LANDSCAPE & VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

FOR THE

SITING AND INSTALLATION OF A

50KW WIND TURBINE

AT

THREE NOOKS FARM

HORTON

NR LEEK

STAFFORDSHIRE

ST13 8QT

ON BEHALF OF

Messrs Ball

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. **Executive Summary** 3

2. **Introduction** 4
   - 2.1. Purpose
   - 2.2. Background information

3. **Methodology** 5-7
   - 3.1. General Approach
   - 3.2. Landscape Assessment
   - 3.3. Visual Assessment
   - 3.4. Overall Significance of Impact for Landscape and Visual Effects

4. **The Development** 8-9
   - 4.1. Description of the Development
   - 4.2. Proposed Location
   - 4.3. Study Area
   - 4.4. Proposed Changes to the Landscape
   - 4.5. Identification of Receptors

5. **Landscape Assessment** 10-13
   - 5.1. Identifying the Landscape Resource
   - 5.2. Landscape Character
   - 5.3. Landscape Value
   - 5.4. Assessing the Scale of the Landscape Effects
   - 5.5. Significance of Landscape Effects

6. **Visual Assessment** 14-15
   - 6.1. Visual Analysis
   - 6.2. Analysis of Visual Effects

7. **Mitigation** 16

8. **Overall Significance of the Landscape and Visual Impact** 16

9. **Overall Conclusion** 17

LIST OF APPENDICES

APPENDIX I- LANDSCAPE PHOTOMONTAGES

APPENDIX II- VIEWPOINTS PLAN

APPENDIX III- ZONE OF THEORECTICAL VISIBILITY PLANS

1. Executive Summary

This report is provided as part of a planning application for a 50kw wind turbine at Three Nooks Farm. The purpose of this document is to assess the landscape and visual impact of the proposal upon the local area.

A study and assessment of the local landscape has been carried out to conclude the significance of the proposal on the landscape character. A visual assessment has also been carried to conclude the visual effects of the proposal with aid of computer generated photomontages and wire frames and zone of theoretical influence plans.

An Endurance E3120 wind turbine has been assessed with a 24.6m to hub height with a tip height of 34.2m and has a lifespan of approximately 30 years.

The author has been involved in pre-application discussions with both the applicant and the Local Authority to determine the most suitable location on the land holding for the proposed wind turbine taking into account all relevant factors.

The study concludes that when analysing the landscape character and value, there is potential to accept development is a suitable location without causing significant harm.

The visual analysis concluded that where there are views of high sensitivity, the siting of the turbine allows views of the structure to be very limited and in most cases negligible. Where there are moderate effects, these tend to be within areas of moderate sensitivity with a relatively lower number of users.

Overall, the impact of the proposed turbine on the landscape character and visual amenity is not considered to be significant in this location.

2. Introduction

2.1 Purpose

Bagshaws LLP have been instructed undertake a landscape and visual assessment for a single 50kw wind turbine with a hub height of 24.6m and a tip height of 34.2m. The proposal is on land adjacent to Three Nooks Farm, Horton, Nr Leek etc

The propose of this report is to assess the potential effects of the turbine upon-

- Individual landscape features and elements
- Landscape character
- Visual amenity for users of the area

2.2 Background Information

As part of this application, supporting documentation has been prepared including a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment which has been carried out in accordance with the best practice guidance in the following documents-

- Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment 2nd Edition, published by the Landscape Institute (2002)
- Scottish Natural Heritage (2006) Visual Representation of Wind Farms: Good Practice Guidance
- Landscape Institute Advice Note 01/09 – Use of photography and photomontages in landscape and visual assessment.
- Staffordshire Moorlands Wind Turbine Proposals- Guidance for Applicants

The author of this report, Mr C G Barks MRICS, is a Chartered Surveyor with 5 years' experience and has carried out a number of Landscape and Visual Impact Assessments for mainly single wind turbines which fall under the small and medium classifications. Assessments have been prepared in very sensitive landscapes including land bordering to National Parks, Green Belt and Special Landscape Areas.

The author is a trained and experienced user of the WindFarm Release 4 software producing the photomontages, wire-frames and Zone of Theoretical Visibility Plans.

This report is provided as a supporting statement and is not an Environmental Impact Assessment.

3. Methodology

3.1. General Approach

The Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) has been prepared based upon the Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment 2nd Edition, published by the Landscape Institute (2002). The aim of these guidelines is to "*present general guidance of good practice in the preparation of LVIA's".*

This study assesses the impacts of the proposal on the landscape and visual resource of the area. Whilst the landscape and visual effect will be considered separately, it is acknowledged that these elements are interrelated.

In preparing this report, consideration has been given to the above guidelines which state "*the need for an approach that is in proportion to the scale of the project that is being assessed and the nature of the likely effects judgement needs to be exercised at all stages in terms of the scale of the investigation that is appropriate and proportional".*

A study area has been identified which is appropriate to the size and scale of the development.

3.2. Landscape Assessment

The assessment of landscape character is the basic tool for understanding the landscape. Landscape character assessments describes and assesses the key components, features and characteristics that make up the various landscape types found within the study area.

Identify the Landscape Resource (receptors)

Firstly, in order to reach an understanding of the effects of the development on the landscape resource, the study area is described taking into account the three elements which make up the landscape.

- Elements- the individual elements which make up the landscape (e.g. hills, valleys, buildings, infrastructure etc.)
- Characteristics of the elements which add to the character of the area, e.g. remoteness, tranquillity etc.
- Landscape Character including an appraisal of current landscape designations, character maps etc.

Judging the Landscape Sensitivity

The above characteristics are then considered in respect to the sensitivity of the landscape resource to change from the proposed development. This is assessed on a scale of High, Medium and Low.

Assessing the Scale of the Effects

This takes into account the scale, size and duration of the proposal against each of the landscape elements (receptors) in order to make a judgement of the effect. This is assessed on a scale of High, Medium and Low and negligible. The scale of the landscape effect takes into account the varying levels throughout the study area.

Significance of the Effect

The overall significance of the landscape effects is determined by considering the sensitivity of the landscape receptors and the magnitude of effect on the landscape study area.

The significance is assessed taking into account-

- The loss of mature or diverse landscape elements
- Effects on character areas taking into account their current condition
- Landscapes with a high value and sensitivity to the proposal are likely to be more seriously affected by development than those with lower sensitivity.

A conclusion is drawn based on the significance of the landscape effects on the landscape resource.

3.3 Visual Assessment

Development can change people's direct experience and perception of the landscape depending on the existing context, scale, form and texture of the proposals, the nature of the activity associated with the development, and the distance and angle of view. In the context of the proposed development, the key visual issues are:

- The extent to which the proposal would intrude into existing views experienced by residents and day to day users of the area, and
- The extent to which tourists and visitors would be subject to impact when passing through or visiting the area.

A viewpoint is a place from where a view of the proposal is gained and represents specific conditions or viewers (visual receptors). A number of viewpoints have been chose in order to assess:

- The existing visual resource
- The sensitivity of this resource to a single wind turbine
- The proposed design
- The predicted appearance of the final proposed development

Selection of Viewpoints / Visual Receptors

The first stage of the assessment is to create a Zone of Theoretical Visibility for the study area. This shows the 3D landscape in the "worst case" i.e. on the assumption that there is no screening from features in the landscape.

This visualisation is then used to make an assessment of the suitable viewpoints to illustrate the visual effects of the proposal on the study area.

The viewpoints have been carefully selected to be either:

- Representative of the range of views and viewer types that will experience the proposed development and include views or viewers likely to experience significant impacts
- Important key viewpoints within the landscape (e.g. footpaths, settlements, roads etc.)

Sensitivity of Viewpoints /Visual Receptors

For each of the viewpoints selected, the assessment considers both the susceptibility to change in view and the value attached to each view in order to conclude the sensitivity. The sensitivity is then graded as follows-

High	A viewpoint from a key feature within the landscape or where the location and proximity may be experienced by a large number of people.
Medium	A viewpoint from a feature within the local landscape which is visually vulnerable and experienced by a limited numbered of people.
Low	A viewpoint which is not a key feature within the local landscape and not experienced by many people.

Magnitude of Impact

The magnitude of impact is considered taking into account the following –

- The scale of change in the view with respect to the loss or addition of features in the view including the proportion of the view occupied by the proposed development.
- The degree of contrast of any new features in the landscape considering existing visual features.
- The nature of the view of the proposed development and the period of time which the feature will be visible.

Taking the above information into account, the magnitude of impact is then graded as follows-

Dominant (High)	The proposed development has a defining influence on the view.
Prominent (Moderate)	The proposed development is clearly visible in the view and forms an important but not a defining element in the view.
Present (Low)	The proposed development is neither dominant nor prominent, but is visible in view.
Negligible	The proposed development is visible but may go unnoticed as a minor element in the view, or is not visible.

3.4 Overall Significance of Impact for Landscape and Visual Effects

The overall significance of the impact is drawn taking into account both the Magnitude of Impact and the sensitivity of the landscape /visual sensitivity.

	High landscape / visual sensitivity	**Moderate Landscape/ visual sensitivity**	**Low Landscape/ visual sensitivity**
Dominant (High)	Major Impact	Major Impact	Moderate Impact
Prominent (Medium)	Major Impact	Moderate Impact	Minor Impact
Present (Low)	Moderate Impact	Minor Impact	Minor Impact
Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible

Based on the above, the over harm can be categorised as follows-

- Substantial harm where there is a major impact
- Less than substantial harm is considered when there is a moderate impact, minor or negligible impact.

4. The Development

4.1. Description of the Development

The proposed wind turbine will be 24.5m to hub height, 34.5m to blade tip height and with a blade length of 9m. An underground electricity connection will be required for the turbine. The location of the proposed turbine is shown on both the Block Plan and Location Plan. The turbine sits on a small concrete foundation and has a lifespan of 30 years. Photographs from public vantage points can be found in Appendix I with commentary and assessment given in Part 5 of the Report.

Further detail on the proposal is given in the Design and Access Statement under Part III.

4.2. Proposed Location

Three Nooks Farm is located within Staffordshire Moorlands District Council and sits approximately 750m East of Biddulph Moor and 3.5km West of Rudyard and Rudyard Lake. Biddulph is approximately 3km West and the town of Leek, 6.5km East. To the South, the village of Endon is approximately 4.5km.

4.3. Study Area

A study area of a 6 kilometres radius around the site has been identified and is shown on the plan in Appendix III. This area has been selected considering the size and height of the turbine in relation to the visibility from the locality including consideration to the topography of the local landscape.

4.4. Proposed Changes to the Landscape

Construction Phase

During the construction of the turbine the main activity and infrastructure would include:

- Creation of turbine foundations
- Creation of a temporary access track
- Erection of turbine

Operational Phase

- Operational turbine detailed in 4.1.
- Long term impacts are considered on a scale of 30 years.

4.5. Identification of Receptors

The following receptors have been identified as relevant to this proposal.

Road Users

The closest minor road to the application site is approximately 265m to the West at its closest point. Other more distant minor roads are to the North, East and South running between Lask Edge, Horton, Rudyard and Newtown / High Bent.

With regard to main roads, the A523 Leek to Macclesfield Road is approximately 3.75km to the North East at its closest point.

Public Rights of Way

The closest public footpath runs through the buildings at Three Nooks Farm and there are further paths to the East which run North South between Broadmeadows, Sprinks Farm and Sutter Shaw Farm. These paths are used by the occasional walker and do not constitute a busy walking route in the Staffordshire Moorlands. A bridleway runs South of the farm between Damslane and Moorfields running East West. This path is a considerable distance, circa of 1.1km from the application site.

Residential Properties

With regard to residential and agricultural properties, there are no properties within a 300m radius of the proposed turbine, however the following properties are nearby.

- ✓ Wellfield Farm / Poolside Farm – 330m North West
- ✓ Lask Edge Farm – 365m South
- ✓ Catt Hayes Farm – 370m South East
- ✓ Broomhouse Farm – 400m North West

Visitors and Tourism

The nearest relevant tourist attraction is Rudyard Lake being approximately 3.25km to the East. The lake is used by a wide range of the general public for walking, boating, fishing and generally a popular tourism destination.

There are also many secondary enterprises which rely on the lake for a popular visitor destination. These businesses include camping and caravanning sites, holiday cottages, pubs and other rural businesses.

Other Features and Potential Cumulative Impact

Within the locality there are a number of modern structures on the landscape including a large communication tower near to Moortop off Lask Edge Road. There is also a gas extraction site on the farm which is operated by a third party. This gives an industrial presence to the local landscape.

5. Landscape Assessment

5.1 Identifying the Landscape Resource

Elements

Agriculture dominates the local landscape with a range of semi-intensive livestock farms operating in the locality. Prominently the undulating and poorer land is grazed by livestock with the lower, larger fields more intensively farmed and mown.

The ridge between Lask Edge and High Bent divides the landscape East and West and there are far reaching views from Lask Edge Road East and North East towards the Peak District National Park. Field boundaries in the valley to the East, towards Horton, tend to be clearly defined by established hedgerows and hedgerow trees.

The boundaries are much stronger and prominent in the valley with field boundaries to Lask Edge ridge becoming less clear defined mainly by barbed wire fences and intermittent lines of thorn bushes marking the remnants of the former hedgerows. To the West, the landscape is less dramatic and borders onto residential settlements.

Characteristics

The Lask Edge Top Road is a busy connecting road and used mainly by local traffic. The area is rural but is not remote with a number of large properties and farms accessed directly from Lask Edge Top Road. To the West, the area has a semi-urban feel with clear views of the settlement of Biddulph Moor. The connection with modern society is clear with modern infrastructure dominating the skyline along the ridge.

To the East, the valley towards Horton has a more rural feel with roads enclosed by high hedges. Development is still clear within this valley with a run of overhead lines crossing the valley.

5.2. Landscape Character

National Landscape Character

The landscape is classified under the Potteries and Churnet Valley type using the National Landscape Character Areas. The key characteristics of Potteries and Churnet Valley type 64 are:

- Strongly dissected hills and small plateaux, rising up to the Pennines and cut by major river valleys.
- Strong contrast between remote uplands, urban areas, sheltered wooded valleys and hillside pastures.
- Prominent Millstone Grit and Coal Measures ridges.
- Sprawling industrial towns of the Potteries forming a major conurbation.
- Extensive former industrial and extractive sites, many now reclaimed, intermixed with settlements and open land.

- Open moorland and rough grazing on higher ground.

- Rural settlement pattern of sheltered villages on low ground with hamlets, scattered farmsteads and cottages elsewhere.

- Brick and sandstone older buildings with tile and slate roofs.

Local Landscape Character

The study area falls under two landscape character types detailed below.

Gritstone Uplands Landscape Character Type

Key characteristics of this character type include-

- Upland ridge landscape comprising strongly undulating slopes with localised steep sided valleys
- Open upland plateau with extensive views
- Scale of the landscape varies from small in the valley bottoms to medium on higher ground
- Varying sixed fields with deteriorating boundaries of hedgerows and some dry stone walls
- Scattered large farms with stone buildings which along with local settlements are becoming more urbanised.
- Tree grounds around dwellings and vegetation along stream lines.
- Historic Parkland at Biddulph Grange.

It has been identified in the Planning for Landscape Change Supplementary Planning Guidance as an area where this character type requires restoration and suggests the following points which are relevant to this proposal-

- ✓ To strengthen the vegetational structure of the area through appropriate woodland, tree and hedgerow planting schemes.
- ✓ In general, the open skyline should be maintained
- ✓ Where possible, stone walls and native hedgerows should reflect and maintain local character.
- ✓ Broadleaved species are most appropriate to this landscape.

Overall, this landscape is identified as very sensitive to the impacts of development and land use change.

Ancient Slope and Valley Farm Landscape Character Type

Key characteristics of this character type include

- Strongly undulating or sloping landscape cut by small scale steep sided stream valleys
- Small scale mainly ancient irregular fields bounded by tree and hedgerows.
- Extensive views from higher ground
- Intimate wooded valleys
- Stone building s and drystone walls towards uplands
- Isolated properties
- Narrow winding lanes
- Parklands
- Quarrying

It has been identified in the Planning for Landscape Change Supplementary Planning Guidance as an area where this character type requires maintenance and is *"not identified as an area that is particularly sensitive to change".*

Other Designations

The proposed site is within a Special Landscape Area as defined by the Staffordshire Moorlands Local Plan (September 1998).

Heritage Designations

There are no Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas or archaeological designations near to the proposed site.

Horton Hall is a Grade II* property located approximately 2.5km from the proposed site. Viewpoint 4 is taken from the minor road in front of the property.

5.3. Landscape Value

The study area covers two local landscape character types, Gritstone Uplands and Ancient Slope and Valley Farmlands. The Gritstone Uplands is identified as being very sensitive to change, however is a poor condition and requiring restoration.

In contrast, the Ancient Slope and Valley Farmlands is not identified as an area particularly sensitive to development and requires maintenance to ensure the character type remains.

On balance, considering the location of the farmstead and proposed turbine in relation to the two character types and their quality, the features/ elements on the landscape and the quality of these elements, the landscape of the study area has been assessed as moderate-high sensitivity.

5.4. Assessing the Scale of the Landscape Effects

The scale of the proposed wind turbine is often described as "human" in a scale as it is proportionate to other vertical features in the landscape including overhead power lines prevalent in this area, large trees, communication structures etc.

The proposed turbine is not a defining feature of the ridge line as its location is considerably lower than the ridge. Its footprint on the landscape fabric is not significant with a modest concrete foundation and no permanent access track across the field where the turbine is located.

When the turbine reaches the end of its operational lifespan, the structure can be decommissioned and removed from the site with the landscape fabric reinstated.

Considering the above, the scale of the landscape effect of the proposal is considered to be medium.

5.5 Significance of the landscape effects

Landscape Character & Value

The landscape character and value has already been identified as moderate to high with the scale of the landscape effect to be medium. Therefore considering the moderate scale of the proposal in a landscape value which is accessed as moderate to high, there is potential to accept development is a suitable location without causing significant harm.

The landscape character in the Gritstone Uplands requires renovation and therefore the continuation of large farmers with the farming method complementing the landscape character in the district is key to ensuring the landscape character is improved and maintained.

Road Users

Considering the proximity and intensity of the road network around the proposed site, the proposal is not considered to cause significant change to the character of the road network or effect any of the users.

Public Rights of Way

The location of the turbine is away from any public rights of way and therefore will have no physical effect on the users of these routes. Obviously, there will be an element of visual appearance and effect which discussed and analysed in Part 6 of this report.

6. Visual Assessment

6.1. Visual Analysis

Zone of Theoretical Visibility Analysis

The Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) has been prepared showing both the hub height visibility (24.6m) and the tip height visibility (34.2m). This is prepared using the WindFarm Release 4 software and is on assumption that the landscape is a "blank canvas" i.e. that there are no features on the landscape such as trees, vegetation, buildings and other structures.

When analysing the plans for both the hub and tip height, a number of trends can be identified-

- ✓ There is very limited visibility of the turbine from the South and South West around Endon, Brown Edge, area to the South of Biddulph.
- ✓ Views from the North West and West are limited particularly from the Congleton, to the East of Biddulph.
- ✓ From the East and North East, views are very limited from around Rudyard lake, the Staffordshire Way, Ruston Spencer. Further to the North East, there are very limited distant views from a very small area within the Peak District Peak National Park.

The main areas where the turbine can be viewed from are-

- ✓ To the West of Biddulph
- ✓ Lask Edge and parts of Biddulph Moor
- ✓ The Rudyard, Horton valley running down to Stanley.
- ✓ Between Rushton Spencer and the Northern part of Leek

Viewpoint Analysis

A number of photographs have been taken from public vantage points with a Nikon Coolpix P100 with a 55m lens. The Endurance E3120 55kw model wind turbine has been represented on these photomontages which can be found in Appendix I with a viewpoints image shown in Appendix II.

The photographs and photomontages have been taken and prepared in accordance with the Landscape Institute Advice Note 01/11 – Photography and photomontage in landscape and visual impact assessment. The photomontages should be viewed in conjunction with Appendix III Zone of Theoretical Visibility Plan (ZTV).

For each individual viewpoint within Appendix I, commentary on the visibility and proposed landscape change. The viewpoint sensitivity and magnitude of change is then summarised below giving a conclusion to whether there is any harm of the proposal from this area.

Appendix I – Viewpoints				
Viewpoint	**Viewing Distance**	**Viewpoint Sensitivity**	**Magnitude of Change**	**Degree of Harm?**
1	395m	Moderate	Prominent	Moderate Impact
2	2.8km	Moderate	Present	Minor Impact
3	800m	Moderate	Present	Moderate Impact
4	2.5km	Moderate to High	Present	Minor to Moderate Impact
5	1km	Moderate	Prominent	Moderate Impact
6	1.45km	High	Negligible	Negligible
7	5.5km	High	Negligible	Negligible

6.2. Analysis of Visual Effects

Visual amenity

It is clear from the ZTV plans and the photomontages that the turbine is clearly visible from only a small number of viewpoints. More distant views are limited by the topography of the land, the viewing distance and the size of the proposed turbine.

From high sensitivity areas, such as the A523, North of Leek, used by a high number of users (viewpoint 7), the views are negligible, thus not causing significant harm. Closer views from high sensitivity locations such as the trig point on Lask Edge Top Road (Viewpoint 6), views again are negligible.

It is acknowledged that there is moderate impact from Viewpoints 1, 3 and 5, however this is the area immediately around the turbine and other features on the landscape reduce the significance of these views. The harm from these locations is not concluded to be significant.

Residential Settlements

The nearest settlement is Biddulph Moor. Views from within the residential area are limited to the East edge of the village. Even when viewing the turbine in direct view (Viewpoint 3), the turbine has a moderate impact and the proposed mitigation measures will significantly reduce views from this area.

Road Users

Views from relevant public roads are illustrated by Viewpoints 5, 6 and 7. From Lask Edge, the turbine can be viewed from a section of this highway, however on balance and taking into account the size and usage of the highway, views are not considered to have any significant impact on road users. From the A523, any views are negligible and thus considered not to impact on this main road.

Public rights of way

A network of public footpaths runs mainly to the South and East of the proposed site. From this area, the turbine will be visible from sections of the path. On balance and considering the relatively low usage of these paths, the fact that parts of the turbine will be viewed in association with the farm, this is not considered to cause significant harm.

Recreational/ tourism users

The main area of recreation and tourism is Rudyard Lake and the surrounding walks. The ZTV plan illustrate the very limited views from in and around Rudyard Lake and therefore it is not consider to have significant impact on the users of the lake or the Staffordshire Way.

It is acknowledged that Lask Edge road is an ionic viewing area for the Staffordshire Moorlands, however from key viewing areas, i.e. the trig point (adjacent to Viewpoint 6), views of the turbine are negligible, thus causing very limited harm to this area.

Cumulative Impact

The nearest wind turbines relevant to this proposal are at Red Earth Farm, Rudyard, Slate House Farm / Garstones Farm, Morridge. There will be no views where the existing turbines are viewed in conjunction with the proposed turbine and therefore cumulative impact with other wind turbines is not considered significant.

With regard to other structures, the communication tower on Lask Edge is a very prominent feature of the ridgeline, however the siting of the proposed turbine is away from this structure and a considerable amount

lower in the landscape. Three Nooks Farm and the adjacent gas works also act as a dividing feature to separate the two structures.

7. Mitigation

The Gritstone Uplands character type has been assessed to conclude that the landscape needs significant improvement and renovation to ensure that the character type is not diminished. The operation of Three Nooks Farm is key to ensuring that the land is managed in a method which is sensitive to the environment. Through the cross compliance requirements regulated by the Rural Payments Agency and schemes promoted by Natural England, the farm is managed in an environmentally sensitive method.

Specific mitigation measures have been identified and proposed to minimise the landscape harm and provide positive improvements to the surrounding landscape. These include-

- ✓ A new area of hawthorn planting to the West of Lask Edge Road. This will strengthen the existing hedge line and reduce the views of the structure from Biddulph Moor. In addition, when viewing from the East, this planting will increase the backdrop of vegetation to which the turbine is viewed against.
- ✓ A new plantation adjacent to the approved replacement silage clamp. Although this was proposed for the farm redevelopment, the plantation will be strengthened to provide an area of immediate screening between the buildings and the turbine.

8. Overall Significance of the Landscape and Visual Impact Effects

The landscape character and value analysis has assessed the landscape to be of moderate to high sensitivity and considering the scale of the proposal, there is potential to accept development is a suitable location without causing significant harm.

The visual analysis has identified key views which are of high sensitivity; however the siting of the turbine allows views of the structure to be very limited and in most cases negligible. From tourism/ high user views such as the Lask Edge trig point and Rudyard Lake, views are negligible and thus the impact is not considered to be significant.

The ZVI analysis confirms views of the turbine in the “worst case scenario”, i.e. on the assumption that the landscape is a blank canvas. The valley to the East has been identified as moderate sensitivity and although there are views of the turbine from this area, on balance, the impact is not significant to cause visual harm.

Overall, the impact of the proposed turbine on the landscape character and visual amenity is not considered to be significant in this location.

9. Overall Conclusion

The aim of this report is to assess the landscape and visual effects of the proposed wind turbine on the local area around Three Nooks Farm. It is recognised that this renewable energy project will provide positive environmental benefits in the production of renewable energy.

Pre-application discussions have been held with the Local Authority to determine the most suitable location on the land holding. In addition, the Local Authority have contributed comments regarding the level of assessment and the selection of viewpoints around the local area taking into account population density, visitors and visual impact.

The landscape character and value analysis has assessed the landscape to be of moderate to high sensitivity and considering the scale of the proposal, there is potential to accept development is a suitable location without causing significant harm.

The visual analysis has identified key views which are of high sensitivity; however the siting of the turbine allows views of the structure to be very limited and in most cases negligible. Where there are moderate effects, these tend to be within areas of moderate sensitivity with a relatively lower number of users.

The proposed mitigation measures provide a positive improvement to the landscape character and the continuation of the farm is key to ensuring that the landscape is managed in a way which is sensitive to the environment.

Overall, the impact of the proposed turbine on the landscape character and visual amenity is not considered to be significant in this location.