



Galileo 03 Ltd.

Mynydd Ty-talwyn Energy Park - Environmental Statement Volume III

Appendix 8.7 Preliminary Assessment of Receptor Groups

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APPENDIX 8.7 – PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT OF RECEPTOR GROUPS

1.1 Filtering Exercise

- 1.1.1 An initial filtering exercise has been undertaken to identify which representative viewpoints and visual receptors identified in the baseline (Section 8.3 of **ES Volume II, Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual**) have the potential to be significantly affected by the Proposed Development.
- 1.1.2 The intention has been to ensure that the level of assessment given to each visual receptor is proportionate to the likelihood of significant effects arising. The tables below list the principal visual receptors identified in the baseline study, and summarises the initial assessment carried out to determine which visual receptors have the potential to experience significant effects and require detailed assessment.
- 1.1.3 The principal visual receptors are illustrated overlaid with the blade tip ZTV with viewpoints at **ES Volume IV, Figure 8.21: Principal Visual Receptors to 20 km Blade Tip ZTV and Viewpoints** and **ES Volume IV, Figure 8.30: Screened ZTV Solar and Substation Elements**.

Table 1 Representative Viewpoints

Viewpoint	Location Relative to the Proposed Development	Comments	Detailed Assessment Required
1. Margam Park (Access Road)	Approximately 4.6 km to the west	Visibility of the Proposed Development would be limited to the hub of T6 and blade tip of T3 which would pass above the horizon. There would be no visibility of the solar/substation elements. Significant visual effects are considered unlikely. However, consideration should be made to the potential cumulative effects of the Proposed Development with other proposed wind development.	Yes
2. On PRow, Margam Park Deer Park / Ogwr Ridgeway Long Distance Walk	Approximately 3.3 km to the west	Visibility of the Proposed Development would be limited to the blade tips of two turbines (T3 and T6). There would be no visibility of the solar/substation elements. Significant visual effects are considered unlikely.	No

Viewpoint	Location Relative to the Proposed Development	Comments	Detailed Assessment Required
3. Ogwr Ridgeway Walk	Approximately 1.8 km to the west	All of the proposed wind turbines would be visible against the skyline. There would be no visibility of the solar/substation elements. Visual effects are anticipated.	Yes
4. Llangynwyd Conservation Area	Approximately 1.85 km to the north	All of the proposed wind turbines would be visible against the skyline. There may be very limited visibility of the northern edge of the eastern solar parcel F. Visual effects are anticipated.	Yes
5. Heol Gelli Lenor, Maesteg	Approximately 3.45 km to the north	All of the proposed wind turbines would be visible against the skyline. There may be very limited visibility of the northern edge of the eastern solar parcel F. Visual effects are anticipated.	Yes
6. Heol Dewi Sant, Bettws	Approximately 3.2 km to the north east	All of the proposed wind turbines would be visible against the skyline. There is also theoretical visibility of solar compartment E and limited visibility of the northern edge of the eastern solar parcel F and the substation, although the latter would be difficult to discern against wooded backdrop. Visual effects are anticipated.	Yes
7. Bridge over River Llynfi East of Coytrahen	Approximately 2.2 km to the east	The proposed turbines, solar and substation are screened by intervening landform. Significant visual effects are considered unlikely.	No
8. Bridgend Circular Walk	Approximately 5.3 km to the south east	All of the proposed turbine hubs would be visible against the skyline. There is also theoretical visibility of the southern solar arrays, although they would not be prominent features of the view. Visual effects are anticipated.	Yes
9. Heol Shon, Cefn Cribwr	Approximately 3.3 km to the south	All of the proposed wind turbines would be visible against the skyline. The southern Solar development would also be visible. Visual effects are anticipated.	Yes

Viewpoint	Location Relative to the Proposed Development	Comments	Detailed Assessment Required
10. Kenfig Burrows	Approximately 7.1 km to the south west	All of the proposed wind turbines would be visible against the skyline. There is also theoretical visibility of some solar arrays, although they would not be prominent features of the view. Visual effects are anticipated.	Yes
11. Wales Coast Path at Ogmores-by-Sea	Approximately 10.4 km to the south	The proposed turbines are screened by intervening landform. The ends of blade tips of up to four turbines are potentially visible. There would be no visibility of the solar/substation elements. Significant visual effects are considered unlikely.	No
12. Ogwr Ridgeway Walk at Waun Wen	Approximately 7.5 km to the east	All of the proposed turbine hubs would be visible against the skyline. There is also theoretical visibility of the solar/substation elements, although they would be limited and not very discernible. Visual effects are anticipated.	Yes
13. Pen y Foel Trig Point	Approximately 6 km to the north east	All of the proposed turbine hubs would be visible against the skyline with some towers visible in front of the coastal seascape. There is also theoretical visibility of the solar/substation elements, although they would be limited and not very discernible. Visual effects are anticipated.	Yes
14. Mumbles Hill, Swansea	Approximately 21.9 km to the west	Five of the six proposed turbine hubs would be visible against the skyline. There would be no visibility of the solar/substation elements. Visual effects are anticipated.	Yes
15. Ogof-Ffynnon-Ddu (BBNP)	Approximately 29 km to the north	The proposed turbines are screened by intervening landform. The ends of blade tips of one turbine are potentially visible. There would be no visibility of the solar/substation elements. Significant visual effects are considered unlikely.	No

Table 2 Preliminary Assessment of Settlements

Settlement	Location Relative to the Proposed Development	Comments	Detailed Assessment Required
<i>Settlements within 2 to 5 km</i>			
Llangynwydd (both the small hamlet to the west and the larger settlement to the east which is also known as Pont Rhyd-y-cyff)	Approximately 2 km to the north	Very limited theoretical visibility of the solar arrays. Actual visibility would be restricted by tree cover on the hills to the immediate south of the settlement. Any effects would result from views of the proposed turbines. Given the proximity of the settlements, it is considered there is potential for significant effects.	Yes
Maesteg	Between approximately 2.5 km to 5km the north	Theoretical visibility of proposed turbines only, with a large proportion of the settlement experiencing no theoretical visibility of the wind turbines. There is potential for visibility of the solar/substation elements, although limited the areas surrounding the settlement.	Yes
Lletty Brongu	Approximately 2.75 km to the northeast	Located at a lower elevation but on the opposite valley side to the Site but with opportunities for views towards solar compartment E.	Yes
Bettws	Approximately 3.2 km to the east	Very limited theoretical visibility of the solar array only from locations where an open aspect is available. Actual visibility would be restricted by tree cover in and around the settlement. Effects would result from views of the proposed turbines. Given the proximity of the settlement, it is considered there is potential for significant effects.	Yes
Coytrahen	Approximately 2 km to the east	No theoretical visibility of the Proposed Development.	No
Llangeinor	Approximately 4 km to the east	Located on the west facing valley side of the Garw valley, the solar/substation elements are unlikely to be appreciable.	No

Settlement	Location Relative to the Proposed Development	Comments	Detailed Assessment Required
		Effects would result from views of the proposed turbines. However, given the screening effects of the opposing valley side, which would limit the extent of turbines that could be seen effects would be limited and not considered to be significant.	
Sarn, Tondy and Bryncethin	Between approximately 2.5 km and 5 km to the south east	This settlement area is set down within the valley landscape, with no visibility of the solar/substation elements and patchy coverage of the wind turbine ZTV. The hub ZTV shows much of these settlements as having no turbine visibility. Given the screening effects of the landform and the position of the proposed turbines for these settlements only blades of turbines may be visible, the effects of which would be limited and not considered to be significant.	No
Pen-y-fai	Approximately 4.5 km to the south east	Although there is patchy visibility of solar development to the northern part, at this distance no potential for a significant effect. There is wind turbine visibility indicated at northern parts of the settlement where existing operational wind development is visible to the north. Given the proximity of the settlement and the local topography which facilitates views towards the Site from the northern settlement edges, it is considered there is potential for significant effects.	Yes
Cefn Cribwr	Approximately 3.2 km to the south	There is theoretical visibility of the solar and wind development. Given the proximity of the settlement, it is considered there is potential for significant effects.	Yes
Kenfig Hill and Pyle	Between approximately 3 km	There is theoretical visibility of the solar and wind development.	Yes

Settlement	Location Relative to the Proposed Development	Comments	Detailed Assessment Required
	and 5km to the south west	Given the proximity of the settlement, it is considered there is potential for significant effects.	
Coedhirwaun	Approximately 3 km to the south west	Theoretical visibility of solar elements is screened by vegetation. Effects would result from views of the proposed turbines. Given the proximity of the settlement, it is considered there is potential for significant effects.	Yes
<i>Settlements within 5 to 10 km</i>			
Margam	Approximately 6 km to the west	No theoretical visibility of the Proposed Development.	No
Taibach	Approximately 7.5 km to the west	No theoretical visibility of the Proposed Development.	No
Port Talbot	Approximately 10 km to the west	No theoretical visibility of the Proposed Development.	No
Cwmavon	Approximately 9 km to the north west	No theoretical visibility of the Proposed Development.	No
Bryn	Approximately 6.5 km to the north west	No theoretical visibility of the Proposed Development.	No
Pontrhydyfen	Approximately 9.5 km to the north west	No theoretical visibility of the Proposed Development.	No
Croeserw	Approximately 8.2 km to the north	This settlement located on the north-facing Afan valley side, with no visibility of the solar/substation elements. Theoretical visibility of the wind turbine ZTV is limited to more elevated locations to the south west of the settlement where up to four turbines may be visible. Given the screening effects of the landform and principal aspects being along and across the Afon valley, the effects of the Proposed Development would be limited and not considered to be significant.	No
Abergwynfi	Approximately 10 km to the north	No theoretical visibility of the Proposed Development.	No

Settlement	Location Relative to the Proposed Development	Comments	Detailed Assessment Required
Pontycymer	Approximately 6 km to the north	No theoretical visibility of the Proposed Development.	No
Blaengarw	Approximately 7 km to the north	No theoretical visibility of the Proposed Development.	No
Lewistown and Pant-yr-Awel	Approximately 6.5 km to the north east	No theoretical visibility of the Proposed Development.	No
Ogmore Vale	Approximately 7.5 km to the north east	No theoretical visibility of the Proposed Development.	No
Nant-y-moel	Approximately 9 km to the north east	No theoretical visibility of the Proposed Development.	No
Heol-y-Cyw	Approximately 7.75 km to the east	At this distance any effects would be limited to visibility of the proposed turbines, all six of which are theoretically visible to some degree. Westerly views towards the Site may be available, however due to the subtleties of local topography turbines, where visible will appear in the distant landscape and whereby their appearance would not be of such prominence to bring about a significant effect.	No
Pencoed	Approximately 9 km to the south east	Most of the settlement is outwith the wind ZTV with only eastern fringes on slightly rising land with potential to see up to six turbines. Review of the hub ZTV indicates that visibility in those areas will be of blades only. The limited ZTV coverage is not considered to give rise to a significant effect. There would be no visibility of the solar/substation elements.	No
Bridgend	Between approximately 5.5 km and 10 km to the south east	There is limited, intermittent, theoretical visibility of solar development across the settlement. Effects would result from views of the proposed turbines. The blade tip ZTV extends across the settlement, however, a review of the hub ZTV indicates that visibility	No

Settlement	Location Relative to the Proposed Development	Comments	Detailed Assessment Required
		of hubs becomes intermittent. Considering the settlement pattern and context within which turbines would be seen, it is not considered to give rise to a significant effect.	
Trelales	Approximately 6 km to the south	There is limited theoretical visibility of solar development at the northern edges of the settlement. At this distance, effects would result from views of the proposed turbines. The blade tip ZTV extends across the settlement, however, a review of the hub ZTV indicates that visibility of hubs becomes intermittent. Considering the settlement pattern and context within which turbines would be seen, it is not considered to give rise to a significant effect.	No
Corntown	Approximately 9.5 km to the south east	At this distance any effects would be limited to visibility of the proposed turbines, all six of which are theoretically visible to some degree. Opportunities for views towards the site are limited. Where visible the proposed turbines will appear in the distant landscape and whereby their appearance would not be of such prominence to bring about a significant effect. There would be no visibility of the solar/substation elements.	No
North Cornelly / Cynffig	Between approximately 5 km and 6 km to the south west	There is theoretical visibility of the solar and wind development. Given the proximity of the settlement, it is considered there is potential for significant effects.	Yes
South Cornelly	Approximately 6.5 km to the south west	Much of the settlement is outwith the wind ZTV with only southern fringes, on slightly rising land, with potential to see up to six turbines. Review of the hub ZTV indicates that visibility in those areas will be of blades only. Due to the	No

Settlement	Location Relative to the Proposed Development	Comments	Detailed Assessment Required
		subtleties of local topography, turbines, where visible will appear in the distant landscape and whereby their appearance would not be of such prominence to bring about a significant effect. There would be no visibility of the solar/substation elements.	
Porthcawl	Between approximately 7.5 km and 10 km to the south west	There is existing visibility of wind turbines at Newton Down/Parc Stormy from this low-lying, coastal settlement. Due to the subtleties of local topography, the proposed turbines, where visible, will appear in the distant landscape and whereby their appearance would not be of such prominence to bring about a significant effect. At this distance it is anticipated there would be no visibility of the solar/substation elements.	No

Table 3 Preliminary Assessment of Long Distance Footpaths

Route	Location Relative to the Proposed Development	Comments	Detailed Assessment Required
<i>Long Distance Footpaths within 2 km</i>			
Ogwr Ridgeway Walk	Within the site	Part of this 21 km route crosses the Site broadly west – east along the elevated parts of the Site and extending west and then south within Margam Park. Considering the proximity of the Proposed Development significant effects are anticipated.	Yes
<i>Long Distance Footpaths</i>			
Cistercian Way (Wales)	Approximately 2 km to the north	At the nearest point of this 1081 km route, the solar and wind ZTVs indicate theoretical visibility from sections of the route between Margam Mountain and Llangynwydd and northwards towards Abergwynfi where the	Yes

Route	Location Relative to the Proposed Development	Comments	Detailed Assessment Required
		route passes within the operational Llynfi Afan Renewable Energy Park. The southern solar element would be screened by site landform. The northeast Solar parcel (compartment E), whilst theoretically visible, will in most situations also be screened by woodland in the valley bottom and tributary valleys incised with the Site. To the southwest of the Site, where the route is located within Margam Mountain operational turbines at Mynydd Brombil form part of coastal views. The presence of wind development is not unusual, and the introduction of the proposed wind turbines would extend this characteristic. However, potential for significant effects exists for part of the route between Margam Mountain and Llangynwydd.	
Coed Morgannwg Way	Approximately 2 km to the west	At the nearest point of this 56 km route, it passes within Margam Mountain where there is no theoretical visibility of solar development and only occasional areas of potential visibility of proposed wind turbines. Much of the route, which starts or ends at Margam Park, is located within extensive upland forestry areas which further limits views. Due to the limited outlook towards the Site effects of the Proposed Development are not considered to be significant.	No
St Illtyd's Walk	Approximately 2 km to the west	At the nearest point of this 103 km route, it passes within Margam Mountain. For the first 21km approximately the route between Margam Park and operational wind farms of Ffynnon Oer and Pen Y Cymoedd, is common with Coed Morgannwg Way. As described	No

Route	Location Relative to the Proposed Development	Comments	Detailed Assessment Required
		above there is no theoretical visibility of solar development and only occasional areas of potential visibility of the proposed wind turbines. Much of the route which starts or ends at Margam Park, is located within extensive upland forestry areas which further limits views. Due to the limited outlook towards the Site effects of the Proposed Development are not considered to be significant.	
Bridgend Circular Walk	Between approximately 2 km and 12 km to the south east	At the nearest point of this 32 km route, it passes, for approximately 4 km, to the north of the M4 and to the southern edges of the settlement of Sarn. Much of the route, although located in countryside around Bridgend, is influenced by nearby urban areas and infrastructure, such as the M4. Although there are opportunities for views towards the Site, the introduction of the Proposed Development to views is set within this wider context and the effects of which are considered to be not significant.	No
Wales Coast Path	Approximately 3.5 km to the west and south west	The wind ZTV indicates theoretical visibility from parts of the route which lie between Ogmore-by-Sea, approximately 10 km south of the Site, and Swansea Bay and Mumbles Head, approximately 23 km to the west of the Site. Theoretical visibility reduces or is not indicated in areas around Port Talbot. There is also theoretical visibility of some solar arrays, although they would not be prominent features of the view. However, there is potential for significant effects from the proposed wind turbines.	Yes

Route	Location Relative to the Proposed Development	Comments	Detailed Assessment Required
Taff Ely Ridgeway Walk	Approximately 11 km to the east	At the nearest point of this 34 km route, which connects with the Ogwr Ridgeway Walk, the route passes close to the operational wind development of Taff Ely and Mynydd Portref (and extension). There is occasional theoretical visibility of the proposed turbines along this route. Considering the proximity of existing wind development not significant effects are anticipated. At this distance the solar/substation elements would not be discernible.	No