

Steps in Visual Assessment

The visual assessment will involve the combination of desktop and field evaluations of the proposed wind energy project and its various components, turbines and ancillary facilities. The visual performance objectives form the principal framework and guide for assessing the proposed wind energy project when applied to individual viewpoints.

All key public viewpoints and individual dwellings within the 'visual catchment' (as defined above) should be identified and assessed.

However, where relatively close clustering of houses belonging to different landowners or occupants occur, representative viewpoints may be selected and assessed in lieu of every single dwelling in the following types of areas:

- rural residential clusters;
- rural villages; and
- urban residential and commercial areas.

When utilising representative viewpoints, the proponent must clearly identify the number of viewpoints being represented and assess impacts based on the 'worst case scenario' viewpoint, for example the closest turbine. For selected viewpoints, photomontages generated by the proponent and other experts may be used in conjunction with the performance objectives to assist in the judgements being made on whether or not the proposed wind energy project design will achieve the desired visual performance objectives.

The relative position of the viewpoints in relation to a dwelling is also an important consideration that should be outlined in the EIS. For example, views to the turbines from the primary living areas of the dwelling would be considered more important than views from non-habitable areas⁹.

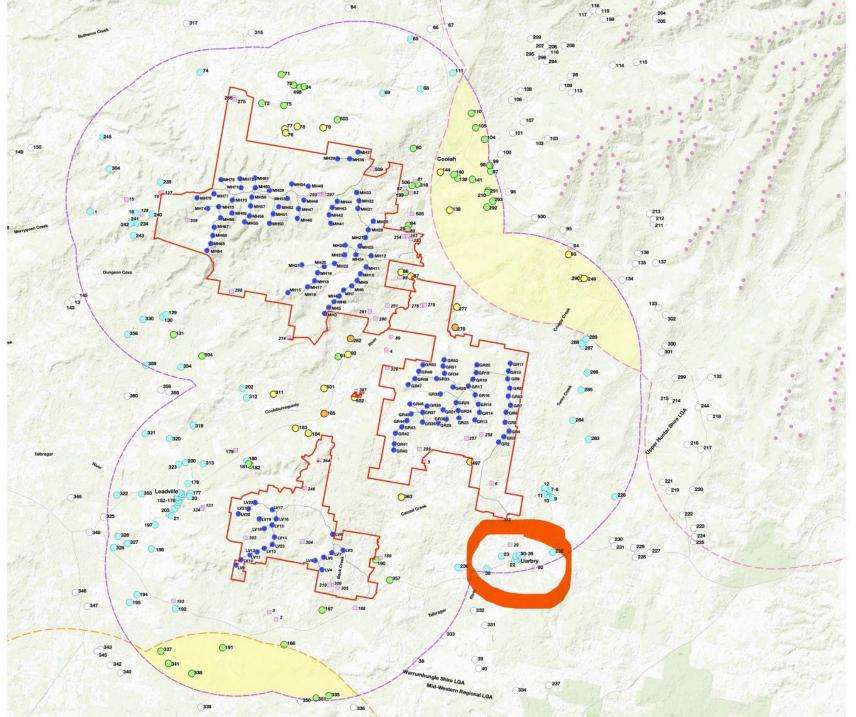
Summary of matter raised

Impacts on properties in Coolah and other villages

Submitters commented on the project visual impact including overshadowing properties in Coolah as well as the visual impact associated with the transmission lines on nearby towns and villages.

Response

The villages of Coolah, Leadville and Uarbry have been assessed in the EIS in accordance with the Bulletin (Department of Planning and Environment, 2016c). Representative photomontages have been prepared for the townships of Coolah (Photomontage 04 - Appendix C of **Appendix 6**) and Leadville (Photomontage 02 - Appendix C of **Appendix 6**). Impacts associated with these locations from the amended project are expected to be similar or very slightly reduced from what was presented in the EIS. An additional photomontage has also been prepared from Tongy Lane (Photomontage 08 - Appendix C of **Appendix 6**).



Multiple Wind Turbine Tool (Revised Layout 2023)

Valley of the Winds Wind Farm

LEGEND

Project Boundary

- Proposed 250 m Valley of the Winds Wind Farm (VOW) Turbine Location (Revised 2023 Layout)
- Proposed Liverpool Range Wind Farm (LRWF)Turbine Location (Modified layout)
- Participating dwellings

8.000m from nearest VOW turbine

8,000m from nearest LRWF turbine

--- 8,000m from nearest Barneys Reef Wind Farm (BRWF) turbine

Area with dwellings within 8,000m of LRWF / BRWF and

VOW turbines

NUMBER OF 60° SECTORS WITH TURBINES:

Owelling in excess of 8,000 m

One (1) 60 Degree Sectors

Two (2) 60 Degree Sectors

Three (3) 60 Degree Sectors

Four (4) 60 Degree Sectors

Results of Multiple Wind Turbine Tool (Revised 2023 layout):

Three (3) 60° Sectors (VOW only) = 17 Non-participating Dwellings

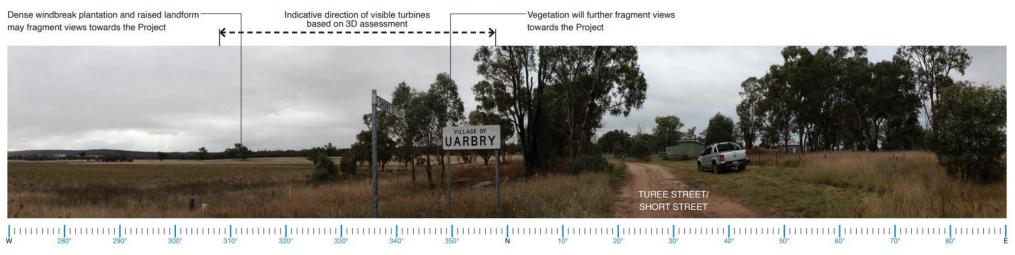
Three (3) 60° Sectors (VOW + LRWF) = Five (5) Non-participating Dwellings

Four (4) 60° Sectors (VOW only) = Three (3) Non-participating Dwellings

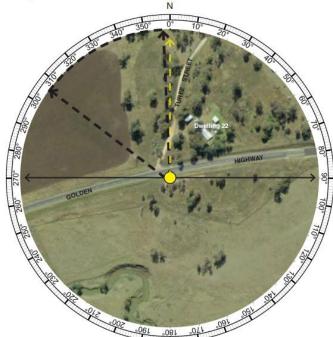
* Note the turbines utilised for the assessment of the LRWF are associated with the Modification Layout which is not yet approved (accessed via Tilt Renewables: Liverpool Range Wind Farm Project website, accessed on 10th February 2022). Turbines utilised for the assessment of Barneys Reef Wind Farm were accessed via Major Projects Planning Portal (April 2023).



VOW35 Turee Street / Short Street, off Golden Highway, Uarbry







Aerial Image	VOW35 (Aerial Image Source:	Six Maps)	

VIEWPOINT VOW35

Viewpoint Summary:		
Location:	Elevation:	
Turee Street / Short Street, off Golden Highway, Uarbry	497 m	
Coordinates:	Viewing Direction:	
32° 2'50.77"S 149°45'45.73"E	Northeast	
Distance to nearest WTG:	Visibility Distance Zone:	
6.59 km	Far Middleground (FM)	
Land Use:	Viewer Sensitivity Level:	
Low use road	Level 3: Low	
LCU:	Scenic Quality Rating:	
Towns and settlements / Alluvial plains	Low	
Visual Influence Zone: V	IZ3	

This photograph was taken from Turee Street / Short Street which turns off from Golden Highway in Uarbry It represents views from the village of Uarbry which is characterised by low density residences in a rural setting along low use roads. Residents of village engage predominantly in agricultural activity. Land is generally flat to gently undulating in a modified landscape setting. Moderately dense windbreak & roadside vegetation can be seen in the foreground of the image. Most houses are surrounded by dense vegetation which helps screen

views. Views at this location are filtered and contained by vegetation in the foreground and middleground.

Existing Landscape Character Description:

Potential Visual Impact:

A preliminary assessment based on topography alone suggests that there will be views of 5-10 WTGs. These views will be fragmented by the vegetation in the foreground & middleground. The likelihood for the WTGs to become a major feature in the landscape is low. Most views will be fleeting and limited.

Visual Performance Objectives:

No visual performance objectives apply to this viewpoint due to the Visual Influence Zone Rating (VIZ3).

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Photomontage 05 - North





