

Proposed Wind Farm Repowering (Four Turbines) at Bears Down, St Eval, Cornwall

Addendum to Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA)

Prepared by Amalgam Landscape Limited
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1. Introduction

Purpose of this Report

- 1.1 This Addendum to the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) considers the implications of the reduction of turbine numbers from the previously proposed five-wind turbine repowering development, to the currently proposed four-wind turbine repowering development on the landscape and visual resource.

Reduction of Proposed Repowering Wind Turbine Numbers

- 1.2 Following ongoing technical assessment as well as consultation feedback from Cornwall Council and St Eval Parish Council, the number of repowering wind turbines was reduced from five to four.
- 1.3 The location of the proposed repowering wind turbines are illustrated in **Figures 1 and 2 (Rev A)**.
- 1.4 From a landscape and visual perspective, the westernmost Turbine 1 was selected for removal because of its proximity to nearby residential properties, including the settlement of St Eval.
- 1.5 The removal of Turbine 1 from the development design would also restrict the east-west span of the proposed repowering development, make the development more 'compact' and thereby reduce its influence on the landscape and visual resource.

2. Assessment of Reduction of Turbine Numbers on the Landscape and Visual Resource

- 2.1 The reduction in turbine numbers and its influence on the landscape and visual resource has been assessed through a review of:
- Potential extent of visibility, as determined through analysis of computer generated Zones of Theoretical Visibility (ZTVs), changed to reflect the removal of Turbine 1; and
 - Viewpoints, wirelines and photomontages, changed to reflect the removal of Turbine 1.

Potential Extent of Visibility

- 2.2 The Zones of Theoretical Visibility have been re-run to reflect the reduction in proposed repowering wind turbine numbers from five to four, including the removal of Turbine 1.
- 2.3 These include the potential visibility to hub height and blade tip of the proposed four turbine repowering development and cover 30km and 10km radius study areas. These

are illustrated in **Figures 8-11 (Rev A)**. There is little discernible difference between the 'five' turbine ZTVs and the 'four' turbine ZTVs.

- 2.4 A comparison between the existing Bears Down wind farm, comprising of sixteen turbines and the proposed four turbine repowering development are illustrated on **Figures 27-28 (Rev A)** within a 10km radius study area. There is little discernible difference between the 'five' turbine ZTVs and the 'four' turbine ZTVs, when compared against the existing Bears Down wind farm.
- 2.5 A comparison between the extent of potential visibility to hub height and blade tip between Turbine 1 and Turbines 2-5 within a 10km radius study area are also illustrated in **Figures 29-30 (Rev A)**. The removal of Turbine 1 has little discernible difference in the potential extent of visibility.

Viewpoints

- 2.6 All fifteen viewpoints have been updated to reflect the removal of Turbine 1. These are illustrated in **Figures 12-26**, their location shown on **Figures 10-11**.
- 2.7 An analysis of the changes to the viewpoints to reflect the removal of Turbine 1 is outlined in **Table 1** below.

Table 1 Assessment of the Reduction of Turbines on the Viewpoints

VP No	VP Name and Figure No	Analysis
1	From Trevilledor Junction and National Cycle Route 32 (Figures 12A-12E)	The removal of Turbine 1 from this close proximity view on the minor road junction and NCR will be particularly noticeable as the closest turbine will now be 824m away (rather than 487m). The removal of the closest turbine will ensure that the proposed repowering development will not dominate the view. The removal of Turbine 1, previously set slightly apart from the other turbines, will also ensure that the proposed repowering development will now be grouped together in a compact cluster, adjacent and in the same context as the nearby operational Higher Denzell Farm wind farm.
2	From public right of way near Pennatillie Farm (Figures 13A-13E)	The removal of Turbine 1 will result in the reduction of vertical moving elements in the view, although this is a view already influenced by the presence of other wind energy schemes including the adjacent Higher Denzell Farm wind farm.
3	From minor road, to the north of Music Touring Park (Figures 14A-14E)	The removal of Turbine 1 will result in the reduction of vertical moving elements in the view. The removal of Turbine 1, previously set slightly apart from the other turbines, will also ensure that the proposed repowering development will now be grouped together in a compact cluster, adjacent and in the same context as the nearby operational Higher Denzell Farm wind farm.
4	From Recreation Ground, St Eval (Figures 15A-15E)	The removal of Turbine 1 from this view within the high sensitivity settlement of St Eval will be particularly noticeable as the closest turbine will now be 1.77km away (rather than 1.4km). The removal of the closest turbine will ensure that the proposed repowering development will be less prominent from the high sensitivity settlement, although still perceived as a compact cluster

VP No	VP Name and Figure No	Analysis
		of proposed wind turbines, adjacent and in the same context as the nearby operational Higher Denzell Farm wind farm.
5	From gateway along minor road, Talskiddy (Figures 16A-16E)	The removal of Turbine 1 will result in the reduction of vertical moving elements in the view. The proposed repowering development will become more 'compact' and grouped within a cluster, perceived adjacent and in the same context as the nearby operational Higher Denzell Farm wind farm.
6	From New Road, at entrance to Newquay Airport car park, on boundary of Watergate and Lanherne Area of Great Landscape Value (Figures 17A-17E)	The removal of Turbine 1 will result in the reduction of vertical moving elements in the view. The closest turbine will now be 4.2km away (rather than 3.98km) – although at this distance, the difference will not be largely noticeable. The removal of Turbine 1, previously set slightly apart from the other turbines, will also ensure that the proposed repowering development will now be grouped together in a compact cluster, adjacent and in the same context as the nearby operational Higher Denzell Farm wind farm.
7	From A39, near Halfway House Inn, St Jidgey (Figures 18A-18E)	The removal of Turbine 1 will result in the reduction of vertical moving elements in the view. The removal of Turbine 1, previously set slightly apart from the other turbines, will also ensure that the proposed repowering development will now be grouped together in a compact cluster, adjacent and in the same context as the nearby operational Higher Denzell Farm wind farm.
8	From High Field Avenue, St Columb Major (Figures 19A-19E)	The removal of Turbine 1 will result in the reduction of vertical moving elements in the view. The proposed repowering development will become more 'compact' and grouped within a cluster, perceived adjacent and in the same context as the nearby operational Higher Denzell Farm wind farm.
9	From junction of minor road and public right of way, Carnewas at Bedruthan, in Cornwall National Landscape (Figures 20A-20E)	The removal of Turbine 1 will result in the reduction of vertical moving elements in the view.
10	From public right of way on fringes of St Issey (Figures 21A-21E)	The removal of Turbine 1 will result in the reduction of vertical moving elements in the view. The removal of Turbine 1, previously set slightly apart from the other turbines, will also ensure that the proposed repowering development will now be grouped together in a compact cluster, adjacent and in the same context as the nearby operational Higher Denzell Farm wind farm.
11	From Castle-an-Dinas hill fort and open access area (Figures 22A-22E)	The removal of Turbine 1 will result in the reduction of vertical moving elements in the view. The removal of Turbine 1, previously set slightly apart from the other turbines, will also ensure that the proposed repowering development will now be grouped together in a compact cluster, adjacent and in the same context as the nearby operational Higher Denzell Farm wind farm.
12	From crossroads of A389, B3276 and Green Lane	The removal of Turbine 1 will result in the reduction of vertical moving elements in the view. The removal of Turbine 1, previously set slightly apart from the other

VP No	VP Name and Figure No	Analysis
	(Figures 23A-23E)	turbines, will also ensure that the proposed repowering development will now be grouped together in a compact cluster, adjacent and in the same context as the nearby operational Higher Denzell Farm wind farm.
13	From Highgate Hill, Indian Queens (Figures 24A-24E)	The removal of Turbine 1 will result in the reduction of vertical moving elements in the view. The proposed repowering development will become more 'compact' and grouped within a cluster, perceived adjacent and in the same context as the nearby operational Higher Denzell Farm wind farm.
14	From public right of way, adjacent to trig point, Trevoze Head, in Cornwall National Landscape (Figures 25A-25E)	The removal of Turbine 1 will result in the reduction of vertical moving elements in the view. The closest turbine will now be 9.74km away (rather than 10km) – although at this distance, the difference will not be noticeable. The proposed repowering development will become more 'compact' and grouped within a cluster, perceived adjacent and in the same context as the nearby operational Higher Denzell Farm wind farm.
15	From St Eval's Church (Figures 26A-26E)	The removal of Turbine 1 will result in the reduction of vertical moving elements in the view. The closest turbine will now be 3.19km away (rather than 2.82km) due to the removal of Turbine 1 and the removal of the closest turbine will ensure that the proposed repowering development will be slightly less prominent, although still perceived as a compact cluster of proposed wind turbines, adjacent and in the same context as the nearby operational Higher Denzell Farm wind farm

3. Summary

3.1 In summary:

- There will be little discernible difference in the potential extent of visibility between the five-turbine development and four turbine development, as illustrated on the ZTVs;
- The reduction in number of proposed repowering wind turbines from five to four, will offer improvements to landscape character and in views from visual amenity receptors, through reducing the number of vertical moving elements;
- The removal of the westernmost repowering turbine (Turbine 1) from the proposed development will make the proposed development more 'compact,' thereby reducing its influence on landscape character and views from visual amenity receptors; and
- The removal of the westernmost repowering turbine (Turbine 1) will move the proposed development further away from high sensitivity receptors such as the nearby residential properties, including the fringes of St Eval, making the proposed repowering development, although still perceived, less prominent in the view.