to Mona Array Area 39 km	Walkers using public right of way	People using long distance path	None
37 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 33.1 and 33.2.	Pen-y-Corddyn-Mawr Distance to Mona Array Area 39.3 km	Walkers using Access Land	People using Access Land (or public access equivalent)	None
38 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations,	Moelfre Isaf Distance to Mona Array Area 43.4 km	Walkers using public right of way	People using long distance path	None

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Representative viewpoint ref.	Location	Receptor type	Receptor category	Note
Figures 34.1 and 34.2.				
39 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 35.1 and 35.2.	Prestatyn Hillside, Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape Distance to Mona Array Area 42.1 km	Walkers using Offa's Dyke Path	People using National Trail	None
40 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 36.1 and 36.2.	Point of Ayr Distance to Mona Array Area 42.9 km	Walkers using Wales Coast Path	People using long distance path	None
47 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations Figures 37.1, 37.2 and 37.3.	Llanfairfechan Seafront Distance to Mona Array Area 39.9 km	Walkers using Promenade	People using settlement seafront	None
48 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 38.1, 38.2 and 38.3.	Llandudno Promenade Distance to Mona Array Area 32.2 km	Walkers using Promenade/North Wales Path	People using settlement seafront	None
49 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 39.1, 39.2 and 39.3.	Douglas Promenade, Isle of Man Distance to Mona Array Area 48.7 km	Visitors using Promenade	People using settlement seafront	None
50	Viewpoint 50 falls outside the 50 km SLVIA study area of the Mona Array Area and so is scoped out			
51 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 40.1 and 40.2.	Blackpool Tower Distance to Mona Array Area 51.8 km	Visitors to Blackpool	People using settlement seafront	None
52 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 41.1 and 41.2.	Carnedd Dafydd, Eryri National Park Distance to Mona Array Area 52.4 km	Walkers using Cambrian Way, Eryri National Park	People using long distance path	None

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Representative viewpoint ref.	Location	Receptor type	Receptor category	Note
53 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations , Figures 42.1 and 42.2.	Elidir Fawr, Eryri National Park Distance to Mona Array Area 55.2 km	Walkers using Access Land, National Park	People using Access Land (or public access equivalent)	None
54 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 43.1 and 43.2.	Bridleway north of Golden Grove or adjacent PROW, Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape Distance to Mona Array Area 43.6 km	Users of bridleway/Public Right of Way (PROW), Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape	People using PROW/Bridleway	None
55 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 44.1 and 44.2.	Trwyn Eilian (Point Lynas), Isle of Anglesey National Landscape Distance to Mona Array Area 28.8 km	Walkers using Wales Coast Path, National Landscape	People using long distance path	None
56 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 45.1 and 45.2.	Caer y Twr on Holyhead Mountain, Isle of Anglesey National Landscape Distance to Mona Array Area 54.8 km	Walkers using Access Land, Isle of Anglesey National Landscape	People using Access Land (or public access equivalent)	None
57 Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 46.1 and 46.2.	Trwyn Cemlyn, Isle of Anglesey National Landscape Distance to Mona Array Area 39 km	Walkers using Wales Coast Path, National Landscape	People using long distance path	None

8.4.7.6 Regarding seasonal and medium to long-term temporal visual change and the SLVIA, the issues are broadly the same as those presented above for seascape character. Of additional importance is the following.

- Seasonal temporal change: Diurnal and seasonal variations in weather, light intensity, natural lighting and visibility influence views and visual amenity. Visibility is recorded by the Meteorological Office – historic ‘viewing distance’ data for the 50 km SLVIA Study Area are reproduced in Volume 6, Annex 8.4: Seascape, landscape and visual resources impact assessment methodology of

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the Environmental Statement. The distances given in the assessment of the Mona Generation Assets relate to these data and the Meteorological Office, definitions:

- Very Poor – visibility less than 1 km
  - Poor – visibility between 1 km to 4 km
  - moderate – visibility between 4 km and 10 km
  - Good – visibility between 10 km to 20 km
  - Very Good – visibility between 20 km and 40 km
  - Excellent – visibility over 40 km.
- Medium and long-term temporal change: the forces driving longer-term seascape character change (i.e. years/decades) described previously also influence views and visual amenity.

### 8.4.8 Designated landscapes within the Mona SLVIA study area

8.4.8.1 Nationally designated landscapes are identified for inclusion in the SLVIA. These are Eryri National Park, Isle of Anglesey National Landscape and the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape. Effects on the special qualities of these designated landscapes are documented in Volume 6, Annex 8.5: International and nationally designated landscape study of the Environmental Statement. Within these nationally designated landscapes the SLVIA study area has been extended to 60 km.

## 8.5 Impact assessment methodology

### 8.5.1 Overview

8.5.1.1 The SLVIA has followed the methodology set out in Volume 6, Annex 8.4: Seascape, landscape and visual resources impact assessment methodology – offshore development of the Environmental Statement, a summary of which is reproduced below in this section.

8.5.1.2 Specific to the SLVIA, the following guidance document is the key consideration:

- Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment: Third Edition, 2013, LI and Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA).

8.5.1.3 In addition, the SLVIA has considered the relevant legislative and policy framework as identified in section 8.2.

8.5.1.4 A detailed SLVIA methodology based on GLVIA3 is provided in Volume 6, Annex 8.4: Seascape, landscape, and visual resources impact assessment methodology of the Environmental Statement. For the purposes of this SLVIA, the standard criteria wording has been refined to accord with GLVIA3 best practice guidelines. That said, it should be noted that the SLVIA methodology employs the same terminology as that set out Volume 1, Chapter 5: Environmental Impact Assessment methodology of the Environmental Statement, as reproduced below.

### 8.5.2 Impact assessment criteria

8.5.2.1 The criteria for determining the significance of effects is a two-stage process that involves defining the magnitude of the impacts and the sensitivity of the receptors. This section describes the criteria applied in this chapter to assign values to the magnitude

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of potential impacts and the sensitivity of the receptors. The terms used to define magnitude and sensitivity are based on those which are described in further detail in Volume 1, Chapter 5: Environmental Impact Assessment methodology of the Environmental Statement.

### Magnitude

8.5.2.2 The criteria for defining magnitude of impact in this chapter is derived from three factors: size or scale of change, geographical extent and duration and reversibility.

8.5.2.3 Of these three factors the size/scale of change has the most influence on the overall judgement of magnitude. Size or scale of change is assessed on a number of criteria: Distance; size; scale; field of view; contrast; consistency of image; skyline/background; number; and nature of visibility. These criteria are explained in Volume 6, Annex 8.4: Landscape, seascape and visual resources impact assessment methodology, of the Environmental Statement.

8.5.2.4 Definitions are outlined in [Table 8.11](#) and [Table 8.12](#) below.

**Table 8.11: Visual Magnitude of Impact Criteria.**

Magnitude of Impact	Definition
<b>Large</b>	Complete or very substantial visual change involving complete or very substantial obstruction of existing view or complete change in character and composition of visual baseline (i.e., pre- development view) e.g., through removal of key elements.
<b>Medium</b>	Moderate visual change, which may involve partial obstruction of existing view or partial change in character and composition of visual baseline (i.e., pre- development view) through the introduction of new elements or removal of existing elements. Change may be prominent but would not substantially alter the scale and character of the surroundings and the wider setting. Composition of views would alter.  View character may be partially changed through the introduction of features which, although uncharacteristic, may not necessarily be visually discordant.
<b>Small</b>	Minor change to the visual baseline (i.e., pre-development view) – change would be distinguishable from the surroundings whilst view composition and character would be similar to the pre- change circumstances.
<b>Negligible</b>	Very slight change in visual baseline (i.e., pre- development view) – change barely distinguishable from the surroundings. Composition and character of view substantially unaltered.
<b>No Change</b>	No alteration to the existing view.

**Table 8.12: Definition of terms relating to the magnitude of impact upon seascape and landscape receptors.**

Magnitude of Impact	Definition
<b>Large</b>	Total loss, or/very substantial loss or addition of key elements/features/patterns of the baseline (i.e. pre-development seascape/landscape) and/or introduction of dominant, uncharacteristic elements compared to the attributes of the receiving seascape/landscape.
<b>Medium</b>	Partial loss or addition of, or moderate alteration to, one or more key elements/features/patterns of the baseline (i.e. pre-development seascape/landscape) and/or introduction of elements that may be prominent but would not be substantially uncharacteristic in comparison to the attributes of the receiving seascape/landscape.



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Magnitude of Impact	Definition
Small	Minor loss or addition of, or alteration to, one or more key elements/features/patterns of the baseline, i.e. pre-development seascape/landscape and/or introduction of elements that may not be uncharacteristic compared to the surrounding seascape/landscape.
Negligible	Very minor loss or addition of, or alteration to, one or more key elements/features/patterns of the baseline (i.e. pre-development seascape/landscape) and/or introduction of elements that are not uncharacteristic in comparison to the surrounding seascape/landscape; approximating to a 'no-change' situation.
No Change	No loss, alteration or addition to the receiving seascape/landscape resource.

8.5.2.5 Where the magnitude of impact is judged to fall in between the above categories it is expressed as negligible to small, small to medium or medium to large.

### Sensitivity

8.5.2.6 The criteria for defining sensitivity in this chapter are outlined in [Table 8.13](#) and below. Note that, in SLVIA, the sensitivity of seascape/landscape and visual receptors is determined by an assessment of two separate factors: the value of the receptor; and the receptor's susceptibility to the development proposed.

**Table 8.13: Definition of terms relating to the sensitivity of visual receptors.**

Sensitivity	Typical descriptors	
	Visual receptor susceptibility	Value of view
<b>Very High</b>	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 visual amenity experienced at that location.	International may include important views from internationally <u>or nationally</u> designated landscapes or views noted in national guidebooks as visitor attractions.
<b>High</b>	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 susceptibility although susceptibility to change can vary along a route depending on the nature of the locality through which the route passes.	National may include important views from nationally <u>or regionally</u> designated landscapes or views noted in national guidebooks and maps. May also include views from national trails, cycle routes and views identified in citations of registered parks and gardens or views important to the understanding of a cultural heritage asset.
<b>Medium</b>	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.

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<p><b>Low</b></p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p><b>Negligible</b></p>	<p>Might include those people whose attention or interest is not focussed on their surroundings or whose immediate surroundings truncate views.</p>	<p>Views that are not noted in any documentation and are simply those gained as people go about their day-to-day activities.</p>

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**Table 8.14: Definition of terms relating to the sensitivity of landscape and seascape receptors.**

Sensitivity	Typical Descriptors	
	Seascape/Landscape Resource/Receptor Susceptibility	Seascape/Landscape Resource/Receptor Value
<b>Very High</b>	Exceptional seascape/landscape quality; absence of seascape/landscape detractors; no or limited potential for substitution. Key elements/features well known to the wider public.	Nationally/internationally designated seascape/landscape, or key elements or features of nationally/internationally designated seascape/landscape.
<b>High</b>	Strong/distinctive seascape/landscape character; relatively free of seascape/landscape detractors.	Regionally/nationally designated seascape/landscape areas or features.
<b>Medium</b>	Some distinctive seascape/landscape characteristics; presence of seascape/landscape detractors.	Locally/regionally designated/valued seascape/landscape and features, e.g., Special Landscape Areas (SLA) or Areas of Great Landscape Value (AGLV).
<b>Low</b>	Absence of distinctive seascape/landscape characteristics; unavoidable presence of seascape/landscape detractors.	Undesignated seascape/landscape and features.
<b>Negligible</b>	Absence of positive seascape/landscape characteristics. Significant presence of seascape/landscape detractors.	Undesignated seascape/landscape and features.

8.5.2.7 Where the sensitivity of a particular receptor is judged to be in between the above categories, or it varies with location, it is expressed as low to medium, medium to high or high to very high.

**Significance of effect**

8.5.2.8 Significance of the effect upon seascape, landscape and visual receptors is determined by correlating the magnitude of the impact and the sensitivity of the receptor as presented in [Table 8.15](#) ~~Table 8.15~~.

8.5.2.9 For the purposes of this assessment, any effects with a significance level of substantial or major have been deemed significant in terms of The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. In general, most effects with a significance level of moderate or less have been judged as not significant. This principle is supported by the DTI 2005 guidance (Guidance on the Assessment of the Impact of Offshore Wind Farms: Seascape and Visual Impact Report) at page 80, which explains that *“Where seascape or visual effects is [sic] classified as moderate, it is most likely that the effect will not be significant, but it is feasible that it could be judged as significant, depending on the particular circumstances arising.”* An example of where this might be the case, is in the judgements of effects on landscape and visual resources and receptors within/from nationally designated areas, where a moderate effect may be judged as significant in some circumstances. All judgements of significance of effect have been made by suitably qualified and experienced landscape professionals.

8.5.2.10 Effects are assessed as being adverse, neutral, or positive. The judgements regarding the significance of effect and that relating to whether an effect is beneficial or adverse

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are entirely separate. The assessment of whether an effect is positive, neutral or adverse is based on professional judgement having regard to the relevant objective factors.

**Table 8.15: Matrix used for the assessment of the significance of the effect.**

Sensitivity of Receptor	Magnitude of Impact				
	No Change	Negligible	Small	Medium	Large
Negligible	No change	Negligible	Negligible to Minor	Negligible to Minor	Negligible to Minor
Low	No change	Negligible to Minor	Negligible to Minor	Minor	Minor to Moderate
Medium	No change	Negligible to Minor	Minor	Moderate	Moderate to Major
High	No change	Negligible to Minor	Minor to Moderate	Moderate to Major	Major
Very High	No change	Minor	Moderate to Major	Major	Substantial

8.5.2.11 [Table 8.16](#) ~~Table 8.16~~ provides definitions for significance of effect levels recorded in the SLVIA.

**Table 8.16: Definitions of significance criteria.**

Level of Significance	Typical Descriptors	
	Seascape/Landscape Resource	Visual Resource
Substantial	Where proposed changes would be uncharacteristic and/or would significantly alter a landscape of exceptional landscape quality (e.g. internationally designated landscapes), or key elements known to the wider public of nationally designated seascape/landscapes (where there is no or limited potential for substitution nationally).	Where proposed changes would be uncharacteristic and/or would significantly alter a view of remarkable scenic quality, within internationally designated landscapes or key features or elements of nationally designated seascapes/landscapes that are well known to the wider public.
Major	Where proposed changes would be uncharacteristic and/or would significantly alter a valued aspect of (or a high quality) seascape/landscape.	Where proposed changes would be uncharacteristic and/or would significantly alter a valued view or a view of high scenic quality.
Moderate	Where proposed changes would be demonstrably out of scale or at variance with the character of an area.	Where proposed changes to views would be demonstrably out of scale or at variance with the existing view.
Minor	Where proposed changes would be at slight variance with the character of an area.	Where proposed changes to views, although discernible, would only be at slight variance with the existing view.
Negligible	Where proposed changes would have an indiscernible effect on the character of an area.	Where proposed changes would have a barely noticeable effect on views/visual amenity.

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<b>No Change</b>	No discernible loss or alteration to seascape/landscape character, features or elements.	No part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project is discernible.
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### 8.5.3 Future baseline scenario

8.5.3.1 The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 requires that the Environmental Statement includes *"an outline of the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the development as far as natural changes from the baseline scenario can be assessed with reasonable effort on the basis of the availability of environmental information and scientific knowledge"*. If the Mona Offshore Wind Project does not come forward, an assessment of the future baseline conditions has been carried out and is described within this section.

#### Future seascape, landscape character and visual baseline

8.5.3.2 Landscape and adjacent seascapes are constantly evolving; evolution is an intrinsic attribute of landscapes which are in constant flux. The forces driving landscape/seascape change are both human and natural, predominantly the former within the 50 km SLVIA Study Area. Building and infrastructure development, intensive agriculture and minerals exploitation is changing the character of both urban and rural landscapes. Climate change driven by human activity has the potential to alter vegetation patterns and landscape character in the longer term, although to what extent and over what timeframe is a matter of conjecture.

8.5.3.3 Volume 4, Chapter 2: Climate change of the Environmental Statement presents an assessment of predicted changes in the climate relating to the 50 km SLVIA Study Area between 2030 and 2080 including those resulting from extreme weather events of heat, cold, rainfall, drought and wind. It is predicted that mean temperatures will increase, winter precipitation will increase; and summer precipitation will decrease. Overall, the frequency of hot days, dry spells and heavy rainfall is predicted to increase.

8.5.3.4 The current landscape and seascape character baseline situation is described in Volume 6, Annex 8.2: Seascape and landscape character baseline technical report of the Environmental Statement. The climate change predictions recorded in Volume 4, Chapter 2: Climate change of the Environmental Statement are unlikely to be sufficient to lead to an appreciable change in the baseline vegetation and character within the 50 km SLVIA Study Area. The underlying landscape and seascape characteristics are therefore predicted to remain broadly constant for the period assessed in Volume 4, Chapter 2: Climate change, of the Environmental Statement. Consequently, excluding building/infrastructure development, the future landscape and seascape character baseline, and the related visual baseline, would be essentially the same as the current baseline situation summarised above in this SLVIA and presented in more detail in Volume 6, Annex 8.2: Seascape and landscape character baseline technical report, of the Environmental Statement.

8.5.3.5 Regarding future building/infrastructure development, it is not possible to accurately predict future change. The cumulative effects assessment section of the SLVIA below and proposed onshore and offshore windfarms. It also identifies other relevant existing offshore infrastructure projects (part of the cumulative baseline) and proposed onshore and offshore major development projects for the 50 km SLVIA Study Area for the immediate future, the focus being on onshore and offshore infrastructure projects.

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Bearing in mind the current development pipeline in the North Wales and Irish Sea Round 4 area in the light of the climate emergency and related government policy/legislation, an intensification of offshore wind development within the 50 km SLVIA Study Area is likely in the future.

- 8.5.3.6 Landscape mitigation proposals for the onshore transmission/substation component provide an opportunity to build in climate resilient solutions for the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These are outlined in Volume 3, Chapter 6: Landscape and visual resources, of the Environmental Statement.

### 8.5.4 Data limitations

- 8.5.4.1 The SLVIA assumptions and limitations are set out in detail in Volume 6, Annex 8.4: Seascape, landscape and visual resources impact assessment methodology of the Environmental Statement.

- 8.5.4.2 Regarding the approach taken in the SLVIA to the assessment of the different development phases of the Mona Offshore Wind Project, the following assumptions/limitations should be noted. For developments of this type and scale, seascape, landscape, and visual impacts arising will increase in magnitude on a continuum from the start of construction through to completion of works and commencement of the operations and maintenance phase in the short-term, remaining fairly constant during the operations and maintenance phase in the long-term. The decommissioning phase is effectively the construction process in reverse (also short-term in duration). In addition, during the latter stages of construction and early stages of decommissioning, the Mona Offshore Wind Project will give rise to similar levels of seascape, landscape, and visual change as during the operations and maintenance phase (the difference being the absence rotor/blade movement). Consequently, in this SLVIA, for each seascape, landscape and visual receptor, construction and decommissioning effects are dealt with together, recorded separately from the operational effects.

- 8.5.4.3 Consultations with key stakeholders (recorded in [Table 8.6](#)~~Table 8.6~~) regarding the scheme and the candidate representative viewpoints for the Mona Offshore Wind Project were undertaken.

## 8.6 Key parameters for assessment

### 8.6.1 Maximum design scenario

- 8.6.1.1 The maximum design scenarios identified in [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~ have been selected as those having the potential to result in the greatest effect on an identified receptor or receptor group. These maximum design scenarios (MDS) have been selected from the Project Design Envelope provided in Volume 1, Chapter 3: Project description of the Environmental Statement. Effects of greater adverse significance are not predicted to arise should any other development scenario, based on details within the Project Design Envelope (e.g. different infrastructure layout), to that assessed here be taken forward in the final design scheme.



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**Table 8.17: Maximum design scenario considered for the assessment of potential impacts on seascape, landscape and visual resources.**

<sup>a</sup> C=construction, O=operations and maintenance, D=decommissioning

Potential impact	Phase			Maximum Design Scenario	Justification
	C	O	D		
<p>The SLVIA considers the likely impacts of the Mona Offshore Wind Project on the seascape, landscape and visual resources of the 50 km SLVIA Study Area resulting from its construction, operations and maintenance and decommissioning.</p> <p>The receptor groups considered in the SLVIA are those located within the 50 km radius study area as follows:</p> <p><u>Seascape/landscape receptors</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seascape/marine character areas</li> <li>• LCAs</li> <li>• LANDMAP Aspect Areas (within 10 km of the Mona onshore substation).</li> </ul> <p><u>Visual receptors (people)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People using national trails/long distance paths</li> <li>• People using Access Land</li> </ul>	✓	✓	✓	<p><b>Mona Array Area (offshore generation assets)</b></p> <p><b>Construction phase</b></p> <p>The offshore components and activities relating to construction of the Mona Offshore Wind Project considered in the SLVIA are described below.</p> <p><u>Construction works/activities</u></p> <p>Generally, wind turbines are installed using the following process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wind turbine and foundation components (blades, nacelles, towers, foundations and transition pieces) collected from a UK or European port are transported to the Mona Array Area by dedicated barges/vessels</li> <li>• Wind turbine components will be assembled on site and erected on to foundations by an installation vessel (e.g. Jack-Up Vessel (JUV), Dynamic Positioning Vessel (DPV) or heavy lift vessel). The process is assisted by smaller support vessels (e.g. tugs, guard vessels and anchor handling vessels), which tend to shadow the installation vessels. The maximum number of installation and support vessels for the Mona Array Area is 1878 return trips from port per year required throughout installation. The maximum number of helicopter return trips per year for the construction phase of the Mona Array Area is 1095.</li> </ul> <p><u>Construction programme/duration</u></p> <p>The total duration for wind turbine installation is expected to be a maximum of 24 months.</p> <p><b>Operations and maintenance phase</b></p> <p>The SLVIA assesses the MDS for Mona Array Area during the operations and maintenance phase, comprising the following key project components and equipment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 68 wind turbines (dimensions below)</li> <li>• Four Offshore substation platforms (OSPs)</li> <li>• Service vessels/helicopters</li> </ul>	<p>Of the possible design scenarios the one with the maximum turbine rotor diameter and maximum tip height has been identified as resulting in the MDS for SLVIA, as the tallest turbines would be seen from greater distances. More of the smaller turbines would disappear over the horizon.</p> <p>The lighting on the turbines has been assessed at 2000 candelas, to assess the brightest lighting scenario. This is what has been modelled in the night-time visualisations (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape Visualisations of the Environmental Statement). For methodology see Volume 6, Annex 6.4: Seascape, landscape and visual impact methodology of the Environmental Statement. It was considered that given the distance from the various coasts that the navigation and aviation lights would be most visible on the tallest turbines.</p> <p>At workshops held in late summer/autumn 2022, statutory consultees were asked whether they considered the worst-case for turbines within the Mona Afl (see Table 8.6). Wirelines of the two options (many/small turbines and fewer/tall turbines) from geographically diverse viewpoints were presented to the consultees at the meetings. As no</p>



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Potential impact	Phase C O D	Maximum Design Scenario	Justification
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People at main coastal settlement seafronts and shorelines</li> <li>• Cyclists on National Cycle Route (NCRs) and National Cycleways</li> <li>• People travelling along main coastal roads</li> <li>• People travelling on key coastal railways</li> <li>• People using main ferry routes</li> <li>• Other marine users (e.g. recreational sailors)</li> <li>• 40 offshore representative viewpoints illustrating potential views from the locations.</li> </ul> <p>The receptor groups considered in the 60 km SLVIA study area are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special qualities of nationally designated landscapes.</li> </ul> <p>An overview of the Mona Offshore Wind Project main elements is presented here. The following key project</p>		<p>The above components are also a consideration during the construction and decommissioning phases.</p> <p>The wind turbines and OSPs will be attached to the seabed by gravity based and / or jacket foundation structures (the type to be deployed is subject to further investigations). The turbine towers may be connected to the foundation via a transition piece which is visible above sea level.</p> <p><u>Wind turbines</u></p> <p>The wind turbines will be the standard horizontal axis design with three blades connected to the nacelle housing the turbine. An illustration of this design can be seen in Volume 1, Chapter 3: Project description of the Environmental Statement.</p> <p>The maximum wind turbine dimensions are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maximum blade tip height (above LAT) – 364 m</li> <li>• Maximum rotor diameter – 320 m</li> <li>• Maximum hub height (above LAT) – 204 m.</li> </ul> <p><u>Aids to navigation, colour, marking and lighting</u></p> <p>Appropriate marking, lighting and aids to navigation will be employed during the operations and maintenance phase (also during construction and decommissioning phases) of the Mona Offshore Wind Project.</p> <p>The nacelles, blades and towers will be painted light grey and the foundation structures, up to +15 m from Highest Astronomical Tide, will be traffic light yellow.</p> <p>Appropriate lighting at night-time will ensure the offshore structures are visible for search and rescue and emergency response procedures. In addition, lighting will conform to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Red, medium intensity aviation warning lights (of variable brightness between 200-2000 candelas (cd)) will be located on either side of the nacelle of significant peripheral wind turbines. These lights will flash simultaneously with a Morse W flash pattern (and will also include an infra-red component)</li> <li>• All aviation warning lights will flash synchronously throughout the Mona Array Area</li> </ul>	<p>categoric decisions were made during, or after, the workshops, it fell to professional opinion as to the MDS. Due to the distance from the various land masses, it was decided that the taller turbines would be the most visible, as more of the smaller turbines would disappear over the horizon. No consultees disagreed with this approach, presented at the PEIR stage.</p>

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Potential impact	Phase			Maximum Design Scenario	Justification
	C	O	D		
<p>elements areas are assessed in the SLVIA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mona Array Area (offshore element)</li> </ul> <p>These are considered in more detail:</p> <p>The potential sources of seascape, landscape and visual impacts deriving from the various development components and associated activities are summarised here under the heading Mona Offshore Wind Project with more detail relating to the offshore generation assets (Mona Array Area).</p>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aviation warning lights will allow for reduction in lighting intensity at and below the horizon when visibility from every wind turbine is more than 5 km (to a minimum of 10% of the maximum, i.e. 200 cd)</li> <li>• SAR lighting of each of the non-periphery turbines will be combi infra-red (IR)/200 cd steady red aviation hazard lights</li> <li>• All wind turbines will be fitted with a low intensity light for the purpose of helicopter winching (green hoist lamp). All wind turbines will also be fitted with suitable illumination (minimum one 5 cd light) for ID signs.</li> </ul> <p>Marine navigational lights will be fitted at the platform level on significant peripheral structures (SPS). These lights will be synchronized to display simultaneously an IALA 'special mark' characteristic, flashing yellow, with a range of not less than 5nm.</p> <p><b>Decommissioning phase</b></p> <p>Where feasible and practical, all Mona Offshore Wind Project structures (above seabed or ground level) will be completely removed at the end of its operational lifetime.</p> <p>The decommissioning sequence will generally be the reverse of the construction sequence and involve similar types and numbers of vessels and equipment.</p> <p>The duration for wind turbine removal is expected to be a maximum of 24 months.</p>	

## 8.7 Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project

8.7.1.1 As part of the project design process several measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project have been proposed to reduce the potential for impacts on seascape, landscape, and visual resources (see [Table 8.18](#)~~Table 8.18~~). As there is a commitment to implementing these measures, they are considered inherently part of the design of the Mona Offshore Wind Project and have therefore been considered in the assessment presented in section 0 below (i.e. the determination of magnitude and therefore significance assumes implementation of these measures). These measures are considered standard industry practice for this type of development.

**Table 8.18: Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project.**

Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Justification	How the measure is secured
The nacelles, blades and towers will be painted light grey.	Light grey is considered the optimum colour for offshore wind turbines to minimise adverse effects on seascape, landscape, and visual resources. This is being secured as a condition in the dML in the Development Consent Order (DCO).	Paint colour is secured in the deemed marine licence (dML) in schedule 14 of the Draft DCO.
The lights will be operated at the lowest permissible intensity level. The aviation lighting will be kept to 200 candelas in good visibility conditions. However, in poor visibility, e.g. foggy conditions, the lighting levels may rise to 2,000 candelas.	To keep night time visual impacts to a minimum.	Lighting levels are secured as a Requirement of the Draft DCO.

## 8.8 Assessment of significant effects

### 8.8.1 Introduction

8.8.1.1 The impacts of the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project have been assessed on seascape, landscape, and visual resources. The MDS against which each impact has been assessed arising from the construction, operations and maintenance and decommissioning phases of the Mona Offshore Wind Project are listed in [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~.

8.8.1.2 A summary description of all the potential effects of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project on seascape, landscape and visual resources receptors is set out in Table 8.21 to [Table 8.23](#)~~Table 8.23~~. In the interests of proportionality and in line with GLVIA 3, the text within this assessment section describes the potential effects, some of which would have the potential to be significant. The text also describes when combined the significance of effect would be of significance.

8.8.1.3 With respect to the representative viewpoints listed in [Table 8.10](#)~~Table 8.10~~, and in the interests of proportionality of assessment and to avoid duplication and double

recording of effects, these are considered in this section in tandem with the assessment of visual receptors they represent, referenced accordingly.

8.8.1.4 Impacts will arise on seascape, landscape and visual resources during construction, operations and maintenance, and/or decommissioning phases resulting from the following Mona Offshore Wind Project components (as set out in more detail in [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~). The following is based upon the MDS (Table 8.20).

- 68 wind turbines and foundation components (blades, nacelles, towers, navigation and aviation lighting) (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.1.5 The seascape, landscape and visual impacts will be caused by both static and moving elements of the above components which will affect the characteristics and perceptions of the seascape/marine character areas in the 50 km SLVIA Study Area. Where the SLVIA study area includes or is adjacent to areas of nationally designated landscapes, the area has been extended to 60 km, to ensure that the effects on the special qualities of these most sensitive receptors are fully considered.

8.8.1.6 Regarding the approach taken in the SLVIA to the assessment of the different development phases of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project, the assumptions/limitations set out above in section 8.5.4 should be noted. In short, seascape, landscape and visual impacts arising will increase in magnitude on a continuum from the start of construction through to completion of works and commencement of the operations and maintenance phase in the short-term, remaining constant during the operations and maintenance phase in the long-term. The decommissioning phase is effectively the construction process in reverse. Consequently, in the interests of proportionality, construction and decommissioning effects are dealt with together for each seascape, landscape and visual receptor, recorded separately from the operational effects.

8.8.1.7 Offshore wind energy development, wherever it occurs, is usually visible in some form. offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would have the following general attributes typical of most offshore wind farms: engineered, large scale, simple in form, smooth texture, monochrome/muted colour, and strong vertical form. Wind energy development can give rise to a spectrum of responses from individuals and organisations who perceive its effects ranging from strongly adverse to strongly beneficial. Experience has shown that responses by people to wind farms can vary from 'beautiful' to 'offensive', with respondents perceiving wind turbines as potentially rhythmic, unusual, safe, interesting, invigorating, majestic and spiritual on the one hand and degrading, jarring, overbearing, industrial, clashing, and ugly on the other.

8.8.1.8 The likely significant effects in this assessment are described in type (i.e. direct, indirect, or cumulative), temporal nature (short, medium and long term, permanent or temporary), and valency (beneficial or positive and adverse or negative). Accordingly, judgements as to valency are inevitably subjective.

8.8.1.9 For the purposes of this assessment, effects have been defined based on the scenario of an individual who may perceive the array as a negative addition to the seascape or view. Effects are, therefore, defined as adverse throughout the assessment; but may in fact be seen as beneficial or positive by large numbers of viewers. An individual who

perceives offshore wind farms as a positive addition to the seascape or view may consider the same effects to be beneficial or neutral in nature.

## 8.8.2 Effects on seascape and landscape character

### Assessment of the effects on the special qualities of internationally and nationally designated landscapes

- 8.8.2.1 Potential effects on the special qualities of the internationally and nationally designated landscapes that lie within 60 km of the Mona Array Area and within 10 km of the Mona Onshore Substation are documented in Volume 6, Annex 8.5: International and nationally designated landscape study, of the Environmental Statement. Annex 8.5 considers the whole project impacts (both the onshore and the offshore generation and transmission assets) on the designated landscapes.
- 8.8.2.2 The Mona Array Area SLVIA and the Mona Onshore substation LVIA study area include three nationally designated landscapes: Eryri National Park; Isle of Anglesey National Landscape; and the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape. The Lake District National Park lies at approximately 59 km from the edge of the Mona Array Area and has not been included in the assessment due to lack of visibility (due to distance, low-lying topography and intervening infrastructure).
- 8.8.2.3 The assessment in Volume 6, Annex 8.5: International and nationally designated landscape study, of the Environmental Statement, considers the special qualities of relevance to landscape, seascape and visual amenity for each designated landscape.
- 8.8.2.4 The two special qualities of relevance relating to the Isle of Anglesey National Landscape include expansive views and peace and tranquillity. The assessment concluded **minor to moderate adverse** and not significant effects of the Mona offshore generation assets, on these special qualities. The Mona Onshore Substation is not visible from the Isle of Anglesey National Landscape.
- 8.8.2.5 The three special qualities of relevance relating to the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National landscape include tranquillity and remoteness and wildness, space and freedom, as well as the Offa's Dyke Path. The assessment of the effects of both the Mona onshore substation and the Mona offshore generation assets on these special qualities, concluded a **negligible to minor adverse** and not significant effect on the former two of these. While a **minor adverse** and not significant effect will be experienced by people using the Offa's Dyke Path.
- 8.8.2.6 The special quality of relevance relating to Eryri National Park is tranquillity and solitude. A **minor to moderate adverse** and not significant effect is assessed to arise for this special quality.
- 8.8.2.7 The cumulative effects assessment of the Mona offshore generation assets found that there was a **minor to moderate adverse** effect on the special qualities of the Isle of Anglesey National Landscape in combination with the Tier 1 cumulative projects and a **moderate adverse**, but not significant effect, on the same special qualities, in combination with the Tier 2 cumulative projects.
- 8.8.2.8 The cumulative effects assessment of the Mona onshore transmission assets and offshore generation assets found that there were **negligible to minor adverse** effects on the special qualities of the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape in combination with the Tier 1 cumulative projects and **negligible to minor adverse**, but not significant effects, on the same special qualities, in combination with the Tier 2 cumulative projects. None of which are significant.

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8.8.2.9 The cumulative effects assessment of the Mona offshore generation assets found that there was a **minor to moderate adverse** effects on expansive views special quality of Eryri National Park in combination with the Tier 1 cumulative projects and a **moderate adverse**, and significant effect, on the same special quality, in combination with the Tier 2 cumulative projects.

8.8.2.10 Summaries of the impact assessment of the effects of the Mona Offshore Wind Project on the special qualities of the nationally designated landscapes alone and in combination with cumulative projects are at Table 8.22 and [Table 8.24](#)~~Table 8.24~~ of this chapter.

### Assessment of effects on seascape sensitivity zones and marine character areas

8.8.2.11 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on Welsh Seascape Sensitivity Zones (SSZs) and England Marine Character Areas (MCAs) in the 50 km SLVIA Study Area. These impacts would result from some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (also summarised in [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~). The following is based upon the MDS (Table 8.20):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.2.12 The impact will be caused by both static and moving elements of the above components which will affect the characteristics and perceptions of the seascape sensitivity zones and marine character areas in the 50 km SLVIA Study Area. The four areas which will potentially experience the most change, due to being directly affected or adjacent to the proposed development, are the following:

- Seascape Sensitivity Zone No. 2 (SSZ 2) Northeast Wales Offshore (direct effects)
- Seascape Sensitivity Zone No. 4 (SSZ 4) North Wales and North Anglesey Offshore (indirect/perceptual effects)
- Seascape Sensitivity Zone No. 5 (SSZ 5) North Wales and Anglesey Outer Offshore (direct effects).
- Marine Character Area (MCA) 38 Irish Sea South (England) (indirect/perceptual effects)

8.8.2.13 Potential effects upon the above referenced four seascape receptors are outlined in the following paragraphs due to their greater potential for experiencing significant effects. Outline details of the baseline conditions relating to these receptors and the factors influencing impacts of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project on the character of the host seascape are provided below. More detailed baseline descriptions of all above referenced marine character areas and seascape sensitivity zones are provided in Volume 6, Annex 8.2: Seascape and landscape character baseline technical report of the Environmental Statement.



- 8.8.2.14 There is no potential for significant effects to arise on other remaining seascape sensitivity zones and marine character areas in the SLVIA study area. These receptors are listed in [Table 8.9](#) and shown on Figure A.2.

### **Seascape Sensitivity Zone No. 2 (SSZ 2) North East Wales Offshore**

- 8.8.2.15 Baseline conditions – SSZ 2 occupies the offshore, open water immediately north of Gwynt y Môr offshore wind farm which, together with oil and gas infrastructure and commercial shipping/ferries, has a characterising influence. MCA 38 abuts SSZ 2 to the east.
- 8.8.2.16 Impact considerations – some of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project will be located within the north half of SSZ 2 (assessed in NRW/White 2019 medium/low sensitivity) resulting in direct impacts on this seascape receptor. Analysis of the blade-tip ZTV indicates visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project across the whole SSZ.

### **Seascape Sensitivity Zone No. 5 (SSZ 5) North Wales and Anglesey Outer Offshore**

- 8.8.2.17 Baseline conditions – SSZ 5 occupies the offshore, open water immediately north of SSZ 4. MCA 38 abuts it to the east with Isle of Man and Northern Irish territorial waters to the north and Northwest respectively.
- 8.8.2.18 Impact considerations – some of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project will be located within the east extremity of SSZ 5 (assessed in NRW/White 2019 medium/low sensitivity) resulting in direct impacts on this seascape receptor. Analysis of the blade-tip ZTV indicates visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project across the whole SSZ.

### **Seascape Sensitivity Zone No. 4 (SSZ 4) North Wales and North Anglesey Offshore**

- 8.8.2.19 Baseline conditions – SSZ 4 is an offshore tract of open water between Anglesey to the south, the Isle of Man to the north, and Irish offshore waters to the Northwest. It is situated mainly north of the east-west commercial shipping/ferry routes en route to/from Merseyside and Holyhead. Wylfa nuclear power station and (to a lesser extent) onshore windfarms are notable coastal landscape features in southward views from this area of sea.
- 8.8.2.20 Impact considerations – the eastern edge of SSZ 4 (assessed in NRW/White 2019 as medium sensitivity) is located 1.8 km of the Mona Array Area, at the closest point whereas the west edge is located over 50 km distant. Analysis of the blade-tip ZTV indicates visibility of the offshore components of the Mona Offshore Wind Project across the whole SSZ.

### **MCA 38 Irish Sea South**

- 8.8.2.21 Baseline conditions – an offshore MCA comprising open water partly characterised by existing offshore windfarms, oil and gas infrastructure and commercial shipping/ferries.
- 8.8.2.22 Impact considerations – the northeast edge of the Mona Array Area is located approximately 1.4 km from the southeast edge of MCA 38. Analysis of the blade-tip ZTV indicates visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project across the whole MCA.

### **Construction and decommissioning phases**



### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.2.23 An impact will arise on the character of the offshore waters hosting the Mona Array Area due to the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements described in [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~.
- 8.8.2.24 The offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project will be located in two Welsh seascape sensitivity zones (SSZs); SSZ 2 North East Wales Offshore and SSZ 5 North Wales Anglesey Outer Offshore (Figure A.2). The construction and decommissioning phases will directly affect the characteristics and perceptions of these seascapes that are occupied by the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project.
- 8.8.2.25 The direct impact on seascape character will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and of high reversibility. The impact will affect these receptors directly. The magnitude of impact within the Mona Array Area itself is therefore considered to be **large** at most during the construction and decommissioning phases upon these two directly impacted seascape sensitivity zones. The magnitude of seascape character impact will be lower further from the Mona Array Area.
- 8.8.2.26 The magnitude of direct impact on SSZ 2 overall is judged to be **medium**. This reflects the short term and reversible nature of the effects and the scale of the change which would vary over the SSZ, diminishing with increasing distance from the wind turbines and OSPs.
- 8.8.2.27 In the case of SSZ 5, a smaller part of this seascape sensitivity zone will be directly impacted, the scale of change is correspondingly smaller than the change to SSZ 2. The magnitude of impact on SSZ 5 overall is **small** when considered as a whole. This reflects the short term and reversible nature of the effects and the fact that the scale of the change will diminish with increasing distance from the Mona Array Area.
- 8.8.2.28 The indirect impact arising on the adjacent SSZ 4 North Wales and North Anglesey Offshore and MCA 38 Irish Sea South will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The magnitude of seascape impact will be **negligible to small** for SSZ 4 and MCA 38. This reflects the short-term nature of the effects and the scale of the change which will diminish with increasing distance from the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project

### Sensitivity of the receptor

- 8.8.2.29 Seascape areas MCA 38, SSZ 2 and SSZ 5 are deemed to be of medium seascape value and low susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptors is therefore, considered to be **low to medium**. SSZ 4 is assessed as medium seascape value and medium susceptibility to the proposed development making its sensitivity **medium**.

### Significance of the effect

- 8.8.2.30 Overall, the magnitude of potential direct seascape impact during construction and decommissioning on the parts of SSZ 2 and SSZ 5 occupied by the construction activities in the Mona Array Area is deemed to be **large** and the sensitivity of the receptor is **low to medium**. The effects will be **moderate to major adverse**, which are significant.

- 8.8.2.31 The magnitude of potential indirect seascape impact during construction and decommissioning for areas farther away from the construction activities in the Mona Array Area is deemed to be medium overall for SSZ 2 and small for SSZ 5, and the sensitivity of these receptors is low to medium. The significance of effects on these seascape character areas is therefore judged to be **minor to moderate adverse** overall for SSZ 2, and **minor adverse** for SSZ 5 when considered as a whole, which are not significant in EIA terms.
- 8.8.2.32 The magnitude of the indirect seascape impact on the adjacent SSZ 4 during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible to small and the sensitivity of the receptor is medium. The effect will be **minor adverse** significance, which is not significant in EIA terms.
- 8.8.2.33 The magnitude of the indirect seascape impact on the adjacent MCA 38 during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible to small and the sensitivity of the receptor is low to medium. The effect will be **negligible to minor adverse** significance, which is not significant in EIA terms.

### Operations and maintenance phase

#### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.2.34 A direct impact will arise on the SSZ 2 and SSZ 5 due to the operations and maintenance phase of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project which will be within these SSZs. An indirect seascape impact will arise on the adjacent SSZ 4 and the English Marine character area MCA 38. The impact will be caused by the presence of both moving and static project components (as described in [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~, namely: the wind turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which will affect the characteristics and perceptions of the area of open sea occupied by the Mona Array Area and areas directly adjacent to it.
- 8.8.2.35 The seascape character impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect SSZ 2 and SSZ 5 directly. The magnitude within the Mona Array Area itself and immediately adjacent to the Mona Array Area boundary is therefore considered to be **large** at most during the operations and maintenance phase upon these two directly impacted seascape sensitivity zones, reducing with distance. The magnitude of potential seascape character impact is judged to be **medium** for SSZ 2 overall, and **small** for SSZ 5 when considered as a whole. This is because a smaller part of SSZ 5 would be directly impacted compared with SSZ 2. In the case of both SSZ 2 and SSZ 5, the ZTV reveals that the full extent of these areas will be affected by the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project however the scale of the change will diminish with increasing distance from the proposed development.
- 8.8.2.36 The adjacent seascape, SSZ 4 will be affected indirectly. The magnitude of indirect seascape impact will be medium adjacent to the Mona Array Area reducing to negligible with distance. The magnitude of potential impact for SSZ 4 when considered as a whole area is **small** for the operations and maintenance phase.
- 8.8.2.37 MCA 38 will be affected indirectly. The magnitude of potential seascape character impact is judged to be **small** overall for the operations and maintenance phase. Although the ZTV reveals that effects will arise over the full extent of the MCA, the scale of these effects will diminish with increasing distance from the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.2.38 The sensitivity of MCA 38, SSZ 2, and SSZ 5 is **low to medium**. The sensitivity of SSZ 4 is **medium**.

### Significance of the effect

8.8.2.39 Overall, the magnitude of the potential seascape impact within the Mona Array Area itself (including parts of SSZ 2 and SSZ 5) during the operations and maintenance phase is deemed to be large and the sensitivity of these receptors is low to medium. The direct effects are **moderate to major adverse** within the Mona Array Area, which are significant.

8.8.2.40 The magnitude of potential impact during the operations and maintenance phase will reduce with increasing distance from the Mona Array Area and is deemed to be medium overall for SSZ 2 and small overall for SSZ 5. The sensitivity of these receptors is low to medium. The significance of indirect effect on seascape character and is judged to be **minor to moderate adverse** overall for SSZ 2, and **minor adverse** for SSZ 5 when considered as a whole, which is not significant in EIA terms.

8.8.2.41 With respect to the adjacent SSZ 4, the magnitude of the potential seascape indirect impact due to the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project is deemed to be **small** overall and the sensitivity of the receptor is medium. The effect will be **minor adverse** at most, which is not significant in EIA terms.

8.8.2.42 In the case of MCA 38, a small magnitude of seascape indirect impact is expected to arise resulting in a **negligible to minor adverse** effect which is not significant in EIA terms.

### Night-time effects on seascape/marine character areas

#### Construction and decommissioning phases

8.8.2.43 During the construction and decommissioning phases, should work be required during hours of darkness, lighting will be introduced into areas of the sea, parts of which are not currently lit. However, the East Irish Sea has existing offshore wind farms and oil and gas platforms (static sources of light) that are permanently lit, in seascapes closer to land. The East Irish Sea hosts busy shipping lanes of commercial and passenger vessels (dynamic sources of light). Sources of static, but intermittent lights are also present in the form of lighthouses/buoys, close to the coast. The magnitude of the direct impact on SSZ 2 and SSZ 5 will be **medium** at most, reducing the further from the Mona Array Area. The indirect impacts on SSZ 4 would be **small**. The indirect impacts on MCA 38, which already hosts multiple sources of light will be **negligible to small**.

8.8.2.44 The sensitivity of SSZ 2, SSZ 5 and MC 38 is **low to medium**, while SSZ 4 has a **medium** sensitivity.

8.8.2.45 The temporary night-time effects on SSZ 2 and SSZ 5, during the construction and decommissioning phases will be **minor to moderate adverse**. The temporary effects on MCA 38 will be **negligible to minor adverse**. The temporary effects on SSZ 4 will be **moderate adverse**. None of these effects are significant, as these are undesignated area of the sea, with different sources of light already present.

#### Operations and maintenance phase

8.8.2.46 Once the Mona Array Area is operational there will be both navigation lighting for shipping on SPSs and aviation warning lights on nacelles, as described in the MDS, Table 8.17. Night-time visualisations have been generated from a geographically diverse range of the most populated areas, which are presented at Figures 7.4, 9.4, 12.4, 14.4, 27.4, 37.4, 38.4 and, 39.4 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations of the Environmental Statement. The visualisations have used the worst case (2,000 candelas) for the aviation lighting a situation which would never occur - in clear conditions the level of light used would be 200 candelas. The higher lighting intensity would only be used in poor visibility conditions, which would not be visible from shore due to the poor visual conditions. For the seascape immediately around the array the navigation lights will introduce some light. The red aviation lights will also add light into the seascape, however, the lighting from shipping is much brighter than the proposed lighting and the impacts on the seascape are not considered to be any larger than at construction or decommissioning, i.e. the magnitude of the direct impact on SSZ 2 and SSZ 5 will be **medium** at most, reducing the further from the Mona Array Area. The indirect impacts on SSZ 4 would be **small**. The indirect impacts on MCA 38, which already hosts multiple sources of light will be **negligible to small**.

8.8.2.47 The significance of night-time effects on SSZ 2 and SSZ 5, during the operations and maintenance phase will be **minor to moderate adverse**. The effects on MCA 38 will be **negligible to minor adverse**. The effects on SSZ 4 will be **moderate adverse**. None of these effects are significant, as these are undesignated area of the sea, with different sources of light already present.

### Assessment of effects on national landscape character areas

8.8.2.48 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on certain LCAs in the 50 km SLVIA Study Area. These impacts would result from some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.2.49 The impact will be caused by both static and moving elements of the components which will potentially affect the characteristics and perceptions of the Welsh national landscape character areas identified below, within approximately 30 km from the Mona Array Area, bordering the north coasts of Wales and the Isle of Anglesey.

- NLCA 01 Afordir Môn/Anglesey Coast
- NLCA 08 Arfordir Gogledd Cymru/North Wales Coast.

8.8.2.50 These two national landscape character areas have potential to be significantly affected by the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project and are assessed below. Outline details of the baseline conditions relating to them and the factors influencing potential impacts on their character are also provided. More detailed baseline descriptions of all LCAs are provided in Volume 6, Annex 8.2: Seascape and landscape character baseline technical report of the Environmental Statement.

8.8.2.51 Due to the separation distances involved, the remaining LCAs in the wider 50 km SLVIA Study Area (in Wales, England and the Isle of Man), as listed in [Table 8.17](#)~~Table~~



8.17 and shown on Figure A.2, have been assessed to have no potential to experience significant effects.

### **NLCA 01 Afordir Môn/Anglesey Coast**

8.8.2.52 Baseline conditions – varied coastline of generally low cliffs and low sandy coves/bays; broadly north-facing affording views across the Irish Sea towards the Isle of Man (visible in favourable conditions from the northwest section); more rugged with less settlement in the west; becoming tamer with more settlement and sandy estuaries and dunes towards the east. The NLCA incorporates the stretch of coastline described above in relation to Seascape character areas (SCAs) 3, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9, most of which lies within the North part of the Isle of Anglesey National Landscape.

8.8.2.53 Impact considerations – Mona Array Area lies approximately 28.7 km distance to the northeast of NLCA 01 its closest point (Point Lynas). The associated SCAs are assessed in NRW/White 2019 as high sensitivity. RPS assesses the NLCA's value as high and its susceptibility to the proposed development as medium to high, giving an overall landscape sensitivity of medium to high. This assessment takes account of the varied character and quality of the NLCA which is punctuated by settlement and occasional conspicuous infrastructure (e.g. Wylfa Nuclear Power Station and onshore wind farms). Analysis of the blade-tip ZTV indicates theoretical visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project across the north coastline of this NLCA. Theoretical visibility is very limited elsewhere along this coastal NLCA. The actual visibility of the offshore elements of the project will be more limited due to screening afforded by areas of woodland and built structures, including coastal settlements. Areas of woodland of varying size overlook the north coastline, an example of which is the Pentraeth Forest in the vicinity of Red Wharf Bay.

### **NLCA 08 Arfordir Gogledd Cymru/North Wales Coast**

8.8.2.54 Baseline conditions – apart from Great Orme and Little Orme Headlands enclosing Llandudno in the west, a generally low-lying coast is framed by higher ground, some prominent outcrops; engineered shoreline with extensive sandy beaches, backed by a mix of sprawling coastal/holiday settlement (Colwyn Bay, Llandulas, Abergele, Rhyl and Prestatyn) and pastoral farmland with some historic castles and estates/parklands (e.g. Gwyrch, Rhuddlan and Bodelwyddan Castles).

8.8.2.55 Impact considerations – the North Wales shoreline lies approximately 28.7 km to the south of the Mona Array Area at the closest point. The NLCA is framed by Eryri to the southwest and the Clwydian Range hills in the east. RPS assesses the NLCA's value as medium and its susceptibility to the proposed development as low, giving an overall landscape sensitivity of low to medium. Analysis of the blade-tip ZTV indicates visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project across the majority of the NLCA. In reality, the visual influence of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project across this NLCA will be limited, mainly to the open shoreline and beaches, exposed north-facing slopes of the hinterland. This is due to the screening by areas of woodland and built structures, including coastal settlements. Furthermore, the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project will be seen beyond and behind existing offshore wind farms including Rhyl Flats and Gwynt y Môr.

### **Construction and decommissioning phases**

#### **Magnitude of impact**

8.8.2.56 An indirect impact will potentially arise on the character of Wales NLCA 01 Afordir Môn/Anglesey Coast and NLCA 08 Arfordir Gogledd Cymru/North Wales Coast due to

the erection and dismantling of the turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements described in [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~, This will affect the characteristics and perceptions of the landscape of the north coasts of Wales and Anglesey facing the Mona Array Area situated mostly over 30 km away.

- 8.8.2.57 The character impact is predicted to affect areas along the coastline that are visually exposed due mainly to the absence of wooded vegetation and built structures. The effect will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect these receptors indirectly. The magnitude of landscape character impact upon these NLCA is therefore considered to be **negligible** at most during the construction and decommissioning phases.

#### **Sensitivity of the receptor**

- 8.8.2.58 NLCA 01 Afordir Môn/Anglesey Coast is deemed to be of high landscape value (taking account of the National Landscape and National Park designations where applicable) and of medium to high susceptibility. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **medium to high**.
- 8.8.2.59 NLCA 08 Arfordir Gogledd Cymru/North Wales Coast is assessed as being of medium landscape value and low susceptibility, taking in account its varied and settled character. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **low to medium**.

#### **Significance of the effect**

- 8.8.2.60 Overall, the magnitude of the landscape character impact on NLCA 01 Afordir Môn/Anglesey Coast during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is medium to high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse** at most, which are not significant .
- 8.8.2.61 Regarding NLCA 08 Arfordir Gogledd Cymru/North Wales Coast, the magnitude of the landscape character impact overall during construction and decommissioning is also deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is low to medium. The effect will be **negligible adverse** at most, which is not significant.

### **Operations and maintenance phase**

#### **Magnitude of impact**

- 8.8.2.62 An indirect impact will potentially arise on the character of NLCA 01 Afordir Môn/Anglesey Coast and NLCA 08 Arfordir Gogledd Cymru/North Wales Coast due to the operations and maintenance phase of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. The impact will be caused by the presence of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (as described in [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~, namely: the turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which will affect the characteristics and perceptions of these coastal landscapes.
- 8.8.2.63 The character impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect parts of the north coastline of NLCA 01 Afordir Môn/Anglesey Coast which are visually exposed due to the absence of wooded vegetation and built structures such as settlements. The remainder of this coastal landscape of this NLCA will be scarcely affected. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **negligible to small** for NLCA 01 during the operations and maintenance phase reducing to lower magnitudes with distance from the Mona Array Area. NLCA 08

Arfordir Gogledd Cymru/North Wales Coast will be indirectly affected by the offshore components of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. The magnitude of impact for NLCA 08 will be **negligible** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the extent of the effects which will be largely limited to exposed areas of the coastline where wooded vegetation and built structures (settlements) are absent.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.2.64 The sensitivity of NLCA 01 Afordir Môn/Anglesey Coast and NLCA 08 Arfordir Gogledd Cymru/North Wales Coast is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **medium to high** and **low to medium** respectively.

### Significance of the effect

8.8.2.65 Overall, the magnitude of landscape character impact in relation to NLCA 01 Afordir Môn/Anglesey Coast during the operations and maintenance phase is deemed to be negligible to small at most and the sensitivity of the receptor is medium to high. The effect will be **minor adverse** at most, which is not significant.

8.8.2.66 Regarding NLCA 08 Arfordir Gogledd Cymru/North Wales Coast, the magnitude of landscape character impact overall during the operations and maintenance phase is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is low to medium. The effect will be **negligible adverse** at most, which is not significant.

8.8.2.67 The character of other areas of land in the 50 km SLVIA Study Area including the remainder of Anglesey and Wales, and England and the Isle of Man, will be affected to a negligible degree.

## Night-time effects on national landscape character areas

### Construction and decommissioning phases

8.8.2.68 During the construction and decommissioning phases, should work be required during hours of darkness, lighting will be introduced into areas of the sea, parts of which are not currently lit. However, the East Irish Sea has existing offshore wind farms and oil and gas platforms (static sources of light) that are permanently lit, in seascapes closer to land. The East Irish Sea hosts busy shipping lanes of commercial and passenger vessels (dynamic sources of light). Sources of static, but intermittent lights are also present in the form of lighthouses/buoys, close to the coast. Given the distance from the Mona Array Area, the magnitude of the indirect impacts on NLCA 01 and NLCA 08 will be **negligible** at most.

8.8.2.69 The sensitivity of NLCA 01 is **medium to high** and the sensitivity of NLCA08 is **low to medium**,

8.8.2.70 The temporary significance of night-time effects on NLCA 01 during the construction and decommissioning phases will be **negligible to minor adverse**. The temporary effects on NLCA 08 will be **negligible adverse**. These are not significant effects.

### Operations and maintenance phase

8.8.2.71 Once the Mona Array Area is operational there will be both navigation lighting for shipping on SPSs and aviation warning lights on nacelles, as described in the MDS, Table 8.17. Night-time visualisations have been generated from a geographically diverse range of populated areas, which are presented at Figures 7.4, 9.4, 12.4, 14.4,



27.4, 37.4, 38.4 and, 39.4 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement. The visualisations have used the worst case (2000 candelas) for the aviation lighting. Given the distance from the Mona Array Area, the navigation lighting is not visible, as these lights are located low on the turbine towers, and many are below the horizon, The duller, red aviation lighting is barely visible. The lighting from shipping is much brighter than the proposed lighting and the impacts on the seascape will be lower than at construction or decommissioning, i.e. **no change to negligible** at most. The sensitivity is as set out for the construction and decommissioning phases, that is **medium to high** for NLCA 01 and **low to medium** for NLCA 08. The significance of night-time effects on NLCA 01 and NLCA 08 will be **negligible adverse**, which are not significant.

### 8.8.3 Assessment of visual effects experienced by visual receptor groups

8.8.3.1 The effects on visual receptor groups and effects at individual viewpoint locations documented in the remainder of this report is confined to viewpoints within the 50 km study area along with viewpoints requested to be assessed by consultees and additionally viewpoints within nationally designated landscapes for which a 60km SLVIA study area applies as documented in Volume 6, annex 8.5 internationally and nationally designated landscapes of the Environmental Statement.

#### Assessment of effects experienced by people using National Trails/long distance paths - Wales Coast Path

8.8.3.2 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the views from and visual amenity of individuals on the Wales Coast Path in the 50 km SLVIA Study Area. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS ([Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.3.3 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people using sections of the long-distance path within approximately 30-40 km of the Mona Array Area including a short section located within Eryri National Park.

- North coast of Anglesey from Carmel Head to Penmon Point
- The North Wales coast from Bangor to the Dee Estuary via Eryri National Park.

8.8.3.4 There is no potential for significant visual effects to arise on users of other National Trail/long-distance paths or similar linear receptors in the 50 km SLVIA Study Area.

8.8.3.5 Outline details of the baseline conditions and factors influencing potential impacts on Wales Coast Path are provided below. Potential effects arising on the landscape designation are assessed in paragraphs that follow.

#### **Baseline conditions**

8.8.3.6 A long-distance path follows the coast of Wales, often affording wide-ranging views across the adjacent seascape within the 50 km SLVIA Study Area. The path follows

the north coast of Anglesey from Carmel Head to Penmon Point, and the North Wales coast from Bangor to the Dee Estuary. In Anglesey, the elevation of the route varies from between approximately 30-50 m AOD dropping to around 5 m AOD in some settlement seafront and bay/beach sections (e.g. at Benllech). On Anglesey, the closest and most exposed sections of the path to the offshore components of the Mona Offshore Wind Project include a number of elevated headlands/promontories such as Llanlleiana Head (representative viewpoint 2), Moelfre (representative viewpoint 25), Penmon Point (representative viewpoint 28). Regarding the North Wales coast, with certain important exceptions, the path follows the shoreline at elevations close to sea level as far as the English border. The exceptions are north Eryri (between Llanfairfechan and Conwy via Foel Lus) and Little Orme's Head. The closest (and most exposed) sections of route to the Mona Array Area are Little Orme's Head (representative viewpoint 34), Colwyn Bay to Prestatyn via Rhyl (representative viewpoint 9) and Point of Ayr (representative viewpoint 40).

### Impact considerations

- 8.8.3.7 Analysis of the ZTV and the representative viewpoint visualisations, supported by fieldwork, indicates fairly frequent visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project from the open sections of Wales Coast Path affording sea views between Carmel Head (Anglesey) and the Dee Estuary. The wind turbines would be seen on the horizon as part of the wide coastal panorama set within a distant seascape animated and characterised to varying extents by commercial shipping/ferries en route to/from Merseyside ports (a constant feature of the 50 km SLVIA Study Area seascape). Existing offshore wind farms (Gwynt y Môr, Rhyl Flats, North Hoyle and Burbo Bank) and offshore oil and gas infrastructure become an increasingly strong feature in views from the North Wales section of the path from the coast near Great Orme's Head to the Dee Estuary travelling eastwards. The MDS visual impact would be that experienced at the closest sections of the route to Mona Array Area, approximately 31 km distant, namely Little Orme's Head. Similar (if not marginally lower) magnitudes of visual change would occur at the closest points on Anglesey, namely Llanlleiana Head (representative viewpoint 2) and Moelfre (representative viewpoint 25) promontories.
- 8.8.3.8 At approximate distances of 30 km (and up to 40 km) the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would be visible in favourable conditions (i.e. very good visibility 20 km to 40 km approximately ~~70~~<sup>40</sup>% of the year).
- 8.8.3.9 At distances over approximately 40 km, the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would only be visible in the most favourable conditions (i.e. excellent visibility >40 km approx. 28% of the year). The wind turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.
- 8.8.3.10 The representative viewpoints relevant to this receptor type are listed below together with distances to the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project:

#### North coast of Anglesey

- Representative viewpoint 2 – Llanlleiana Head, Isle of Anglesey National Landscape (33.8 km) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations - offshore development of the Environmental Statement, Figures 2.1 and 2.2).
- Representative viewpoint 25 – Moelfre Headland, Isle of Anglesey National Landscape (33.2 km) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations of the Environmental Statement, Figures 21.1 and 21.2).

- Representative viewpoint 28 – Penmon Point, Isle of Anglesey National Landscape (35.2 km) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations of the Environmental Statement, Figures 24.1 and 24.2).

### North Wales coast

- Representative viewpoint 9 – Rhyl (38.1 km) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations of the Environmental Statement, Figures 9.1, 9.2, 9.3 and 9.4).
- Representative viewpoint 40 - Point of Ayr (42.9 km) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations of the Environmental Statement, Figures 36.1 and 36.2).
- Representative viewpoint 34 – Little Orme’s Head, Llandudno (31.8 km) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations of the Environmental Statement, Figures 30.1 and 30.2).

## Construction and decommissioning phases

### Magnitude of impact

8.8.3.11 An impact will potentially arise on the views/visual amenity of people using the sections of the Wales Coast Path referred to above. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~) within the Mona Array Area situated offshore over 30 km away.

8.8.3.12 The impact will be of short-term duration (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning), intermittent and of high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is **negligible to small** at most during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified and the extent of the coast path affected, namely the sections along the north coastline.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.3.13 People using the Wales Coast Path are deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

### Significance of the effect

8.8.3.14 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact on people using the Wales Coast Path during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible to small and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

## Operations and maintenance

### Magnitude of impact

8.8.3.15 A visual impact will potentially arise on people using the Wales Coast Path due to the operations and maintenance phase of the offshore components of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (as described in [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~, namely: some or all the turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary

OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape and landscape.

8.8.3.16 The impact will be of long-term duration, intermittent and of high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is **small** at most during the operations and maintenance phase, occurring along the closest sections of long-distance path to the Mona Array Area. This reflects the scale and extent of the change experienced by viewers at an approximate distance range of 31 to 42 km along with the length or extent of the coast path that would be affected. The magnitude of impact would diminish east of Great Orme's Head due to the increasing influence of the existing Gwynt y Môr, Rhyl Flats, North Hoyle and Burbo Bank offshore wind farms located approximately halfway between the North Wales coast and the Mona Array Area.

#### **Sensitivity of the receptor**

8.8.3.17 The sensitivity of the people using the Wales Coast Path is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

#### **Significance of the effect**

8.8.3.18 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact in relation to people using the identified sections of the Wales Coast Path during the operations and maintenance phase is deemed to be small at most and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The visual effects will be **minor to moderate adverse**, which are not significant.

#### **Assessment of effects experienced by people using national trails/long distance paths – Offa's Dyke Path National Trail**

8.8.3.19 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the views from and visual amenity of individuals on the Offa's Dyke Path National Trail in the 50 km SLVIA Study Area. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSFs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.3.20 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people using certain sections of the National Trail falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project within an approximate distance of 42 km from the coast to the offshore components of the Mona Offshore Wind Project.

#### **Baseline conditions**

8.8.3.21 A National Trail representative of a historic border between Wales and England, aligned north-south, crossing the spine of the Clwydian Range of hills within the SLVIA study area. At its north end approaching Prestatyn it affords elevated, wide-ranging views across North Wales, its coast and inshore waters, and the wider Irish Sea. The elevation of this north section of the route varies from between close to 300 m AOD around Mynydd y Cwm dropping to less than 250 m and falling to 5 m AOD or less at

Prestatyn on the coast. The sections of the path with theoretical visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project are those falling within the ZTV between Bodafon and Prestatyn. The views from Prestatyn Hill (representative viewpoint 39) is representative of those from the closest and most exposed section.

### Impact considerations

8.8.3.22 Fieldwork and analysis of the ZTV and the representative viewpoint visualisations indicate unrestricted visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project from the Offa's Dyke Path at National Trail at Prestatyn Hill (representative viewpoint 39). From Prestatyn Hill the wind turbines would be seen on the horizon as part of the wide coastal panorama characterised by existing offshore wind farms (Gwynt y Môr, Rhyl Flats, North Hoyle and Burbo Bank), offshore oil and gas infrastructure, and commercial shipping/ferries en route to/from Merseyside ports (a constant feature of the 50 km SLVIA Study Area seascape). The MDS visual impact would be that experienced at Prestatyn Hillside, the closest section of Offa's Dyke Path to the offshore components of the Mona Offshore Wind Project, approximately 42 km distant. Other sections of the route (both to the north at Prestatyn and further south towards Bodafon) would be subject to lower, negligible magnitudes of visual change. As the Offa's Dyke path extends south, away from the coast and the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project, visibility will be limited, or none, due to distance and screening by intervening wooded vegetation and built structures.

8.8.3.23 At an approximate distance of 35-40 km the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would be visible, near the coast, in favourable conditions (i.e. very good visibility 20 to 40 km approx. ~~70~~40% of the year). At distances over approximately 40 km, it would only be visible in the most favourable conditions (i.e. excellent visibility >40 km approximately 28% of the year). The wind turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year. One representative viewpoint is relevant to this receptor and is listed below together with distance to the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project:

- Representative viewpoint 39 - Prestatyn Hillside, Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape (42.1 km), (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 35.1 and 35.2 of the Environmental Statement). It is representative of views from the closest section of the path to the proposed development.

### Construction and decommissioning phases

#### Magnitude of impact

8.8.3.24 An impact will potentially arise on the views/visual amenity of people using the certain parts of Offa's Dyke Path National Trail, in particular from the coastal section of the path at, for example, Prestatyn Hill, an elevated location approximately 42 km from the Mona Array Area. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~) within the Mona Array Area situated offshore to the Northwest.

8.8.3.25 The impact will be of short-term duration (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning), intermittent and of high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is **negligible** at most during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale of the construction activities visible at the distance specified.



### Sensitivity of the receptor

- 8.8.3.26 People using the Offa's Dyke Path National Trail are deemed to be of very high susceptibility to the proposed changes in the high value views as the National Trail passes through the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **very high**.

### Significance of the effect

- 8.8.3.27 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact on people using the Offa's Dyke Path National Trail, as it crosses the National Landscape, during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is very high. The effect will be **minor adverse**, which is not significant.

### Operations and maintenance phase

#### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.3.28 A visual impact will potentially arise on people using Offa's Dyke Path National Trail due to the operations and maintenance phase of the offshore components of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (as described in [Table 8.17](#) [Table 8.17](#), namely: some or all the rotating wind turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape. The magnitude of visual change would be tempered by the influence of the existing Gwynt y Môr, Rhyl Flats, North Hoyle and Burbo Bank offshore wind farms located approximately halfway between the North Wales coast and the Mona Array Area.
- 8.8.3.29 The impact will be of long-term duration, intermittent and of high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is **negligible** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale and extent of the change visible at the distances specified and the extent of the path affected being largely confined to the coast.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

- 8.8.3.30 The sensitivity of the people using Offa's Dyke Path National Trail within the National Landscape is as set out for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **very high**.

### Significance of the effect

- 8.8.3.31 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact in relation to people using the identified sections of Offa's Dyke Path National Trail during the operations and maintenance phase is deemed to be negligible at most and the sensitivity of the receptor is very high, where the National Trail crosses the National Landscape. The visual effect will be **minor adverse**, which is not significant in EIA terms.
- 8.8.3.32 There is no potential for significant visual effects to arise on sections of the remaining National Trails, long distance paths or other similar linear receptors in the 50 km SLVIA Study Area.

**Assessment of effects experienced by people using Countryside Rights of Way Act 2000 Access Land, or equivalent land with public access – Anglesey and Eryri**

8.8.3.33 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the views from and visual amenity of individuals within Access Land in the 50 km SLVIA Study Area. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.3.34 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will potentially affect the views/visual amenity of people using Access Land within:

- North Coast of Anglesey
- Eryri.

**North Coast of Anglesey**

**Baseline conditions**

8.8.3.35 There are a number of areas of Access Land situated in the 50 km SLVIA Study Area in north Anglesey, parts of which afford views across the adjacent coastal landscape and seascape towards the Mona Array Area. The principal areas falling within the ZTV with potential unrestricted visibility of the proposed development include elevated locations such as mountain tops and areas close to the coast. Representative viewpoints from these publicly accessible areas of land, both coastal and inland (including intermediate areas in between) situated approximately 33-42 km from the Mona Array Area are summarised in the following sections. Descriptions of the landscape context for each representative viewpoint are provided in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

**Impact considerations**

8.8.3.36 Analysis of the ZTV and the viewpoint visualisations, supported by fieldwork, indicates visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project from the open high points, and north and east facing slopes of the aforementioned areas of Access Land. The wind turbines would be seen on the horizon as part of the wide coastal panorama set within a distant seascape animated and characterised to varying extents by commercial shipping/ferries en route to/from Merseyside ports (a constant feature of the 50 km SLVIA Study Area seascape).

8.8.3.37 The MDS visual impact would be that experienced at the closest areas to Mona Array Area, at representative viewpoints 2, 26 and 4. Llanlleiana Head (representative viewpoint 2) is an area of rugged coast with varied topography (roughly between 20-70 m AOD), comprising rough grassland, moor and scrub. Yr Arwydd (Mynydd Bodafon) (representative viewpoint 26) is an inland area of rugged topography



(between around 50-100 m AOD), comprising rough grassland, moor and scrub. Bwrdd Arthur (representative viewpoint 4) is a coastal area of Access Land rising to approximately 160 m AOD forming a relative high point locally, comprising elevated moor with rough grassland, scrub and low bushy trees.

8.8.3.38 Lower magnitudes of visual change would occur at areas further inland, such as at Mynydd y Garn (representative viewpoint 1).

8.8.3.39 At an approximate distance of 30-35 km the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would be visible in favourable conditions (i.e. very good visibility 20 km to 40 km approximately ~~70~~40% of the year). The turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

8.8.3.40 The representative viewpoints relevant to this receptor type are listed below together with distances to the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project:

- Representative viewpoint 1 - Mynydd y Garn trig point, Isle of Anglesey National Landscape (42.4 km) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 1.1 and 1.2 of the Environmental Statement).
- Representative viewpoint 2 – Llanlleiana Head, Isle of Anglesey National Landscape (33.8 km), (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 2.1 and 2.2 of the Environmental Statement)
- Representative viewpoint 4 – Bwrdd Arthur trig point, Isle of Anglesey National Landscape (36.6 km), (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 4.1 and 4.2 of the Environmental Statement)
- Representative viewpoint 26 - Yr Arwydd trig point near Mynydd Bodafon, Isle of Anglesey National Landscape (36.4 km) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 22.1 and 22.2 of the Environmental Statement)
- Representative viewpoint 55 - Trwyn Eilian (Point Lynas), Isle of Anglesey National Landscape (29.1 km) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 44.1 and 44.2 of the Environmental Statement)

## Eryri

### Baseline conditions

8.8.3.41 Regarding Eryri and its environs, within the 50 km SLVIA Study Area, the closest areas of Access Land (and most exposed visually) to the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project are situated in north part of the National Park. As indicated on the ZTV plans (Figure A.3), these are primarily the north facing slopes and summits of the massif. Representative viewpoints from these publicly accessible areas of land, both coastal and inland (including intermediate areas in between) situated approximately 36-42 km from the Mona Array Area are summarised below. Descriptions of the landscape context for each representative viewpoint are provided in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

8.8.3.42 Garreg Fawr (representative viewpoint 30,) rises to approximately 430 m AOD forming a high point within the inland area of Access Land overlooking the coast. Tal y Fan trigpoint (representative viewpoint 31) is a mountain top rising to approximately 610 m AOD). Foel Lus summit (representative viewpoint 32) is an elevated location near the coast rising to approximately 362m AOD. Conwy Mountain summit (representative

viewpoint 33) is a mountain summit overlooking the coast rising to approximately 160 m AOD.

8.8.3.43 All these viewpoints typify views towards the Mona Array Area from the extensive areas of publicly accessible land, both relatively near the coast and inland (including intermediate areas in between). The landscape character and special qualities of the open, rugged moor and mountain, often steeply sloping, are readily apparent in these representative viewpoints. Descriptions of the landscape context for each representative viewpoint are provided in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

### Impact considerations

8.8.3.44 Fieldwork and analysis of the ZTV and the viewpoint visualisations, indicates visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project from the open summits and north facing slopes of the aforementioned areas of Access Land. The turbines would be seen on the horizon as part of the wide coastal panorama set within a distant seascape animated and characterised to varying extents by commercial shipping/ferries en route to/from Merseyside ports (a constant feature of the 50 km SLVIA Study Area seascape). Existing offshore wind farms (in particular Gwynt y Môr, Rhyl Flats and North Hoyle) and offshore oil and gas infrastructure are characteristics of the seascape towards the east. The MDS visual impact would be that experienced at the closest and most exposed areas to Mona Array Area, at representative viewpoints 30 Garreg Fawr, 32 Foel Lus and 33 Conwy Mountain listed below. Lower magnitudes of visual change would occur across more distant areas further inland, such as at representative viewpoint 31 Tal y Fan.

8.8.3.45 At an approximate distance of 35-50 km the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would be visible in favourable conditions (i.e. very good visibility 20 to 40 km approx. ~~70~~40% of the year). At distances over approximately 40 km, it would only be visible in the most favourable conditions (i.e. excellent visibility >40 km approximately 28% of the year). The turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year. The representative viewpoints relevant to this receptor type are listed below together with distances to the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project:

- Representative viewpoint 30 – Garreg Fawr, Eryri National Park (42.1 km) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 26.1 and 26.2 of the Environmental Statement).
- Representative viewpoint 31 – Tal y Fan summit, Eryri National Park (42 km), (m Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 27.1 and 27.2 of the Environmental Statement)
- Representative viewpoint 32 – Foel Lus summit, Eryri National Park (38.5 km), (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 28.1 and 28.2 of the Environmental Statement)
- Representative viewpoint 33 – Conwy Mountain summit, Eryri National Park (36.7 km) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 29.1 and 29.2 of the Environmental Statement)
- Representative viewpoint 6 - Carnedd Llewellyn, Eryri National Park (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 6.1 and 6.2 of the Environmental Statement)

## Construction and decommissioning phases

### Magnitude of impact

8.8.3.46 An impact will potentially arise on the views/visual amenity of people using Access Land for informal recreation on the north coast of Anglesey and within Eryri at elevated, exposed locations from where the Mona Array Area can be seen (the representative viewpoints listed are representative). This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~) within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at distances of approximately 35 to 45 km.

8.8.3.47 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is **negligible** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale of the change that would be visible at the distances specified along with the limited extent of open access land where viewers would experience construction effects.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.3.48 The visual amenity of people using Access Land for informal recreation is deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

### Significance of the effect

8.8.3.49 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact on people using Access Land for informal recreation during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse** at most, which are not significant.

## Operations and maintenance phase

### Magnitude of impact

8.8.3.50 A visual impact will potentially arise on people using Access Land on the north coast of Anglesey and within Eryri for informal recreation due to the operations and maintenance phase of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. The visual change would potentially occur at elevated, exposed locations from where the wind turbines and OSPs would be seen (the representative viewpoints listed above illustrate this impact). The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (as described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~, namely: some or all the turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.

8.8.3.51 The impact will be of, long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is **negligible to small** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale and extent of the change visible at the distances specified together with the extent of the open access land where viewers would attain views of the Mona Array Area, these being confined largely to the north coasts and north facing slopes of mountains and hills.

**Sensitivity of the receptor**

8.8.3.52 The sensitivity of the people using Access Land is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

**Significance of the effect**

8.8.3.53 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact during the operations and maintenance phase caused by the Mona Array Area, situated offshore at the distances specified, in relation to people using Access Land for informal recreation in north Anglesey and within Eryri is deemed to be negligible to small at most. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effect will be **minor adverse** at most, which is not significant.

**Assessment of effects experienced by people using Countryside Rights of Way Act 2000 Access Land, or equivalent land with public access – Great Orme’s Head and Little Orme’s Head (Conwy)**

8.8.3.54 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the views from and visual amenity of individuals within Access Land in the 50 km SLVIA Study Area. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.3.55 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will potentially affect the views/visual amenity of people using Access Land, close to coast within Conwy, Denbighshire and Flintshire, in particular at:

- Great Orme’s Head (Y Gogarth/Great Orme Country Park)
- Little Orme’s Head.

**Baseline conditions**

8.8.3.56 Regarding the North Wales coast adjacent to Eryri, the closest areas of Access Land to Mona Array Area (and the most exposed visually) are at Great Orme’s Head and Little Orme’s Head (representative viewpoints 7 and 34). Great Orme’s Head also has local authority country park status and there is of importance locally for outdoor recreation and tourism. The summits and north facing slopes/parts of both Great Orme’s Head and Little Orme’s Head fall within the ZTV and viewers at these locations will potentially have unrestricted visibility of the proposed development at approximately 31 km distance (Figure A.3).

8.8.3.57 Great Orme’s Head (representative viewpoint 7) is the most prominent headland on the coast of North Wales outside of Anglesey. Together with Little Orme’s Head (representative viewpoint 34) it marks the divide between Conwy Bay/Menai Strait and Anglesey in the west and Colwyn Bay to the east. The bulky, rounded promontory of Great Orme’s Head rises to around 200 m AOD at its highest point, standing out in many views up and down the coast. Little Orme’s Head is a similar landform to Great Orme’s Head, but smaller in scale. Together they frame Llandudno Bay and give Llandudno town and seafront its dramatic setting and strong sense of enclosure. Both

headlands are open and rugged with rocky outcrops, steep sides and cliffs. Landcover consists of mainly of rough grassland and scrub. Parts of Great Orme's Head are developed/settled. In particular, the visitor centre complex and car park at the summit (and its associated tram route/cable car) and the settlement at its base and on the slopes to the south.

### Impact considerations

- 8.8.3.58 Analysis of the ZTV and the viewpoint visualisations, supported by fieldwork, indicates visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project from the open high points, and north facing slopes of Access Land at Great Orme's Head and Little Orme's Head. The wind turbines would be seen on the horizon as part of the wide coastal panorama set within a distant seascape animated and characterised to varying extents by commercial shipping/ferries en route to/from Merseyside ports (a constant feature of the 50 km SLVIA Study Area seascape). Existing offshore wind farms (in particular, Gwynt y Môr, Rhyl Flats and North Hoyle) and offshore oil and gas infrastructure are also characteristics of the seascape towards the east. The MDS visual impact would be that experienced at areas/locations with the maximum exposure to visibility of the Mona Array Area, at approximately 31 km distant, such as representative viewpoint 7 Great Orme's Head and representative viewpoint 34 Little Orme's Head.
- 8.8.3.59 At an approximate distance of 30 km the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would be visible in favourable conditions (i.e. very good visibility 20 km to 40 km approximately ~~70~~<sup>40</sup>% of the year). The turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.
- 8.8.3.60 The representative viewpoints relevant to this receptor type are listed below together with distances to the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project:
- Representative viewpoint 7 – Great Orme's Head, Llandudno (31.2 km), (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 7.1, 7.2, 7.3 and 7.4 of the Environmental Statement)
  - Representative viewpoint 34 – Little Orme's Head, Llandudno (31.8 km) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 30.1 and 30.2 of the Environmental Statement).

## Construction and decommissioning phases

### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.3.61 An impact will potentially arise on the views/visual amenity of people using Access Land at Great Orme's Head and Little Orme's Head for informal recreation/leisure activities, in particular the elevated, exposed locations from where the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project can be seen (the viewpoints listed are representative). This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8-17~~) within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at distances of approximately 31 km.
- 8.8.3.62 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is **negligible to small** during the



construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale of the construction activities visible from these locations.

**Sensitivity of the receptor**

8.8.3.63 The views/visual amenity enjoyed by people using Access Land for informal recreation/leisure activities at this location is deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. This assessment takes account of the prominent nature of Great Orme’s Head and Little Orme’s Head and the Great Orme/Y Gogarth Country Park designation. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

**Significance of the effect**

8.8.3.64 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact on people using Access Land at Great Orme’s Head and Little Orme’s Head for informal recreation during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible to small and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **minor to moderate adverse** at most, which are not significant.

**Operations and maintenance phase**

**Magnitude of impact**

8.8.3.65 A visual impact will potentially arise on people using Access Land for informal recreation/leisure activities at Great Orme’s Head and Little Orme’s Head due to the operations and maintenance phase of the offshore components of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. The predicted visual change would occur at elevated, exposed locations overlooking the sea from where the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project can be seen (the representative viewpoints listed are representative). The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (as described in [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~, namely some or all the rotating turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which have the potential to affect peoples’ appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.

8.8.3.66 The impact will be of, long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is **small** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale and extent of the change experienced in views at the distances specified. It also reflects the extent of the effects, being confined mostly to the coastal areas of each of the headlands.

**Sensitivity of the receptor**

8.8.3.67 The sensitivity of the people using Access Land at Great Orme’s Head and Little Orme’s Head is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

**Significance of the effect**

8.8.3.68 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact during the operations and maintenance phase in relation to people using Access Land at Great Orme’s Head and Little Orme’s Head, caused by the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project situated offshore at approximately 31 km, is deemed to be small at most. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effect will be **minor to moderate adverse** at most, which is not significant.



**Assessment of effects experienced by people using Countryside Rights of Way Act 2000 Access Land, or equivalent land with public access – Clwydian Range and adjacent coastal areas (Denbighshire and Flintshire)**

8.8.3.69 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on individuals within Access Land in the 50 km SLVIA Study Area. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.3.70 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the above components which will potentially affect the views/visual amenity of people using Access Land in the Clwydian Range and adjacent coastal areas.

**Baseline conditions**

8.8.3.71 The closest areas of Access Land (and most exposed visually) to the Mona Array Area are those situated within the north section of the Clwydian Range hills within the National Landscape. This upland comprises an open area of undulating moor and rough grassland.

8.8.3.72 Representative viewpoints 39 Prestatyn Hillside is representative of that from the north part of the range of hills within the National Landscape. Representative viewpoint 10 Graig Fawr is representative of views from a hilltop located further south. Representative viewpoint 54 Bridleway north of Golden Grove, Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape and representative viewpoint 8 Mynydd y Gaer is representative of views from a hilltop inland (outside the National Landscape).

**Impact considerations**

8.8.3.73 The ZTV (Figure A.3) shows that visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would theoretically arise across most of the Access Land within the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape within the 50 km SLVIA Study Area. In reality, the effects will be more limited due to screening afforded by existing wooded vegetation.

8.8.3.74 The offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would be visible from open, elevated parts of Access Land within the north section of the Clwydian hills, with unrestricted views afforded from the high ground Prestatyn. The wind turbines would be seen on the horizon as part of the wide coastal panorama set within a distant seascape animated by existing offshore wind farms (in particular Gwynt y Môr, Rhyl Flats and North Hoyle), and characterised to varying extents by offshore oil and gas infrastructure and commercial shipping/ferries en route to/from Merseyside ports (a constant feature of the 50 km SLVIA Study Area seascape). The MDS visual impact would be that experienced at the closest and most exposed areas to Mona Array Area, approximately 42 km distant, namely at Prestatyn Hillside (representative viewpoint 39).

## MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

8.8.3.75 At approximate distances of 35-40 km the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would be visible in favourable conditions (i.e. very good visibility 20 to 40 ~~76 pprox. prox. 70~~, approximately 40% of the year). Over approximately 40 km it would only be visible in the most favourable conditions (i.e. excellent visibility >40 km approximately 28% of the year). The turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

8.8.3.76 The representative viewpoints relevant to this receptor type are listed below together with distances to the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project:

- Representative viewpoint 39 – Prestatyn Hillside, Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape (42.1 km) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 35.1 and 35.2 of the Environmental Statement)
- Representative viewpoint 10 - Graig Fawr, Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape (42.3 km) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 10.1 and 10.2 of the Environmental Statement)
- Representative viewpoint 54 – Bridleway north of Golden Grove, Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 43.1 and 43.2 of the Environmental Statement)
- Representative viewpoint 8 – Mynydd y Gaer (45.7 km) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 8.1 and 8.2 of the Environmental Statement).

### Construction and decommissioning phases

#### Magnitude of impact

8.8.3.77 An impact will potentially arise on the views/visual amenity of people using Access Land for informal recreation in the Clwydian Range and adjacent coastal areas, occurring at exposed locations from where the construction activities of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would be seen (the representative viewpoints listed above are representative). The impact will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~) within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at approximate distances of 42 to 45 km.

8.8.3.78 The impact will be of, short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is **negligible** during the construction and decommissioning phases. The magnitude of impact reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction activities visible.

#### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.3.79 The visual amenity of people using Access Land for informal recreation is deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

#### Significance of the effect

8.8.3.80 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact on people using Access Land in the Clwydian Range and adjacent coastal areas for informal recreation during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is

high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse** at most, which are not significant.

## Operations and maintenance phase

### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.3.81 A visual impact will potentially arise on people using Access Land in the Clwydian Range and adjacent coastal areas for informal recreation due to the operations and maintenance phase of the offshore components of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. The visual change would potentially occur at exposed locations from where the wind turbines and OSPs would be seen (the representative viewpoints listed are representative). The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (as described in [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~, namely: some or all the rotating turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape. The magnitude of visual change would be tempered by the influence of the existing Gwynt y Môr, Rhyl Flats, North Hoyle and Burbo Bank offshore wind farms located approximately halfway between the North Wales coast and the Mona Array Area.
- 8.8.3.82 The impact will be of, long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is **negligible** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale and extent of the change visible at the distances specified, also the extent of open access land where viewers would attain views of the proposed development.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

- 8.8.3.83 The sensitivity of the people using Access Land is as set out for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

### Significance of the effect

- 8.8.3.84 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact during the operations and maintenance phase caused by the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project situated offshore at approximate distances of 42 to 45 km in relation to people using Access Land for informal recreation in the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape and adjacent coastal areas is deemed to be negligible to small at most. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effect will be **minor adverse**, which is not significant.

## Assessment of effects experienced by people using Countryside Rights of Way Act 2000 Access Land, or equivalent land with public access – England

- 8.8.3.85 There is no potential for significant visual effects to arise on users of publicly accessible land in the 50 km SLVIA Study Area in England. Small areas of Access Land/common land located in Northwest England falling within the 50 km SLVIA Study Area are located near Formby and on the Wirral peninsula near Hoylake.
- 8.8.3.86 One representative viewpoint relevant to this receptor type is listed below together with distances to the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project:

- Representative viewpoint 12 – Wallasey embankment, Leasowe Common (50.4 km) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 12.1, 12.2 and 12.3 of the Environmental Statement).

### **Assessment of effects experienced by people using Countryside Rights of Way Act 2000 Access Land, or equivalent land with public access – Isle of Man**

8.8.3.87 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the views from and visual amenity of individuals on land with public access (permissive or otherwise – there is no formal Access Land designation on the Isle of Man) in the 50 km SLVIA Study Area. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.3.88 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people. There is no Access Land on the Isle of Man. There is no ‘right to roam’ as in Scotland. However, main areas with representative viewpoints where there is permissive access are considered, including coastal locations. These include the following together with distances to the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project:

- Representative viewpoint 18 – Herring Tower Trig Point, Langness Peninsula, Isle of Man (47.5 km) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 15.1 and 15.2 of the Environmental Statement)
- Representative viewpoint 19 – Panoramic Viewpoint at Arch Southwest of Douglas Head, Isle of Man (46.8 km) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 16.1 and 16.2 of the Environmental Statement).

8.8.3.89 There is no potential for significant visual effects to arise on areas/locations of land with public access at lower elevations situated on the coast at approximate distances exceeding 47 km such as Langness Peninsula (representative viewpoint 18) and Douglas Head (representative viewpoint 19).

### **Construction and decommissioning phases**

#### **Magnitude of impact**

8.8.3.90 An impact will potentially arise on the views/visual amenity of people visiting publicly accessible locations along the east coast of the Isle of Man. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~) within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at approximate distances exceeding 47 km.

8.8.3.91 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is **negligible** during the construction

and decommissioning phases. This reflects the scale of the construction activities visible at the distances specified.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.3.92 The views/visual amenity of people visiting coastal locations are deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

### Significance of the effect

8.8.3.93 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact on people during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse** at most, which are not significant.

## Operations and maintenance phase

### Magnitude of impact

8.8.3.94 A visual impact will potentially arise on people visiting publicly accessible coastal locations due to the operations and maintenance phase of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (as described in [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~, namely: some or all the rotating turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.

8.8.3.95 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is **negligible** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale and extent of the change visible at the distances specified.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.3.96 The sensitivity for people using land with public access is as set out for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

### Significance of the effect

8.8.3.97 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact during the operations and maintenance phase caused by the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project situated offshore at approximate distances exceeding 47 km in relation to people visiting the coastal locations is deemed to be negligible. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effect will be **minor adverse** at most, which is not significant.

## Assessment of effects experienced by people using National Cycle Routes (Wales and England)

8.8.3.98 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the views from and visual amenity of cyclists on coastal NCRs in North Wales in the 50 km SLVIA Study Area. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)



- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.3.99 The potential impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of cyclists using certain stretches of the following sections of NCR at an approximate distance of 32 km at the closest point of NCR 5 to the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project :

- NCR 566 – Northwest Anglesey from Llanryddlad to Llaneilian/Point Lynas via Llanfechell and Amlwch
- NCR 5 – North Wales coast from Bangor to the Prestatyn via the north edge of Eryri National Park.

### **Baseline conditions**

8.8.3.100 NCR 566 Northwest Anglesey extends south from Llanerchymedd following a mainly inland road route through the characteristic undulating, plateau landscape of north Anglesey towards Newborough. There is very limited visibility towards the Mona Array Area over most of this route due to screening effect of landform, vegetation and built form. Due to the lack of views, there are no representative viewpoints associated with the route. There is no potential for significant visual effects to arise on users of NCR 566. Therefore, no further assessment is provided of NCR 566.

8.8.3.101 NCR 5 North Wales extends along the coast between Bangor and Prestatyn within the study area. A further section of this route extends inland through the Isle of Anglesey. The ZTV (Figure A.3) shows potentially unrestricted visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project from most of the coastal part of this route within study area. In practice, open views across the adjacent seascape are interrupted to varying degrees/frequency by intervening roadside/seafront structures, vegetation and (within settlements) built form. The following viewpoints represent views from the closest (and most exposed) sections of route to the Mona Array Area (from west to east): representative viewpoint 47 Llanfairfechan Seafront representative of the Conwy Bay area, and representative viewpoint 9 Rhyl, representative of the North Wales coast section from Colwyn Bay to Prestatyn.

### **Impact considerations**

8.8.3.102 Analysis of the ZTV and the representative viewpoint visualisations, supported by fieldwork, indicates frequent visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project from open sections of NCR 5 within the 50 km SLVIA Study Area.

8.8.3.103 Representative viewpoint 47 Llanfairfechan Seafront is representative of views across Conwy Bay from the west part of the route travelling northeast wards from Bangor. Representative viewpoint 9 Rhyl is also representative of views across the inshore waters from the North Wales coast section of NCR 5 Colwyn Bay and Prestatyn travelling in either direction.

8.8.3.104 The turbines would be seen on the horizon as part of the wide coastal panorama set within a distant seascape animated and characterised to varying extents by commercial shipping/ferries en route to/from Merseyside ports (a constant feature of the 50 km SLVIA Study Area seascape). Existing offshore wind farms (Gwynt y Môr, Rhyl Flats, North Hoyle and Burbo Bank) and offshore oil and gas infrastructure become an increasingly strong feature in views travelling east from Colwyn Bay



onwards. The MDS visual impact would be that experienced at the most exposed sections of the route between Colwyn Bay and Prestatyn (approximately 38 km distant), for example in the vicinity of Rhyl (representative viewpoint 9).

8.8.3.105 At an approximate distance of 35 km (and up to 40 km) the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would be visible in favourable conditions (i.e. very good visibility 20 km to 40 km approximately ~~70~~<sup>40</sup>% of the year). The wind turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

8.8.3.106 There is no potential for significant visual effects to arise on users of other NCRs or similar linear receptors in the 50 km SLVIA Study Area including NCR 566 on Anglesey and those in Northwest England (NCRs 89, 810 and 62). NCRs are assessed in more detail in table 25.30: Visual effects – Potential effect of the Mona Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets on people at or travelling along main visual receptors, together with the

8.8.3.107 The representative viewpoints relevant to this receptor type are listed below:

- Representative viewpoint 47 Llanfairfechan Seafront (39.9 km) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 37.1, 37.2 and 37.3 of the Environmental Statement)
- Representative viewpoint 9 Rhyl (38.1 km) (representative of the North Wales coast section from Colwyn Bay to Prestatyn (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 9.1 and 9.2 of the Environmental Statement).

## Construction and decommissioning phases

### Magnitude of impact

8.8.3.108 An impact will potentially arise on the views/visual amenity of people using the sections of NCR 5 between Bangor and Prestatyn during construction and decommissioning. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~) within the Mona Array Area situated offshore over 32 km away.

8.8.3.109 The impact will be of short-term duration (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning), intermittent and of high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is **negligible to small** at most during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale of the construction activities visible to viewers at the distances specified.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.3.110 Views obtained by cyclists using NCRs are deemed to be of medium value and medium susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **medium**.

### Significance of the effect

8.8.3.111 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact on people using NCR 5 between Bangor and Prestatyn during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible to small and the sensitivity of the receptor is medium. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

## Operations and maintenance phase

### Magnitude of impact

8.8.3.112 A visual impact will potentially arise on people using NCR 5 between Bangor and Prestatyn due to the operations and maintenance phase of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as described in [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~, namely: some or all the rotating wind turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.

8.8.3.113 The impact will be of long-term duration, intermittent and of high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is **small** at most during the operations and maintenance phase, occurring along the most exposed sections of NCR 5 between Bangor and Conwy. This reflects the scale of the change visible at the distances specified which will diminish with increasing distance from the development along the extent of the cycle route that would be affected. The magnitude of impact would diminish east of Colwyn Bay due to the increasing influence of the existing Gwynt y Môr, Rhyl Flats, North Hoyle and Burbo Bank offshore windfarms located approximately halfway between the North Wales coast and the Mona Array Area.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.3.114 The sensitivity of NCR users is as set out for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **medium**.

### Significance of the effect

8.8.3.115 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact in relation to people using the identified sections of NCR 5 on the North Wales coast during the operations and maintenance phase is deemed to be small at most and the sensitivity of the receptor is medium. The visual effect will be **minor adverse**, which is not significant.

### Assessment of effects experienced by people using the National Cycleway Network (Isle of Man)

8.8.3.116 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the views and visual amenity of cyclists on sections of the National Cycleway Network on the Isle of Man, that fall within the 50 km SLVIA Study Area. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.3.117 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the above components which will intermittently affect the views/visual amenity of cyclists using the following key routes on/near the coast of the Isle of Man, or on high land, with views towards the Mona Array Area:

- Isle of Man National Cycleway Network No. 1 – Douglas; and

- Isle of Man National Cycleway Network No. 2 – Castletown including detour to Dreswick Point.

### Impact considerations

- 8.8.3.118 Analysis of the ZTV and the representative viewpoint visualisations, supported by fieldwork, indicates intermittent visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project from open sections of the cycle routes and especially at the coast within the 50 km SLVIA Study Area.
- 8.8.3.119 At each of the representative viewpoints, the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would be barely visible on the horizon at distances exceeding 45 km.
- 8.8.3.120 At an approximate distance of 35 km (and up to 40 km) the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would be visible in favourable conditions (i.e. very good visibility 20 km to 40 km approximately ~~70~~40% of the year). The wind turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.
- 8.8.3.121 The representative viewpoints relevant to this receptor type are listed below together with distances to the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project:
- Representative viewpoint 18 – Herring Tower Trig Point, Langness Peninsula, Isle of Man (47.5 km) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: –Seascape visualisations, Figures 15.1 and 15.2 of the Environmental Statement), located on the cycleway network 2 detour to Dreswick Point.
  - Representative viewpoint 19 – Panoramic Viewpoint at Arch Southwest of Douglas Head, Isle of Man (46.8 km) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: –Seascape visualisations, Figures 16.1 and 16.2 of the Environmental Statement), located on the cycleway network no 1.

## Construction and decommissioning phases

### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.3.122 An impact will potentially arise on the views/visual amenity of people using the sections of the Isle of Man National Cycleway Network route nos. 1 and 2 identified above. This will be caused by intermittent and fleeting visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements within the Mona Array Area situated offshore more than 45 km away.
- 8.8.3.123 The impact will be of short-term duration (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning), intermittent and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is **negligible** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale of the construction activities visible at the distances specified.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

- 8.8.3.124 Views obtained by people using the cycleway routes on the Isle of Man are deemed to be of medium value and medium susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered on balance to be **medium**.

### Significance of the effect

- 8.8.3.125 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact on people using the Isle of Man National Cycleway Network during construction and decommissioning of the Mona Offshore Wind Project is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is medium. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

### Operations and maintenance phase

#### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.3.126 A visual impact will potentially arise on people using cycle routes 1 and 2 of the Isle of Man National Cycleway Network during the operations and maintenance phase of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area namely: some or all the rotating wind turbines and service vessels/helicopters, which have the potential to affect people's appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.
- 8.8.3.127 The impact will be of long-term duration, intermittent and of high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is **negligible** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change visible at the distances specified and the fact that only parts of cycle routes 1 and 2 will be affected.

#### Sensitivity of the receptor

- 8.8.3.128 The sensitivity of the people using the Isle of Man National Cycleway Network is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **medium**.

### Significance of the effect

- 8.8.3.129 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact in relation to people using sections of the Isle of Man National Cycleway Network during the operations and maintenance phase the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets is deemed to be negligible at most and the sensitivity of the receptor is medium. The effect will be **negligible to minor adverse** at most, which is not significant.

### Assessment of effects experienced by people at main coastal settlement seafronts/shorelines – Anglesey and Conwy Bay, Wales

- 8.8.3.130 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the views from and visual amenity of individuals at settlement seafronts/shorelines in the 50 km SLVIA Study Area. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project:
- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
  - Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
  - Construction and service vessels/helicopters.
- 8.8.3.131 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the above components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people using the following seafronts/shorelines and beaches on Anglesey and the Conwy Bay area:

- Moelfre
- Benllech
- Llanfairfechan
- Penmaenmawr.

### **Baseline conditions**

8.8.3.132 There are a number of coastal settlements in the 50 km SLVIA Study Area with popular, publicly accessible seafronts/shorelines situated on the north coast of Wales (including Anglesey) (Figure A.3). Several of these afford views across the adjacent seascape towards the Mona Array Area. The principal seaside settlements falling within the ZTV (Figure A.4) with potential visibility (unrestricted or partial) of the proposed development are (from west to east): Moelfre, Benllech, Llanfairfechan, Penmaenmawr, Llandudno, Penrhyn Bay, Rhos-on-Sea, Colwyn Bay, Llandulas, Abergele, Towyn/Kinmel Bay, Rhyl, Prestatyn and Talacre (Point of Ayr). Views/visibility towards the Mona Array Area from Beaumaris and Bangor settlement edges and seafronts are limited due to their location within the Menai Strait and the visual screening afforded by intervening topography, vegetation and structures.

### **Impact considerations**

8.8.3.133 Fieldwork and analysis of the ZTV and visualisations in relation to the representative viewpoints, indicates unrestricted visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project from the open seafronts at Moelfre, Benllech, Llanfairfechan and Penmaenmawr. With respect to Anglesey and the Conwy coast framing Conwy Bay, the wind turbines would be seen on the horizon as part of the wide coastal panorama, set within a distant seascape animated and characterised to varying extents by commercial shipping/ferries en route to/from Merseyside ports (a constant feature of the 50 km SLVIA Study Area seascape).

8.8.3.134 At approximate distances of 30-35 km (and up to 40 km) the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would be visible in favourable conditions (i.e. very good visibility 20 km to 40 km approximately ~~70~~<sup>40</sup>% of the year). The wind turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

8.8.3.135 The representative viewpoints relevant to this receptor type are listed below together with distances to the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project:

- Representative viewpoint 25 – Moelfre Headland, Isle of Anglesey National Landscape (33.2 km) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 21.1 and 21.2 of the Environmental Statement)
- Representative viewpoint 27 – Benllech (37.1 km) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 23.1, 23.2 and 23.3 of the Environmental Statement)
- Representative viewpoint 47 – Llanfairfechan Seafront (39.9 km) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 37.1, 37.2 and 37.3 of the Environmental Statement)
- Representative viewpoint 57 – Trwyn Cemlyn, Isle of Anglesey National Landscape (39 km) ( Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 46.1 and 46.2 of the Environmental Statement).

### **Construction and decommissioning phases**



### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.3.136 An impact will potentially arise on the views/visual amenity of people using the seafronts and beaches at Moelfre, Benllech and Llanfairfechan. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~) within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at approximate distances ranging from 33 to 39 km.
- 8.8.3.137 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is **negligible to small** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the scale of the construction activities visible at the distances specified.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

- 8.8.3.138 The views/visual amenity of people using the seafronts and beaches at Moelfre, Benllech and Llanfairfechan are deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

### Significance of the effect

- 8.8.3.139 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact on people using the seafronts and beaches at Moelfre, Benllech and Llanfairfechan during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible to small and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

## Operations and maintenance phase

### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.3.140 A visual impact will potentially arise on people using the seafronts and beaches at Moelfre, Benllech and Llanfairfechan due to the operations and maintenance phase of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (as described in [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~, namely: some or all the rotating wind turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.
- 8.8.3.141 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is **small** at most during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change visible at the distances specified. The magnitude of visual impact at other seafront locations farther away from the Mona Array Area will be lower.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

- 8.8.3.142 The sensitivity of peoples' views/visual amenity using the seafronts and beaches at Moelfre, Benllech and Llanfairfechan is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.



### Significance of the effect

8.8.3.143 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project during the operations and maintenance phase, situated at an approximate distance range of 33 to 39 km offshore, in relation to people using the seafronts and beaches at Moelfre, Benllech and Llanfairfechan is deemed to be small at most. The sensitivity of the receptor is and high. The effects will be **minor to moderate adverse**, which are not significant.

### Assessment of effects experienced by people at main coastal settlement seafronts/shorelines – Conwy Bay to Dee Estuary, Wales

8.8.3.144 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the views from and visual amenity of individuals at settlement seafronts/shorelines in the 50 km SLVIA Study Area. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.3.145 The potential impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the above components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people using the following settlement seafronts/shorelines and beaches on the North Wales coast:

- Llandudno
- Rhos-on-Sea
- Colwyn Bay
- Llandulas/Abergele
- Towyn/Kinmel Bay
- Rhyl
- Prestatyn
- Talacre (Point of Ayr).

### Baseline conditions

8.8.3.146 Regarding the coast of North Wales east of Great Orme's and Little Orme's Headlands, existing offshore wind farms (Gwynt y Môr, Rhyl Flats, North Hoyle and Burbo Bank) and offshore oil and gas infrastructure increasingly become a feature in northward views as one works east. Furthermore, from these locations, the proposed development would be increasingly viewed beyond and behind these operational offshore wind farms and infrastructure. The MDS visual impacts would be those experienced at the closest and most exposed settlement seafronts and ones where the seascape baseline is least animated, in particular those towards the west, namely Benllech and Llandudno, the latter located approximately 32 km from the Mona Array Area. Lower magnitudes of visual change would occur at other settlement seafronts in the 50 km SLVIA Study Area, including Llanfairfechan, Penmaenmawr, Penrhyn Bay,

Rhos-on-Sea, Colwyn Bay, Llandulas, Abergele, Towyn/Kinmel Bay, Rhyl, Prestatyn and Talacre (Point of Ayr).

### Impact considerations

- 8.8.3.147 Fieldwork and analysis of the ZTV and visualisations in relation to the representative viewpoints, indicates unrestricted visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project from the open seafronts at Llandudno, Penrhyn Bay, Rhos-on-Sea, Colwyn Bay, Llandulas, Abergele, Towyn/Kinmel Bay, Rhyl, Prestatyn and Talacre (Point of Ayr). The turbines would be seen on the horizon as part of the wide coastal panorama, beyond and partly masked by existing offshore windfarms.
- 8.8.3.148 At approximate distances of 30-35 km (and up to 40 km) the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would be visible in favourable conditions (i.e. very good visibility 20 km to 40 km approximately ~~70~~40% of the year). The wind turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.
- 8.8.3.149 The representative viewpoints relevant to this receptor are listed below together with distances to the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project:
- Representative viewpoint 48 – Llandudno Promenade, (32.2 km) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 38.1, 38.2 and 38.3 of the Environmental Statement)
  - Representative viewpoint 9 – Rhyl (38.1 km) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 9.1, 9.2 and 9.3 of the Environmental Statement)
  - Representative viewpoint 40 – Point of Ayr (42.9 km) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 36.1 and 36.2 of the Environmental Statement).

### Construction and decommissioning phases

#### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.3.150 An impact will potentially arise on the views/visual amenity of people using the seafronts and beaches at the coastal settlements listed above. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~) within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at distances of approximately 32 to 42 km.
- 8.8.3.151 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and of high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is **negligible to small** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the scale of the construction activities visible at the distances specified.

#### Sensitivity of the receptor

- 8.8.3.152 The views/visual amenity of people using the settlement seafronts and beaches on the North Wales coast listed above are deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

### Significance of the effect

- 8.8.3.153 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact on people using the seafronts and beaches at the settlements during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible to small and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

### Operations and maintenance phase

#### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.3.154 A visual impact will potentially arise on people at settlements seafronts and beaches on the North Wales coast listed above due to the operations and maintenance phase of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (as described [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~, namely: some or all the rotating wind turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.
- 8.8.3.155 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is **small** at most during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change visible at the distances specified and, in some cases, the influence of existing offshore wind farms. The magnitude of impact will be less east of Colwyn Bay due to the increasing influence of the existing Gwynt y Môr, Rhyl Flats, North Hoyle and Burbo Bank offshore wind farms located approximately halfway between the North Wales coast and the Mona Array Area.

#### Sensitivity of the receptor

- 8.8.3.156 The sensitivity of people's views/visual amenity using the North Wales coast settlement seafronts and beaches is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

### Significance of the effect

- 8.8.3.157 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project during the operations and maintenance phase, situated at an approximate distance of 32 to 42 km offshore, in relation to people using the seafronts and beaches at Llandudno, Colwyn Bay, Rhyl, Prestatyn and other North Wales coast settlements is deemed to be small at most. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **minor to moderate adverse** at most, which are not significant.

### Assessment of effects experienced by people at main coastal settlement seafronts/shorelines – Northwest England

- 8.8.3.158 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the views from and visual amenity of individuals at settlement seafronts/shorelines in the 50 km SLVIA Study Area. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~):
- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)

- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.3.159 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will potentially affect the views/visual amenity of people using the following seafronts/shorelines and beaches on the Northwest England coast situated approximately 46 to 50 km from the Mona Array Area.

### **Baseline conditions**

8.8.3.160 Within the 50 km SLVIA Study Area, there are publicly accessible seafronts/shorelines in the vicinity of the following settlements Wallasey/Hoylake (Wirral), Formby and Southport (Sefton), Lytham St Anne's/Blackpool and Walney Island (Figure A.3).

8.8.3.161 The Wirral peninsula north coast seafront between Hoylake/West and Wallasey (representative viewpoint 12) affords views across the adjacent seascape including of existing offshore wind farms (Burbo Bank with Gwynt y Môr and North Hoyle), offshore oil and gas infrastructure and commercial shipping/ferries in the approaches the Mersey/Liverpool. The same applies to the Sefton coast north of Liverpool at Crosby, and Formby. North of the Ribble Estuary to Morecambe Bay, open views across the adjacent inshore waters from the west coast of Lancashire are available between Lytham St Anne's and Fleetwood via Blackpool (representative viewpoint 15) with commercial shipping/ferries and occasional offshore oil and gas infrastructure a characteristic of the seascape.

### **Impact considerations**

8.8.3.162 Fieldwork and analysis of the ZTV and the representative viewpoint visualisations, indicates relatively unrestricted visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project from the seafronts/shoreline fringes of these settlements.

8.8.3.163 The Wirral peninsula between Wallasey and Hoylake and the Sefton coast north of Liverpool from Crosby to Southport will be located approximately 47 km at the closest point to the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. The offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would be seen behind and/or beyond either existing offshore wind farms (Burbo Bank and to a lesser extent Gwynt y Môr and North Hoyle), or oil and gas infrastructure and commercial shipping/ferries en route to/from the Mersey/Liverpool (representative viewpoints 12 and 13). With respect to the Lancashire coast from Lytham St Anne's to Fleetwood, the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would be seen on the far horizon beyond occasional oil and gas infrastructure and commercial shipping/ferries (representative viewpoint 15 and representative viewpoint 58).

8.8.3.164 The MDS visual impact would be that experienced at the closest areas (approximately 47 km distant) with the most open/unrestricted seaward views, namely those from the north Sefton and Lancashire coast settlement seafronts/shorelines in the vicinity of Blackpool (representative viewpoint 15 are representative respectively). Lower magnitudes of visual change would occur at seafront/shoreline locations on the Wirral peninsula at approximately 50 km distance at representative viewpoint 12.

8.8.3.165 At approximate distances of 45 km to 55 km, the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would only be visible in the most favourable conditions (i.e. excellent visibility >40 km approximately 28% of the year). The turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

- 8.8.3.166 The representative viewpoints relevant to this receptor type are listed below together with distances to the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project:
- Representative viewpoint 12 – Wallasey embankment, Leasowe Common (50.4 km) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 12.1, 12.2 and 12.3 of the Environmental Statement)
  - Representative viewpoint 13 – Sefton Coastal Footpath at Massam’s Slack/Ainsdale National Nature Reserve, Formby (46.9 km) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 13.1 and 13.2 of the Environmental Statement)
  - Representative viewpoint 15 – Blackpool North Pier (51.4 km) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 14.1, 14.2 and 14.3 of the Environmental Statement).
  - Representative viewpoint 51 - Blackpool Tower (51.8 km) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 40.1 and 40.2 of the Environmental Statement).

## Construction and decommissioning phases

### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.3.167 An impact will potentially arise on the views/visual amenity of people using the seafronts and beaches at the coastal settlements listed above. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~) within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at distances of approximately 40-45 km.
- 8.8.3.168 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and of high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is **negligible** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale of the construction activities ~~visible at~~ [visible at](#) the distances specified.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

- 8.8.3.169 The views/visual amenity of people using the settlement seafronts and beaches on the coast of Northwest England listed above are deemed to be of medium to high value and medium to high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **medium to high**.

### Significance of the effect

- 8.8.3.170 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact on people using the seafronts and beaches at the settlements during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse** significance, which are not significant.

## Operations and maintenance phase

### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.3.171 A visual impact will potentially arise to people at the coastal settlement seafronts and beaches in Northwest England listed above due to the operations and maintenance



phase of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (as described in [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~, namely: some or all the rotating turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.

8.8.3.172 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is **negligible** during the operations and maintenance phase. This takes account of the limited scale of the change visible at the distances specified between the receptors and the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project.

**Sensitivity of the receptor**

8.8.3.173 The sensitivity of peoples' views/visual amenity using the North Wales coast settlement seafronts and beaches is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **medium to high**.

**Significance of the effect**

8.8.3.174 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project during the operations and maintenance phase, at the distances specified, in relation to people using the seafronts and beaches at Northwest England coast settlements such as Blackpool is deemed to be negligible at most. The sensitivity of the receptor is and high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse** at most, which are not significant.

**Assessment of effects experienced by people at main coastal settlement seafronts/shorelines – Isle of Man**

8.8.3.175 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the views from and visual amenity of individuals at settlement seafronts/shorelines in the 50 km SLVIA Study Area. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.3.176 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at seafront promenades and/or shorelines and beaches in Douglas on the Isle of Man:

8.8.3.177 There is negligible potential for significant effects to be experienced by people using other coastal settlement seafronts/shorelines or equivalent receptors in the 50 km SLVIA Study Area.

**Baseline conditions**

8.8.3.178 There are a number of coastal settlements situated in the 50 km SLVIA Study Area on the east coast of the Isle of Man with popular, publicly accessible seafronts/shorelines. Several of these afford views across the adjacent seascape towards the Mona Array



Area (Figure A.3). These are principally (from north to south): Panoramic Viewpoint at arch southwest of Douglas Head (representative viewpoint 19 and Douglas Promenade (representative viewpoint 49). Castletown is represented by viewpoint 18 but likely to be more restricted in terms of visibility towards the proposed development. Views towards the Mona Array Area from Ramsey to the north of the Island are restricted by landform at Maughold Head. Similarly views from Castletown are restricted by the elongated land strip at Langness Peninsula. Consequently, these two settlement seafronts are excluded from further consideration.

### Impact considerations

- 8.8.3.179 Fieldwork and analysis of the ZTV and the aforementioned viewpoint visualisations indicates visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project from the coast at Douglas. Being marginally the closest with framed southeast seaward views, Douglas promenade and seafront has the potential to be affected by the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. Viewpoint 49 is representative of this location. This view is already characterised to a degree by commercial shipping/ferry traffic and the distant operational Walney Extension offshore wind farm. Visual change at other settlement seafronts would be similar or less.
- 8.8.3.180 At approximate distances of 45-50 km the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would only be visible in the most favourable conditions (i.e. excellent visibility >40 km approximately 28% of the year). The wind turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.
- 8.8.3.181 The representative viewpoints relevant to this receptor type are listed below together with distances to the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project:
- Representative viewpoint 19 – Panoramic Viewpoint at Arch Southwest of Douglas Head, Isle of Man (46.8 km) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 16.1 and 16.2 of the Environmental Statement)
  - Representative viewpoint 49 – Douglas Promenade, Isle of Man (48.7 km) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 39.1, 39.2 and 39.3 of the Environmental Statement).

### Construction and decommissioning phases

#### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.3.182 An impact will potentially arise on the views/visual amenity of people on the coast at Douglas (representative viewpoints 19 and 49). This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~) within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at distances exceeding 48 km.
- 8.8.3.183 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is **negligible** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale of the construction activities that would be visible from these settlements at the distances specified.

#### Sensitivity of the receptor

- 8.8.3.184 The views/visual amenity of people using the seafront promenade and beach at Douglas and at the panoramic viewpoint southwest of Douglas Head are deemed to

be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

**Significance of the effect**

8.8.3.185 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact on people using the seafront promenade and beach at Douglas and the panoramic viewpoint southwest of Douglas Head during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

**Operations and maintenance phase**

**Magnitude of impact**

8.8.3.186 A visual impact will potentially arise on people using the seafront promenade and beach at Douglas and the panoramic viewpoint southwest of Douglas Head due to the operations and maintenance phase of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area at approximate distances exceeding 46 km (as described in [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~, namely: some or all the rotating turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples’ appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.

8.8.3.187 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is **negligible** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the limited scale of the change that would be visible from the representative viewpoint 49 and 43.

**Sensitivity of the receptor**

8.8.3.188 The sensitivity for people at the seafront promenade and beach at Douglas and the panoramic viewpoint southwest of Douglas Head is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **High**.

**Significance of the effect**

8.8.3.189 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project during the operations and maintenance phase, situated at the distance specified is deemed to be negligible. The sensitivity of the receptor is and high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

**Assessment of effects experienced by people travelling along coastal roads – Wales, England and Isle of Man**

8.8.3.190 There is no potential for significant visual effects to arise on users of public highways in the 50 km SLVIA Study Area. Key coastal roads within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project together with the representative viewpoints relevant to this receptor type are listed as follows:

**North Wales including Anglesey**

- A5025 north and central Anglesey (representative viewpoint 24 Bull Bay, Amlwch, Isle of Anglesey National Landscape, Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 20.1 and 20.2 of the Environmental Statement)

- A547 and A55 between Bangor and Abergele (representative viewpoint 47 Llanfairfechan Seafront, Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 37.1, 37.2 and 37.3 of the Environmental Statement)
- A548 between Abergele and Prestatyn (representative viewpoint 9 Rhyl, Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 9.1, 9.2 and 9.3 of the Environmental Statement).

### **Northwest England**

- Queen's Promenade Blackpool and the A584 Lytham St Anne's (representative viewpoint 15 Blackpool North Pier, Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 14.1, 14.2 and 14.3 of the Environmental Statement)
- A565 Southport to Liverpool via Formby and Crosby
- A554 and the A551/Leasowe Road, Wallasey embankment, Leasowe Common (representative viewpoint 12 Wallasey embankment Leasowe Common, Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 12.1, 12.2 and 12.3 of the Environmental Statement).

### **Isle of Man**

- A5 Douglas to Castleton
- A11 Queen's Promenade/King Edward Road in Douglas (representative viewpoint 49 Douglas Promenade, Isle of Man, Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 39.1, 39.2 and 39.3 of the Environmental Statement)
- A25 at Quine's Hill.

### **Assessment of effects experienced by people travelling along coastal railways**

- 8.8.3.191 There is no potential for significant visual effects to arise on railway users in the 50 km SLVIA Study Area.
- 8.8.3.192 Key coastal railways within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project together with representative viewpoints relevant to this receptor type are as follows:

#### **North Wales**

- Liverpool/Manchester to Holyhead railway runs adjacent to the North Wales coast between Abergele and Bangor (representative viewpoint 47 Llanfairfechan Seafront (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 37.1, 37.2 and 37.3 of the Environmental Statement).

#### **Isle of Man**

- Manx Electric Railway (MER) – between Laxey and Douglas (representative viewpoint 49 Douglas Promenade (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 39.1, 39.2 and 39.3 of the Environmental Statement).

### **Assessment of effects experienced by people using main ferry routes**

- 8.8.3.193 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the views from and visual amenity of individuals travelling

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on key ferry routes in the 50 km SLVIA Study Area. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project:

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.3.194 The potential impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people onboard ferries using the following routes passing through the 50 km SLVIA Study Area.

### Baseline conditions

- 8.8.3.195 Ferries keep to regular routes between specific ports. The main routes in the 50 km SLVIA Study Area are listed below and shown in Volume 6, Annex 7.1: Navigational risk assessment of the Environmental Statement:
- Liverpool to Dublin
  - Liverpool to Douglas
  - Heysham to Douglas.
- 8.8.3.196 Ferry passengers using these routes are assessed based on the experience of the journey taking account of the opportunities the vessel provides for appreciating the seascape and views during the trip.
- 8.8.3.197 The seascape context of these routes is influenced to varying degrees by existing offshore wind farms (West of Duddon Sands and Walney group to the north; Gwynt y Môr and Burbo Bank to the south), as well as offshore oil and gas infrastructure, and commercial shipping en route to/from Merseyside ports.
- 8.8.3.198 There is negligible potential for significant visual effects on people onboard the Heysham to Douglas Ferry (representative viewpoint 23) the route of which is located over 30 km to the north of the Mona Array Area passing close to West of Duddon Sands and the Walney offshore wind farms. Therefore, only the Liverpool to Dublin and Liverpool to Douglas routes are considered further here.

### Impact considerations

- 8.8.3.199 Analysis of the ZTV supported by fieldwork and the representative viewpoint visualisations indicate the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would be theoretically visible in excellent conditions for the majority of the Liverpool to Douglas and Heysham to Douglas routes.
- 8.8.3.200 At distances of approximately 20 km to 40 km the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would be visible in favourable conditions (i.e. very good visibility 20 km to 40 km approximately 7040% of the year). Over approximately 40 km, it would only be visible in the most favourable conditions (i.e. excellent visibility >40 km approximately 28% of the year). The turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.
- 8.8.3.201 The representative viewpoints relevant to this receptor type are listed below together with distances to the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project at the closest point of the route:
- Representative viewpoint 21 - Liverpool to Dublin (Ireland) Ferry (9.3 km) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figure 17.1 of the Environmental Statement)
  - Representative viewpoint 22 - Liverpool to Douglas (Isle of Man) Ferry (9.4 km) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 18.1 and 18.2 of the Environmental Statement)
  - Representative viewpoint 23 - Heysham to Douglas (Isle of Man) Ferry (31.6 km) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 19.1 and 19.2 of the Environmental Statement).

## Construction and decommissioning phases

### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.3.202 An impact will potentially arise on the views/visual amenity of people onboard the ferries, two of which, pass within a distance of just under 10 km of the Mona Array Area at the closest point. The impact will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~) within the Mona Array Area.
- 8.8.3.203 The potential impact will be of short-term duration (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning), continuous in favourable conditions (increasing with proximity/decreasing with distance) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The maximum magnitude of impact is **small to medium** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the scale of the construction activities that would be visible at distances of just under 10 km. This potential maximum impact would occur when the ferry is passing just under 10 km of the Mona Array Area. At other points along the route farther away from the Mona Array Area the magnitude of visual impact will be lower.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

- 8.8.3.204 Views obtained by people onboard the ferries identified above are deemed to be of medium value and medium susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **medium**.

### Significance of the effect

- 8.8.3.205 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact during construction and decommissioning arising for people onboard the Liverpool to Dublin, Liverpool to Douglas and Heysham to Douglas ferries passing through or immediately adjacent to the Mona Array Area is deemed to be small to medium and the sensitivity of the receptor is medium. The effects will be **minor to moderate adverse** at most, which are not significant. At other points along the route, farther away from the Mona Array Area, the significance of visual effect will be less.

## Operations and maintenance phase

### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.3.206 A visual impact will potentially arise due to the operations and maintenance phase of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project on people onboard ferries in particular the Liverpool to Douglas and Liverpool to Dublin ferries passing through or immediately adjacent to the Mona Array Area. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (as described in [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~, namely: some or all the turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.
- 8.8.3.207 The potential impact will be of long-term duration, continuous in favourable conditions (increasing with proximity/decreasing with distance) and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The maximum magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **medium** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects



the scale of the change in views at distances of just under 10 km from the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. At other points along the route farther away from the Mona Array Area the magnitude of visual impact will be lower.

**Sensitivity of the receptor**

8.8.3.208 The sensitivity of the people onboard the ferries is as set out for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **medium**.

**Significance of the effect**

8.8.3.209 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact in relation to people onboard the Liverpool to Douglas and Liverpool to Dublin ferries passing just under 10 km at the closest point to the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project during the operations and maintenance phase is deemed to be medium and the sensitivity of the receptor is medium. The effect will be **moderate adverse** at most, due to the presence of existing wind farms, as well as dynamic nature of the receptors, which is not significant, due to the dynamic/transient nature of the receptors. At other points along the route, farther away from the Mona Array Area, the significance of visual effect will be less.

**Assessment of effects experienced by other marine users – commercial shipping/recreational craft and fishing vessels**

8.8.3.210 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the views from and visual amenity of marine users of commercial shipping, recreational sailing and fishing routes and locations in the 50 km SLVIA Study Area. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.3.211 The potential impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people onboard commercial shipping/recreational craft and fishing vessels when navigating within the 50 km SLVIA Study Area.

**People onboard commercial shipping and fishing vessels**

**Baseline conditions**

8.8.3.212 Commercial vessels keep to well-defined routes. Generally, these are either designated shipping lanes or regular passages between commercial ports and harbours in England, Scotland, Northern Ireland, Republic of Ireland and farther afield (Volume 6, Annex 7.1: Navigational risk assessment of the Environmental Statement).

Commercial fishing vessels follow different routes and patterns of movement depending on the type fishing being carried out and the fishing grounds being worked. In general, commercial fishing boats use specific harbours on the coast and, depending on the season, follow a range of routes to and from the various fishing grounds (Volume 6, Annex 7.1: Navigational risk assessment of the Environmental

Statement). The main commercial fishing harbours in the 50 km SLVIA Study Area are: Douglas on the Isle of Man; Bangor in North Wales; and, Liverpool in England (Figure A.3).

### Impact considerations

- 8.8.3.213 The Mona Array Area is located to maintain a separation distance from commercial shipping lanes (Volume 6, Annex 7.1: Navigational risk assessment of the Environmental Statement). Assessment relating to commercial shipping is provided in Volume 2, Chapter 7: Shipping and navigation of the Environmental Statement.
- 8.8.3.214 Assessment regarding commercial fishing activity is provided in Volume 2, Chapter 6: Commercial fisheries of the Environmental Statement.
- 8.8.3.215 Summary assessments for the SLVIA are presented in Tables 26.29 and 26.30.

### Construction and decommissioning phases

#### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.3.216 An impact will potentially arise on the views/visual amenity of commercial sailors and fishermen. The impact will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~) within the Mona Array Area.
- 8.8.3.217 The potential impact will be of short-term duration (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning), continuous in favourable conditions (increasing with proximity/decreasing with distance) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of maximum visual impact is small to medium during the construction and decommissioning phases. This potential maximum impact would occur when the commercial vessel or fishing boat is passing within approximately 10 km of the Mona Array Area. At other points along the route farther away from the Mona Array Area the magnitude of visual impact will be lower, **negligible to small**.

#### Sensitivity of the receptor

- 8.8.3.218 Views obtained by commercial sailors and fishermen are deemed to be of low value and the people themselves of low susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **low**.

#### Significance of the effect

- 8.8.3.219 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact during construction and decommissioning arising for people onboard commercial vessels and fishing boats passing through or immediately adjacent to the Mona Array Area is deemed to be negligible to small and the sensitivity of the receptor is low. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse** at most, which are not significant. At other points, farther away from the Mona Array Area, the significance of visual effect will be less and not significant.

### Operations and maintenance phase

#### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.3.220 A visual impact will potentially arise due to the operations and maintenance phase of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project on commercial sailors and fishermen that pass through or immediately adjacent to the Mona Array Area. The

impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (as described in [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~, namely: some or all the turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape.

- 8.8.3.221 The potential impact will be of long-term duration, continuous in favourable conditions (increasing with proximity/decreasing with distance) and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The maximum magnitude of impact is **medium** during the operations and maintenance phase. At other points farther away from the Mona Array Area the magnitude of visual impact will be lower. Representative viewpoint 21, representative viewpoint 22, and representative viewpoint 23) are indicative of the predicted visual change involved, although these are from ferry routes.

#### **Sensitivity of the receptor**

- 8.8.3.222 The sensitivity of the people onboard the commercial vessels is as set out for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **low**.

#### **Significance of the effect**

- 8.8.3.223 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact in relation to commercial sailors and fishermen passing within approximately 10 km of the Mona Array Area during the operations and maintenance phase is deemed to be medium and the sensitivity of the receptor is low. The effect will be **minor adverse** at most, which is not significant. At other points, farther away from the Mona Array Area, the significance of visual effect will be less.

#### **Recreational craft**

##### **Baseline conditions**

- 8.8.3.224 Recreational boating includes a range of pleasure craft both sailing and motor powered. Unlike commercial ships and ferries, pleasure craft tend not to follow regular routes. However, the points of departure and arrival are fixed, being generally safe harbours/anchorages at suitable locations on the coast (Figure A.3). Due the coastline's profile, the shallow inshore waters and the high tidal ranges, there are relatively few suitable harbours in the 50 km SLVIA Study Area. They are primarily: Douglas on the Isle of Man; Menai Strait (including Beaumaris) and Conwy in North Wales, and Liverpool in England. Journeys from these points, out a short distance and back, and in between some of them along the coast, is the norm. Thus, the pattern of use is generally dispersed and inshore, occurring within fairly close proximity to the safe harbours and along the intervening coasts of Wales, the Isle of Man and England. In addition, recreation boating is seasonal, typically confined to period between late spring and early autumn (beginning of May to end of September). That said, within the wider seascape, there are some longer distance 'routes' used by a relatively low of pleasure craft operating in the 50 km SLVIA Study Area. These are offshore journeys between the Wales, England, the Isle of Man, Scotland, and Ireland. Data relating to recreational boating activity is available from the Royal Yachting Association (RYA). That relevant to the 50 km SLVIA Study Area is reproduced graphically in Appendix B of Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

## Impact considerations

- 8.8.3.225 RYA recreational boating activity spatial data is shown in Figure 26.3. of Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Seascape visualisations of the Environmental Statement. Assessment relating to marine users in general is provided in Volume 2, Chapter 10: Other Sea users of the Environmental Statement.
- 8.8.3.226 Recreational craft are advised to avoid shipping lanes and cross them at right angles if the need arises. Otherwise, they are free to take any route between points of departure and arrival they choose. However, based on the available data and professional judgement most of the recreational boating activity takes place in inshore waters some distance from the Mona Array Area. Consequently, for people onboard most recreational vessels, visual change due to the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project will be limited.

## Construction and decommissioning phases

### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.3.227 A visual impact will potentially be experienced by recreational sailors, caused by visibility of the erection, and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~) within the Mona Array Area.
- 8.8.3.228 The potential impact will be of short-term duration (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning), continuous in favourable conditions (increasing with proximity/decreasing with distance) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of maximum visual impact is therefore considered to be **small to medium** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This potential maximum impact would occur when recreational craft pass within approximately 10 km of the Mona Array Area. At other points farther away from the Mona Array Area the magnitude of visual impact will be lower.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

- 8.8.3.229 Recreational sailors are of **medium** sensitivity to visual change, based on the medium value of views and a medium visual susceptibility to the proposed development.

### Significance of the effect

- 8.8.3.230 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact during construction and decommissioning arising for recreational sailors passing within approximately 10 km of the Mona Array Area is deemed to be small to medium and the sensitivity of the receptor is medium. The effects will be **minor to moderate adverse** at most, which are not significant. At other points, farther away from the Mona Array Area, the significance of visual effect will be less.

## Operations and maintenance phase

### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.3.231 A visual impact will potentially arise due to the operations and maintenance phase of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project on recreational sailors, as they pass through or immediately adjacent to the Mona Array Area. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona

Array Area (as described in [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~, namely: some or all the turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape.

8.8.3.232 The potential impact will be of long-term duration, continuous in favourable conditions (increasing with proximity/decreasing with distance) and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The maximum magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be medium during the operations and maintenance phase. At other points, farther away from the Mona Array Area the magnitude of visual impact will be lower. Representative viewpoint 21, representative viewpoint 22 and representative viewpoint 23) give an impression of the predicted visual change involved, although these are from ferry routes. Overall the magnitude of impact is **small**.

**Sensitivity of the receptor**

8.8.3.233 The sensitivity of recreational sailors is as set out for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **medium**.

**Significance of the effect**

Having regard to the scale and size of development proposed, the seascape context and activity factors, the visual change for people onboard recreational craft is assessed as a small magnitude, direct visual impact at most. Taking account of medium sensitivity of the receptor, the residual visual effect for recreational craft users is judged to be **minor adverse** at most, which is not significant.

**8.8.4 Assessment of effects at representative viewpoints**

8.8.4.1 The representative viewpoints referred to in the assessment above are assessed individually below.

**Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 1 – Mynydd y Garn trig point, Isle of Anglesey National Landscape**

8.8.4.2 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.3 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 1.1 and 1.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

**Summary of baseline**



8.8.4.4 Located in Access Land within Isle of Anglesey National Landscape. An elevated, inland panorama looking northeast across Northwest Anglesey comprising the LCA 1 Anglesey Coast and LCA 2 Central Anglesey in the fore/middle grounds. A settled coastal landscape with large infrastructure including Wylfa Nuclear Power Station and wind farms. MCA 04 North Wales Open Waters/MCA 05 Northwest Anglesey Open Waters/SCA 28 Northeast of Anglesey/SCA 29 North of Anglesey form the background seascape. The wider seascape is animated by commercial shipping/ferries en route to/from Merseyside ports. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

### Description of visual change

8.8.4.5 Analysis of the visualisation supported by fieldwork indicates visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project in the distance occupying approximately 30% of the 90° HFoV or 27°. The wind turbines would be seen at an approximate 42.4 km distance on the horizon beyond Wylfa Nuclear Power Station as part of the wide inland panorama, set within a seascape animated by commercial shipping/ferries and existing offshore windfarms such as Gwynt y Môr and Burbo Bank which are barely visible.

8.8.4.6 At this distance the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would only be visible in the most favourable conditions (i.e. excellent visibility >40 km approximately 28% of the year). The turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

### Construction and decommissioning phases

#### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.7 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people at/using Access Land within the Isle of Anglesey National Landscape at this location. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~) within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.

8.8.4.8 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is **negligible** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

#### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.9 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

#### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.10 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the



sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

## Operations and maintenance phase

### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.4.11 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people at/using Access Land within the Isle of Anglesey National Landscape at this location due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (as described in [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~, namely: some or all the turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.
- 8.8.4.12 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is **negligible** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

- 8.8.4.13 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

### Significance of the effect

- 8.8.4.14 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during the operations and maintenance phase, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be negligible. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

## Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 2 – Llanlleiana Head, Isle of Anglesey National Landscape

- 8.8.4.15 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~):
- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
  - Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
  - Construction and service vessels/helicopters.
- 8.8.4.16 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 2.1 and 2.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

## Summary of visual baseline

## MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

8.8.4.17 Located on Wales Coast Path within Access Land and the Isle of Anglesey National Landscape. A wide coastal panorama from the northmost tip of Anglesey looking northeast comprising LCA 1 Anglesey Coast and the adjacent SCA 8 Amlwch and Cemaes in the fore/middle grounds. MCA 04 North Wales Open Waters/MCA 05 Northwest Anglesey Open Waters/SCA 28 Northeast Anglesey/SCA 29 North of Anglesey make up the background seascape. Commercial shipping/ferries en route to/from Merseyside ports is a constant feature of the wider seascape. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

### Description of visual change

8.8.4.18 Fieldwork and analysis of the visualisation indicates distant visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project occupying approximately 36% (32°) of the 90° HFoV. The wind turbines would be seen at 33.8 km on the horizon as part of the coastal panorama set within a seascape animated by commercial shipping/ferries.

8.8.4.19 At this distance the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would be visible in favourable conditions (i.e. very good visibility 20 to 40 km approximately ~~70~~40% of the year). The turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

### Construction and decommissioning phases

#### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.20 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people at/using Wales Coast Path or Access Land within the Isle of Anglesey National Landscape at this location. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~) within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.

8.8.4.21 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and of high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is therefore considered to be **negligible to small** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

#### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.22 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

#### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.23 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible to small and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **minor to moderate adverse** which are not significant.

### Operations and maintenance phase

### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.24 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people at/using Wales Coast Path or ~~Access Land~~ within the Isle of Anglesey National Landscape at this location due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (as described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~, namely: some or all the turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect people's appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.

8.8.4.25 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **negligible to small** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.26 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.27 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during the operations and maintenance phase, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be small. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **minor to moderate adverse**, which are not significant.

### Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 3 – Mynydd Eilian

8.8.4.28 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.29 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 3.1 and 3.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

### Summary of visual baseline

8.8.4.30 Located on a PROW within the Isle of Anglesey National Landscape. An inland, coastal panorama looking northeast across LCA 1 Anglesey Coast and the adjacent SCA 8 Amlwch and Cemaes/SCA 7 Dulas Bay in the fore/middle grounds. MCA 04 North

Wales Open Waters/SCA 28 Northeast Anglesey forms the background seascape. Commercial shipping/ferries en route to/from Merseyside ports is a constant feature of the wider seascape as depicted in the panorama. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report - offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

### Description of visual change

8.8.4.31 Analysis of the visualisation supported by fieldwork indicates partial visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project in the distance occupying approximately 37% (33°) of the 90° HFoV. A small number of turbines would be seen on the horizon (others are screened by landform) at 31 km as part of the coastal panorama set within a seascape animated by commercial shipping/ferries with existing offshore wind farms barely visible in the distance to the east (e.g. Gwynt y Môr, Rhyl Flats, North Hoyle and Burbo Bank).

8.8.4.32 At this distance the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would be visible in favourable conditions (i.e. very good visibility 20 to 40 km approximately ~~70~~40% of the year). The turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

### Construction and decommissioning phases

#### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.33 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people using the PROW within the Isle of Anglesey National Landscape at this location. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~) within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.

8.8.4.34 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

#### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.35 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

#### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.36 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

### Operations and maintenance phase

### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.37 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people using the PROW within the Isle of Anglesey National Landscape at this location due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (as described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~, namely: some or all the turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.

8.8.4.38 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **small** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.39 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.40 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during the operations and maintenance phase, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be small. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **minor to moderate adverse** significance, which are not significant.

### Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 4 – Bwrdd Arthur trig point, Isle of Anglesey National Landscape

8.8.4.41 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.42 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 4.1 and 4.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

### Summary of visual baseline

8.8.4.43 Located in Access Land within the Isle of Anglesey National Landscape. A coastal panorama looking northeast comprising LCA 1 Anglesey Coast and the adjacent SCA



5 Penmon/SCA 6 Red Wharf Bay to Moelfre/MCA 03 Red Wharf Bay to Conwy Bay in the fore/middle grounds. MCA 04 North Wales Open Waters/SCA 28 Northeast Anglesey forms the background seascape. Commercial shipping/ferries en route to/from Merseyside ports is a constant feature of the wider seascape as depicted in the panorama. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

### Description of visual change

- 8.8.4.44 Fieldwork and analysis of the visualisation indicates distant visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project occupying approximately 30% (27°) of the 90° HFoV. The wind turbines would be seen at 36.6 km on the horizon as part of the coastal panorama set within a seascape animated by commercial shipping/ferries with existing offshore wind farms visible in the distance to the east including Gwynt y Môr, Rhyl Flats, North Hoyle and Burbo Bank).
- 8.8.4.45 At this distance the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would be visible in favourable conditions (i.e. very good visibility 20 km to 40 km approximately ~~70~~<sup>40</sup>% of the year). The turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

### Construction and decommissioning phases

#### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.4.46 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people at this location. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)) within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.
- 8.8.4.47 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is therefore considered to be **negligible to small** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

#### Sensitivity of the receptor

- 8.8.4.48 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

#### Significance of the effect

- 8.8.4.49 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible to small and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **minor to moderate adverse**, which are not significant.

### Operations and maintenance phase



### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.50 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people at/using - Access Land within the Isle of Anglesey National Landscape at this location due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (as described in [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~, namely: some or all the turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.

8.8.4.51 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **small** at most during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.52 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.53 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be small. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **minor to moderate adverse**, which are not significant.

### Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 6 – Carnedd Llewellyn, Eryri National Park

8.8.4.54 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.55 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 6.1 and 6.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

### Summary of visual baseline

8.8.4.56 Located at the summit of Carnedd Llewellyn in -Access Land within Eryri National Park. An elevated, sweeping panorama looking north across the north peaks and slopes within Eryri National Park. The expansive view encompasses LCA 6 Eryri and MCA 03

Red Wharf Bay to Conwy Bay/SCA 2 Conwy Bay in the fore and middle grounds. MCA 04 North Wales Open Waters/SCA 28 Northeast Anglesey make up the seascape background. Gwynt y Môr, Rhyl Flats, North Hoyle and Burbo Bank offshore wind farms and oil and gas infrastructure form part of the view. Commercial shipping/ferries en route to/from Merseyside ports is a constant feature of the wider seascape. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

### Description of visual change

- 8.8.4.57 Analysis of the visualisation supported by fieldwork indicates visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project in the far distance occupying approximately 20% (18°) of the 90° HFoV. The wind turbines would be seen on the horizon at 50.7 km as part of the elevated inland panorama set within a distant seascape animated by commercial shipping/ferries with existing offshore wind farms visible towards the east (e.g. Gwynt y Môr, Rhyl Flats, North Hoyle and Burbo Bank).
- 8.8.4.58 At a distance of over 50 km, the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would only be visible in the most favourable conditions (i.e. excellent visibility >40 km approximately 28% of the year). The turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

### Construction and decommissioning phases

#### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.4.59 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people at/using Access Land within Eryri National Park at this location. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~) within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.
- 8.8.4.60 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

#### Sensitivity of the receptor

- 8.8.4.61 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of very high value and very high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **very high**.

#### Significance of the effect

- 8.8.4.62 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is very high. The effect will be **minor adverse**, which is not significant.

### Operations and maintenance phase

### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.63 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people at/using Access Land within Eryri National Park at this location due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (as described in [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~, namely: some or all the turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.

8.8.4.64 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.65 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **very high**.

### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.66 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be negligible. The sensitivity of the receptor is very high. The effects will be **minor adverse**, which is not significant.

### Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 7 – Great Orme's Head, Llandudno

8.8.4.67 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.68 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 7.1 to 7.4 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

### Summary of visual baseline

8.8.4.69 Located in Y Gogarth/Great Orme Country Park within Access Land. An elevated, coastal panorama looking north from within LCA 8 Colwyn and North Coastline. The slopes leading down to cliffs at Great Orme's Head are visible in the immediate foreground. SCA 28 Northeast Anglesey/MCA 03 Red Wharf Bay to Conwy Bay and MCA 02 Colwyn Bay and Rhyl Flats comprise the expansive seascape in the middle

ground. MCA 04 North Wales Open Waters makes up the background seascape beyond. Gwynt y Môr and Rhyl Flats offshore wind farms form part of the view. Commercial shipping/ferries en route to/from Merseyside ports is a constant feature of the wider seascape. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

### Description of visual change

8.8.4.70 Fieldwork and analysis of the visualisation indicates visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project in the distance occupying approximately 30% (27°) of the 90° HFoV. The wind turbines would be seen at 31.2 km on the horizon as part of the broad panorama set within a seascape animated by commercial shipping/ferries with existing offshore wind farms visible in the distance to the east (e.g. Gwynt y Môr, Rhyl Flats).

8.8.4.71 At this distance the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would be visible in favourable conditions (i.e. very good visibility 20 km to 40 km approximately ~~70~~<sup>40</sup>% of the year). The wind turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

### Construction and decommissioning phases

#### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.72 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of visitors to Y Gogarth/Great Orme Country Park and people using Access Land at this location. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~) within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.

8.8.4.73 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is **negligible to small** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

#### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.74 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of high value and very high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**. This assessment reflects the popularity of the viewpoint and the importance of the location in terms of recreation and local tourism.

#### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.75 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible to small and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **minor to moderate adverse**, which are not significant.

### Operations and maintenance phase

### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.76 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of visitors to Y Gogarth/Great Orme Country Park and people using Access Land at this location due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (as described in [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~, namely: Some or all the rotating wind turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.

8.8.4.77 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and of high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **small** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.78 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.79 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be small. The sensitivity of the receptor is high to high. The effect will be **moderate adverse**, which is not significant.

### Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 8 – Mynydd y Gaer

8.8.4.80 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.81 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 8.1 and 8.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

### Summary of visual baseline

8.8.4.82 Located in Access Land. An inland panorama looking north across the limestone hills and valleys of the North Wales coast hinterland taking in LCA 9 Rhos Hills and LCA 8 Colwyn and North Coastline in the fore and middle grounds. MCA 02 Colwyn Bay and



Rhyl Flats/MCA 04 North Wales Open Waters form the background seascape. A settled coastal landscape with large and low settlements and infrastructure (e.g. pylons). Gwynt y Môr, Rhyl Flats, North Hoyle and Burbo Bank offshore wind farms form part of the view. Commercial shipping/ferries en route to/from Merseyside ports is a constant feature of the wider seascape. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development, of the Environmental Statement.

### Description of visual change

8.8.4.83 Analysis of the visualisation supported by fieldwork indicates distant visibility of part of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project occupying approximately 20% (18°) of the 90° HFoV. The wind turbines would be seen on the horizon, partially obscured by the intervening landform, set within a distant seascape containing existing offshore wind farms situated closer towards the east (e.g. Gwynt y Môr, Rhyl Flats, North Hoyle and Burbo Bank) and animated by commercial shipping/ferries.

8.8.4.84 At 45.7 km, the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would only be visible in the most favourable conditions (i.e. excellent visibility >40 km approximately 28% of the year). The turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

### Construction and decommissioning phases

#### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.85 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people at/using Access Land at this location. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~) within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.

8.8.4.86 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

#### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.87 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

#### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.88 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which is not significant.

### Operations and maintenance phase



### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.89 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people at/using Access Land at this location due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (as described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~, namely: some or all the turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.

8.8.4.90 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.91 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.92 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be negligible. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

### Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint – 9 Rhyl

8.8.4.93 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.94 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the component which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 9.1 to 9.4 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

### Summary of visual baseline

8.8.4.95 Located on a public seafront/beach. A shoreline panorama looking Northwest across the MCA 02 Colwyn Bay and Rhyl Flats inland waters in the fore/middle ground with MCA 04 North Wales Open Waters making up the background seascape. Gwynt y Môr, Rhyl Flats, North Hoyle and Burbo Bank operational offshore windfarms are

visible on the horizon. Commercial shipping/ferries en route to/from Merseyside ports is a constant feature of the wider seascape. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

### Description of visual change

8.8.4.96 Fieldwork and analysis of the visualisation indicates visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project in the distance occupying approximately 23% (21°) of the 90° HFoV. The wind turbines would be seen on the horizon, beyond and partially masked by the existing offshore wind farms in the middle ground, set within a seascape animated by commercial shipping/ferries en route to/from Merseyside.

8.8.4.97 At 38.1 km, the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would be visible in favourable conditions (i.e. very good visibility 20 km to 40 km approximately ~~70~~40% of the year). The turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

### Construction and decommissioning phases

#### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.98 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people at/using Rhyl seafront and beach. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~) within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distances specified.

8.8.4.99 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

#### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.100 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

#### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.101 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

### Operations and maintenance phase

#### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.102 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people at/using Rhyl seafront and beach due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from visibility of

both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (as described in [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~, namely: some or all the rotating wind turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.

8.8.4.103 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

**Sensitivity of the receptor**

8.8.4.104 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

**Significance of the effect**

8.8.4.105 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be negligible. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

**Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 10 – Graig Fawr, Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape**

8.8.4.106 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.107 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 10.1 and 10.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

**Summary of visual baseline**

8.8.4.108 Located in an area of Access Land, this is an elevated, inland panorama looking Northwest across the settled coastal plain characteristic of LCA 8 Colwyn and North Coastline visible in the fore/middle ground with Prestatyn prominent. MCA 02 Colwyn Bay and Rhyl Flats/MCA 04 North Wales Open Waters make up the background seascape. Gwynt y Môr, Rhyl Flats and North Hoyle operational offshore windfarms located within MCA 04 are visible in the background and on the horizon. The seascape is animated by commercial shipping/ferries en route to/from Merseyside. The existing

view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

### Description of visual change

- 8.8.4.109 Analysis of the visualisation supported by fieldwork indicates distant visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project occupying approximately 21% (19°) of the 90° HFoV. The wind turbines would be seen on the, beyond the existing offshore wind farms (Gwynt y Môr, Rhyl Flats and North Hoyle).
- 8.8.4.110 At 42.3 km, the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would only be visible in the most favourable conditions (i.e. excellent visibility >40 km approximately 28% of the year). The turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

### Construction and decommissioning phases

#### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.4.111 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people at/using Access Land at this location. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~) within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.
- 8.8.4.112 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

#### Sensitivity of the receptor

- 8.8.4.113 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

#### Significance of the effect

- 8.8.4.114 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

### Operations and maintenance phase

#### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.4.115 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people at/using Access Land at this location due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (as described in [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~, namely: some or all the rotating wind turbines and

service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.

8.8.4.116 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

**Sensitivity of the receptor**

8.8.4.117 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

**Significance of the effect**

8.8.4.118 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be negligible. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse** significance, which are not significant.

**Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 11 - Moel y Parc, Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape**

8.8.4.119 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.120 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 11.1 and 11.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

**Summary of visual baseline**

8.8.4.121 Located in- Access Land within Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape. An elevated, inland panorama looking Northwest across the upland moor and farmland characterising LCA 12 Clwydian Range occupying the fore/middle ground. MCA 02 Colwyn Bay and Rhyl Flats/MCA 04 North Wales Open Waters make up the background seascape. In excellent visibility Gwynt y Môr, Rhyl Flats and North Hoyle operational offshore windfarms located within MCA 04 are partially visible in the background on the horizon. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.



## Description of visual change

8.8.4.122 Fieldwork and analysis of the visualisation indicates visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project in the far distance occupying approximately 26% (19°) of the 75° HFoV. The wind turbines would be seen on the distant horizon, beyond the existing offshore wind farms.

8.8.4.123 At a distance of 54.1 km, the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would only be visible in the most favourable conditions (i.e. excellent visibility >40 km approximately 28% of the year). The turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

## Construction and decommissioning phases

### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.124 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people using Access Land within Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape at this location. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~) within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.

8.8.4.125 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.126 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.127 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

## Operations and maintenance phase

### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.128 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people using Access Land within Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape at this location due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (as described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~, namely: some or all the rotating wind turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.



8.8.4.129 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

#### **Sensitivity of the receptor**

8.8.4.130 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

#### **Significance of the effect**

8.8.4.131 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be negligible. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

#### **Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 12 – Wallasey embankment, Leasowe Common**

8.8.4.132 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.133 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 12.1 to 12.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

#### **Summary of visual baseline**

8.8.4.134 Located on a public seafront/beach within Access Land. A shoreline panorama looking Northwest across MCA 36 Dee Estuary and Estuaries and Coastal Waters in the fore/middle ground and MCA 35 Inner Liverpool Bay forming the background seascape. Burbo Bank offshore windfarm and oil and gas infrastructure is visible on the near horizon with North Hoyle and Gwynt y Môr beyond. Commercial shipping/ferries en route to/from Merseyside ports is a constant feature of the wider seascape. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

#### **Description of visual change**

8.8.4.135 Analysis of the visualisation supported by fieldwork indicates visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project in the distance occupying approximately 18% (17°) of the 90° HFoV. The wind turbines would be visible on the distant horizon,

beyond the existing offshore wind farms, set within a seascape animated by commercial shipping/ferries en route to/from Merseyside.

- 8.8.4.136 At 50.4 km, the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would only be visible in the most favourable conditions (i.e. excellent visibility >40 km approximately 28% of the year). The wind turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

### **Construction and decommissioning phases**

#### **Magnitude of impact**

- 8.8.4.137 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people using the seafront, beach, or Access Land at this location. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~) within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.

- 8.8.4.138 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

#### **Sensitivity of the receptor**

- 8.8.4.139 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of high value and medium susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **medium to high**.

#### **Significance of the effect**

- 8.8.4.140 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is medium to high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

### **Operations and maintenance phase**

#### **Magnitude of impact**

- 8.8.4.141 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people using the seafront, beach or Access Land at this location due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (as described in [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~, namely: some or all the rotating wind turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.

- 8.8.4.142 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the operations and maintenance phase. This

reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

### **Sensitivity of the receptor**

8.8.4.143 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **medium to high**.

### **Significance of the effect**

8.8.4.144 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be negligible. The sensitivity of the receptor is medium to high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

### **Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 13 – Sefton Coastal Footpath at Massam's Slack/Ainsdale National Nature Reserve, Formby**

8.8.4.145 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.146 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 13.1 and 13.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

### **Summary of visual baseline**

8.8.4.147 Located on a public seafront/beach near Sefton Coastal Path. A shoreline panorama looking west from Ainsdale National Nature Reserve within the settled coastal landscape of National Character Area (NCA) 57 Sefton Coast. The characteristic gently shelving sandy shore is visible in the foreground with MCA 34 Blackpool Coastal Waters and Ribble Estuary making up the middle/background seascape. Burbo Bank operational offshore windfarm is visible on the near horizon on the left with Gwynt y Môr beyond. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

### **Description of visual change**

8.8.4.148 Fieldwork and analysis of the visualisation indicates distant visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project occupying approximately 22% (20°) of the 90° HFoV. The wind turbines would be visible on the distant horizon, set within a seascape animated by existing offshore wind farms (e.g. Burbo Bank) and commercial shipping/ferries en route to/from Merseyside.

8.8.4.149 At 46.9 km, the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would only be visible in the most favourable conditions (i.e. excellent visibility >40 km approximately 28% of the year). The turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

### Construction and decommissioning phases

#### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.150 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people using the seafront, beach, or Access Land at this location. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~) within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.

8.8.4.151 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

#### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.152 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

#### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.153 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

### Operations and maintenance phase

#### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.154 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people using the seafront/beach at this location due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (as described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~, namely: some or all the turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.

8.8.4.155 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is **negligible** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.156 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.157 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be negligible. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effect will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which is not significant.

### Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 15 – Blackpool North Pier

8.8.4.158 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.159 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 14.1 to 14.4 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

### Summary of visual baseline

8.8.4.160 Located on a public seafront/pier. A framed panorama from Blackpool North Pier looking west out over MCA 34 Blackpool Coastal Waters and Ribble Estuary forming the middle/background seascape in the view. An iconic Victorian resort seafront set within an urban coastal landscape context, located within NCA 32 Lancashire and Amounderness Plain. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

### Description of visual change

8.8.4.161 Fieldwork and analysis of the visualisation indicates distant visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project occupying approximately 27% (24°) of the 90° HFoV. The turbines would be visible on the distant horizon, set within an open seascape relatively free of offshore infrastructure.

8.8.4.162 At 51.4 km, the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would only be visible in the most favourable conditions (i.e. excellent visibility >40 km approximately 28% of the year). The turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

### Construction and decommissioning phases



### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.4.163 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people using the seafront/pier at this location. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~) within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.
- 8.8.4.164 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

- 8.8.4.165 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

### Significance of the effect

- 8.8.4.166 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

## Operations and maintenance phase

### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.4.167 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people using the seafront/pier at this location due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (as described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~, namely: some or all the turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.
- 8.8.4.168 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

- 8.8.4.169 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

### Significance of the effect

- 8.8.4.170 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this



viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be negligible. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

### **Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 18 – Herring Tower Trig Point, Langness Peninsula, Isle of Man**

8.8.4.171 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.172 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 15.1 and 15.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

#### **Summary of visual baseline**

8.8.4.173 Located on a PROW at local landmark. Wide coastal panorama looking east from Langness Peninsula across MCA A Dreswick Point to Maughold Head, Isle of Man Southeast Inshore Waters (RPS defined). A rocky, relatively undeveloped coast. The inshore waters are animated by coastal commercial shipping/ferries, fishing vessels and recreational sailing. The west edge of Walney offshore wind farm (Walney Extension) is visible on the far horizon in the most favourable conditions. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

#### **Description of visual change**

8.8.4.174 Fieldwork and analysis of the visualisation indicates visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project in the distance occupying approximately 21% (19°) of the 90° HFoV. The turbines would be visible on the distant horizon, set within a seascape occasionally animated by commercial shipping/ferries.

8.8.4.175 At 47.5 km, the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would only be visible in the most favourable conditions (i.e. excellent visibility >40 km approximately 28% of the year). The turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

#### **Construction and decommissioning phases**

##### **Magnitude of impact**

8.8.4.176 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people using the PROW at this location. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~) within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.

8.8.4.177 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

**Sensitivity of the receptor**

8.8.4.178 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

**Significance of the effect**

8.8.4.179 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

**Operations and maintenance phase**

**Magnitude of impact**

8.8.4.180 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people using the PROW at this location due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (as described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~, namely: some or all the rotating wind turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.

8.8.4.181 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

**Sensitivity of the receptor**

8.8.4.182 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

**Significance of the effect**

8.8.4.183 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be negligible. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

### Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 19 – Panoramic Viewpoint at arch Southwest of Douglas Head, Isle of Man

8.8.4.184 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.185 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 16.1 and 16.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

#### **Summary of visual baseline**

8.8.4.186 Located at a public binocular viewpoint. Broad panorama looking east across Douglas Bay fringed by Douglas settlement. MCA A Dreswick Point to Maughold Head, Isle of Man Southeast Inshore Waters (RPS defined) form wider seascape. The adjacent inshore waters are animated by coastal commercial shipping, mainland ferries, fishing vessels and recreational sailing. The west edge of Walney offshore wind farm (Walney Extension) is visible on the far horizon left of frame. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

#### **Description of visual change**

8.8.4.187 Analysis of the visualisation supported by fieldwork indicates visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project in the distance occupying approximately 19% (17°) of the 90° HFoV. The wind turbines would be visible on the distant horizon, appearing further away than the existing Walney Extension, set within a seascape animated by commercial shipping/ferries.

8.8.4.188 At 46.8 km, the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would only be visible in the most favourable conditions (i.e. excellent visibility >40 km approximately 28% of the year). The wind turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

#### **Construction and decommissioning phases**

##### **Magnitude of impact**

8.8.4.189 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people at the public binocular viewpoint and this part of Douglas Head. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~) within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.

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8.8.4.190 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

- 8.8.4.191 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

### Significance of the effect

- 8.8.4.192 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

### Operations and maintenance phase

#### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.4.193 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people at the public binocular viewpoint and this part of Douglas Head due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (as described in [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~, namely: some or all the rotating wind turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.
- 8.8.4.194 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is **negligible** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

- 8.8.4.195 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

### Significance of the effect

- 8.8.4.196 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be negligible. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effect will be **negligible to minor adverse** which are not significant.

### Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 21 – Liverpool to Dublin (Ireland) Ferry

- 8.8.4.197 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~):
- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)

- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.198 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figure 17.1 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

### Summary of visual baseline

8.8.4.199 Representative 360° view within/across MCA 04 North Wales Open Waters/SCA 28 Northeast of Anglesey. Located approximately 8 km south of the Mona Array Area, 15 km north of Great Orme's Head and 30 km east of Point Lynas, Anglesey. The North Wales coast with the Eryri mountain range beyond is visible to the south; on good days the north coast of Anglesey is in view further to the west. The Isle of Man is a distant presence on the horizon to the Northwest in the most favourable conditions. Gwynt y Môr offshore wind farm lies 10 km to the east with oil and gas infrastructure. Burbo Bank is visible beyond. The ferry route passes through/close to the north of these offshore wind farm groups, the influence of which diminishes further west travelling towards Dublin and vice versa on the return journey. Commercial shipping en route to/from Merseyside ports (some vessels moored waiting for Liverpool pilot) is a constant feature of the seascape at this point, and of the ferry route. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

### Description of visual change

8.8.4.200 Analysis of the visualisation supported by fieldwork indicates distant visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project occupying approximately 77% (69°) of the 90° HFoV. The closest turbine would be approximately 9.3 km distant. Views to the west, south and east would remain unchanged.

### Construction and decommissioning phases

#### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.201 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of ferry passengers in transit at this location. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~) within the Mona Array Area, the closest turbine being situated over 9 km away.

8.8.4.202 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is therefore considered to be **small to medium** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

#### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.203 The views/visual amenity of people (ferry passengers in transit) at this viewpoint is deemed to be of medium value and medium susceptibility to the proposed. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **medium**.



**Significance of the effect**

8.8.4.204 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by ferry passengers in transit at this location during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be small to medium development and the sensitivity of the receptor is medium. The effects will be **minor to moderate adverse**, which are not significant. This assessment considers that ferry passengers in transit are generally confined to the cabin/interior of the vessel.

**Operations and maintenance phase**

**Magnitude of impact**

8.8.4.205 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of ferry passengers in transit at this location due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (as described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~ , namely: some or all the rotating wind turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape in one direction.

8.8.4.206 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and of high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **medium** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

**Sensitivity of the receptor**

8.8.4.207 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **medium**.

**Significance of the effect**

8.8.4.208 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by ferry passengers in transit at this location, approximately 8 km from the closest turbine, is deemed to be medium. The sensitivity of the receptor is medium. The effect will be **moderate adverse**, which is not significant, due to the dynamic nature and context of receptors. This assessment considers that ferry passengers in transit are generally confined to the cabin/interior of the vessel.

**Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 22 – Liverpool to Douglas (Isle of Man) Ferry**

8.8.4.209 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)

- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.210 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figure 18.1 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

### Summary of visual baseline

8.8.4.211 Representative 360° view approximately 9 km northeast of the Mona Array Area about halfway between Liverpool and Douglas. West of Duddon Sands and Walney offshore wind farms feature in views to the northeast. Static sea infrastructure and offshore wind farms (including Gwynt y Môr) off north Wales coast are visible to the south. Isle of Man barely discernible on the horizon to the Northwest. The representative viewpoint location coincides with the north part of the Mona Array Area. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

### Description of visual change

8.8.4.212 Mona Array Area is located to the south/west of the ferry route at this point. The MDS would extend outside the visualisation, occupying around 91% (82°) of the 90° HFoV. The closest wind turbine would be approximately 9.4 km distant. Views to the north and east would remain unchanged.

### Construction and decommissioning phases

#### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.213 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of ferry passengers in transit at this location. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~) within the Mona Array Area, the closest turbine being situated approximately 9 km away.

8.8.4.214 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and of high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is small to **medium** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

#### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.215 The views/visual amenity of people (ferry passengers in transit) at this viewpoint is deemed to be of medium value and medium susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **medium**.

#### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.216 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by ferry passengers in transit at this location during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be medium and the sensitivity of the receptor is medium. The effects will be **moderate adverse**, which are not significant. This assessment considers that ferry passengers in transit are generally confined to the cabin/interior of the vessel.

## Operations and maintenance phase

### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.217 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of ferry passengers in transit at this location due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (namely: some or all the rotating wind turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape in one direction.

8.8.4.218 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **medium** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.219 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **medium**.

### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.220 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by ferry passengers in transit at this location, approximately 9 km from the closest turbine, is deemed to be medium. The sensitivity of the receptor is medium. The effect will be **moderate adverse**, which is not significant, due to the dynamic nature and context of the views. This assessment considers that ferry passengers in transit are generally confined to the cabin/interior of the vessel.

### Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 23 – Heysham to Douglas (Isle of Man) Ferry

8.8.4.221 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.222 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figure 19.1 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

### Summary of visual baseline

8.8.4.223 Representative 360° view approximately 28.8 km northeast of the Mona Array Area about halfway between Heysham and Douglas. West of Duddon Sands and Walney offshore wind farms form a constant feature within the seascape to the north for much of the middle section of the ferry journey. Static marine infrastructure is visible to the south where the Mona Array Area is proposed to be located. The North Wales coast offshore wind farms are only discernible in very clear conditions at long distance. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

**Description of visual change**

8.8.4.224 Mona Array Area is located to the south/west of the ferry route at this point. All the wind turbines would be visible to the southwest in favourable conditions/visibility at approximately 31.6 km distance. Analysis of the visualisation supported by fieldwork indicates distant visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project occupying approximately 40% (36°) of the 75° HFoV. Views to the north and east would remain unchanged.

**Construction and decommissioning phases**

**Magnitude of impact**

8.8.4.225 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of ferry passengers in transit at this location. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in [Table 8.17](#)) within the Mona Array Area, the closest turbine being situated over 30 km away.

8.8.4.226 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is therefore considered to be **negligible to small** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

**Sensitivity of the receptor**

8.8.4.227 The views/visual amenity of people (ferry passengers in transit) at this viewpoint is deemed to be of medium value and medium susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **medium**.

**Significance of the effect**

8.8.4.228 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by ferry passengers in transit at this location during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible to small and the sensitivity of the receptor is medium. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant. This assessment considers that ferry passengers in transit are generally confined to the cabin/interior of the vessel.

**Operations and maintenance phase**

### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.229 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of ferry passengers in transit at this location due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (namely: some or all the turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape in one direction.

8.8.4.230 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is **small** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.231 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **medium**.

### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.232 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by ferry passengers in transit at this location, over 30 km from the closest turbine, is deemed to be small. The sensitivity of the receptor is medium. The effect will be **minor adverse**, which is not significant. This assessment considers that ferry passengers in transit are generally confined to the cabin/interior of the vessel.

### Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 24 – Bull Bay, Amlwch, Isle of Anglesey National Landscape

8.8.4.233 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.234 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 20.1 and 20.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

### Summary of visual baseline

8.8.4.235 Located on Wales Coast Path in- Access Land within Anglesey National Landscape. A coastal panorama looking northeast across Bull Bay from LCA 1 Anglesey Coast and coterminous SCA 8 Amlwch and Cemaes visible in the fore/middle grounds. MCA 04 North Wales Open Waters/MCA 05 Northwest Anglesey Open Waters and SCA 28



Northeast Anglesey/SCA 29 North of Anglesey make up the background seascape. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

### Description of visual change

- 8.8.4.236 Fieldwork and analysis of the visualisation indicates visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project in the distance occupying approximately 37% (33°) of the 90° HFoV. The wind turbines would be seen at 31.9 km on the horizon as part of the wide coastal panorama set within a seascape animated by commercial shipping/ferries. At this distance the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would be visible in favourable conditions (i.e. very good visibility 20 km to 40 km approximately ~~70~~<sup>40</sup>% of the year). The turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

### Construction and decommissioning phases

#### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.4.237 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people at/using Wales Coast Path or Access Land within Anglesey National Landscape at this location. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~) within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.
- 8.8.4.238 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is **negligible to small** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

#### Sensitivity of the receptor

- 8.8.4.239 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

#### Significance of the effect

- 8.8.4.240 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible to small and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effect will be **minor adverse**, which is not significant.

### Operations and maintenance phase

#### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.4.241 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people at/using ~~Access Land~~ within Anglesey National Landscape at this location due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (as described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~ ,



namely: some or all the rotating wind turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.

8.8.4.242 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **small** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

**Sensitivity of the receptor**

8.8.4.243 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

**Significance of the effect**

8.8.4.244 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be small. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **minor to moderate adverse**, which are not significant.

**Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 25 – Moelfre Headland, Isle of Anglesey National Landscape**

8.8.4.245 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.246 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 21.1 and 21.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

**Summary of visual baseline**

8.8.4.247 Located on Wales Coast Path in an area of Access Land within Isle of Anglesey National Landscape. A coastal panorama comprising LCA 1 Anglesey Coast and the coterminous SCA 7 Dulas Bay/SCA 6 Red Wharf Bay to Moelfre/MCA 03 Red Wharf Bay to Conwy Bay in the fore/middle grounds. MCA 04 North Wales Open Waters/SCA 28 Northeast Anglesey forms the background seascape. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

**Description of visual change**

## MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

8.8.4.248 Analysis of the visualisation supported by fieldwork indicates distant visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project occupying approximately 35% (31°) of the 90° HFoV. The wind turbines would be seen on the horizon at 33.2 km as part of the broad coastal panorama set within a seascape animated by commercial shipping/ferries.

8.8.4.249 At this distance the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would be visible in favourable conditions (i.e. very good visibility 20 km to 40 km approximately ~~70~~<sup>40</sup>% of the year). The wind turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

### Construction and decommissioning phases

#### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.250 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people at/using Wales Coast Path or Access Land within the Isle of Anglesey National Landscape at this location. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)) within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.

8.8.4.251 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is **negligible to small** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

#### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.252 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

#### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.253 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible to small and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effect will be **minor adverse**, which is not significant.

### Operations and maintenance phase

#### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.254 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people at/using Access Land within the Isle of Anglesey National Landscape at this location due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (namely: some or all the turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.

8.8.4.255 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **small** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

**Sensitivity of the receptor**

8.8.4.256 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

**Significance of the effect**

8.8.4.257 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be small. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **minor to moderate adverse**, which are not significant.

**Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 26 – Yr Arwydd trig point, near Mynydd Bodafon, Isle of Anglesey National Landscape**

8.8.4.258 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.259 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 22.1 and 22.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

**Summary of visual baseline**

8.8.4.260 Located in- Access Land within the Isle of Anglesey National Landscape. A sweeping, inland panorama looking northeast comprising LCA 1 Anglesey Coast and the overlapping SCA 7 Dulas Bay/MCA and 03 Red Wharf Bay to Conwy Bay in the fore and middle grounds. MCA 04 North Wales Open Waters/SCA 28 Northeast of Anglesey make up in the background seascape. Existing offshore wind farms including Gwynt y Môr are barely visible. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

**Description of visual change**

8.8.4.261 Fieldwork and analysis of the visualisation indicates visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project at 36.4 km occupying approximately 33% (30°) of

the 90° HFoV. The wind turbines would be seen as part of the wide inland panorama, on the horizon set within a seascape animated by commercial shipping/ferries.

- 8.8.4.262 At this distance the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would be visible in favourable conditions (i.e. very good visibility 20 km to 40 km approximately ~~70~~<sup>40</sup>% of the year). The turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

### **Construction and decommissioning phases**

#### **Magnitude of impact**

- 8.8.4.263 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people at/using ~~Access~~ Land within the Isle of Anglesey National Landscape at this location. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~) within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.

- 8.8.4.264 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is **negligible to small** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

#### **Sensitivity of the receptor**

- 8.8.4.265 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

#### **Significance of the effect**

- 8.8.4.266 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible to small and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effect will be **minor adverse**, which is not significant.

### **Operations and maintenance phase**

#### **Magnitude of impact**

- 8.8.4.267 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people at/using ~~Access~~ Land within the Isle of Anglesey National Landscape at this location due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (as described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~), namely: some or all the rotating wind turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.

- 8.8.4.268 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **small** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects

the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

### **Sensitivity of the receptor**

8.8.4.269 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

### **Significance of the effect**

8.8.4.270 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be small. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **minor to moderate adverse**, which are not significant.

### **Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 27 – Benllech**

8.8.4.271 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.272 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 23.1 to 23.4 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

### **Summary of visual baseline**

8.8.4.273 Located on a public seafront/beach within Benllech settlement. A partly built-up coastal panorama looking northeast across Red Wharf Bay comprising LCA 1 Anglesey Coast and the coterminous SCA 6 Red Wharf Bay to Moelfre, and MCA 03 Red Wharf Bay to Conwy Bay in the fore and middle grounds. MCA 04 North Wales Open Waters/SCA 28 Northeast Anglesey forms the background seascape. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

### **Description of visual change**

8.8.4.274 Analysis of the visualisation supported by fieldwork indicates distant visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project occupying approximately 31% (28°) of the 90° HFoV. The wind turbines would be seen at 37.1 km as part of the coastal panorama, on the horizon, set within a seascape animated by commercial shipping/ferries.

8.8.4.275 At this distance the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would be visible in favourable conditions (i.e. very good visibility 20 km to 40 km approximately



7040% of the year). The turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

## Construction and decommissioning phases

### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.276 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people using the seafront/beach at Benllech. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~) within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.

8.8.4.277 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is **negligible** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.278 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.279 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

## Operations and maintenance phase

### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.280 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people using the seafront/beach at Benllech due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (as described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~, namely: some or all the rotating wind turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.

8.8.4.281 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **small** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.



### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.282 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.283 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be small. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **minor to moderate adverse**, which are not significant.

### Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 28 – Penmon Point, Isle of Anglesey National Landscape

8.8.4.284 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.285 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 24.1 and 24.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

### Summary of visual baseline

8.8.4.286 Located on Wales Coast Path at Penmon Point Beach within the Isle of Anglesey National Landscape. A coastal panorama looking north from the northeast tip of Anglesey. LCA 1 Anglesey Coast and the adjacent SCA 5 Penmon/SCA 6 Red Wharf Bay to Moelfre/MCA 03 Red Wharf Bay to Conwy Bay make up the fore and middle grounds. MCA 04 North Wales Open Waters/SCA 28 Northeast Anglesey forms the background seascape. Penmon Lighthouse and Puffin Island are conspicuous landmarks and visual foci nearby. Part of the existing Gwynt y Môr offshore windfarm is visible. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

### Description of visual change

8.8.4.287 Fieldwork and analysis of the visualisation indicates visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project at 35.2 km occupying approximately 29% (26°) of the 90° HFoV. The turbines would be seen on the horizon as part of the coastal panorama set within a seascape animated by commercial shipping/ferries with existing offshore wind farms visible in the distance to the east (e.g. Gwynt y Môr).

8.8.4.288 At this distance the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would be visible in favourable conditions (i.e. very good visibility 20 km to 40 km approximately

7040% of the year). The turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

## Construction and decommissioning phases

### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.289 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people on Wales Coast Path at Penmon Point Beach within the Isle of Anglesey National Landscape. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~) within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.

8.8.4.290 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is **negligible** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.291 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.292 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

## Operations and maintenance phase

### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.293 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people on Wales Coast Path at Penmon Point Beach within the Isle of Anglesey National Landscape due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (as described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~, namely: some or all the rotating wind turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.

8.8.4.294 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **small** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.295 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.296 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be small. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **minor to moderate adverse**, which are not significant.

### Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 29 – Base of Moel Wnion, Eryri National Park

8.8.4.297 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.298 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 25.1 and 25.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

### Summary of visual baseline

8.8.4.299 Located on North Wales Path in- Access Land within Eryri National Park. An elevated panorama looking north across Conwy Bay with LCA 3 Arfon in the foreground. The enclosed tidal waters in the middle ground comprise SCA 2 Conwy estuary/SCA3 Conwy Bay/MCA 03 Red Wharf Bay to Conwy Bay. MCA 04 North Wales Open Waters/SCA 28 Northeast Anglesey form the background seascape. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

### Description of visual change

8.8.4.300 Analysis of the visualisation supported by fieldwork indicates distant visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project occupying approximately 23% (21°) of the 90° HFoV. The wind turbines would be seen on the horizon as part of the elevated coastal panorama set within a distant seascape animated by commercial shipping/ferries.

8.8.4.301 At 45.5 km, offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would only be visible in the most favourable conditions (i.e. excellent visibility >40 km approximately 28% of the year). The turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

## Construction and decommissioning phases

### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.302 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people using North Wales Path or -Access Land within Eryri National Park at this location. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~) within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.

8.8.4.303 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.304 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.305 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

## Operations and maintenance phase

### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.306 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people using North Wales Path or - Access Land within Eryri National Park at this location due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (as described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~, namely: some or all the rotating wind turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.

8.8.4.307 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.308 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.309 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be negligible. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effect will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

### Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 30 – Garreg Fawr, Eryri National Park

8.8.4.310 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.311 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 26.1 and 26.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

### Summary of visual baseline

8.8.4.312 Located on North Wales Path in- Access Land within Eryri National Park. An elevated, framed panorama looking north across Conwy Bay with the east-facing slopes of LCA 6 Eryri descending to LCA 3 Arfon in the foreground. The enclosed estuarine waters in the middle ground constitute SCA 2 Conwy Estuary/SCA3 Conwy Bay/MCA 03 Red Wharf Bay to Conwy Bay. MCA 04 North Wales Open Waters/SCA 28 Northeast Anglesey form the background seascape partially masked by the rising landform of Garreg Fawr right of frame. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

### Description of visual change

8.8.4.313 Fieldwork and analysis of the visualisation indicates partial visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project in the distance occupying approximately 24% (22°) of the 90° HFoV, seen on the horizon as part of the elevated estuarine panorama, set within a distant seascape animated by commercial shipping/ferries.

8.8.4.314 At a distance of 42.1 km, the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would only be visible in the most favourable conditions (i.e. excellent visibility >40 km approximately 28% of the year). The turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

### Construction and decommissioning phases



### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.315 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people using North Wales Path or Access Land within Eryri National Park at this location. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~) within part of the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.

8.8.4.316 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.317 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.318 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

## Operations and maintenance phase

### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.319 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people using North Wales Path or Access Land within Eryri National Park at this location due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from partial visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (as described in [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~, namely: some or all the turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.

8.8.4.320 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.321 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.



### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.322 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be negligible. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

### Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 31 – Tal y Fan summit, Eryri National Park

8.8.4.323 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.324 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 27.1 and 27.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

### Summary of visual baseline

8.8.4.325 Located at the summit of Tal y Fan in an area of Access Land within Eryri National Park. A sweeping, inland panorama looking north across the north peaks and slopes within Eryri National Park with the distinctive Great Orme's Head standing out right of centre frame. The expansive view encompasses LCA 6 Eryri and MCA 03 Red Wharf Bay to Conwy Bay/SCA 2 Conwy Bay in the fore and middle grounds. MCA 04 North Wales Open Waters/SCA 28 Northeast Anglesey make up the seascape background. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

### Description of visual change

8.8.4.326 Analysis of the visualisation supported by fieldwork indicates distant visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project occupying approximately 24% (31°) of the 90° HFoV. The wind turbines would be seen on the horizon as part of the elevated inland panorama set within a distant seascape animated by commercial shipping/ferries with existing offshore wind farms visible towards the east including Gwynt y Môr, Rhyl Flats and North Hoyle).

8.8.4.327 At 42 km, the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would only be visible in the most favourable conditions (i.e. excellent visibility >40 km approximately 28% of the year). The turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

### Construction and decommissioning phases

### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.4.328 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people using Access Land within Eryri National Park at this location. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~) within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.
- 8.8.4.329 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

- 8.8.4.330 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

### Significance of the effect

- 8.8.4.331 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

## Operations and maintenance phase

### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.4.332 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people using Access Land within Eryri National Park at this location due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (as described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~, namely: some or all the turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.
- 8.8.4.333 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

- 8.8.4.334 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.335 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be negligible. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effect will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which is not significant.

### Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 32 – Foel Lus summit, Eryri National Park

8.8.4.336 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.337 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 28.1 and 28.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

### Summary of visual baseline

8.8.4.338 Located at the summit of Foel Lus in ~~an~~[an](#) area of Access Land within Eryri National Park. An elevated, coastal panorama looking north from the north edge of Eryri National Park across Conwy Bay. Great Orme's Head and Little Orme's Head are visible on the right framing Llandudno settlement in between. The broad view encompasses LCA 6 Eryri and MCA 03 Red Wharf Bay to Conwy Bay/SCA 2 Conwy Bay in the fore and middle grounds. LCA 8 Colwyn and North Coastline and MCA 04 North Wales Open Waters/SCA 28 Northeast Anglesey make up the coast and seascape in the background. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

### Description of visual change

8.8.4.339 Fieldwork and analysis of the visualisation indicates visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project in the distance occupying approximately 26% (23°) of the 90° HFoV. The wind turbines would be seen on the horizon as part of the elevated coastal panorama set within a distant seascape animated by commercial shipping/ferries with existing offshore wind farms visible towards the east including Gwynt y Môr, Rhyl Flats and North Hoyle).

8.8.4.340 At 38.5 km, the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would be visible in favourable conditions (i.e. very good visibility 20 km to 40 km approximately ~~70~~[40](#)% of the year). The turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

### Construction and decommissioning phases

### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.4.341 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people using Access Land within Eryri National Park at this location. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~) within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.
- 8.8.4.342 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

- 8.8.4.343 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

### Significance of the effect

- 8.8.4.344 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

## Operations and maintenance phase

### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.4.345 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people using Access Land within Eryri National Park at this location due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (as described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~, namely: some or all the rotating wind turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.
- 8.8.4.346 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

- 8.8.4.347 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.348 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be negligible. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effect will be **negligible to minor adverse** which is not significant.

### Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 33 – Conwy Mountain summit, Eryri National Park

8.8.4.349 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.350 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 29.1 and 29.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

### Summary of visual baseline

8.8.4.351 Located at the summit of Conwy Mountain in an area of Access Land within Eryri National Park. An elevated, coastal panorama at the north edge of Eryri National Park looking north across Conwy Bay. Part of Conwy settlement is visible with Llandudno framed by Great Orme's Head and Little Orme's Head beyond. The view encompasses LCA 6 Eryri and MCA 03 Red Wharf Bay to Conwy Bay/SCA 2 Conwy Bay in the fore and middle grounds. LCA 8 Colwyn and North Coastline and MCA 04 North Wales Open Waters/SCA 28 Northeast Anglesey make up the coast and seascape in the background. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

### Description of visual change

8.8.4.352 Analysis of the visualisation supported by fieldwork indicates distant visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project occupying approximately 26% (24°) of the 90° HFoV. The wind turbines would be seen on the horizon as part of the elevated coastal panorama set within a distant seascape animated by commercial shipping/ferries with existing offshore wind farms visible towards the east (e.g. Gwynt y Môr, Rhyl Flats and North Hoyle).

8.8.4.353 At 36.7 km, the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would be visible in favourable conditions (i.e. very good visibility 20 km to 40 km approximately ~~70~~[40](#)% of the year). The wind turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

### Construction and decommissioning phases



### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.4.354 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people using Access Land within Eryri National Park at this location. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements (described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~) within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.
- 8.8.4.355 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and of high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

- 8.8.4.356 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

### Significance of the effect

- 8.8.4.357 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

## Operations and maintenance phase

### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.4.358 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people using Access Land within Eryri National Park at this location due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (as described in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~, namely: some or all the rotating wind turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.
- 8.8.4.359 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and of high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **small** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

- 8.8.4.360 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.



## Significance of the effect

8.8.4.361 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be small. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effect will be **minor to moderate adverse**, which is not significant.

### Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 34 – Little Orme’s Head, Llandudno

8.8.4.362 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.363 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 30.1 and 30.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

### Summary of visual baseline

8.8.4.364 Located in Access Land near Wales Coast Path. An elevated, coastal panorama looking north encompassing LCA 8 Colwyn and North Coastline in the immediate foreground, and SCA 28 Northeast Anglesey/MCA 03 Red Wharf Bay to Conwy Bay and MCA 02 Colwyn Bay and Rhyl Flats comprising the fore/middle ground seascape. MCA 04 North Wales Open Waters makes up the background seascape. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

### Description of visual change

8.8.4.365 Fieldwork and analysis of the visualisation indicates visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project in the distance occupying approximately 28% (25°) of the 90° HFoV. The wind turbines would be seen at 31.8 km on the horizon as part of the broad panorama set within a seascape animated by commercial shipping/ferries with existing offshore wind farms visible in the distance to the east (e.g. Gwynt y Môr, Rhyl Flats, North Hoyle and Burbo Bank).

8.8.4.366 At this distance the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would be visible in favourable conditions (i.e. very good visibility 20 km to 40 km approximately ~~70~~40% of the year). The turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

### Construction and decommissioning phases

**Magnitude of impact**

- 8.8.4.367 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people using Access Land at this location. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.
- 8.8.4.368 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and of high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is therefore considered to be **negligible to small** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

**Sensitivity of the receptor**

- 8.8.4.369 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

**Significance of the effect**

- 8.8.4.370 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible to small and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effect will be **minor adverse** significance, which is not significant.

**Operations and maintenance phase**
**Magnitude of impact**

- 8.8.4.371 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people using Access Land at this location due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (some or all the turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.
- 8.8.4.372 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and of high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **small** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

**Sensitivity of the receptor**

- 8.8.4.373 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

**Significance of the effect**

- 8.8.4.374 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be small. The sensitivity of

the receptor is high. The effects will be **minor to moderate adverse**, which are not significant.

### **Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 35 – Bryn Euryn Nature Reserve**

8.8.4.375 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.376 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 31.1 and 31.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

#### **Summary of visual baseline**

8.8.4.377 Located in Bryn Euryn Nature Reserve. A coastal panorama looking north across the settled LCA 8 Colwyn and North Coastline with Rhos on Sea and Penrhyn Bay in the fore/middle ground. MCA 02 Colwyn Bay and Rhyl Flats/MCA 04 North Wales Open Waters form the background seascape. Parts of Gwynt y Môr and Rhyl Flats offshore wind farms are visible on the horizon right of frame. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

#### **Description of visual change**

8.8.4.378 Analysis of the visualisation supported by fieldwork indicates distant visibility of part of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project occupying approximately 26% (23°) of the 90° HFoV. The wind turbines would be seen on the horizon, set within a distant seascape containing existing offshore wind farms, closer towards the east (e.g. Gwynt y Môr and Rhyl Flats) and animated by commercial shipping/ferries.

8.8.4.379 At 34.6 km, the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would be visible in favourable conditions (i.e. very good visibility 20 km to 40 km approximately ~~70~~40% of the year). The turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

#### **Construction and decommissioning phases**

##### **Magnitude of impact**

8.8.4.380 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people using ~~Access~~ Land within Eryri National Park at this location. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.

8.8.4.381 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and of high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

**Sensitivity of the receptor**

8.8.4.382 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

**Significance of the effect**

8.8.4.383 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

**Operations and maintenance phase**

**Magnitude of impact**

8.8.4.384 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people using Access Land within Eryri National Park at this location due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (some or all the turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.

8.8.4.385 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and of high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **small** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

**Sensitivity of the receptor**

8.8.4.386 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

**Significance of the effect**

8.8.4.387 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be small. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effect will be **minor to moderate adverse**, which is not significant.

### Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 36 – Bryn y Maen

8.8.4.388 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.389 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 32.1 and 32.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

#### Summary of visual baseline

8.8.4.390 High point on the public footpath to the south of Cilgwyn Mawr. An inland panorama looking north towards the coast from LCA 9 Rhos Hills across LCA 8 Colwyn and North Coastline in the middle ground. MCA 02 Colwyn Bay and Rhyl Flats/MCA 04 North Wales Open Waters form the background seascape. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

#### Description of visual change

8.8.4.391 Fieldwork and analysis of the visualisation indicates distant visibility of part of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project occupying approximately 23% (21°) of the 90° HFoV. The wind turbines would be seen on the horizon, set within a distant seascape and animated by commercial shipping/ferries.

8.8.4.392 At 39 km, the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would be visible in favourable conditions (i.e. very good visibility 20 km to 40 km approximately ~~70~~**40**% of the year). The wind turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

### Construction and decommissioning phases

#### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.393 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people using the public footpath at this location. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.

8.8.4.394 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.



**Sensitivity of the receptor**

8.8.4.395 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

**Significance of the effect**

8.8.4.396 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

**Operations and maintenance phase**

**Magnitude of impact**

8.8.4.397 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people using the public footpath at this location due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (some or all the turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.

8.8.4.398 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

**Sensitivity of the receptor**

8.8.4.399 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

**Significance of the effect**

8.8.4.400 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be negligible. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effect will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

**Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 37 – Pen-y- Corddyn-Mawr**

8.8.4.401 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)



- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.402 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 33.1 and 33.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

### Summary of visual baseline

8.8.4.403 Located within an area of Access Land, this is a framed, coastal view looking north from within LCA 8 Colwyn and North Coastline making up the foreground with Llandulas visible on the coastal plain. MCA 02 Colwyn Bay and Rhyl Flats/MCA 04 North Wales Open Waters form the background seascape. Parts of Gwynt y Môr and Rhyl Flats offshore wind farms are visible on the near horizon right of frame. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

### Description of visual change

8.8.4.404 Analysis of the visualisation supported by fieldwork indicates distant visibility of part of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project occupying approximately 22% (20°) of the 90° HFoV. The wind turbines would be seen on the horizon, set within a distant seascape containing existing offshore wind farms, closer towards the east (e.g. Gwynt y Môr, Rhyl Flats) and animated by commercial shipping/ferries.

8.8.4.405 At 39.3 km, the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would be visible in favourable conditions (i.e. very good visibility 20 km to 40 km approximately ~~70~~<sup>40</sup>% of the year). The turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

### Construction and decommissioning phases

#### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.406 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people using the Access Land at this location. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.

8.8.4.407 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and of high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

#### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.408 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.409 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

### Operations and maintenance phase

#### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.410 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people using the Access Land at this location due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (some or all the turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.

8.8.4.411 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and of high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

#### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.412 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.413 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be negligible. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effect will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which is not significant.

### Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 38 – Moelfre Isaf

8.8.4.414 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.415 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 34.1 and

34.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

### Summary of visual baseline

8.8.4.416 Located on a PROW. An inland panorama from LCA 9 Rhos Hills looking north towards the coast across LCA 8 Colwyn and North Coastline in the middle ground. Abergele is visible on the coastal plain. MCA 02 Colwyn Bay and Rhyl Flats/MCA 04 North Wales Open Waters form the background seascape. Gwynt y Môr, Rhyl Flats, North Hoyle and Burbo Bank offshore wind farms are visible on the horizon extending from centre to right of frame. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

### Description of visual change

8.8.4.417 Fieldwork and analysis of the visualisation indicates distant visibility of a very small portion of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project occupying approximately 21% (19°) of the 90° HFoV. The wind turbines would be seen on the horizon, set within a distant seascape containing existing offshore wind farms, closer towards the east (e.g. Gwynt y Môr, Rhyl Flats) and animated by commercial shipping/ferries.

8.8.4.418 At 43.4 km, the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would only be visible in the most favourable conditions (i.e. excellent visibility >40 km approximately 28% of the year). The turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

### Construction and decommissioning phases

#### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.419 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people using the PROW at this location. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements within part of the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.

8.8.4.420 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and of high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

#### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.421 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

#### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.422 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which is not significant.

## Operations and maintenance phase

### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.423 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people using the PROW at this location due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from partial visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (namely: some or all the turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.

8.8.4.424 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and of high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.425 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.426 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at an approximate distance of 40 km offshore, is deemed to be negligible. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

### Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 39 – Prestatyn Hillside, Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape

8.8.4.427 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.428 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 35.1 and 35.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

### Summary of visual baseline

8.8.4.429 Located on Offa's Dyke Path National Trail. An elevated view looking north across the settled coastal plain from within LCA 8 Colwyn and North Coastline at the north edge of the Clwydian Range National Landscape. Prestatyn is visible immediately in the foreground. MCA 02 Colwyn Bay and Rhyl Flats/MCA 04 North Wales Open Waters form the background seascape. Gwynt y Môr, Rhyl Flats, North Hoyle and Burbo Bank offshore wind farms extend across much of the seaward view. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

### Description of visual change

8.8.4.430 Analysis of the visualisation supported by fieldwork indicates distant visibility of part of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project occupying approximately 21% (19°) of the 90° HFoV. The wind turbines would be seen on the horizon, set within a distant seascape containing existing offshore wind farms, closer towards the east (e.g. Gwynt y Môr, Rhyl Flats) and animated by commercial shipping/ferries.

8.8.4.431 At 42.1 km, the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would only be visible in the most favourable conditions (i.e. excellent visibility >40 km approximately 28% of the year). The turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

### Construction and decommissioning phases

#### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.432 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people using Offa's Dyke Path National Trail at this location. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.

8.8.4.433 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and of high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

#### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.434 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of very high value and very high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **very high**.

#### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.435 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **minor adverse**, which is not significant.

### Operations and maintenance phase



### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.436 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people using Offa's Dyke Path National Trail at this location due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (namely: some or all the turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.

8.8.4.437 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and of high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.438 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above, for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **very high**.

### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.439 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be negligible. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effect will be **minor adverse**, which is not significant.

### Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 40 – Point of Ayr

8.8.4.440 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.441 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 36.1 and 36.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

### Summary of visual baseline

8.8.4.442 Located on Wales Coast Path and a public seafront/beach. A shoreline panorama looking Northwest across MCA 01 Dee Estuary (Wales)/MCA 36 Dee Estuary and Estuaries and Coastal Waters in the fore/middle ground and MCA 04 North Wales Open Waters/MCA 35 Inner Liverpool Bay forming the background seascape. North Hoyle operational offshore windfarm is visible on the near horizon with Gwynt y Môr



and Rhyl Flats beyond. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

### Description of visual change

8.8.4.443 Fieldwork and analysis of the visualisation indicates visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project in the distance occupying approximately 21% (18°) of the 90° HFoV. The wind turbines would be visible on the distant horizon, beyond the existing offshore wind farms, set within a seascape animated by commercial shipping/ferries en route to/from Merseyside.

8.8.4.444 At 42.9 km, the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would only be visible in the most favourable conditions (i.e. excellent visibility >40 km approximately 28% of the year). The turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

### Construction and decommissioning phases

#### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.445 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people using Wales Coast Path and the seafront/beach at this location. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements within part of the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.

8.8.4.446 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and of high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

#### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.447 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

#### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.448 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse** which are not significant.

### Operations and maintenance phase

#### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.449 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people using Wales Coast Path and the seafront/beach at this location due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from partial visibility of both moving and static project components occupying

the Mona Array Area (namely: some or all the rotating wind turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.

8.8.4.450 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

**Sensitivity of the receptor**

8.8.4.451 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

**Significance of the effect**

8.8.4.452 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be negligible. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

**Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 47 – Llanfairfechan Seafront**

8.8.4.453 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.454 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 37.1 to 37.4 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

**Summary of visual baseline**

8.8.4.455 Located on a public seafront/beach. Coastal panorama looking northeast across Conwy Bay, framed to the east by steep slopes of LCA 6 Eryri dropping into the sea. Great Orme's Head is visible on the horizon right of centre frame. The tidal waters in the fore/middle ground comprise SCA 2 Conwy estuary/SCA3 Conwy Bay/MCA 03 Red Wharf Bay to Conwy Bay. MCA 04 North Wales Open Waters/SCA 28 Northeast Anglesey make up the background seascape along with existing offshore wind farms including Gwynt y Môr and Rhyl Flats. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

### Description of visual change

- 8.8.4.456 Analysis of the visualisation supported by fieldwork indicates visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project in the distance occupying approximately 26% (23°) of the 90° HFoV. The wind turbines would be visible on the distant horizon to the left of Great Orme's Head, set within a seascape animated by commercial shipping/ferries en route to/from Merseyside.
- 8.8.4.457 At 39.9 km, the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would be visible in favourable conditions (i.e. very good visibility 20 km to 40 km approximately 70-80% of the year). The wind turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

### Construction and decommissioning phases

#### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.4.458 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people using the seafront/beach at this location. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.
- 8.8.4.459 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and of high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

#### Sensitivity of the receptor

- 8.8.4.460 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

#### Significance of the effect

- 8.8.4.461 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

### Operations and maintenance phase

#### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.4.462 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people using the seafront/beach at this location due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (namely: some or all the turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.

8.8.4.463 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **negligible to small** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

#### **Sensitivity of the receptor**

8.8.4.464 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

#### **Significance of the effect**

8.8.4.465 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be negligible to small. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effect will be **minor adverse**, which is not significant.

#### **Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 48 – Llandudno Promenade**

8.8.4.466 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.467 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 38.1 to 38.4 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

#### **Summary of visual baseline**

8.8.4.468 Located on Llandudno seafront. A seafront panorama from Llandudno promenade looking north across Orme's Bay, framed by Great Orme's Head on the left and Little Orme's Head on the right. The seascape comprises MCA 02 Colwyn Bay and Rhyl Flats in the middle ground with MCA 04 North Wales Open Waters forming the background. Parts of Rhyl Flats and Gwynt y Môr existing offshore wind farms are visible on the horizon on the right. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

#### **Description of visual change**

8.8.4.469 Fieldwork and analysis of the visualisation indicates visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project in the distance occupying approximately 28% (25°) of the 90° HFoV. The wind turbines would be seen on the horizon as part of the broad

panorama set within a seascape animated by commercial shipping/ferries with existing offshore wind farms visible in the distance to the northeast (e.g. Gwynt y Môr, Rhyl Flats).

- 8.8.4.470 At an approximate distance of 32.2 km the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would be visible in favourable conditions (i.e. very good visibility 20 km to 40 km approximately ~~70~~<sup>40</sup>% of the year). The wind turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

### Construction and decommissioning phases

#### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.4.471 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people using Llandudno promenade and seafront/beach at this location. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements within the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.
- 8.8.4.472 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and of high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is therefore considered to be **negligible to small** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

#### Sensitivity of the receptor

- 8.8.4.473 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of high value and very high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**. This assessment reflects the popularity of the viewpoint and the importance of the location in terms of recreation and local tourism.

#### Significance of effect

- 8.8.4.474 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible to small and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **minor to moderate adverse** which are not significant.

### Operations and maintenance phase

#### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.4.475 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people using Llandudno promenade and seafront/beach at this location due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (namely: some or all the turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.
- 8.8.4.476 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore



considered to be **small** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

**Sensitivity of the receptor**

8.8.4.477 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

**Significance of the effect**

8.8.4.478 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be small. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effect will be **minor to moderate adverse**, which are not significant.

**Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 49 – Douglas Promenade, Isle of Man**

8.8.4.479 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.480 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 39.1 to 39.4 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

**Summary of visual baseline**

8.8.4.481 Located on a public seafront/beach. Framed, southeast panorama from Douglas promenade looking out across the enclosed Douglas Bay with MCA A Dreswick Point to Maughold Head, Isle of Man Southeast Inshore Waters (RPS defined) forming wider seascape. Douglas settlement extends around the enclosing coastline/headlands. Douglas Bay and adjacent inshore waters are animated by coastal commercial shipping/ferries, mainland ferries, fishing vessels and recreational sailing. The west edge of Walney offshore wind farm (Walney Extension) is visible on the far horizon left of frame. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

**Description of visual change**

8.8.4.482 Analysis of the visualisation supported by fieldwork indicates visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project in the distance occupying approximately 18% (17°) of the 90° HFoV. The wind turbines would be visible on the distant horizon,



appearing further away than the existing Walney Extension, set within a seascape animated by commercial shipping/ferries.

- 8.8.4.483 At 48.7 km, the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would only be visible in the most favourable conditions (i.e. excellent visibility >40 km approx. 28% of the year). The wind turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

### Construction and decommissioning phases

#### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.4.484 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people using Douglas promenade and seafront/beach at this location. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements within part of the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.

- 8.8.4.485 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

#### Sensitivity of the receptor

- 8.8.4.486 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

#### Significance of the effect

- 8.8.4.487 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **minor adverse**, which is not significant.

### Operations and maintenance phase

#### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.4.488 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people using Douglas promenade and seafront/beach at this location due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from partial visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (namely: some or all the turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.

- 8.8.4.489 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the operations and maintenance phase. This

reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

**Sensitivity of the receptor**

8.8.4.490 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

**Significance of the effect**

8.8.4.491 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be negligible. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

**Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 51 – Blackpool Tower**

8.8.4.492 This representative viewpoint lies outside the 50 km study area of the revised Mona Array Area location. However, it has been assessed for completeness (following on from the PEIR). Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.493 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 40.1 and 40.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

**Summary of visual baseline**

8.8.4.494 This viewpoint is located at the top of Blackpool Tower. Views are available from this elevated location over the coastline including large beach and the settlement of Blackpool, as well as existing offshore wind farms. These views are attained through a perspex screen (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figure 40.2 of the Environmental Statement). The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

**Description of visual change**

8.8.4.495 Analysis of the visualisation supported by fieldwork indicates visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project in the distance occupying approximately 26% (24°) of the 90° HFoV. The wind turbines would be visible on the distant horizon, set within a seascape animated by commercial shipping/ferries and existing offshore wind farms.

8.8.4.496 At 51.8 km, the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would only be visible in the most favourable conditions (i.e. excellent visibility >40 km approx. 28% of the year). The wind turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

### Construction and decommissioning phases

#### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.497 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people at the top of Blackpool Tower. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements within part of the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.

8.8.4.498 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and of high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

#### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.499 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

#### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.500 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **minor adverse**, which are not significant.

### Operations and maintenance phase

#### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.501 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people at the top of Blackpool Tower due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from partial visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (namely: some or all the turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.

8.8.4.502 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and of high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.503 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.504 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be negligible. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **minor adverse**, which is not significant.

### Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 52 – Carnedd Dafydd, Eryri National Park

8.8.4.505 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.506 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 41.1 and 41.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

### Summary of visual baseline

8.8.4.507 This view is available from the summit of Carnedd Dafydd in Access Land within Eryri National Park. A sweeping panoramic view north is available with the rugged mountains of the north part of Eryri National Park in the foreground. The expansive view encompasses NLCA 6 Eryri and MCA 03 Red Wharf Bay to Conwy Bay/SCA 2 Conwy Bay in the fore and middle grounds. MCA 04 North Wales Open Waters/SCA 28 Northeast Anglesey make up the seascape background. Gwynt y Môr, Walney, Barrow, West of Duddon Sands and Ormonde offshore wind farms and oil and gas infrastructure form part of the view. Commercial shipping/ferries en route to/from Merseyside ports is a constant feature of the wider seascape. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

### Description of visual change

8.8.4.508 Analysis of the visualisation supported by fieldwork indicates visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project in the distance occupying approximately 20% (18°) of the 90° HFoV. The wind turbines would be visible on the distant horizon, appearing further away than the existing Walney Extension, set within a seascape animated by commercial shipping/ferries.

8.8.4.509 At 52.4 km, the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would only be visible in the most favourable conditions (i.e. excellent visibility >40 km approx. 28%

of the year). The wind turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

## Construction and decommissioning phases

### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.4.510 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people at Carnedd Dafydd and using Access Land within Eryri National Park at this location. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements within part of the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.
- 8.8.4.511 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

- 8.8.4.512 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of very high value and very high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **very high**.

### Significance of the effect

- 8.8.4.513 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is very high. The effects will be **minor adverse**, which is not significant.

## Operations and maintenance phase

### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.4.514 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people at Carnedd Dafydd and using Access Land within Eryri National Park due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project. The impact will result from partial visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (namely: some or all the turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.
- 8.8.4.515 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.



### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.516 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **very high**.

### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.517 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be negligible. The sensitivity of the receptor is very high. The effects will be **minor adverse**, which are not significant.

### Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 53 – Elidir Fawr, Eryri National Park

8.8.4.518 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.519 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 42.1 and 42.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

### Summary of visual baseline

8.8.4.520 This view is available from the summit of Elidir Fawr in Access Land within Eryri National Park. A panoramic view north is available with the rugged mountains of the north part of Eryri National Park in the foreground. The expansive view encompasses NLCA 6 Eryri, NLCA 3 Arfon and MCA 03 Red Wharf Bay to Conwy Bay/SCA 2 Conwy Bay in the fore and middle grounds. MCA 04 North Wales Open Waters/SCA 28 Northeast Anglesey make up the seascape background. Gwynt y Môr, Walney, Barrow, West of Duddon Sands and Ormonde offshore wind farms and oil and gas infrastructure form part of the view. Commercial shipping/ferries en route to/from Merseyside ports is a constant feature of the wider seascape. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

### Description of visual change

8.8.4.521 Analysis of the visualisation supported by fieldwork indicates visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project in the distance occupying approximately 19% (18°) of the 90° HFoV. The wind turbines would be visible on the distant horizon, along with the existing offshore wind farms, set within a seascape animated by commercial shipping/ferries.



8.8.4.522 At 55.2 km, the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would only be visible in the most favourable conditions (i.e. excellent visibility >40 km approx. 28% of the year). The wind turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

### Construction and decommissioning phases

#### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.523 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people at Elidir Fawr and using Access Land within Eryri National Park at this location. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements within part of the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.

8.8.4.524 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

#### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.525 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of very high value and very high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **very high**.

#### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.526 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is very high. The effects will be **minor adverse**, which is not significant.

### Operations and maintenance phase

#### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.527 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people at Elidir Fawr and using -Access Land within Eryri National Park due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project. The impact will result from partial visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (namely: some or all the turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.

8.8.4.528 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.529 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **very high**.

### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.530 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be negligible. The sensitivity of the receptor is very high. The effects will be **minor adverse**, which are not significant.

### Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 54 – Bridleway north of Golden Grove or adjacent PROW, Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape

8.8.4.531 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.532 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 43.1 and 43.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

### Summary of visual baseline

8.8.4.533 An elevated, view looking north across pastoral coastal farmland at the north edge of the Clwydian Range National Landscape. A small part of the settlement of Prestatyn is visible in the centre of the view. Existing offshore wind farms are clearly visible including Gwynt y Mor, North Hoyle, Rhyl Flats and Burbo Bank. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

### Description of visual change

8.8.4.534 Analysis of the visualisation supported by fieldwork indicates visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project in the distance occupying approximately 21% (19°) of the 90° HFoV. The wind turbines would be visible on the distant horizon, appearing further away than the existing wind farms, set within a seascape animated by commercial shipping/ferries.

8.8.4.535 At 42.6 km, the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would only be visible in the most favourable conditions (i.e. excellent visibility >40 km approx. 28% of the year). The wind turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

## Construction and decommissioning phases

### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.536 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people within the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements within part of the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.

8.8.4.537 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.538 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.539 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible adverse**, which are not significant.

## Operations and maintenance phase

### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.540 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people within the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from partial visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (namely: some or all the turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.

8.8.4.541 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.542 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.543 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be negligible. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible adverse**, which are not significant.

### Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 55 – Trwyn Eilian (Point Lynas), Isle of Anglesey National Landscape

8.8.4.544 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.545 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 44.1 and 44.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

### Summary of visual baseline

8.8.4.546 This viewpoint is located on the coast at Point Lynas in the Isle of Anglesey National Landscape. Panoramic views of the Irish Sea are available with MCA 05 North West Anglesey Open Waters and MCA 04 North Wales Open Waters. Commercial shipping/ferries en route to/from Merseyside ports is a feature of the wider seascape. Existing offshore wind farms. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

### Description of visual change

8.8.4.547 Analysis of the visualisation supported by fieldwork indicates visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project in the distance occupying approximately 39% (35°) of the 90° HFoV. The wind turbines would be visible on the distant horizon, set within a seascape animated by commercial shipping/ferries and existing offshore wind farms at 29.1 km.

8.8.4.548 At this distance, the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would be visible in favourable conditions (i.e. very good visibility 20 km to 40 km approximately ~~70~~40% of the year). The wind turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

### Construction and decommissioning phases

### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.4.549 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people at the coast at Point Lynas. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements within part of the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.
- 8.8.4.550 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and of high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is therefore considered to be **negligible to small** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

- 8.8.4.551 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

### Significance of the effect

- 8.8.4.552 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible to small and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **minor adverse**, which are not significant.

## Operations and maintenance phase

### Magnitude of impact

- 8.8.4.553 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people at the coast at Point Lynas due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from partial visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (namely: some or all the turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.
- 8.8.4.554 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and of high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **small** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

- 8.8.4.555 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

### Significance of the effect

- 8.8.4.556 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this



viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be small. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **minor to moderate adverse**, which are not significant.

### **Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 56 – Caer y Twr on Holyhead Mountain, Isle of Anglesey National Landscape**

8.8.4.557 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.558 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 45.1 and 45.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

#### **Summary of visual baseline**

8.8.4.559 This viewpoint is located on the summit of Holyhead Mountain, within the Isle of Anglesey National Landscape, and affords views north of the Irish Sea in the direction of the Mona Array Area with Holyhead and harbour area in the foreground. The coastline of the Isle of Anglesey National Landscape is visible beyond Holyhead Bay. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

#### **Description of visual change**

8.8.4.560 Analysis of the visualisation supported by fieldwork indicates visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project in the distance occupying approximately 25% (22°) of the 90° HFoV.

8.8.4.561 At 54.8 km, the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would only be visible in the most favourable conditions (i.e. excellent visibility >40 km approx. 28% of the year). The wind turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

### **Construction and decommissioning phases**

#### **Magnitude of impact**

8.8.4.562 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people on Holyhead Mountain. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements within part of the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.

8.8.4.563 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect



receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

**Sensitivity of the receptor**

8.8.4.564 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

**Significance of the effect**

8.8.4.565 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible adverse**, which are not significant.

**Operations and maintenance phase**

**Magnitude of impact**

8.8.4.566 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people on Holyhead Mountain due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from partial visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (namely: some or all the turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples’ appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.

8.8.4.567 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the limited scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

**Sensitivity of the receptor**

8.8.4.568 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

**Significance of the effect**

8.8.4.569 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be negligible. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible adverse**, which are not significant.

**Assessment of effects experienced by people at representative viewpoint 57 – Trwyn Cemlyn, Isle of Anglesey National Landscape**

8.8.4.570 Impacts will potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases on the view from this viewpoint falling within the ZTV of the

offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. These impacts would be caused by visibility of some or all the following offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (as summarised in the MDS, [Table 8.17](#) ~~Table 8.17~~):

- 68 wind turbines (364 m maximum blade-tip height above LAT)
- Four OSPs, each measuring 55m x 65m x 45m (height above LAT x length x width)
- Construction and service vessels/helicopters.

8.8.4.571 The impacts will be generated by both static and moving elements of the components which will affect the views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint. Figures 46.1 and 46.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate the change in views from this representative viewpoint.

### Summary of visual baseline

8.8.4.572 Panoramic views are available of the coast and the Irish Sea overlooking Cemlyn Bay from Trwyn Cemlyn, within the Isle of Anglesey National Landscape. The rocky coastline is visible in the foreground with sea views framed on the right-hand side by Wylfa Head. The existing view is described further in Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement.

### Description of visual change

8.8.4.573 Analysis of the visualisation supported by fieldwork indicates visibility of the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project in the distance occupying approximately 32% (29°) of the 90° HFoV. The wind turbines would be visible on the distant horizon, appearing further away than the existing Walney Extension, set within a seascape animated by commercial shipping/ferries.

8.8.4.574 At 39.0 km, the offshore elements of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would be visible in favourable conditions (i.e. very good visibility 20 km to 40 km approximately ~~70~~<sup>40</sup>% of the year). The wind turbines would be difficult to discern (or not visible) at other times of the year.

### Construction and decommissioning phases

#### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.575 An impact will potentially arise during construction and decommissioning at this viewpoint which is representative of people on the coastline at Trwyn Cemlyn within the Isle of Anglesey National Landscape. This will be caused by visibility of the erection and dismantling of the wind turbines and OSPs and the associated vessel and equipment activities/movements within part of the Mona Array Area situated offshore at the distance specified.

8.8.4.576 The impact will be of short-term duration, continuous (increasing during construction, decreasing during decommissioning) and high reversibility. The impact will affect receptors directly. The magnitude of visual impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the construction and decommissioning phases. This reflects the limited scale and extent of the construction and decommissioning activities that would be visible at the distances specified.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.577 The views/visual amenity of people at this viewpoint is deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptor is therefore, considered to be **high**.

### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.578 Overall, the magnitude of the visual impact experienced by people at this viewpoint during construction and decommissioning is deemed to be negligible and the sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible adverse**, which are not significant.

## Operations and maintenance phase

### Magnitude of impact

8.8.4.579 A visual impact will potentially arise at this viewpoint which is representative of people on the coastline at Trwyn Cemlyn within the Isle of Anglesey National Landscape due to the operations and maintenance phase of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The impact will result from partial visibility of both moving and static project components occupying the Mona Array Area (namely: some or all the turbines and service vessels/helicopters, and the stationary OSPs) which has the potential to affect peoples' appreciation of the surrounding seascape/landscape.

8.8.4.580 The impact will be of long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect views/visual amenity directly. The magnitude of impact is therefore considered to be **negligible** during the operations and maintenance phase. This reflects the scale of the change in the view and the proportion of the view that would be affected.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.8.4.581 The sensitivity of the views/visual amenity at this viewpoint is as set out above for the construction and decommissioning phases, namely **high**.

### Significance of the effect

8.8.4.582 Overall, the magnitude of visual impact caused by the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets during operations and maintenance, experienced by people at this viewpoint, situated at the distance specified, is deemed to be negligible. The sensitivity of the receptor is high. The effects will be **negligible to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

## 8.8.5 Night-time effects on visual receptors

8.8.5.1 Unlike visual receptors during daylight hours, visual receptors at night tend to be in more populous areas. Land-based, night-time visualisations have been undertaken from coastal towns/locations that are easily accessible. No visualisations have been taken from ferry routes, due to the inaccuracy of locating the ferry (as with day-time visualisations from ferry routes). The night-time effects assessment has divided the visual receptors into two broad groups, land-based and marine-based receptors, as set out below. The night-time visualisations have been generated using Resoft WindFarm Release 5, Aviation Lights Manual, which has a default setting for aviation

lights of 2000 candelas, which is the worst-case scenario, i.e. the brightest the lighting would be. However, in good visibility the aviation lighting would be at 200 candelas. The lighting would only be at 2000 candelas if the visibility was poor, in these conditions the lights would not be visible from shore in any event.

### Night-time effects on land-based visual receptors

- 8.8.5.2 The areas of coast where there is the potential for people to see the Mona Array Area are the north coast of Wales, The Isle of Man and the northwest coast of England.
- 8.8.5.3 That part of the northwest coast of England closest to the Mona Array Area is at Massam's Slack. The Mona Array Area would be barely visible beyond the closest northwest England cluster of offshore wind farms (Barrow, Ormonde, Walney 1, Walney 2, Walney Extension and West of Duddon Sands offshore wind farms). Figure 13.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape Visualisations of the Environmental Statement, illustrate this. There is no potential for significant night-time effects to be experienced by visual receptors on this coast, and they are not considered further in the assessment.
- 8.8.5.4 Receptors on the Isle of Man are closer than those on the northwest English coast, but also distant from the Mona Array Area. Although there are no intervening sources of light, the distance to the Mona Array Area means that the lighting will be barely visible (Figure 39.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations of the Environmental Statement). As there is no potential for significant effects, these receptors are not considered further in the assessment.
- 8.8.5.5 The Welsh coast is the closest land to the Mona Array Area and it is the night-time effects on these visual receptors that are assessed below.

### Construction and decommissioning phases

- 8.8.5.6 During the construction and decommissioning phases, should work be required during hours of darkness, lighting will be introduced into areas of the sea, parts of which are not currently lit. However, the East Irish Sea has existing offshore wind farms and oil and gas platforms (static sources of light) that are permanently lit, in closer to land. The East Irish Sea hosts busy shipping lanes of commercial and passenger vessels (dynamic sources of light). Sources of static, but intermittent lights are also present in the form of lighthouses/buoys, close to the coast. Figure 9.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement ~~illustrate~~[illustrates](#) the existing light sources of the north Welsh coast. In some locations there are no lights from existing static structures. However, this does not mean that there are no lights within the sea, as the lights on commercial shipping and ferries are clearly visible (Figures 9.2 and 23.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.3: Visual baseline technical report – offshore development of the Environmental Statement). Given the distance from the Mona Array Area, the magnitude of the direct visual night-time impacts on people on the coast of north Wales, during the construction and decommissioning phases will vary. It will be **no change to negligible** towards the eastern part of the coast, as the Mona Array Area will be seen behind other offshore wind farms, as well as the concentration of shipping arriving and departing from Liverpool. This part of the coast is also more distant from the Mona Array Area. The impact on people at locations to the western part of the north Wales coast will be **negligible to small** as that part of the coastline is closer to the Mona Array Area and there are no static lit structures within some of the views. However, the commercial shipping and ferries are present in all views.

- 8.8.5.7 The sensitivity of people at night, walking along the north Wales coast is **low to medium** in the east, and **medium**, in the west,
- 8.8.5.8 The temporary effects on viewers, at night, during the construction and decommissioning phases will be **no change to negligible adverse** for those people on the eastern part of the north Wales coast, to **minor adverse** for those people to the west. These are not significant effects.

### **Operations and maintenance phase**

- 8.8.5.9 During the operations and maintenance phase there will be both navigation lighting for shipping on the turbines and OSPs and aviation warning lights on the nacelles of the turbines, as described in the MDS, Table 8.17. Night-time visualisations have been generated from a geographically diverse range of populated areas along the North Wales coast, which are presented at Figures 7.4, 9.4, 12.4, 14.4, 27.4, 37.4, 38.4 and, 39.4 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations of the Environmental Statement. The visualisations have used the worst case (2000 candelas) for the aviation lighting. Given the distance from the Mona Array Area, the navigation lighting is barely visible, as these lights are located low on the turbine towers, and many are below the horizon, The duller, red aviation lighting is also barely visible. The lighting from shipping is much brighter than the proposed lighting and the effects on the seascape will be lower than at construction or decommissioning. The significance of night-time effects on visual receptors will be **no change to negligible adverse**, which are not significant.

### **Night-time effects on marine-based visual receptors**

- 8.8.5.10 The marine-based visual receptors that will see the Mona Array Area are those people on commercial vessels, fishermen, passengers on ferries and people on recreational craft, travelling across the East Irish Sea.
- 8.8.5.11 The existing offshore wind farm clusters off northwest England (Barrow, Ormonde, Walney 1, Walney 2, Walney Extension and West of Duddon Sands offshore wind farms) and north Wales (Burbo Bank, Burbo Bank Extension, Gwynt y Môr, North Hoyle and Rhyl Flats offshore wind farms) in addition to the lighting on offshore oil and gas platforms, influence night-time views for seafarers. While there are currently no offshore wind farms in the central area of the sea, lighting from other vessels is ever-present. There is the potential for significant night-time effects to be experienced by visual receptors on vessels close to the Mona Array Area.

### **Construction and decommissioning phases**

- 8.8.5.12 During the construction and decommissioning phases, should work be required during hours of darkness, lighting will be introduced into areas of the sea, parts of which are not currently lit. However, the East Irish Sea has existing offshore wind farms and oil and gas platforms (static sources of light) that are permanently lit, in closer to land. The East Irish Sea hosts busy shipping lanes of commercial and passenger vessels (dynamic sources of light). Sources of static, but intermittent lights are also present in the form of lighthouses/buoys, close to the coast. The magnitude of the direct visual night-time impacts on people on vessels during the construction and decommissioning phases will vary. It will be **no change to negligible** for those seafarers close to the eastern part of the north Wales coast and the northwest England coast, as the Mona Array Area will be seen behind other offshore wind farms, as well as the concentration of shipping arriving and departing from Liverpool. This part of the sea is also more distant from the Mona Array Area. The impact on people onboard vessels off the western part of the north Wales coast will be **negligible to small** as the influence of



existing offshore wind farms in this part of the East Irish Sea is less. The vessels that pass closer to the Mona Array Area will experience a **small to medium** impact at night, albeit only as they pass close to the Mona Array Area.

8.8.5.13 The sensitivity of people on marine vessels at night is **low to medium** in the east, and **medium**, in the central and western areas of the East Irish Sea.

8.8.5.14 The temporary significance of night-time effects on sea-based visual receptors' views during the construction and decommissioning phases will be **no change to negligible adverse** for those people off the eastern part of the north Wales coast and off the northwest, to **negligible to minor adverse** for those people off the west coast of north Wales. Those people onboard vessels close to the Mona Array Area will experience **minor to moderate adverse** effects. These are not significant effects.

### **Operations and maintenance phase**

8.8.5.15 Once the Mona Array Area is operational there will be both navigation lighting for shipping on OSPs and aviation warning lights on nacelles, as described in the MDS, Table 8.17. No night-time visualisations have been generated from marine vessels, as the location of those that are publicly accessible is never certain. Navigation lighting is located low on the turbine towers, and from more distant areas of the sea much of this lighting may be below the horizon. The red aviation lighting will also be visible. The lighting from shipping is much brighter than the proposed lighting and the effects on marine-based receptors' views will be lower than at construction or decommissioning. The significance of night-time effects on visual receptors will be **no change to minor adverse**, which are not significant.

## **8.9 Cumulative effects assessment methodology**

### **8.9.1 Cumulative effects assessment approach**

8.9.1.1 For a cumulative effect to occur, an additional effect must arise over and above the likely effect of implementing the Mona Array Area, measured against baseline conditions. The DTI guidance on assessing cumulative seascape and visual impacts sets this out in of Chapter 9 - Cumulative Impact Assessment of Seascape and Visual Impact Assessment: Guidance for Offshore Wind Farm Developers (DTI, 2005) at section 9.3 *"The assessment should therefore identify the cumulative magnitude of change relative to existing visual impacts of wind farms visible. It is preferable therefore to refer to an 'additional cumulative effect' that is additional to the impact to be expected from the developments taken individually."*

8.9.1.2 The assessment of cumulative seascape, landscape and visual effects is presented in two stages in line with guidance including The Planning Inspectorate's Advice note 17, as follows:

- Effects arising from the Mona Array Area in conjunction with existing offshore wind farm projects and offshore wind farm projects under construction, permitted and those submitted for planning approval (Tier 1). In this regard, ZTVs have been generated using the available data for the existing offshore wind farms, which have been grouped into three offshore clusters, namely: Northwest England, North Wales and Robin Rigg A ZTV has also been generated for the permitted Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm (Tier 1)
- Effects arising from the Mona Offshore Wind Project in conjunction with proposed offshore wind farm projects at scoping stage or in relevant plans (Tier



2). In this regard, ZTVs have been generated using the available data for the proposed Mona Offshore Wind Project, Mooir Vannin Offshore Wind Farm and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farm.

8.9.1.3 There are no Tier 3 planned offshore and onshore wind farms of relevance to Mona Offshore Wind Project.

**Types of cumulative landscape effects**

8.9.1.4 The assessment presented in section 0 considered the likely effects on seascape, landscape and visual resources against the baseline conditions current at the time of submission of the Environmental Statement (February 2024). The baseline includes Tier 1 existing offshore, operational wind farms within the SLVIA study area. The SLVIA findings and conclusions thus had regard to these major development factors and the influence they exert on existing seascape and landscape character and on views and visual amenity. In the light of GLVIA3 guidance on Cumulative Effect Assessment (CEA), the cumulative assessment considers the additional impact and effect resulting from the introduction of Mona Offshore Wind Project, in particular as follows:

- The ‘filling’ of an area with either the same or a different type of development, which may substantially alter the seascape, landscape resource, views or visual amenity
- Incremental change resulting from successive individual developments such that the combined seascape, landscape or visual effect is significant even though the individual effects may not be (GLVIA3, paragraph 7.17).

8.9.1.5 GLVIA3 identifies the likely potential cumulative seascape/landscape effects as including:

- Effects on the fabric of the seascape/landscape resulting from the removal of, or changes in, individual elements or features of the landscape, and/or the introduction of new elements or features in the landscape
- Effects on the aesthetic aspects of the seascape/landscape, e.g., scale, sense of enclosure, sense of naturalness, remoteness or tranquillity
- Effects on the overall character of the seascape/landscape, resulting from the above, leading to modification of key characteristics and possible creation of new seascape/landscape character.

8.9.1.6 A description of those seascape, landscape and visual effects that have the potential to be significant in terms of cumulative effects upon seascape, landscape and visual resources receptors arising from each identified impact is given below.

8.9.1.7 The aesthetic aspects of seascape and landscape resources are expressed in their overall character, their distinctive characteristics and qualities, and the value attached to them by people/society. Regarding aesthetic aspects, GLVIA3 states:

*“Character is not just about the physical elements and features that make up a landscape, but also embraces the aesthetic, perceptual and experiential aspects of the landscape that make different places distinctive.”* (GLVIA3, paragraph 2.19 – a similar statement is made with respect to seascape at paragraph 5.6). And in defining them GLVIA3 states: *“...the aesthetic aspects of the landscape – for example its scale, sense of enclosure, diversity, pattern and colour, and/or on its perceptual or*

*experiential attributes, such as a sense of naturalness, remoteness or tranquillity.”* (GLVIA3, paragraph 7.25)

8.9.1.8 GLVIA 3 adds that regarding the assessment of landscape/seascape value:

*“Scenic quality may also be relevant and will need to reflect factors such as sense of place and aesthetic and perceptual qualities.”* (GLVIA3, paragraph 5.29).

### **Types of cumulative visual effects**

8.9.1.9 GLVIA3 identifies two types of cumulative visual effects as follows:

- Combined – where the observer is able to see two or more developments from one viewpoint. The subsets of combined visual effects are:
  - In combination, where two or more developments are or would be within the observer’s arc of vision at the same time, without turning their head
  - In succession, where the observer has to turn their head to see the various developments, both existing and proposed
- Sequential- where the observer has to move to another viewpoint to see the same or different developments. Sequential effects may occur along routes or roads and/or public rights of way. The subsets of sequential effects are:
  - Frequently sequential, where the features appear regularly and with short time lapses between instances (dependant on speed and distance)
  - Occasionally sequential, where longer time lapses between appearances occur, due to speed of the observer and/or longer distances between viewpoints.

## **8.9.2 Scope of cumulative assessment**

8.9.2.1 The CEA is concerned with the potential cumulative effects that may result from the offshore components of Mona Offshore Wind Project together with other projects and plans. The projects and plans selected as relevant to the CEA presented within this chapter are based upon the results of a screening exercise (see Volume 5, annex 5.1: Cumulative effects screening matrix of the Environmental Statement). Each project has been considered on a case-by-case basis for screening in or out of this chapter's assessment based upon data confidence, effect-receptor pathways and the spatial/temporal scales involved.

8.9.2.2 The seascape, landscape and visual resources CEA methodology has followed the methodology set out in Volume 1, Chapter 5: EIA methodology of the Environmental Statement. As part of the assessment, all projects and plans considered alongside the offshore components of the Mona Offshore Wind Project have been allocated into ‘tiers’ reflecting their current stage within the planning and development process, as follows:

- Tier 1
  - Under construction
  - Permitted application
  - Submitted application

- Existing - those currently operational that were not operational when baseline data were collected, and/or those that are operational but have an ongoing impact
- Tier 2
  - Scoping report has been submitted
- Tier 3
  - Scoping report has not been submitted
  - Identified in the relevant Development Plan
  - Identified in other plans and programmes.

8.9.2.3 This tiered approach is adopted to provide a clear assessment of the cumulative effects of the Mona Offshore Wind Project alongside other projects, plans and activities. This also accords with NatureScot 2021 Guidance which advises that an assessment of cumulative impacts associated with a specific development proposal should consider the proposal in combination with:

- Existing development, either built or under construction
- Approved development, awaiting implementation
- Proposals awaiting determination within the planning process, with design information in the public domain. Proposals and design information may be deemed to be in the public domain once an application has been lodged, and the decision-making authority has formally registered the application.

8.9.2.4 The Planning Inspectorate’s Advice note seventeen: Cumulative effects assessment relevant to nationally significant infrastructure projects (2015) defines cumulative projects as those that are proposed or under construction. It does not include existing projects. This cumulative assessment has considered existing projects along with proposed projects and projects under construction in line with guidance referenced below.

8.9.2.5 In line with DTI (2005), GLVIA3, NatureScot (2021) and The Planning Inspectorate’s Advice note seventeen (2015), the cumulative assessment has split the SLVIA CEA projects into

- Tier 1 Existing projects (cumulative baseline) and proposed projects (projects under construction, permitted and submitted for planning approval); and
- Tier 2 projects (projects at scoping stage or identified in relevant plans).

8.9.2.6 The specific projects, plans and activities scoped into the CEA as a result of the aforementioned screening exercise, are outlined in Table 8.19 and shown on Figures A.5 and A.6.

**Study area**

8.9.2.7 The SLVIA study area for the offshore components of the Mona Offshore Wind Project is a 50 km distance from the boundary of the Mona Array Area. The CEA study area for offshore wind farms is 100 km (50 km + 50 km study areas). This distance allows for other offshore arrays with similar height turbines to be included within the CEA for seascape, landscape and visual resources. The CEA study area for onshore wind farms is 85 km (50 km + 35 km). The study area for onshore wind farms is reduced, as onshore wind farms currently have smaller turbines and so the potential effects will

be exerted over a smaller area. For all other development the CEA study area has been confined to 50 km, (see Figures A.5 and A.6).

8.9.2.8 Details of these projects are set out in Volume 1, Annex 5: Methodology of the Environmental Statement. A further judgement was made as to whether there was the potential for significant effects, primarily based on the scale of the cumulative project – which is dependent on height, extent and distance. Based on this assessment, only other offshore wind farm projects have the potential for significant cumulative effects. These projects have been taken forward to the assessment within this chapter.

8.9.2.9 For the Environmental Statement, individual ZTVs were run for each offshore wind farm located within the respective study areas. Where the ZTV of the relevant cumulative schemes overlap with the ZTV of the Mona Offshore Wind Project, there is the potential for cumulative effect on seascape, landscape and visual resources.

8.9.2.10 Cumulative wirelines were generated from a sample of geographically diverse locations, which the CEA has used in the assessment of effects, Figure A.14 of Appendix A to this chapter illustrates the representative viewpoint locations for these cumulative wirelines. These are:

- Representative viewpoint 3 – Mynydd Eilian (cumulative views north and east) Figure 47, of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement
- Representative viewpoint 6 – Carnedd Llewelyn, Eryri National Park (cumulative views north and east) Figure 48, of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement
- Representative viewpoint 7 – Great Orme's Head, Llandudno (cumulative views north and east) Figure 49, of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement
- Representative viewpoint 10 – Graig Fawr, Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape (cumulative views west and north) Figure 50, of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement
- Representative viewpoint 11 – Moel y Parc, Clwydian Range and Dee Valley national landscape (cumulative views west and north) Figure 51, of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement
- Representative viewpoint 15 – Black Pool North Pier (cumulative views south, west and north) Figures 52.1 and 52.2, of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement
- Representative viewpoint 17 – Buck Barrow, Lake District National Park and The English Lake District World Heritage Site (cumulative views south and west) Figure 53, of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement
- Representative viewpoint 18 – Herring Tower Trig Point, Langness Peninsular, Isle of Man (cumulative views east and south) Figure 54, of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement
- Representative viewpoint 19 – Panoramic Viewpoint at arch, southwest of Douglas Head, Isle of Man (cumulative views east and south) Figure 55, of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement

- Representative viewpoint 28 – Penmon Point, Isle of Anglesey National Landscape (cumulative views east and south) Figure 54, of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement.

### **Cumulative effects assessment – existing and proposed offshore wind farms (Tier 1)**

- 8.9.2.11 Tier 1 existing offshore wind farms considered in this cumulative assessment have been grouped into three clusters, as follows:
- Northwest England cluster, consisting of Barrow, Ormonde, Walney (and extensions) and West of Duddon Sands;
  - North Wales cluster, consisting of Burbo Bank (and extension), Gwynt y Môr, North Hoyle and Rhyl Flats; and
  - Robin Rigg.
- 8.9.2.12 Combined ZTVs of each cluster of existing offshore wind farms and the Mona Offshore Wind Project are presented in Figures A.6, A.7 and A.8. The study areas for the individual wind farms have been calculated using the known heights of the turbines of each offshore wind farm in line with the table in paragraph 48 of Visual Representation of Wind Farms: Version 2.2 (SNH, 2017).
- 8.9.2.13 Other onshore projects that form part of the cumulative baseline are not expected to result in significant cumulative effects on landscape, seascape and visual resources. This is due to the distance to Mona Offshore Wind Project which, for the majority of the relevant projects listed in section 8.9.2.11, will be over 50 km. The closest of these are Haverigg Extension Wind farm and Haverigg Repowering Wind farm both of which feature a small number of wind turbines with tip heights of 100 m or less. This scale of development at the distances specified to the Mona Offshore Wind Project is not judged to result in significant additional, cumulative effects. Other onshore projects, include the Sellafield multi-function nuclear site, that forms part of the baseline. In regard to the Sellafield site, significant cumulative effects on landscape, seascape and visual amenity are not judged to arise due to the distance to the Mona Offshore Wind Project being more than 45 km.
- 8.9.2.14 The cumulative assessment considered Tier 1 projects under construction, permitted and those submitted for planning approval. In this regard, a cumulative ZTV has been generated for the Mona Offshore Wind Project in combination with the recently consented Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm and is presented in Figure A.10.

### **Cumulative effects assessment –proposed offshore wind farms (Tier 2)**

- 8.9.2.15 Cumulative ZTVs has been generated for the Mona Array Area in combination with Tier 2 proposed development projects. These include the proposed Morgan Generation Assets (A.12), the proposed Mooir Vannin Offshore Wind Project (Figure A.11), and the proposed Morecambe Offshore Wind Project (Figure A.13). Where the ZTV of the cumulative schemes overlaps with the ZTV of the Mona Array Area there is the potential for cumulative seascape, landscape and visual effects.

### **Cumulative effects assessment –proposed offshore wind farms (Tier 3)**

- 8.9.2.16 There are no proposed Tier 3 projects of relevance to this cumulative assessment.



**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**
**Table 8.19: List of other projects, plans and activities considered within the CEA for seascape, landscape and visual resources.**

Project/Plan	Status	Distance from the Mona Array Area (km)	Description of project/plan	Dates of construction (if applicable)	Dates of operation (if applicable)	Overlap with the Morgan Generation Assets
<b>Tier 1- Existing offshore wind farms</b>						
Northwest England cluster						
Barrow	Existing	43.3	Operational wind farm	N/A	Operational	Project operational phase overlaps with the Mona Offshore Wind Project proposed operations and maintenance phase.
Ormonde	Existing	44.0	Operational wind farm	N/A	Operational	Project operational phase overlaps with the Mona Offshore Wind Project proposed operations and maintenance phase.
Walney 1	Existing	35.4	Operational wind farm	N/A	Operational	Project operational phase overlaps with the Mona Offshore Wind Project proposed operations and maintenance phase.
Walney 2	Existing	34.1	Operational wind farm	N/A	Operational	Project operational phase overlaps with the Mona Offshore Wind Project proposed operations and maintenance phase.
Walney Extension	Existing	30.7	Operational wind farm	N/A	Operational	Project operational phase overlaps with the Mona Offshore Wind Project proposed operations and maintenance phase.
West of Duddon Sands	Existing	31.9	Operational wind farm	N/A	Operational	Project operational phase overlaps with the Mona Offshore Wind Project proposed operations and maintenance phase.

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Project/Plan	Status	Distance from the Mona Array Area (km)	Description of project/plan	Dates of construction (if applicable)	Dates of operation (if applicable)	Overlap with the Morgan Generation Assets
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## North Wales cluster

Burbo Bank	Existing	40.3	Operational wind farm	N/A	Operational	Project operational phase overlaps with the Mona Offshore Wind Project proposed operations and maintenance phase.
Burbo Bank Extension	Existing	30.6	Operational wind farm	N/A	Operational	Project operational phase overlaps with the Mona Offshore Wind Project proposed operations and maintenance phase.
Gwynt y Môr	Existing	17.8	Operational wind farm	N/A	Operational	Project operational phase overlaps with the Mona Offshore Wind Project proposed operations and maintenance phase.
North Hoyle	Existing	29.6	Operational wind farm	N/A	Operational	Project operational phase overlaps with the Mona Offshore Wind Project proposed operations and maintenance phase.
Rhyl Flats	Existing	25.6	Operational wind farm	N/A	Operational	Project operational phase overlaps with the Mona Offshore Wind Project proposed operations and maintenance phase.

**Tier 1- offshore wind farms under construction, permitted and submitted for planning approval**

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Project/Plan	Status	Distance from the Mona Array Area (km)	Description of project/plan	Dates of construction (if applicable)	Dates of operation (if applicable)	Overlap with the Morgan Generation Assets
Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm	Consented	13.5	Awel y Môr offshore wind farm, planning to comprise up to 50 wind turbines.	Anticipated to commence in 2026	2030 to 2055	<p>Project construction phase overlaps with the Mona Offshore Wind Project proposed construction phase.</p> <p>Project operational phase overlaps with the Mona Offshore Wind Project proposed operations and maintenance phase.</p>

**Tier 2 – proposed offshore wind farms**

Morgan Generation Assets	Pre-application	11.1	Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets	2026 to 2030	2030 to 2065	<p>Project construction phase overlaps with the Mona Offshore Wind Project proposed construction phase.</p> <p>Project operational phase overlaps with the Mona Offshore Wind Project proposed operations and maintenance phase.</p>
Moor Vannin Offshore Wind Farm	Pre application	34.5	Moor Vannin Offshore Wind Farm	2030 to 2032	2032 to 2067	Planning to be operational from 2033
Morecambe Offshore Wind Farm Generation Assets	Pre-application	8.9	Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets	2028 to 2030	2030 to 2065	<p>Project construction phase overlaps with the Mona Offshore Wind Project proposed construction phase.</p> <p>Project operational phase overlaps with the Mona Offshore Wind Project proposed operations and maintenance phase.</p>

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Project/Plan	Status	Distance from the Mona Array Area (km)	Description of project/plan	Dates of construction (if applicable)	Dates of operation (if applicable)	Overlap with the Morgan Generation Assets
Morgan and Morecambe offshore wind farm transmission assets	Pre-application	8.9	Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms Transmission Assets	2028 to 2030	2030 to 2065	Project construction phase overlaps with the Mona Offshore Wind Project proposed construction phase.
Moor Vannin Offshore Wind Farm	Pre application	34.5	Moor Vannin Offshore Wind Farm	2030 to 2032	2032 to 2067	Planning to be operational from 2033
Morecambe Offshore Wind Farm Generation Assets	Pre-application	8.9	Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets	2028 to 2030	2030 to 2065	Project construction phase overlaps with the Mona Offshore Wind Project proposed construction phase. Project operational phase overlaps with the Mona Offshore Wind Project proposed operations and maintenance phase.
Morgan and Morecambe offshore wind farm transmission assets	Pre-application	8.9	Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms Transmission Assets	2028 to 2030	2030 to 2065	Project construction phase overlaps with the Mona Offshore Wind Project proposed construction phase.

**Tier 3 – proposed offshore wind farms**

None						
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## 8.10 Maximum Design Scenario

- 8.10.1.1 The MDSs identified in [Table 8.17](#)~~Table 8.17~~ have been selected as those having the potential to result in the greatest effect on an identified receptor or receptor group. The cumulative effects presented and assessed in this section have been selected from the Project Design Envelope provided in Volume 1, Chapter 3: Project description of the Environmental Statement, as well as the information available on other projects and plans, in order to inform a 'MDS'. Effects of greater adverse significance are not predicted to arise should any other development scenario, based on details within the Project Design Envelope (e.g. different wind turbine layout) to that assessed here, be taken forward in the final design scheme.



**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**
**Table 8.20: Maximum design scenario considered for the assessment of potential cumulative effects on seascape landscape and visual resources.**
<sup>a</sup> C=construction, O=operations and maintenance, D=decommissioning

Potential cumulative effect	Phasea Maximum Design Scenario			Justification
	C	O	D	
<p>The SLVIA considers the likely impacts of the Mona Offshore Wind Project on the seascape, landscape and visual resources of the SLVIA study area resulting from its construction, operations and maintenance and decommissioning.</p> <p>The receptor groups considered in the SLVIA are those located within the 50 km radius SLVIA study area as follows:</p> <p>Seascape/landscape receptors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• seascape/marine character areas</li> <li>• landscape character areas</li> <li>• special qualities of internationally / nationally designated landscapes.</li> </ul> <p>Visual receptors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• people using national trails/long distance paths</li> <li>• people using Access Land (or equivalent)</li> <li>• people accessing key coastal settlement seafronts/shorelines</li> <li>• cyclists using national cycle routes</li> <li>• people travelling along key coastal roads</li> <li>• people using key coastal railway routes</li> <li>• people travelling on key ferry routes viewpoints corresponding to views experienced by people at of the above receptors.</li> </ul> <p>The potential sources of seascape, landscape and visual impacts deriving from the Mona Array Area development components and associated activities are detailed here.</p>	✓	✓	✓	<p>Maximum design scenario as described for the Mona Offshore Wind Project assessed cumulatively with the following other projects/plans:</p> <p>Tier 1 Existing offshore wind farms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Northwest England cluster</li> <li>• North Wales cluster</li> <li>• Robin Rigg.</li> </ul> <p>Tier 1 Offshore wind farms under construction, permitted and submitted for planning approval.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm</li> </ul> <p>Tier 2 – proposed offshore wind farms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mona Offshore Wind Project</li> <li>• Morecambe Offshore Wind Farm Generation Assets</li> <li>• Mooir Vannin Offshore Wind Farm</li> <li>• Morgan and Morecambe offshore wind farm transmission assets</li> </ul> <p>Outcome of the CEA will be greatest when the greatest number of other schemes are considered.</p>

## **8.11 Potential cumulative effects on seascape, landscape and visual resources**

### **8.11.1 Overview**

8.11.1.1 The potential cumulative effects of the Mona Array Area on seascape, landscape and visual resources are outlined in the following sections. Cumulative impacts will potentially be caused by both static and moving elements of the development components of the identified cumulative projects (Tier 1 and Tier 2 offshore wind farms), in combination with those of the Mona Array Area. Together these will potentially affect the characteristics, qualities and perceptions of the seascape, landscape and visual resource of the SLVIA study area. These effects are outlined in the following sections in relation to:

- the fabric of seascape elements and features
- the aesthetic aspects and overall character of seascape and landscape character areas
- static and dynamic visual receptors.

8.11.1.2 The potential cumulative effects of the Mona Array Area on internationally and nationally designated landscapes is presented in Volume 6, Annex 8.5: International and nationally designated landscape study, of the Environmental Statement, and summarised in this chapter at section 8.8.2 and in Table 8.24 of this chapter.

### **8.11.2 Potential cumulative effects on the fabric of seascape elements and features**

8.11.2.1 Due to the nature of the proposed development, the Mona Array Area will occupy a comparatively small area of sea within the overall seascape. Implementation of the Mona Array Area will therefore have negligible impact on the physical fabric of the seascape within the SLVIA study area, whether considered in isolation or as an addition to the Tier 1 existing and consented offshore wind farms or as an addition to the proposed Tier 2 offshore windfarms. Consequently, there is no potential for significant adverse, cumulative effects to arise on the fabric of seascape elements and features together with Tier 1 existing and consented offshore wind farms or Tier 2 proposed offshore wind farms.

8.11.2.2 The remainder of this report presents the cumulative assessment on both the aesthetic aspects and character of seascape and landscape resources and visual receptors under the following headings:

- Potential cumulative effects of the Mona Offshore Wind Project with Tier 1 existing offshore wind farms
- Potential cumulative effects of the Mona Offshore Wind Project with Tier 1 existing offshore wind farms and the consented Awel y Môr offshore wind farm
- Potential cumulative effects of the Mona Offshore Wind Project with Tier 2 proposed offshore wind farms.

### 8.11.3 Potential cumulative effects on the aesthetic aspects and overall character of seascape and landscape character areas together with Tier 1 existing offshore wind farms

#### Construction and decommissioning phases

8.11.3.1 As the construction and decommissioning phases of the Mona Offshore Wind Project are not scheduled to overlap with Tier 1 existing offshore wind farms, there will be no cumulative effects on the aesthetic aspects and overall character of seascape and landscape character areas during these phases.

#### Operation and maintenance phases

8.11.3.2 Cumulative effects will potentially arise on the aesthetic aspects and overall character of the seascape and landscape resources of the SLVIA study area due to implementation of the Mona Array Area.

8.11.3.3 The aesthetic aspects of seascape and landscape resources are expressed in their overall character, their distinctive characteristics and qualities, and the value attached to them by people/society. Regarding aesthetic aspects, GLVIA3 states: "Character is not just about the physical elements and features that make up a landscape, but also embraces the aesthetic, perceptual and experiential aspects of the landscape that make different places distinctive." (GLVIA3, paragraph 2.19 – a similar statement is made with respect to seascape at paragraph 5.6)

8.11.3.4 And in defining them GLVIA3 states: "...the aesthetic aspects of the landscape – for example its scale, sense of enclosure, diversity, pattern and colour, and/or on its perceptual or experiential attributes, such as a sense of naturalness, remoteness or tranquillity." (GLVIA3, paragraph 7.25)

8.11.3.5 GLVIA3 adds regarding the assessment of landscape/seascape value: "Scenic quality may also be relevant and will need to reflect factors such as sense of place and aesthetic and perceptual qualities." (GLVIA3, paragraph 5.29)

8.11.3.6 The potential effect of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets on the aesthetic aspects of seascape and landscape (as defined in GLVIA3 and summarised above) has been assessed earlier in this chapter in relation to a) seascape/marine character areas and landscape character areas, and b) the special qualities of international/nationally designated landscapes.

#### Landscape resources

8.11.3.7 Due to offshore location of Mona Array Area (28.8 km from the nearest landmass), there is little potential for significant cumulative effects to arise together with existing development projects on the aesthetic aspects and overall character of the landscape in the SLVIA CEA study area.

8.11.3.8 Internationally and nationally designated landscapes represent the most sensitive landscape resources and potentially have the highest value and most susceptible aesthetic aspects in the SLVIA study area. The SLVIA assessed the characteristics and special qualities of nationally designated landscapes within the SLVIA study area and it was judged that no significant effects would arise due to implementation of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets, due to distance. This assessment had regard to existing major development, both offshore and onshore, including operational wind farms (Figure A.5 and A.6).

## MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

- 8.11.3.9 The Mona Array Area is located 28.8 km from Anglesey coast and 29.9 km from north Wales coast in the SLVIA study area which is nationally or locally designated for its aesthetic qualities. In respect of the Isle of Anglesey National Landscape (NL) apart from the busy commercial shipping lanes off the north coast of Wales, the intervening seascape is relatively unaffected by existing major development. This is evident when studying the North Wales and Northwest England clusters cumulative ZTVs (Figure A.6 and A.7). The landscape of Anglesey's north coast, on the other hand, is influenced by some conspicuous development, notably Wylfa nuclear power station and several onshore wind farms including Trysglwyn and Ystgelloch Farm wind farms. The implementation of the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets, located over 30 km from the nearest existing development, would cause negligible additional cumulative effects on the aesthetic aspects and overall character of the landscape resource.
- 8.11.3.10 A similar set of circumstances with respect to seascape and landscape context applies regarding Eryri National Park, located 35.9 km from the Mona Array Area at the closest point near Conwy. The main difference being an absence of major development in the surrounding landscape and the presence, albeit weak, of North Wales offshore wind farm cluster (Figure A.8). Implementation of the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets 35.9 km from the National Park and well beyond the nearest existing development (and maintaining a sense of separation from it) would cause negligible sense of 'filling' of an area or incremental change resulting from successive individual developments. **Negligible adverse** additional cumulative effects will arise on the aesthetic aspects and overall character of the landscape resource.
- 8.11.3.11 The Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape is also located 41.1 km from the Mona Array Area at the closest point at Prestatyn. However, the NL's seascape and landscape context differs from Eryri National Park in that it is more markedly influenced by existing development, in particular the North Wales offshore wind farm cluster and, to a lesser extent, offshore oil infrastructure (Figure A.8). Implementation of the Mona Array Area (41.1 km from the NL), sited beyond and behind the existing development (and masked by it), would cause negligible filling of an area, or incremental change. Therefore, negligible additional cumulative effects will occur on the aesthetic aspects and overall character of the landscape resource-.
- 8.11.3.12 In summary, **Negligible adverse** additional cumulative effects will arise on the aesthetic aspects and overall character of the most sensitive landscape resources in the SLVIA CEA study area, namely nationally designated landscapes. There is no potential for significant additional cumulative effects to arise on the aesthetic aspects and overall character of the remainder of the landscape resource in the SLVIA CEA study area. The aesthetic aspects and overall character of the seascape resource are covered in the section that follows below.

### Seascape resources

- 8.11.3.13 Cumulative effects will potentially arise on the aesthetic aspects and overall character of the seascape in the SLVIA CEA study area due to implementation of the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. Analysis of the combined ZTVs supported by fieldwork indicates that potential significant cumulative effects will be restricted to the following seascape character areas/sensitivity zones hosting the Mona Array Area:
- Seascape Sensitivity Zone (SSZ) 2 North East Wales Offshore
  - SSZ 4 North Wales and North Anglesey Offshore
  - SSZ 5 North Wales and Anglesey Outer Offshore

- English Marine Character Area (MCA) 38 Irish Sea South.
- 8.11.3.14 These character areas and sensitivity zones have been assessed earlier in this chapter which concluded that significant effects would arise those parts of them either hosting, or adjacent to the Mona Array Area. This assessment had regard to existing major development, both offshore and onshore, including operational wind farms, in particular the Northwest England and North Wales clusters (Figure A.7 and A.8).
- 8.11.3.15 Regarding the aesthetic aspects and character of the aforementioned seascape units, the MCA 38 Irish Sea South character description states: *“The southern part of the Irish Sea is a busy area, with multiple offshore activities including fishing, main shipping routes, oil and gas extraction and dredging. Offshore wind farms extend into the north-west of the MCA. These activities also influence the night-time character with lighting on the main offshore platforms and wind turbines across the area. The offshore area is distant from low-lying coasts and is not widely visible except from the ferry routes which link England with Ireland and the Isle of Man, although it is overlooked in distant views from the Lake District fells.”* (MMO, 2018, page 48).
- 8.11.3.16 With respect to the seascape sensitivity zones, NRW states regarding SSZ 2 North East Wales Offshore: *“The zone lies in open sea with the north edge of Gwynt y Môr windfarm located on its south margins and the Douglas oil and gas complex nearby. Beyond this to the south are further wind farms and the northeast Wales coast. The coast has a high proportion of urban settlement focussed on residential and tourism, with caravan and beach holidays to the east and Victorian resorts with associated promenades mainly to the west”* (NRW, 2019, Report No. 331, page 40).
- 8.11.3.17 In relation to SSZ 4 North Wales and North Anglesey Offshore: *“The area lies in open sea offshore from Anglesey and the north Wales coast with the Isle of Man to the north. The main built coastal landmark is Wylfa nuclear power station, but structures may be seen juxtaposed with onshore windfarms inland. The sea is open and exposed. Commercial vessels running to and from the Mersey ports and ferries issuing from Holyhead’s busy harbour tend to pass between this zone and the coast”* (NRW, 2019, Report No. 331, page 49)
- 8.11.3.18 And regarding SSZ 5 North Wales and Anglesey Outer Offshore: *“The area lies in open sea at least 44 km offshore from the Anglesey, North Wales and Llŷn peninsula coasts although the zone’s north edge is located around 22 km from the Isle of Man. To the southeast there are the existing arrays at Gwynt y Môr and further arrays lie to the northeast including Walney and West of Duddon Sands. The sea is open and exposed with commercial vessels running inshore from this zone to and from the Mersey ports, and ferries issue from Holyhead’s busy harbour”* (NRW, 2019, Report No. 331, page 54).
- 8.11.3.19 To summarise the above characterisations, the key aesthetic aspects of the host seascape as reflected in its overall character are open sea situated some distance from land, upland parts of which (notably Eryri National Park and the Isle of Man) are visible from it, influenced by existing offshore wind farms and oil infrastructure, and by commercial shipping. These factors were all considerations of the SLVIA and its findings and conclusions regarding seascape and landscape character. The siting of the Mona Array Area within this seascape context, more than 14 km from the North Wales Cluster and 27 km from the Northwest England Cluster. There is sufficient separation between the Mona Array Area and existing offshore wind farms to prevent any significant sense ‘filling’, or an area or incremental change, resulting from successive individual developments (Figure A.7 and A.8). **Negligible adverse,**



additional, cumulative effects are predicted to arise on the aesthetic aspects and overall character of the seascape resource.

#### **8.11.4 Potential cumulative visual effects on static and dynamic visual receptors together with Tier 1 existing offshore wind farms**

##### **Construction and decommissioning phases**

8.11.4.1 As the construction and decommissioning phases of the Mona Offshore Wind Project are not scheduled to overlap with Tier 1 existing offshore wind farms, there will be no cumulative effects on static and dynamic visual receptors during these phases.

##### **Operation and maintenance phases**

8.11.4.2 Cumulative visual effects would potentially be experienced by people, at publicly accessible locations, within the SLVIA CEA study area due to implementation of the Mona Offshore Wind Project, together with existing development projects, in particular the North Wales and Northwest England offshore wind farm clusters. The additional, cumulative effects would potentially arise during the construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning phases caused by both static and moving elements of the development components, as summarised in the cumulative assessment methodology above.

8.11.4.3 Analysis of the combined ZTVs (Figures A.7 to A.13 of Appendix A to this chapter) supported by fieldwork indicates that potential significant cumulative visual effects together with existing development projects will be restricted to the following receptor groups in the SLVIA CEA study area:

- Popular, sensitive publicly accessible locations on land, represented by the following CEA representative viewpoints (in addition to other relevant SLVIA representative viewpoints referred to further below):
- National trails (Wales Coast Path and Offa's Dyke Path or equivalent non-vehicular recreational routes e.g. Raad ny Foillan Coastal Path, Isle of Man)
- Main coastal roads and railways (including the A547 and A55 North Wales Expressway, the Liverpool/Manchester to Holyhead railway, and the Manx Electric Railway, Isle of Man)
- Ferry routes (in particular, Liverpool to Dublin and Liverpool to Douglas).

8.11.4.4 Other SLVIA VPs relevant to the CEA and the above visual receptor groups include the following (referred to further in brackets below):

- Representative viewpoint 2 Llanlleiana Head (Isle of Anglesey National Landscape and Wales Coast Path (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 2.1 and 2.2 of the Environmental Statement)
- Representative viewpoint 6 Carnedd Llewellyn (Eryri National Park) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 6.1 and 6.2 of the Environmental Statement)
- Representative viewpoint 9 Rhyl (Wales Coast Path) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 9.1, 9.2 and 9.3 of the Environmental Statement)



- Representative viewpoint 13 Formby (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 13.1 and 13.2 of the Environmental Statement)
- Representative viewpoint 21 Liverpool to Dublin Ferry (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figure 17.1 of the Environmental Statement)
- Representative viewpoint 22 Liverpool to Douglas Ferry (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 18.1 and 18.2 of the Environmental Statement)
- Representative viewpoint 25 Moelfre headland (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 21.1 and 21.2 of the Environmental Statement)
- Representative viewpoint 30 Garreg Fawr (Eryri National Park and Wales Coast Path) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 26.1 and 26.2 of the Environmental Statement)
- Representative viewpoint 33 Conwy Mountain (Eryri National Park) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 29.1 and 29.2 of the Environmental Statement)
- Representative viewpoint 39 Prestatyn Hillside (Offa's Dyke Path) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 35.1 and 35.2 of the Environmental Statement)
- Representative viewpoint 40 Point of Ayr (Wales Coast Path) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 36.1 and 36.2 of the Environmental Statement)
- Representative viewpoint 48 Llandudno (Wales Coast Path) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 38.1, 38.2 and 38.3 of the Environmental Statement)
- Representative viewpoint 49 Douglas Bay, Isle of Man (Raad ny Foillan Coastal Path) (Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, Figures 39.1, 39.2 and 39.3 of the Environmental Statement).

8.11.4.5 The viewpoints listed above are representative of both static and dynamic, popular sensitive locations in the SLVIA study area. The SLVIA concluded that no significant effects would arise on people's views and visual amenity at these locations or travelling along these routes as a result of implementing the Mona Offshore Wind Project. This assessment took account of existing major development forming part of the current baseline, both offshore and onshore, including operational wind farms, in particular the Northwest England and North Wales clusters (Figures A.7 and A.8).

8.11.4.6 With respect to Wales, apart from the discrete onshore windfarms, including Ystgellog Farm and Trysglwyn, and Wylfa nuclear power station, there is little influence of existing development projects in views towards the Mona Array Area from the north coast of Anglesey, representative viewpoints 3 and 28 (Figures 3.1 and 3.2 and Figures 24.1 and 24.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement) illustrate this effect. Consequently, implementation of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets will cause neither the 'filling' of an area, nor incremental change resulting from successive individual developments. Therefore, a **negligible adverse** additional, cumulative visual effect would arise when considered together with existing development projects, due primarily on distance. This assessment, and what follows, takes into account both combined and sequential visibility of Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets together with existing development projects.

- 8.11.4.7 The North Wales offshore wind farm cluster (Figure A.8) exerts an increasingly strong presence in views north across the Irish Sea from the coast or hinterland. At Great Orme's Head, representative viewpoint 7 (Figures 7.1 to 7.4 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement) the closest, sensitive location on the North Wales coast, due in part to accessibility, the North Wales offshore wind farm cluster is closer and more visible than from locations in Anglesey. However, the separation distance (14 km minimum) and parallax relationship between it and the Mona Array Area is sufficient to prevent any significant sense 'filling' of an area or incremental change resulting from successive individual developments. **Negligible adverse** additional, cumulative visual effects are likely to arise.
- 8.11.4.8 Farther east, for example at Rhyl, representative viewpoint 9 (Figures 9.1 to 9.4), Prestatyn, representative viewpoint 39 (Figures 35.1 and 35.2) and Point of Ayr, representative viewpoint 40 (Figures 36.1 and 36.2) of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, the Mona Array Area would be visible beyond the North Wales cluster, substantially masked by it (representative viewpoints 9 (Figures 9.1 to 9.4), 10 (Figures 10.1 and 10.2) and 39 (Figures 35.1 and 35.2) of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement. Consequently, **negligible adverse** additional, cumulative visual effects together with existing development projects would be experienced by people at these locations.
- 8.11.4.9 With regards to locations in northwest England and on the Isle of Man, the Mona Array Area, the Northwest England and North Wales offshore wind farm clusters are all located too far from sensitive visual receptors on land for significant additional cumulative effects to be experienced by people at them (representative viewpoints 15 (Figures 14.1 to 14.4) and 19 (Figures 16.1 and 16.2) of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape Visualisations of the Environmental Statement, illustrate this point.
- 8.11.4.10 Regarding National Trails in the SLVIA study area, sequential visibility of the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets together with existing development projects, in particular the North Wales offshore wind farm cluster, will be occasionally afforded from Wales Coast Path and to a lesser extent the Offa's Dyke Path National Trail. These occasional sequential views will potentially be experienced by people travelling along sections of the route where northerly views across the sea are available (Wales Coast Path – representative viewpoints 2 (Figures 2.1 and 2.2), 3 (Figures 3.1 and 3.2), 9 (Figures 9.1 to 9.4), 28 (Figures 24.1 and 24.2), 30 (Figures 26.1 and 26.2), 40 (Figures 36.1 and 36.2), 48 (Figures 38.1 to 38.4) and Offa's Dyke Path – representative viewpoint 39 (Figures 35.1 and 35.2) of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement. However, the separation distance of the Mona Array Area from the linear receptors, combined with its distance from (14 km minimum) and parallax relationship with the North Wales cluster, will prevent potential, significant sequential additional cumulative visual effects being experienced by people using the National Trail and Wales Coast Path. The same will apply for equivalent non-vehicular recreational routes on the Isle of Man (e.g. Raad ny Foillan Coastal Path), and in the case of main coastal roads and railways in North Wales, England and the Isle of Man.
- 8.11.4.11 With respect to ferry routes, the alone assessment predicted that people on board the Liverpool to Douglas and Heysham to Douglas ferries will potentially experience a **moderate adverse** (not significant) visual effect when passing the Mona Array Area. Factoring in the additional, cumulative sequential visual experience along the entire route (i.e. likely frequent visibility in favourable conditions of the North Wales and/or the Northwest England offshore wind farm clusters together with the Mona Offshore Wind Project) a **minor adverse** additional, cumulative visual effect would be

experienced by passengers –together with existing development projects. Similar levels of additional, cumulative effect will apply in respect of the Liverpool to Dublin route. The SLVIA predicted that people on board the ferry are likely to experience **minor adverse** additional, cumulative visual effects when passing between the North Wales offshore wind farm cluster and the Mona Array Area.

8.11.4.12 In summary, no visual receptors in the SLVIA study area are likely to be significantly affected cumulatively by the Mona Offshore Wind Project together with existing development projects.

### **8.11.5 Potential cumulative effects on the aesthetic aspects and overall character of seascape and landscape character areas together with Tier 1 consented and existing offshore wind farms.**

8.11.5.1 Cumulative effects will potentially arise on landscape and seascape/marine character areas in the vicinity of the Mona Offshore Wind Project during the operations and maintenance phases. The cumulative effects will be due to the combined influence on the seascape and landscape of Tier 1 existing offshore wind farms and the consented Awel y Môr (as identified in Table 8.19 above) and the Mona Array Area.

#### **Construction and decommissioning phases**

8.11.5.2 As the construction and decommissioning phases of Mona Generation Assets are not scheduled to overlap with Tier 1 consented offshore wind farms, there will be no cumulative effects on the aesthetic aspects and overall character of seascape and landscape character areas during these phases.

#### **Operation and maintenance phases**

8.11.5.3 The assessment has considered the cumulative effects resulting from the addition of the Mona Offshore Wind Project along with Tier 1 existing offshore wind farms and the consented Awel y Môr offshore wind farm, with reference to cumulative ZTVs of these projects. In this regard, the cumulative ZTV for the Mona Offshore Wind Project and Awel y Môr indicates theoretical effects only on MCA 38 and SSZ 5. The cumulative ZTV indicates no cumulative effects on Isle of Man LCT E Rugged Coast and the adjacent LCT D Incised Slopes or MCA A Dreswick Point to Maughold Head, Isle of Man Southeast Inshore Waters within the SLVIA study area. This is because these receptors lie outside the overlapping area of the two SLVIA Study Areas for the Mona Offshore Wind Project and Awel y Môr. Therefore, cumulative effects on LCT D, LCT E and MCA A will be the same as that assessed for the Mona Offshore Wind Project and Tier 1 existing wind farms reported in Section 8.10.4 above.

#### **Magnitude of impact**

8.11.5.4 The additional, cumulative impact during the operations and maintenance phase will be of long-term duration, continuous and of high reversibility. There are no seascape character areas that will experience direct cumulative impacts, as no other cumulative project is located within SSZ 5. The northern part of the consented Awel y Môr offshore wind farm, clips the most southerly section of SSZ 2 and there is a negligible additional, cumulative direct impact on this SSZ. Adjacent seascape character areas with the potential to be indirectly affected is MCA 38, which will experience additional, cumulative impact in this seascape character area. Welsh seascape SSZ 4 lies adjacent to the Mona Array Area, but due to its location further from the Tier 1 and Tier 2 offshore wind farms is less likely to be significantly affected than MCA 38.

8.11.5.5 Taking account of the scale and geographic extent of predicted effects on the aesthetic aspects of the host seascape resulting from the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets in combination with Tier 1 projects, in particular Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm, the cumulative effect during the operations and maintenance phase will be of regional spatial extent, long-term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect the seascape character areas directly and indirectly. Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm is effectively a westward extension of the existing Gwynt y Môr Offshore Wind Farm. At over 12 km distance, Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets would maintain a sense of separation from it and the North Wales offshore wind farm cluster, causing little sense of ‘filling’ of an area, or incremental change due to successive individual developments. The cumulative impact magnitude during operations and maintenance is **small**.

#### **Sensitivity of the receptor**

8.11.5.6 The sensitivity of MCA 38, SSZ 2, SSZ 4 and SSZ 5 to the proposed additional, cumulative change is judged to be **low to medium**.

#### **Significance of effect**

8.11.5.7 Overall, the magnitude of the cumulative impact is deemed to be small and the sensitivity of the receptor is medium at most. The additional, cumulative effect during operations and maintenance phase for the area occupied by/adjacent to the Mona Array Area will, therefore, be of **minor adverse** significance at most, which is not significant.

#### **Further mitigation and residual effect**

8.11.5.8 No further mitigation is proposed.

### **8.11.6 Potential cumulative effects on nationally designated landscapes**

8.11.6.1 A detailed assessment of the effects on the special qualities of the three designated landscapes within the SLVIA study area is presented in Volume 6, Annex 8.5: International and nationally designated landscapes of the Environmental Statement.

#### **Isle of Anglesey National Landscape**

8.11.6.2 Cumulative effects on the special qualities: expansive views and peace and tranquillity, may arise but would be confined to the northeast coastline of this designated landscape.

8.11.6.3 The potential cumulative effects with Tier 1 existing offshore wind farms will arise due to the visibility of the Mona offshore Wind Farm along with the North West England offshore wind farm cluster and the North Wales offshore wind farm cluster of existing offshore wind farms. The Mona Array Area will be located closer to the Isle of Anglesey National Landscape than the North West England cluster which is located approximately 79 km away from the nearest point of this national landscape at Point Lynas. At these distances, the North West England cluster is barely visible and the potential for cumulative effects on the relevant special qualities would be very limited. A similar conclusion is arrived at regarding Robin Rigg, which is even further away from the National Landscape.

#### **Tier 1 Existing offshore wind farms**

8.11.6.4 There is potential for cumulative effects on special qualities of the National Landscape due to the addition of the Mona Array Area along with the North Wales offshore wind



farm cluster. These effects would generally be limited to a part of the northeast coast of Anglesey, the character of which is influenced by the North Wales cluster. Considering the limited section of coast that would be affected by the cumulative addition of the Mona Array Area and the visual screening by intervening islands, a **small to medium** magnitude of cumulative impact would arise to the special qualities of **high** sensitivity resulting in a **minor to moderate adverse** and not significant cumulative effect.

### Tier 1 Existing and consented offshore wind farms

8.11.6.5 The consented Tier 1 Awel y Môr offshore wind farm, if built, will be perceived as an extension of the existing Gwynt y Môr offshore wind farm in the North Wales Cluster. A **small** magnitude of cumulative impact would arise to the special qualities of **high** sensitivity because of the addition of Mona Offshore Wind Farm along with the North Wales Cluster of existing offshore wind farms and the consented Gwynt y Môr offshore wind farm. A **minor to moderate adverse** and not significant cumulative effect would arise to the special qualities of high sensitivity.

### Tier 2 Proposed offshore wind farms

8.11.6.6 There is potential for cumulative effects to arise on the special qualities due to Mona Offshore Wind Project and the proposed Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms. The Mooir Vannin Offshore Wind farm, at approximately 80 km from the Isle of Anglesey would be scarcely visible and would therefore not contribute to cumulative effects.

8.11.6.7 Mona Offshore Wind Project will be closer to Isle of Anglesey than the proposed Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms. Considering distance overall and the extent of the coastline that would be affected, being limited to the northeast coast, a **medium** magnitude of cumulative impact would arise to the special qualities of **high** sensitivity resulting in a **moderate adverse** and not significant cumulative effect.

### Eryri National Park

8.11.6.8 Cumulative effects on the special quality Tranquillity and Solitude – Peaceful Areas, may arise but would be confined to the northern part of the National Park overlooking the coastline and including some of the tallest peaks in Snowdonia, closest to the coast.

8.11.6.9 The potential cumulative effects with Tier 1 existing offshore wind farms will arise due to the visibility of Mona offshore Wind Project along with the northwest England offshore wind farm cluster and the North Wales offshore wind farm cluster of existing offshore wind farms. The Mona Array Area will be located closer to Eryri National Park than the northwest England cluster which is located approximately 77 km away. At these distances, the northwest England cluster is barely visible and the potential for cumulative effects on the relevant special qualities would be very limited. A similar conclusion is arrived at in regard to Robin Rigg, which is even further from the National Park.

### Tier 1 Existing offshore wind farms

8.11.6.10 There is potential for cumulative effects on special qualities due to the addition of the Mona Array Area, together with the North Wales cluster. These effects would generally be limited to the northern part of this landscape overlooking the sea. Considering the limited section of coast that would be affected by the cumulative addition of the Mona Array Area, a **small to medium** magnitude of cumulative impact would arise to the

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special quality of **high** sensitivity resulting in a **moderate** and not significant cumulative effect.



### Tier 1 Existing and consented offshore wind farms

- 8.11.6.11 The consented Tier 1 Awel y Môr offshore wind farm, if built, will be perceived as an extension of the existing Gwynt y Môr offshore wind farm in the North Wales cluster. A **small** magnitude of cumulative impact would arise on the special quality of **high** sensitivity, because of the addition of Mona Offshore Wind Project along with the North Wales cluster of existing offshore wind farms and the consented Gwynt y Môr offshore wind farm. A **minor to moderate adverse** and not significant cumulative effect would arise to the special qualities of high sensitivity.

### Tier 2 Proposed offshore wind farms

- 8.11.6.12 There is potential for cumulative effects to arise on the special qualities due to the Mona Array Area and the proposed Morgan and Morecambe offshore wind farms. The Mooir Vannin offshore wind farm, at approximately 80 km from Eryri National Park would be barely visible and would not contribute to cumulative effects.
- 8.11.6.13 The Mona Array Area will be closer to the National Park than the proposed Morgan and Morecambe offshore wind farms. Considering distance overall and the extent of the coastline that would be affected, being limited to the north coast and the most northerly mountain summits, a **medium** magnitude of cumulative impact would arise to the special quality of **high** sensitivity resulting in a **moderate adverse** and not significant cumulative effect.

### Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape

- 8.11.6.14 Cumulative effects on the special qualities - Tranquillity and remoteness and wildness, sense of space and freedom and the Offa's Dyke Path, may arise but would be confined to a small part of this designated landscape overlooking the coast.

### Tier 1 Existing offshore wind farms

- 8.11.6.15 There is limited potential for cumulative effects on this special quality due to the addition of the Mona Array Area together with existing offshore wind farms due to screening by intervening woodland and the presence of coastal development. A **negligible** magnitude of cumulative impact would arise to the special qualities of **high** sensitivity resulting in a **negligible to minor adverse** and not significant cumulative effect.
- 8.11.6.16 A **negligible** magnitude of additional, cumulative impact would arise on the Offa's Dyke Path of **very high** sensitivity resulting in a **minor adverse** and not significant cumulative effect.

### Tier 1 Existing and consented offshore wind farms

- 8.11.6.17 The consented Tier 1 Awel y Môr offshore wind farm, if built, will be perceived as an extension of the existing Gwynt y Môr offshore wind farm in the North Wales offshore wind farm cluster. A **negligible** magnitude of cumulative impact would arise because of the addition of the Mona Array Area, together with the North Wales cluster of existing offshore wind farms and the consented Awel y Môr offshore wind farm. A **negligible to minor adverse** and not significant cumulative effect would arise to the special qualities of **high** sensitivity.
- 8.11.6.18 A **minor adverse** and not significant effect would arise on the Offa's Dyke Path.

### Tier 2 Proposed offshore wind farms

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- 8.11.6.19 There is potential for cumulative effects to arise on the special quality due to the Mona Array Area and the proposed Morgan and Morecambe offshore wind farms. The Moor Vannin offshore wind farm would be barely visible and would not contribute to cumulative effects.
- 8.11.6.20 Given the limited extent of the designated landscape that would be affected, a **negligible** magnitude of impact would arise. The cumulative effects are expected to be in the range of **negligible to minor adverse** on the special quality of **high** sensitivity.
- 8.11.6.21 A **minor adverse** and not significant effect would arise on the Offa's Dyke Path.

### 8.11.7 Potential cumulative visual effects on static and dynamic visual receptors together with Tier 1 consented and existing offshore wind farms.

#### Construction and decommissioning phases

- 8.11.7.1 As the construction and decommissioning phases of the Mona Array Area are not scheduled to overlap with Tier 1 existing and consented offshore wind farms, there will be no additional, cumulative effects on static and dynamic visual receptors during these phases.

#### Operation and maintenance phases

- 8.11.7.2 The Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm Tier 1 consented but not constructed project is effectively a westward extension of the existing Gwynt y Môr Offshore Wind Farm, itself part of the North Wales offshore wind farm cluster extending eastwards towards Merseyside parallel to the North Wales coast (Figure A.8). The Mona Array Area is situated approximately 12 km north of Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm and approximately 14 km Northwest of the North Wales cluster.
- 8.11.7.3 With respect to Wales, the addition of Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm to the North Wales cluster will, to varying degrees, increase the influence of offshore wind farm development on the coastal counties of North Wales. Representative viewpoints 25 (Figures 21.1 and 21.2), 27 (Figures 23.1 to 23.4), 28 (Figures 24.1, 24.2 and 56), 30 (Figures 26.1 and 26.2), 33 (Figures 29.1 and 29.2), 7 (Figures 7.1, 7.2 and 49), 48 (Figures 48.1 to 48.4), 9 (Figure 9.1 and 9.2) and 39 (Figures 35.1 and 35.2) of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, illustrate this. Implementation of the Mona Offshore Wind Project on the other hand will result in considerably lower visual change due to its greater distance from the North Wales coast (28.8 km) and 14 km minimum separation distance from Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm.
- 8.11.7.4 With regards to visual receptors based in northwest England and on the Isle of Man, the Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm and the Mona Array Area (and the Northwest England and North Wales offshore wind farm clusters) are too distant for significant additional, cumulative effects to be experienced. Representative viewpoints 15 (Figures 14.1 to 14.4, 52.1 and 52.2), 19 (Figures 16.1, 16.2 and 55), 33 (Figures 29.1 and 29.2) and 49 (Figures 39.1 to 39.4) of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, are representative of sensitive static and dynamic receptors in this part of the SLVIA study area). Only land-based visual receptors in North Wales have any potential to experience significant additional, cumulative effects. These are assessed below.

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- 8.11.7.5 There is potential for significant additional, cumulative visual effects to be experienced by people at certain locations, due to combined and successive visibility of Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm and the Mona Array Area (Figure A.10) from the northeast coast of Anglesey between Llanlleiana Head, representative viewpoint 2 (Figures 10.1 and 10.2), Penmon Point, representative viewpoint 28 (Figures 24.1, 24.2 and 56) via Moelfre headland, representative viewpoint 25 (Figures 21.1 and 21.2) of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement. The potential for significant additional, cumulative visual effects decreases to the east. This is because of the proposed project locations relative to each other, the distance offshore, and the shifting parallax relationship between the two projects. Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm in the forefront of views will increasingly mask the Mona Offshore Wind Project situated beyond and behind it. Representative viewpoints 28 (Figures 24.1, 24.2 and 56), 7 (Figures 7.1 to 7.4 and 49) and 9 (Figures 9.1 to 9.4) of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations demonstrate this tendency. A plan of the cumulative ZTV is Figure A.10 of Appendix A to this chapter.
- 8.11.7.6 There is the potential for sequential visibility of Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm together with the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets from sections of the Wales Coast Path between Llanlleiana Head (representative viewpoint 2, Figures 2.1 and 2.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement) on Anglesey as far as Point of Ayr, Flintshire (representative viewpoint 40, Figures 36.1 and 36.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement). These sequential views will be experienced by people travelling along sections of the route falling within the cumulative ZTV (Figure A.10) where northerly views across the adjacent sea are available. For the same reason as with location-based receptors, the potential for significant additional, cumulative effects decreases as one travels eastwards along the coast path. Representative viewpoints 2 (Figures 2.1 and 2.2), 25 (Figures 21.1 and 21.2) and 28 (Figures 24.1, 24.2 and 56) on Anglesey and representative viewpoints 30 (Figures 26.1 and 26.2), 48 (Figures 38.1 to 38.4), 9 (Figures 9.1 to 9.4) and 40 (Figure 36.1 and 36.2) of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement, in Conwy, Denbighshire and Flintshire illustrate this tendency (Figure A.4 shows the location of these representative viewpoints).
- 8.11.7.7 People travelling along Offa's Dyke Path National Trail will have occasional sequential visibility of Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm and Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets together when approaching Prestatyn. Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets would be seen beyond and behind the North Wales offshore wind farm cluster and Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm. Representative viewpoint 39 (Figures 35.1 and 35.2 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement) illustrates this. The existing seascape context and distant siting of these existing and proposed offshore wind farms from Offa's Dyke Path will prevent significant additional, cumulative visual effects from arising on people using the National Trail.
- The same low and decreasing potential for significant cumulative effects as with the Wales Coast Path applies for main coastal roads and railways on the North Wales coast, the principle dynamic visual receptors people travelling in vehicles along the A547 and A55 North Wales Expressway and passengers travelling in trains on the mainline railway linking Manchester/Liverpool and Holyhead. There is no potential for people in vehicles and trains to experience significant, additional cumulative effects, due to distance and the enclosed nature of travel. These visual receptors are not considered further in this assessment.

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## Magnitude of impact

In the case of individuals travelling on the Liverpool to Douglas, the Heysham to Douglas and the Liverpool to Dublin ferries, the additional, cumulative magnitude of impact resulting from the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets in addition to all Tier 1 offshore wind farms will be **small to medium**.

Where the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets are visible, the magnitude of the additional, cumulative impact on users of the Wales Coast Path will be **negligible to small**, depending on geographical location, distance, elevation and orientation. The magnitude of the impact on the views and visual amenity of people using the coastal path on the Isle of Man and people using the Offa's Dyke National Trail will be **negligible**, due to distance.

## Sensitivity of the receptor

- 8.11.7.8 Popular, publicly accessible locations on land (e.g. Benllech, Great Orme's Head and Llandudno) the Wales Coast Path (or equivalent e.g. Raad ny Foillan Coastal Path, Isle of Man) are deemed to be of high value and high susceptibility to the proposed development. The sensitivity of the receptors at these locations is **high**. Those people using the Offa's Dyke Path National Trail, as it crosses through the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape have a **very high** sensitivity to the change proposed.

## Significance of effect

- 8.11.7.9 Overall, the magnitude of the additional, cumulative impact during the operations and maintenance phase on people's views and visual amenity (excluding ferry routes) is deemed to be medium to low at most. The maximum magnitude is predicted for people at exposed locations on the northeast coast of Anglesey, for example at Benllech (representative viewpoint 27, Figures 23.1 to 23.4 of Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations, of the Environmental Statement). People at locations or travelling along routes east of Conwy Bay would be affected to a lesser cumulative impact magnitude.
- 8.11.7.10 The sensitivity of people at publicly accessible locations on land and of those using coast paths and the National Trail is high and very high. The additional, cumulative effect on them during the operations and maintenance phase will be **minor to moderate adverse** significance at most, which are not significant.

## Further mitigation and residual effect

- 8.11.7.11 No further mitigation is proposed.

## 8.11.8 Potential cumulative effects on the aesthetic aspects and overall character of seascape and landscape character areas together with Tier 2 proposed offshore wind farms

- 8.11.8.1 There is potential for additional, cumulative effects to arise on seascape and landscape character along the coast as a result of the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets and Tier 2 proposed offshore windfarms, including Mooir Vannin, Morecambe and Morgan offshore wind farms. Additional, cumulative effects with Tier 2 offshore wind farms would result from the addition of the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets which will increase the extent of wind farm development in the area. However, as the Mona Array Area is not located within the same seascape character area as the Tier 2 proposed offshore wind farms, there are no direct cumulative impacts on Welsh SSZ 2 or SSZ 5.



## Construction and decommissioning phases

- 8.11.8.2 As the construction and decommissioning phases of the Mona Offshore Wind Project will overlap with some of the Tier 2 proposed offshore wind farms, there will be additional, cumulative effects on the aesthetic aspects and overall character of seascape and landscape character areas during these phases.

### **Magnitude of impact**

- 8.11.8.3 Taking account of the scale and geographic extent of predicted change to seascape character resulting from the Mona Offshore Wind Project in combination with Tier 2 projects, the cumulative effect during the construction and decommissioning phases will be of regional spatial extent, short-term duration and of high reversibility. The impact will affect the receptor indirectly, as none of the Tier 2 offshore wind farms lie within the same seascape character areas as the Mona Array Area. The Moir Vannin Offshore Wind Farm is located to the northeast of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. The Morgan Offshore Wind Project and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farm are located in MCA 38 Irish Sea South approximately 5.5 km to the north and 9 km northeast of Mona Array Area respectively, and approximately midway between it and the Northwest England offshore wind farm cluster. The additional, cumulative impact magnitude during the construction and decommissioning phases is **medium**.

### **Sensitivity of the receptor**

- 8.11.8.4 The sensitivity of the receptor **medium to low** for MCA 38 Irish Sea South, SSZ 2 and SSZ 5, and **medium** for SSZ 4.

### **Significance of effect**

Overall, the magnitude of the additional, cumulative impact is deemed to be medium and the sensitivity of the receptor is medium to low. The temporary, additional, cumulative effect during the construction and decommissioning phases for the area occupied by/adjacent to Mona Array Area will, therefore, be of **minor to moderate adverse** significance, which are not significant.

## Operations and Maintenance phase

### **Magnitude of impact**

- 8.11.8.5 Taking account of the scale and geographic extent of predicted change to seascape character resulting from the Mona Offshore Wind Project in combination with Tier 2 projects, the cumulative effect during operations and maintenance will be of regional spatial extent, long term duration, continuous and high reversibility. The impact will affect the receptor indirectly, as none of the Tier 2 offshore wind farms lie within the same seascape character areas as the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets. The Moir Vannin Offshore Wind Farm is located to the northeast of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. The Morgan Offshore Wind Project and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farm are located in MCA 38 Irish Sea South approximately 5.5 km to the north and 9 km northeast of Mona Array Area respectively, and approximately midway between it and the Northwest England offshore wind farm cluster. The additional, cumulative impact magnitude during operations and maintenance is **large to medium**. The predicted magnitude takes account of the sense of 'filling' of the area between the North Wales and Northwest England clusters, and the incremental change due to successive individual developments.



### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.11.8.6 The sensitivity of the receptor is as set out for the construction phase above, namely **medium to low** for MCA 38 Irish Sea South, SSZ 2 and SSZ 5, and **medium** for SSZ 4.

### Significance of effect

8.11.8.7 Overall, the magnitude of the cumulative impact is deemed to be high/medium and the sensitivity of the receptor is medium at most. The additional, cumulative effect during the operations and maintenance phase for the area occupied by/adjacent to Mona Array Area will, therefore, be of **moderate to major adverse** significance at most, which are not significant, to significant.

### Further mitigation and residual effect

8.11.8.8 No further mitigation is proposed.

## 8.11.9 Potential cumulative visual effects on static and dynamic visual receptors together with Tier 2 proposed offshore wind farms

8.11.9.1 Cumulative visual effects will potentially occur in the SLVIA study area due to implementation of the Mona Offshore Wind Project together with proposed development projects. These effects can potentially arise on both static and dynamic visual receptors, the nature of which is summarised in the cumulative assessment methodology above (section 8.9.1) and detailed in Volume 6, annex 8.4: Seascape, landscape and visual impact assessment methodology of the Environmental Statement. CEA wirelines have been undertaken for a selection of geographically diverse locations and elevations, these are presented in Volume 6, Annex 8.6: Seascape visualisations of the Environmental Statement. The CEA representative viewpoint location plan is Figure A.4 of Appendix A to this chapter.

8.11.9.2 Desk study and fieldwork indicate that potential significant cumulative visual effects together with proposed development projects will be restricted to the following receptor groups in the SLVIA study area:

- People using the Offa's Dyke National Trail, the Wales Coast Path or other promoted, non-vehicular recreational routes (e.g, Raad ny Foillan Coastal Path, Isle of Man)
- People at the seafronts of the coastal settlements of North Wales
- People within the higher parts of Eryri National Park
- People travelling on ferry routes (in particular, Liverpool to Dublin, Heysham to Douglas and Liverpool to Douglas).

### Construction and decommissioning phases

8.11.9.3 As the construction and decommissioning phases of the Mona Offshore Wind Project are scheduled to overlap with Tier 2 offshore wind farms, there will be additional, cumulative effects on static and dynamic visual receptors during these phases.

8.11.9.4 All land-based receptors are too distant from the Tier 2 offshore wind farm projects and/or the Mona Array Area, for there to be any potential for significant additional cumulative effects during the construction and decommissioning phases of the Mona Offshore Wind Project.

8.11.9.5 There is the potential for sequential visibility of the Tier 2 offshore wind farm projects together with the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets from sections of the Offa's Dyke Path National Trail, the Wales Coast Path and the coastal path on the Isle of Man, due to distance there is no potential for these visual receptors to experience significant effects. These receptors are not considered further in this section of the assessment. However, due to the higher elevation of some people within the Eryri National Park, there is the potential for significant effects on views.

8.11.9.6 Marine-based, dynamic receptors, such as passengers on the ferries travelling across the East Irish Sea, or recreational sailors, have the potential to experience significant additional, cumulative effects, as they pass close to the Tier 2 offshore wind farms and the Mona Array Area.

**Magnitude of impact**

8.11.9.1 In the case of individuals travelling on the Liverpool to Douglas, and the Heysham to Douglas Ferries, or recreational sailors in the same area, the additional, cumulative magnitude of impact resulting from the construction and decommissioning of the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets in addition to the Tier 2 offshore wind farms will be **small to medium**. Those people travelling on the Liverpool to Dublin Ferry will experience a reduced additional, cumulative impact due to distance from the Tier 2 offshore wind farm projects and as there is no potential for these people to experience significant additional, cumulative effects, they are not considered further in this part of the assessment. People within the mountainous areas of Eryri National Park, will experience a **small** impact to Mona Array Area in combination with the Tier 2 the proposed wind farms, due to distance from the Mona Array Area.

**Sensitivity of the receptor**

8.11.9.2 People travelling on the Liverpool to Douglas and the Heysham to Douglas ferries have a **medium** sensitivity to the proposed addition of the Tier 2 offshore wind farm projects. People within the Eryri National Park have a **high** sensitivity to the proposed cumulative impact.

**Significance of effect**

8.11.9.3 The sensitivity of these marine-based receptors to the proposed change is medium and there would be a medium additional, cumulative impact on their views and visual amenity. The temporary, additional, cumulative effect on passengers onboard the ferries and recreational sailors, during the construction and decommissioning phases will be **minor to moderate adverse** significance (increasing with proximity to the construction/decommissioning activities) which are not significant. For people within the higher parts of Eryri National Park, the temporary significance of effects will be **moderate adverse**, but not significant.

**Operations and maintenance phase**

8.11.9.4 Marine-based, dynamic receptors, such as passengers on the ferries travelling across the East Irish Sea and recreational sailors have the potential to experience significant additional, cumulative effects, as they pass close to the Tier 2 offshore wind farms and the Mona Array Area.

**Magnitude of impact**

8.11.9.5 The additional, cumulative magnitude of impact resulting from Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets in addition to the Tier 2 offshore wind farms will be **small to**

**medium.** People within the mountainous areas of Eryri National Park, will experience a **small** impact to Mona Array Area in combination with the Tier 2 the proposed wind farms, due to distance from the Mona Array Area.

### Sensitivity of the receptor

8.11.9.6 People travelling on the Liverpool to Douglas and the Heysham to Douglas ferries and recreational sailors in the same area have a **medium** sensitivity to the proposed addition of the Tier 2 offshore wind farm projects. People within the Eryri National Park have a **high** sensitivity to the proposed cumulative impact.

### Significance of effect

8.11.9.7 The sensitivity of people travelling on the Liverpool to Douglas and the Heysham to Douglas ferries and recreational sailors within the same part of the sea is medium and there would be a medium additional, cumulative impact on their views and visual amenity. The additional, cumulative effects on passengers onboard these ferries and on recreational sailors, during the operations and maintenance phase will be **minor to moderate adverse** (increasing with proximity to the Mona Offshore Wind Project and Tier 2 offshore wind farms) which are not significant. For people within the high parts of Eryri National Park, the significance of effects will be **moderate adverse** and significant.

### Further mitigation and residual effect

8.11.9.8 No further mitigation is proposed.

## 8.12 Transboundary effects

8.12.1.1 A screening of transboundary impacts has been carried out and any potential for significant transboundary effects with regard to seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors from the Mona Offshore Wind Project upon the interests of other states has been assessed as part of this Environmental Statement. The potential transboundary impacts assessed within Volume 5, Annex 5.2: Transboundary impacts screening of the Environmental Statement are summarised below:

- Impact 1: Effects on the adjoining seascapes of the territorial waters of England and the Isle of Man
- Impact 2: Effects on visual receptors within the adjoining seascapes of England and the Isle of Man
- Impact 3: Effects on high sensitivity visual receptors on the Isle of Man.

## 8.13 Inter-related effects

8.13.1.1 Inter-relationships are considered to be the impacts and associated effects of different aspects of the proposal on the same receptor. These are considered to be:

- Project lifetime effects: Assessment of the scope for effects that occur throughout more than one phase of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (construction, operations and maintenance and decommissioning phases) to interact to potentially create a more significant effect on a receptor than if just assessed in isolation in these three phases (e.g. subsea noise effects from piling, operational wind turbines, vessels and decommissioning)

- Receptor led effects: Assessment of the scope for all effects to interact, spatially and temporally, to create inter-related effects on a receptor. As an example, all effects on seascape, landscape and visual resources may interact to produce a different, or greater effect on this receptor than when the effects are considered in isolation. Receptor-led effects may be short term, temporary or transient effects, or incorporate longer term effects.

8.13.1.2 A description of the likely interactive effects arising from the Mona Offshore Wind Project on seascape, landscape and visual resources is provided in Volume 2, Chapter 11: Inter-related effects of the Environmental Statement and Volume 3 Chapter 11: Inter-related effects - offshore of the Environmental Statement

## **8.14 Summary of potential impacts, mitigation measures and monitoring**

8.14.1.1 Baseline information on seascape, landscape, and visual resources within the SLVIA study area was collected through of a combination of desktop studies, fieldwork, site surveys and consultation. These desk and field studies supported the impact assessment work and judgements on significance of effects.

### **8.14.2 Summary of potential seascape, landscape and visual effects of the Mona Offshore Wind Project**

8.14.2.1 Table 8.21 presents a summary of the potential impacts, measures adopted as part of the project and residual effects in respect to seascape, landscape and visual resources. A summary of the SLVIA findings are as follows.

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**
**Table 8.21: Summary of potential seascape, landscape and visual effects resulting from the Mona Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets, mitigation and monitoring.**
<sup>a</sup> C=construction, O=operations and maintenance, D=decommissioning

Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C	O	D							

**Mona Generation Assets – Effects on seascape/marine character areas**

Direct effects on seascape/marine character area SSZ 2 North East Wales Offshore (the area occupied by the Mona Array Area).	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: large O: large D: large	C: low to medium O: low to medium D: low to medium	C: moderate to major adverse (significant) O: moderate to major adverse (significant) D: moderate to major adverse (significant)	None	C: moderate to major adverse (significant) O: moderate to major adverse (significant) D: moderate to major adverse (significant)	None
Direct effects on seascape/marine character area SSZ 2 North East Wales Offshore.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: medium O: medium D: medium	C: low to medium O: low to medium D: low to medium	C: minor to moderate adverse (not significant) O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor to moderate adverse (not significant) O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)	None

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Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C	O	D							
							D: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)		D: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)	
Direct effects on seascape/marine character area SSZ 5 North Wales and Anglesey Outer Offshore (the area occupied by the Mona Array Area).	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: large O: large D: large	C: low to medium O: low to medium D: low to medium	C: moderate to major adverse (significant) O: moderate to major adverse (significant) D: moderate to major adverse (significant)	None	C: moderate to major adverse (significant) O: moderate to major adverse (significant) D: moderate to major adverse (significant)	None
Direct effects on seascape/marine character area SSZ 5 North Wales and Anglesey Outer Offshore.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: small O: small D: small	C: low to medium O: low to medium D: low to medium	C: minor adverse (not significant) O: minor adverse (not significant) D: minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor adverse (not significant) O: minor adverse (not significant) D: minor adverse (not significant)	None



**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C	O	D							
Indirect effects on seascape/marine character area MCA 38 Irish Sea South.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible to small O: small D: negligible to small	C: low to medium O: low to medium D: low to medium	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor adverse (not significant) O: minor adverse (not significant) D: minor adverse (not significant)	None
Indirect effects on seascape/marine character area SSZ 4 North Wales and Anglesey Outer Offshore.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible to small O: small D: negligible to small	C: medium O: medium D: medium	C: minor adverse (not significant) O: minor adverse (not significant) D: minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor adverse (not significant) O: minor adverse (not significant) D: minor adverse (not significant)	None
<b>Mona Generation Assets – Night-time effects on seascape/marine character areas</b>										
Direct effects on seascape/marine character area SSZ 2 North East Wales	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: medium O: medium	C: low to medium	C: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)	None

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Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C	O	D							
Offshore (the area occupied by the Mona Array Area).					D: medium	O: low to medium D: low to medium	O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant) D: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)		O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant) D: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)	
Direct effects on seascape/marine character area SSZ 2 North East Wales Offshore.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: medium	C: low to medium O: low to medium D: low to medium	C: minor to moderate adverse (not significant) O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant) D: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor to moderate adverse (not significant) O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant) D: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)	None
Direct effects on seascape/marine character area SSZ 5 North Wales and Anglesey Outer Offshore (the	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: medium O: medium	C: low to medium	C: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C	O	D							
area occupied by the Mona Array Area).					D: medium	O: low to medium  D: low to medium	O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)  D: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)		O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)  D: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)	
Direct effects on seascape/marine character area SSZ 5 North Wales and Anglesey Outer Offshore.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey		C: low to medium  O: low to medium  D: low to medium	C: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)  O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)  D: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)  O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)  D: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)	None
Indirect effects on seascape/marine character area MCA 38 Irish Sea South.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible to small  O: negligible to small  D: negligible to small	C: low to medium  O: low to medium	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C	O	D							
						D: low to medium	O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)		O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	
Indirect effects on seascape/marine character area SSZ 4 North Wales and Anglesey Outer Offshore.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: small  O: small  D: small	C: medium  O: medium  D: medium	C: moderate adverse (not significant)  O: moderate adverse (not significant)  D: moderate adverse (not significant)	None	C: moderate adverse (not significant)  O: moderate adverse (not significant)  D: moderate adverse (not significant)	None

**Mona Generation Assets – Effects on National Landscape Character Areas**

Effects on NLCA 01 Afonir Môn/Anglesey Coast.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible  O: negligible to small  D: negligible	C: medium to high  O: medium to high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None
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**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C	O	D							
						D: medium to high	D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)		O: minor adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	
Effects on NLCA 08 Arfordir Gogledd Cymru/North Wales Coast.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible  O: negligible  D: negligible	C: low to medium  O: low to medium  D: low to medium	C: negligible adverse (not significant)  O: negligible adverse (not significant)  D: negligible adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible adverse (not significant)  O: negligible adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None

**Mona Generation Assets – Night-time effects on national landscape character areas**

Effects on NLCA 01 Afordir Môn/Anglesey Coast.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible  O: negligible to small  D: negligible	C: medium to high  O: medium to high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: negligible adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None
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**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C	O	D							
						D: medium to high	D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)		O: negligible adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	
Effects on NLCA 08 Arfordir Gogledd Cymru/North Wales Coast.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible  O: negligible  D: negligible	C: low to medium  O: low to medium  D: low to medium	C: negligible adverse (not significant)  O: negligible adverse (not significant)  D: negligible adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible adverse (not significant)  O: negligible adverse (not significant)  D: negligible adverse (not significant)	None

**Mona Generation Assets – Effects experienced by visual receptor groups**

Visual effects on people using National Trails/Long distance paths – Wales Coast Path.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible to small  O: small  D: negligible to small	C: High  O: High  D: High	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: minor to moderate	None
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**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup> C O D			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
							D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)		adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	
Visual effects on people using National Trails/Long distance paths – Offa’s Dyke Path National Trail.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible  O: negligible  D: negligible	C: very high  O: very high  D: very high	C: minor adverse (not significant)  O: minor adverse (not significant)  D: minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor adverse (not significant)  O: minor adverse (not significant)  D: minor adverse (not significant)	None
Visual effects on people using Countryside Rights of Way Act 2000 Access Land or equivalent land with public access – Anglesey and Eryri.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible  O: negligible to small  D: negligible	C: high  O: high  D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: minor adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: minor adverse (not significant)	None

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Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C	O	D							
									D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	
Visual effects on people using Countryside Rights of Way Act 2000 Access Land or equivalent land with public access – Great Orme’s Head and Little Orne (Conwy).	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible to small O: small D: negligible to small	C: high O: high D: high	C: moderate to minor adverse (not significant) O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant) D: moderate to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor to moderate adverse (not significant) O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant) D: moderate to minor adverse (not significant)	None
Visual effects on people using Countryside Rights of Way Act 2000 Access Land or equivalent land with public access – Clwydian Range and Dee Valley NL and adjacent coastal areas (Denbighshire and Flintshire).	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible O: negligible D: negligible	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C	O	D							
									adverse (not significant)	
Visual effects experienced by people using Countryside Rights of Way Act 2000 Access Land, or equivalent land with public access – England.	✓	✓	✓	No potential for significant visual effects						
Visual effects on people using with public access – Isle of Man.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible O: negligible D: negligible	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None
Visual effects on people using National Cycle Routes (Wales and England).	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible to small O: small D: negligible to small	C: medium O: medium D: medium	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: minor adverse (not significant)	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup> C O D			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
							D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)		D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	
Visual effects on people using National Cycle Routes (Isle of Man).	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible O: negligible D: negligible	C: medium O: medium D: medium	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None
Visual effects on people at main coastal settlement- seafronts/shorelines – Anglesey and Conwy Bay, Wales.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible to small O: small D: negligible to small	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C	O	D							
							D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)		D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	
Visual effects on people at main coastal settlement seafronts/shorelines –Conwy Bay to Dee Estuary, Wales.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible to small  O: small  D: negligible to small	C: high  O: high  D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None
Visual effects on people at main coastal settlement seafronts/shorelines – Northwest England.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible  O: negligible  D: negligible	C: medium to high  O: medium to high  D: medium to high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C	O	D							
									D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	
Visual effects on people at main coastal settlement seafronts/shorelines – Isle of Man.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible O: negligible D: negligible	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None
Visual effects on people travelling along coastal roads – Wales, England and Isle of Man.	✓	✓	✓	No potential for significant visual effects						
Visual effects on people travelling along coastal railways.	✓	✓	✓	No potential for significant visual effects						
Visual effects on people using main ferry routes.	✓	✓	✓		C: small to medium O: medium	C: medium O: medium	C: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor to moderate	None



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Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup> C O D			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
					D: small to medium	D: medium	O: moderate adverse (not significant)  D: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)		adverse (not significant)  O: moderate adverse (not significant)  D: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)	
Visual effects on other marine users – commercial shipping/recreational craft and fishing vessels.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible to small  O: medium  D: negligible to small	C: low  O: low  D: low	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: minor adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: minor adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None
Visual effects on other marine users – recreational sailors.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: small to medium  O: small	C: medium  O: medium	C: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)	None

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Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup> C O D			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
					D: small to medium	D: medium	O: minor adverse (not significant)  D: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)		O: minor adverse (not significant)  D: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)	

**Mona Generation Assets – Effects at representative viewpoints**

Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 1 – Mynydd y Garn trig point  Annex 26.3: Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1, Figures B1.1 and B1.1a	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible  O: negligible  D: negligible	C: high  O: high  D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 2 – Llanlleiana Head	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible to small  O: negligible to small	C: high  O: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None

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Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup> C O D			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
Annex 26.3: Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1, Figures B1.2 and B1.2a					D: negligible to small	D: high	O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)		O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 3 – Mynydd Eilian  Annex 26.3: Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1, Figures B1.3 and B1.3a	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible  O: small  D: negligible	C: high  O: high  D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 4 – Bwrdd Arthur trig point	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible to small  O: small	C: high  O: high	C: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C	O	D							
Annex 26.3: Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1, Figures B1.4 and B1.4a					D: negligible to small	D: high	O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)		O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 6 – Carnedd Llewellyn  Annex 26.3: Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1, Figures B1.5 and B1.5a	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible  O: negligible  D: negligible	C: very high  O: very high  D: very high	C: minor adverse (not significant)  O: minor adverse (not significant)  D: minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor adverse (not significant)  O: minor adverse (not significant)  D: minor adverse (not significant)	None
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 7 – Great Orme's Head  Annex 26.3: Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1, Figures B1.6 and B1.6a	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible to small  O: small  D: negligible to small	C: high  O: high  D: high	C: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)  O: moderate adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)  O: moderate adverse (not significant)	None

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Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup> C O D			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
							D: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)		D: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)	
<p>Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 8 – Mynydd y Gaer</p> <p>Annex 26.3 Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1, Figures B1.7 and B1.7a.</p>	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	<p>C: negligible</p> <p>O: negligible</p> <p>D: negligible</p>	<p>C: high</p> <p>O: high</p> <p>D: high</p>	<p>C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)</p> <p>O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)</p> <p>D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)</p>	None	<p>C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)</p> <p>O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)</p> <p>D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)</p>	None
<p>Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 9 – Rhyl</p> <p>Annex 26.3 Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1, Figures B1.8 and B1.8a</p>	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	<p>C: negligible</p> <p>O: negligible</p> <p>D: negligible</p>	<p>C: high</p> <p>O: high</p> <p>D: high</p>	<p>C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)</p> <p>O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)</p>	None	<p>C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)</p> <p>O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)</p>	None

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Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C	O	D							
							D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)		D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 10 – Graig Fawr  Annex 26.3 Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1, Figures B1.9 and B1.9a	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible  O: negligible  D: negligible	C: high  O: high  D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 11 – Moel y Parc  Annex 26.3 Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1, Figures B1.10 and B1.10a	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible  O: negligible  D: negligible	C: high  O: high  D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None



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Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C	O	D							
									D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 12 – Wallasey embankment, Leasowe Common  Annex 26.3 Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1, Figures B1.11 and B1.11a	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible  O: negligible  D: negligible	C: medium to high  O: medium to high  D: medium to high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 13 – Sefton Coastal Footpath at Massam’s Slack/Ainsdale National Reserve, Formby  Annex 26.3 Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1, Figures B1.12 and B1.12a	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible  O: negligible  D: negligible	C: high  O: high  D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C	O	D							
									D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 15 – Blackpool North Pier  Annex 26.3 Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1, Figures B1.13 and B1.13a	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible  O: negligible  D: negligible	C: high  O: high  D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 18 – Herring Tower Trig Point, Langness Peninsula, Isle of Man  Annex 26.3 Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1, Figures B1.14 and B1.14a	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible  O: negligible  D: negligible	C: high  O: high  D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C	O	D							
									D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 19 – Panoramic viewpoint at Arch southwest of Douglas Head, Isle of Man  Annex 26.3 Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1, Figures B1.15 and B1.15a	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible  O: negligible  D: negligible	C: high  O: high  D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: minor adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 21 – Liverpool to Dublin (Ireland) ferry  No photography undertaken	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: small to medium  O: medium  D: small to medium	C: medium  O: medium  D: medium	C: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)  O: moderate adverse (not significant)  D: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)  O: moderate adverse (not significant)  D: minor to moderate	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup> C O D			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 22 – Liverpool to Douglas (Isle of Man) ferry  Annex 26.3 Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1, Figures B1.16 and B1.16a	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: medium  O: medium  D: medium	C: medium  O: medium  D: medium	C: moderate adverse (not significant)  O: moderate adverse (not significant)  D: moderate adverse (not significant)	None	adverse (not significant)  C: moderate adverse (not significant)  O: moderate adverse (not significant)  D: moderate adverse (not significant)	None
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 23 – Heysham to Douglas (Isle of Man) ferry  Annex 26.3 Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1, Figures B1.17 and B1.17a	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible to small  O: small  D: negligible to small	C: medium  O: medium  D: medium	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: minor adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: minor adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C	O	D							
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 24 - Bull Bay, Amlwch Annex 26.3 Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1, Figures B1.18 and B1.18a	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible to small  O: small  D: negligible to small	C: high  O: high  D: high	C: minor adverse (not significant)  O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)  D: minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor adverse (not significant)  O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)  D: minor adverse (not significant)	None
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 25 - Moelfre headland Annex 26.3 Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1, Figures B1.19 and B1.19a	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible to small  O: small  D: negligible to small	C: high  O: high  D: high	C: minor adverse (not significant)  O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)  D: minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor adverse (not significant)  O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)  D: minor adverse (not significant)	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C	O	D							
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 26 - Yr Arwydd trig point, near Mynydd Bodafon Annex 26.3 Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1, Figures B1.20 and B1.20a	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible to small O: small D: negligible to small	C: high O: high D: high	C: minor adverse (not significant) O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant) D: minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor adverse (not significant) O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant) D: minor adverse (not significant)	None
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 27 - Benllech Annex 26.3 Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1, Figures B1.21 and B1.21a	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible O: small D: negligible	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None



**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C	O	D							
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 28 - Penmon Point Annex 26.3 Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1, Figures B1.22 and B1.22a	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible  O: small  D: negligible	C: high  O: high  D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 29 - Base of Moel Wnion Annex 26.3 Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1, Figures B1.23 and B1.23a	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible  O: negligible  D: negligible	C: high  O: high  D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C	O	D							
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 30 - Garreg Fawr Annex 26.3 Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1, Figures B1.24 and B1.24a	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible O: negligible D: negligible	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 31 - Tal y Fan, summit Annex 26.3 Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1, Figures B1.25 and B1.25a	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible O: negligible D: negligible	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C	O	D							
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 32 - Foel Lus, summit Annex 26.3 Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1, Figures B1.26 and B1.26a	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible  O: negligible  D: negligible	C: high  O: high  D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 33 - Conwy Mountain, summit Annex 26.3 Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1, Figures B1.27 and B1.27a	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible  O: small  D: negligible	C: high  O: high  D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)  D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C	O	D							
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 34 - Little Orme's Head, Llandudno Annex 26.3 Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1, Figures B1.28 and B1.28a	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible to small O: small D: negligible to small	C: high O: high D: high	C: minor adverse (not significant) O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant) D: minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor adverse (not significant) O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant) D: minor adverse (not significant)	None
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 35 - Bryn Euryn Nature Reserve Annex 26.3 Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1, Figures B1.29 and B1.29a	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible O: small D: negligible	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C	O	D							
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 36 - Bryn y Maen Annex 26.3 Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1, Figures B1.30 and B1.30a	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible O: negligible D: negligible	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 37 - Pen-y-Corddyn-Mawr Annex 26.3 Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1, Figures B1.31 and B1.31a	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible O: negligible D: negligible	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible or minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C	O	D							
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 38 - Moelfre Isaf Annex 26.3 Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1, Figures B1.32 and B1.32a	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible O: negligible D: negligible	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 39 - Prestatyn Hillside Annex 26.3 Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1, Figures B1.33 and B1.33a	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible O: negligible D: negligible	C: very high O: very high D: very high	C: minor adverse (not significant) O: minor adverse (not significant) D: minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor adverse (not significant) O: minor adverse (not significant) D: minor adverse (not significant)	None
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 40 - Point of Ayr	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible	C: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor	None



**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C	O	D							
Annex 26.3 Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1, Figures B1.34 and B1.34a					O: negligible D: negligible	O: high D: high	O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)		adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 47 - Llanfairfechan Annex 26.3 Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1, Figures B1.38 and B1.38a	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible O: negligible to small D: negligible	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 48 - Llandudno	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible to small O: small	C: high O: high	C: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup> C O D			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
Annex 26.3 Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1, Figures B1.39 and B1.39a					D: negligible to small	D: high	O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)  D: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)		O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)  D: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)	
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 49 - Douglas Bay, Isle of Man Annex 26.3 Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1, Day: Figures B1.40 and B1.40a Night: Figures B1.41 and B1.41a	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible  O: negligible  D: negligible	C: high  O: high  D: high	C: negligible adverse (not significant)  O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  D: negligible adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible adverse (not significant)  O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  D: negligible adverse (not significant)	None
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 51- Blackpool Tower Annex 26.3 Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1. Figures: B1.40.1 and B1.40.2	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible  O: negligible  D: negligible	C: high  O: high  D: high	C: minor adverse (not significant)  O: negligible adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor adverse (not significant)	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup> C O D			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
							D: minor adverse (not significant)		O: negligible adverse (not significant)  D: minor adverse (not significant)	
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 52 – Carnedd Dafydd, Eryri National Park  Annex 26.3 Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1. Figures: B1.41.1 and B1.41.2	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible  O: negligible  D: negligible	C: very high  O: very high  D: very high	C: minor adverse (not significant)  O: minor adverse (not significant)  D: minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor adverse (not significant)  O: minor adverse (not significant)  D: minor adverse (not significant)	None
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint 53 – Elidir Fawr, Eryri National Park  Annex 26.3 Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1. Figures: B1.42.1 and B1.42.2	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible  O: negligible  D: negligible	C: very high  O: very high  D: <del>negligible</del> very high	C: minor adverse (not significant)  O: minor adverse (not significant)  D: minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor adverse (not significant)  O: minor adverse (not significant)	None

## MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C	O	D							
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint viewpoint 54 – Bridleway north of Golden Grove or adjacent PROW, Clwydian Range and Dee Valley NL Annex 26.3 Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1. Figure: B1.43.2	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible O: negligible D: negligible	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor (not significant) D: negligible to minor (not significant)	None	D: minor adverse (not significant) C: negligible adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor (not significant) D: negligible adverse (not significant)	None
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint viewpoint 55 – Trwyn Eilian (Point Lynas), Isle of Anglesey NL Annex 26.3 Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1. Figures: Figures B1.44.1 and B1.44.2	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible to small O: small D: negligible to small	C: high O: high D: high	C: minor adverse (not significant) O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant) D: minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor adverse (not significant) O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant) D: minor adverse (not significant)	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C	O	D							
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint viewpoint 56 – Caer y Twr on Holyhead Mountain, Isle of Anglesey NL Annex 26.3 Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1. Figures:	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible O: negligible D: negligible	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible adverse (not significant) O: negligible adverse (not significant) D: negligible adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible adverse (not significant) O: negligible adverse (not significant) D: negligible adverse (not significant)	None
Visual effects on people at representative viewpoint viewpoint 57 – Trwyn Cemlyn, Isle of Anglesey NL Annex 26.3 Visual baseline technical report, Appendix B1. Figures: B1.46.1 and B1.46.2	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible O: negligible D: negligible	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible adverse (not significant)	None

### **8.14.3 Summary of potential effects on the special qualities of nationally designated landscapes of the Mona Offshore Wind Project**

- 8.14.3.1 Table 8.22 presents a summary of potential effects on the special qualities of nationally designated landscapes resulting from the Mona Offshore Wind Project, mitigation and monitoring. The assessment and full summary of these SLVIA findings are found in Volume 6, Annex 8.5: International and nationally designated landscape study – offshore development of the Environmental Statement and concluded that there will be no significant effects on the special qualities of the three nationally designated landscapes from the Mona Offshore Wind Project on its own.



## MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

**Table 8.22: Summary of potential effects on the special qualities of nationally designated landscapes resulting from the Mona Offshore Wind Project, mitigation and monitoring.**

<sup>a</sup> C=construction, O=operations and maintenance, D=decommissioning

Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C	O	D							

### Mona Offshore Wind Project

<p>Isle of Anglesey National Landscape, special quality: Expansive views</p> <p>Note: The Mona Onshore Substation is not visible from the Isle of Anglesey National landscape and this assessment refers to the Mona offshore infrastructure only.</p>	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	<p>C: negligible</p> <p>O: negligible to small</p> <p>D: negligible</p>	<p>C: high</p> <p>O: high</p> <p>D: high</p>	<p>C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)</p> <p>O: minor to moderate (not significant)</p> <p>D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)</p>	None	<p>C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)</p> <p>O: minor to moderate (not significant)</p> <p>D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)</p>	None
<p>Isle of Anglesey National Landscape, special quality: Peace and tranquillity</p> <p>Note: The Mona Onshore Substation is not visible from the Isle of Anglesey National landscape and this assessment refers to the Mona offshore infrastructure only.</p>	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	<p>C: negligible</p> <p>O: negligible to small</p> <p>D: negligible</p>	<p>C: high</p> <p>O: high</p> <p>D: high</p>	<p>C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)</p> <p>O: minor to moderate (not significant)</p> <p>D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)</p>	None	<p>C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)</p> <p>O: minor to moderate (not significant)</p> <p>D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)</p>	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C	O	D							
Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape, special quality: Tranquillity	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible O: negligible D: negligible	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None
Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape, special quality: Remoteness and wildness, space and freedom	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible O: negligible D: negligible	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None
Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape, special quality: Access, recreation and freedom (Offa's Dyke Path)	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible O: negligible D: negligible	C: very high O: very high D: very high	C: minor adverse (not significant) O: minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor adverse (not significant)	None

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Seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C	O	D							
							D: minor adverse (not significant)		O: minor adverse (not significant) D: minor adverse (not significant)	
Eryri National Park, special quality: Tranquillity and solitude – peaceful areas Note: The Mona Onshore Substation SLVIA does not include the Eryri National Park and this assessment refers to the Mona offshore infrastructure only.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible O: small D: negligible	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None

## 8.14.4 Mona Array Area

- 8.14.4.1 No significant effects are predicted during construction, the operations and maintenance phase and decommissioning of the Mona Offshore Wind Project on recognised, national and local, seascape and marine character areas in the SLVIA study area when considered as a whole. The Mona Array Area occupies an area within Welsh territorial waters. It is in an area not covered by existing, published seascape/marine character assessments. However, this area of sea is covered in NRW's seascape sensitivity study (NRW 2019). The Mona Array Area straddles NRW seascape sensitivity zones (SSZ) 2 and 5.
- 8.14.4.2 A minor to moderate and not significant adverse effect on the character of SSZ 2 and a minor adverse and not significant effect on SSZ 5 is predicted during operations and maintenance. This applies in the case of SSZ 2 and SSZ 5 considered as a whole. This assessment has regard to the baseline character of the wider seascape which is partly characterised by commercial shipping and ferries, and by several operational offshore wind farms including: the Gwynt y Môr/Rhyl Flats/North Hoyle/Burbo Bank group to the south; and the West of Duddon Sands/Walney/Ormonde group to the north.
- 8.14.4.3 No significant effects are predicted during construction, operations and maintenance and decommissioning of the offshore generation assets of the Mona Offshore Wind Project on landscape character areas in the SLVIA study area. The Mona Array Area lies just under 30 km from the nearest land which is the northeast coast of Anglesey at Point Lynas. The separation distance between these areas of coastal landscape and the Mona Array Area combined with the underlying character of the baseline seascape described previously is such that significant adverse character effects would not arise. The same mitigating factors apply to a greater extent with the southeast coast of the Isle of Man (situated approximately 46 km from the Mona Array Area at its closest point around Douglas) and the nearest parts of England on the Sefton coast at Formby (approximately 46 km), and the Lancashire coast around Blackpool (approximately 51 km).
- 8.14.4.4 A moderate adverse, but not significant visual effect (long-term and reversible) is predicted during operations and maintenance for people onboard the Liverpool to Dublin and Liverpool to Douglas ferries when passing the Mona Array Area at approximately 10 km distance, travelling in either direction. Candidate representative viewpoints 21 and 22 are representative of the predicted visual change at this section of the routes. The visual effect for people on the Heysham to Douglas ferry would be minor and not significant .
- 8.14.4.5 No other significant visual effects are predicted to arise during construction, operations and maintenance and decommissioning of the Mona Offshore Wind Project, including with respect to the following visual receptors situated in the SLVIA study area:
- All candidate representative viewpoints
  - National Trails (Wales Coast Path, Offa's Dyke Path, England Coast Path and Isle of Man Millennium Way and Raad ny Foillan Coastal Path)
  - National Cycle Network (Wales and England; no equivalent on Isle of Man (IoM))
  - Key coastal roads and railways
  - Access Land, including land within National Parks and National Landscapes (Wales and England; no equivalent on IoM)

- Country Parks (Y Gogarth/Great Orme, Conwy County, Wales)
- National Parks and National Landscapes (Isle of Anglesey National Landscape, Eryri NP, Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape)
- Other key ferry routes (e.g. Douglas to Dublin).

### **8.14.5 Summary of the cumulative effects of the Mona Offshore Wind Project**

8.14.5.1 [Table 8.23](#)~~Table 8.23~~ presents a summary of the potential cumulative seascape, landscape and visual impacts, mitigation measures and residual effects. The cumulative impacts assessed include:

- Incremental and filling cumulative effects together with existing developments of the same type
- Combined and sequential visual effects together with proposed projects.

8.14.5.2 [Table 8.24](#)~~Table 8.24~~ presents a summary of presents a summary of potential cumulative environmental effects on the special qualities of nationally designated landscapes resulting from the Mona Offshore Wind Project, mitigation and monitoring. The cumulative assessment and full summary of these SLVIA findings are found in Volume 6, Annex 8.5: International and nationally designated landscape study of the Environmental Statement and concluded there will be a moderate cumulative effect on the ‘Tranquillity and Solitude – Peaceful Areas’ special quality of Eryri National Park in combination with the Tier 2 projects, which is significant, due to the views from the higher land within Eryri National Park.

8.14.5.3 The cumulative effects of the Mona Offshore Wind Project together with these projects on the following effects of seascape and landscape character have been assessed:

- Effects on the fabric of the seascape or landscape
- Effects on the aesthetic aspects of the seascape or landscape
- Effects on the overall character of the seascape or landscape.

8.14.5.4 Overall, it is concluded that there will be moderate, significant cumulative effects on views from the higher parts of Eryri National Park of the Mona Offshore Wind Project, together with Tier 2 proposed offshore wind farms, when seen from Eryri National Park, during the operations and maintenance phase. However, this does not compromise the reasons for its designation.

### **8.14.6 Summary of the transboundary effects of the Mona Offshore Wind Project**

8.14.6.1 There is no potential for significant transboundary effects regarding seascape, landscape and visual resources and receptors from the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation or transmission assets, upon the seascape of the Republic of Ireland territorial waters.

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**
**Table 8.23: Summary of potential cumulative environmental effects arising from the Mona Offshore Wind Project generation assets, mitigation and monitoring.**
<sup>a</sup> C=construction, O=operations and maintenance, D=decommissioning

Description	Phase <sup>a</sup>	Measures adopted as part of the project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C O D							

**Tier 1**

Landscape fabric	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: no change O: no change D: no change	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Seascape fabric (within Mona Array Area straddling parts of SSZ 2 and SSZ 5).	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible to small O: small D: negligible to small	C: medium to O: low D: medium to low	C: negligible adverse (not significant)  O: minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible or minor adverse (not significant) O: minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible or minor adverse (not significant)	None
Landscape – aesthetic aspects and overall character Eryri National Park	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible O: negligible to no change D: negligible to no change	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None



**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Description	Phase <sup>a</sup>	Measures adopted as part of the project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
<b>C O D</b>								
No potential for significant additional cumulative landscape effects to arise outside nationally designated areas.							O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	
Landscape – aesthetic aspects and overall character Anglesey AONB No potential for significant additional cumulative landscape effects to arise outside nationally designated areas.	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible to no change O: negligible to no change D: negligible to no change	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Description	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C O D									
Landscape – aesthetic aspects and overall character Clwydian Range and Dee Valley NL No potential for significant additional cumulative landscape effects to arise outside nationally designated areas.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible to no change O: negligible to no change D: negligible to no change	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None
Landscape – qualifying characteristics of World Heritage Sites and Registered Historic Parks and Gardens.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible O: negligible D: negligible	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Description	Phase <sup>a</sup>	Measures adopted as part of the project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring	
<b>C O D</b>									
Seascape – aesthetic aspects and overall character MCA 38 Irish Sea South No potential for significant additional cumulative effects to arise on other seascape units in the SLVIA study area.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey  C: negligible to small O: small D: negligible to small	C: medium to low O: medium to low D: medium to low	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)  C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None
Seascape – aesthetic aspects and overall character SSZ 2 No potential for significant additional cumulative effects to arise on other	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey  C: negligible to small O: small D: negligible to small	C: medium to low O: medium to low D: medium to low	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: minor adverse	None

## MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

Description	Phase <sup>a</sup>	Measures adopted as part of the project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring		
seascape units in the SLVIA study area.							(not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)			
Seascape – aesthetic aspects and overall character SSZ 4 No potential for significant additional cumulative effects to arise on other seascape units in the SLVIA study area.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible to small O: small D: negligible to small	C: medium O: medium D: medium	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None
Seascape – aesthetic aspects and overall character SSZ 5 No potential for significant additional cumulative effects to	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible to small O: small D: negligible to small	C: medium to low O: medium to low D: medium to low	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None

## MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

Description	Phase <sup>a</sup>	Measures adopted as part of the project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring		
arise on other seascape units in the SLVIA study area.					D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)		O: minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)			
Visual receptors – national trails – Wales Coast Path	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: small O: small to medium D: small	C: high O: high D: high	C: minor to moderate adverse (not significant) O: moderate adverse (not significant) D: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor to moderate adverse (not significant) O: moderate adverse (not significant) D: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)	None
Visual receptors – national trails – Offa's Dyke Path	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible to small O: small D: negligible to small	C: high O: high D: high	C: minor adverse (not significant) O: minor to moderate	None	C: minor adverse (not significant) O: minor to moderate	None

## MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

Description	Phase <sup>a</sup>	Measures adopted as part of the project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring		
	C O D									
Visual receptors – Isle of Man trails – Raad ny Foillan Coastal Path.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible O: negligible D: negligible	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None
Visual receptors – main settlement seafronts/popular destinations – Benllech, Anglesey.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: small O: small to medium D: small	C: high O: high D: high	C: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)	None



**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Description	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C	O	D							
							O: moderate adverse (not significant) D: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)		O: moderate adverse (not significant) D: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)	
Visual receptors – main settlement seafronts/popular destinations – Llandudno.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible to small O: small D: negligible to small	C: high O: high D: high	C: minor adverse (not significant) O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant) D: minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor adverse (not significant) O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant) D: minor adverse (not significant)	None
Visual receptors – main settlement seafronts/popular destinations – Abergele, Rhyl, Prestatyn.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible O: negligible D: negligible	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Description	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C O D									
							D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)		to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	
Visual receptors – main settlement seafronts/popular destinations – Blackpool.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible O: negligible D: negligible	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None
Visual receptors – main settlement seafronts/popular	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible O: negligible	C: high O: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Description	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C O D									
destinations – Douglas and Laxey.					D: negligible	D: high	O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)		adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	
Visual receptors – main coastal roads and railways (North Wales) – A547 and A55 North Wales Expressway, mainline railway between Manchester/Liverpool and Holyhead.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: small O: small D: small	C: low O: low D: low	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Description	Phase <sup>a</sup>	Measures adopted as part of the project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring		
<b>C O D</b>										
Visual receptors – main ferry routes – Liverpool to Douglas.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible to no change O: negligible to no change D: negligible to no change	C: medium O: medium D: medium	C: negligible adverse (not significant) O: negligible adverse (not significant) D: negligible adverse (not significant)	None	(not significant) C: negligible adverse (not significant) O: negligible adverse (not significant) D: negligible adverse (not significant)	None
Visual receptors – main ferry routes – Liverpool to Dublin.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: small O: medium D: small	C: medium O: medium D: medium	C: minor adverse (not significant) O: moderate adverse (not significant) D: minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor adverse (not significant) O: moderate adverse (not significant) D: minor adverse (not significant)	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Description	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C	O	D							
Representative Cumulative VP 3 Mynydd Eilian (Anglesey NL and Wales Coast Path).	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: small O: small to medium D: small	C: high O: high D: high	C: minor to moderate adverse (not significant) O: moderate adverse (not significant) D: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor to moderate adverse (not significant) O: moderate adverse (not significant) D: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)	None
Representative Cumulative VP 7 Great Orme's Head, Llandudno (Y Gogarth/Great Orme Country Park).	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible to small O: small D: negligible to small	C: high O: high D: high	C: minor to moderate adverse (not significant) O: moderate adverse (not significant) D: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor to moderate adverse (not significant) O: moderate adverse (not significant) D: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Description	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
<b>C O D</b>										
Representative Cumulative VP 15 Blackpool North Pier	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible O: negligible D: negligible	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible or minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible or minor -adverse (not significant) D: negligible or minor -adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible or minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible or minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible or minor adverse (not significant)	None
Representative Cumulative VP 19 Douglas Head, Isle of Man (Raad ny Foillan Coastal Path)	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible O: negligible D: negligible	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible or minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible or minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible or minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible or minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible or minor adverse (not significant)	None



**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Description	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
Representative Cumulative VP 28 Penmon Point (Anglesey NL and Wales Coast Path)	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: small O: small to medium D: small	C: high O: high D: high	C: minor or moderate adverse (not significant)  O: moderate adverse (not significant)  D: minor or moderate adverse (not significant)	None	D: negligible or minor adverse (not significant)  C: minor or moderate adverse (not significant)  O: moderate adverse (not significant)  D: minor or moderate adverse (not significant)	None
<b>Tier 2</b>										
Landscape fabric	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: no change O: no change D: no change	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

## MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

Description	Phase <sup>a</sup>	Measures adopted as part of the project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring		
	<b>C O D</b>									
Seascape fabric (within Mona Array Area straddling parts of SSZ 2 and SSZ 5)	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible/no change O: negligible/no change D: negligible/no change	C: medium/medium to low O: medium/medium to low D: medium/medium to low	C: negligible adverse (not significant) O: negligible adverse (not significant) D: negligible adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible adverse (not significant) O: negligible adverse (not significant) D: negligible adverse (not significant)	None
Landscape – aesthetic aspects and overall character Eryri National Park No potential for significant additional cumulative landscape effects to arise outside nationally designated areas.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: small O: small D: small	C: high O: high D: high	C: moderate adverse (not significant) O: moderate adverse (significant) D: moderate adverse (not significant)	None	C: moderate adverse (not significant) O: moderate adverse (significant) D: moderate	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Description	Phase <sup>a</sup>	Measures adopted as part of the project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
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C O D

							adverse (not significant)			
Landscape – aesthetic aspects and overall character Anglesey NL  No potential for significant additional cumulative landscape effects to arise outside nationally designated areas.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible/no change  O: negligible/no change  D: negligible/no change	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible adverse (not significant)  O: negligible adverse (not significant)  D: negligible adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible adverse (not significant)  O: negligible adverse (not significant)  D: negligible adverse (not significant)	None
Landscape – aesthetic aspects and overall character Clwydian Range and Dee Valley NL  No potential for significant additional cumulative landscape effects to arise outside	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible/no change  O: negligible/no change  D: negligible/no change	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible adverse (not significant)  O: negligible adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible adverse (not significant)  O: negligible adverse	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Description	Phase <sup>a</sup>	Measures adopted as part of the project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring		
<b>C O D</b>										
nationally designated areas.						D: negligible adverse (not significant)	(not significant)  D: negligible adverse (not significant)			
Landscape – qualifying characteristics of World Heritage Sites and Registered Historic Parks and Gardens	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible/no change  O: negligible/no change  D: negligible/no change	C: high  O: high  D: high	C: negligible adverse (not significant)  O: negligible adverse (not significant)  D: negligible adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible adverse (not significant)  O: negligible adverse (not significant)  D: negligible adverse (not significant)	None
Seascape – aesthetic aspects and overall character  MCA 38 Irish Sea South – area	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: medium  O: medium to large	C: medium/medium to low	C: moderate adverse (not significant)	None	C: moderate adverse (not significant)	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Description	Phase <sup>a</sup>	Measures adopted as part of the project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
adjacent to Mona Array Area  No potential for significant additional cumulative effects to arise on other seascape units in the SLVIA study area.	C O D		D: medium	O: medium/medium to low  D: medium/medium to low	O: moderate or major adverse (significant during operation)  D: moderate adverse (not significant)		O: moderate or major adverse (significant during operation)  D: moderate adverse (not significant)	
Seascape – aesthetic aspects and overall character  SSZ 2 North East Wales Offshore – area occupied by/adjacent to Mona Array Area  No potential for significant additional cumulative effects to arise on other seascape units in the SLVIA study area.	✓ ✓ ✓	Turbines painted grey	C: medium  O: medium to large  D: medium	C: medium/medium to low  O: medium/medium to low  D: medium/medium to low	C: moderate adverse (not significant)  O: moderate or major adverse (significant during operation)  D: moderate adverse (not significant)	None	C: moderate adverse (not significant)  O: moderate or major adverse (significant during operation)  D: moderate adverse	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Description	Phase <sup>a</sup>	Measures adopted as part of the project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring		
	<b>C O D</b>						(not significant)			
Seascape – aesthetic aspects and overall character SSZ 4 North Wales and North Anglesey Offshore – area adjacent to Mona Array Area No potential for significant additional cumulative effects to arise on other seascape units in the SLVIA study area.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: medium  O: medium to large  D: medium	C: medium/medium to low  O: medium/medium to low  D: medium/medium to low	C: moderate adverse (not significant)  O: moderate or major adverse (significant during operation)  D: moderate adverse (not significant)	None	C: moderate adverse (not significant)  O: moderate or major adverse (significant during operation)  D: moderate adverse (not significant)	None
Seascape – aesthetic aspects and overall character SSZ 5 North Wales and Anglesey Outer Offshore – area	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: medium  O: medium to large  D: medium	C: medium/medium to low  O: moderate or major adverse (significant)	C: moderate adverse (not significant)	None	C: moderate adverse (not significant)	None



**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Description	Phase <sup>a</sup>	Measures adopted as part of the project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
<b>C O D</b>								
occupied by/adjacent to Mona Array Area  No potential for significant additional cumulative effects to arise on other seascape units in the SLVIA study area.				O: medium/medium to low  D: medium/medium to low	during operation)  D: moderate adverse (not significant)		O: moderate or major adverse (significant during operation)  D: moderate adverse (not significant)	
Visual receptors – <del>Long</del> Long distance paths – Wales Coast Path	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible/no change  O: negligible/no change D: negligible/no change	C: high  O: high  D: high	None  O: negligible adverse (not significant)  D: negligible adverse (not significant)	C: negligible adverse (not significant)  O: negligible adverse (not significant)  D: negligible adverse	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Description	Phase <sup>a</sup>	Measures adopted as part of the project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring		
<b>C O D</b>										
Visual receptors – National Trails – Offa’s Dyke Path	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible/no change O: negligible/no change D: negligible/no change	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible adverse (not significant) O: negligible adverse (not significant) D: negligible adverse (not significant)	None	(not significant) C: negligible adverse (not significant) O: negligible adverse (not significant) D: negligible adverse (not significant)	None
Visual receptors – Isle of Man long distance paths – Raad ny Foillan Coastal Path	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible to small O: small D: negligible to small	C: high O: high D: high	C: minor adverse (not significant) O: minor or moderate adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor adverse (not significant) O: minor or moderate adverse (not significant)	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Description	Phase <sup>a</sup>	Measures adopted as part of the project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
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C O D

							D: minor adverse (not significant)			
Visual receptors – main settlement seafronts/popular destinations – Benllech, Anglesey	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible/no change O: negligible/no change D: negligible/no change	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible adverse (not significant)  O: negligible adverse (not significant)  D: negligible adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible adverse (not significant)  O: negligible adverse (not significant)  D: negligible adverse (not significant)	None
Visual receptors – main settlement seafronts/popular destinations – Llandudno	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible/no change O: negligible/no change D: negligible/no change	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible adverse (not significant)  O: negligible adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible adverse (not significant)  O: negligible adverse	None

## MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

Description	Phase <sup>a</sup>	Measures adopted as part of the project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring		
	C O D				D: negligible adverse (not significant)		(not significant) D: negligible adverse (not significant)			
Visual receptors – main settlement seafronts/popular destinations – Abergele, Rhyl, Prestatyn	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible/no change O: negligible/no change D: negligible/no change	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible adverse (not significant) O: negligible adverse (not significant) D: negligible adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible adverse (not significant) O: negligible adverse (not significant) D: negligible adverse (not significant)	None
Visual receptors – main settlement seafronts/popular destinations – Blackpool	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible O: negligible D: negligible	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible or minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible or minor adverse (not significant)	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Description	Phase <sup>a</sup>	Measures adopted as part of the project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
<b>C O D</b>								
					O: negligible or minor adverse (not significant)  D: negligible or minor adverse (not significant)		O: negligible or minor adverse (not significant)  D: negligible or minor adverse (not significant)	
Visual receptors – main settlement seafronts/popular destinations – Douglas and Laxey	✓ ✓ ✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible to small O: small D: negligible to small	C: high O: high D: high	C: minor adverse (not significant)  O: minor or moderate adverse (not significant)  D: minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor adverse (not significant)  O: minor or moderate adverse (not significant)  D: minor adverse (not significant)	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Description	Phase <sup>a</sup>	C	O	D	Measures adopted as part of the project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
Visual receptors – main coastal roads and railways (North Wales) – A547 and A55 North Wales Expressway, mainline railway between Manchester/Liverpool and Holyhead	✓	✓	✓		Turbines painted grey	C: negligible/no change O: negligible/no change D: negligible/no change	C: low O: low D: low	C: negligible adverse (not significant) O: negligible adverse (not significant) D: negligible adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible adverse (not significant) O: negligible adverse (not significant) D: negligible adverse (not significant)	None
Visual receptors – Manx Electric Railway, Isle of Man	✓	✓	✓		Turbines painted grey	C: negligible to small O: small D: negligible to small	C: medium O: medium D: medium	C: negligible or minor adverse (not significant) O: minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible or minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible or minor adverse (not significant) O: minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible	None



**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Description	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C	O	D							
Visual receptors – main ferry routes – Liverpool to Douglas	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: medium O: medium to large D: medium	C: medium O: medium D: medium	C: moderate adverse (not significant)  O: moderate or major adverse (not significant)  D: moderate adverse (not significant)	None	C: moderate adverse (not significant)  O: moderate or major adverse (significant during operation)  D: moderate adverse (not significant)	None
Visual receptors – main ferry routes – Liverpool to Dublin	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible/no change O: negligible/no change D: negligible/no change	C: medium O: medium D: medium	C: negligible adverse (not significant)  O: negligible adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible adverse (not significant)	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Description	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C O D									
Representative Cumulative VP 3 Mynydd Eilian (Anglesey AONB and Wales Coast Path)	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible/no change O: negligible/no change D: negligible/no change	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible adverse (not significant)  O: negligible adverse (not significant)  D: negligible adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible adverse (not significant)  O: negligible adverse (not significant)  D: negligible adverse (not significant)	None

## MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

Description	Phase <sup>a</sup>	Measures adopted as part of the project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring		
Representative Cumulative VP 7 Great Orme's Head, Llandudno (Y Gogarth/Great Orme Country Park)	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible/no change O: negligible/no change D: negligible/no change	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible adverse (not significant)  O: negligible adverse (not significant)  D: negligible adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible adverse (not significant)  O: negligible adverse (not significant)  D: negligible adverse (not significant)	None
Representative Cumulative VP 15 Blackpool North Pier	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible O: negligible D: negligible	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible or minor adverse (not significant)  O: negligible or minor adverse (not significant)  D: negligible or minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible or minor adverse (not significant)  O: negligible or minor adverse (not significant)	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Description	Phase <sup>a</sup>	Measures adopted as part of the project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring		
<b>C O D</b>										
							D: negligible or minor adverse (not significant)			
Representative Cumulative VP 19 Douglas Head, Isle of Man (Raad ny Foillan Coastal Path)	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible to small O: small D: negligible to small	C: high O: high D: high	C: minor adverse (not significant)  O: minor or moderate adverse (not significant) D: minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor adverse (not significant) O: minor or moderate adverse (not significant) D: minor adverse (not significant)	None
Representative Cumulative VP 28 Penmon Point (Anglesey NL and Wales Coast Path)	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible/no change O: negligible/no change D: negligible/no change	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible adverse (not significant)  O: negligible adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible adverse (not significant)  O: negligible adverse	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Description	Phase <sup>a</sup>	Measures adopted as part of the project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C O D				D: negligible adverse (not significant)		(not significant)  D: negligible adverse (not significant)	

**Tier 3**

All impact categories All landscape and seascape receptors	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible/no change O: negligible/no change D: negligible/no change	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible adverse (not significant)  O: negligible adverse (not significant)  D: negligible adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible adverse (not significant)  O: negligible adverse (not significant)  D: negligible adverse (not significant)	None
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**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

**Table 8.24: Summary of potential cumulative environmental effects on the special qualities of nationally designated landscapes resulting from the Mona Offshore Wind Project, mitigation and monitoring.**

<sup>a</sup> C=construction, O=operations and maintenance, D=decommissioning

Description of effect	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C	O	D							

**Tier 1 Cumulative Projects**

<p>Isle of Anglesey National Landscape special quality: Expansive views</p> <p>Note: The Mona Onshore Substation is not visible from the Isle of Anglesey National landscape and this assessment refers to the Mona offshore infrastructure only.</p>	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	<p>C: small to medium</p> <p>O: small to medium</p> <p>D: small to medium</p>	<p>C: high</p> <p>O: high</p> <p>D: high</p>	<p>C: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)</p> <p>O: minor to moderate (not significant)</p> <p>D: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)</p>	None	<p>C: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)</p> <p>O: minor to moderate (not significant)</p> <p>D: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)</p>	None
<p>Isle of Anglesey National Landscape, special quality: Peace and tranquillity</p> <p>Note: The Mona Onshore Substation is not visible from the Isle of Anglesey National landscape and this assessment refers to the Mona offshore infrastructure only.</p>	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	<p>C: small to medium</p> <p>O: small to medium</p> <p>D: small to medium</p>	<p>C: high</p> <p>O: high</p> <p>D: high</p>	<p>C: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)</p> <p>O: minor to moderate (not significant)</p> <p>D: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)</p>	None	<p>C: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)</p> <p>O: minor to moderate (not significant)</p> <p>D: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)</p>	None



**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Description of effect	Phase <sup>a</sup> C O D			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape, special quality: Tranquillity	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible O: negligible D: negligible	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None
Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape, special quality: Remoteness and wildness, space and freedom	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible O: negligible D: negligible	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None
Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape, special quality: Access, recreation and freedom (Offa's Dyke Path)	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible O: negligible D: negligible	C: very high O: very high D: very high	C: minor adverse (not significant) O: minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor adverse (not significant)	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Description of effect	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C	O	D							
							D: minor adverse (not significant)		O: minor adverse (not significant) D: minor adverse (not significant)	
Eryri National Park, special quality: Tranquillity and solitude – peaceful areas Note: The Mona Onshore Substation SLVIA does not include the Eryri National Park and this assessment refers to the Mona offshore infrastructure only.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: small to medium O: small to medium D: small to medium	C: high O: high D: high	C: minor to moderate adverse (not significant) O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant) D: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor to moderate adverse (not significant) O: minor to moderate adverse (not significant) D: minor to moderate adverse (not significant)	None

**Tier 2 Cumulative Projects**

Isle of Anglesey National Landscape special quality: Expansive views Note: The Mona Onshore Substation is not visible from the Isle of Anglesey National landscape and this assessment refers to the Mona offshore infrastructure only.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: small O: medium D: small	C: high O: high D: high	C: minor adverse (not significant) O: moderate (not significant) D: minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor adverse (not significant) O: moderate (not significant) D: minor adverse (not significant)	None
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**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Description of effect	Phase <sup>a</sup> C O D			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
Isle of Anglesey National Landscape, special quality: Peace and tranquillity Note: The Mona Onshore Substation is not visible from the Isle of Anglesey National landscape and this assessment refers to the Mona offshore infrastructure only.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: small O: medium D: small	C: high O: high D: high	C: minor adverse (not significant) O: moderate (not significant) D: minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor adverse (not significant) O: moderate (not significant) D: minor adverse (not significant)	None
Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape, special quality: Tranquillity	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible O: negligible D: negligible	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None
Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape, special quality: Remoteness and wildness, space and freedom	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible O: negligible D: negligible	C: high O: high D: high	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: minor adverse (not significant) D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: negligible to minor adverse (not significant) O: minor adverse (not significant)	None

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Description of effect	Phase <sup>a</sup>			Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
	C	O	D							
									D: negligible to minor adverse (not significant)	
Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape, special quality: Access, recreation and freedom (Offa's Dyke Path)	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: negligible O: negligible D: negligible	C: very high O: very high D: very high	C: minor adverse (not significant) O: minor adverse (not significant) D: minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor adverse (not significant) O: minor adverse (not significant) D: minor adverse (not significant)	None
Eryri National Park, special quality: Tranquillity and solitude – peaceful areas Note: The Mona Onshore Substation SLVIA does not include the Eryri National Park and this assessment refers to the Mona offshore infrastructure only.	✓	✓	✓	Turbines painted grey	C: small O: medium D: small	C: high O: high D: high	C: minor adverse (not significant) O: moderate adverse (significant) D: minor adverse (not significant)	None	C: minor adverse (not significant) O: moderate adverse (significant) D: minor adverse (not significant)	None
<b>Tier 3 Cumulative Projects</b>										
There are currently no Tier 3 cumulative projects considered as part of the										

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

Description of effect	Phase <sup>a</sup> C O D	Measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project	Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity of the receptor	Significance of effect	Further mitigation	Residual effect	Proposed monitoring
cumulative effects assessment.								

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## MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

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White S., Michaels S., King H. (2019) Seascape and visual sensitivity to offshore wind farms in Wales: Strategic assessment and guidance Stage 3 - Report No. 331 (for Natural Resources Wales).

## Appendix A: Figures

MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

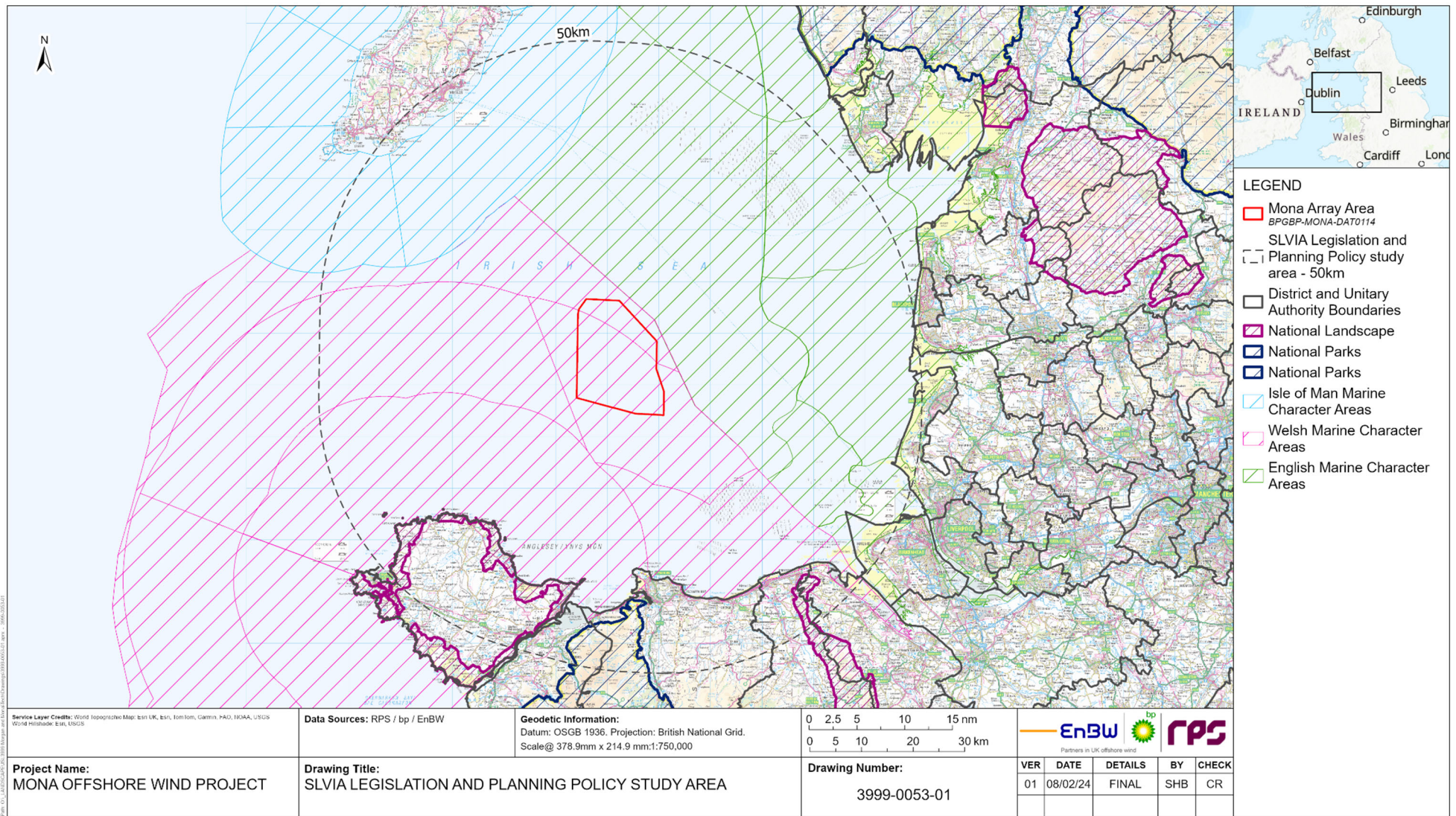
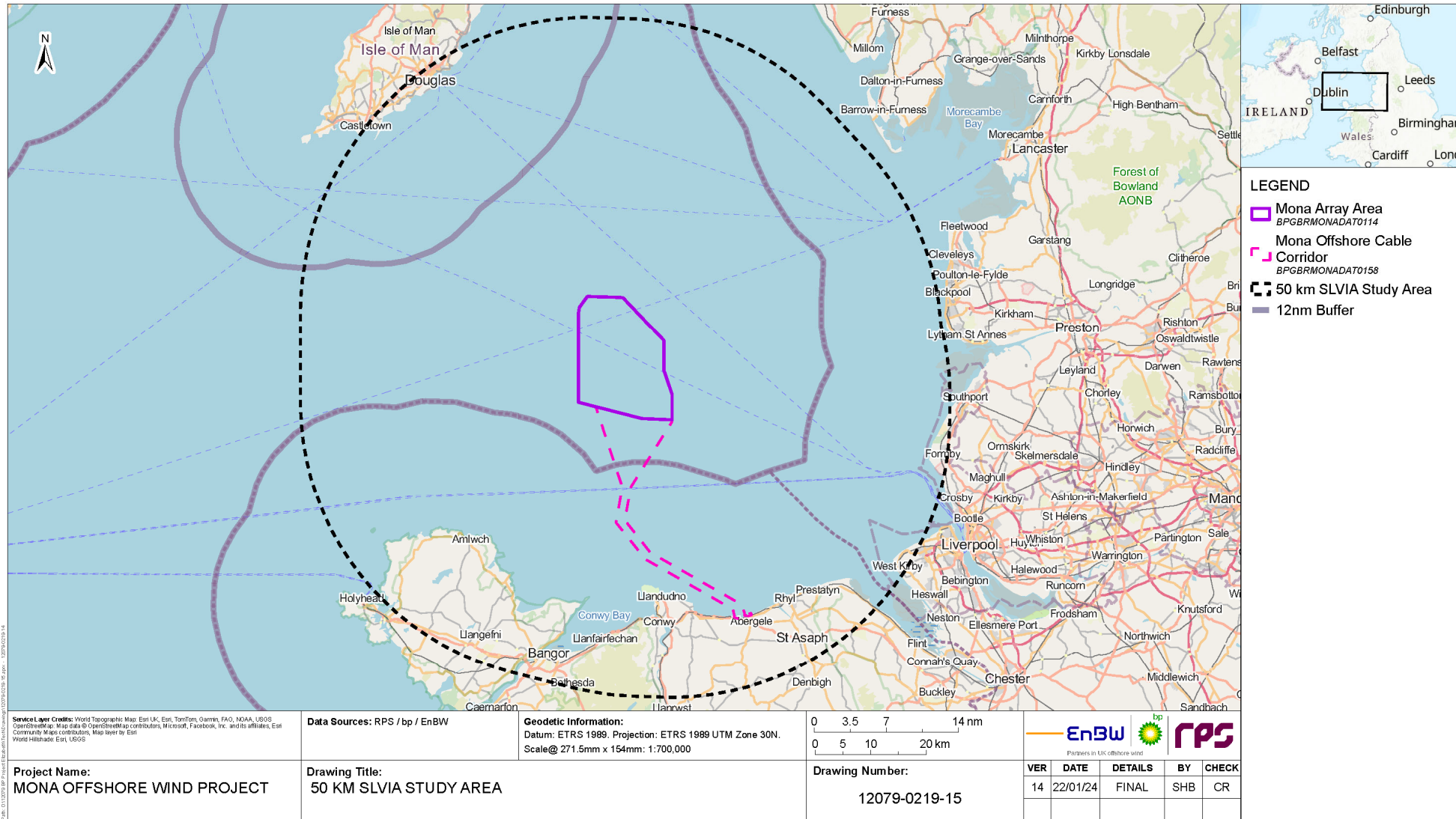


Figure A.1: SLVIA legislation and planning policy study area.



# MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT



**Figure A.2: 50 km SLVIA study area.**

MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

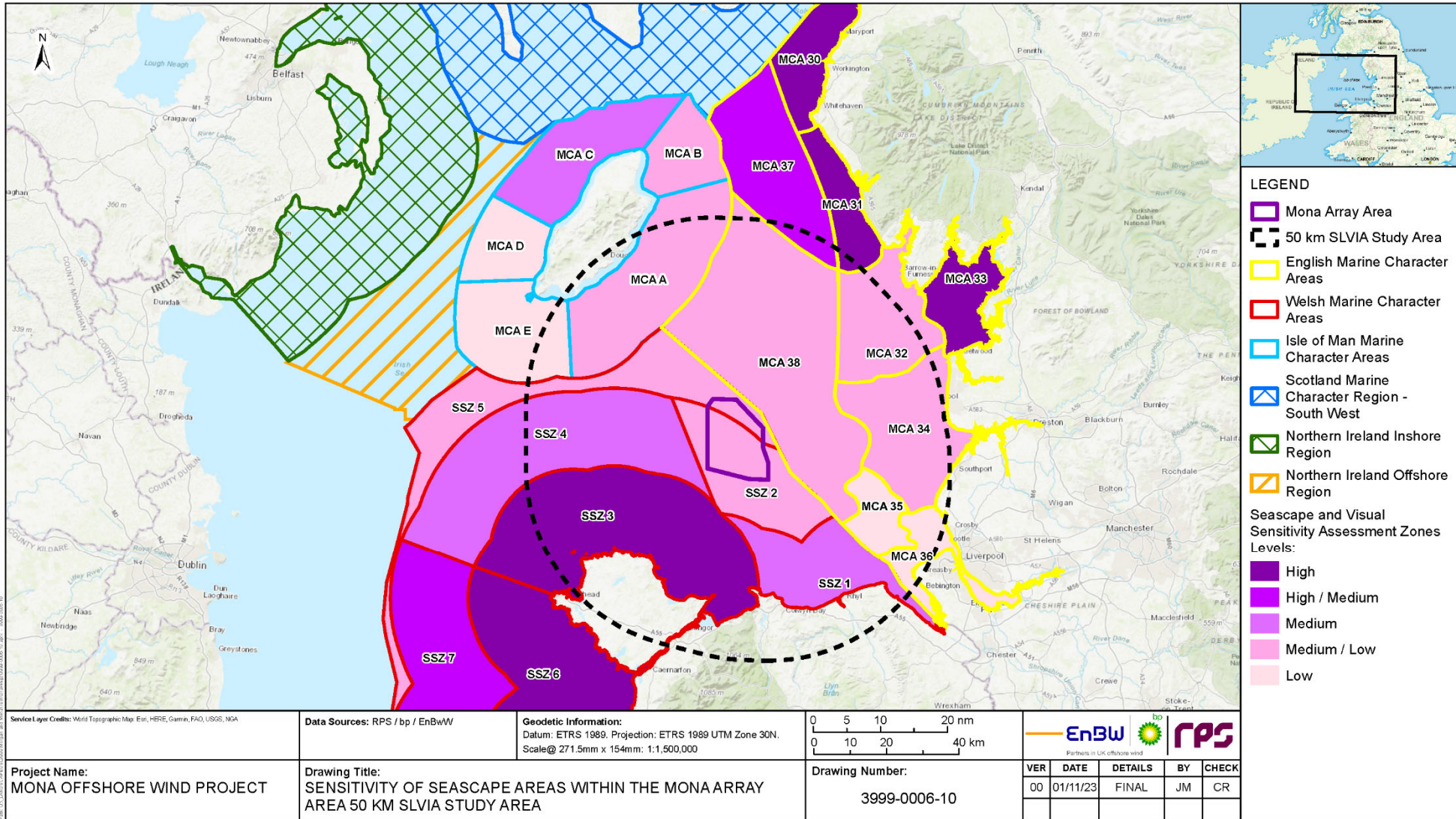
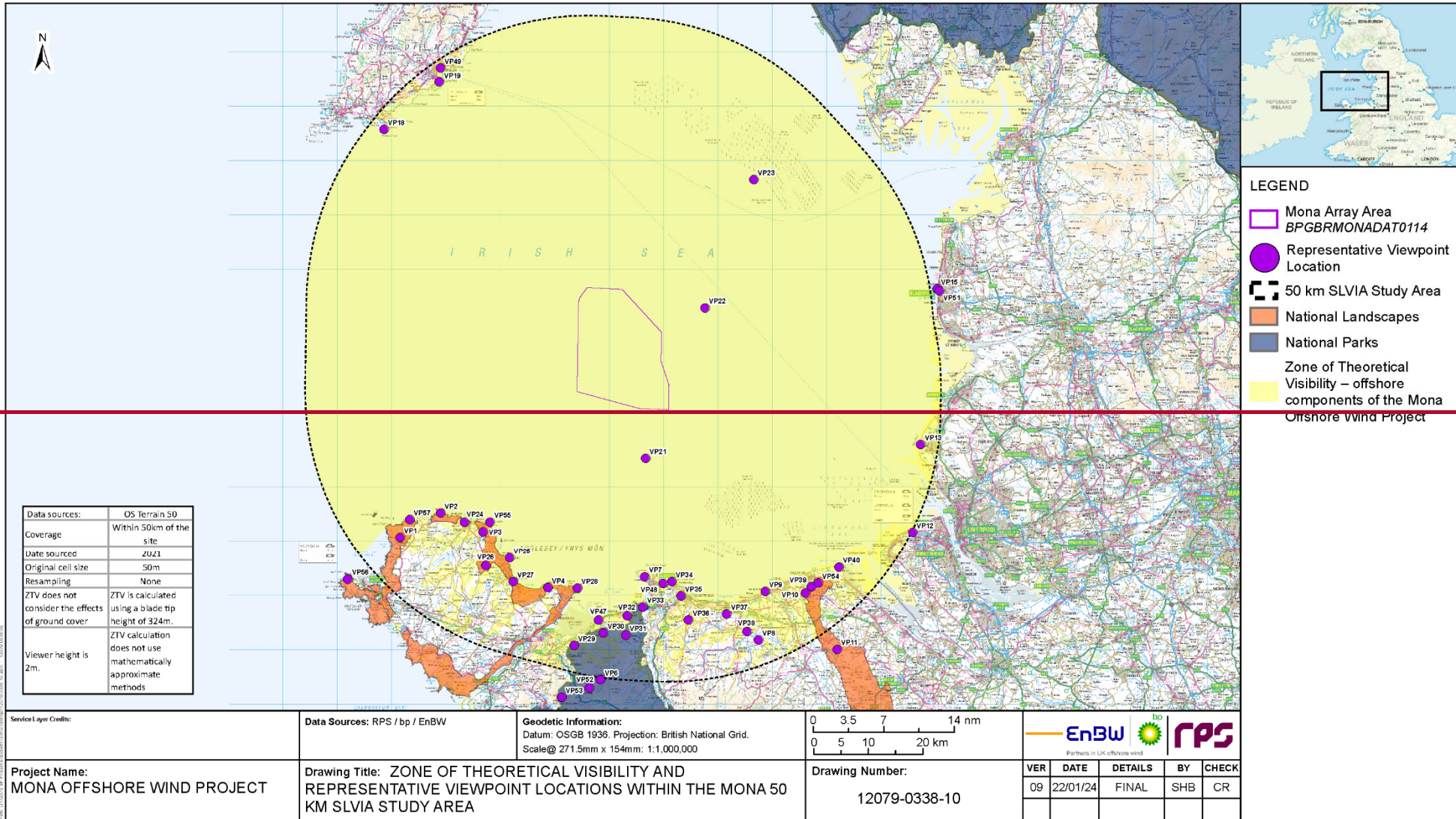


Figure A.3: Sensitivity of seascape areas within the Monna Array Area 50 km SLVIA study area.



MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT





MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

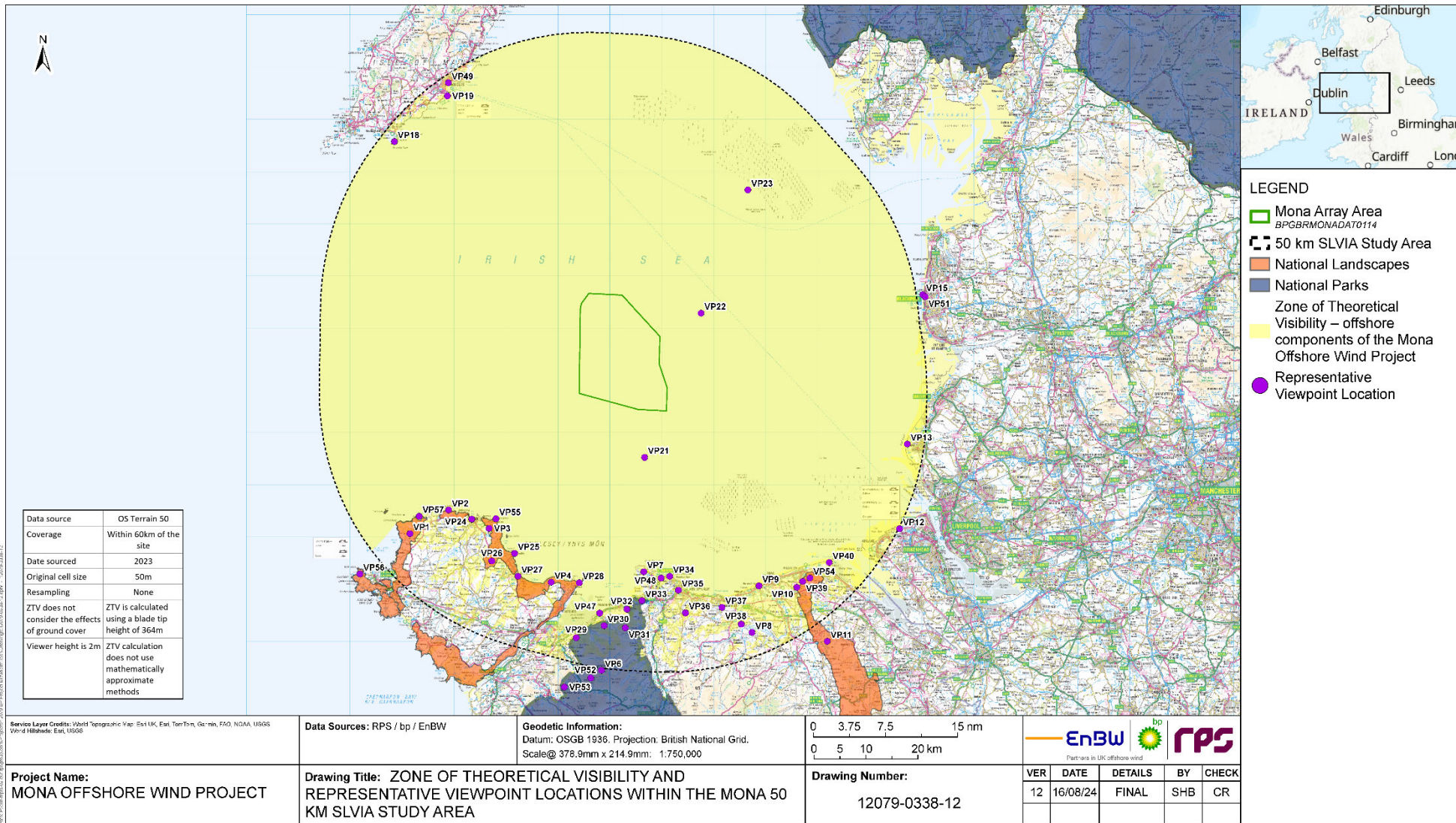


Figure A.4: Zone of Theoretical Visibility and representative viewpoint locations within the Mona 50 km SLVIA study area.



MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

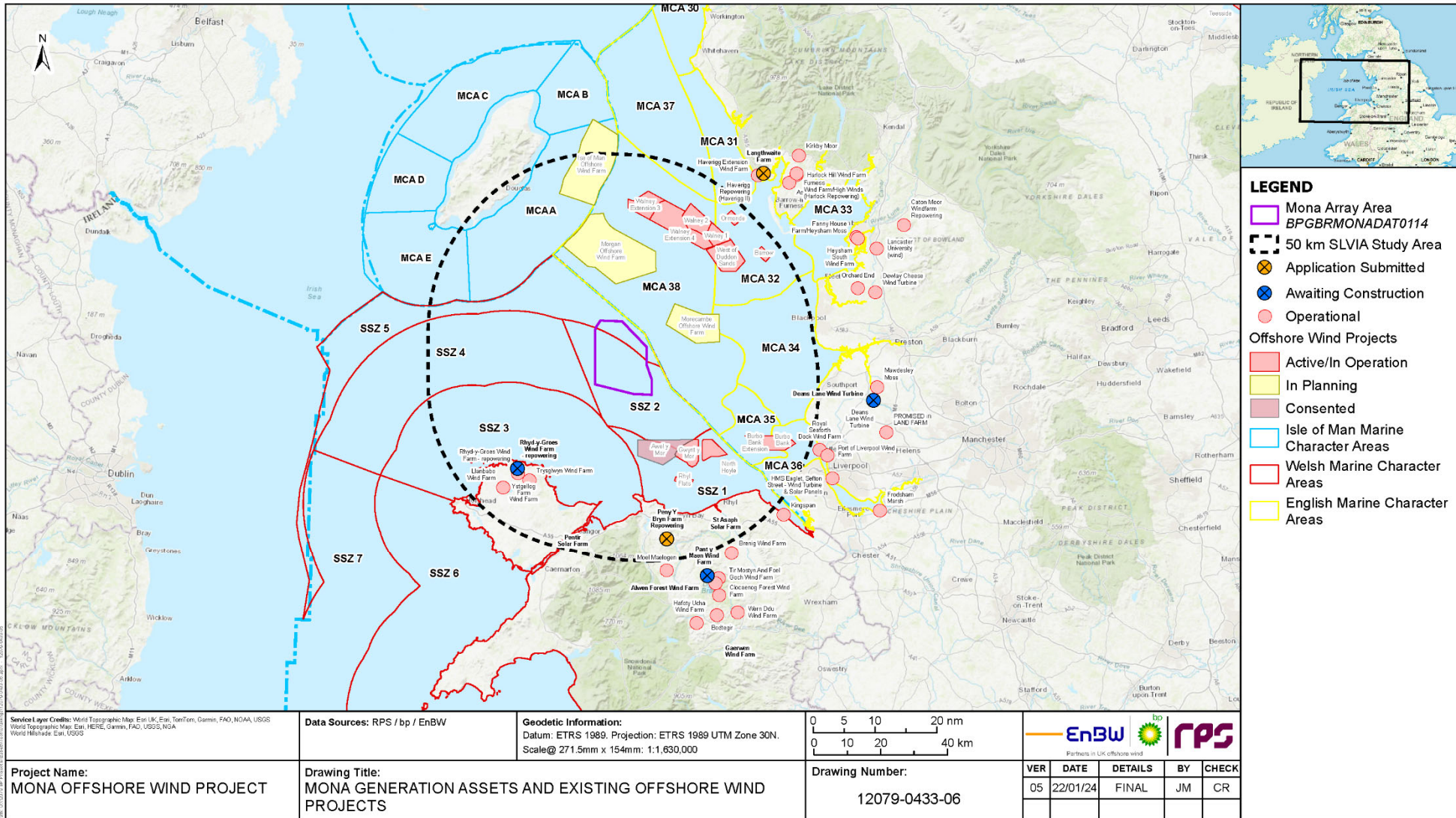
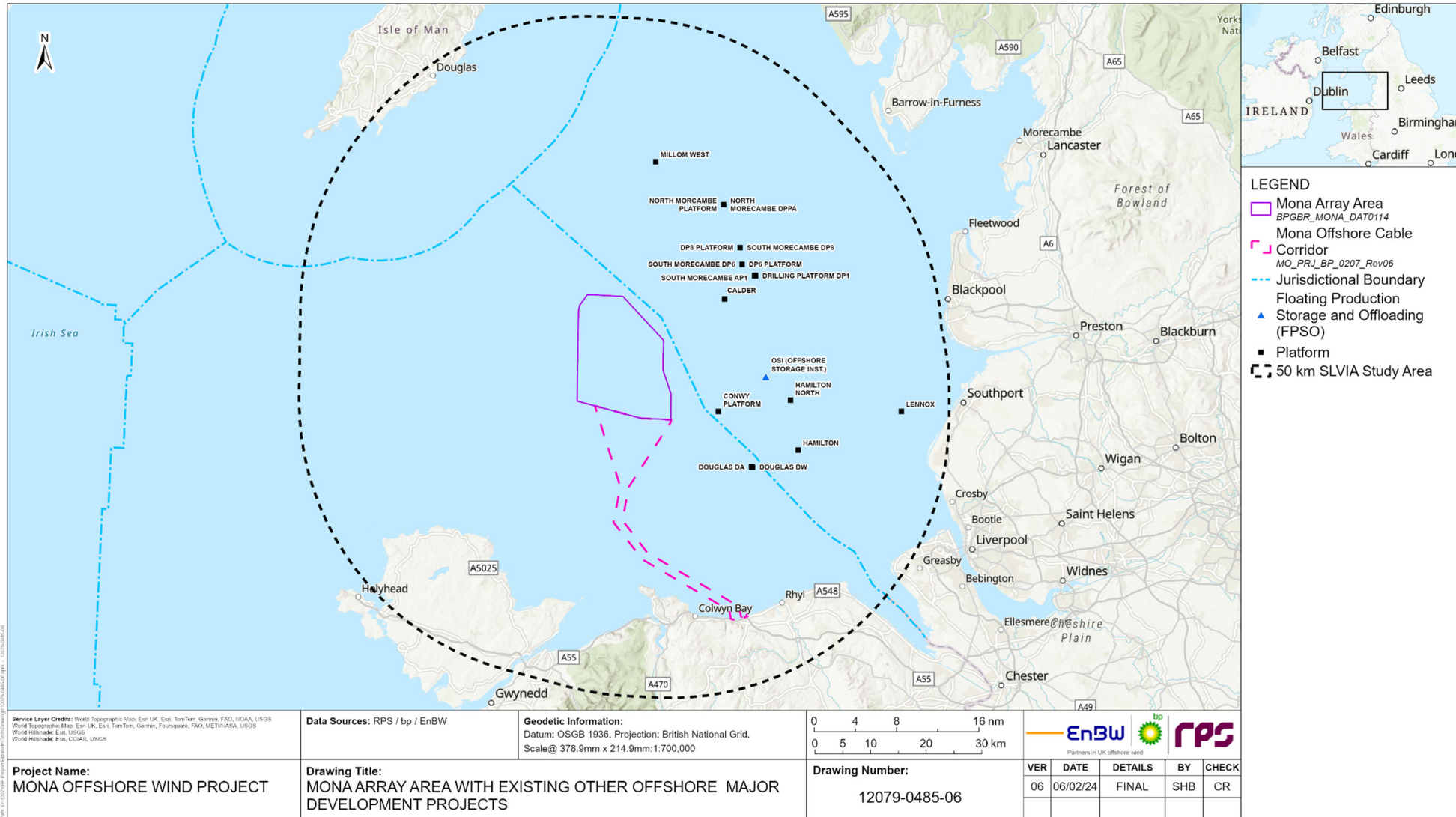


Figure A.5: Monna Generation Assets and existing offshore wind projects.

# MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT



**Figure A.6: Mona Array Area with existing other offshore major development projects.**



# MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

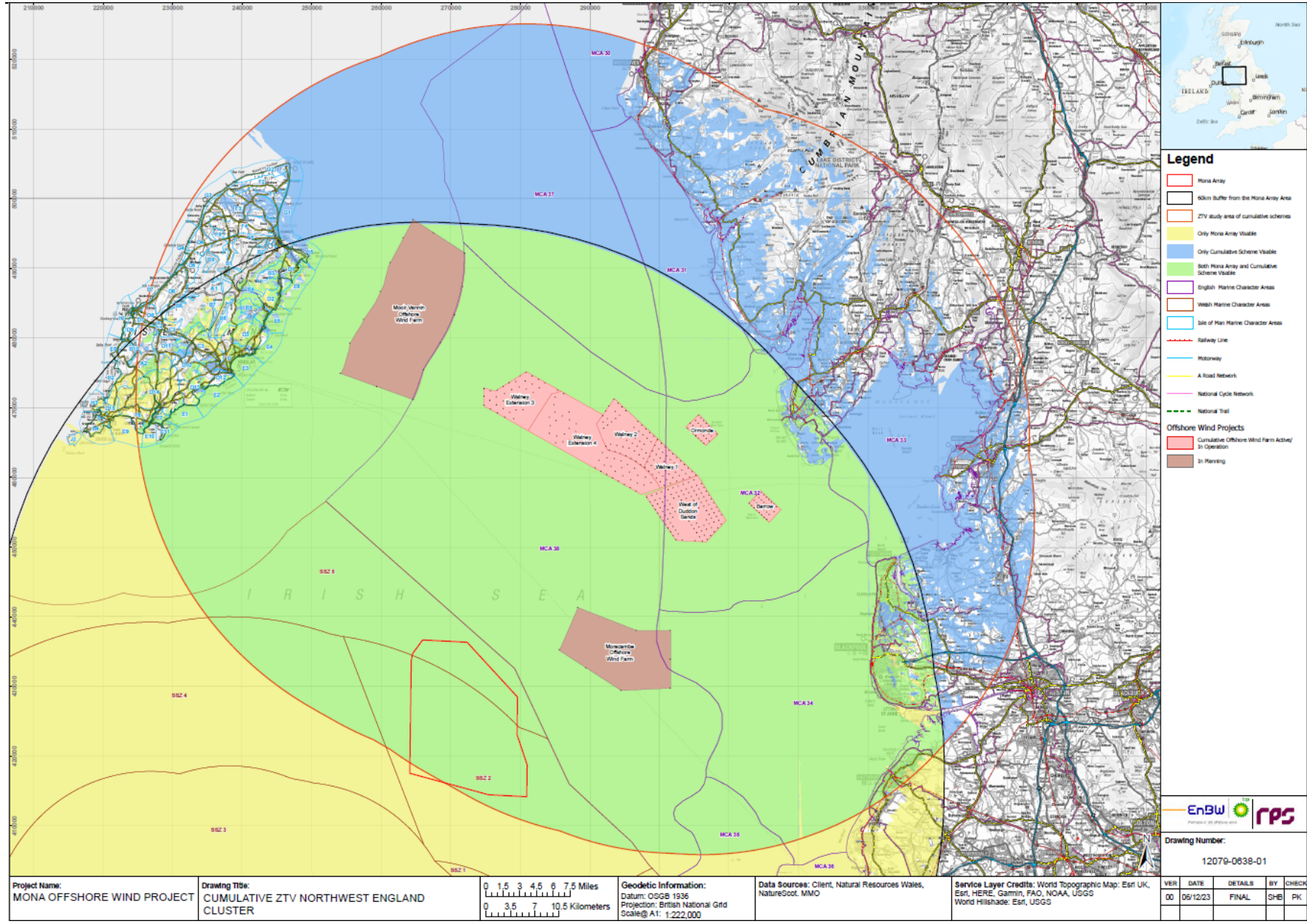
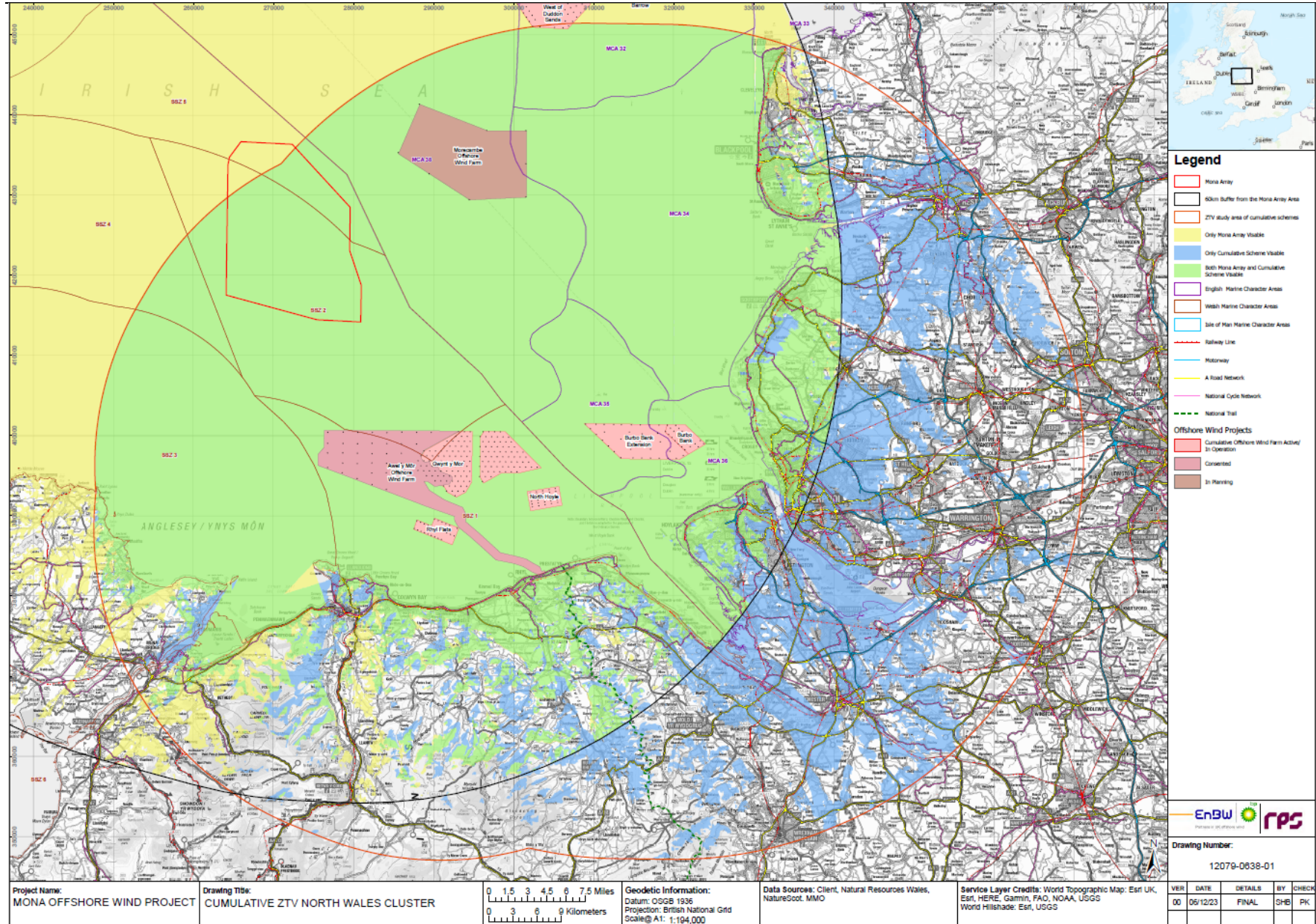


Figure A.7: Cumulative ZTV Northwest England cluster.

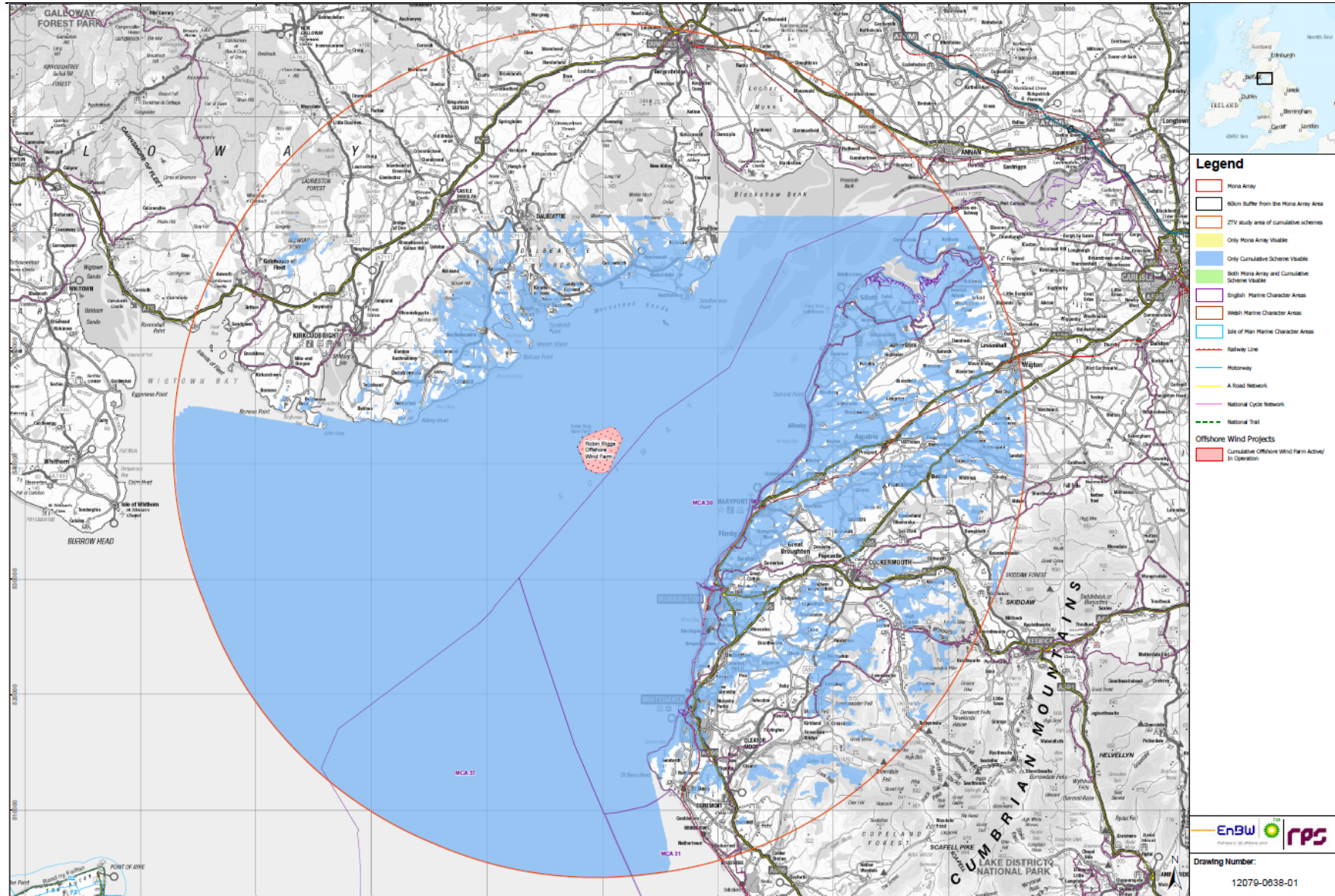
# MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT



**Figure A.8: Cumulative ZTV North Wales Cluster.**



# MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

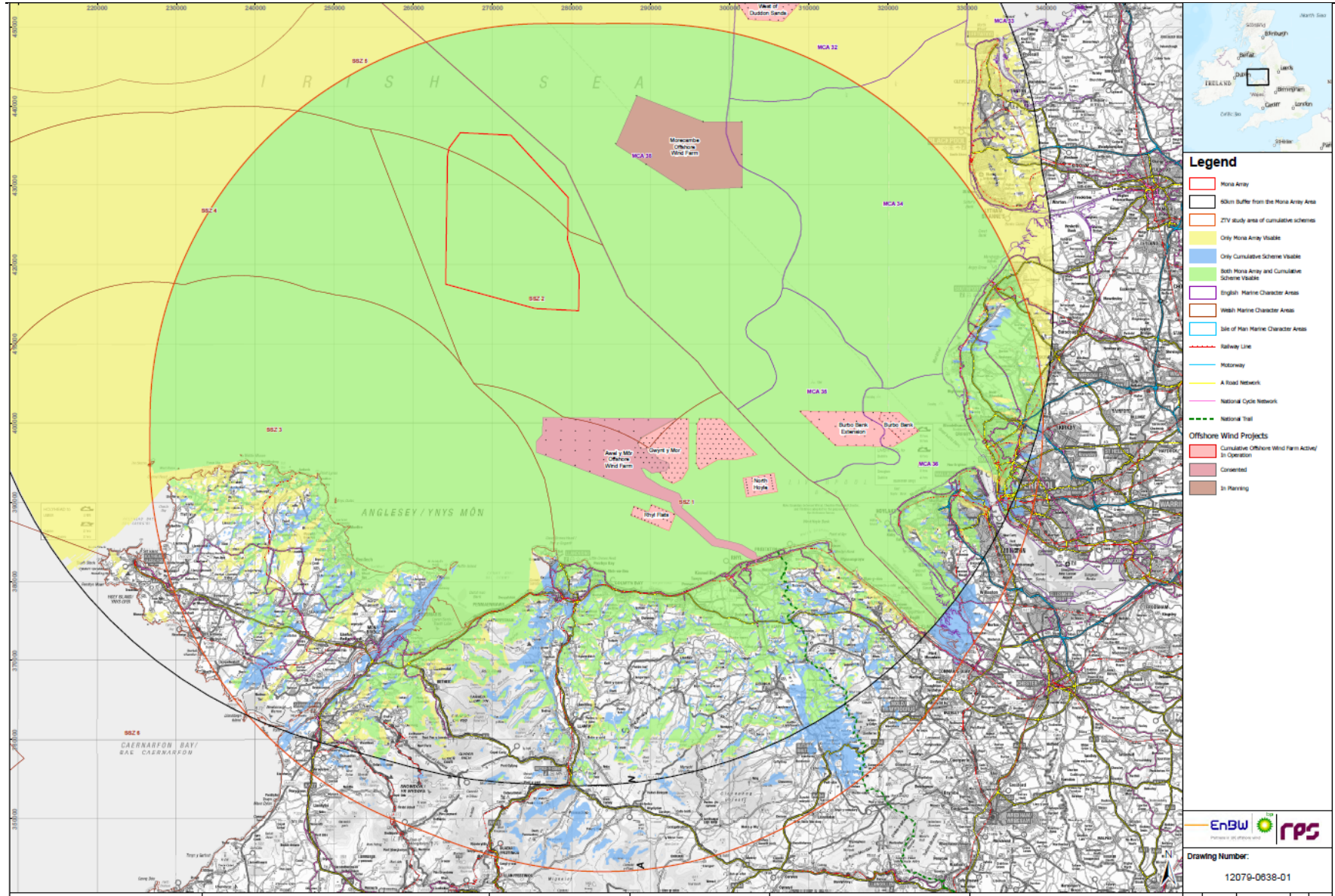


<p><b>Project Name:</b> MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT</p>	<p><b>Drawing Title:</b> CUMULATIVE ZTV OF MONA AND ROBIN RIGG</p>	<p>0 1 2 3 4 5 Miles 0 1.5 3 4.5 6 Kilometers</p>	<p><b>Geodetic Information:</b> Datum: OSGB 1936 Projection: British National Grid Scale@ A1: 1:137,000</p>	<p><b>Data Sources:</b> Client, Natural Resources Wales, NatureScot, MMO</p>	<p><b>Service Layer Credits:</b> World Topographic Map: Esri UK, Esri, HERE, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS World Hillshade: Esri, USGS</p>	<p><b>VER</b>   <b>DATE</b>   <b>DETAILS</b>   <b>BY</b>   <b>CHECK</b></p> <p>00   06/12/23   FINAL   SHE   PK</p>
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**Figure A.9: Cumulative ZTV of Mona and Robin Rigg.**



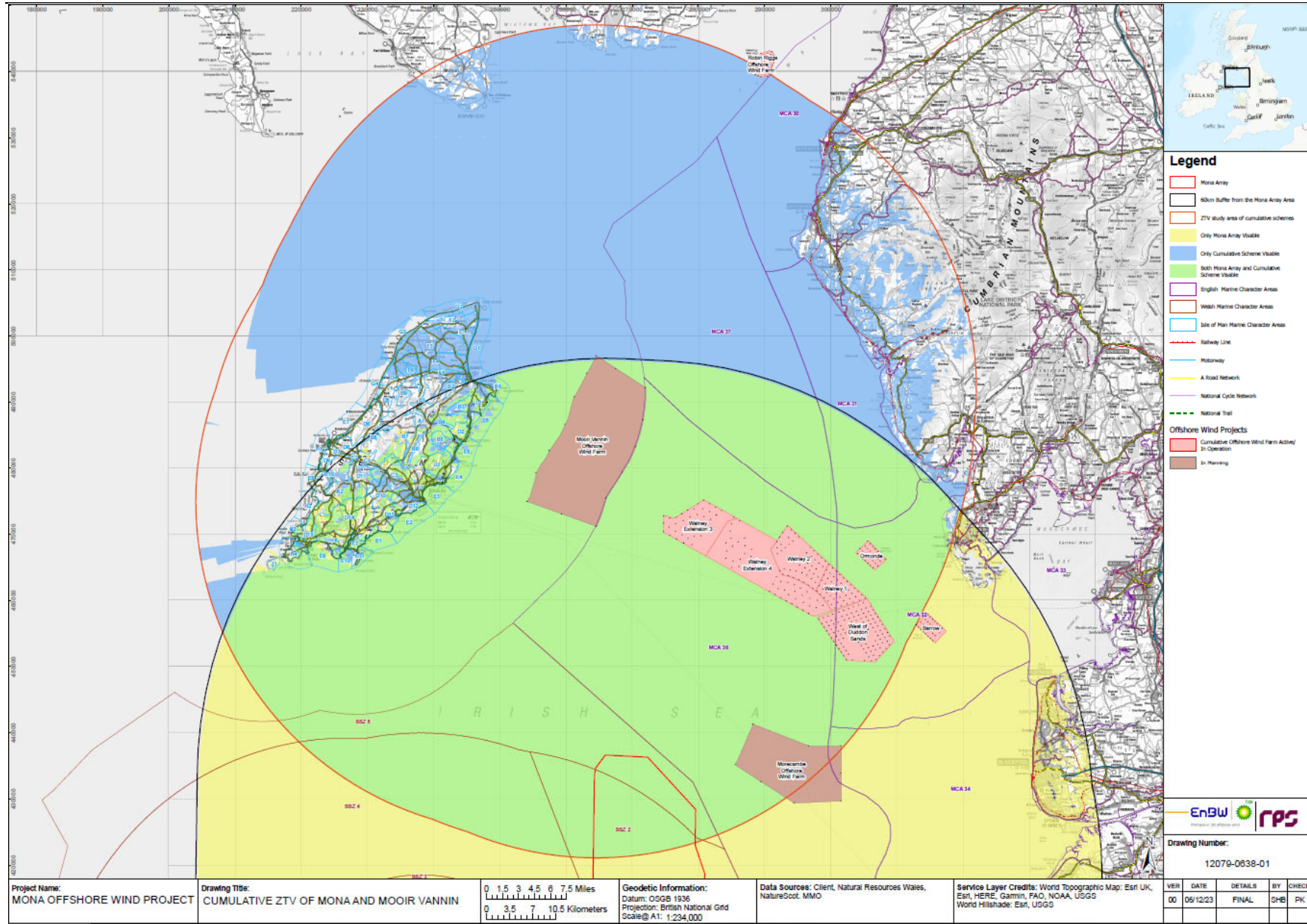
# MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT



<b>Project Name:</b> MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT	<b>Drawing Title:</b> CUMULATIVE ZTV OF MONA AND AWEL Y MÔR	0 1.5 3 4.5 6 7.5 Miles 0 2.5 5 7.5 10 Kilometers	<b>Geodetic Information:</b> Datum: OGB 1936 Projection: British National Grid Scale@ A1: 1:199,000	<b>Data Sources:</b> Client, Natural Resources Wales, NatureScot, MMO	<b>Service Layer Credits:</b> World Topographic Map: Esri UK, Esri, HERE, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS World Hillshade: Esri, USGS	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>VER</th> <th>DATE</th> <th>DETAILS</th> <th>BY</th> <th>CHECK</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>00</td> <td>05/12/23</td> <td>FINAL</td> <td>SHB</td> <td>PK</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	VER	DATE	DETAILS	BY	CHECK	00	05/12/23	FINAL	SHB	PK
VER	DATE	DETAILS	BY	CHECK												
00	05/12/23	FINAL	SHB	PK												
<b>Project Name:</b> MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT						<b>Drawing Number:</b> 12079-0638-01										

**Figure A.10: Cumulative ZTV of Mona and Awel y Môr.**

# MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT



**Figure A.11: Cumulative ZTV of Mona and Moir Vannin.**



MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

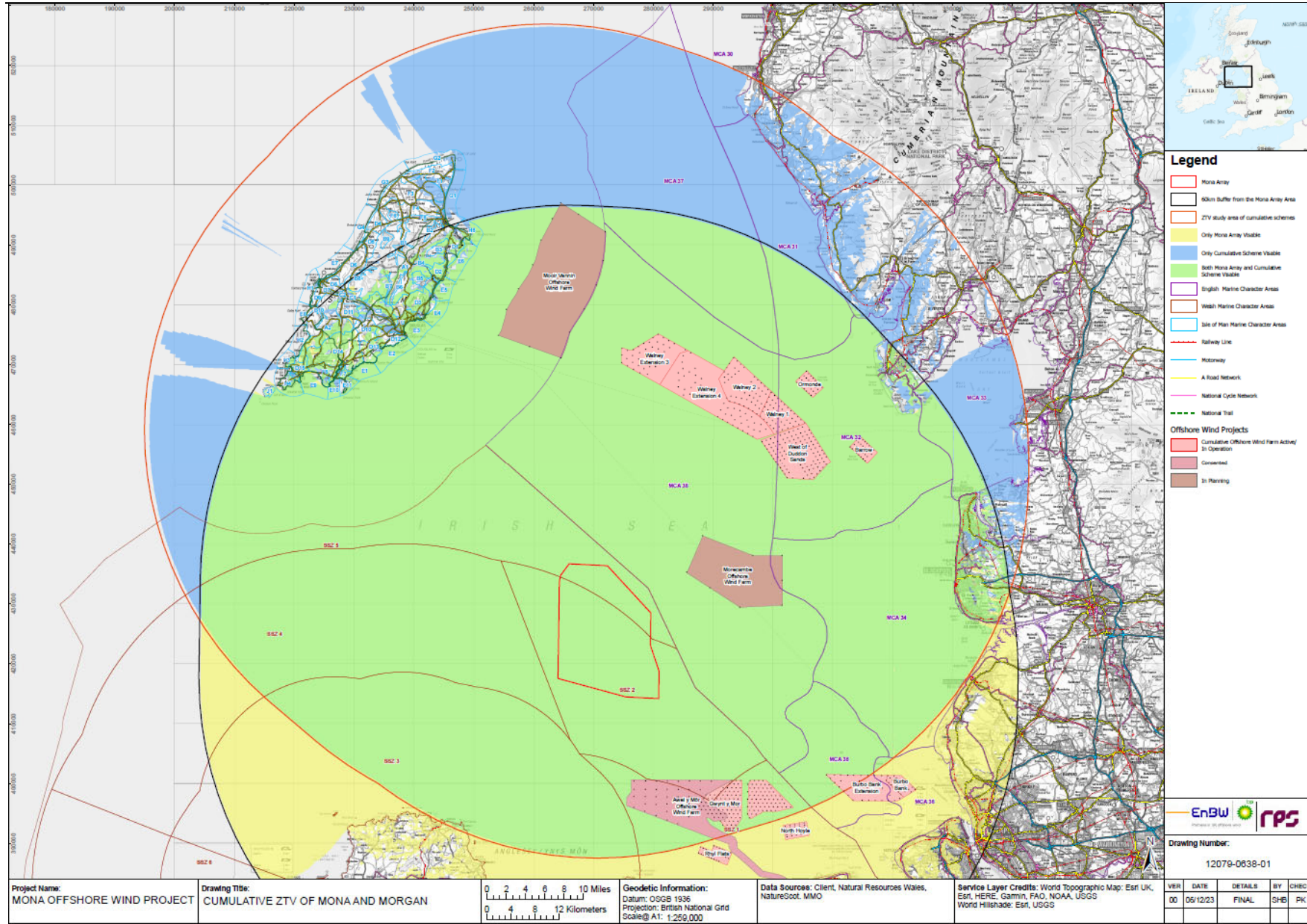


Figure A.12: Cumulative ZTV of Mona and Morgan

# MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

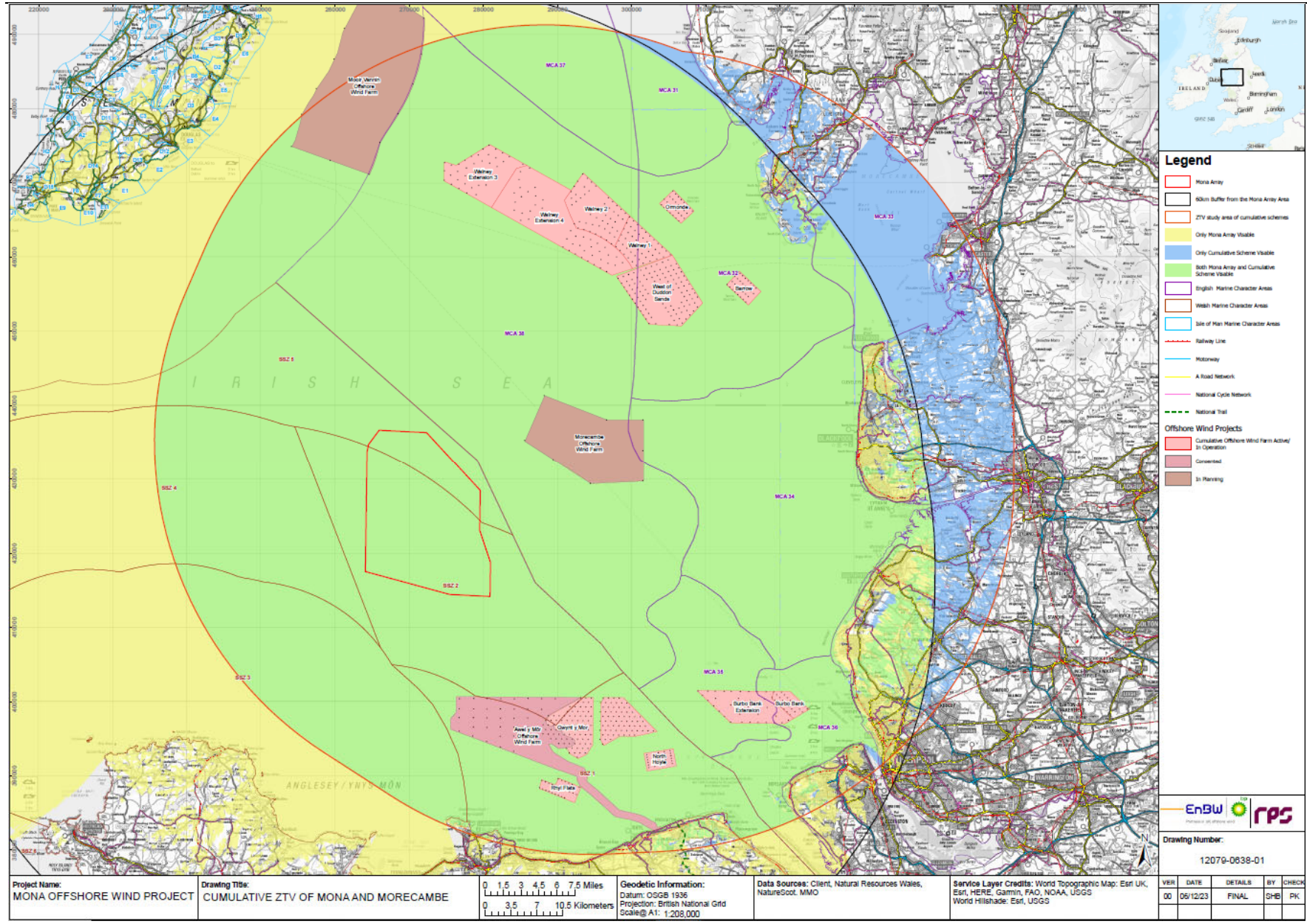


Figure A.13: Cumulative ZTV of Mona and Morecambe.



MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

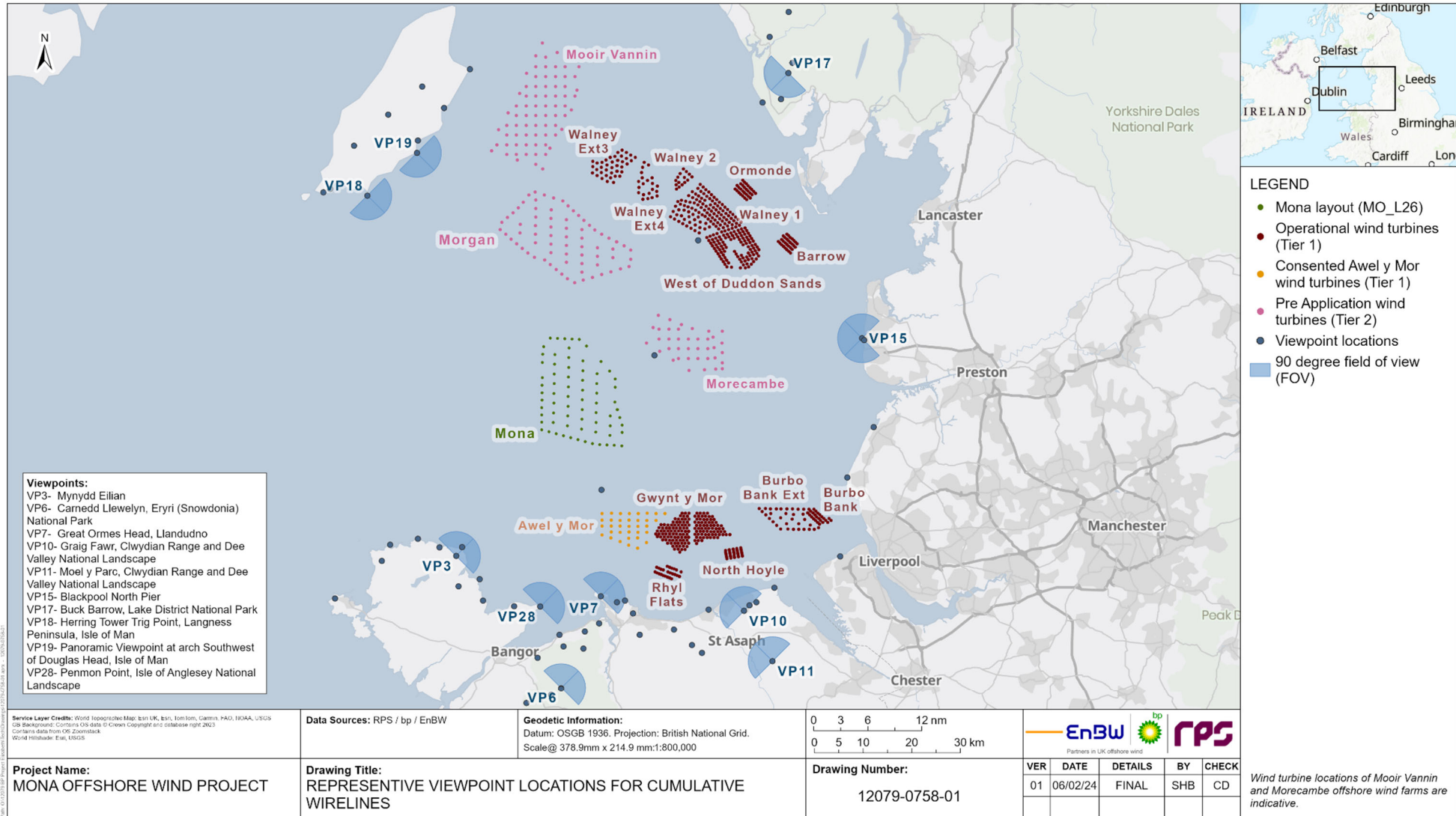


Figure A.144: Representative viewpoint locations for cumulative wirelines.

## Appendix B: Cumulative effects assessment – baseline projects

B.1.1.1.1 The existing onshore and offshore windfarm projects and major developments within the respective SLVIA CEA study area (detailed in section 8.9.2 above) with the potential to cause cumulative seascape, landscape and visual effects with the Mona Offshore Wind Project are listed below:

### B.2 Offshore Windfarms

- Barrow (46 km from Mona Array Area) 30 wind turbines, 120 m to tip
- Burbo Bank (34 km from Mona Array Area) 25 wind turbines, 138 m to tip
- Burbo Bank Extension (24.5 km from Mona Array Area) 32 wind turbines, 187 m to tip
- Gwynt y Môr Offshore (14 km from Mona Array Area) 160 wind turbines, 138 m to tip
- North Hoyle Offshore (24.5 km from Mona Array Area) 30 wind turbines, 107 m to tip
- Ormonde (41 km from Mona Array Area) 30 wind turbines, 153 m to tip
- Robin Rigg (98.5 km from Mona Array Area) 58 wind turbines, 125 m to tip
- Walney 1 (33 km from Mona Array Area) 51 wind turbines, 150 m to tip
- Walney 2 (31 km from Mona Array Area) 51 wind turbines, 150 m to tip
- Walney 3 Extension (27.5 km from Mona Array Area) 40 wind turbines, 195 m to tip
- Walney 4 Extension (27 km from Mona Array Area) 47 wind turbines, 188 m to tip
- West of Duddon Sands (30.5 km from Mona Array Area) 108 wind turbines, 150 m to tip.

### B.3 Onshore Windfarms

- Askam (62.5 km from Mona Array Area) seven wind turbines 63.5 m tip height
- Bodtigrir (66.3 km from Mona Array Area) one wind turbine, 100 m tip height
- Brenig (56.5 km from Mona Array Area) 16 wind turbines, 110 m tip height
- Caton Moor (82.6 km from Mona Array Area) eight wind turbines, 90 m tip height
- Clocaenog Forest (61 km from Mona Array Area) 32 wind turbines, 145 m tip height
- Dewlay Cheese Wind Turbine (65.5 km from Mona Array Area) one wind turbine, 126 m tip height
- Fanny House Farm/Heysham Moss (69 km from Mona Array Area) one wind turbine, 110 m tip height



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- Frodsham Marsh (71 km from Mona Array Area) 19 wind turbines, 125 m tip height
- Furness/High Winds (Harlock Repowering) (66 km from Mona Array Area) five wind turbines, 100 m tip height
- Haforty Ucha '2 and 3' (67.5 km from Mona Array Area) four wind turbines 86 m tip height (max)
- Harlock Hill (65.5 km from Mona Array Area) five wind turbines, 92.5 m tip height
- Haverigg Extension (57 km from Mona Array Area) four wind turbines, 100 m tip height
- Haverigg Prison (60 km from Mona Array Area) five wind turbines, 121 m tip height
- Haverigg Repowering (Haverigg II) (57 km from Mona Array Area) five wind turbines, 62.5 m tip height
- Heysham South (69 km from Mona Array Area) three wind turbines, 125 m tip height
- Kingspan (48.5 km from Mona Array Area) two wind turbines, 78 m tip height
- Kirkby Moor (70 km from Mona Array Area) 12 wind turbines, 42 m tip height
- Lancaster University (72 km from Mona Array Area) one wind turbine, 125 m tip height
- Llanbabo (41 km from Mona Array Area) 34 wind turbines, 100 m tip height (max)
- Mawdesley Moss (61 km from Mona Array Area) three wind turbines, 80 m tip height
- Moel Maelogan A (51.5 km from Mona Array Area) three wind turbines, 80 m tip height
- Moel Maelogan A Phase 2 (51.5 km from Mona Array Area) nine wind turbines, 85 m tip height
- Orchard End (61.5 km from Mona Array Area) two wind turbines, 125 m tip height
- Pant y Maen (55 km from Mona Array Area) eight wind turbines, 102 m tip height
- Port of Liverpool (49.5 km from Mona Array Area) four wind turbines, 125 m tip height
- Promised Land Farm (65 km from Mona Array Area) two wind turbines, 77.5 m tip height
- Royal Seaforth Dock (46.5 km from Mona Array Area) six wind turbines, 90 m tip height (max)
- Tir Mostyn (55.5 km from Mona Array Area) 25 wind turbines, height unknown
- Trysglwyn (35 km from Mona Array Area) 14 wind turbines, 44 m tip height
- Wern Ddu (67 km from Mona Array Area) four wind turbines, 92.5 m tip height
- Ystgellog Farm (34 km from Mona Array Area) two wind turbines, 92.5 m tip height.

## B.4 Other major offshore development projects

B.4.1.1.1 Other offshore projects that form part of the baseline, but might have an ongoing cumulative impact include:

- Millom West oil and gas field and platform
- North Morecambe oil and gas platforms
- OSI (oil and gas offshore storage installation)
- South Morecambe oil and gas drilling platforms DP3, DP4, DP6 and DP8
- South Morecambe FL1
- Douglas oil and gas drilling area, drilling platform and drilling well (DA, DP and DW)
- Irish Sea offshore windfarms inter-array and export cable repairs and remediation
- Routine operational and maintenance activities to wind turbines of offshore windfarms in the Irish Sea
- Irish Sea North Meteorological Mast and geotechnical survey.

## B.5 Other major onshore development projects

B.5.1.1.1 Other onshore projects that form part of the baseline, but might have an ongoing impact include:

- Wylfa nuclear power station (Cemaes, Anglesey).