

APPENDIX 8.6: CUMULATIVE LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT

1.1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 Cumulative effects are those that occur as a result of the construction of more than one development of similar type within the landscape. In terms of landscape character, cumulative landscape effects may result where a number of wind energy developments combine, increasing the prevalence of wind turbines within a landscape to an extent where they may become a defining characteristic.
- 1.1.2 The cumulative landscape assessment considers the potential cumulative effect resulting from the addition of the proposed development to the baseline wind development scenario (refer to Figure 8.4) and Appendix 8.4. In this case the development proposals also include the removal of the existing Tangy I and II turbines. For the purposes of the assessment, it is assumed at all cumulative baseline sites would be constructed and operational.
- 1.1.3 Only those designated landscapes or Landscape Character Types (LCTs) that have been identified as likely to experience a Minor landscape effect or greater as a result of the proposed development alone have been included in the cumulative assessment, as it is considered that a Negligible effect could not contribute to a significant cumulative effect. The following landscapes are therefore included in the assessment.

Landscape Designations

- Mull of Kintyre Area of Panoramic Quality (APQ); and
- West Kintyre Coast APQ.

Landscape Character Types

- Bay Farmland;
 - Rocky Mosaic;
 - Sand Dunes and Machair; and
 - Upland Forest-Moor Mosaic.
- 1.1.4 The above areas have been assessed in accordance with the Cumulative Landscape Methodology outlined in Chapter 8 of the EIA Report. The assessment is supported by a range of Cumulative Wirelines, included as Figures 8.9.1 – 8.9.27 and Cumulative ZTVs, included as Figures 8.10.1 – 8.10.4.13.
- 1.1.5 This Appendix should be read in conjunction with the baseline landscape descriptions included in in Section 8.6 of Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual, and Appendix 8.5: Landscape Assessment Tables.

1.2 Assessment of Effects on Landscape Designations

Mull of Kintyre APQ

Cumulative Capacity Value	Low	
Cumulative Baseline Scenario	Existing and Proposed Wind Farms theoretically experienced in combination with the proposed development	Description of Cumulative Baseline Scenario
	<p>Operational:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beinn an Tuirc (Phase 1) • Beinn an Tuirc (Phase 2) • Cour (minimal) • Deucheran Hill • Gigha • Gigha Extension • Kildalloig Farm (minimal) • Tangy I and II (to be removed) <p>Consented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Auchenhoan Cottage • Auchadaduie • Beinn an Tuirc (Phase 3) • Blary Hill <p>Application / Appeal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clachaig Glen • Eascairt (minimal) • Killean Estate 	<p>One cumulative site falls within the APQ at Auchenhoan Cottage. This site and Kildalloig farm on the east coast have similar limited intervisibility with the rest of the APQ. The main influences on the APQ from the baseline scenario is limited to the northern fringe and high points and relates to the appearance of turbines within the hills to the north, particularly Tangy I and II and Beinn an Tuirc (Phases 1, 2 and 3). Achadaduie and Blary Hill are also present within this northern context to a lesser extent. More distantly, the Gigha and Killean Estate may also have minimal influence. The turbines of the baseline wind farms appear reasonably well distributed across the northern skyline when visible and of a similar scale.</p>
Sensitivity to Additional Change	High	
Nature of Change	<p>The proposed development would replace the existing Tangy I and II within the northern landscape context. The proposed turbines would appear larger and closer than both the existing Tangy I and II turbines, and the other cumulative baseline sites which are seen within this context. There would be some small areas where there would be new visibility of wind turbines. However, this would be minimal. These changes may increase the appearance of wind turbines and influence of these on the APQ to some extent</p>	
Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Low	
Cumulative Landscape Effect	Minor and not significant	

West Coast of Kintyre APQ

Cumulative Capacity Value	Low	
Cumulative Baseline Scenario	Existing and Proposed Wind Farms theoretically experienced in combination with the proposed development	Description of Cumulative Baseline Scenario
	<p>Operational:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allt Dearg • Beinn an Tuirc (Phase 1) (very minimal) • Beinn an Tuirc (Phase 2) (very minimal) • Cour (very minimal) • Deucheran Hill (minimal) • Freasdail (minimal) * • Gigha • Gigha Extension • Kildalloig Farm (minimal) • Tangy I and II (to be removed) <p>Consented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Auchadaduie • Beinn an Tuirc (Phase 3) (very minimal) • Blary Hill (very minimal) <p>Application / Appeal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Airigh • Clachaig Glen • Eascairt (very minimal)* • Killean Estate <p>* denotes sites affecting the APQ outwith the 11 km detailed study area.</p>	<p>None of the cumulative baseline wind farms are located within this APQ. Of those wind farms located outwith the APQ, the main influential sites are Gigha and Gigha Extension which feature within the coastal views across the Sound of Gigha and in northerly views towards Gigha from the section of coastline to the south. There are more glimpsed views of the baseline sites inland with more widespread visibility seen mostly from the northern half of the APQ. At relatively close proximity, Killean Estate and Clachaig Glen have the greatest influence here, appearing prominently above the eastern skyline. Airigh has less influence, being in the middle distance to the north and usually below the skyline.</p> <p>From the southern part of the APQ, the narrow raised beach and bluff slopes limit visibility inland for the majority of cumulative baseline sites. This is limited to occasional glimpses up narrow glens towards Beinn an Tuirc (Phase 1, 2 or 3) and Achadaduie, and turbines of Tangy I and II in the middle distance above the steep bluff slope in southerly views from near Glenbarr.</p>
Sensitivity to Additional Change	High	
Nature of Change	<p>The proposed development would occupy a similar part of the surrounding context to the existing Tangy I and II but would replace it. It would be seen from a similar range of locations although would be more frequently seen above the steep bluff slopes of the southern coastline of the APQ and would be larger and more prominent. Whilst Killean Estate and Clachaig glen (the most noticeable baseline sites affecting the inland context of the APQ) would form a more prominent feature within the northern part of the APQ, with little influence on the south, the proposed development would be visible only from places within the south of the APQ and would have no influence on the north. This would result in wind turbines within the inland landscape being a relatively frequent feature throughout the APQ but this would not be a notable change, as the existing Tangy I and II turbines are already present,</p>	

	although to a lesser degree.
Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Low
Cumulative Landscape Effect	Minor - moderate and not significant

1.3 Assessment of Effects on Landscape Character Types

Bay Farmland LCT

Cumulative Capacity Value	Low	
Cumulative Baseline Scenario	Existing and Proposed Wind Farms theoretically experienced in combination with the proposed development	Description of Cumulative Baseline Scenario
	<p>Operational:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beinn an Tuirc (Phase 1) • Beinn an Tuirc (Phase 2) • Gigha • Gigha Extension • Kildalloig Farm • Tangy I and II (to be removed) <p>Consented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beinn an Tuirc (Phase 3) • Blary Hill <p>Application / Appeal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Killean Estate 	<p>There is some existing influence of wind development on this LCT, largely seen within the context of the containing northern hills. The main sites of influence on this LCT are Tangy I and II and Beinn an Tuirc (Phase 3) which are apparent in the middle distance along the northern skyline. From some locations Beinn and Tuirc (Phases 1 and 2) are also seen in combination with Beinn an Tuirc (Phase 3). The cumulative sites form two distinct groups along the northern hills and appear of similar size and at similar distance. From a few more elevated areas, a small number of tips and blades of Blary Hill are seen between these groupings. The small single turbine at Kildalloig Farm is also seen locally but as an individual development on the eastern coast whilst Gigha and Gigha Extension comprise small features, barely perceptible within the wider context.</p>
Sensitivity to Additional Change	Medium to High	
Nature of Change	<p>The proposed development would replace the existing Tangy I and II turbines on the northern skyline. The turbines would appear noticeably taller and closer than the existing Tangy I and II turbines and closer and more prominent than the other cumulative baseline sites. Although the existing Tangy I and II turbines would be removed, the addition of the proposed development would be a noticeable change on the containing northern hills within this landscape and likely to give an impression of bringing wind development closer to this landscape. It would also increase the area from which turbines would have some indirect influence slightly. This may increase the impression of wind</p>	

	energy development within this LCT to some extent.
Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Low - Medium
Cumulative Landscape Effect	Minor - moderate and not significant

Rocky Mosaic LCT

Cumulative Capacity Value	Low	
Cumulative Baseline Scenario	Existing and Proposed Wind Farms theoretically experienced in combination with the proposed development	Description of Cumulative Baseline Scenario
	<p>Operational:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allt Dearg (minimal) • Beinn an Tuirc (Phase 1) • Beinn an Tuirc (Phase 2) • Deucheran Hill (minimal) • Gigha • Gigha Extension • Kildalloig Farm (minimal) • Tangy I and II (to be removed) <p>Consented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Auchentirrie Farm (very minimal) • Auchenhoan Cottage • Auchadaduie • Beinn an Tuirc (Phase 3) • Blary Hill <p>Application / Appeal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Airigh • Clachaig Glen • Killean Estate 	<p>No cumulative baseline wind farms are within this LCT. The LCT is in six separate units within the detailed study area located in the south, east and west.</p> <p>For southern units: Beinn an Tuirc (Phases 1, 2 and 3) and Tangy I and II have the greatest indirect influence seen in the middle distance along the northern skyline from most areas. Gigha and Gigha Extension are seen very distantly from the south-western unit and have little influence.</p> <p>For the western unit: An area around Glenbarr is most affected by cumulative baseline sites with Achadaduie and Blary Hill being prominent within the eastern context and Beinn an Tuirc (Phase 1) seen beyond them. Turbines and tips of Killean Estate, Clachaig Glen, Airigh, and those on Gigha also influence the northerly context, whilst Tangy I and II is seen on the distant horizon to the south. Further down the southern coast of this unit, there is occasional influence of Tangy I and II in southerly views and Gigha within the coastal context to the north.</p> <p>For the eastern unit: Beinn an Tuirc (Phase 3) would appear prominently above the forested slopes to the west. Single turbines at Auchenhoan Cottage and Kildalloig Farm are/would be also sometimes present in southerly coastal views.</p>
Sensitivity to Additional	Medium - high	

Change	
Nature of Change	<p>The proposed development would replace the existing Tangy I and II turbines within the cumulative baseline context.</p> <p>From southern units: The proposed development would be seen within the context of other developments on the northern skyline, appearing similar to the existing Tangy I and II turbines, but larger and closer than it, and the other baseline turbines. This may lead to a slight increase in the impression of wind turbines as a feature of the surrounding context of these LCT units.</p> <p>From the western coastal unit: The proposed development would replace the existing Tangy I and II turbines but would be more frequently seen from the raised beach areas along the coast (although still only intermittently) and elevated farmland in southerly views as larger turbines and moving blades above the skyline. In the north of this unit, Achadaduie and Blary Hill are close and very prominent to the west. The proposed development would result in turbines being more prominent in southerly panoramas and may contribute to more of a surrounding impression from wind energy development. In the south of the unit turbines on Gigha are generally the only other visible cumulative site. However, the greater visibility of turbines above the inland skyline may increase the perception of wind turbines as a feature when moving through the LCT as a whole.</p> <p>The proposed development would not be visible within the eastern coastal unit.</p>
Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Medium
Cumulative Landscape Effect	<p>Moderate and significant for the western unit</p> <p>Minor and not significant for southern units</p> <p>Negligible and not significant for the eastern unit</p>

Sand Dunes and Machair LCT

Cumulative Capacity Value	Low	
Cumulative Baseline Scenario	<p>Existing and Proposed Wind Farms theoretically experienced in combination with the proposed development</p> <p>Operational:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beinn an Tuirc (Phase 2) • Gigha • Gigha Extension • Kildalloig Farm • Tangy I and II (to be removed) <p>Consented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beinn an Tuirc (Phase 3) <p>Application / Appeal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sites 	<p>Description of Cumulative Baseline Scenario</p> <p>None of the cumulative baseline wind farms are within this LCT. For those sites outwith the LCT, Tangy I and II have the greatest influence on this LCT, being prominent in the hills to the north. Beinn an Tuirc (Phase 3) would also be present along the northern skyline from the southern part of the LCT with occasional tips of Beinn an Tuirc (Phase 2), but would become a less noticeable feature when moving north. Gigha and Gigha Extension are barely perceptible in northerly coastal views. Kildalloig Farm may be very occasionally a feature to the east but very small. However, in general the appearance</p>

		of wind turbines is likely to be associated with the upland landscape to the north.
Sensitivity to Additional Change	Medium	
Nature of Change	The proposed development would replace the existing Tangy I and II turbines in the northern context. It would appear closer and larger than all existing turbines and may therefore lead to a slight increase in the impression of wind turbines as a feature within the context of this LCT. However, as the existing Tangy I and II turbines are already prominent in this area, it would not add a new feature to the landscape.	
Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Low	
Cumulative Landscape Effect	Minor and not significant	

Upland Forest-Moor Mosaic LCT

Cumulative Capacity Value	Medium - High	
Cumulative Baseline Scenario	Existing and Proposed Wind Farms theoretically experienced in combination with the proposed development	Description of Cumulative Baseline Scenario
	<p>Operational:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allt Dearg (minimal) • Beinn an Tuirc (Phase 1) • Beinn an Tuirc (Phase 2) • Cour (minimal) • Deucheran Hill • Freasdail 1 (minimal) • Gigha • Gigha Extension • Kildalloig Farm • Srondoir 1 (minimal) • Tangy I and II (to be removed) <p>Consented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Auchentirrie Farm (very minimal) • Auchenhoan Cottage • Auchadaduie • Beinn an Tuirc (Phase 3) • Blary Hill <p>Application / Appeal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Airigh • Clachaig Glen • Eascairt (minimal) • Killean Estate 	Beinn an Tuirc (Phase 1, 2 and 3), Blary Hill, Achadaduie and Tangy I and II are within the northern unit of this LCT and directly affect it within the detailed study area. Beyond the detailed study area, Clachaig Glen, Killean Estate and Deucheran Hill are also within the LCT and have additional indirect influence on the detailed study area. From outwith the LCT, there is limited influence from Cour which is generally outwith the visual extent of the detailed study area, whilst Gigha, set in the coastal context, is generally seen as separate to the general grouping of wind farms. The cumulative baseline sites have considerable influence on this LCT with wind turbines often being seen as a character defining feature, particularly towards the north of the detailed study area. Tangy I and II is somewhat separate from the main grouping of developments and therefore more often seen in isolation in the southern part of the main LCT unit, or together with Beinn an Tuirc

		(Phase 3). In the southern LCT unit the cumulative baseline wind farms are mostly seen on the hills in the northern context with a fairly even distribution of turbines on the skyline.
Sensitivity to Additional Change	Medium	
Nature of Change	<p>In the northern unit: The proposed development would replace the existing Tangy I and II turbines within the LCT. It would comprise fewer turbines, but these would appear larger and cover a greater footprint. In the north of the LCT within the detailed study area, where there are many other wind turbines, the change in scale would be perceptible and from some locations would increase the appearance of wind turbines in the southerly context, creating a greater sense of being surrounded. However, in many locations, the cumulative baseline turbines would be so frequent and prominent, that this would be unlikely to lead to an increase in the perception of wind turbines as a character defining feature. In the south part of this LCT unit the increased scale of the proposed development may give an impression of drawing wind energy development closer to the foothills and glens north of Campbeltown and would slightly increase the area within which wind turbines would be evident i.e. into Glen Lussa. In other areas they would appear more prominent than the other baseline cumulative sites and due to their larger scale than the existing Tangy I and II turbines may increase perception of wind turbines as a feature through a greater part of the south of this LCT unit.</p> <p>From the southern LCT unit, the proposed development would replace the existing Tangy I and II turbines but would appear closer, and larger, slightly increasing the perception of wind turbines on the northern hills and potentially contributing to a distinction between the two LCT units with one being defined by presence of wind energy development.</p>	
Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Medium	
Cumulative Landscape Effect	Moderate and significant	