

**ELECTRICITY ACT 1989 (SECTION 36 AND SCHEDULE 8)
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 (SECTION 90)
THE ELECTRICITY GENERATING STATIONS AND OVERHEAD LINES (INQUIRIES PROCEDURE)
(ENGLAND AND WALES) RULES 2007**

**PUBLIC INQUIRY TO CONSIDER SECTION 36 ELECTRICITY ACT 1989 APPLICATION BY STEADINGS
WIND FARM LIMITED FOR CONSENT AND DEEMED PLANNING PERMISSION TO CONSTRUCT AND
OPERATE A WIND FARM AT KIRKWHELPINGTON, NORTHUMBERLAND (KNOWN AS STEADINGS)**

**APPENDICES TO SUPPLEMENTARY PROOF OF EVIDENCE OF
COLIN GOODRUM BSc(Hons) DipLA MLI
CUMULATIVE LANDSCAPE AND VISUAL IMPACT
ON BEHALF OF STEADINGS WIND FARM LIMITED**

BERR REFERENCE: GDBC/001/00278C

TYNEDALE COUNCIL REFERENCE: 20060540

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNCIL REFERENCE: 06/00023/CPC

18 DECEMBER 2007 FOR INQUIRY COMMENCING 15 JANUARY 2008

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This document has been prepared and checked in accordance with BS EN ISO 9001 : 2000

Appendix 6.0 Cumulative Assessment

6.1 Correspondence

Letter from Colin Goodrum to Guy Wimble, dated 28 November 2007

E-mail from Helen Winter to Colin Goodrum, dated 29 November 2007, plus attached document

Letter from Colin Goodrum to Helen Winter, dated 5 November 2007

Letter from Helen Winter to Colin Goodrum, dated 11 December 2007

E-mail from Guy Wimble to Colin Goodrum, dated 11 December 2007

Guy Wimble
Ironsides Farrar
111 McDonald Road
Edinburgh
EH7 4NW

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Our ref: 2587P/CG/JP
28 November 2007

Dear Guy

Tynedale Windfarm Inquiry

I write to confirm Steadings Windfarm Ltd's approach to the scope of the cumulative assessment, as set out in the fourth draft of the document provided to you on 5 November 2007. This document reflected our discussions to that point, ie. the Cumulative Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (CLVIA) should be on the basis of Kirkheaton being part of the baseline with the assessment comprising four scenarios to include the Steadings, Green Rigg and Ray Windfarms in their various combinations.

You indicated that Tynedale was now likely to propose that the scope be extended to all schemes at scoping stage or beyond and that a list was being compiled in an email to me on 9 November. Tynedale's position on this was reiterated formally when it provided other comments on the draft Statement of Common Ground yesterday (27 November).

It is the view of the Steadings Windfarm Ltd team that it remains inappropriate, and unnecessary to extend the scope of the assessment beyond the original position of Kirkheaton plus the three schemes. My evidence will be prepared on that basis which reflects the guidance, which indicates that only in exceptional circumstances should schemes which have not been the subject of a planning application be included within a cumulative assessment. Tynedale has hitherto made no assertion of there being any exceptional circumstances here.

In any event, in the absence of the list of schemes you say is being compiled and the necessary details pertaining to these schemes, I would not be in a position to progress the cumulative assessment; quite apart from anything else, your belated request threatens to compromise completion of my evidence. As Tynedale's representative on landscape matters, please would you provide as a matter of urgency the list of schemes which Tynedale consider should be part of the CLVIA and the available details. This would include the location of the sites, number of turbines, height to nacelle and blade tip of turbines and their grid references. Could you also provide details of the developer and any indication with regard to timescale for the progression of these schemes. I can then, and without prejudice to my view as set out above, review the list.

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Our Ref. 2587P/CG/JP
28 November 2007

Continued 2/2

Thank you for your help with this matter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colin Goodrum', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Colin Goodrum
for LDA Design
colin.goodrum@lda-design.co.uk



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Colin Goodrum

From: Helen Winter [helen.winter@tynedale.gov.uk]
Sent: 29 November 2007 14:03
To: Colin Goodrum
Cc: Philip Lewis; Guy Wimble
Subject: RE: Tynedale Joint Inquiry-without prejudice
Attachments: Northumberland Windfarms.pdf

Dear Colin

Further to the letter attached to your e mail of 28 November to Guy Wimble please find attached a table prepared by Northumberland County Council setting out the current situation regarding wind farm proposals in Northumberland.

Of the schemes listed under scoping and other we would expect at the least that the following are considered in the cumulative assessment:

Kirkharle - NPower

Throckrington - Wind Prospects

Tone Hall - Nuon Energy

Harwood Forest (Ray phase2) - AMEC

We can provide further details of these proposals in so far as any details have been provided to the Council. I trust that the list would be sufficient for your consideration at this stage given your comments set out in your letter.

We understand that the Tone Hall Wind Farm proposal comprises 6 wind turbines up to 100m tip height and likely 60m hub height. We have been told that a typical turbine that fits this design criteria will be a 2.0 MW turbine resulting in an overall project size in the order of 12.0 MW.

It is our understanding that the current turbine co-ordinates for the Tone Hall Wind Farm proposal are as follows.

ID
Eastings (m)
Northings (m)

T1
390,301
581,725

T2
390,549
581,565

T3
390,167
581,312

T4
390,444
581,164

T5
390,537
580,802

T6
390,063

580,916

However we have noted that wind farm design and therefore turbine positions are not yet fixed and may be subject to minor change.

Helen Winter,
Director of Planning,
Tynedale District Council,
The Old Grammar School,
Hallgate, Hexham, Northumberland, NE46
Telephone 01434 652 368
Fax 01434 652 422

-----Original Message-----

From: Colin Goodrum [mailto:Colin.Goodrum@lda-design.co.uk]

Sent: 28 November 2007 16:55

To: 'Guy Wimble'

Cc: Helen Winter; Philip Lewis; rylor@entecuk.co.uk; Kay Hawkins; Andrew Newcombe; Louise Rich; rob.williams@hjbanks.com; Andy Edgar; Provan, Stewart; Mary Fisher; Simon Collcutt

Subject: RE: Tynedale Joint Inquiry-without prejudice

Dear Guy

I refer to your email below. Please find attached a sixth draft of the SoCG in response to your comments. The comments reflect the views of the Wind Prospect and Amec's team as well as that of Banks. In addition I have attached a letter concerning the scope of the cumulative assessment in respect to SWFL.

Regards

Colin Goodrum
Partner

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-----Original Message-----

From: Guy Wimble [mailto:Guy.Wimble@ironsidefarrar.com]

Sent: 27 November 2007 09:07

To: Colin Goodrum

Cc: Helen Winter; Philip Lewis; Mccarter@kingschambers.com; Fearnd33@aol.com; Richard Smith; Elaine Gray; Anthony Crean QC
Subject: RE: Tynedale Joint Inquiry

Colin

Further to our recent correspondence I attach Tynedale's latest agreed draft of the SoCG for you to review. You will note that we consider the cumulative assessment should include all windfarms within the 30km study area that are at scoping or further advanced in the planning system, not just the three subject to the Inquiry. The Council anticipates in the near future having a list of those in Northumberland to assist in the preparation of the study.

Regards

Guy

-----Original Message-----

From: Colin Goodrum [mailto:Colin.Goodrum@lda-design.co.uk]

Sent: 16 November 2007 09:39

To: Guy Wimble

Cc: rylor@entecuk.co.uk; Kay Hawkins; Andrew Newcombe; Marcus Trinick; Williams, Rob; Provan, Stewart; Andy Edgar; Edward Romaine; Mary Fisher

Subject: Tynedale Joint Inquiry

Dear Guy

I write to confirm our telephone conversation yesterday with regards to the CLVIA SOCG. You indicated that following our discussion about sharing costs at our last telephone conference on Friday 2 November, the matter was discussed at Conference on the 5th by your team, and that your advocate's advice was that Tynedale should not contribute to the costs. You also indicated that Tynedale would be writing to us to confirm this, along with comments on the draft SOCG. You have already indicated that these comments include the potential to add additional schemes to the assessment, along with other comments which to date I have no knowledge of. Given that two weeks have now elapsed since our last telephone conference I am concerned we have not had confirmation of Tynedale's comments. You indicated that these will now come from Tynedale rather than yourself and other members of my team will be raising this with Tynedale.

Regards

Colin

Colin Goodrum
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The views expressed in this message do not necessarily reflect those of Tynedale Council.

Tynedale Council, Hexham House, Hexham, Northumberland, NE46 3NH Tel +44 (0)1434 652121, Fax +44 (0)1434 652421 <http://www.tynedale.gov.uk>

Current Situation regarding Wind Farms in Northumberland

Spreadsheet prepared by Strategic Policy and Initiatives team - Northumberland County Council

Stage:	Developer	No. of turbines	Tot. Capacity (MW)	Determining Authority	Date Submitted	Comments	NCC/District Report
Determined							
Ray Estate	AMEC	20	60	DTI	12/12/2005	INQUIRY - January 2008	Tynedale DC Report NCC Report
Middlemoor	nPower	18	75	DTI	21/12/2005	INQUIRY - Started Novemebr 2007	NCC Report Application
Green Rigg	Wind Prospect	18	36	Tynedale	04/01/2006	INQUIRY - January 2008	NCC Report
Steadings	Banks	21	66	DTI	13/04/2006	INQUIRY - January 2008 (Revised Scheme Sept 07)	NCC Report
Lynemouth - part*	CRE/Scottish Power	7	16.1	Castle Morpeth	20/11/2006	Appeal Hearing Spring 2008	
MSD Cramlington	Earth Wind	2	5	Blyth Valley		REFUSED	
Aesica	TNEI	2	5	Blyth Valley		REFUSED	
Bewick Drift	Harworth Power	3	6	Castle Morpeth	19/10/2006	Appeal Hearing January 2008	
Wandylaw	RidgeWind	10	30	Berwick	24/08/2006	Refused - October 2007	NCC Report
8	Total:	101	299.1				
Application							
Lynemouth - part*	CRE/Scottish Power	6	13.8	Wansbeck	20/11/2006	Approved	
Moorsyde	Your Energy	7	27.5	Berwick	20/01/2005	Application - Ref 04/B/1107 (Revised scheme summer 07)	
Barmoor	Force 9	6	27	Berwick	28/02/2006	Application - Ref 06/B/0148 (Revised scheme Oct 07)	
Kiln Pit Hill	nPower	6	12	Tynedale	04/01/2006	Application - Ref 20060052	NCC Report
Blyth Harbour	Hainsford Energy	7	17.5	Wansbeck	06/07/2007	Application - Ref 07/00287/FULES	
Toft Hill	nPower	7	19	Berwick	15/11/2006	Application - Ref 06/B/1001	
6	Total:	39	116.8				

Scoping						
Gapshield	RES	5	10.5	Tynedale		EIA Scoping
Parkhead	RES	12	27.6	Castle Morpeth		EIA Scoping
Kirkharle	nPower	14	42	Tynedale		EIA Scoping
Thockrington	Wind Prospect	14	28	Tynedale		EIA Scoping
Todburn Farm	Coronation Power	8	24	Alnwick	09/05/2006	EIA Scoping
Berwick	RES	7	14	Berwick	08/08/2006	EIA Scoping
Butterwell	RES	9	20.7	Castle Morpeth	10/07/2006	EIA Scoping
Murton	RES	10	20	Berwick	30/06/2006	EIA Scoping
Plenmeller	Harworth Power	24	48	Tynedale		EIA Scoping
Debdon	West Coast Energy	8	24	Alnwick	15/01/2007	EIA Scoping
Boundary Lane	Wind Prospect	6	12	Tynedale	02/02/2007	EIA Scoping
Tone Hall	Nuon Energy	6	12	Tynedale	02/02/2007	EIA Scoping
13	Total:	123	282.8			
Others						
<i>Moneylaws</i>	<i>Coronation Power</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>Berwick</i>	<i>17/03/2006</i>	<i>Proposal dropped</i>
<i>Coat Yards Farm</i>	<i>Coronation Power</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>Alnwick</i>		<i>Proposal dropped</i>
Lamb Hill	EHN			Alnwick		Mast - refused
Bewick Moor	EHN			Berwick/Alnwick		Mast x 2
Harwood Forest (Ray Phase 2)	AMEC			DTI/Alnwick		Mast x 2
5						
Total schemes		Total turbines	Total capacity			
32		263	698.7	Date updated:	21/11/2007	

Helen Winter, Director of Planning
Tynedale District Council
The Old Grammar School
Hallgate
Hexham
Northumberland NE46

Our ref: 2587P/CG/ME
05 December 2007

Dear Helen

Steadings Wind Farm

Thank you for your email dated 29 November and the attached table, prepared by the County Council, listing all wind farm proposals in Northumberland. Your schedule unfortunately did not include sufficient details of location/distance from Steadings. This has led to a slight delay whilst the information was tracked down. I write to restate my position and the approach of Steadings Wind Farm Ltd to the scope of cumulative assessment.

You will be aware that up to the publication of the fourth draft of the statement common ground on CLVIA there was agreement between the appellant and applicant parties on the one hand and Dr Guy Wimble on the other in respect of the geographical scope of cumulative assessment i.e. a 30 kilometre radius, and those schemes within that radius which should properly be considered by the assessment. All parties agreed that the methodology i.e. ZTV production, wire line and photomontage production and the assessment of effects should focus on the three schemes, with Kirkheaton as part of the baseline. As regards schemes at application stage (or determined) the four parties discussed the scheme at Kiln Pitt Hill, which is located at the southern extent of the 30 kilometre study area and we all concluded that the assessment of effects already provided by the material available confirmed that there was no likelihood of significant affects arising between Kiln Pitt Hill and any of the three schemes; thus it was scoped out of the assessment. The same can be said for Lynemouth, MSD Cramlington and Aesica. All the remaining application stage or determined schemes in your schedule are out of the agreed 30 km radius. There was no suggestion from Dr Wimble of any requirements to consider either schemes which were only at the scoping stage or the other schemes.

Given the need to progress matters, both in the context of the common set of visuals as well as my own assessment and proof, I have progressed on the originally agreed basis of the four scenarios set out in the fourth draft SOCG, with my evidence focussing on those three scenarios within which Steadings features. It is unfortunate that this point has only been raised at a late stage.

The Tynedale amendment to the draft SoCG sets out your view that the cumulative assessment should now include all wind farms within the 30 kilometre study area that are at

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Our Ref. 2587P/CG/ME
05 December 2007



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Continued 2/3

scoping or further advanced in the planning system. It is thus clear that Tyndale Council is of a fundamentally different view from that of the professional landscape architect advising you. There has been no suggestion that Dr Wimble has changed his mind. Given this difference I am restating my view, on behalf of Steadings Wind Farm Ltd in order to ensure there is clarity in terms of our approach.

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As a matter of principle it is my belief, and that of my client, and indeed is reflected in guidance (the most up to date being the SNH 2005 document - Cumulative Effect of Wind Farms), that it is appropriate that an assessment should focus on those schemes the subject of an application or further along the planning system.

The NCC table sets out the details of 32 schemes. I comment on these as follows:

1. Determined

Of the 8 schemes only the three schemes already identified (re Green Rigg and Steadings), fall materially or relevantly within the 30 kilometre study area. My cumulative assessment therefore focuses on these schemes, and is likely to confirm the other 5 schemes as being irrelevant to the assessment by reason of either being beyond the agreed study area, or demonstrating an absence of any likelihood of significant effects in terms of cumulative landscape and visual terms. In addition Middlemoor is currently at Inquiry and to my knowledge there has been no evidence required in respect to the cumulative effects of Steadings on Middlemoor or vice versa at that Inquiry.

2. Application Schemes

With regard to the 6 schemes currently the subject of an application, only Lynmouth and Kiln Pit Hill just fall within the 30 kilometre radius and my comments above apply. As the schemes either fall beyond the 30 kilometre boundary, and /or are likely to give rise to insignificant effects, these have been excluded from the technical exercise of assessing CLVIA.

3. Scoping

13 schemes are listed as being at the scoping stage and my understanding is that 9 of these would lie within the 30 kilometre study area. Notwithstanding this, as an example, Scottish guidance (PAN45) states that, *in assessing cumulative affects it is unreasonable to expect this to extend beyond schemes in the vicinity that have been built, those which have permissions and those that are currently subject of undetermined applications.* SNH guidance acknowledges that in some cases it may be thought desirable to include more specific proposals in an assessment such as those schemes at scoping. However, there are here no exceptional circumstances to justify the inclusion of such scheme. Moreover, SNH acknowledges that inclusion of any such schemes would render the assessment less certain. I believe it is inappropriate to include even those schemes within 30 kilometre

Our Ref. 2587P/CG/ME
05 December 2007

LDADDESIGN

Continued 3/3

zone, as a matter of principle. I am not aware of any evidence of these schemes actually coming forward nor any details of, for instance, speculative turbine locations.

I note for the schemes at scoping you have only been able to provide the coordinates for the Tone Hall scheme (which is 5 kilometres away).

4. Others

I note two of the proposals have been dropped and the other three schemes are no more than mast applications at this stage and thus even further back in the system. Given the entirely speculative nature of these proposals again it would be inappropriate to consider them as part of the cumulative assessment.

Based on the above, I presently intend that my evidence will therefore be focusing on the three agreed schemes in the context of Kirkheaton as being the only relevant built scheme. My evidence will acknowledge the presence of a total of 32 schemes, based on the information from the County Council and confirm my conclusions in respect to the rest, and the unlikelihood of any significant cumulative landscape and visual issues arising.

Notwithstanding this, to assist in the process, I would be pleased to receive the further details you refer to in your email of 29 November. Clearly information provided directly to your council will be available, and I am assuming that you will be able to gather together all other remaining details via the County Council.

Please note I have copied this to Dr Wimble.

Thank you for your help.

Yours sincerely



Colin Goodrum
Partner
colin.goodrum@lda-design.co.uk

c.c. Dr Guy Wimble

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Helen Winter *Director of Planning*



Tynedale Council

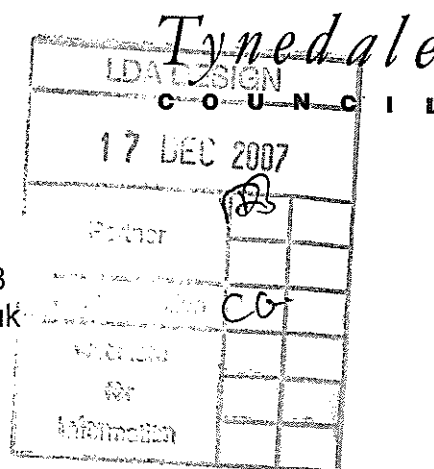
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website: www.tynedale.gov.uk



Our Ref: HW/LAP

Your Ref: 2587P/CG/ME

This matter is being dealt with by

Helen Winter, Tel 01434 652368
Email: planning@tynedale.gov.uk

11 December 2007

Mr Colin Goodrum
LDA
17 Minster Precincts
Peterborough
PE1 1XX

Dear Colin

Steadings Wind Farm

With regard to your letter dated 5 December 2007 concerning the above your comments are noted.

I would however emphasise that Dr Guy Wimble is appointed by Tynedale council to provide specialist landscape advice to the Council and it is to him that your letter should be addressed. I am not an expert in this field and simply replied to your letter to Guy Wimble, which you copied to me, with the factual information which you requested regarding proposals at scoping stage.

It is however my understanding that the desirability of including any schemes at scoping or beyond within the cumulative assessment is fully endorsed by Dr Wimble as made clear to you in the revised draft statement of common ground which he sent to you on 27 November 2007.

Unfortunately it took some time for us to obtain detailed information from the County Council and would therefore apologise that we had not been in a position to identify the specific proposals at an earlier stage.

As requested I will endeavour to let you have whatever information we can regarding the schemes at scoping stage and other which I understand are closest to the three schemes currently under consideration ie Kirkharle (NPower), Throckington (Wind Prospects), Tone Hall (Nuon Energy) and Harwood Forest (Ray phase2)(AMEC).

Notwithstanding the above it is clear that what is important now is that the statement of common ground needs to be finalised with Dr Guy Wimble on behalf of Tynedale



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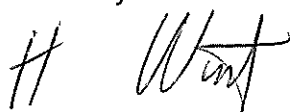


INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Council. Matters that cannot be agreed as part of the SCG must be dealt with by way of evidence at the PLI.

I am aware that the draft SCG is currently sitting with Dr Wimble but I have asked him to progress this matter and have sent him a copy of this letter for information..

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H Winter', written in a cursive style.

Mrs. H. Winter
Director of Planning

Colin Goodrum

From: Guy Wimble [Guy.Wimble@ironsidefarrar.com]
Sent: 11 December 2007 17:02
To: Helen Winter; Colin Goodrum
Subject: RE: Tynedale Joint Inquiry-without prejudice
Attachments: SoCG_6draft IFL amended.doc

Colin Goodrum
Partner

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-----Original Message-----

From: Guy Wimble [mailto:Guy.Wimble@ironsidefarrar.com]
Sent: 11 December 2007 17:02
To: Helen Winter; Colin Goodrum
Subject: RE: Tynedale Joint Inquiry-without prejudice

Colin

I attach my amendments to your 6th draft of the cumulative SoCG. Please note I have effectively said that we will agree to disagree on the further landscape baselines and on the additional windfarms in the cumulative assessment. I hope the form of wording is acceptable to you and the other teams.

With regard to the apparent confusion over my opinion as to which windfarms should be included in the cumulative assessment, can I say that I made no statement of principle at the time of our teleconference. Rather, at that time I was not aware of any windfarm proposals that could significantly add to the cumulative impacts of the four included in the assessment. If I had been aware of such proposals at the time I would have asked for them to be included.

I trust this clarifies my position

Regards

Guy

-----Original Message-----

From: Helen Winter [mailto:helen.winter@tynedale.gov.uk]
Sent: 11 December 2007 14:02

To: Colin Goodrum
Cc: Guy Wimble
Subject: RE: Tynedale Joint Inquiry-without prejudice

Please find attached my response to your letter - hard copy in the post

Helen Winter,
Director of Planning,
Tynedale District Council,
The Old Grammar School,
Hallgate, Hexham, Northumberland, NE46
Telephone 01434 652 368
Fax 01434 652 422

-----Original Message-----

From: Colin Goodrum [mailto:Colin.Goodrum@lda-design.co.uk]

Sent: 07 December 2007 17:37

To: Helen Winter

Cc: 'Guy.Wimble@ironsidefarrar.com'; ANewcombe@2hb.law.co.uk; Marcus Trinick; 'Louise Rich'; Edward Romaine; Williams, Rob; Provan, Stewart; Simon Collcutt (Oxford Archaeology); Mary Fisher; Andy Edgar
Subject: RE: Tynedale Joint Inquiry-without prejudice

Dear Helen

Thank you for your email dated 29 November, please find attached my response, attached.

Whilst writing, on a point of detail concerning the Statement of Common Ground, there is reference to the Jacobite Trail in respect to the long distance footpaths. Having obtained the Jacobite Trail information I can confirm it is a collection of places of interest, rather than a distinct route. As such I do not believe it is appropriate for the trail to be assessed as part of the CLVIA either in general or sequential terms. You will note I have copied this to Guy Wimble and I would obviously appreciate his view on this. I would also be grateful for an indication when we will receive any further comments you may have on the sixth version of the Statement of Common Ground that I sent on the 28th November.

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Appendix 6.2 Cumulative Assessment – Baseline Viewpoint Assessment (distances are to the nearest turbine)

REF	LOCATION	DIRECTION / DISTANCE TO STEADINGS	DIRECTION / DISTANCE TO GREEN RIGG	DIRECTION / DISTANCE TO RAY	DIRECTION / DISTANCE TO KIRKHEATON	CHARACTER AREAS – LOCAL/ NATIONAL	KEY RECEPTOR GROUPS / DESIGNATIONS	BASELINE DESCRIPTION	BASELINE SENSITIVITY
A	Kirkwhelpington	2.5km, Southwest	3.7km, Southwest	3.8km, West	N/A	Rolling Lowland Farmland/ Northumberland Sandstone Hills	Local road users, A-road motorists	This is a view from a road junction over the hedge on the far side of the road, across an undulating pastoral landscape towards a generally nearby skyline formed by rising ground. The large number of hedgerow trees, ridge and furrow in nearby field and buildings on the skyline add interest to this view.	Medium
B	Trig. Point north of Great Bavington	0.4km, Northwest	5.1km, Northwest	4.1km, Northwest	4.7km, Southeast	Upland Fringe Farming/ Northumberland Sandstone Hills and Mid Northumberland border	Footpath users, local motorists	This is an expansive 360 degree view from a high point. The view to the southeast is varied and vegetated, with undulating landform, the nearby crags, deciduous woodlands and hedgerow trees, Great Bavington and Kirkheaton wind farm all lying within that portion of the view. In contrast the view to the northwest shows a bland view of a simpler, fairly empty landscape with occasional blocks of conifer woodland.	High
C	Great Wanney Crag	3km, Southeast	0.9km, Southwest	0.9km, Northeast	10km, Southeast	Outcrop Hills and Escarpment/ Northumberland Sandstone Hills	Footpath users	This is an expansive 360 degree view from a high point. The view in all directions is characterised by the crags in the immediate foreground and undulating landform with blocks of conifers of varying maturity beyond. The view to the north and west is more enclosed with hills and moorland being a feature. To the south and east, the landscape is lower-lying and green farmland is seen beyond the conifer plantations in the distance.	High
D	Thockrington Church (rear of churchyard)	1.3km, Northeast	3.8km, Northwest	4.6km, North	5.5km, Southeast	Upland Fringe Farming/ Northumberland Sandstone Hills	Church visitors	This view from the church yard shows most of the village of Thockrington to the right hand side, with open fields and small blocks of woodland seen beyond. To the left of the view, nearby crags prevent outward views. The main focii of interest in the view are the nearby village and crags.	High
E	Hadrian's Wall Path	11.9km, Northeast	10.6km, Northeast	13km, Northeast	14km, Northeast	Parallel Ridges and Outcrops/ Tyne Gap and Hadrian's Wall	National Trail users (Hadrians Wall Path), visitors to Hadrians Wall (WHS), National Park visitors	This is an expansive view from a National Trail. Hadrian's Wall lies behind the viewer at this viewpoint, and the main features of interest in the view are the various buildings and villages in the valley and the patchwork of fields and woodlands seen spreading away towards the higher ground which forms the horizon.	High
F	Pennine Way south of Bellingham	11.7km, East	7.6km, East	10.7km, East	N/A	Forests and Moorland/ Border Moors and Forests	National Trail users (Hadrians Wall Path), National Park visitors	This view from the Pennine Way looks across a valley to the rising ground on the far side which has an interesting undulating landform with a series of ridges and crags. The foreground and middle ground of this view is formed by large fields divided by hedgerows and walls.	High/ Medium

REF	LOCATION	DIRECTION / DISTANCE TO STEADINGS	DIRECTION / DISTANCE TO GREEN RIGG	DIRECTION / DISTANCE TO RAY	DIRECTION / DISTANCE TO KIRKHEATON	CHARACTER AREAS – LOCAL/ NATIONAL	KEY RECEPTOR GROUPS / DESIGNATIONS	BASELINE DESCRIPTION	BASELINE SENSITIVITY
G	Knowesgate	3.1km, Southwest	6.7km, Southwest	2.8km, West	8.7km, South	Rolling Lowland Farmland/ Northumberland Sandstone Hills	Local residents, motorists, tourists (hotel), walkers using St Oswalds Way	This is a view looking across the A696 and several sheep pasture fields divided by fences, which form the fore and middle ground. To the left hand side the landscape is undulating and vegetated with successive layers of landform, woodland and hedgerow trees. Kirkheaton wind farm is visible towards the far left of the view. To the centre and right, the view is more open and characterised by crags on the skyline and blocks of conifers.	High
H	A68 at Beukley	8.9km, North	11.7km, Northwest	12.9km, North	6.5km, Northeast	Upland Fringe Farming/ Mid Northumberland	A-road motorists	This view looks from a high point on the A68 across lower-lying farmland to rising ground beyond. The A68 can be seen to the left of the view, stretching into the distance and tends to draw the eye. Occasional groups of farm buildings and blocks of woodland can be seen in the middle ground, but the view lacks any particular focus. Kirkheaton wind farm can be seen just above the nearby hillside to the far right of this view.	Medium/ Low
I	A68 near Carrycoats Hall	3.7km, Northeast	1.9km, North	4.6km, Northeast	9.2km, Southeast	River Valley with Settlements, Tyne Gap and Hadrian's Wall	A-road motorists	This view looks across an undulating landscape of rough pasture broken up by small blocks of woodland. Power lines on wooden poles and farm buildings can be seen nearby. Kirkheaton wind farm can be seen on the skyline to the right of the view.	Medium/ Low
J	Corsenside Common	11km, Southeast	7.4km, Southeast	8.3km, Southeast	18.1km, Southeast	Rolling Uplands/ Border Moors and Forests	Motorists (when road is open – it is frequently closed)	This is a view from a highpoint looking across a green valley landscape to another area of high ground beyond. The undulating, sinuous, vegetated valley landscape forms the main focus of interest. The rising ground beyond forms a simpler backdrop to this. To the right hand side of the view, a more distant horizon can be seen beyond.	Medium/ Low
K	Kirkharle	3.6km, West	8.3km, West	6.6km, Northwest	N/A	Rolling Lowland Farming/Mid Northumberland	Tourists approaching Kirkharle, motorists	This is a view across nearby pasture fields that is curtailed by mature trees and woodland in the middle ground. The young plantation seen beyond the houses is an incongruous feature in this view at present, but will become less so with maturity. Signage and wooden-pole supported power lines can be seen throughout the view.	Medium

Appendix 6.3 - Cumulative Assessment – Effects on Landscape Character

		SCENARIO A - KIRKHEATON, STEADINGS AND RAY		SCENARIO C – KIRKHEATON, STEADINGS AND GREEN RIGG		SCENARIO D – KIRKHEATON, STEADINGS, GREEN RIGG AND RAY		
CHARACTER AREA	SENSITIVITY	MAGNITUDE	SIGNIFICANCE	MAGNITUDE	SIGNIFICANCE	MAGNITUDE	SIGNIFICANCE	COMMENTS
National Character Areas Countryside Character Map of England (1999) – Volume 1: North East [Appendix 1.2]								
Northumberland Sandstone Hills (No. 2)	Low-Medium in area of site, Medium-High elsewhere	Medium / Low	Moderate / Slight	Low	Slight	Medium / Low	Moderate / Slight	Areas within 2km of the turbines will experience direct effects on landscape character, with the wind farms becoming a defining characteristic of the landscape. The woodlands that lie to the west and the north of the site will act as an edge to the area in which the wind farm becomes a key characteristic. The Steadings and Green Rigg Schemes would affect only the very southern tip of the character area and most of the rest of the character area will have no visibility of the schemes, whilst the Ray scheme would significantly extend the affected area northwards, and also increase the area with views of turbines, though visibility would still remain generally confined to the area south of Harwood Forest.
Mid Northumberland (No. 12)	Medium-High	Low to Medium	Slight	Low to Medium	Slight	Low to Medium	Slight	The change of character area along a line between Kirkwhelpington and Great Bavington is quite marked will act as an ‘edge’ to the area in which Steadings wind farm would become a key characteristic. The area in this vicinity is already affected to some degree by Kirkheaton wind farm. There will be visibility of the Steadings scheme across a reasonably wide area, with Ray being visible over a similar proportion of the area, but often not from the same locations as Steadings. Green Rigg would only tend to be visible from locations in which the other two wind farms would also be seen. The character area tends to be well vegetated and overall visibility will be less than indicated by the ZTV studies.
Border Moors and Forests (No. 5)	Low-Medium	Negligible	No Change	Negligible	No Change	Negligible	No Change	There would be minimal visibility of the Steadings turbines except in the Simonburn / Haughton common area at distances of 11km or more. An additional area of visibility exists to the South of Bellingham at EalinghamRigg Common for the other two schemes, with Green Rigg being both more widely visible from this area and more nearby (9-10km). However, in all scenarios, effects will be negligible, as most of the character area will experience no visibility of the schemes, due to the significant areas of forest.
Tyne Gap and Hadrian’s Wall (No. 11)	High	Low	Slight	Low	Slight	Low	Slight	Visibility of the schemes from the Hadrian’s Wall NLCA will be restricted to the area around Hurnshaugh and a narrow strip following the B6318 and Hadrian’s Wall path along the northern edge of the character area. These visual effects will be between Low and Negligible magnitude, and will constitute an effect of Low magnitude on character as northward views from Hadrian’s Wall are a key characteristic of the area. All four windfarms would tend to be visible together, with Steadings and Kirkheaton being slightly more commonly visible than the Ray and Green Rigg schemes.
Regional Character Areas North East Regional Renewable Energy Strategy [CD143]								
Upland Fringe Farming (including Steadings site area and part of Green Rigg)	Low-Medium	High / Medium	Moderate	High / Medium	Moderate	High / Medium	Moderate	Green Rigg would slightly increase effects, but there would be little influence from Ray, however, as the areas affected by Steadings and Ray largely coincide, the remainder of the area would retain its character.

		SCENARIO A - KIRKHEATON, STEADINGS AND RAY		SCENARIO C – KIRKHEATON, STEADINGS AND GREEN RIGG		SCENARIO D – KIRKHEATON, STEADINGS, GREEN RIGG AND RAY		
CHARACTER AREA	SENSITIVITY	MAGNITUDE	SIGNIFICANCE	MAGNITUDE	SIGNIFICANCE	MAGNITUDE	SIGNIFICANCE	COMMENTS
Upland Fringe farming (other 3 areas to south of and west of site.)	Low-Medium	Negligible	No Change	Negligible	No Change	Negligible	No Change	All 3 schemes would have some visibility from this character type which lies to the south of Bellingham, with Green Rigg being both the nearest and most widely visible of the three. In all cases these will be distant views, around 10km or greater and not sufficient to produce significant effects. The other two areas of this character type will experience very distant views of the schemes and will not be affected.
Rolling Uplands	Medium-High	Low / Negligible	Slight / No Change	Negligible	No Change	Low / Negligible	Slight / No Change	All 3 schemes would have some visibility from the part of this character type which lies to the north of Bellingham. Steadings has patchy visibility from the upper southeast facing slopes of the open commons at distances of 10km or more, and contributes little to the effects. Green Rigg is visible generally from similar locations as Steadings and in particular from the lower slopes of Hareshaw and Corsenside Commons, at distances of 6-10km. Ray is also visible in the same areas as Steadings, but is also visible from wider areas to the west of the A68. From the part of this character type which lies around and north of Otterburn Camp, both Green Rigg (10km or more) and Ray (6km or more) would be visible. In each scenario the principal effects will be on the south and east facing slopes near Corsenside Common and in the area to the north and west of Otterburn camp.
Upland Forest and Moorland	Low-Medium	Negligible	No Change	Negligible	No Change	Negligible	No Change	There would be minimal visibility of the Steadings turbines except in the Simonburn / Houghton common area at distances of 11km or more. An additional area of visibility exists to the South of Bellingham at EalinghamRigg Common for the other two schemes, with Green Rigg being both more widely visible from this area and more nearby (9-10km). However, in all scenarios, effects will be negligible, as most of the character area will experience no visibility of the schemes, due to the significant areas of forest.
Parallel Ridges and Outcrops	High	Low to Negligible	Slight	Low to Negligible	Slight	Low to Negligible	Slight	All three schemes have similar visibility from this character area, with Steadings being slightly more widely visible than the other two. Whilst these would all be distant views, the turbines would be visible in northward views from Hadrian's Wall, which are identified as a key characteristic.
Outcrop Hills and escarpment (includes Ray and Green Rigg sites and small part of Steadings)	Medium-High	Medium / Low	Moderate	Low	Slight	Medium / Low	Moderate	Direct effects on character would arise from all three wind farms, particularly the Ray scheme which lies entirely within this character area and is spread across the southernmost 5km. However, visual influence would decrease sharply beyond Harwood Forest, leaving most of the character area largely unaffected.
River Valley with Settlements	Medium-High	Low	Slight	Low	Slight	Low	Slight	All effects on this character area would be indirect. The Steadings scheme would contribute little to the effects, and would only be visible in a small area, where Green Rigg would generally also be visible in scenarios C and D. In scenarios D and D, Green Rigg would be visible at distances of 5-7km in the area around Bellingham and the east facing valley slopes to the north and south. In scenarios A and D Ray would be visible at distances of 4-6km from the area around East and West Woodburn. The obvious differences between this valley landscape and the uplands where the turbines are situated would remain apparent, or even be accentuated in all scenarios.

		SCENARIO A - KIRKHEATON, STEADINGS AND RAY		SCENARIO C – KIRKHEATON, STEADINGS AND GREEN RIGG		SCENARIO D – KIRKHEATON, STEADINGS, GREEN RIGG AND RAY		
CHARACTER AREA	SENSITIVITY	MAGNITUDE	SIGNIFICANCE	MAGNITUDE	SIGNIFICANCE	MAGNITUDE	SIGNIFICANCE	COMMENTS
Open Upland Valley	Low-Medium	Low / Negligible	Slight / No Change	Low / Negligible	Slight / No Change	Low / Negligible	Slight / No Change	The principal effects on this character area would arise from visibility of the Green Rigg scheme from the lower end of the valley around Otterburn, at distances around 10km. The Ray scheme would be visible from the upper slopes of the valley, also at distances of 10km or more. Whilst the views are distant, the valley landform would have the effect of channelling views towards the turbines. The obvious differences between this valley landscape and the uplands where the turbines are situated would remain apparent, or even be accentuated in all scenarios.
Rolling Lowland farmland	Medium-High *Transition area is Low to Medium sensitivity.	Medium / Low	Slight	Medium / Low	Slight	Medium / Low	Slight	The change of character area along a line between Kirkwhelpington and Great Bavington is quite marked will act as an 'edge' to the wind farm landscape. The area in this vicinity is already affected to some degree by Kirkheaton wind farm. There will be patchy visibility of the schemes across a reasonably wide area, but the character area is large and much of it will experience no effects.

Appendix 6.4 - Cumulative Assessment –Effects on Viewpoints

REF	LOCATION	DIRECTION / DISTANCE TO STEADINGS (S), GREEN RIGG (G), RAY (R) KIRKHEATON (K)	BASELINE SENSITIVITY	SCENARIO A - KIRKHEATON, STEADINGS AND RAY		SCENARIO C – KIRKHEATON, STEADINGS AND GREEN RIGG		SCENARIO D – KIRKHEATON, STEADINGS, GREEN RIGG AND RAY		COMMENTS
				MAGNITUDE	SIGNIFICANCE	MAGNITUDE	SIGNIFICANCE	MAGNITUDE	SIGNIFICANCE	
A	Kirkwhelpington	2.5km, Southwest (S) 6.7km, Southwest (G) 3.8km, West (R)	Medium	High / Medium	Moderate, Adverse	Medium	Moderate, Adverse	High / Medium	Moderate, Adverse	The three wind farms would be seen ranged across this view. Green Rigg makes little contribution to the effect due to distance. The mature trees seen to the right of the view would partially screen the Ray turbines, partly mitigating against the effects, though blade movement is likely to be visible, particularly in the winter. Steadings would be clearly visible towards the left of the view. Due to the large distances between the turbines within each scheme, the Ray and Steadings schemes in scenarios A and D appear as a single wind farm, particularly in scenario D where Green Rigg occupies the gap between the two. Effects are adverse due to scale contrasts between the turbines and the mature trees seen in the fore and middle ground, the turbines would also distract from features of interest in the foreground.
B	Trig. Point north of Great Bavington	0.4km, Northwest (S) 5.1km, Northwest (G) 4.1km, Northwest (R) 4.7km, Southeast (K)	High	High	Substantial, Adverse	High	Substantial, Adverse	High	Substantial, Adverse	Looking northwest from this viewpoint, the turbines would be seen in 3 distinct groups, each with Steadings turbines in the foreground and then Green Rigg seen beyond the central group in scenarios C and D, and Ray seen beyond the rightmost group in scenarios A and D. This apparent grouping means that effects arising from the addition of either (or both) the Ray or Green Rigg schemes to Steadings makes little difference to the effects as they are perceived as more distant parts of the nearby scheme, rather than as separate wind farms. Kirkheaton is seen in entirely the opposite direction and makes little or no contribution to the effects. The turbines would distract from the expansive view beyond. The grouping of the turbines lacks pattern.
C	Great Wanney Crag	3km, Southeast (S) 0.9km, Southwest (G) 0.9km, Northeast (R) 10km, Southeast (K)	High	High	Substantial, Adverse	High	Substantial, Adverse	High	Substantial, Adverse	From this viewpoint, the three windfarms are seen as three separate schemes. Four of the Ray turbines would be seen very nearby to the North east, with the remainder of the scheme seen stretching away into the distance to the left of these, intermixed with the coniferous woodland. The Steadings turbines would be seen to the southeast, generally seen beyond the coniferous woodland that is visible at the base of the crags. The Green Rigg turbines would be seen nearby, occupying a 70 degree arc of view to the southwest, again beyond coniferous woodland situated at the base of the crags. The proximity of the more nearby Green Rigg and Ray turbines would create scale contrasts which would diminish the perceived height of the crags due to the evident greater height of the turbines.

REF	LOCATION	DIRECTION / DISTANCE TO STEADINGS (S), GREEN RIGG (G), RAY (R) KIRKHEATON (K)	BASELINE SENSITIVITY	SCENARIO A - KIRKHEATON, STEADINGS AND RAY		SCENARIO C - KIRKHEATON, STEADINGS AND GREEN RIGG		SCENARIO D - KIRKHEATON, STEADINGS, GREEN RIGG AND RAY		COMMENTS
				MAGNITUDE	SIGNIFICANCE	MAGNITUDE	SIGNIFICANCE	MAGNITUDE	SIGNIFICANCE	
D	Thockrington Church (rear of churchyard)	1.3km, Northeast (S) 3.8km, Northwest (G) 4.6km, North (R) 5.5km, Southeast (K)	High	High / Medium	Substantial/ Moderate, Adverse	High	Substantial, Adverse	High	Substantial Adverse	The Steadings proposal would be seen in the centre of this view, with the most nearby turbines seen above the barns. The remainder of the scheme would be seen along the skyline to the left of these, with the Ray scheme seen beyond both the leftmost six Steadings turbines and the woodland seen just above the crag. As the Ray scheme and Steadings scheme substantially overlap, and the Ray scheme would be partially screened, it would add little to the effects on this viewpoint. The Green Rigg Scheme would be seen to the left of the crag. The gap between the schemes would coincide with the part of the distant skyline that is obscured by the crag and in scenarios C and D this would create the illusion that the visible schemes were a partially obscured continuous group. The relationship between the turbines and the nearby buildings would be incongruous.
E	Hadrian's Wall Path	11.9km, Northeast (S) 10.6km, Northeast (G) 13km, Northeast (R) 14km, Northeast (K)	Low	Low	Slight, Adverse	Low	Slight, Adverse	Low	Slight, Adverse	In each scenario, the schemes would be visible on the distant horizon in good visibility. The turbines would be seen as 2 distinct groups, with Green Rigg and Ray apparently as one group and the Steadings turbines seen separately to the right of these. In particularly good visibility conditions, Kirkheaton may also be visible to the far right of the view. The turbines may distract from the wide vista and features of interest in the fore and middle ground.
F	Pennine Way south of Bellingham	11.7km, East (S) 7.6km, East (G) 10.7km, East (R)	High / Medium	Low / Negligible	Slight / No Change, Neutral	Low	Slight, Neutral	Low	Slight, Neutral	From this viewpoint, only a few blade tips of the Steadings scheme may be visible and it would not add to the effects. The Green Rigg and Ray schemes would be seen above the skyline in the centre of the view, with the Ray scheme turbines mostly only visible from the nacelle upwards in good visibility conditions and the Green Rigg scheme more frequently and fully visible. In scenario D, the Ray and Green Rigg proposals would be perceived as two separate schemes, although the four southernmost Ray turbines would appear as part of the Green Rigg proposal. The fore and middle ground of this view lacks interest and the turbines would add a further simple pattern to that created by the undulating topography of the landform which they would be seen above. In doing so, they may also distract from the perception of that landform.

REF	LOCATION	DIRECTION / DISTANCE TO STEADINGS (S), GREEN RIGG (G), RAY (R) KIRKHEATON (K)	BASELINE SENSITIVITY	SCENARIO A - KIRKHEATON, STEADINGS AND RAY		SCENARIO C - KIRKHEATON, STEADINGS AND GREEN RIGG		SCENARIO D - KIRKHEATON, STEADINGS, GREEN RIGG AND RAY		COMMENTS
				MAGNITUDE	SIGNIFICANCE	MAGNITUDE	SIGNIFICANCE	MAGNITUDE	SIGNIFICANCE	
G	Knowesgate	3.1km, Southwest (S) 6.7km, Southwest (G) 2.8km, West (R) 8.7km, South (K)	High	High / Medium	Substantial / Moderate, Adverse	Medium	Moderate, Adverse	High/Medium	Substantial / Moderate, Adverse	The Ray and Steadings schemes are roughly equidistant from this viewpoint. The Ray turbines would be seen widely spaced across the right and centre of the view, with the Green Rigg turbines seen beyond in the centre of the view. The Steadings turbines would be seen as a separate group beyond and partially screened by the woodland and trees towards the left of the view. In scenario D, the Green Rigg scheme makes no contribution to the effects, whilst in scenario C, it is readily perceived as a separate, more distant scheme to Steadings and significantly increases the arc of view occupied by turbines. The turbines would present contrasts of scale with the woodland, scattered trees and buildings.
H	A68 at Beukley	8.9km, North (S) 11.7km, Northwest (G) 12.9km, North (R) 6.5km, Northeast (K)	Medium/ Low	Low / Negligible	Slight, Neutral	Low	Slight, Neutral	Low	Slight, Neutral	The schemes will be visible on the horizon in good visibility. The Ray and Steadings schemes would be seen together, with Steadings more nearby. Green Rigg would be seen to the right as a separate group, in front of Great Wanney and Little Wanney crags just to the right of the line of the road. Ray contributes little to the effects as it coalesces with Steadings.
I	A68 near Carrycoats Hall	3.7km, Northeast (S) 1.9km, North (G) 4.6km, Northeast (R) 9.2km, Southeast (K)	Medium/ Low	Medium	Moderate, Positive	High / Medium	Moderate, Neutral	High/Medium	Moderate, Neutral	Green Rigg would be seen to the left of this view, just to the right of the road. The scheme would be visible on the skyline, with some turbine bases screened by a small block of woodland. In scenario D, the Ray scheme would coalesce with the right hand side of the Green Rigg scheme and they would appear as a single wind farm. The Steadings turbines would be seen as a separate group, slightly obscured by woodland in the middle ground. In scenario A, the turbines add interest to the view, but in scenarios C and D, the increased numbers and wider arc of view occupied by turbines give a sense of a cluttered view.
J	Corsenside Common	11km, Southeast (S) 7.4km, Southeast (G) 8.3km, Southeast (R) 18.1km, Southeast (K)	Low	Medium / Low	Slight, Adverse	Low	Slight, Adverse	Medium/ Low	Slight, Adverse	The Steadings turbines would only be visible in clear conditions, with most of the turbines would be seen as blade tips above large blocks of coniferous woodland on the skyline. Green Rigg would be seen to the right of the Steadings scheme and Ray to the left. All three schemes would appear as a single scheme, though more observant viewers may discern that Ray is separate as the turbines appear larger and are seen on rather than below the skyline. The turbines would distract from the interesting valley landscape seen below them.

REF	LOCATION	DIRECTION / DISTANCE TO STEADINGS (S), GREEN RIGG (G), RAY (R) KIRKHEATON (K)	BASELINE SENSITIVITY	SCENARIO A - KIRKHEATON, STEADINGS AND RAY		SCENARIO C - KIRKHEATON, STEADINGS AND GREEN RIGG		SCENARIO D - KIRKHEATON, STEADINGS, GREEN RIGG AND RAY		COMMENTS
				MAGNITUDE	SIGNIFICANCE	MAGNITUDE	SIGNIFICANCE	MAGNITUDE	SIGNIFICANCE	
K	Kirkharle	3.6km, West (S) 8.3km, West (G) 6.6km, Northwest (R)	Medium	Medium	Moderate, Adverse	Medium	Moderate / Slight, Adverse	Medium	Moderate, Adverse	The Steadings turbines would be seen above the buildings and woodland to the left of the view, partly obscured by mature trees in the fore and middle ground. Green Rigg would be barely visible, with blade tips mainly screened by woodland, and would not contribute significantly to effects. Ray would be seen to the right of the view, broken up by deciduous trees in the middle ground. The turbines would create marked scale contrasts with the buildings and mature trees.