MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Appendix 14.3 Settings Assessment

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Glossary of Acronyms

Term	Definition
AD	Anno Domini
AOD	Above Ordnance Datum
BC	Before Christ
CA	Conservation Area
CH	Cultural Heritage
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EIAR	Environmental Impact Assessment Report
HES	Historic Environment Scotland
ID	Identification
Km	Kilometre
LB	Listed Buildings
m	Metre
NPF	National Planning Framework
NRHE	National Record of the Historic Environment
RSPB	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
SLVIA	Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
SM	Scheduled Monument
WDA	Windfarm Development Area
WTG	Wind Turbine Generator
ZTV	Zone of Theoretical Visibility
RCAHMS	Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland

Glossary of Terms

Term	Definition
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)	The process of evaluating the likely significant environmental effects of a proposed development over and above the existing circumstances (or 'baseline').
MachairWind Offshore Windfarm	An offshore windfarm capable of exporting around 2 GW of renewable energy to the National Electricity Transmission System. MachairWind Offshore Windfarm comprises three Development Areas: • The WDA – located on the west coast of Scotland to the northwest of Islay and west of Colonsay; • The Offshore Export Cable Corridor – a preliminary boundary extending from the WDA to mean high water springs at a landfall location near Girvan, South Ayrshire; and • The Onshore Transmission Development Area – a preliminary boundary which extends landward from mean low water springs and includes the land required for the landfall of the offshore export cables and their route up to but not including the proposed high voltage direct current switching station which will be developed and constructed by Transmission Owner, ScottishPower Transmission. Separate consent and licence applications will be submitted for each Development Area.
The Applicant	The legal entity submitting consent applications for the MachairWind Offshore Windfarm, namely MachairWind Limited.
The Lighthouse	The Dubh Artach lighthouse.
The Project	MachairWind Offshore Windfarm including all its Development Areas and associated infrastructure.
WDA infrastructure	The offshore generation and transmission infrastructure located within the WDA including but not limited to: WTGs, WTG fixed foundations (and associated scour protection), OSP(s), OSP fixed foundations (and associated scour protection), IACs, OSP link and offshore export cable(s) and their associated external cable protection (insofar as these are located within the WDA) and fibre optic cables.
Wind Turbine Generator (WTG)	A wind turbine generator which converts wind energy into electrical energy. Each wind turbine generator is a complex system composed of a high number of components. Typically, the main components include the rotor assembly (composed of three blades and a hub); the nacelle (containing a generator, shaft and gearbox, power electronic converter and transformer); and the tower (containing lifting equipment and the switchgear).
Windfarm Development Area (WDA)	The application boundary within the OAA where consent will be sought for the proposed WDA infrastructure. The WDA infrastructure is subject to Section 36 consent and marine licence applications (generation and transmission) which are being applied for separately from the Offshore ECC infrastructure and OnTDA infrastructure.

1 SETTINGS ASSESSMENT

1.1 INTRODUCTION

1. This report presents the results of an assessment of the predicted effects of the MachairWind Offshore Windfarm ('the Project') both individually and cumulatively, on designated onshore heritage assets resulting from change to their setting.

2. The need for a setting assessment was identified in the Scoping Report (Case ID: 300071933). This proposed a 50 km Study Area around the extent of the Windfarm Development Area (WDA) to identify heritage assets that would be visually affected by the presence of the Wind WTG Generators (WTGs) in the seascape. In their scoping response Historic Environment Scotland (HES) stated they were content with this approach as it is unlikely the Project would be seen with sufficient prominence beyond 50 km to cause any significant impact to the setting of any designated historic assets.

3. This assessment builds on the initial screening exercise, as presented in Annex 1 and further detailed in **Section 1.4**.

4. In summary, 178 Scheduled Monuments (SMs), 35 Grade A Listed Buildings (LBs), and 1 Conservation Area (CA) were identified where change to setting could occur due to the Project using the methodology presented in **Section 1.5**.

5. Following the completion of the initial screening assessment, consultation has taken place with HES, this is further detailed in **Section 1.3**.

6. This assessment has been informed by Zones of Theoretical Visibility (ZTVs) Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (SLVIA) photomontages, Heritage-specific photomontages, wirelines, and a site visit conducted between 23 and 29 June 2025. Consultation was undertaken with HES prior to the site visit to ensure the most appropriate viewpoints were selected to produce heritage specific photomontages.

7. Additional photomontages from various locations across Iona Abbey and Oronsay have also been produced in consultation with HES. The photography for these was acquired between the 04 and 06 May 2026.

8. Tripod and GPS photography is included at Annex 2 to confirm the location from which photography for each cultural heritage photomontage was captured.

9. This assessment considers only the finalised design envelope for the proposed development, which has been subject to multiple phases of design iteration, supported by appropriate levels of environmental assessment at each stage and incorporating changes intended to reduce the magnitude of any adverse environmental effects. This design process is discussed in more detail at **Chapter 4 Site Selection and Alternatives** of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR). The Applicant notes the worst-case Wind Turbine Generator (WTG) layout used to inform this assessment is not the final layout for the Project and is subject to further refinement. Any such change would have the same or reduced effect on setting as concluded in this assessment.

1.2 RELEVANT POLICY AND GUIDANCE

10. This assessment has been undertaken having reference to Scotland's National Marine Plan (NMP). This states:

> *Designated heritage assets – representing sites of national or international significance for which statutory requirements apply. Designated assets should be protected in situ within an appropriate setting*
>
> *Substantial loss or harm to designated assets should be exceptional and should only be permitted if this is necessary to deliver social, economic or environmental benefits that outweigh the harm or loss.*
>
> (Marine Scotland, 2015)

11. The assessment also considers Scotland's National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4) which addresses heritage in Policy 7 and identifies the requirement of an assessment where significant impact on historic assets or places have the potential to arise from a proposed development (Scottish Government, 2023).

12. Policy 7c states that '*development proposals affecting the setting of a listed building should preserve its character, and its special architectural or historic interest*.'

13. Policy 7d states '*development proposals in or affecting conservation areas will only be supported where the character and appearance of the conservation area and its setting is preserved or enhanced*'.

14. As per Policy 7h, '*development proposals affecting scheduled monuments will only be supported where:*

    i. *direct impacts on the scheduled monument are avoided;*
    ii. *significant adverse impacts on the integrity of the setting of a scheduled monument are avoided; or*
    iii. *exceptional circumstances have been demonstrated to justify the impact on a scheduled monument and its setting and impacts on the monument or its setting have been minimised*' (Ibid, 2023).

15. The definition for the concept of an adverse effect on integrity of setting has been defined by HES as: '*changes to factors of setting that contribute to cultural significance such that understanding, appreciation and experience of an asset are not adequately retained will have a significant adverse impact on the integrity of its setting.*' This follows advice received from HES on 23 November 2025 to follow the guidance on integrity of setting provided for Rigghill Wind Farm (PPA-310-2034) and Hill of Fare Wind Farm (WIN-110-4.), and an updated version, referencing the Nisthill Wind Farm Public Local Inquiry (NA-330-001), was communicated with the Applicant on 16 April 2026.

16. Based on the above, integrity of setting can be defined as the elements and conditions that contribute to an asset's cultural significance, how it is understood, appreciated, and experienced.

17. Cultural significance is defined by the NPF 4 glossary as:

> '*Aesthetic, historic, scientific or social value for past, present or future generations. Cultural significance can be embodied in a place itself, its fabric, setting, use, associations, meanings, records, related places and related objects*.'
>
> (Scottish Government, 2023)

18. This assessment follows the industry standard, non-statutory guidance *Managing Change in the Historic Environment: Setting* (HES, 2020). Setting is defined in NPF4 Glossary of definitions and

Managing Change in the Historic Environment: Setting as '*the way the surroundings of a historic asset or place contribute to how it is understood, appreciated and experienced'*.

19. Additionally, as outlined in the *Environmental Impact Assessment Handbook* Appendix 1, paragraph 43:

> *'When considering setting impacts, visual change should not be equated directly with adverse impact. Rather the impact should be assessed with reference to the degree that the proposal affects those aspects of setting that contribute to the asset's cultural significance'*.
>
> (NatureScot and HES, 2018)

20. The conformity of the Project with these policy tests is addressed in Section 6.2 of the **Planning Statement** which accompanies this application.

1.3 CONSULTATION

21. Initial consultation with HES took place through the Offshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Scoping Workshop undertaken on 01 May 2024. The overall outcome of this was for the Project to outline the approach to assessment and provide HES with a list of onshore designated heritage assets relevant to the setting assessment. Further feedback was provided on 27 November 2024 during consultation on the WDA Scoping Report. In addition to agreeing with the proposed approach and Study Area, HES also identified several heritage assets where a significant alteration to their setting could occur. These comprise:

- Beinn a' Chaisteil, promontory fort and associated remains, Islay (SM13213);
- Nave Island, monastic site, Viking house, chapel, burial ground, settlement and kelp-burning kiln (SM3233);
- Oronsay Priory and Cross (SM287);
- Eileach-an-Naoimh, monastery, Garvellachs (SM90138);
- St Mary's Abbey, Iona, monastic settlement (SM12968);
- St Patrick's Chapel, Ceann a' Mhara, Tiree (SM6905); and
- Dubh Artach Lighthouse (LB12320).

22. Following this, a high-level screening assessment was progressed with the initial findings provided to HES on the 08 April 2025. HES provided a written response on the 28 April 2025, setting out agreement on the list of designated assets identified for further assessment and providing further advice on the seven designated assets identified above. A meeting was held with HES on 13 June 2025 to further discuss the outcomes of the high-level screening assessment and next steps.

23. The purpose of the meeting was to refine the scope of the setting assessment, agree the assessment methodology, understand key issues of approach, understand site-specific concerns and explore any additional information requirements. To inform the meeting, wirelines and initial draft photomontages were presented. Through the discussion with HES, it was agreed that a photomontage was not required for Dubh Artach and that site visits to St Patrick's Chapel, Ceann a' Mhara, Tiree, Dubh Artach Lighthouse and Eileach-an-Naoimh, monastery, Garvellachs would not be proportionate due to the limited accessibility of those sites.

24. Furthermore, it was agreed that the Project has selected the most appropriate sites (i.e. those listed above and Dun Bheolain, fort, Islay (SM13214)) for further assessment following the initial screening assessment.

25. In subsequent email exchange between the Project and HES, it was agreed that alternate viewpoints representing views from the Oban to Colonsay ferry could be used to inform the Eileach-an-Naoimh, monastery, Garvellachs assessment, while viewpoints acquired from Hynish could be used to inform the St Patrick's Chapel, Ceann a' Mhara, Tiree assessment.

26. A final meeting was undertaken with HES on the 12 December 2025 which presented the assessment that had been undertaken up to that point. HES provided a written response to this meeting on 20 February 2026. In the meeting, HES raised questions regarding the worst-case assumptions (discussed in **Section 1.5**, the scope of the assessment) and provided advice on the visualisations presented.

27. On 18 March 2026, further feedback was provided by HES following their site visit to Iona, advising the Project on refining the location of some of the Iona visualisations and providing suggestions in relation to new viewpoints, in addition to those highlighted in the previous letter dated 20 February 2026. The Applicant provided a written response on 27 March 2026. HES's response, received on 16 April 2026, advised that the primary visualisations forming part of the cultural heritage assessment within the EIAR should present a turbine layout and height combination that would realistically represent the worst-case scenario within the defined design envelope. A consideration of the worst case-scenario is included in the assessment of each asset in the proceeding sections.

28. HES also provided recommendations relating to visualisations to inform the setting assessment. The following additional viewpoint were acquired between 04 May and 06 May 2026:

- View towards the WDA from the path as Oronsay Priory comes into view - (**Figure 18**)
- View the from the site of the MacDuffie Cross towards Oronsay Priory (NGR: NR 35648 88444 approx.) - (**Figure 19**)
- Panoramic view from the ferry showing WDA and Iona Abbey - (**Figure 20**)
- Shrine (NGR: NM 28655 24513 approx.) - (**Figure 21**)
- A view towards the WDA from the east of the abbey (NGR: NM 28712 24534approx.) – (**Figure 22**)
- A view towards the WDA from Cladh an Diseart (SM804) (NGR: NM 28975 24834 approx.) – (**Figure 23**)
- A view towards the WDA from where the main road on Iona meets the access track to Grianan (NGR: NM 28685 24766 approx.) - (**Figure 24**)

29. A full summary of the consultation undertaken to inform this assessment is provided in Section 1.3 of **Chapter 14 Offshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage**.

1.4 SUMMARY OF INITIAL SCREENING ASSESSMENT

30. An initial screening assessment was conducted, corresponding to Stage 1 of the Assessing the Impact of Change (HES, 2020).

31. This exercise utilised a Study Area extending 50 km from the WDA boundary to identify heritage assets with the potential to be visually affected by the presence of WTGs in the seascape. This is an approach that HES supported, as outlined in their response to the Project's Scoping Report (Case ID: 300071933). The proposed WTGs are unlikely to be seen with sufficient prominence to give rise to any discernible effect beyond 50 km and would therefore not have any potential to cause any significant impact to the setting of any designated historic assets beyond this point. As such designated heritage assets located beyond the 50 km Study Area were screened out of further assessment.

32. Within the 50 km Study Area there are 506 designated heritage assets comprising:

- 178 Scheduled Monuments (SMs);
- 319 Protected Buildings (LBs);
- 7 Conservation Areas (CAs); and
- 2 Gardens and Designed Landscapes.

33. Within the Study Area, heritage assets were identified for further assessment based on the following approach:

34. **Category 1** - Heritage assets were screened out where it was clear there would be no intervisibility with the WDA due to their orientation, location within built development, topography and established woodland.

35. **Category 2** - Heritage assets located within the built development of the identified islands were screened out except where these fell into category 3 (below). This is on the basis that their setting is formed very largely or entirely by the immediate landscape and built environment of their respective coastal towns and villages, and not by their relationships to the sea. Significant effects caused by visibility of the proposed WTG are therefore not anticipated.

36. **Category 3** - Assets with views/potential views out to sea or with a direct relationship to the sea (such as lighthouses or piers) were considered on a case-by-case basis, taking into consideration whether significant effects from the WDA are likely, depending on the nature and setting of the asset, and the proximity of the proposed development.

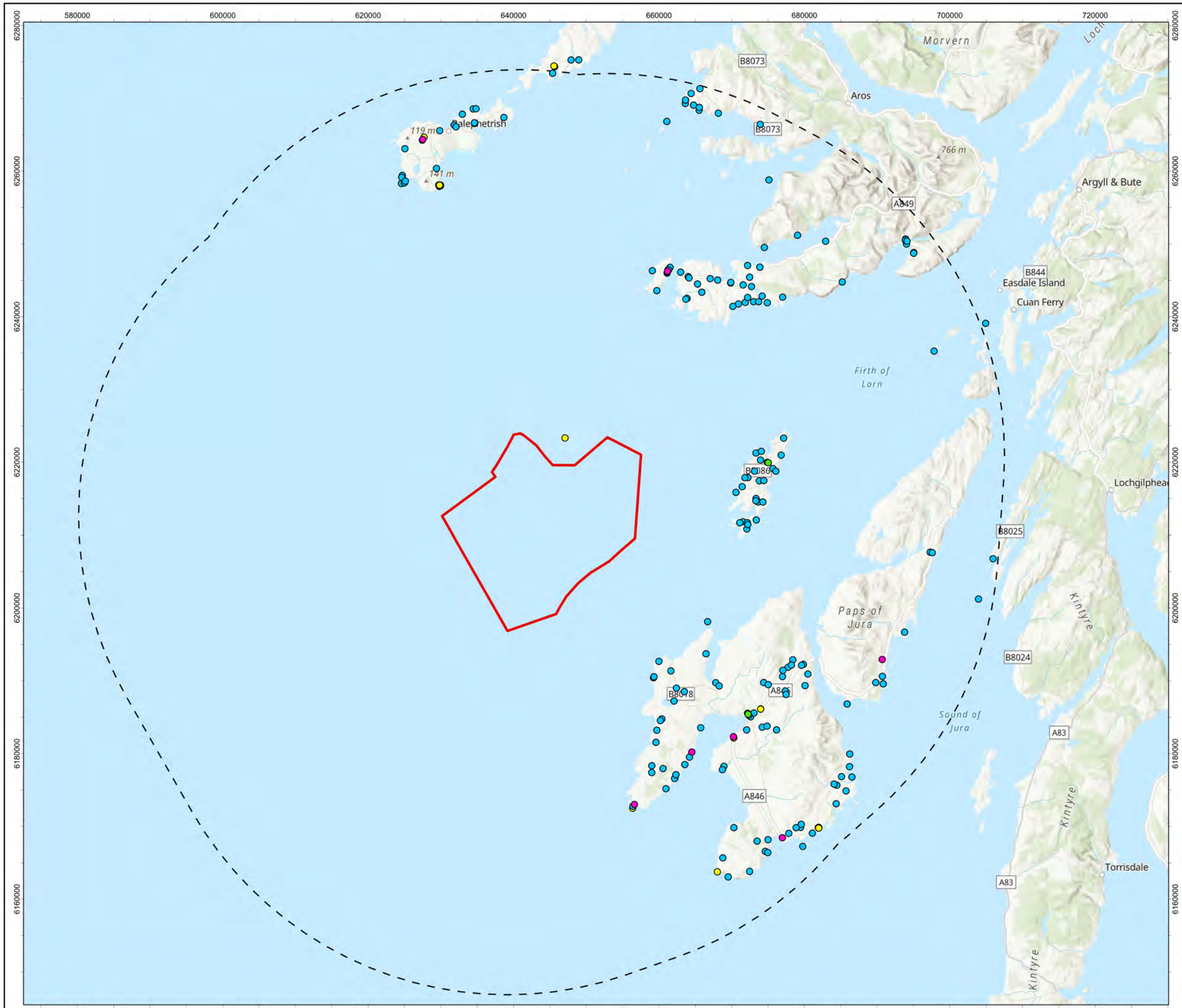
37. **Category 4** - Additionally, due to the distances involved and large number of assets within the 50 km buffer, the assessment largely focuses on SMs and category A LBs due to their higher value. As a result, the majority of category B and C LBs were screened out. However, where category B and C LBs have a greater degree of visibility with the WDA, or where there are particularly scenic or historic qualities that contribute to the setting that need to be considered, these assets were considered.

38. **Category 5** - Heritage assets identified by HES, where a significant alteration to their setting could occur.

39. Using this methodology 178 SMs, and 35 Grade A LBs and 1 CA were identified where change to their setting could occur due to the Project. These are presented in **Figure 1**.

40. With the use of ZTVs, SLVIA photomontages, wirelines and Google Street view, this was further refined to 32 designated heritage assets which have been taken forward for further assessment. These are presented in **Figure 2** and comprise:

- 24 SMs;
- 7LBs; and
- 1 CA.



Windfarm Development Area

50km Study Area

Listed Building

Scheduled Monument

Conservation Area

Gardens and Designed Landscapes

N

0 5 10 20 Kilometres

REV	REV DATE	GIS CREATOR	GIS REVIEWER	TECHNICAL CHECKER	TECHNICAL APPROVER
2	06/02/2026	AB	GC	GSP	PM

DRAWING NUMBER	MCW-DWF-ENV-MAP-RHS-000087		
DATUM	ETRS89	PROJECTION	UTM Zone 29N
SCALE	1:500,000	PAGE SIZE	A3
PROJECT TITLE	MachairWind		

Figure 1: Designated Heritage Assets screened into initial Screening Assessment

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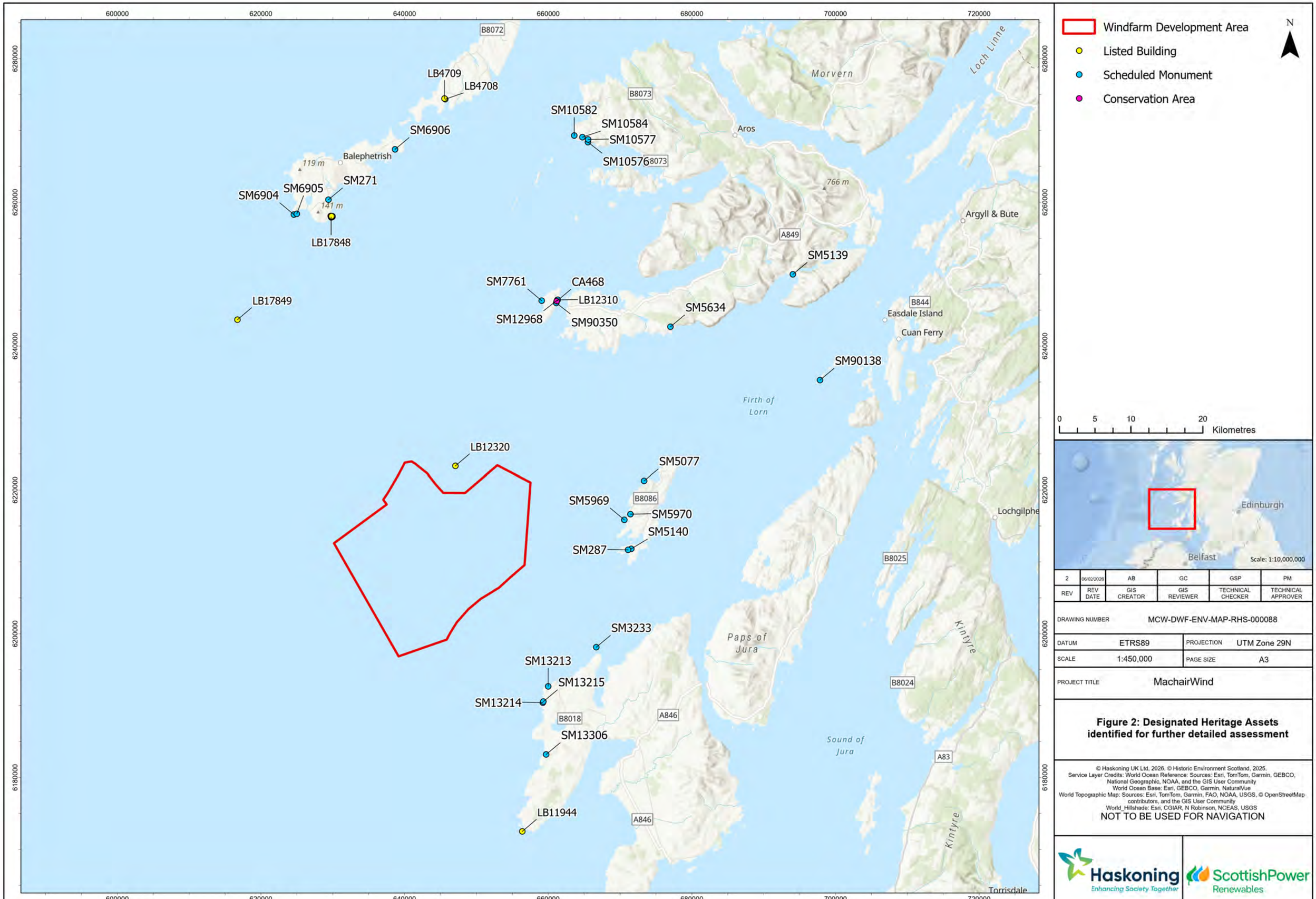

REV	REV DATE	GIS CREATOR	GIS REVIEWER	TECHNICAL CHECKER	TECHNICAL APPROVER
2	06/02/2026	AB	GC	GSP	PM

DRAWING NUMBER	MCW-DWF-ENV-MAP-RHS-000088		
DATUM	ETRS89	PROJECTION	UTM Zone 29N
SCALE	1:450,000	PAGE SIZE	A3
PROJECT TITLE	MachairWind		

Figure 2: Designated Heritage Assets identified for further detailed assessment

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Name: Fig_2_MCW-DWF-ENV-MAP-RHS-000088_DesignatedAssetsFurther

1.5 METHODOLOGY

41. This assessment has been undertaken using a realistic worst-case design scenario. To undertake a robust and precautionary impact assessment, the realistic worst-case design scenarios (i.e., those that would cause the greatest impact) are defined from the Project Design Envelope. The project is considering a Rochdale envelope approach based on upper and lower boundaries defined by:

- 91 WTGs with a maximum blade tip height of 335m
- 144 WTGs with a maximum blade tip height of 280m

42. While a layout comprising 91 WTGs with a maximum blade tip height of 335 m would normally be expected to represent the worst case scenario, as taller WTGs would feature more prominently in views from the heritage assets that have been assessed, it is possible that the denser layout required for a 144 WTG layout would be more visually intrusive and result in a greater incidence of 'stacking' where one WTG is seen behind another. In this context, it is important to note that the worst case presented represents a 'dense perimeter' layout with WTGs pushed to the edges of the developable area, maximising both the lateral extent and potential stacking. Consequently, the worst-case is considered in respect of each potential receptor.

43. A ZTV showing the difference between the 91 and 144 WTG layouts is presented as Figure 16.6 of **Chapter 16 Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impacts**. Additionally, the last page of each figure presents a comparison of both design envelopes from each of the Cultural Heritage (CH) viewpoints in the form of a wireline showing a 90-degree field of view.

44. This assessment has been undertaken in line with the non-statutory guidance *Managing Change in the Historic Environment: Setting* (Historic Environment Scotland, 2020). This guidance recommends a staged approach to the assessment of potential impacts on the settings of heritage assets and comprises the following three steps:

- Stage 1: identify the historic assets that might be affected by the proposed development;
- Stage 2: define and analyse the setting by establishing how the surroundings contribute to the ways in which the historic asset or place is understood, appreciated and experienced; and
- Stage 3: evaluate the potential impact of the proposed changes on the setting, and the extent to which any negative impacts can be mitigated.

45. Factors to be considered in assessing the impact of a change on the setting of a historic asset or place include:

- Whether key views to or from the historic asset or place are interrupted;
- Whether the proposed change would dominate or detract in a way that affects our ability to understand and appreciate the historic asset;
- The visual impact of the proposed change relative to the scale of the historic asset or place and its setting;
- The visual impact of the proposed change relative to the current place of the historic asset in the landscape;
- The presence, extent, character and scale of the existing built environment within the surroundings of the historic asset or place and how the proposed development compares to this; and
- The magnitude of the proposed change relative to the sensitivity of the setting of an asset – sometimes relatively small changes, or a series of small changes, can have a major impact on our ability to appreciate and understand a historic asset or place. Points to consider include:
    - The ability of the setting to absorb new development without eroding its key characteristics;

- The effect of the proposed change on qualities of the existing setting such as sense of remoteness, current noise levels, evocation of the historical past, sense of place, cultural identity, associated spiritual responses; and
- Cumulative impacts: individual developments may not cause significant impacts on their own, but may do so when they are combined.

46. Similarly, sound environment is an important element of the setting of an asset. The airborne noise of the WTGs is not expected to have the potential to contribute to any adverse effects on heritage assets considered within this assessment which, except for Dubh Artach Lighthouse, are all located over 14 km from the WDA.

47. Additionally, this guidance sets out ways to mitigate impacts and enhance the setting of those assets affected.

48. In line with the methodology presented in the *Managing Change in the Historic Environment: Setting* guidance, this assessment follows Stages 2 and 3 of Assessing the Impact of Change outlined below. This follows the initial identification of heritage assets as noted in Stage 1 (**Section 1.4**), presented in the initial screening assessment (Annex 1).

49. The level of effect upon each heritage asset due to changes in their setting will largely depend on the importance (value) of each asset and the potential magnitude of change. As such, definitions of importance are presented in **Table 1**. These definitions align with the presented in **Chapter 5 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Methodology**. As all assets assessed in this assessment are designated assets they are all defined as being of high importance.

Table 1 Definition of Importance of heritage assets

Importance	Definition
High	Designated heritage assets. Non-designated assets of acknowledged international/national importance with the potential to be designated, and which contribute significantly to acknowledged international/national research objectives and to education and outreach.
Medium	Heritage assets which are not considered to warrant designation, but which have potential to contribute to knowledge and understanding in line with acknowledged research objectives and to education and outreach.
Low	Heritage assets with limited potential to contribute to knowledge and understanding, education or outreach.
Negligible	Not considered to be important and not considered a heritage asset.

50. The magnitude of an impact with respect to a heritage asset's cultural significance, including its setting, is presented in **Table 2**. These definitions align with the presented in **Chapter 5 EIA Methodology**.

Table 2 Definitions of magnitude of impact to heritage assets

Magnitude	Definition
High Adverse	Key elements of the asset's fabric and/or setting are lost or fundamentally altered, such that the asset's cultural significance is lost or severely compromised.
Medium Adverse	Elements of the asset's fabric and/or setting which contribute to its significance are affected, but to a more limited extent, resulting in an appreciable, but partial, loss of the asset's cultural significance.

Magnitude	Definition
Low Adverse	Elements of the asset's fabric and/or setting which contribute to its cultural significance are affected, resulting in a slight loss of cultural significance.
Negligible	The asset's fabric and/or setting is changed in ways which do not materially affect its cultural significance.
Low Beneficial	Elements of the asset's physical fabric which would otherwise be lost, leading to a slight loss of cultural significance, are preserved in situ; or Elements of the asset's setting are improved, slightly enhancing its cultural significance; or Research and recording leads to a slight enhancement to the archaeological or historical interest of the asset. This only applies in situations where the asset would not be otherwise harmed, i.e. it is not recorded in advance of loss.
Medium Beneficial	Elements of the asset's physical fabric which would otherwise be lost, leading to an appreciable but partial loss of cultural significance, are preserved in situ; or Elements of the asset's setting are considerably improved, appreciably enhancing its cultural significance; or Research and recording leads to a considerable enhancement to the archaeological or historical interest of the asset. This only applies in situations where the asset would not be otherwise harmed, i.e. it is not recorded in advance of loss.
High Beneficial	Elements of the asset's physical fabric which would otherwise be lost, severely compromising its cultural significance, are preserved in situ; or Elements of the asset's setting, which were previously lost or unintelligible, are restored, greatly enhancing its cultural significance.
No impact	No change to the assets fabric or setting which affects its cultural significance.

51. The potential significance of effect for a given impact is a function of the overall importance (value) and the magnitude of the impact (see **Chapter 5 EIA Methodology** for further details). A matrix is used (**Table 3**) as a framework to determine the significance of an effect. Impacts and effects may be either positive (beneficial) or negative (adverse). For the purposes of this assessment, effects which are of major or moderate significance are considered to be significant in EIA terms.

Table 3 Significance of effect matrix

Importance (value)	Adverse Magnitude				Beneficial Magnitude			
	High	Medium	Low	Negligible	Negligible	Low	Medium	High
High	Major	Major	Moderate	Minor	Minor	Moderate	Major	Major
Medium	Major	Moderate	Minor	Negligible	Negligible	Minor	Moderate	Major
Low	Moderate	Minor	Minor	Negligible	Negligible	Minor	Minor	Moderate
Negligible	Minor	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Minor

52. For each asset, this assessment provides a description of its importance and cultural significance, its present setting, the change to setting due to the Project, and an assessment of the significance of effect this change in setting will result in.

53. Site visits were conducted in July 2025 to those assets identified by HES as being of particular importance. Site visits were not undertaken to Eileach-an-Naoimh, monastery, Garvellachs (SM90138) and St Patrick's Chapel, Ceann a' Mhara, Tiree (SM6905) as agreed with HES (**Section 1.3**).

1.6 SETTING ASSESSMENT

1.6.1 Scheduled Monuments

54. This section defines the setting of the SMs identified in the screening assessment. This is achieved through an identification of the survival of these assets, how they can be understood, experienced and appreciated within their present surroundings and how their surroundings have contributed to the understanding over time (HES, 2020).

1.6.1.1 Oronsay Priory and Cross (SM287)

1.6.1.1.1 Importance

55. Oronsay Priory (**Plate 1) c**omprises the remains of an Augustinian Priory, located on the island of Oronsay. The cross which stands to the southwest of the Priory building is also included within the designation (SM287).

56. The Priory was officially founded between 1325 and 1353 by John I, Lord of the Isles with the cross thought to date to the 16th century. There is belief that a religious community was established on Oronsay long before the date of the tangible remains and findspots associated with the 14th century Priory. As noted in information provided at the priory and in *The Colonsay and Oronsay Pilgrimage Trail* (Byrne & McMorrine, 2021), St. Columba is said to have founded a Christian community on the island in the 1st century AD.

57. The legend associated with this earlier introduction to Christianity on Colonsay is that St. Columba arrived from Ireland to establish a monastery, however, on realising that Ireland was still visible from *Hinba*, his first landfall, he left to establish the monastery on Iona to not be reminded of Ireland. However, while some writers (Watson 2004) have argued that Oronsay was the *Hinba* noted in Adomnan's *Vita Columbae*, no material has been recovered which dates to this period and this interpretation remains conjectural.

58. Structural remains of the priory and associated crosses are primarily of medieval origin, and the Priors of Oronsay are recorded only from 1353, suggesting a foundation sponsored by Iain Mac Aonghais Mac Dhòmhnuill, more commonly known as John of Islay, 'Lord of the Isles'.

59. In the absence of clear material or documentary evidence, it is not clear whether the later medieval Abbey represents an entirely new foundation, a later establishment or the latest phases of an intermittent foundation; the attribution of ancient origins to more recent religious sites over the later medieval and early post-medieval periods is common.

Plate 1 Oronsay Priory and Cross (SM287)

Plate 2 Oronsay Priory Cross

60. The internal and external walls of the main priory building survive distinguishing different areas within the building. These include the central cloister, off which the Church and High Altar lie to the southeast. The Prior's House stands to the north of the priory surviving as a fully enclosed building containing carved graveslabs. The surviving remains illustrate the development of the Priory from

the 14th and 15th centuries and then the 16th century. The priory was last in use before to 1624; accounts from two Irish Franciscan Friars visiting the priory in this year record its ruined state.[1]

61. The importance and cultural significance of the Priory can be summarised as follows:

- **National importance**: Designated as a Scheduled Monument (SM287), highlighting its protected status and historical value;
- **Rare survival**: One of the few well-preserved medieval priories in Scotland, offering unique insights into monastic life;
- **Architectural heritage**: Provides evidence of late medieval ecclesiastical architecture, including cloisters, church layout, and the Prior's House;
- **Artistic and material culture**: Contains effigies and sculptural elements that reflect craftsmanship and burial practices of the period;
- **Historical continuity**: Illustrates the development of monastic buildings from the 14th to the 16th centuries;
- **Religious significance**: Associated with early Christian traditions and legends linked to St. Columba, reinforcing its spiritual heritage; and
- **Educational value**: Serves as a key source for studying late medieval church history, religious practices, and social structures.

1.6.1.1.2 Present Setting

62. The present isolated landscape in which Oronsay Priory sits is apparent to those experiencing the asset in its current context. The main path to the monument provides a single approach towards the southeastern side of the Priory, which itself is only accessible via the tidal crossing from neighbouring Colonsay, limiting access to the site. Despite being one of few buildings on Oronsay, to those walking along the main path, the Priory is not a central feature within the visible landscape. Walking along the main approach, views are directed out towards the coast away from the Priory. On approach the viewers' attention is on the wider landscape context, and the first building that is apparent on the approach is Oronsay House (currently occupied by the RSPB) (**Plate 3**) with the Priory ruins being progressively revealed as the viewer passes the rising ground to the north of the track, only coming into full visibility when visitors are within approximately 500 m of the site (**Plate 4)**

[1] This information comes from information sheets at the priory

Plate 3 Approach to Oronsay Priory and Cross (SM287)

Plate 4 First view of Oronsay Priory and Cross (SM287) on approach

63. The setting offers views between each of the buildings that make up the priory and the cross (**Plate 5**), with visibility across the machair to the south and east providing a sense of tranquillity and calm that complements modern understandings of a monastic site. Longer views to the west are

largely precluded at ground level by the modern farm buildings and to the north by rising ground. The viewers' attention in these views is firmly on the ruins and the architectural detail on view rather than on the more distant views that characterise the approach. There are slightly more elevated views from the mound on which the cross is sited.

64. Elevated views **(Plate 6**) down into the priory from the east are available from the summit of Beinn Oronsay. From here the viewer can see the whole priory site in its landscape context and understand and appreciate the close relationship between each of the monastic buildings as well as the way that these ruins have become incorporated into the modern farmstead. This viewpoint also provides wider panoramic views out to sea. In these views, the viewers focus moves between priory site and the distant horizon, providing a sense of location. Access to these views is seasonally limited due to ground nesting birds. Views out to the south-west and towards Ireland are arguably important given the established links and maritime traffic between the monastic sites of the Irish and Scottish coasts in the early medieval and medieval periods, although the nature of this contribution is generalised given the lack of any discernible visibility of Ireland in these views and the closer proximity of related sites on the north coast of Islay (e.g. Nave Island) and Jura (which has also been tentatively identified as *Hinba).*

65. Views to the priory are available from the machair to the south and the east of the asset (**Plate 7**); in these views, the white-rendered Oronsay house is very much the focus as a result of its light colour against the darker farm buildings in contrast to the priory ruins behind which reflect the colour of the outcrops on Beinn Oronsay and recede perceptually from the viewer. There are no locations that are manifestly related to the Priory, with no discernible contemporary or thematically related sites other than the former chapel at Cill Mhoire, from which there is no intervisibility with the Priory. The former Macduffie Cross, recorded in Trove as located approximately 800m to the south-east of the Priory as a stopping point for funeral processions, is recorded only through antiquarian observations (Greive 1923, Pennant 1772, Martin 1716) which are not entirely consistent. It has never been definitively located and there is no visible evidence for its location. Processional forms of liturgy and movement through the landscape between different focal points as a demonstration of piety and ownership, represent different aspects of a common medieval cultural tradition. This succession of different focal points, each representing a different aspect of the liturgy or landscape, presents a very different understanding of the relationship with that landscape than modern perceptions (Wood 2013. Yardley 2006).

66. Beyond the generalised contribution of setting the asset into a regionally distinctive island landscape, the contribution of the ruins of the abbey and sense of isolation and views to the sea provided by its setting can be debated in line with intellectual and emotional understandings of the site and its function in the past and present. Modern perceptions of spirituality focus on the sense of retreat and remoteness of a withdrawal from the world, seeing the quiet and 'natural' aspects of the site as a place of prayer and contemplation, while the ruinous state of the site, and exposed nature accords with a sense of the hardships of monastic life. Recent scholarship has, however, seen the early Christian sites in terms of a wider cultural and intellectual network supporting the connection of the monks, both with the religious centre at Rome and with other religious and secular communities as missionaries and pastors reflecting the missionary nature of Columba's life, the travels of contemporary church leaders and the later connections between the island earldoms and wider Scottish political life. In this interpretation, the sea formed the connection between the communities around the Atlantic and Irish sea coasts and explained the location of monastic sites on islands and headlands in this context of movement and connection. The later phases of monasticism represented by the surviving ruins point to the close connections of church and secular elites who were closely connected with political and cultural life at a national level.

Plate 5 Inward views of Oronsay Priory

Plate 6 View of Oronsay Priory from Beinn Oronsay

Plate 7 View of Oronsay Priory from the south

1.6.1.1.3 Change to Setting

67. The nearest WTGs will be c.14.5 km from the priory and as indicated by the ZTV and wirelines (**Figure 3** and **Figure 4**) a number of the WTGs will be visible on the horizon when looking directly towards the WDA from the elevated points within the scheduled area as the modern farm buildings and RSPB building screen views out from most of the priory site. This is illustrated by the visualisation presented in **Figure 3** and **Figure 4**. Even in these views the horizon is already interrupted by the modern farm buildings that surround the priory, and obscure visibility of the WTGs, as well as the electricity infrastructure that is associated with these.

68. The WTGs would be visible in views on the approach to the priory and would be visible in the background of views across the Machair, However, as the viewer continues along the path to the priory their gaze is initially drawn towards Oronsay House, with its white colour contrasted against the natural landscape. As views of the priory are slowly revealed, the viewers gaze is drawn towards the individual buildings and crosses as they become visible. This visibility is illustrated by **Figure 18** and **Plate 4**. While the WTGs would be visible in these views, they would not be the dominant feature. Combined with the very limited visibility of the WTGs in views from within the priory ruins, the sense of tranquillity and spirituality experienced by the viewer would remain.

69. While views from areas outwith the priory and the approach, such as from the recorded location of Macduffie cross (**Figure 19**), would offer clearer visibility of the array, the relationship between viewer and the ruins in these locations is less direct and these would influence that experience of the asset to a lesser extent. As demonstrated by **Figure 19** from the recorded location of Macduffie cross, the viewers gaze is naturally drawn to Oronsay house as a result of its light colour contrasted against the green of the Machair and the dark tones of the surrounding rocky outcropping. In this view, the priory appears lost with it largely blending into the surrounding rocky landscape whilst being dwarfed by Beinn Oronsay. The nature of historic and functional relationship between this viewpoint and the Priory is uncertain, with the uncertainty over the location and meaning of the monument noted at

Paragraph 64 above. In addition, the place of this viewpoint in any experience of the asset is limited with no manifest remains of the Macduffie Cross present and public access discouraged by the closed gates signage advising against access to protect wildflower habitat and ground-nesting birds.

70. The WTGs would be prominent features on the horizon, occupying an approximate 60 degree arc of view, when standing and looking directly at the WDA from the summit of Beinn Oronsay (**Figure 4**); however, the views from this point reflect a much wider experience of the island and its landscape rather than any manifest functional or associative connection to the Priory ruins, and as a result WTGs would not be juxtaposed with the asset in views from this location. This view also provides a strong sense of the existing enclosures of the Priory by the more recent farmstead and the WTGs would be visible across open water, providing an increased perceptual separation from the asset. Consequently, the presence of the proposed WTGs would not significantly affect the viewers appreciation of the asset's relationship with the coast and the modern farmstead.

1.6.1.1.4 Consideration of Worst Case

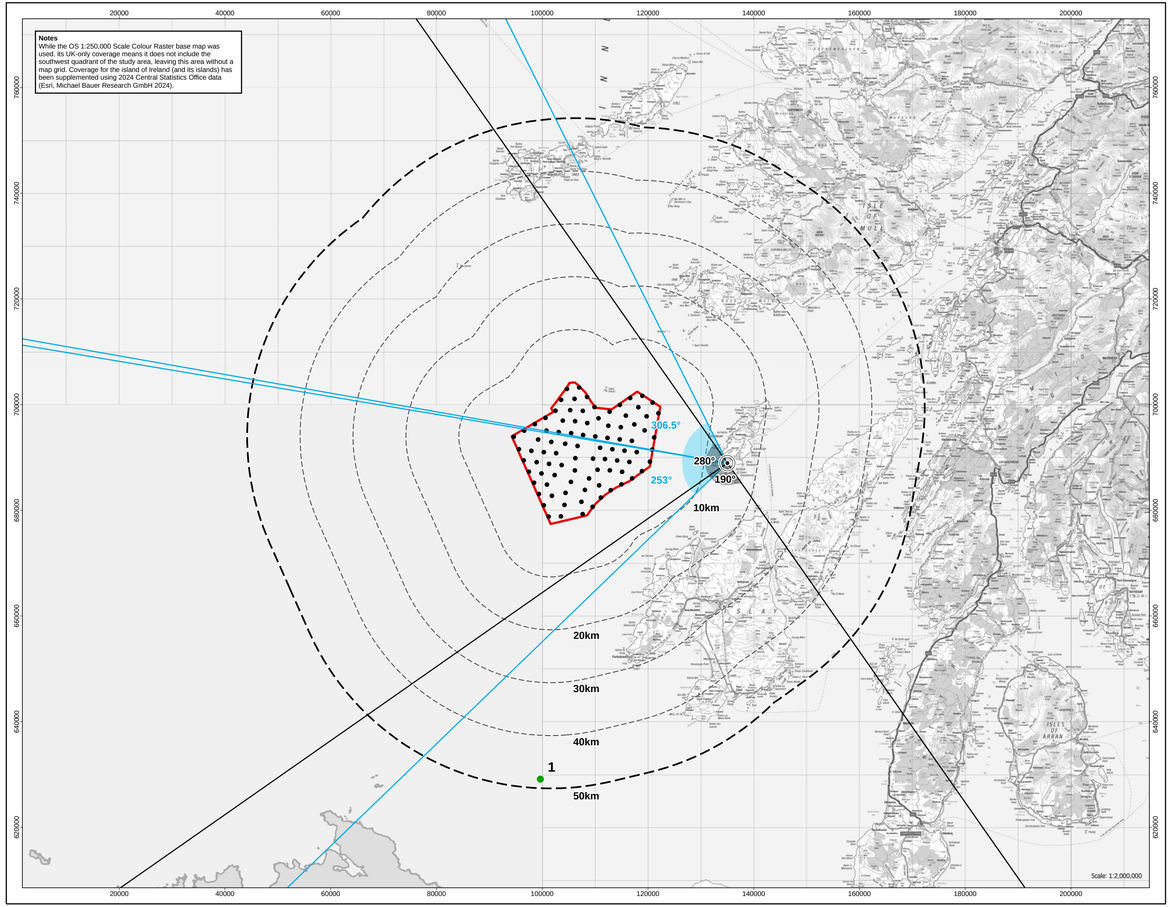
71. In the case of this asset, any difference in magnitude of effect between the indicative 91 WTG and 144 WTG layouts is limited, but the increased scale and prominence of the larger WTGs would present a slightly increased magnitude of change over smaller WTGs, even though the denser layout required for the smaller WTGs would potentially increase stacking. The reduced height of the smaller turbines would somewhat reduce visibility of individual WTGs from within the scheduled area, but the reduced extent of the WTGs that would be visible would be balanced by the potentially increased number of WTGs visible in that view, and no change to the assessed magnitude of effect would be anticipated from the adoption of the 144 WTG layout.

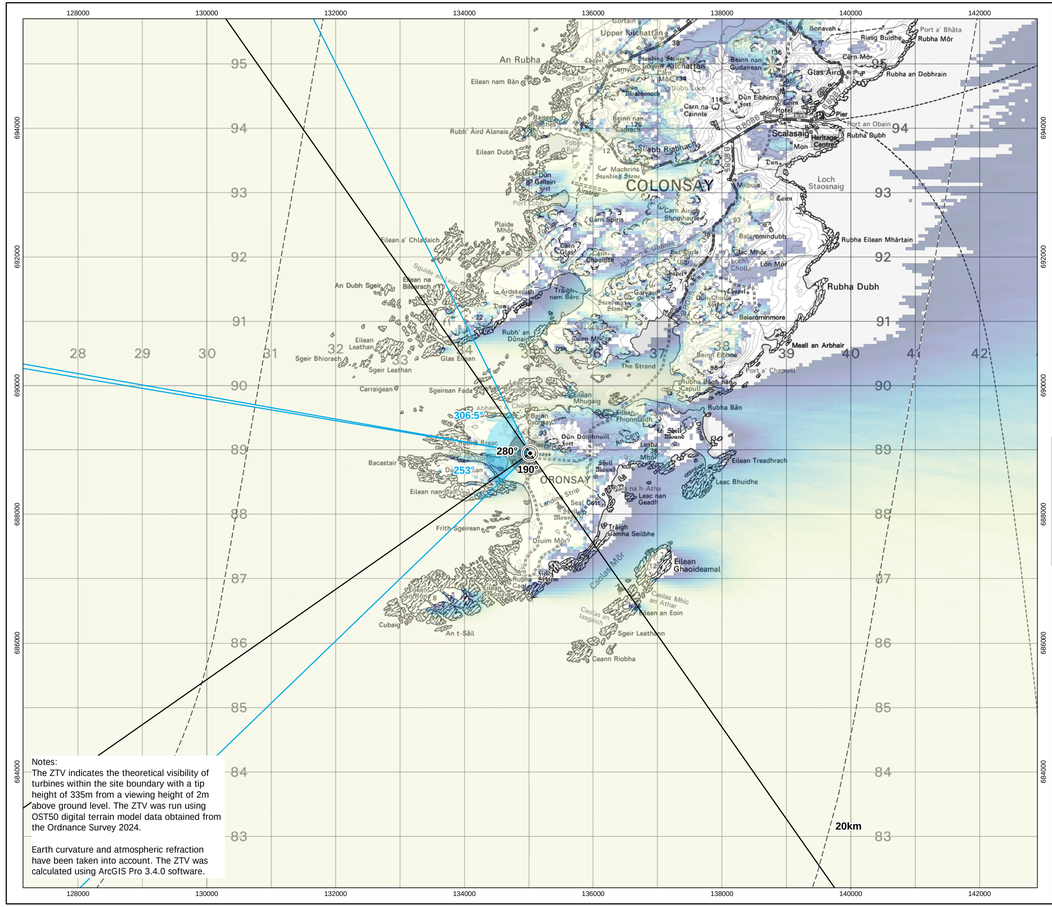
1.6.1.1.5 Significance of Effect

72. As is noted in the guide to the Priory site, the isolated setting of this monument does not entirely reflect the landscape in which the Priory would have been experienced when it was a functioning Priory in the 14th to 17th centuries, which would have been actively cultivated given the presence of ridge and furrow in the surrounding landscape, and runs counter to interpretations that address the connectivity inherent in early medieval monasticism. While the isolation of the site is not essential to the understanding of the Priory, the remoteness of Oronsay, however, contributes to the modern appreciation of ruin and contemplation.

73. The WTGs would be visible in views within the scheduled area only from elevated positions which have been actively sought by the viewer such as that near Oronsay Cross, which offers restricted and partial visibility of elements of the WTGs. They would however, be visible in the panoramic views from Beinn Oronsay and on the approach to the asset, although the contributions of these views are primarily to set the asset into a distinctive island landscape and seascape context and allow the relationship between Abbey and Farm to be appreciated.

74. Consequently, the impact arising through change to setting would be of **low adverse** magnitude and therefore the effect to cultural significance would be **moderate adverse** which is **significant** in EIA terms.





Windfarm development area
Indicative 24MW turbine layout
10km interval from windfarm development area
50km study area

Zone of Theoretical Visibility
More turbines visible
Less turbines visible

Wind Farm Status
Design/Scoping
1. Malin Sea Wind

90° Field of View
53° Field of View

N

0 2 Kilometres

REV	REV DATE	GIS CREATOR	GIS REVIEWER	TECHNICAL CHECKER	TECHNICAL APPROVER
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DATUM	OSGB36 (EPSG:27700)
PROJECTION	Transverse Mercator
SCALE	1:50,000
PAGE SIZE	A3
PROJECT TITLE	MachairWind

Figure 3:
Oronsay Priory and Cross.

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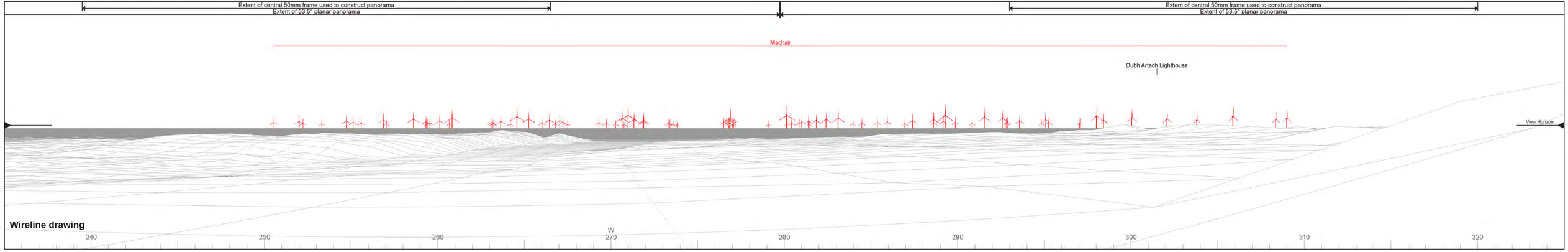

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Nearest turbine:	14.45 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm				

90° (cylindrical projection)

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

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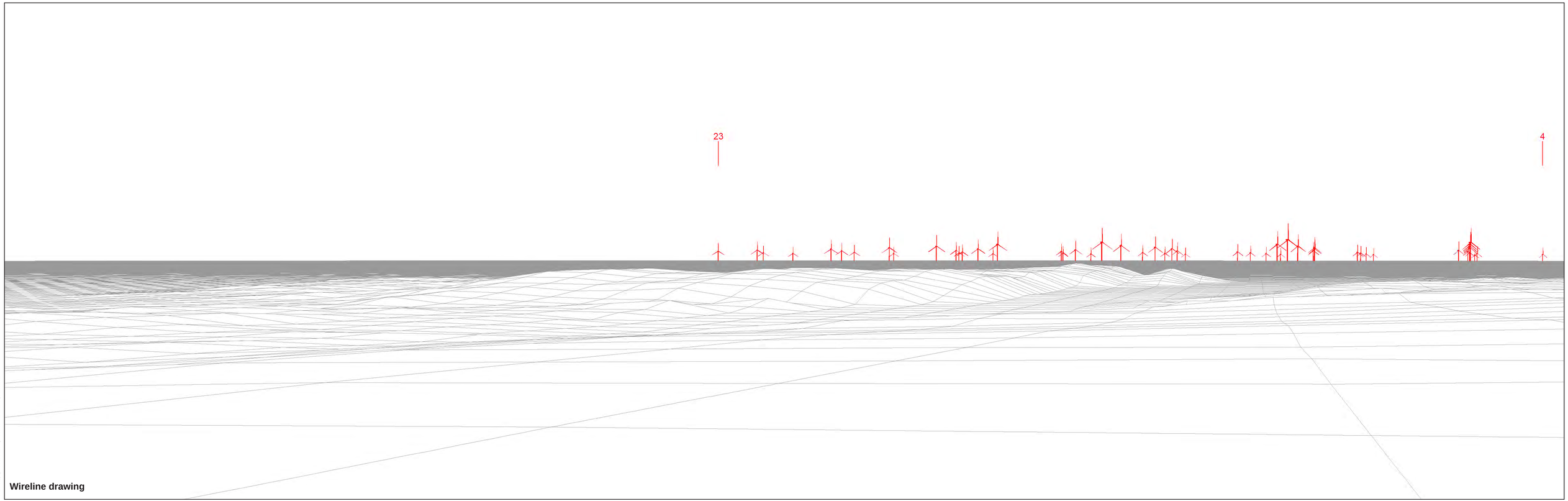
Figure 3a

Viewpoint CH1: Oronsay Priory and Cross



Wireline drawing

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Direction of view:	253°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	14.45 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Notes:

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Figure 3b
Viewpoint CH1: Oronsay Priory and Cross

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Direction of view:	253°	Correct printed image size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)	Camera height:	1.5 m		
Nearest turbine:	14.45 km		820 x 260 mm				

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

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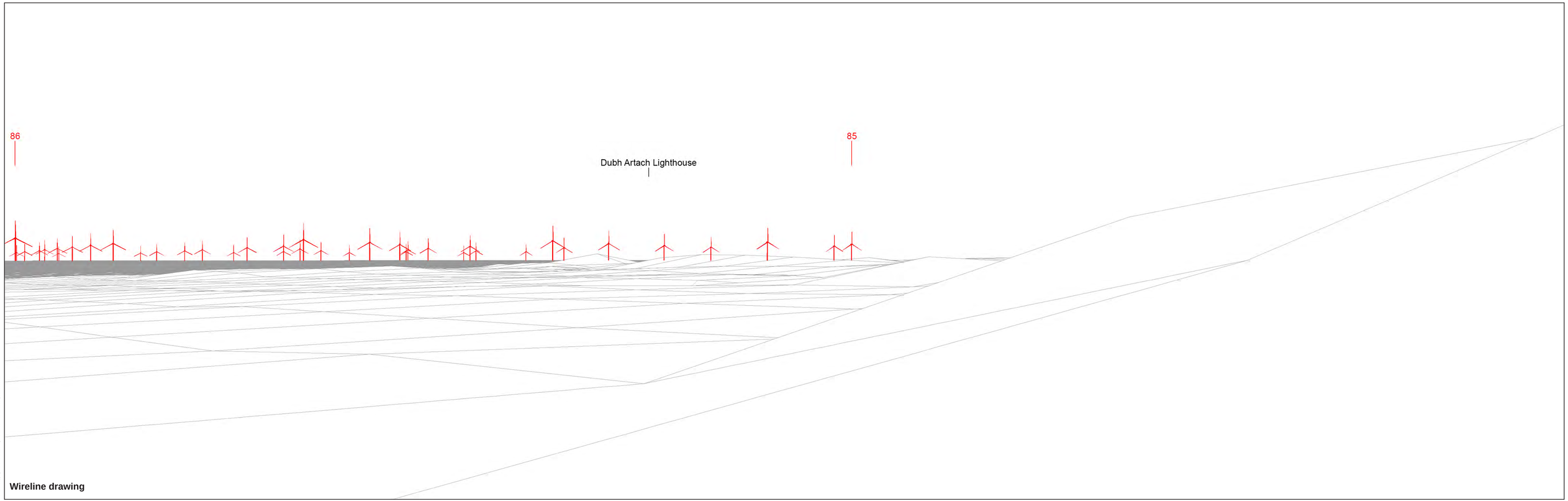
Figure 3c
Viewpoint CH1: Oronsay Priory and Cross



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OS reference:	135021E 688947N		53.5° (planar projection)
Above Ordnance Datum:	20.53m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm
Direction of view:	306.5°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	14.45 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Notes:

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Figure 3d
Viewpoint CH1: Oronsay Priory and Cross

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OS reference:	135021E 688947N	Principal distance:	53.5° (planar projection)	Camera:	NIKON D750	Photography Date:	16/07/2025
Above Ordnance Datum:	20.53m	Paper size:	812.5 mm	Lens:	50mm Fixed Focal Length	Photography Time:	14:59
Direction of view:	306.5°	Correct printed image size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)	Camera height:	1.5 m		
Nearest turbine:	14.45 km		820 x 260 mm				

Notes:

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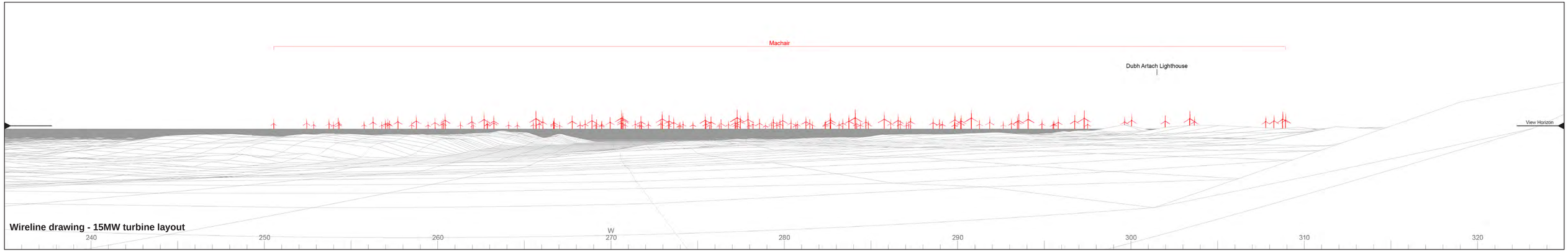
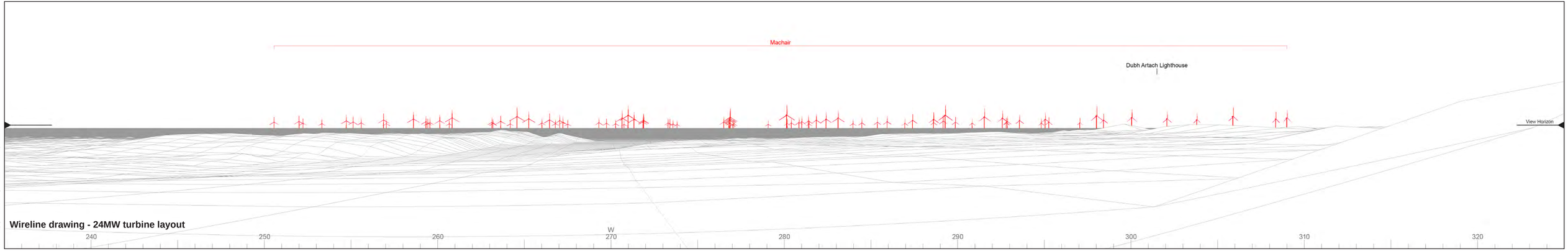
Figure 3e
Viewpoint CH1: Oronsay Priory and Cross





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Direction of view:	280°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
		Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

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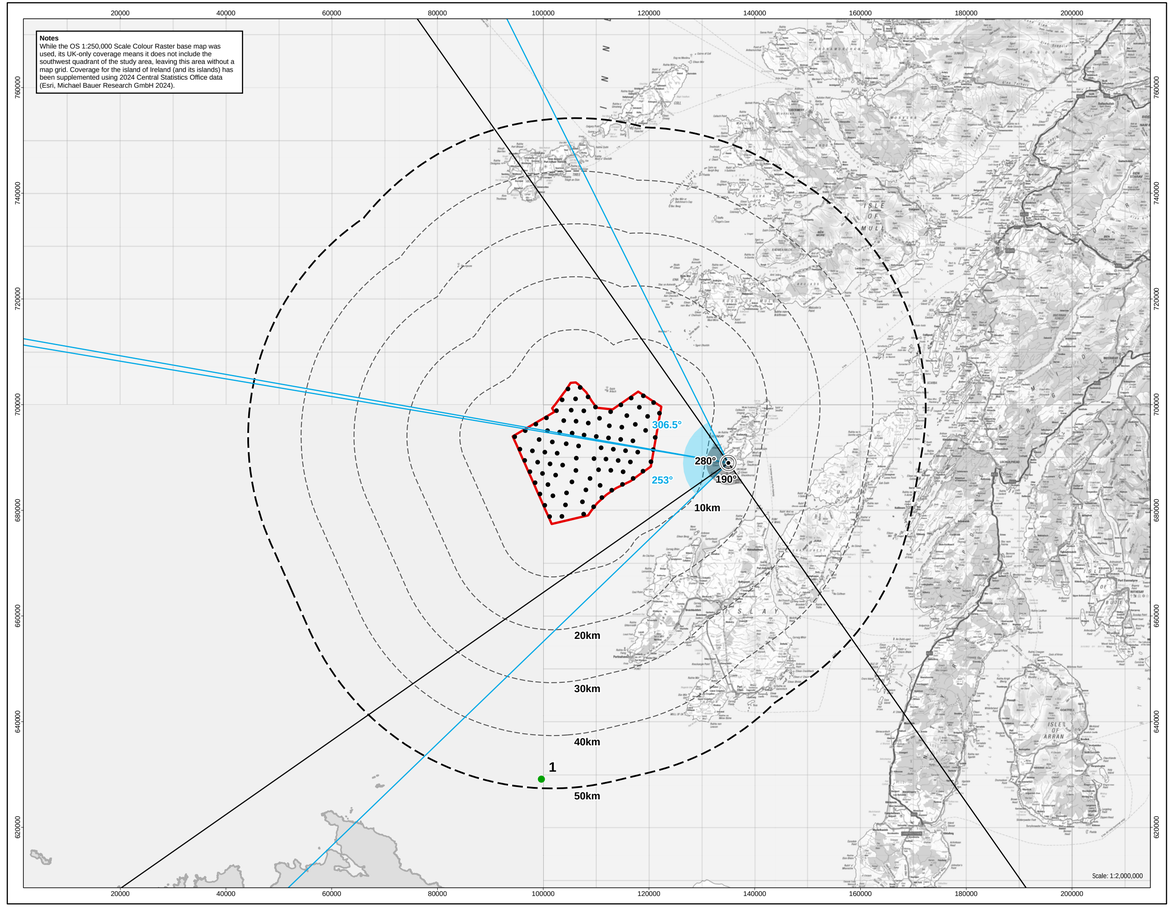
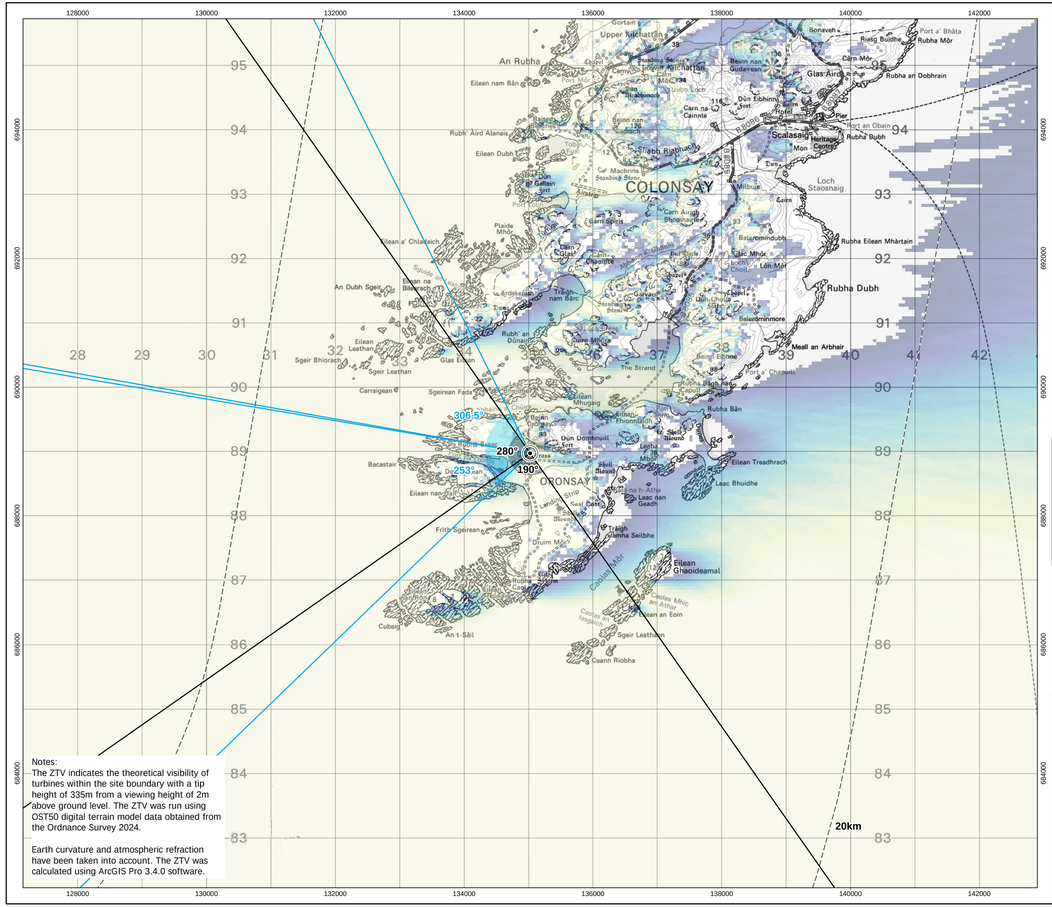
Figure 3f

Viewpoint CH1: Oronsay Priory and Cross





Windfarm development area
Indicative 24MW turbine layout
10km interval from windfarm development area
50km study area

Zone of Theoretical Visibility
More turbines visible
Less turbines visible

Wind Farm Status
Design/Scoping
1. Malin Sea Wind

90° Field of View
53° Field of View

N

0 2 Kilometres

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DRAWING NUMBER	MCW-DWF-ENV-MAP-RHS-000105
DATUM	OSGB36 (EPSG:27700)
PROJECTION	Transverse Mercator
SCALE	1:50,000
PAGE SIZE	A3
PROJECT TITLE	MachairWind

Figure 4:
Oronsay Priory and Cross Elevated Position.

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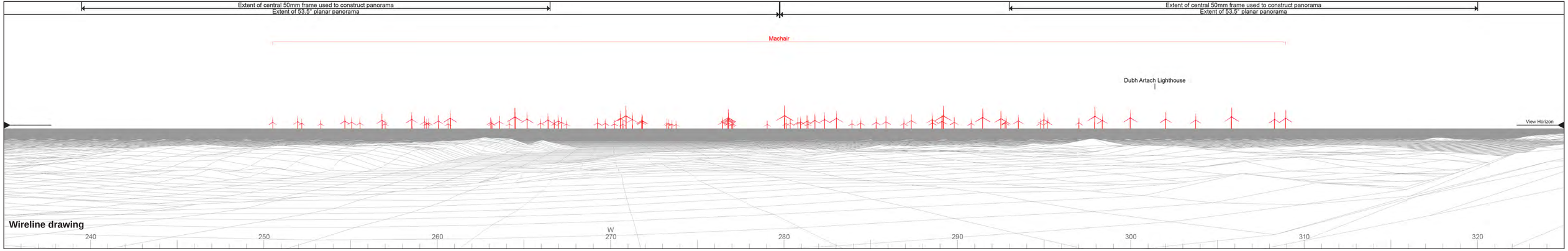

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Nearest turbine:	14.45 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm				

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

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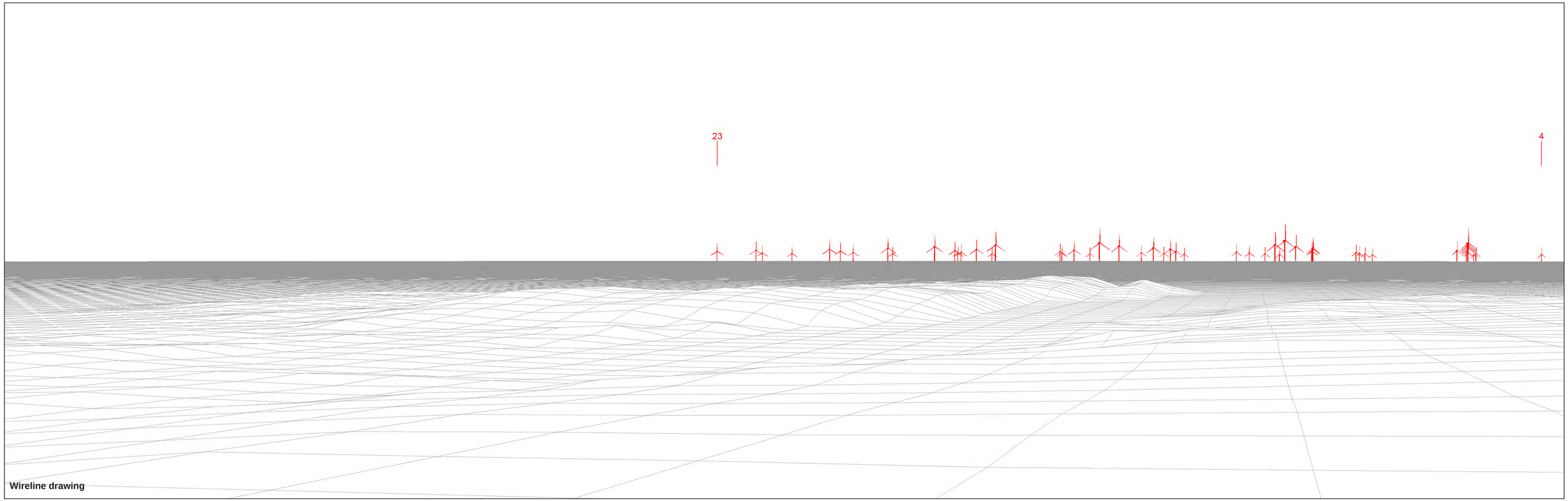
Figure 4a
Viewpoint CH2: Oronsay Priory and Cross Elevated Position



Wireline drawing

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OS reference:	135025E 688971N		53.5° (planar projection)
Above Ordnance Datum:	29.44 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm
Direction of view:	253°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	14.45 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

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Figure 4b
Viewpoint CH2: Oronsay Priory and Cross Elevated Position

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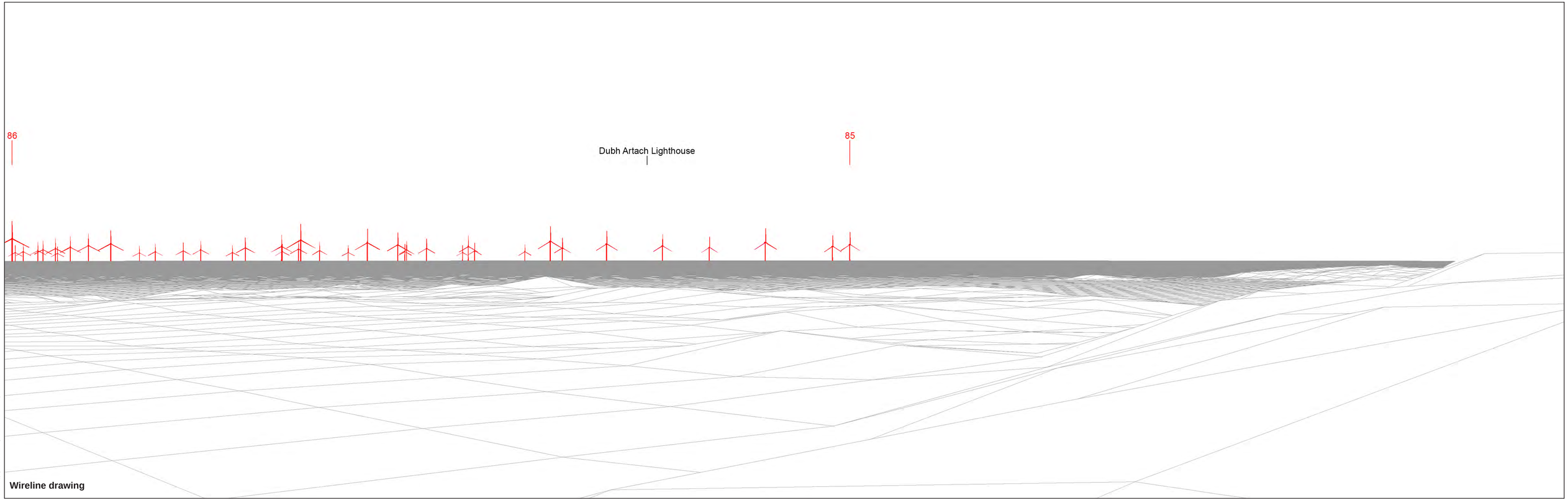
OS reference:	135025E 688971N		53.5° (planar projection)	Camera:	NIKON D750	Photography Date:	16/07/2025
Above Ordnance Datum:	29.44 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm	Lens:	50mm Fixed Focal Length	Photography Time:	15:11
Direction of view:	253°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)	Camera height:	1.5 m		
Nearest turbine:	14.45 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm				

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 4c
Viewpoint CH2: Oronsay Priory and Cross Elevated Position



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OS reference:	135025E 688971N		53.5° (planar projection)
Above Ordnance Datum:	29.44 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm
Direction of view:	306.5°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	14.45 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

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Figure 4d

Viewpoint CH2: Oronsay Priory and Cross Elevated Position

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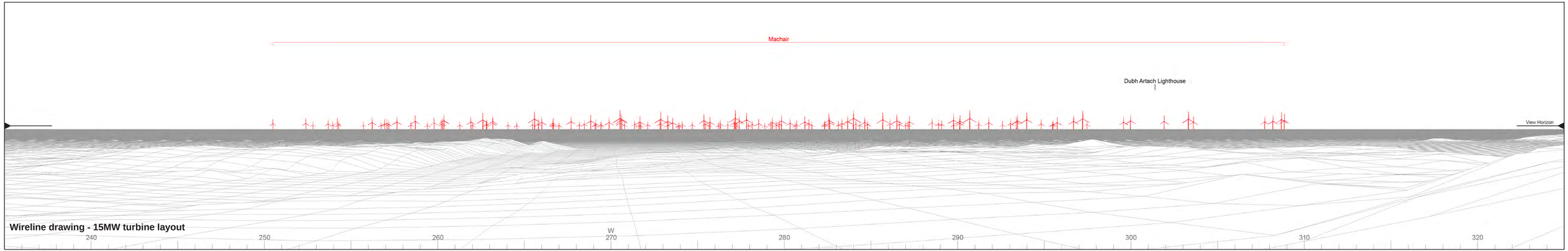
OS reference:	135025E 688971N		53.5° (planar projection)	Camera:	NIKON D750	Photography Date:	16/07/2025
Above Ordnance Datum:	29.44 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm	Lens:	50mm Fixed Focal Length	Photography Time:	15:11
Direction of view:	306.5°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)	Camera height:	1.5 m		
Nearest turbine:	14.45 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm				

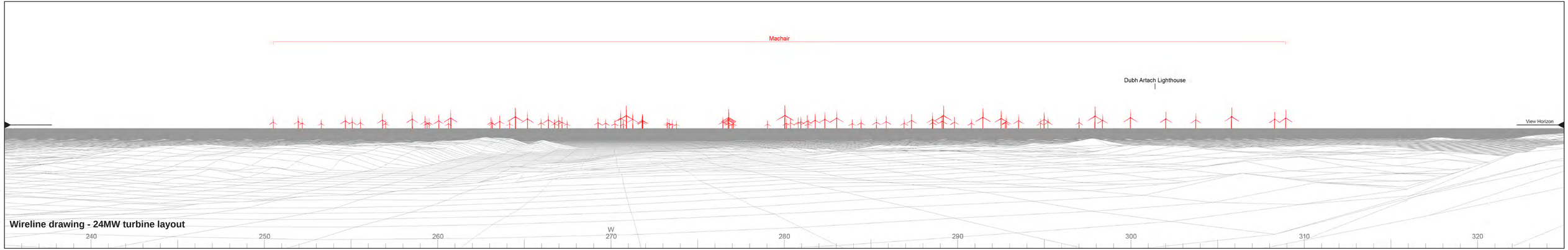
Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 4e
Viewpoint CH2: Oronsay Priory and Cross Elevated Position





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LUC

OS reference:	135025E 688971N		90° (cylindrical projection)
Above Ordnance Datum:	29.44 m	Principal distance:	522 mm
Direction of view:	280°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
		Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 4f

Viewpoint CH2: Oronsay Priory and Cross Elevated Position

1.6.1.2 Beinn a' Chaisteil, promontory fort and associated remains, Islay (SM13213)

1.6.1.2.1 Importance

75. Beinn a' Chaisteil (**Plate 8**) is a SM that comprises the remains of two distinct sites, a substantial promontory fort and enclosed coastal settlement, occupying a distinctive coastal headland on the northwest coast of Islay. The promontory fort is known as Beinn a' Chaisteil while the coastal settlement is Alt Nam Bà. The visible remains reflect at least two and probably more phases of use, the earliest of which is likely to be the promontory fort, a site type dating from the later prehistoric period (between 500 BC and AD 500) that is relatively common and well-understood in Western Scotland. No clear evidence is available for the date or function of the apparently later phases of occupation, but the circular structures, including one with a corbelled roof, have been tentatively interpreted as early medieval monastic cells. The round structures represent a structural tradition of the Atlantic seaboard of Ireland and Scotland that is not unique to, albeit most famously recorded at, monastic sites, and this interpretation is uncertain, with the *Atlas of Hillforts of Britain and Ireland* noting that these stone structures are of a later date and the structure with the corbelled roof is likely to have been used for pasture or fowling activities or summer grazing that were carried out in this area (Lock and Ralston, 2022).

Plate 8 Beinn a' Chaisteil, promontory fort and associated remains, Islay (SM13213)

76. Beinn a' Chaisteil comprises a single stone wall which runs across the width of the promontory which survives as a rubble bank some 2 m in width and 0.5 m or less in height and is recorded in the National Record of the Historic Environment (NRHE) and the Royal Commission Inventory as a natural outcrop that has been modified to create a wall. The wall is turf covered with some facing slabs exposed. There are no structures recorded in the enclosed area of the promontory fort. The linear outcrop was identified but the additional facing stones could not be reliably located on the two separate occasions that this monument was accessed.

77. Below the promontory of Beinn a' Chaisteil, and down the natural gully of the Alt nam Bà, are the remains of several drystone walls, and the foundations of two small stone-built enclosures (**Plate 9**)

which may be the remains of 'beehive' cell structures, known primarily from monastic sites on the Atlantic coasts of Scotland and Ireland. The wall encloses an area (**Plate 9**) which contains a settlement consisting of the remains of at least 10 small oval stone-built structures. While most survive only as foundations, one survives relatively intact (**Plate 10**). This structure resembles a stone shieling hut or cleat and is probably of a later date than the drystone walls at the site (RCHAMS, 1971).

78. To the west of the inlet of Alt Nam Bà are the remains of another group of massive drystone walls; the largest and probably earliest encloses a small promontory. The wall is 2 m thick and contains small intermural chambers. A later stone wall cuts the gully in half and at its base is a small stone circular building and enclosure. This area is difficult to access, both from its landward side and from the sea, and easy to defend. The area is also secluded and would not have been visible from a wide area. Because of these elements and the site's overall isolation, it has been suggested that this part of the site may represent the remains of an early monastic settlement though no evidence exists in the form of placenames or local tradition to confirm this.

79. Notwithstanding the uncertainty over the interpretation of the structures at Alt nam Bà, this monument is of national importance, and its cultural significance can be summarised as follows:

- **National importance**: Scheduled Monument with high potential to advance understanding of prehistoric and early historic settlement in western Scotland;
- **Strategic location**: Occupies a distinctive, defensible coastal headland, illustrating how geography influenced settlement and fortification;
- **Chronological depth**: Reflects multiple phases of use, beginning in the later prehistoric period (c. 500 BC – AD 500), with possible later adaptations;
- **Architectural evidence**:
    - Promontory fort defined by a substantial stone wall (now a rubble bank); and
    - Associated drystone walls, enclosures, and oval stone-built structures indicating settlement and seasonal activity.
- **Possible monastic links**: Secluded and defensible nature suggests potential early monastic use, though unconfirmed by placenames or tradition;
- **Economic and social insights**: Potential evidence of later seasonal activities such as summer grazing and sea-fowling, showing continuity of land use;
- **Research potential**:
    - Buried archaeological remains could reveal construction techniques, daily life, and inter-community connections; and
    - Offers insights into the design and use of large, defended settlements and coastal headlands.
- **Landscape significance**: Demonstrates strategic exploitation of isolated coastal terrain for defence, habitation, and possibly religious purposes.

Plate 9 Drystone wall enclosing small promontory

Plate 10 Oval stone-built structure

1.6.1.2.2 Present Setting

80. The promontory fort and associated remains which form Beinn a' Chaisteil, are located on the northwest coast of Islay. The monument can only be accessed by foot through bogland which is used for grazing. The land ascends steeply on the approach to the promontories which lie along this section of the coastline on Islay. Contemporary interpretations of late prehistoric ‘defended’ sites

such as promontory forts and hill forts emphasises the importance of the approach to such sites, which are often 'defended' only, or most prominently on that approach, for example along a ridge or onto a promontory, imposing a sense of control and power for visitors approaching these sites rather than necessarily creating a defensible site in a modern sense. As such, the promontory on which the monument is sited is visible from some distance on approach (**Plate 11**), however, it is not immediately obvious the exact promontory on which the monument is located on this rugged coastline.

Plate 11 View of Beinn a' Chaisteil on approach

81. Access to the monument is across boggy and overgrown ground (**Plate 12**) and as such, access around the monument is limited and its form can be difficult to discern. From the summit of Beinn a' Chaisteil there are wide ranging views up and down the coast, most importantly towards Dun Bheolain (**Plate 13**). There are also wide-ranging views out to sea (**Plate 14**) and down towards the rugged cliffs (**Plate 15**), which give a sense of isolation and inaccessibility. Views back up towards Beinn a' Chaisteil from Alt nam Bà also contribute to this sense of isolation (**Plate 16**). From here the sound of the wind and the waves can be heard crashing into the cliffs, reinforcing the impression of this harsh environment.

82. During the site visit the wall cutting off the promontory could not be readily identified and only one building was seen in the Alt Nam Bà gully; while the others clearly survive, they do not form prominent landscape elements and the viewer's attention is primarily on the foreground as they seek to pick out the remains of these structures. Views to the sea are important as the viewer's attention is drawn by the sound of the sea, but these views are more constrained and channelled down the gulley and the general sense of proximity to the ocean is the key contribution.

83. There is an argument that the proximity to the sea is important to understanding the wider connectedness of the early-medieval monastic sites of the Atlantic and Irish Sea coasts of Scotland, which raises a tension between an understanding of these sites as remote and at the 'edge of the world' or as connected points within a wider cultural network. The nature of this relationship and the meaning of these views out to sea to this aspect of these sites is unclear. In this instance, views from Alt nam Bà are channelled to the north-west and not towards Ireland, and there is no clear landing place, meaning that any relationship with marine navigation beyond a general association with the

sea appears likely to be peripheral to understanding or appreciation of the historical place of these assets.

84. No structures are recorded within the promontory fort, although this apparent absence focuses the viewer's attention outward towards the various elements of the panoramic view, with a particular focus on the line of the cliffs and the promontory fort at Dun Bheolain. As such, beyond the generalised perception that this is a remote place that accords with modern perception of remoteness and isolation, little more can be determined than the fact that location of a promontory fort suggests past occupation and use of the landscape; most interpretations of promontory forts emphasise their relationship with the terrestrial environment and territorial control, and views inland from the asset also contribute.

Plate 12 Access to Beinn a' Chaisteil

Plate 13 View of Dun Bheolain from the summit of Beinn a' Chaisteil

Plate 14 View out to sea from the summit of Beinn a' Chaisteil

Plate 15 View down Alt Nam Bà and towards the cliffs

Plate 16 View back toward the summit of Beinn a' Chaisteil from Alt Nam Ba

1.6.1.2.3 Change to Setting

85. The nearest WTG will be located c.15 km northwest of the monument. The WTGs will be visible as prominent features, occupying an approximate 70 degree arc of view in the seascape when looking directly at the WDA from the asset, especially on clear days as illustrated in **Figure 5**. Similarly, the WTGs would be present in views out towards sea when descending the gully down into the site at Alt Nam Bà, however, several would be screened by the side of the gully itself, as illustrated in **Figure 15**.

86. However, with the height of the promontories restricting visibility of Beinn a' Chaisteil itself from outside of the scheduled area, views of the monument on approach by foot will be unaffected, as would views inland and along the coast to Dun Bheolain. The WTGs would be visible in more distant views from the south, although the asset itself can only be identified by reference to the underlying topography, which would remain the dominant element of those views as shown by photomontages for **Viewpoints 2: Saligo Bay, Islay, 3: Kilchoman, Islay,4: Creag Bealach na Caillich, Islay** which can be located in **Chapter 16 Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impacts**. Similarly, the close views between the individual identifiable elements of the site at Alt Nam Bà will be unaffected. These views are important as they help the principal experience of these assets, and while views out to sea are channelled toward the wind WTGs by the form of the Alt nam Bà, these would not disrupt the immediate contribution of the sea through its perceptual proximity and sound, and would not affect any understanding of the asset or its place in the landscape.

1.6.1.2.4 Consideration of Worst Case

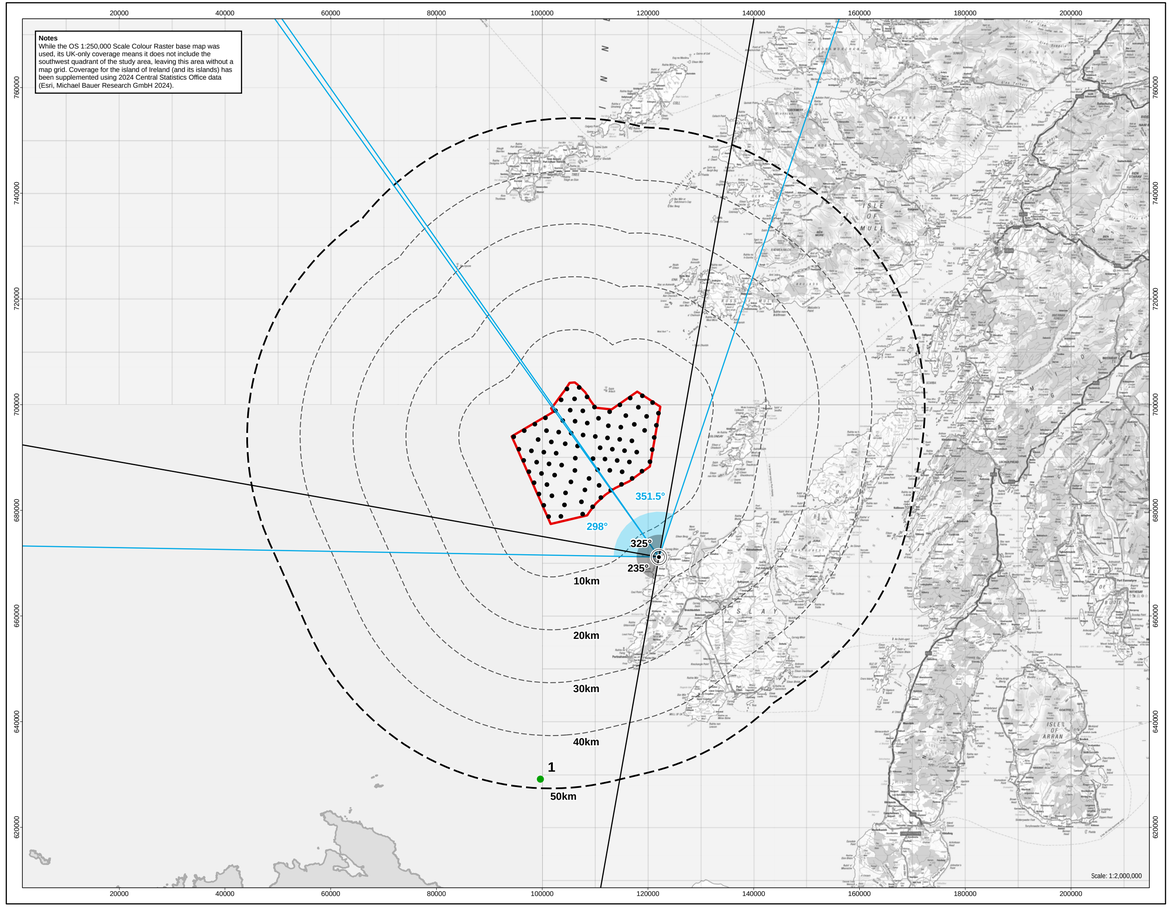
87. In the case of this asset, any difference in magnitude of effect between the indicative 91 WTG and 144 WTG layouts is minimal. The increased scale and prominence of the larger WTGs, would be balanced by the denser layout required for the smaller WTGs and likely increased stacking, although a denser layout would arguably appear more coherent, though this impression is in part a function of

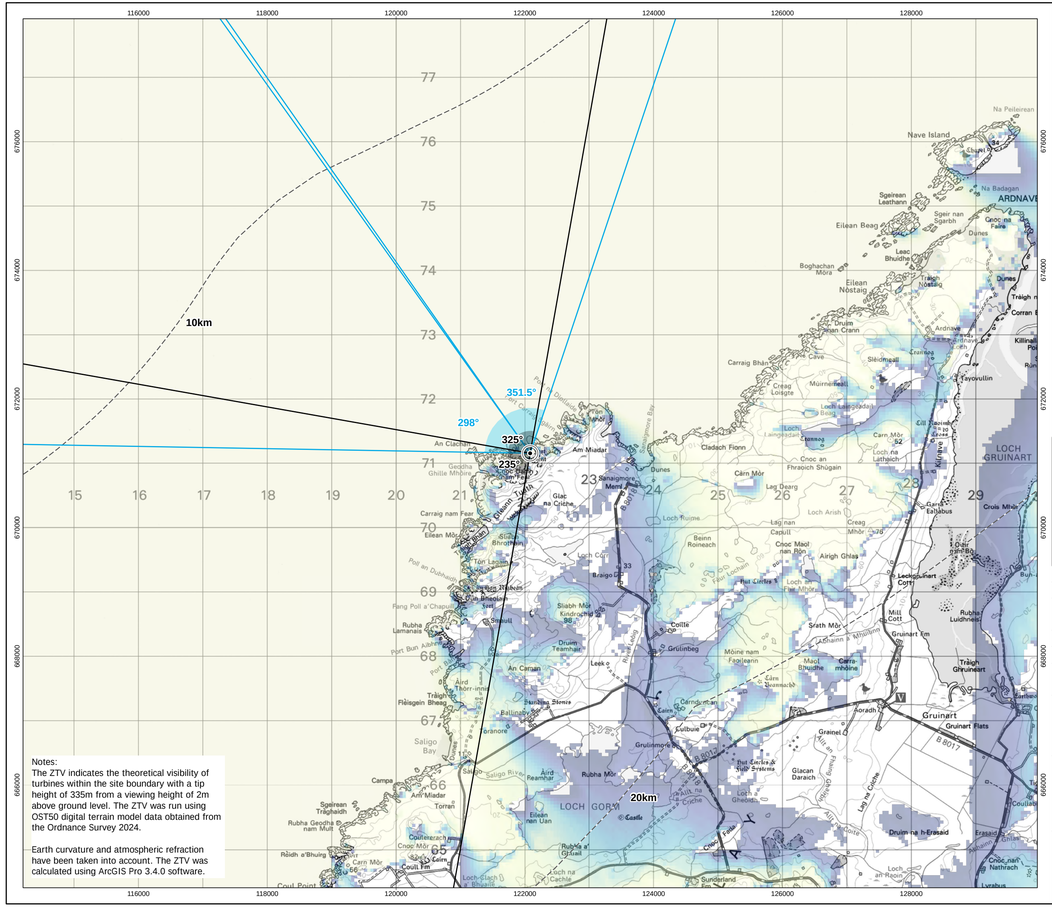
the ‘dense perimeter’ layout adopted for the indicative worst-case, and no change to the assessed magnitude of effect would be anticipated from the adoption of the 144 WTG layout.

1.6.1.2.1 Significance of Effect

88. The ZTV, visualisations (**Figure 5**) and site walkover all indicate that the presence of the WTGs would represent a discernible change to the setting of Beinn a' Chaisteil promontory fort and associated remains. However, the WTGs would not intrude upon the relationship with its more immediate locality in terms of views on the immediate approach to the asset from the south or back inland. Equally, views of Beinn a' Chaisteil promontory fort and associated remains would be unaffected. As such the magnitude of this change is assessed as **medium adverse**.

89. For an asset of high sensitivity, this gives rise to a **major adverse** effect to cultural significance, which is **significant** in EIA terms.





Windfarm development area
Indicative 24MW turbine layout
10km interval from windfarm development area
50km study area

Zone of Theoretical Visibility
More turbines visible
Less turbines visible

Wind Farm Status
Design/Scoping
1. Malin Sea Wind

90° Field of View
53° Field of View

0 2 Kilometres

REV	REV DATE	GIS CREATOR	GIS REVIEWER	TECHNICAL CHECKER	TECHNICAL APPROVER
2	27/05/2026	DS	TH	LC	PM

DRAWING NUMBER	MCW-DWF-ENV-MAP-RHS-000106
DATUM	OSGB36 (EPSG:27700)
PROJECTION	Transverse Mercator
SCALE	1:50,000
PAGE SIZE	A3
PROJECT TITLE	MachairWind

Figure 5:
Beinn a' Chaisteil, promontory fort and associated remains, Islay.

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Haskoning Enhancing Society Together
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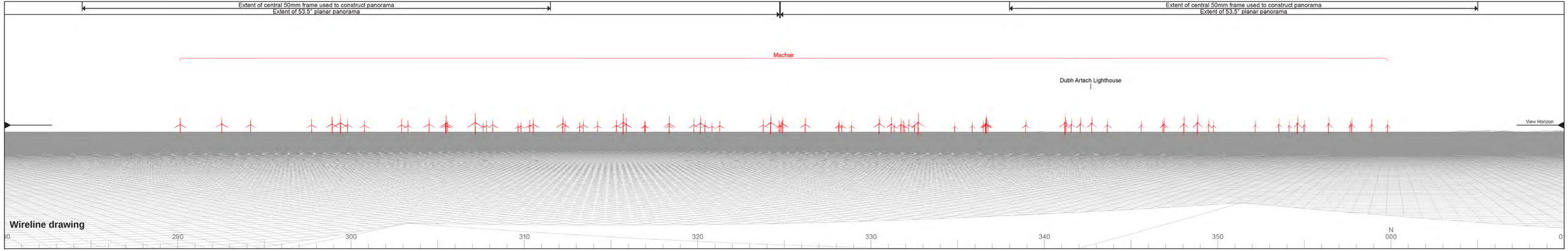
Project: N:\12000\012059 Machair Wind SLV\AI\PROS\SLV\012059_001_SLVIA_ZTV\012059_001_SLVIA_ZTVs.aprx
Name: MCW-DEN-GIS-MAP-1_to_21_Cn_VP_MapSheets_A3L



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Direction of view:	325°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)	Camera height:	1.5 m				
Nearest turbine:	15.47 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm						

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

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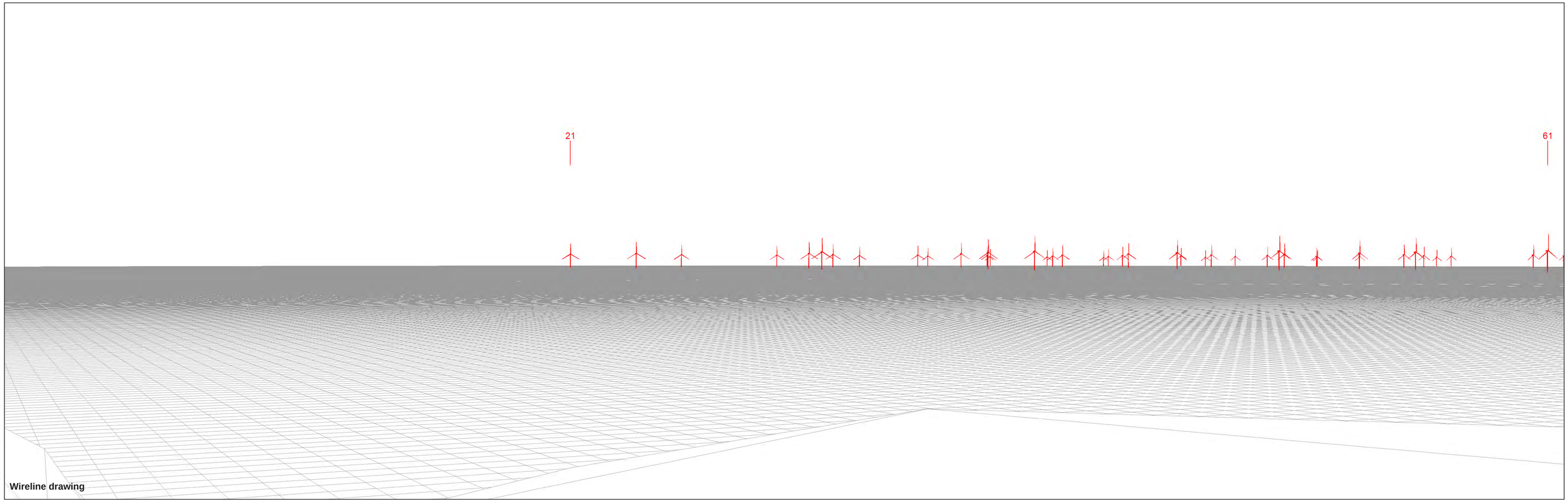
Figure 5a

Viewpoint CH3: Beinn a' Chaisteil, promontory fort and associated remains, Islay



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Direction of view:	298°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	15.47 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

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Figure 5b

Viewpoint CH3: Beinn a' Chaisteil, promontory fort and associated remains, Islay

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OS reference:	122082E 671154N	Principal distance:	53.5° (planar projection)	Camera:	NIKON D750	Photography Date:	18/07/2025
Above Ordnance Datum:	120.40 m	Paper size:	812.5 mm	Lens:	50mm Fixed Focal Length	Photography Time:	15:04
Direction of view:	298°	Correct printed image size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)	Camera height:	1.5 m		
Nearest turbine:	15.47 km		820 x 260 mm				

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

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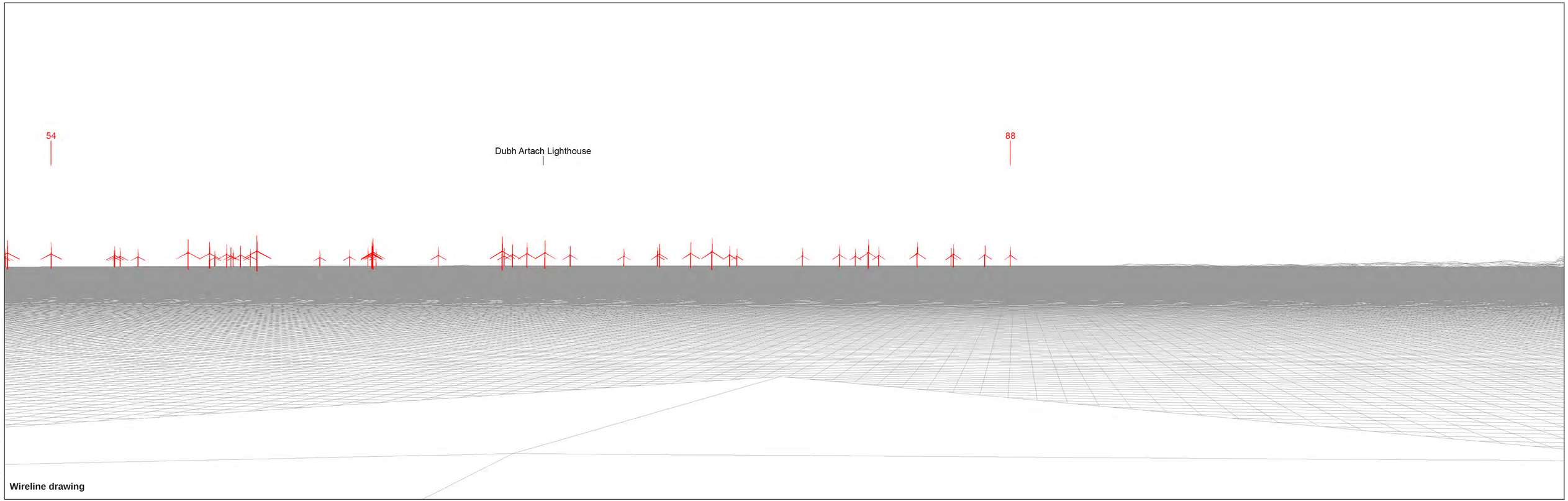
Figure 5c

Viewpoint CH3: Beinn a' Chaisteil, promontory fort and associated remains, Islay



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LUC

OS reference:	122082E 671154N		53.5° (planar projection)
Above Ordnance Datum:	120.40 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm
Direction of view:	351.5°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	15.47 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Notes:

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Figure 5d

Viewpoint CH3: Beinn a' Chaisteil, promontory fort and associated remains, Islay

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OS reference:	122082E 671154N	Principal distance:	53.5° (planar projection)	Camera:	NIKON D750	Photography Date:	18/07/2025
Above Ordnance Datum:	120.40 m	Paper size:	812.5 mm	Lens:	50mm Fixed Focal Length	Photography Time:	15:04
Direction of view:	351.5°	Correct printed image size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)	Camera height:	1.5 m		
Nearest turbine:	15.47 km		820 x 260 mm				

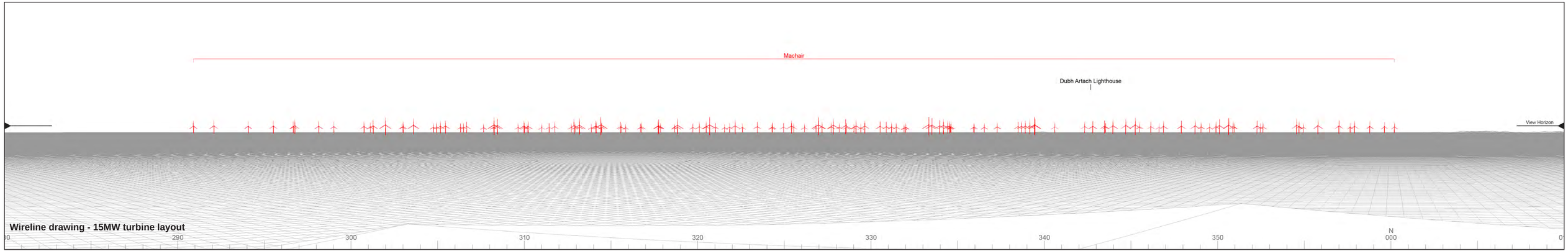
Notes:

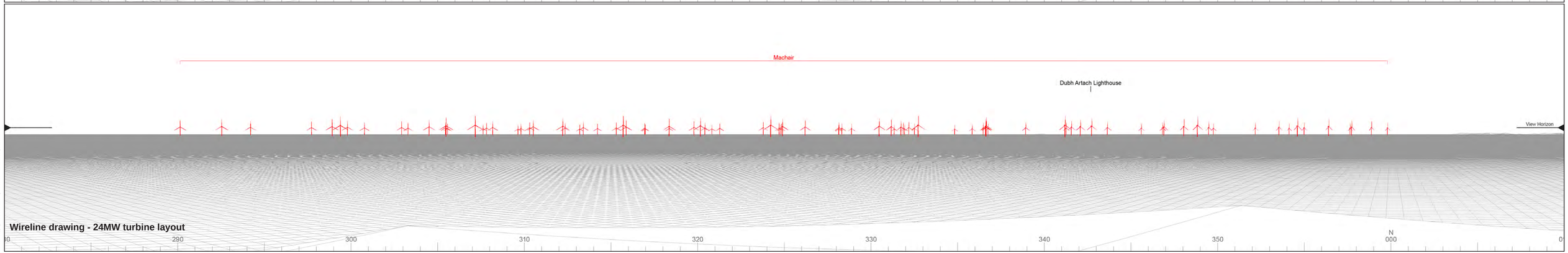
The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 5e

Viewpoint CH3: Beinn a' Chaisteil, promontory fort and associated remains, Islay





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OS reference:	122082E 671154N		90° (cylindrical projection)
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MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 5f

Viewpoint CH3: Beinn a' Chaisteil, promontory fort and associated remains, Islay

1.6.1.3 Nave Island, monastic site, Viking house, chapel, burial ground, settlement and kelp-burning kiln (SM3233)

1.6.1.3.1 Importance

90. Nave Island houses the remains of an ecclesiastical complex, a Viking structure interpreted as a possible house or burial and a later industrial kelp burning facility 18th century (**Plate 17**). The site lies on the southeastern side of Nave Island between around 10-20 m above sea level.

Plate 17 Nave Island

91. The earliest remains on the site appear to be an early monastic complex, dating to potentially the 6th-7th century. This was followed by a bow-sided stone and earth structure, around 70 m northwest of the church ruins from the Viking period. The next phase is represented by the ruined church remains, recorded in the mid-16th century but with architectural elements suggesting the current building originates in the early-13th century.

92. The site is then recorded as in use in the post-medieval period for agriculture, and this is visible in the form of extensive rig and furrow cultivation. What appears to be the final use of the site is for a kelp-burning kiln in the 18th century, constructed within and around the ruins of the chapel.

93. The heritage significance of the site lies can be summarised as follows:

- **Multi-period site**: Contains remains from several distinct phases—early monastic complex, Viking period structure or burial, medieval chapel, post-medieval agriculture, and 18th-century kelp-burning industry;
- **Early Christian heritage**: Features a curved enclosed burial ground and monastic remains dating to the 6th–7th century, illustrating the early spread of Christianity in Scotland;
- **Viking presence**: Includes a bow-sided stone and earth structure from the Viking period, highlighting Norse influence on Scotland's Atlantic seaboard;
- **Medieval ecclesiastical architecture**: Ruined church recorded in the 16th century, with architectural elements suggesting origins in the early 13th century;
- **Agricultural evidence**: Extensive rig-and-furrow cultivation marks post-medieval agricultural use of the site;
- **Industrial heritage**: Kelp-burning kiln from the 18th century reflects Scotland's involvement in the wider agricultural improvements of the late 18th/early 19th century;

- **Cultural interaction**: Offers significant potential to understand interactions between ecclesiastical and apparently Scandinavian early-medieval uses of the site; and
- **Research value**: Enhances knowledge of multiple historical themes—Christianisation, Scandinavian impact, medieval religious practice, agricultural development, and industrial activity.

1.6.1.3.2 Present Setting

94. As discussed above, the complex is located on Nave Island, which is isolated and is only accessible by private boat. It is bounded by the Atlantic and is separated from Ardnave point by a channel. The island can be seen from Ardnave Point; however, the only visible component of the complex is the later kelp kiln as most of the remains of the earlier monastic site survive below the surface. This makes it difficult for the casual viewer to experience the monument and as the viewer approaches in a boat, the mass of Nave Island would progressively block views of the WTGs as the viewer approaches close enough to distinguish the site with any greater confidence.

95. The complex lies on the eastern side of the island at 7 m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD) while the western side is 12 m AOD, meaning that there are no views of the Atlantic to the west, and views to the sea focus on the channel, which provides both the approach to the site from the sea and a relatively sheltered landing place. It can be assumed that this location was originally selected as the topography of the Island provided natural shelter from the Atlantic winds. As such, important views are those from Nave Island back towards Islay and up and down the channel that separates Nave Island from Islay. Similarly, views between the individual components of the complex are key to it understanding and appreciation, although these appear to be limited to close inspection on site, with only limited visibility of earthwork remains noted in the NRHE and schedule descriptions.

96. Although Nave Island is remote today, for much of its history it would have occupied a far more connected position on the major western sea routes of the Atlantic coast of Scotland and the British Isles. This extensive network of trading and transport links played a significant role in much of Scotland's history, including the spread of Christianity and the later spread of Scandinavian overlordship, both of which are reflected in the remains found on Nave Island.

1.6.1.3.3 Change to Setting

97. The nearest WTG will be located c.15 km from Nave Island monastic site, Viking house, chapel, burial ground, settlement and kelp-burning kiln. The site visit revealed that when viewing the monument from Ardnave Point, the only visible element is the kelp kiln (**Plate 17**). When viewing this the WDA will not be directly juxtaposed with the line of sight to the asset's location as shown in **Figure 6**. As indicated by the ZTV in **Figure 6** no WTGs would be visible from the monument. Similarly, views from the monument back to Islay and up and down the coast would be unaffected by the presence of the WTGs.

98. As discussed in **Section 1.5**, due to their distance from Nave Island, the WTGs would not be sufficiently audible to give rise to a change to setting so this element of the monuments' setting would remain unchanged. Accordingly, the Project would not intervene with views from the monument that contribute to understanding of the past use and significance of this asset.

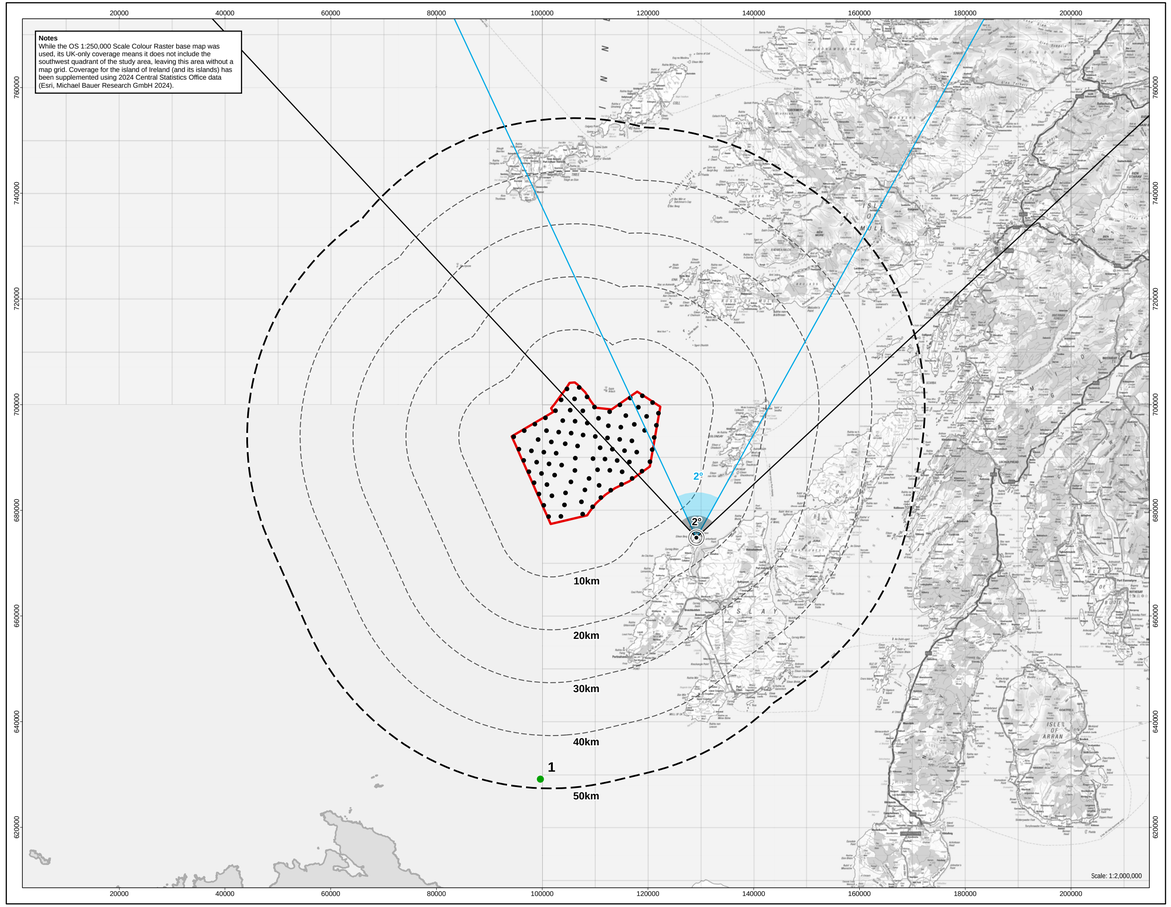
1.6.1.3.4 Consideration of Worst Case

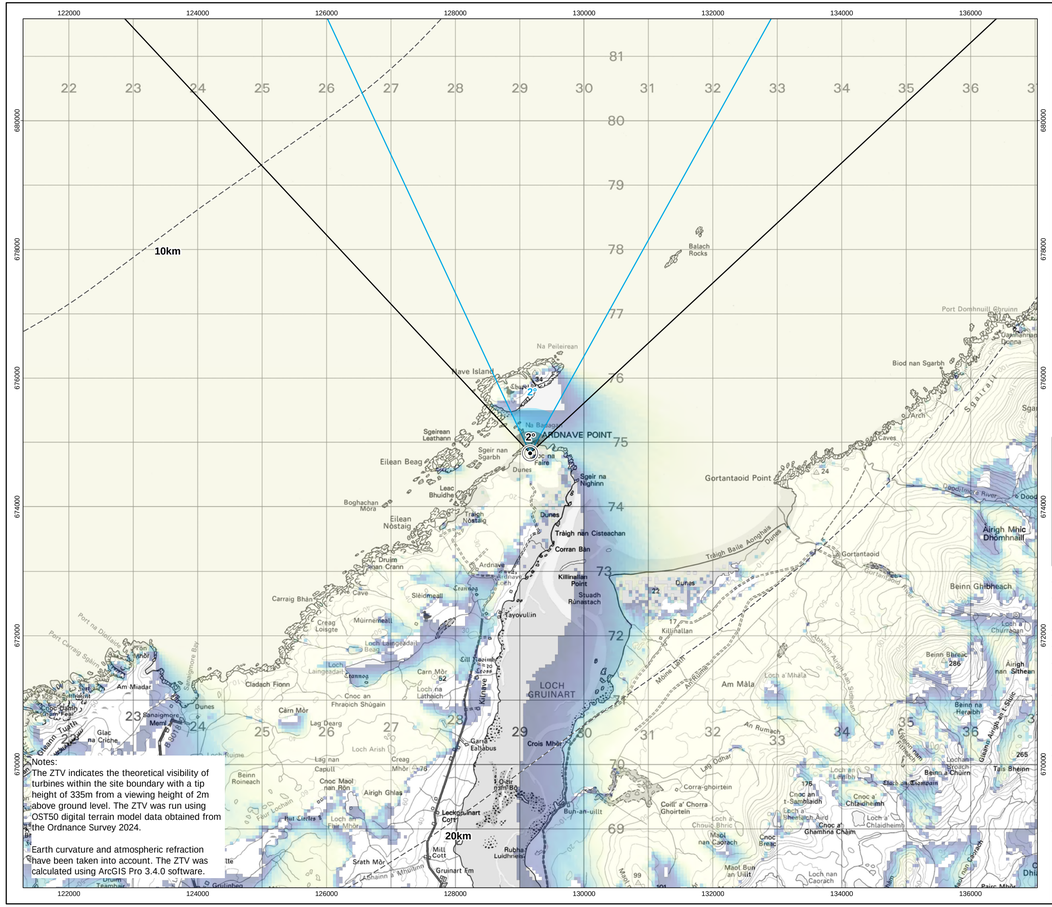
99. In the case of this asset, any difference in magnitude of effect between the indicative 91 WTG and 144 WTG layouts is minimal. The increased scale and prominence of the larger WTGs would be balanced by the denser layout required for the smaller WTGs and likely increased stacking. The difference in tip height would not be sufficient for Nave Island to screen the lower WTGs in views from the south and while the 91 WTG layout presents a slightly more coherent appearance in the

visualisations, it must be remembered that this is an indicative layout that is subject to change. No change to the assessed magnitude of effect would be anticipated from the adoption of the 144 WTG layout.

1.6.1.3.5 Significance of Effect

100. The ZTV, visualisations and site walkover all indicate that the presence of the WTGs would not be visible from the designated area of Nave Island. However, the WTGs would appear in the background when viewing Nave Island from Ardnave Point. Therefore, the magnitude of this change is assessed as **negligible**. For an asset of high sensitivity, this would give rise to a **minor adverse** effect to cultural significance, which is **not significant** in EIA terms.





Windfarm development area
Indicative 24MW turbine layout
10km interval from windfarm development area
50km study area
Zone of Theoretical Visibility
More turbines visible
Less turbines visible
Wind Farm Status
Design/Scoping
1. Malin Sea Wind
90° Field of View
53° Field of View
N
0
2
Kilometres

REV	REV DATE	GIS CREATOR	GIS REVIEWER	TECHNICAL CHECKER	TECHNICAL APPROVER
2	27/05/2026	DS	TH	LC	PM

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DATUM: OSGB36 (EPSG:27700)	PROJECTION: Transverse Mercator
SCALE: 1:50,000	PAGE SIZE: A3
PROJECT TITLE	MachairWind

Figure 6:
Nave Island, monastic site, Viking house, chapel, burial ground, settlement and kelp-burning kiln.

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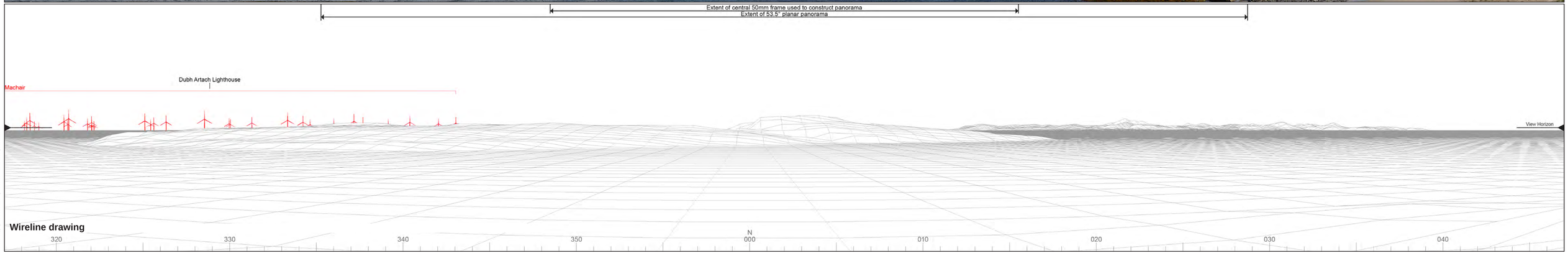

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LUC

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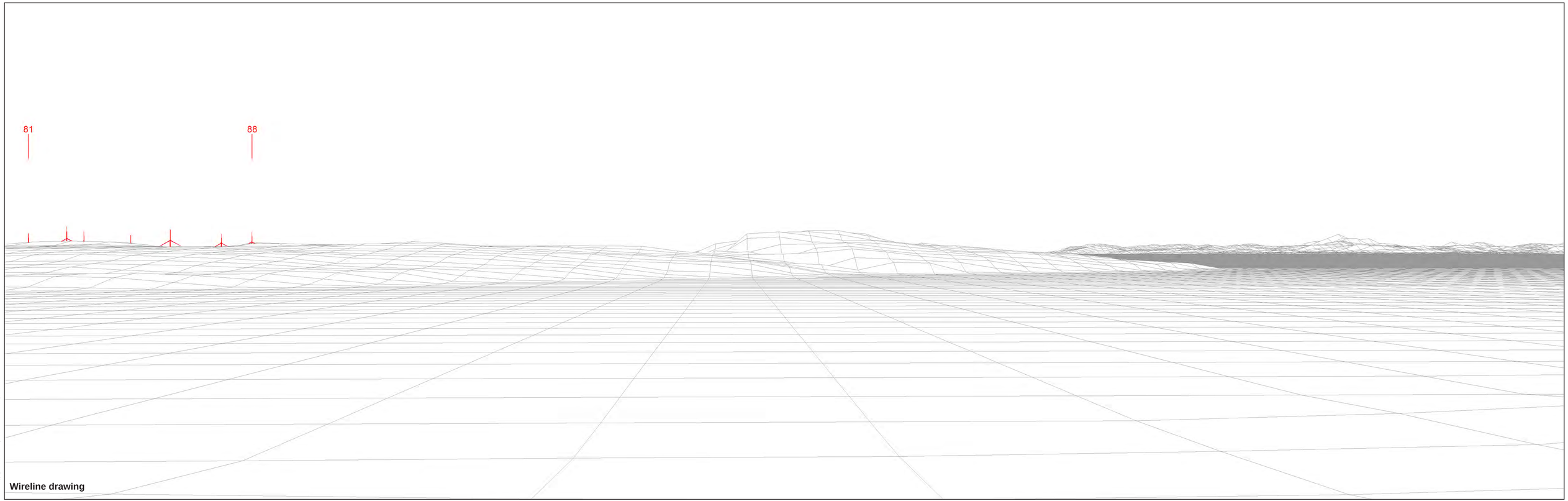
Above Ordnance Datum:	12.48 m	Paper size:	522 mm	Lens:	50mm Fixed Focal Length	Photography Time:	09:38
Direction of view:	272°	Correct printed image size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)	Camera height:	1.5 m		
Nearest turbine:	16.25 km		820 x 260 mm				

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 6a
Viewpoint CH4: Nave Island, monastic site, Viking house, chapel, burial ground, settlement, and kelp-burning kiln



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LUC

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Direction of view:	272°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	16.25 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 6b
Viewpoint CH4: Nave Island, monastic site, Viking house, chapel, burial ground, settlement, and kelp-burning kiln

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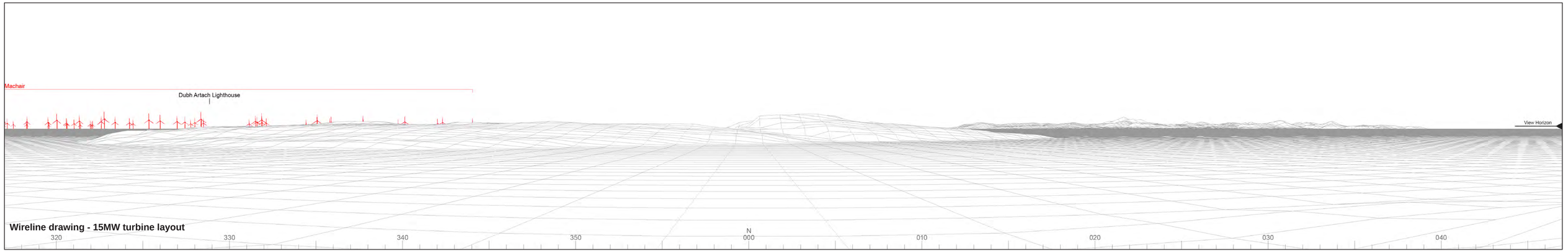
OS reference:	129162E 674831N	Principal distance:	53.5° (planar projection)	Camera:	NIKON D750	Photography Date:	20/08/2024
Above Ordnance Datum:	12.48 m	Paper size:	812.5 mm	Lens:	50mm Fixed Focal Length	Photography Time:	09:38
Direction of view:	272°	Correct printed image size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)	Camera height:	1.5 m		
Nearest turbine:	16.25 km		820 x 260 mm				

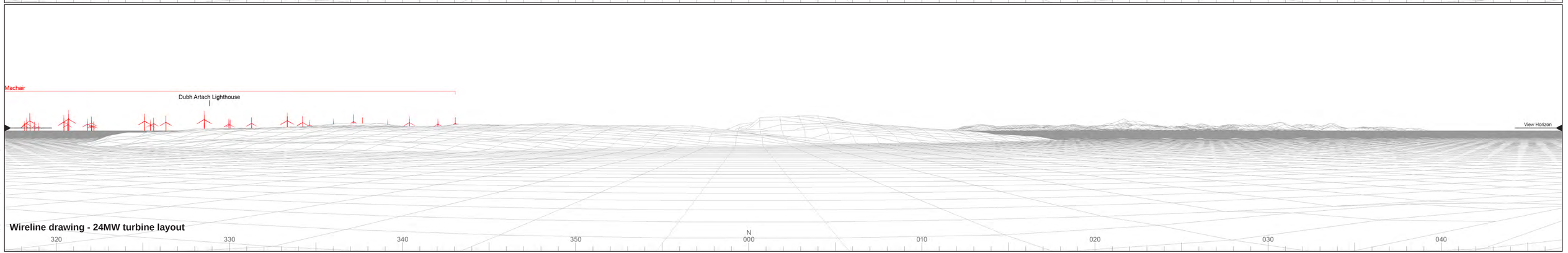
Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 6c
Viewpoint CH4: Nave Island, monastic site, Viking house, chapel, burial ground, settlement, and kelp-burning kiln





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LUC

OS reference:	129162E 674831N		90° (cylindrical projection)
Above Ordnance Datum:	12.48 m	Principal distance:	522 mm
Direction of view:	272°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
		Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 6d
Viewpoint CH4: Nave Island, monastic site, Viking house, chapel, burial ground, settlement, and kelp-burning kiln

1.6.1.4 Dun Bheolain, fort, Islay (SM13214)

1.6.1.4.1 Importance

101. Although termed a dun, Dun Bheolain, fort, Islay (**Plate 18**) comprises the remains of a poorly preserved substantial promontory fort occupying a distinctive coastal headland on the northwest coast of Islay. The visible remains reflect two or more phases of use, the earliest of which is likely to be later prehistoric in origin (between 500 BC and AD 500). The headland is surrounded by steep sea cliffs on all but the southeast (landward) side, which rises towards the end of the headland in two distinct terraces. Two walls run across the two narrowest parts of the headland. The outermost wall (**Plate 19**) encloses a substantial area of the headland. The fort interior comprises three distinct wedge-shaped areas between summits and terraces. Within the interior, several hollows and platforms are likely to represent the remains of dwellings or structures. Turf overlies the outer wall, and an area of ridge and furrow cultivation is visible between this and the inner wall (**Plate 20**).

Plate 18 Dun Bheolain, fort, Islay

Plate 19 Outer wall of Dun Bheolain, fort

Plate 20 View of Dun Bheolain, fort from the northeast (red arrows highlight the internal wall

102. Larger defended settlements, such as Dun Bheolain, are believed to have been occupied by larger groups of people and served the wider community. Research suggests they were positioned in places visible from far afield and from other contemporary sites; and that this was just as important as having good visibility from a monument (RCAHMS, 1984). Dun Bheolain has excellent views towards the sea and along the coast.

103. The cultural significance of Dun Bheolain can be summarised as follows:

- **National importance**: Designated as a Scheduled Monument due to its potential to advance understanding of prehistoric, defended settlements in western Scotland;
- **Scale**: Largest Promontory Fort on Islay highlighting it strategic importance compared to other similar sites;
- **Chronological depth**: Reflects two or more phases of use, with origins likely in the later prehistoric period (c. 500 BC – AD 500);
- **Strategic location**: Occupies a distinctive coastal headland surrounded by steep sea cliffs, emphasizing defensive advantages;
- **Architectural features**:
    - Two substantial walls across narrow landward approaches; and
    - Interior divided into three wedge-shaped areas with hollows and platforms suggesting dwellings or structures.
- **Agricultural evidence**: Ridge and furrow cultivation within the fort indicates later land-use practices; and
- **Research potential**:
    - High likelihood of well-preserved buried remains that can reveal construction techniques, domestic life, and social organization; and
    - Offers insights into connections between communities and the role of coastal forts in the wider economy and society.

1.6.1.4.2 Present Setting

104. Dun Bheolain fort is a naturally well-defended site with sheer cliffs on three sides which makes access difficult and, in many places, impossible. Views from the fort are panoramic with a seaward outlook to the west and southwards over the southwest coast of Islay (**Plate 21**).

105. The monument has good views out to sea (**Plate 22**) which are important as the viewer's attention is drawn by the sound of the sea, but these views are more constrained to a general sense of proximity. There are good views inland (**Plate 23**). It has views to the east towards Dun nan Nighean and further afield to Beinn a' Chaisteil (**Plate 24**) and when viewed from the north or south the headland's stepped profile provides a prominent landmark on the west coast of Islay (**Plate 25**). These outward views situate the fort within a regionally distinctive coastal and upland setting, adding dramatic context to what is otherwise a common monument type.

106. On approach this fort stands as a dominant feature that can be seen from multiple locations as an impressive monument throughout the surrounding landscape. Modern interpretations of late prehistoric promontory and hill forts stress the importance of their approach, emphasising that they were positioned in places which would have been visible from far afield and from other contemporary sites, and that this was just as important as having good visibility from a monument. These sites were often most strongly "defended" along the access route such as a ridge or promontory not simply for security, but to create an imposing sense of control and power for those arriving.

107. Walking around the site the viewer understands the harsh environment in which it is located which gives a sense of detachment where the sea is used as a form of defence or enclosure, rather than as a source of connectivity. Overall, this is an impressive monument in an impressive coastal location.

Plate 21 View southeast from summit of Dun Bheolain fort

Plate 22 View from the summit of Dun Bheolain fort out to sea

Plate 23 View from the summit of Dun Bheolain fort inland

Plate 24 View northwest from Dun Bheolain fort towards Beinn a' Chaisteil

Plate 25 Dun Bheolain, fort, Islay on approach from the south

1.6.1.4.3 Change to Setting

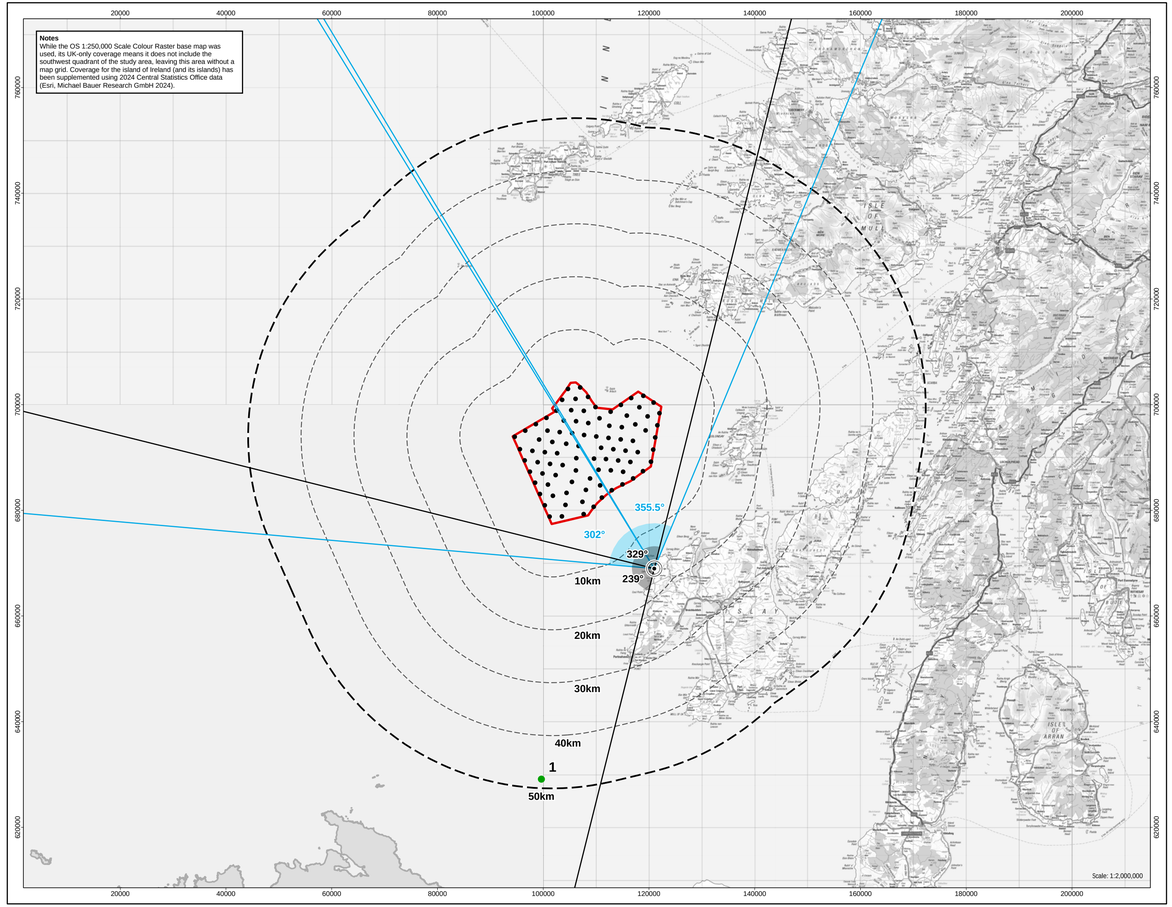
108. The nearest WTG will be located c.16 km from Dun Bheolain. The ZTV, visualisations (**Figure 7**) and site walkover all indicate that the presence of the WTGs would represent a discernible change to the setting of Dun Bheolain. The WTGs would be visible in more distant views from the south, although even in close views, the asset itself can only be identified by reference to the underlying topography, which would remain the dominant element of those views as shown by photomontages for **Viewpoints 2: Saligo Bay, Islay, 3: Kilchoman, Islay,4: Creag Bealach na Caillich, Islay** which can be located in **Chapter 16 Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impacts**. This is also illustrated in **Figure 16.** However, the WTGs would not intrude upon the relationship with its more immediate locality or with views up and down the coast or back inland. Equally, views of Beinn a' Chaisteil and Dun nan Nighean would be unaffected as would views of Dun Bheolain on approach. The presence of the WTGs would not detract from its prominence within the landscape.

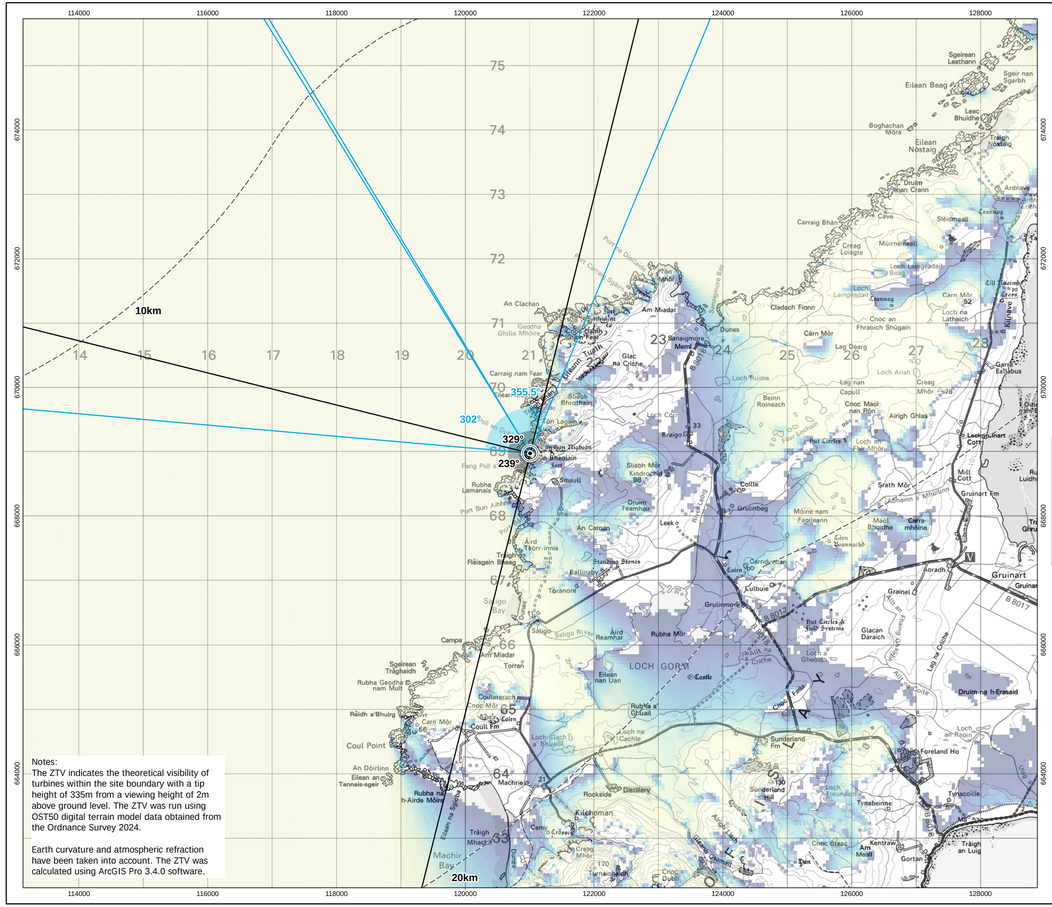
1.6.1.4.4 Consideration of Worst Case

109. In the case of this asset, any difference in magnitude of effect between the indicative 91 WTG and 144 WTG layouts is minimal, but the increased scale and prominence of the larger WTGs, is likely to present slightly greater change to setting, albeit balanced by the denser layout required for the smaller WTGs and likely increased stacking, while the difference in tip height would not be sufficient for the lower lying ground to the west of the asset to screen the lower WTGs in views from the south, and no change to the assessed magnitude of effect would be anticipated from the adoption of the 144 WTG layout.

1.6.1.4.5 Significance of Effect

110. As there would be a discernible change to setting of Dun Bheolain, the magnitude of change is assessed as **medium adverse**. For an asset of high sensitivity, this would give rise to a **major adverse** effect, which **is significant** in EIA terms.





Windfarm development area
Indicative 24MW turbine layout
10km interval from windfarm development area
50km study area

Zone of Theoretical Visibility
More turbines visible
Less turbines visible

Wind Farm Status
Design/Scoping
1. Malin Sea Wind

V 90° Field of View
V 53° Field of View

N

0 2 Kilometres

REV	REV DATE	GIS CREATOR	GIS REVIEWER	TECHNICAL CHECKER	TECHNICAL APPROVER
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DRAWING NUMBER	MCW-DWF-ENV-MAP-RHS-000108
DATUM	OSGB36 (EPSG:27700)
PROJECTION	Transverse Mercator
SCALE	1:50,000
PAGE SIZE	A3
PROJECT TITLE	MachairWind

Figure 7:
Dun Bheolain, fort, Islay.

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ScottishPower Renewables

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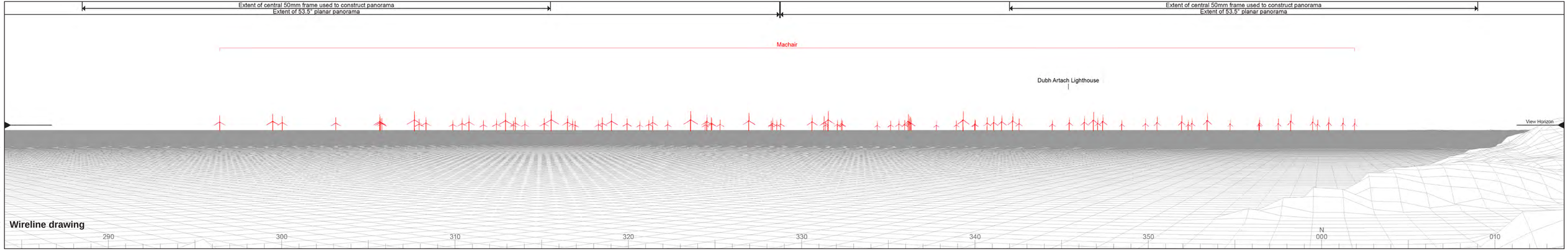

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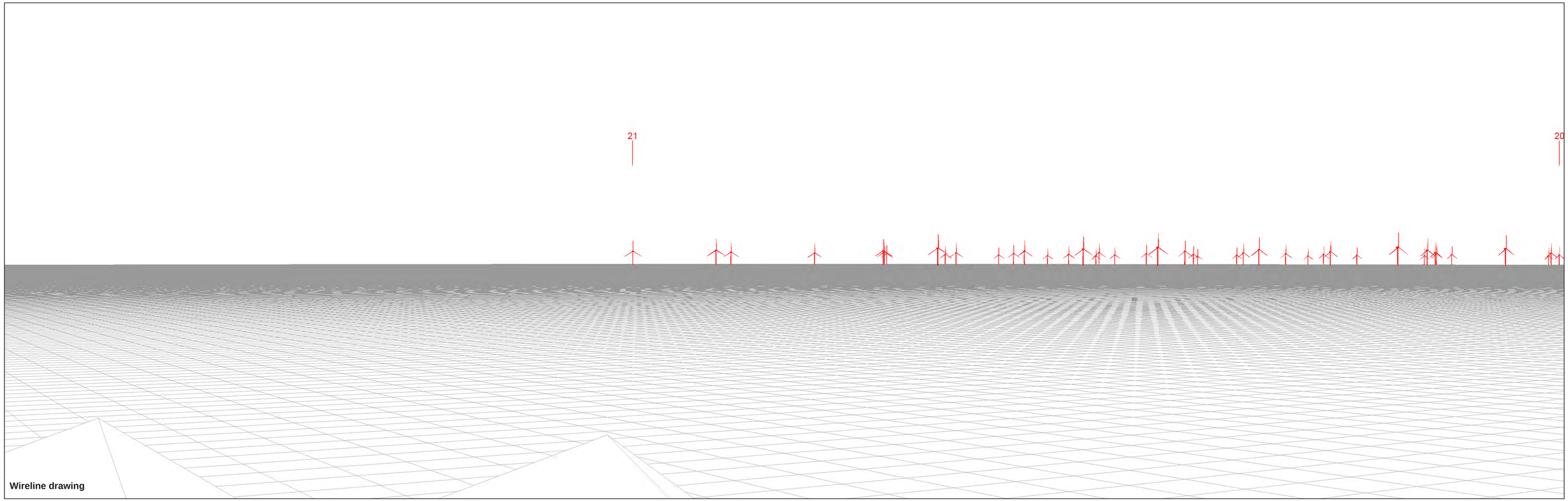
Direction of view:	329°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)	Camera height:	1.5 m		
Nearest turbine:	16.38 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm				

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 7a
Viewpoint CH5: Dun Bheolain, fort, Islay



Wireline drawing

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Nearest turbine:	16.38 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 7b

Viewpoint CH5: Dun Bheolain, fort, Islay

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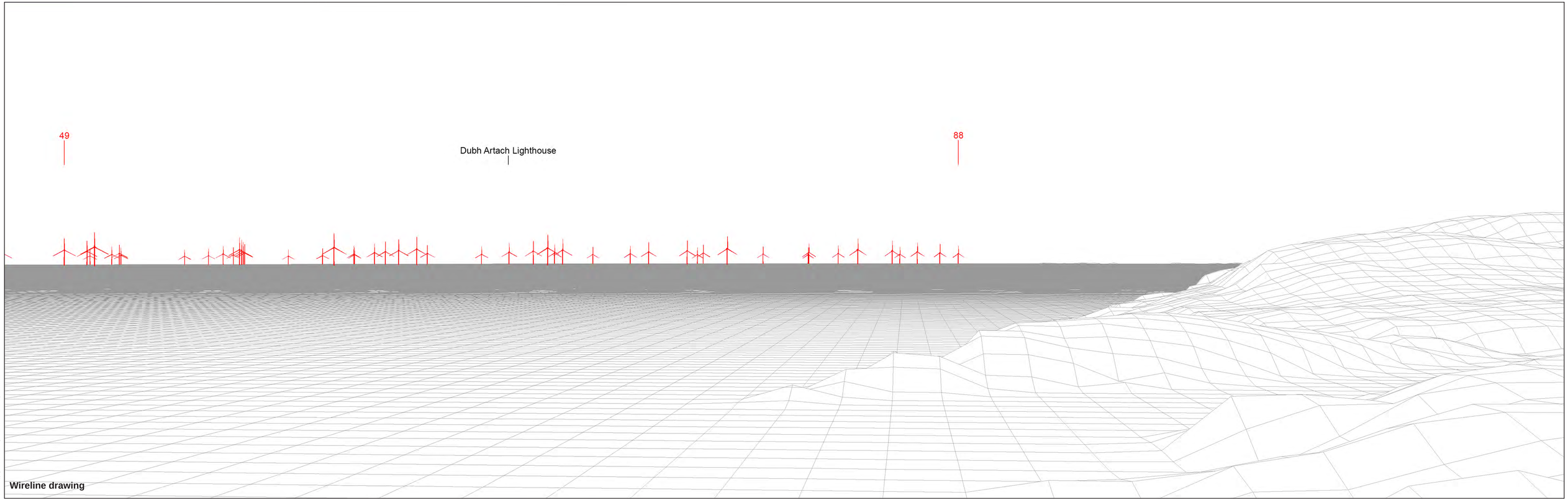
Above Ordnance Datum:	68.63 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm	Lens:	50mm Fixed Focal Length	Photography Time:	12:37
Direction of view:	302°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)	Camera height:	1.5 m		
Nearest turbine:	16.38 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm				

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 7c
Viewpoint CH5: Dun Bheolain, fort, Islay



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Direction of view:	355.5°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	16.38 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 7d
Viewpoint CH5: Dun Bheolain, fort, Islay

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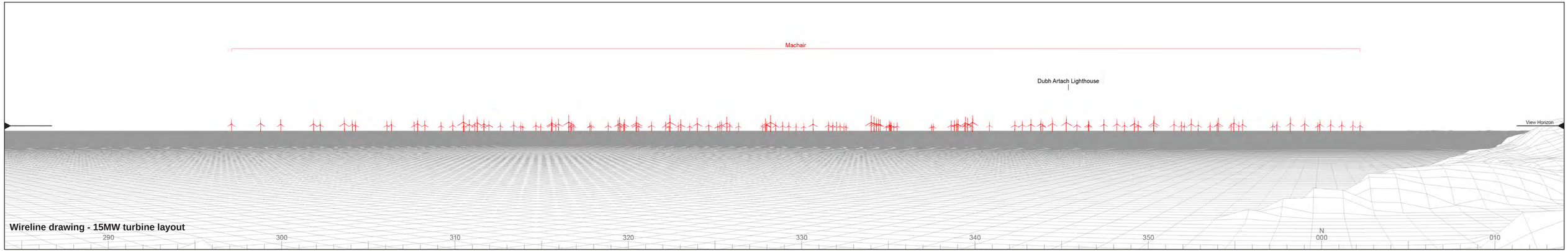
OS reference:	121007E 668974N	Principal distance:	53.5° (planar projection)	Camera:	NIKON D750	Photography Date:	18/07/2025
Above Ordnance Datum:	68.63 m	Paper size:	812.5 mm	Lens:	50mm Fixed Focal Length	Photography Time:	12:37
Direction of view:	355.5°	Correct printed image size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)	Camera height:	1.5 m		
Nearest turbine:	16.38 km		820 x 260 mm				

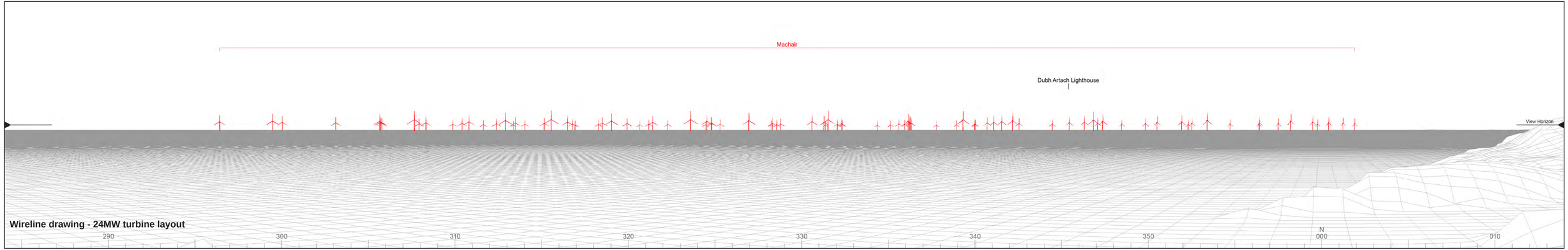
Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 7e
Viewpoint CH5: Dun Bheolain, fort, Islay





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Direction of view:	329°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
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Notes:

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MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 7f

Viewpoint CH5: Dun Bheolain, fort, Islay

1.6.1.5 St Mary's Abbey, Iona, monastic settlement (SM12968)

1.6.1.5.1 Importance

111. St Mary's Abbey on Iona is a former monastic settlement (**Plate 26**) that comprises the remains of the large early historic monastic settlement founded by St Columba in AD 563, St Martin's Cross, and parts of medieval buildings associated with the Benedictine Abbey of St Mary founded around AD 1200. Parts of the bank and ditch that surrounded the monastic settlement are visible as upstanding features, particularly on the west side of the monument.

112. Iona Abbey is one of the oldest and most important religious centres in Western Europe. The Abbey was the focal point for the spread of Christianity throughout Scotland, with a monastic community first founded here by St. Columba (Colum Cille) around 563, when Iona was part of the Kingdom of Dal Riata, and has come to be a focus for both expressions of Christian spirituality and Scottish national identity.

Plate 26 St Mary's Abbey, Iona, monastic settlement (SM12968)

113. The *Iona Statement of Significance* (HES, 2019) defines the important aspects of St Mary's Abbey and monastic settlement which contribute to its cultural significance. These can be summarised as follows:

- **Religious heritage**: The shrine chapel, likely Scotland's oldest church building, once housed Columba's relics—the monastery's greatest treasure;
- **Art and sculpture**: Iona holds the largest collection of early sacred sculpture in Britain, including high crosses like St Martin's (standing for 1,250 years) and the Lapis Echodi stone, possibly Britain's oldest royal memorial to a king in Britain (Eochaid Buide, king of Dal Riata died c 629);
- **Literacy and scholarship**: Iona was a hub of learning, producing chronicles (630–720) and possibly the *Book of Kells*, one of Europe's finest Gospel manuscripts. Adomnán's works, including *Life of Columba*, offer unique insights into early monastic life and its symbolic design;
- **Archaeological value**: The site preserves some of the most complex early monastic remains in Britain, including the vallum, shrine chapel, Sràid nam Marbh, Torr an Aba, and high crosses;

- **Medieval foundations**: The Benedictine Abbey and Augustinian Nunnery highlight pilgrimage and women's roles in religious life. The Nunnery is among Britain's best-preserved medieval convents;
- **Burial traditions**: Reilig Odhrain served as a burial ground for monks, kings, and clan leaders, later becoming a resting place for notable public figures like John Smith (1994);
- **Cultural patronage**: Gaelic-Norse lords and the Lords of the Isles contributed to Iona's rich collection of carved stones, reflecting medieval society and elite life;
- **Pilgrimage and mission**: A tradition since Columba's death, pilgrims walk Sràid nam Marbh seeking spiritual connection; Iona was also the origin of mission to convert both Scotland and Ireland; and
- **Modern significance**: 19th–20th century restorations, including work by Reverend George Macleod, underscore Iona's enduring role in Celtic spirituality and its place in Scottish national identity.

114. It should be noted that Iona Abbey (LB12310) along with Replica of St John's Cross (LB52541) are also Category A Listed Buildings.

1.6.1.5.2 Present Setting

115. The Abbey lies adjacent to the sound of Iona and is a longstanding pilgrimage site. Present day access to the Abbey is from Fionnphort on Mull from where ferries run to Iona, from which it is a short walk to the Abbey. The Abbey is visible from Fionnphort where it can be appreciated as a prominent landmark across the sound in scenic serene landscape (**Plate 27**), appearing with increasing prominence as the viewer approaches over the sound. Once landed, the approach to the Abbey takes visitors from the quay through Iona, past the nunnery (**Plate 28**), St Ronan's Church, MacLeans Cross and St Oran's Chapel which are all important stops along the pilgrimage route before finishing at St. Columba's shrine.

116. Previous excavations (Campbell and Maldonado 2020, HES 2018) have demonstrated the changing nature of the monastic occupation of the site since its foundation in the early medieval period. The present Abbey is a modern restoration of the ruins of the later medieval Abbey Church and chapels, and while earlier patterns of movement around the asset group can be identified with varying degrees of certainty and ease, the changing nature of movement around the Abbey and the changing liturgical and structural expressions of faith means that varying levels of knowledge and imagination are required to reconstruct these from the perceptible evidence, and indeed inspired, in the viewer to reconstruct those earlier forms.

117. Glimpsed views of the Abbey are provided from various locations (**Plate 29**) along the route which follows the historic pilgrimage route, with the Abbey appearing in a gradually revealed view to the north-east as the viewer passes through the ruins of the nunnery. This approach reflects a modern understanding of a pilgrimage route that transits from the mainland of Scotland through Mull, to a distant place of contemplation and memory, and is the defining aspect of the setting of this asset. Any historic pilgrimage routes are hard to reconstruct given the very limited evidence but appear most likely to have been a seaward journey. The HES website for Iona Abbey notes that the Abbey was harled in white render to increase its visibility from the pilgrimage route, setting it as the visual focus of this pilgrimage.

Plate 27 View of St Mary's Abbey from Fionnphort

Plate 28 Iona Nunnery

118. Once within the grounds of the monastic settlement, to the northwest of the central Abbey building is the Torr an Aba, the 'hill of the Abbot', a rocky knoll from which the Abbey can be appreciated (**Plate 30**). This is believed to have housed St Columba's writing hut from which he could observe the Abbey complex and the monks within. A stone socket for a cross is present on this hill, its presence symbolising its importance. Tor an Aba also affords views in an arc from north through east to southwest, including a view down the channel in the general direction of Ireland and into the open sea beyond. There is no visibility of Ireland, which reflects the possibly apocryphal story that Columba chose Iona as the first landfall out of sight of Ireland, giving a sense of a view back towards a past that was once but is no more. In this sense there is no direct sightline, but the sense of another place beyond the horizon becomes significant.

Plate 29 View of St Mary's Abbey from Iona Quay

Plate 30 View of St Mary's Abbey, Iona, monastic settlement from Torr an Aba

Plate 31 Street of the Dead (Sràid nam Marbh)

119. Below Torr an Aba is the Street of the Dead (Sràid nam Marbh) the processional way linking the Abbey to the associated graveyard (**Plate 31**). The graveyard can no longer be directly accessed from the Abbey or the Street of the Dead, instead the viewer enters each separately. Walking around the grounds of the Abbey are several high crosses giving a sense of changing focus to the immediate surroundings as the viewer moves through the churchyard, as well as a sense of spirituality and time depth with multiple historic features linking the Abbey back to its medieval past and earlier. These include the well, the bullaun (prayer) stones, and the trough known as 'the cradle of the north wind' (losaid na gaoithe tuath), all of which are likely to have early medieval origins, specific to this location (HES, 2018).

120. Views from the Abbey along the Street of the Dead have the sea as their background, both contributing to the sense of physical and temporal distance from Ireland and providing a regionally distinctive backdrop to these views. In these views, the horizon is broken by landforms, buildings and trees, and modern activity is visible in the form of the existing village and the vessel movements in the channel. It should also be noted that the Street of the Dead curves to the west, pulling focus towards St. Oran's Chapel. Similarly, information boards at the Abbey indicate that the Street of the Dead was the processional route that led pilgrims and monks past the holy places of the Abbey including the high crosses, with the procession terminating at St. Columba's shrine. As such, the sea and seascape would be to the back of pilgrims and monks making this journey to St. Columba's shrine. This sense of the processional route as a recapitulation of the longer pilgrimage comes to an end as the viewer approaches the Abbey and is also reflected by the changing focus of the route as the viewer passes close foci, such as the High Crosses, which are likely to have represented stations of prayer and veneration along the approach.

121. In views back along the Street of the Dead towards the graveyard from the Abbey, the viewers eye is drawn by the linearity of the final stretch of the Street of the Dead toward the graveyard, although the coherence of this view is reduced by the route of the street of the dead diverting to the west and

by the linearity of the modern graveyard wall. The buildings and planting in the closer background obscure the horizon somewhat, although the far horizon forms the distant background to views.

122. The Street of the Dead represents a very limited survival of a longer and winding round from Martyr's Bay to the Abbey (Campbell and Maldonado 2020). As at Oronsay, and more clearly so, this route wound from one focal point where specific rites were performed and prayers said, to the next, as part of the pilgrimage journey (Yardley 2006) towards the Abbey, meaning that the more linear nature of the road as experienced by a modern visitor represents a partial understanding of the full extent of this element of the monastic site.

123. Next to the entrance of the Abbey is the reconstructed St. Columba's shrine (**Plate 32**). This small building and the modest interior provide an escape from the grand Abbey and provide a source of tranquillity. It also gives a sense of the simple and modest way of life that St Columba is said to have adopted at the time of the Abbeys inception. Overall, the Abbey and its grounds are very quiet and peaceful giving a sense of serenity and tranquillity.

124. It should be noted here that while the Abbey is a place of relative serenity and tranquillity in the present day, at the time of St Columba and the medieval period, this conception of monastic life reflects a modern understanding of spirituality and draws on both the remoteness of place and the perception of the Abbey as a church within ruins. This conception presents a tension between a modern conception of what the site means and its historic role as a place of work, and a connected place that formed a destination for pilgrimage and the seat of mission into the wider world. The site was frequently busy with visitors and pilgrims, evidenced by the foundations of a large extension to the Abbey to help manage the flow of pilgrims without disturbance to the work of the Abbey; however, this was never completed.

125. In correspondence, HES have noted key views that are considered particularly significant to the experience of the scheduled monument:

- Views across St Oran's Chapel and between the Abbey complex and Martyr's Bay along the Sraid nam Marbh;
- Views across the core of the site from Tigh-an-Easbuig; and
- Views across the core of the site, St Oran's Chapel, and towards Martyr's Bay from Torr an Aba
- In correspondence, HES have noted key views that are considered particularly significant to the experience of the scheduled monument:

126. In correspondence, HES have noted key views that are considered particularly significant to the experience of the Category A listed building:

- Reciprocal views between the abbey and the land to the south around Martyr's Bay, which are key to understanding the site's significance as a place of pilgrimage;
- Views towards the abbey on approach from the south which are key to understanding its significance as the focal point of pilgrimage;
    - Views from the abbey and its grounds looking east across the Sound of Iona, which remain natural and relatively unchanged since Columban times;
    - Views from Dùn I and from Torr an Aba, which provide an overall understanding of
    - how the buildings and landscape/seascape relate; and
    - Views towards Iona and across the Sound of Iona on the ferry journey from Fionnphort.

Plate 32 St Columba's shrine

127. While exploring the grounds of the Abbey and the scheduled area, the viewers eye is repeatedly drawn between the Abbey church (**Plate 32**) and towards the individual elements within the wider monument, and for all that the wider landscape and seascape is ever-present, it forms the background to these views. One key view of note is that east across Iona sound towards Mull, as outlined in the Statement of Significance, the view across Iona Sound from the front of the abbey is of great importance as this was towards the east, from where the monks expected to see the risen Christ appear on the last day, reflecting the traditional burial alignment (HES, 2018).

128. The Statement of Significance does not explicitly identify other views as being of particular significance. There are views of the abbey from the north, around the site of the associated chapel of Cladh an Diseart (SM804). In these views, the Abbey appears as a dominant focal element of views, with the background formed by the crags of Cnoc Mor, the channel and Mull, with the background changing gradually to longer views to the sea beyond the mouth of the channel, which are gradually revealed as the viewer moves to the east from the road to Auchabhaich.

129. In all of the views discussed, the far horizon to the south represents a distant background to the principal foci of the view; in these views it is the emptiness and apparent absence of the modern that contributes to the sense of romanticism and spirituality by foregrounding the buildings and visible elements and providing a distinctive regional landscape and seascape context; modern elements such as ferries and other vessels, vehicles and cottages are visible but not prominent. This contribution is important, but the closer background provided by the rising ground to the west of the Abbey, the machair to the north and east, the shore of Mull and the sound, and the buildings and planting of the settlement to the south of the Abbey is more prominent.

Plate 33 View back towards the Abbey from the southeast

Plate 34 View from Iona Abbey across Iona Sound towards Mull

1.6.1.5.3 Change to Setting

130. The complexity and diversity of the Iona site and its immediate surroundings means that it was agreed with HES that a site-specific ZTV would be developed using Scottish Government LiDAR data to allow the screening provided by buildings and planting as well as an enhanced understanding of the underlying topography to be illustrated and understood. This is presented in **Figure 8**.

131. The nearest WTG will be located c.24 km from St. Mary's Abbey. The ZTV (**Figure 8**), visualisations (**Figure 9, Figure 10** and **Figure 11**), and site walkover all indicate that the presence of the WTGs would represent a discernible change to the setting of St. Mary's Abbey. The visibility of the WTGs would be greatest on the east side of the scheduled area (towards the foreshore) with the WTGs falling away as the viewer moves westward towards the Abbey. Equally, the horizon is broken by the built development of Iona and the various small islands off the coast of Mull which reduces the prominence and perceptual proximity of those WTGs. Views of the Abbey on approach when retracing the pilgrimage route, and views across to Mull from the Abbey, which are identified in the Iona Statement of Significance as the key views, would be unaffected.

132. Views across St Oran's Chapel and between the Abbey complex and Martyr's Bay along and to the east of the Sraid nam Marbh (Street of the Dead) are illustrated in viewpoint CH7 (**Figure 10**). This viewpoint offers possibly the clearest visibility of the WTGs from within the scheduled area, and the WTGs would appear in an approximate 12 degree arc of view (albeit reduced further by the presence of buildings and mature trees in the foreground of views) in views of the seascape as distant elements of the background of the horizon when looking down the Street of the Dead, however, the viewer's focus is drawn towards the graveyard and St. Oran's Chapel, which are more prominent elements of the view. Martyr's bay is not clearly visible in this view, and the WTGs would be located to the west of the line of sight. Key views from the Street of the Dead toward the Abbey, would be unaffected, with the proposed turbines behind the viewer.

133. Key views between Torr an Aba and the Abbey, particularly St. Columba's shrine, would be unaffected, as illustrated in Viewpoint CH6 (**Figure 9**). The WTGs would not be directly juxtaposed with elements of the scheduled area in views between Torr an Aba and the Abbey. The proposed WTGs would, however, be visible in an approximate 14 degree arc of view (albeit reduced further by the presence of buildings and mature trees in the foreground of views) in sequential views as the viewer turns to look from the Abbey to Martyr's bay and then the ocean to the southwards from Torr a Aba, where the eastern part of the array would appear on the horizon behind St Oran's chapel, with the remainder of the WTGs obscured by the village and rising ground to the south and south-west. Martyr's bay and the ferry to Mull are more readily visible in this view but still somewhat obscured. The WTGs would also not feature in views from Mull towards the Abbey.

134. The WTGs would be visible from St. Columba's Shrine (**Figure 21**). In this view, they would, however, be largely screened by the higher ground to the west and south-west of the Abbey and by Iona Village; in these views the WTGS would be seen against a horizon broken by the intervening buildings and trees. In this view, the viewers' focus is on the historic features in the immediate vicinity of the Abbey, being drawn towards the well, the high crosses and the Losaid Na Gaoithe A Tauth before turning to enter the Abbey itself. Fewer WTGs would be visible in this view than in views from the Street of the Dead and Torr an Aba, and the array would be seen as a largely obscured feature on the distant background to views.

135. Views across the core of the site from Tigh-an-Easbuig and represented by Viewpoint CH8 (**Figure 11**), which was moved to the eastwards from Tigh-an-Easbuig to provide clearer visibility of the proposed WTGs across an approximate 10-degree arc of view. In these views there would be a degree of juxtaposition of the WTGs with the Abbey, but most of the array would be obscured by the Abbey itself, which would remain the dominant element in these views. Moving the viewpoint to Tigh-

an-Easbuig to the west would result in decreasing visibility of the WTGs as these are screened by the Abbey itself.

136. A photomontage was captured from Cladh an Diseart (**Figure 23**) which may represent the site of a small chapel and burial site and contains a carved rock know as 'Columba's Table' at the request of HES. While some WTGs will be seen from this location, the dominant feature is the Abbey due to its scale and prominence, and the nature of the view upwards towards the abbey, which emphasises its scale and solidity against the horizon. The WTGs would appear as background features in general views along Iona sound and more generally out to sea, a view which is already disrupted by Iona village, the ferry and associated harbour works. With respect to understanding visitor experience of the asset group, there is no clear or defined access to this location, with access being by a closed gate at the northern end of the field boundary at Grianan, with no obvious access closer to the shoreline or the Abbey.

137. HES also requested a view from the former choir (now the museum) as the WTGs maybe visible as visitors leave the museum and walk back towards the Abbey entrance. However, as shown in **Figure 21** the majority of the turbines will be screened by the Abbey itself from this location. While the WTG locations shown are indicative, they occupy the entire developable area, and any lateral extent of the array visible would be either the same or smaller than that shown in the photomontage. These views demonstrate the very limited visibility of the proposed array in views from the path here most heavily trafficked by visitors to the Abbey.

138. Reciprocal views between the abbey and the land to the south around Martyr's Bay, which are key to understanding the site's significance as a place of pilgrimage would be affected only where the viewer is facing the south and south west, and the WTGs would appear in various degrees of prominence, but always at least partly obscured by intervening buildings or topography, with approximately half the array visible at a separation of approximately 25 km. The contribution of these southwards views is generally limited, although the view along the Street of the Dead, as discussed above, is more significant.

139. Views towards the abbey on approach from the south which are key to understanding its significance as the focal point of pilgrimage would be unaffected, with the viewers' attention on the abbey as they approached. In many of these views, southwards visibility is obscured by intervening buildings as the viewer moves through the village and nunnery ruins.

140. Views from the abbey and its grounds looking east across the Sound of Iona, would likewise remain largely unchanged, with the viewer needing to turn to look southwards to experience the views discussed at 115 above.

141. Views from Dùn I would provide a wide panoramic view of the wider landscape and seascape context of the asset group which contributes to setting primarily by allowing for an understanding of the topographic and regionally distinctive landscape context to be appreciated, along with connections to related sites around the island where there is no direct intervisibility, although in many locations on Dùn I these assets are not readily visible and contribution to setting remains generalised. The increased elevation and angle of view would also have the effect of increasing the perceptual separation of the WTGs from contributing elements for the assets' setting.

142. Returning from Dun I and heading back towards the Abbey, the WTGs would be visible from the main track as demonstrated by **Figure 24.** However, in this view the Abbey appears as the dominant feature in the landscape with the earthworks which comprise the remains of the Vallum in the foreground. In this view the WTGs would be seen against a horizon broken by the intervening buildings, topography and trees. Additionally, this view is primarily illustrative of the changing visibility of the Abbey in the landscape as the viewer moves around the asset group and is not considered to be a key view that contributes decisively to the setting of the Abbey.

143. Views towards Iona and across the Sound of Iona on the ferry journey from Fionnphort would again be minimally affected as demonstrated by **Figure 20**. In this view a greater proportion of the WTGs would be visible, however, there would be a 130-degree arc of separation between the nearest WTG and the Abbey (**Figure 20b** and **Figure** 20**c**). During the ferry crossing to Iona the viewers attention in these views is generally toward the Abbey as the focal point of the pilgrimage, and the view out into the ocean is read by the viewer as a different space to that occupied by the Abbey.

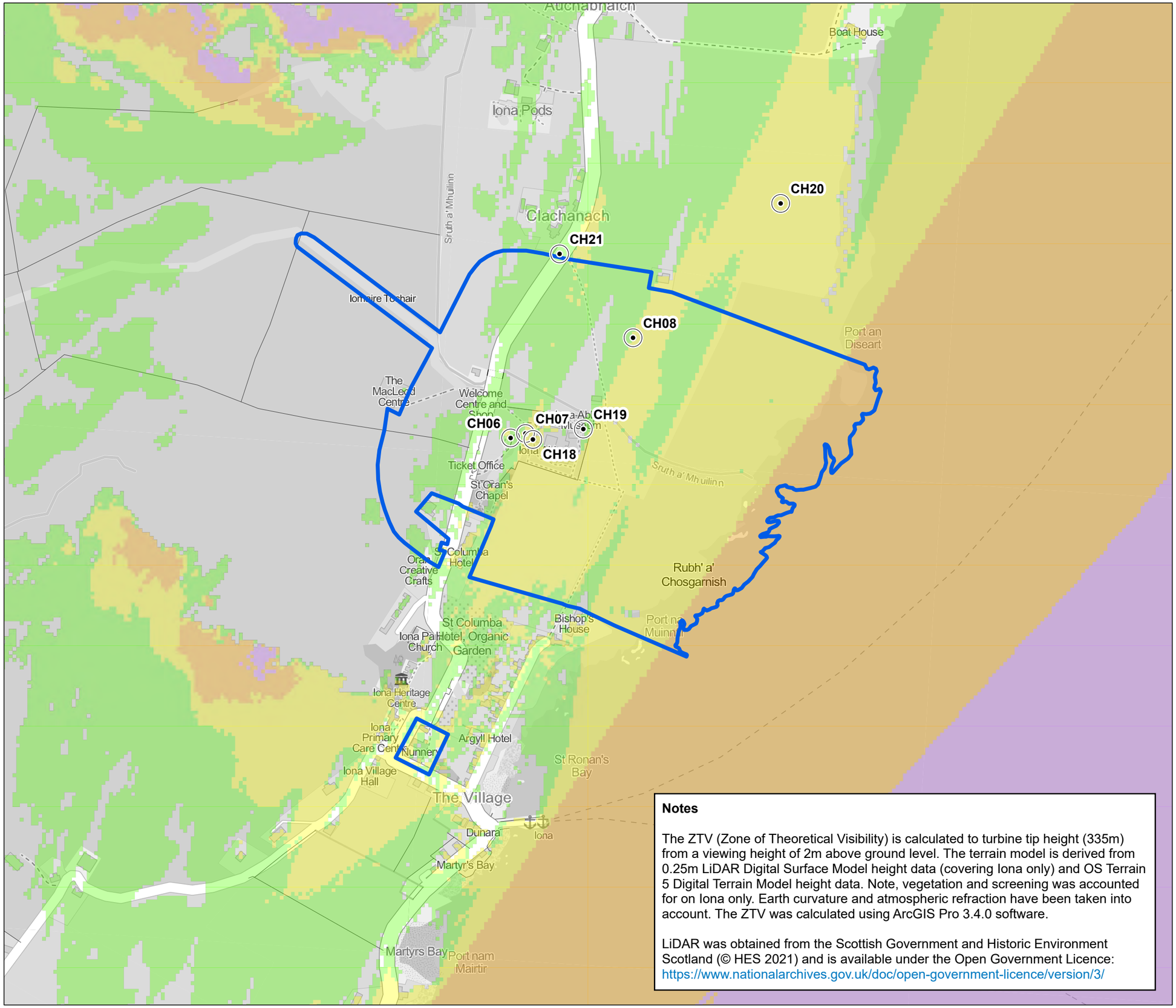
1.6.1.5.4 Consideration of Worst Case

144. In the case of this asset, identifying a worst case is very difficult given the distance from the array and the large number and dynamic nature of the views experienced as the viewer moves through the asset group. At the separation involved, any difference in magnitude of effect between the indicative 91 WTG and 144 WTG layouts is limited, but the increased scale and prominence of the larger WTGs, is likely to present the differentiating factor, albeit balanced by the denser layout required for the smaller WTGs. Screening of the proposed WTGs by intervening landform and buildings would be broadly equivalent and no change to the assessed magnitude of effect would be anticipated from the adoption of the 144 WTG layout.

1.6.1.5.5 Significance of Effect

145. As discussed, the WTGs on the eastern side of the WDA would be visible from the locations represented by the visualisations, which were selected following discussions with and a specific request from HES, to identify the absolute worst-case scenario. In these views, the WTGs are not prominently visible but would present a visibly detracting element due to the introduction of modern infrastructure into the setting of the asset, albeit as distant elements of the background of views. The full WDA would not, however, be visible from any points within the designated area or in any views of the designated area, with the ZTV suggesting visibility of at most 26-50 WTGs, with no visibility from much of the designated area. In all cases where WTGs are visible in simultaneous views with the Abbey, the Abbey would remain the visually dominant focal point of views.

146. The presence of the WTGs in the distant seascape would not detract from those key aspects outlined in **Section 1.6.1.5.1** which contribute to its cultural significance. While the WTGs would be visible on the horizon in views back towards Ireland, as Ireland cannot be seen from Iona, this view is a symbolic manifestation of connectivity rather than a tangible or physical link that can be quantified. As such, the presence of the WTGs in general views of the horizon and seascape would not sever the symbolic link between Iona and Ireland, although their presence would introduce discernibly modern features into this view. The key views of the Abbey on the modern pilgrimage route as the viewer approaches the Abbey and from the Abbey back towards Mull would not be affected by visibility of the WTGs. Therefore, the magnitude of change is assessed as **low adverse**, resulting in a **moderate adverse** significance of effect, which **is significant** in EIA terms.



Notes

The ZTV (Zone of Theoretical Visibility) is calculated to turbine tip height (335m) from a viewing height of 2m above ground level. The terrain model is derived from 0.25m LiDAR Digital Surface Model height data (covering Iona only) and OS Terrain 5 Digital Terrain Model height data. Note, vegetation and screening was accounted for on Iona only. Earth curvature and atmospheric refraction have been taken into account. The ZTV was calculated using ArcGIS Pro 3.4.0 software.

LiDAR was obtained from the Scottish Government and Historic Environment Scotland (© HES 2021) and is available under the Open Government Licence: https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/

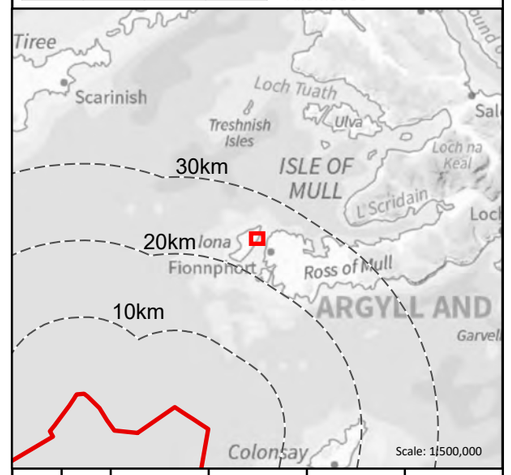
Windfarm development area
10km interval from site boundary
Iona Abbey and Nunnery
Viewpoint

Zone of Theoretical Visibility

1 to 25 turbines visible
26 to 50 turbines visible
51 to 75 turbines visible
76 to 91 turbines visible

N

0 0.1 0.2 Kilometres



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DATUM	OSGB36 (EPSG:27700)	PROJECTION	Transverse Mercator
SCALE	1:5,000	PAGE SIZE	A3
PROJECT TITLE	MachairWind		

Figure 8:
Iona - Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV)

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NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION

Haskoning Enhancing Society Together
ScottishPower Renewables

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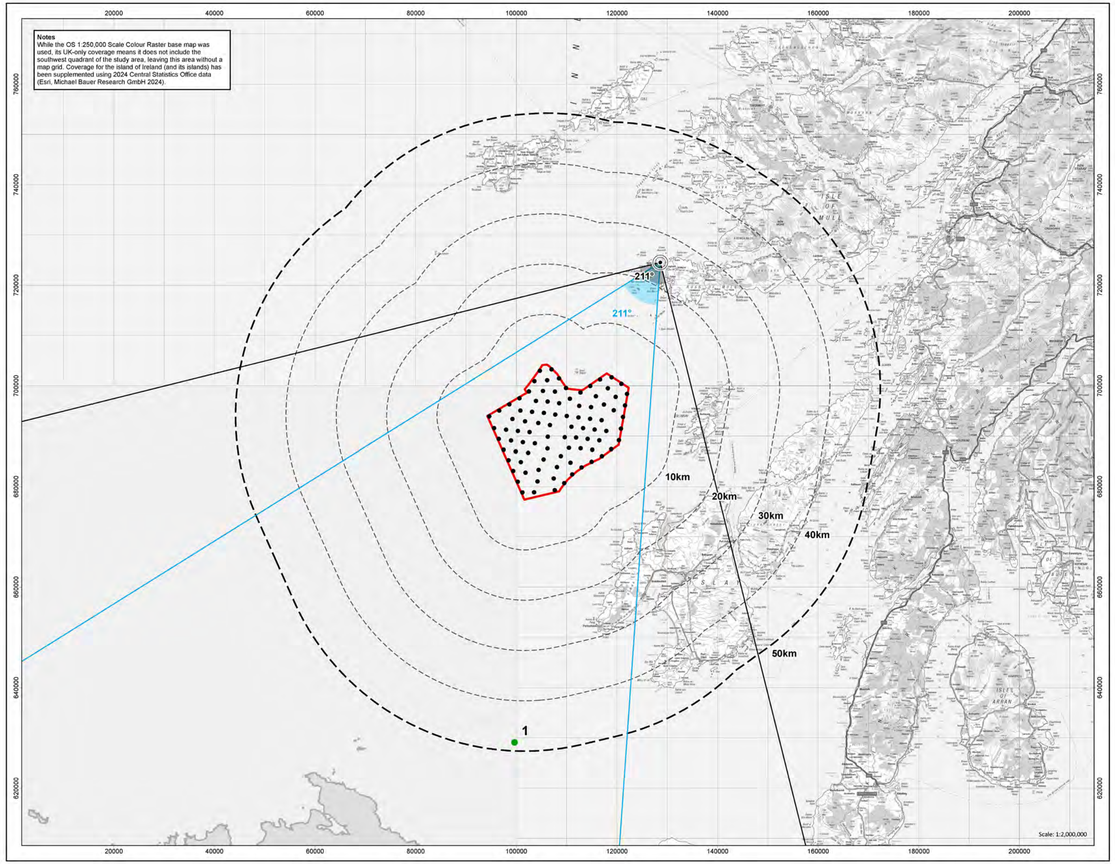
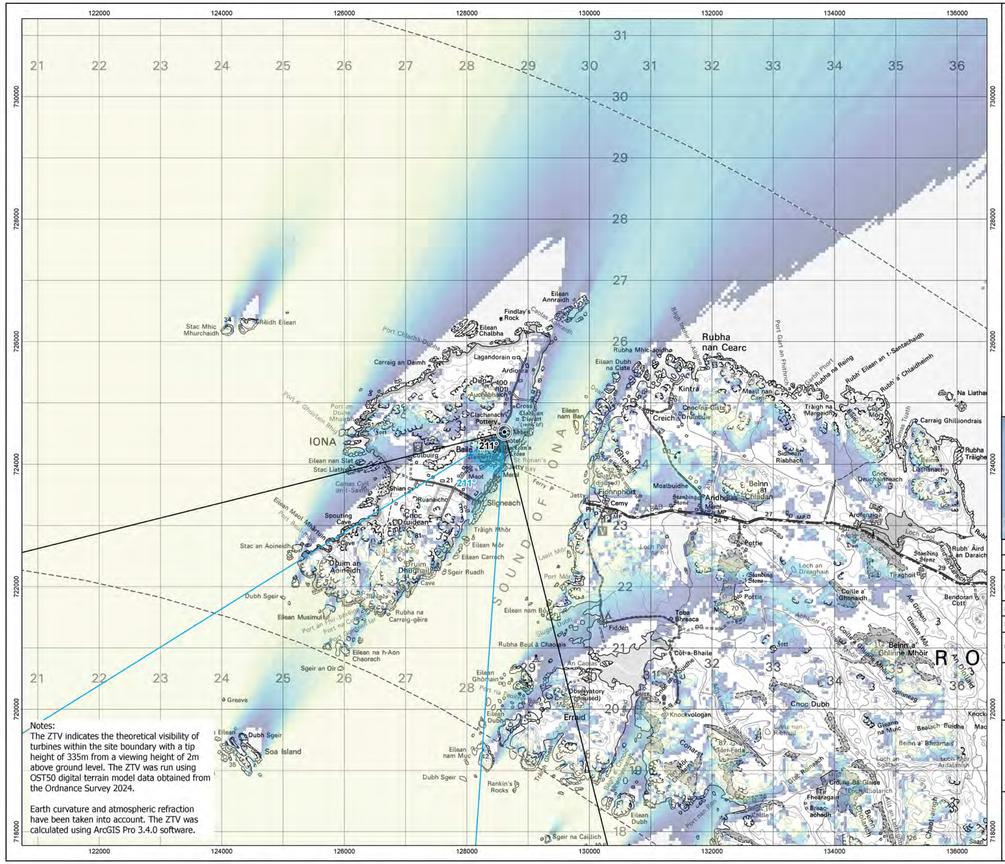
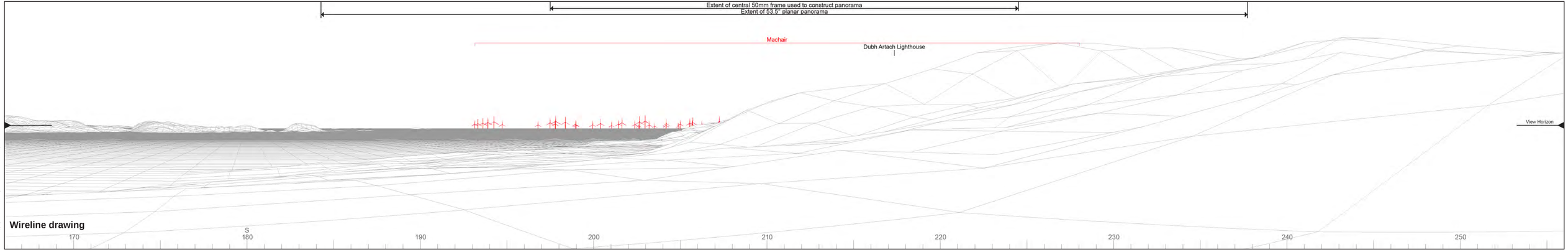



IONA
SOUND OF IONA
Rubha nan Cearc
Eilean Annraidh
Findlay's Rock
Stac Mhic Mhurchaidh
Rèidh Eilean
Eilean Chalbha
Rubha Mhic Ailpein
Eilean Dubh na Glaic
Carraig an Deimh
Lagandorain
Ardiosa
Kintra
Creich
Dhocrag
Dubhail
Carraig Ghillisondrais
Rubha Tràigh
Tràigh na Meacanach
Sgeir Ruadh
Eilean nam Bàrd
Eilean nam Sìdh
Staic Lìatha
Cnoc an t-Seallaidh
Port Ghearr an Rèidh
Port Chlachach
Port Mòr
Port Ghearr an Rèidh
Rubha Eilean an t-Sàmchaidh
Rubha Eilean a' Chladaich
Rubh' a' Chladaich
Na Liathai
Sgeir Mhòr
Eilean Mòr
Eilean Carnach
Tràigh Mhòr
Sgeir Ruadh
Cnoc an Aonaich
Dùn an Aonaich
Staic an Aoineich
Eilean Mòr Mheadhonach
Port Mòr
Port Beag
Soucking
Cnoc Dubh
Dùn Mòr
Cnoc Mòr
Sgeir Dubh
Eilean Musimul
Rubha na Carraig-glèire
Eilean na h-Aon Chaorach
Sgeir an Oir
Rubha Bàd a' Chaoil
Fidden
Eilean nam Ròn
Eilean Ghobhann
Greaves
Dubh Sgeir
Soa Island
Eilean nam Meann
Rankin's Rocks
Sgeir na Caolich
Eilean Dubh
Ruadh Aird an Daraich
Sgeir Dubh



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LUC

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Above Ordnance Datum:	21.32 m	Principal distance:	522 mm	Lens:	50mm Fixed Focal Length	Photography Time:	10:20
Direction of view:	211°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)	Camera height:	1.5 m		
Nearest turbine:	24.82 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm				

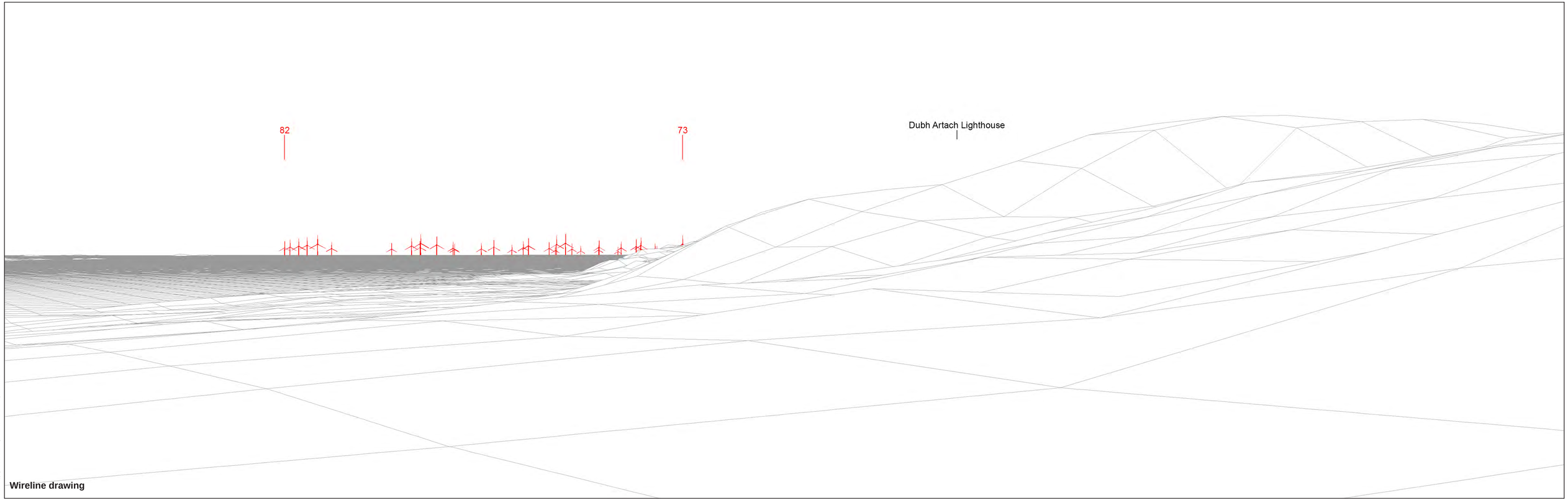
Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 9a

Viewpoint CH6: St Mary's Abbey, Iona, monastic settlement (Torr an aba)



Wireline drawing

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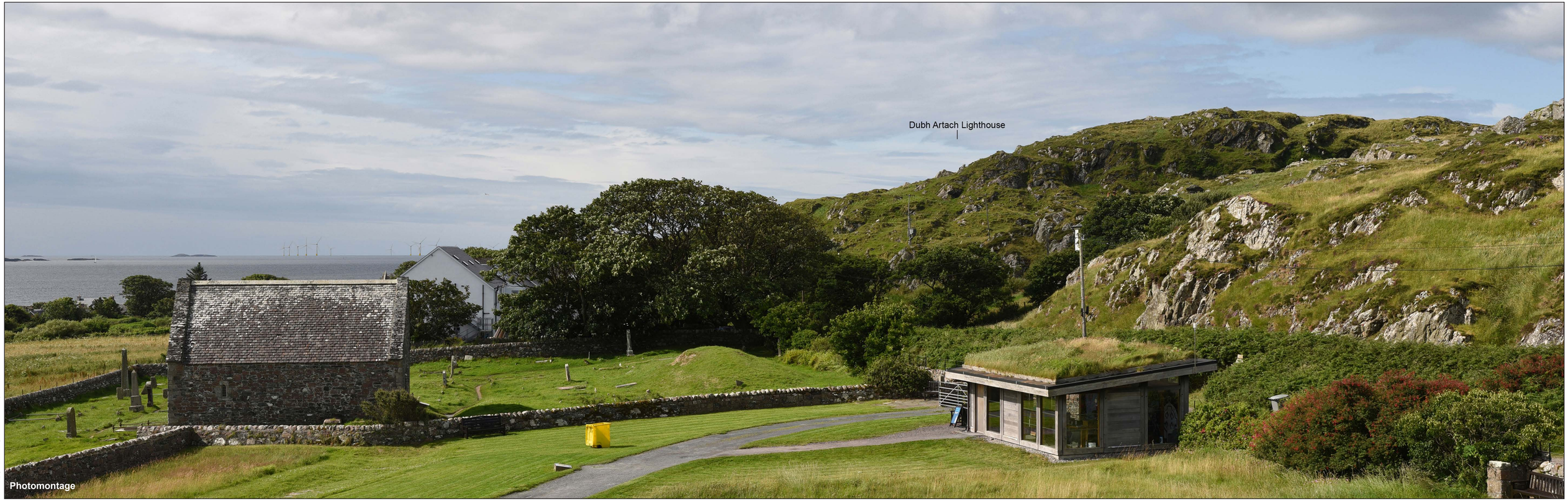
Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 9b

Viewpoint CH6: St Mary's Abbey, Iona, monastic settlement (Torr an aba)



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OS reference:	128616E 724522N	Principal distance:	53.5° (planar projection)	Camera:	NIKON D750	Photography Date:	15/07/2025
Above Ordnance Datum:	21.32 m	Paper size:	812.5 mm	Lens:	50mm Fixed Focal Length	Photography Time:	10:20
Direction of view:	211°	Correct printed image size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)	Camera height:	1.5 m		
Nearest turbine:	24.82 km		820 x 260 mm				

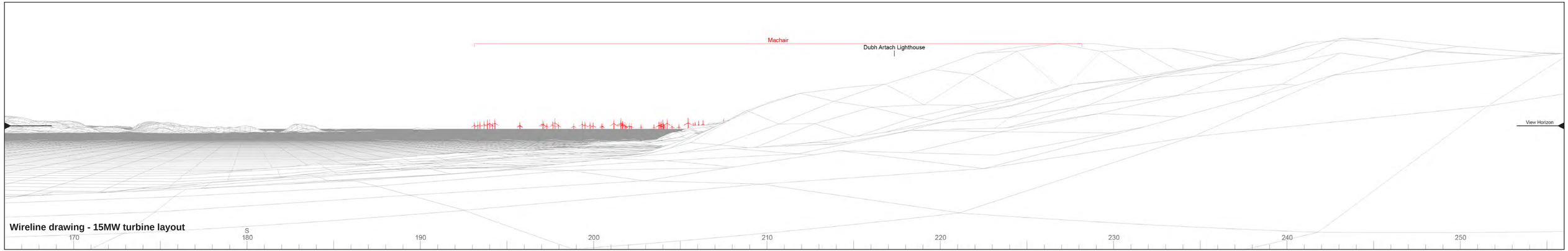
Notes:

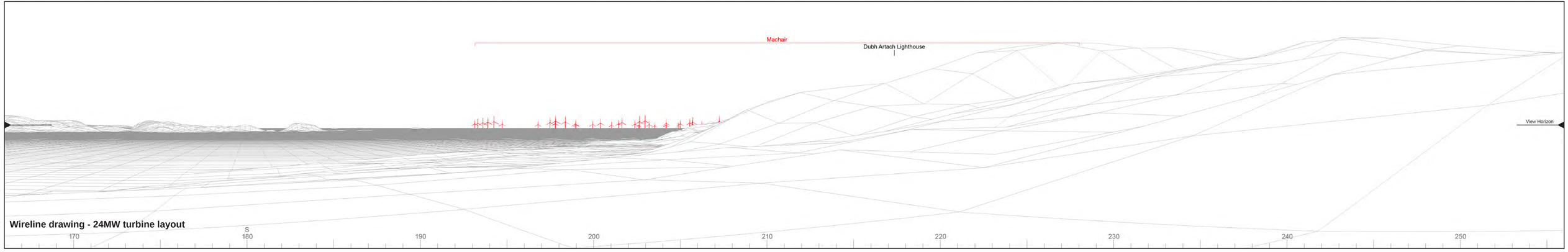
The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 9c

Viewpoint CH6: St Mary's Abbey, Iona, monastic settlement (Torr an aba)





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LUC

OS reference:	128616E 724522N		90° (cylindrical projection)
Above Ordnance Datum:	21.32 m	Principal distance:	522 mm
Direction of view:	211°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
		Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

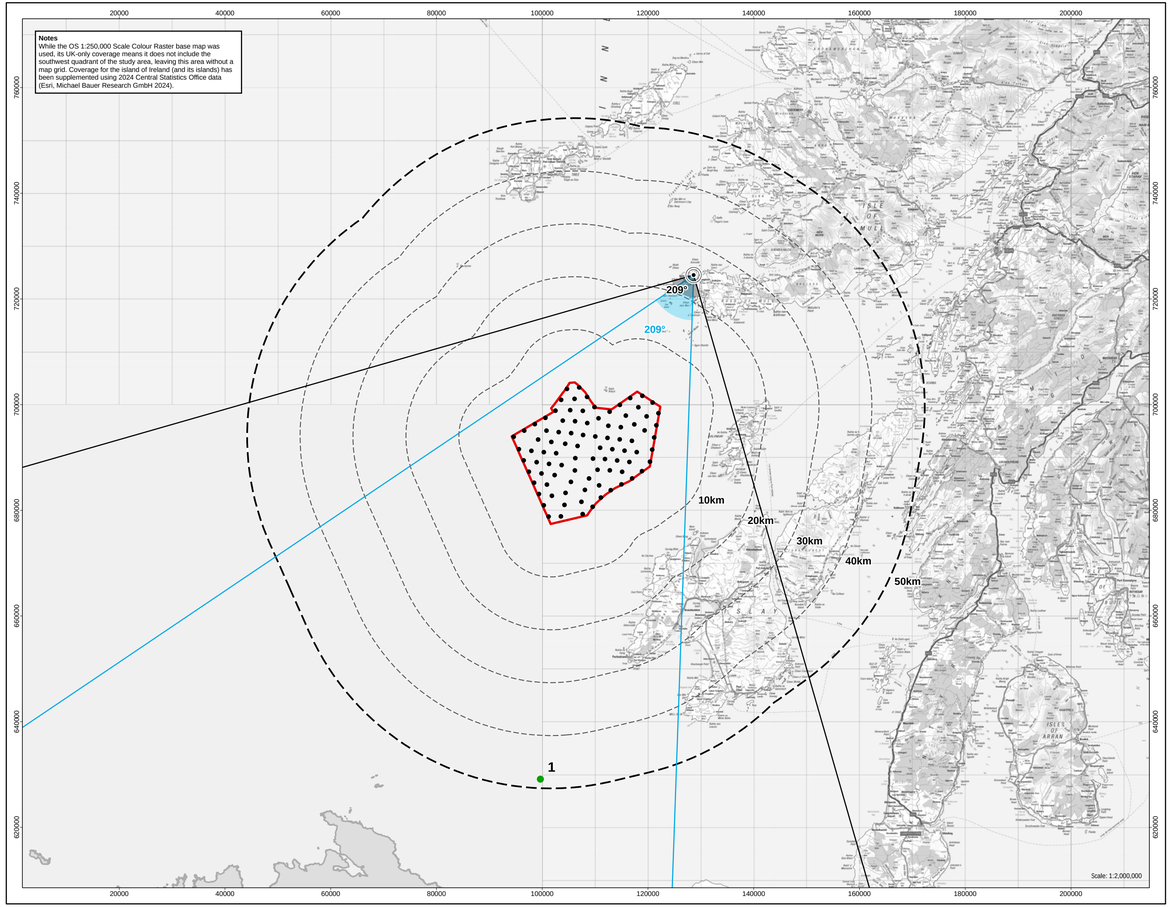
Notes:

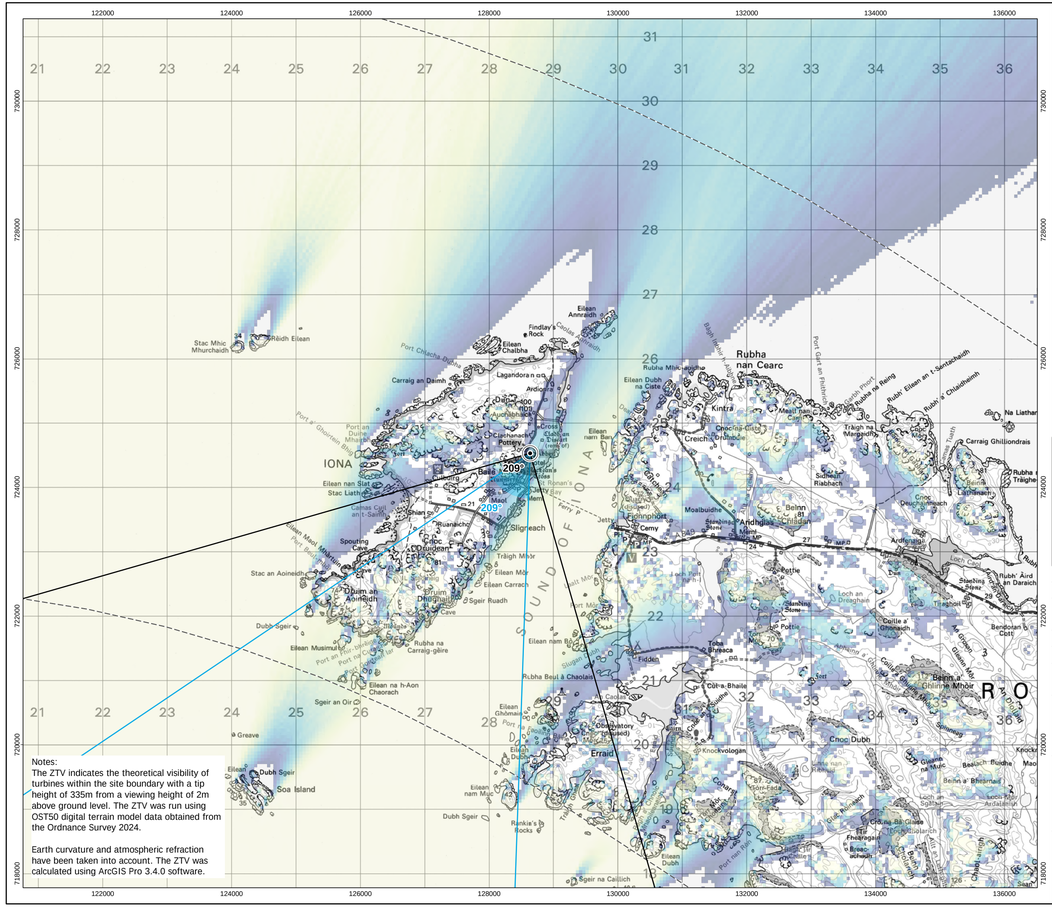
The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 9d

Viewpoint CH6: St Mary's Abbey, Iona, monastic settlement (Torr an aba)





Windfarm development area
Indicative 24MW turbine layout
10km interval from windfarm development area
50km study area
Zone of Theoretical Visibility
More turbines visible
Less turbines visible
Wind Farm Status
Design/Scoping
1. Malin Sea Wind
V 90° Field of View
V 53° Field of View
N
0 2 Kilometres

REV	REV DATE	GIS CREATOR	GIS REVIEWER	TECHNICAL CHECKER	TECHNICAL APPROVER
2	27/05/2026	DS	TH	LC	PM

DRAWING NUMBER MCW-DWF-ENV-MAP-RHS-000111
DATUM OSGB36 (EPSG:27700) PROJECTION Transverse Mercator
SCALE 1:50,000 PAGE SIZE A3
PROJECT TITLE MachairWind

Figure 10:
St Mary's Abbey, Iona, monastic settlement (Street of the Dead).

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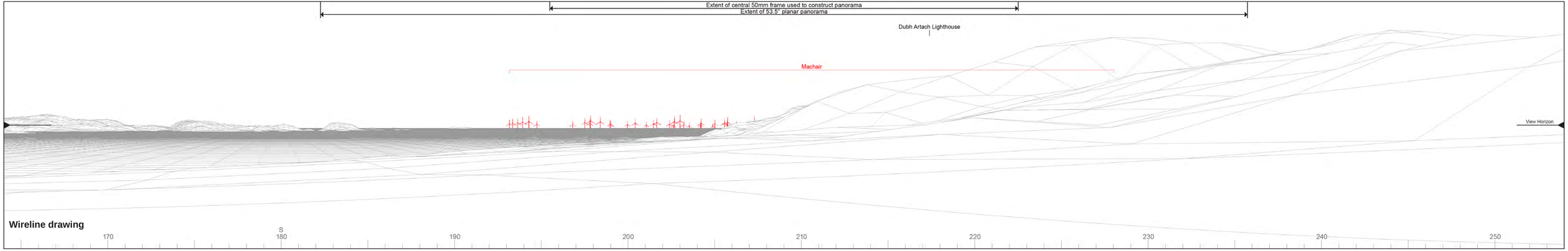
NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION

Haskoning Enhancing Society Together
ScottishPower Renewables

Project: N:\12000\12059 Machair Wind SLV\AI\PROS\SLV\AI\12059_001_SLVIA_ZTV\012059_001_SLVIA_ZTVs.aprx
Name: MCW-DEN-SS-MAP-1_to_21_Cn_VP_MapSheets_A3L



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LUC

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Direction of view:	209°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)	Camera height:	1.5 m		
Nearest turbine:	24.83 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm				

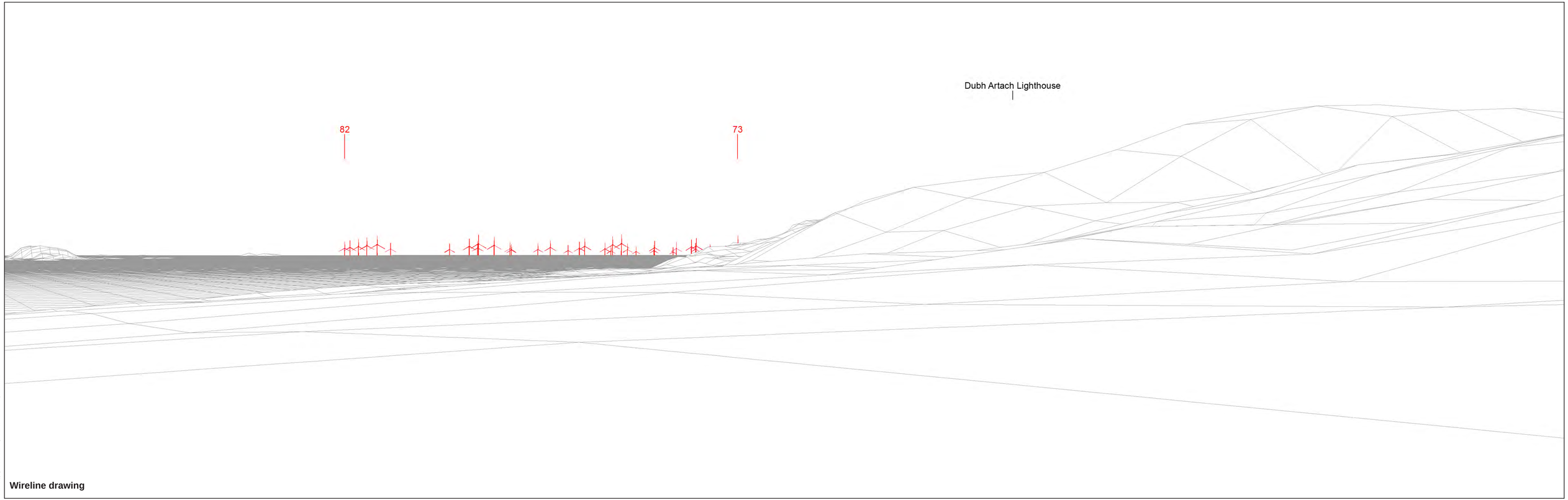
Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 10a

Viewpoint CH7: St Mary's Abbey, Iona, monastic settlement (Street of the Dead)



Wireline drawing

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LUC

OS reference:	128636E 724528N		53.5° (planar projection)
Above Ordnance Datum:	20.88 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm
Direction of view:	209°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	24.83 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 10b

Viewpoint CH7: St Mary's Abbey, Iona, monastic settlement (Street of the Dead)

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OS reference:	128636E 724528N	Principal distance:	53.5° (planar projection)	Camera:	NIKON D750	Photography Date:	15/07/2025
Above Ordnance Datum:	20.88 m	Paper size:	812.5 mm	Lens:	50mm Fixed Focal Length	Photography Time:	10:07
Direction of view:	209°	Correct printed image size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)	Camera height:	1.5 m		
Nearest turbine:	24.83 km		820 x 260 mm				

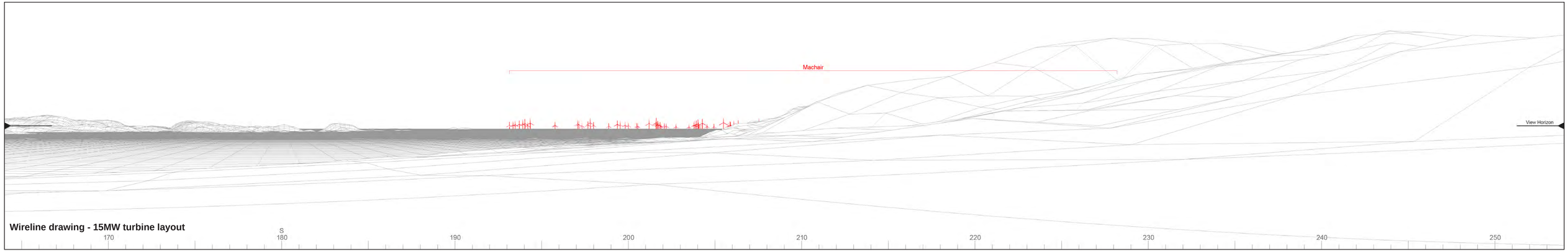
Notes:

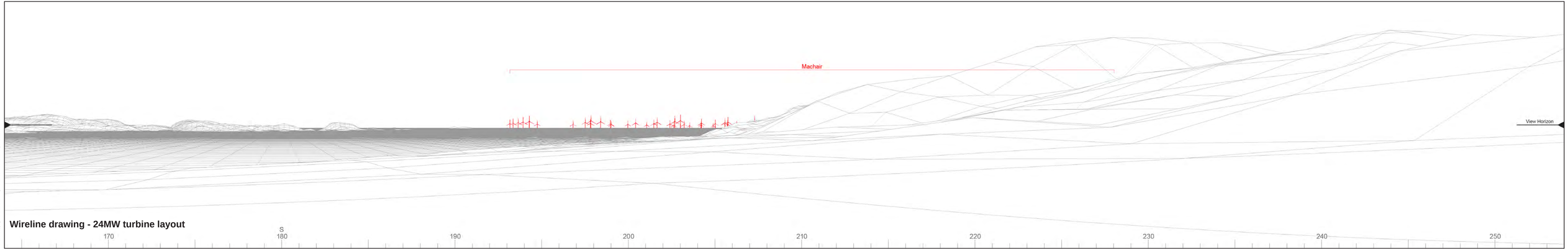
The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 10c

Viewpoint CH7: St Mary's Abbey, Iona, monastic settlement (Street of the Dead)





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LUC

OS reference:	128636E 724528N		90° (cylindrical projection)
Above Ordnance Datum:	20.88 m	Principal distance:	522 mm
Direction of view:	209°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
		Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

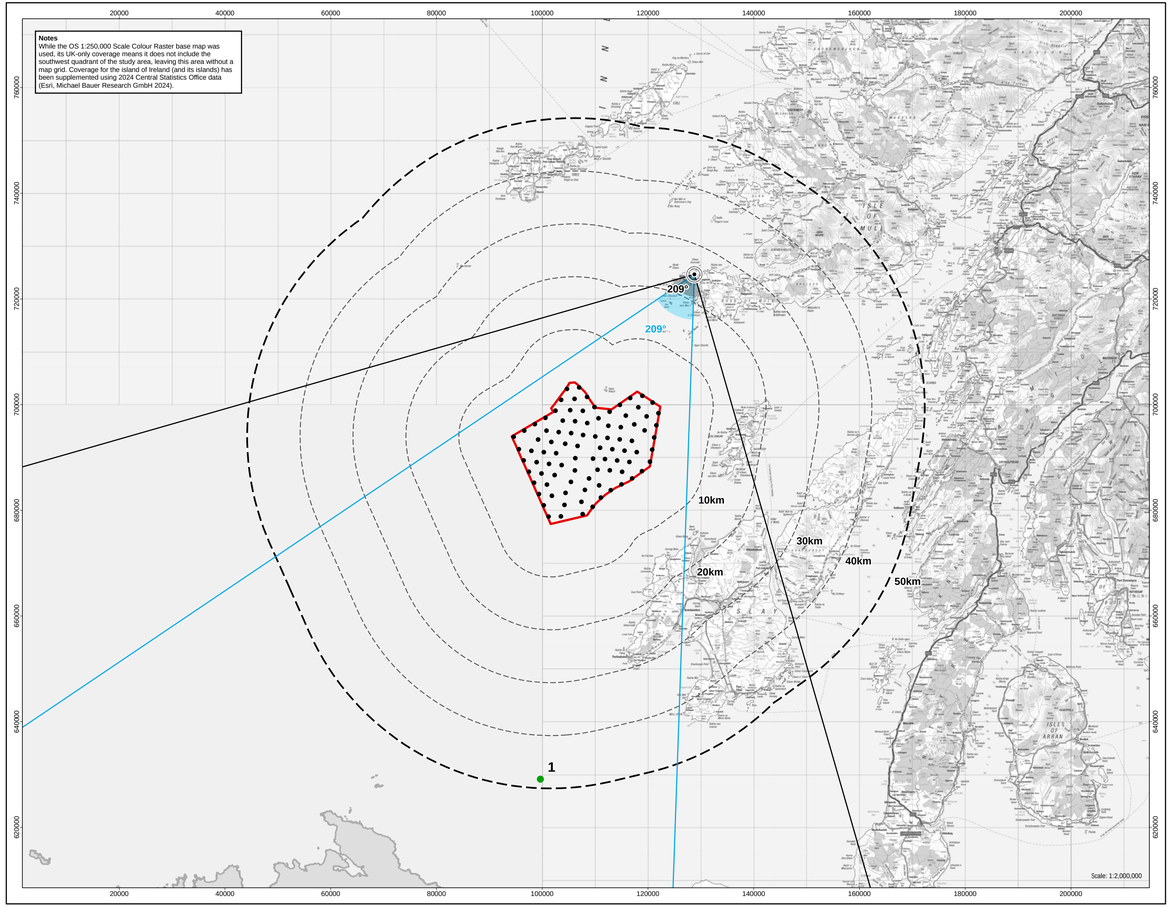
Notes:

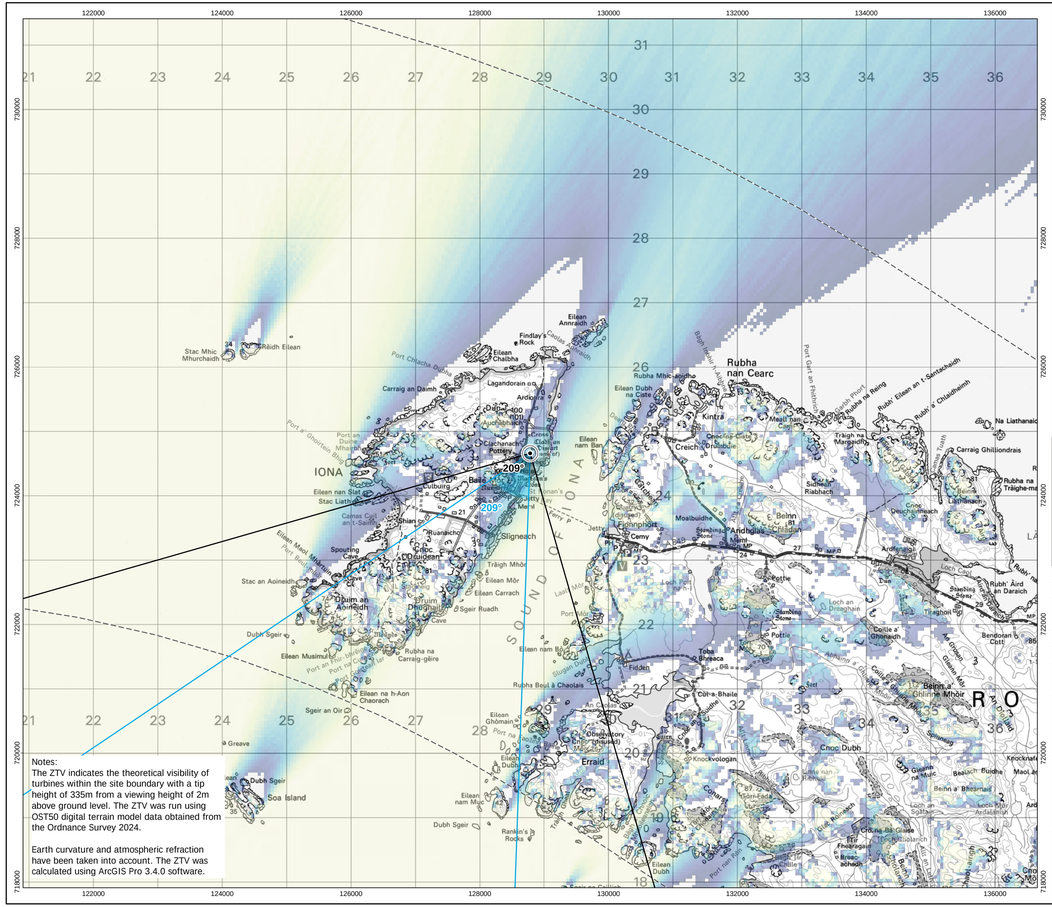
The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 10d

Viewpoint CH7: St Mary's Abbey, Iona, monastic settlement (Street of the Dead)




IONA
SOUND OF IONA
Rubha nan Cearc
Eilean Annraich
Stac Mhic Mhurchaidh
Rubha Mhic-ille-chaim
Eilean Dubh na Caitea
Kintra
Creich
Meall Tan
Carraig Ghillionndrais
Na Liathanaic
Rubha na Tràighe-mo
Eilean nam Ban
Eilean Chaibha
Findlay's Rock
Lagandorain
Ardlussa
Port Chaibha Dubh
Carraig an Damh
Port an Ghuirmein
Port Mhic Mhurchaidh
Port Eilean an t-Sàmhaidh
Port Gart an Fhithich
Rubha Mhic-ille-chaim
Rubha Na Bairig
Ruith' Eilean an t-Sàmhaidh
Ruith' a' Chlaidhamh
Tràigh na Margaidh
Cnoc Dubh
Creich Dubh
Eilean Annraich
Lochanachoin
Port Ghuirmein
Baile Mòr
Iona Abbey
Sithean Mòr
Eilean nan Sac
Stac Liath
Cairns of Scarinish
Dùn Bhuirg
Dùn Bhuirg Cave
Slignoach
Ruanach
Dùn Ghallain
Tràigh Mhòr
Eilean Mòr
Eilean Carrach
Spouting Cave
Dùnadarain
Dùn Ghallain
Eilean Mhoil
Port Mhoil
Stac an Aoineidh
Dùrum an Aomaidh
Dubh Sgeir
Eilean Musimul
Port Mòr
Port Ruadh
Sgeir Ruadh
Rubha na Carraig-gèire
Eilean na h-Aon Chaorach
Sgeir an Oir
Eilean nam Meann
Rubha Beul à Chaolais
Fidden
Tota Bhreac
Cùil a' Bhaile
Eilean Ghòmain
Observatory (Ruins)
Erraid
Eilean Dubh
Eilean nam Muc
Dubh Sgeir
Soa Island
Rankin's Rocks
Knockvologan
Knockrae
Beallach
Rudha
Maol Ar
Beinn a' Bhaile
Beinn a' Bhràmail
Loch an Fhraoich
Loch an Ardalanish
Ardalanish Bay
Ardalanish
Moaibuidhe
Beinn Ghrianal
Beinn Ardalanish
Ruith' Aird an Daraich
Tràighan Mòra
Bàgh Fada
Bàgh Gorm
Bàgh Dearg
Bàgh Ban
Bàgh Ardalanish
Bàgh Mòr
Bàgh Beag
Bàgh Gleann Mòr
Bàgh Gleann Beag
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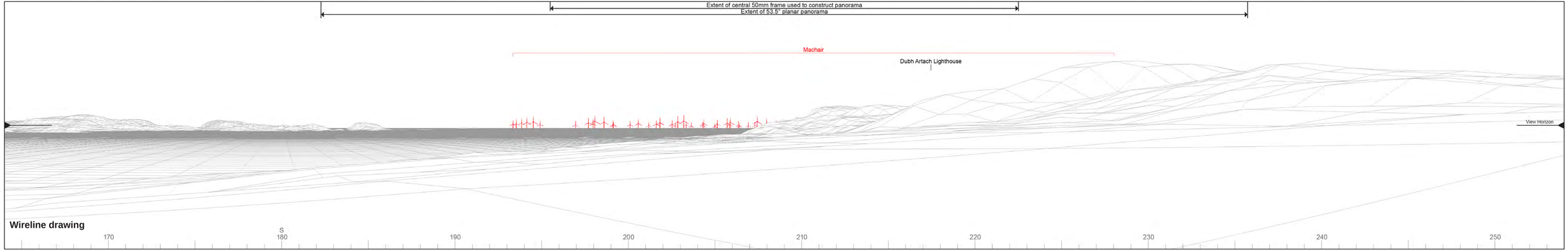
Bàgh Gleann Beag
Bàgh Gleann Mòr
Bàgh Gleann



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LUC

OS reference:	128781E 724657N		90° (cylindrical projection)	Camera:	NIKON D750	Photography Date:	15/07/2025
Above Ordnance Datum:	19.06 m	Principal distance:	522 mm	Lens:	50mm Fixed Focal Length	Photography Time:	10:48
Direction of view:	209°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)	Camera height:	1.5 m		
Nearest turbine:	25.01 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm				

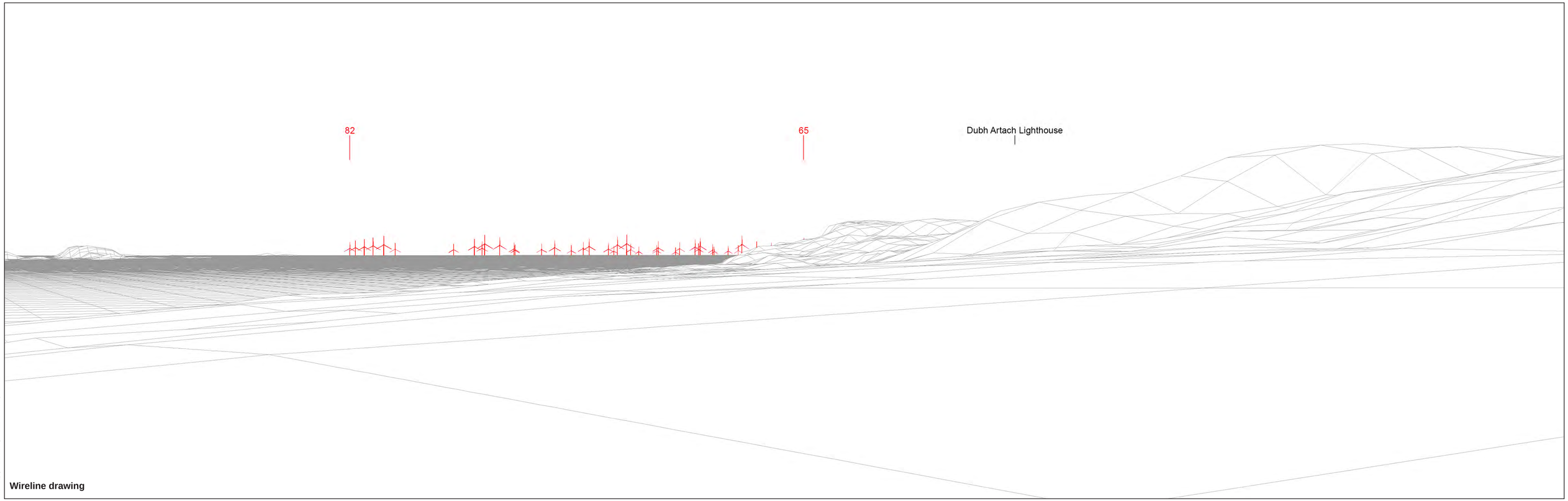
Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 11a

Viewpoint CH8: St Mary's Abbey, Iona, monastic settlement (Field behind Abbey)



Wireline drawing

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OS reference:	128781E 724657N		53.5° (planar projection)
Above Ordnance Datum:	19.06 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm
Direction of view:	209°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	25.01 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Notes:

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Figure 11b

Viewpoint CH8: St Mary's Abbey, Iona, monastic settlement (Field behind Abbey)

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OS reference:	128781E 724657N	Principal distance:	53.5° (planar projection)	Camera:	NIKON D750	Photography Date:	15/07/2025
Above Ordnance Datum:	19.06 m	Paper size:	812.5 mm	Lens:	50mm Fixed Focal Length	Photography Time:	10:48
Direction of view:	209°	Correct printed image size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)	Camera height:	1.5 m		
Nearest turbine:	25.01 km		820 x 260 mm				

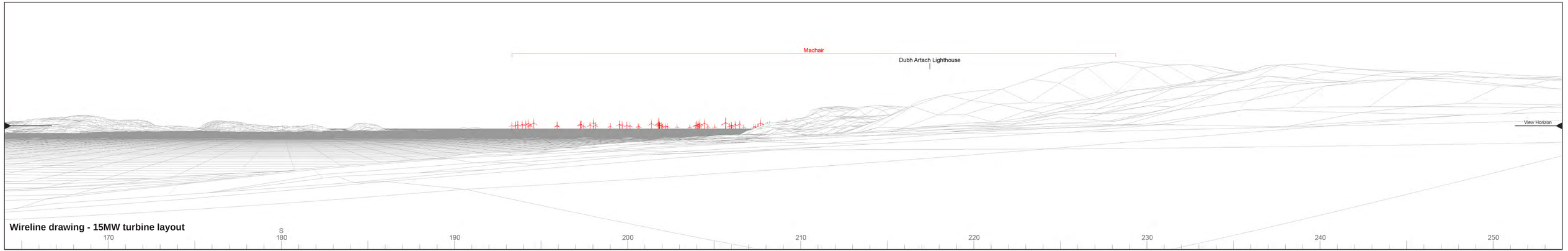
Notes:

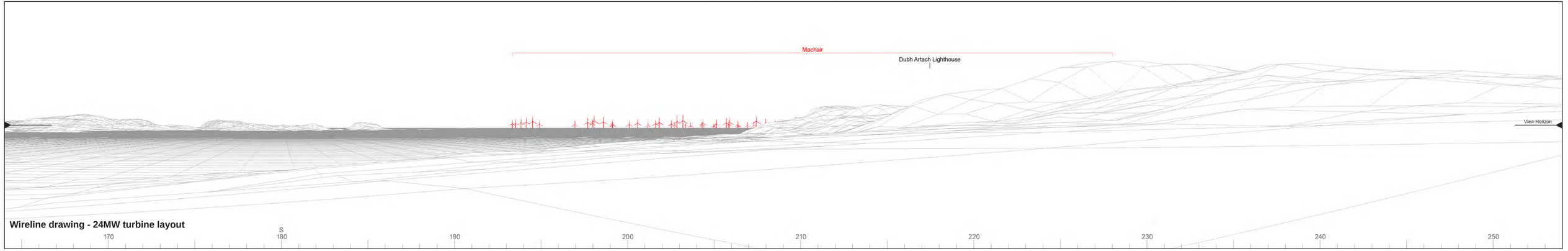
The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 11c

Viewpoint CH8: St Mary's Abbey, Iona, monastic settlement (Field behind Abbey)





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LUC

OS reference:	128781E 724657N		90° (cylindrical projection)
Above Ordnance Datum:	19.06 m	Principal distance:	522 mm
Direction of view:	209°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
		Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 11d

Viewpoint CH8: St Mary's Abbey, Iona, monastic settlement (Field behind Abbey)

1.6.1.6 Iona Nunnery (SM90350)

1.6.1.6.1 Importance

147. Iona Nunnery comprises the ruins of an early 13th century Augustinian nunnery dedicated to St Mary the Virgin, one of only two Augustinian nunneries in Scotland and one of the best-preserved examples of a medieval convent in Britain.

148. It was founded at the beginning of the 13th century probably by Ranald, Lord of the Isles and is contemporary with the adjacent abbey. It stands on the north edge of Baile Mòr, overlooking St Ronan's Bay. The complex is made of pink granite and dark grey rubble and follows a conventional quadrangular plan with a church to the south.

149. To the east of the nunnery stands St Ronan's Chapel, a 12th or 13th century building that served as the island's parish church until the 17th century. The building has a modern roof and is used to store an extensive collection of sculptured stones, including part of the Iona collection of medieval effigies and grave slabs carved in the West Highland tradition.

150. The overall significance of the nunnery can be summarised as follows (HES, 2005):

- **Exceptional preservation**: Iona Nunnery is one of the best-preserved medieval nunneries in Britain, and one of only two Augustinian nunneries established in Scotland;
- **Part of an iconic heritage landscape**: Iona Nunnery forms part of an internationally renowned group of monuments set within an almost wholly unspoilt landscape, attracting what is thought to be more than 100,000 visitors each year;
- **Historic continuity**: The nunnery is built adjacent to an early Christian burial ground, which may be as old as the primary phase of missionary activity on Iona, forming a link between the early monastery and the later convent;
- **Architectural importance**: Architectural details throughout the nunnery are of high quality, indicating its importance and significance. The convent church possessed one of the few rib-vaults in the Western Highlands;
- **Medieval prosperity**: The 15th century enlargements suggest the nunnery continued to flourish in the later Middle Ages, a time when many religious houses were declining;
- **Associated sites**: St Ronan's Church on the site of a possibly 8th century church, which was built on an older burial ground. The church contains a notable collection of late medieval West Highland graveslabs, crafted by masons from the Iona School of carving;
- **Cultural influence**: Several famous travelers have visited the monument since the Reformation, including Martin Martin, James Boswell and Dr Samuel Johnson, Sir Walter Scott, Prince Albert and Felix Mendelssohn; and
- **Tourism**: Prince Albert's visit in 1847 helped create an interest in the island as a fashionable holiday destination, much in the same way as Victoria and Albert's travels through the Highlands did.

1.6.1.6.2 Present Setting

151. Iona Nunnery is largely surrounded by the built development of Iona village with Cnoc Mor to the east. Iona Abbey is located to the north. The historic interest is focused on the close views of architectural details and the enclosed nature of the site.

1.6.1.6.3 Change to Setting

152. The nearest WTGs will be c.24 km from the nunnery and, as indicated by the ZTV (**Figure 11**), several of the WTGs will be visible on the horizon. However, they will only be visible as glimpsed views from only a few locations around the Nunnery when looking directly towards the WDA. This is

illustrated by **Plate 35**. Additionally, the horizon is already interrupted by the modern buildings that surround the nunnery.

153. Views of the Nunnery on approach will remain unchanged, as will views between each individual element of the priory. Similarly, the WTGs will not be seen when viewing Iona Abbey from the Nunnery. As such, sense of spirituality will be intact. Therefore, the overall change to the setting will be minimal.

Plate 35 View towards the WDA from Iona Nunnery

1.6.1.6.4 Consideration of Worst Case

154. In the case of this asset, any difference in magnitude of effect between the indicative 91 WTG and 144 WTG layouts is minimal, but the larger WTGs are likely to be slightly more prominently visible and less well-screened by intervening building. Any different magnitude of change would be limited, however, and no change to the assessed magnitude of effect would be anticipated from the adoption of the 144 WTG layout.

1.6.1.6.5 Significance of Effect

155. As discussed, the WTGs would be visible as glimpsed views from only a few locations in the scheduled area. Therefore, the change to setting would be of **negligible** magnitude and the effect on cultural significance would be **minor adverse**, which is **not significant** in EIA terms.

1.6.1.7 St Patrick's Chapel, Ceann a' Mhara, Tiree (SM6905)

1.6.1.7.1 Importance

156. St Patrick's Chapel, Ceann a' Mhara, Tiree consists of an enclosure containing the remains of a chapel, which may have originated as an early Christian monastic site. It lies on the western shore of Balephuil Bay c.900 m south of Beinn Ceann a' Mhara on the Isle of Tiree.

157. The chapel is constructed of medieval lime mortar and stands within an enclosure; it is in a state of ruin. It measures 8.08 m E-W by 3.4 m north to south within walls varying between 0.8 m and 0.9 m

thick. The structure of the chapel obviously post-dates any Early Christian use of the site. The remains of a probable hut are present to the northeast of the enclosure in addition to some larger rounded remains to the north of the chapel. In the chapel are two cross-incised boulders, bearing an incised Latin cross on both sides. To the southeast of the chapel is a further boulder with a single incised Latin cross. These boulders may have originally marked these burials.

158. The site is thought to have formed an Early Christian cashel or monastery of the period, although the remains of the enclosure wall are less substantial than in other such sites. It may have been associated with the probable Early Christian monastic site at Soroby. Nearby placename evidence suggests that there was an ecclesiastical use of the site while the Norse language was still spoken in the area. This continued with the erection of the chapel during the Middle Ages, although nothing definitive is known of the site's history save the dedication to St Patrick. However, according to the Vitae Sanctorum Hiberniae the monastery at Tiree was founded by St. Comgall (Plummer 1910, 11).

159. The cultural significance of the chapel can be summarised as follows:

- **National importance**: Scheduled Monument with potential to inform on early and medieval ecclesiastical history in Scotland;
- **Early Christian heritage**: Likely originated as an Early Christian monastic site (cashel), possibly linked to St Comgall and associated with Soroby;
- **Medieval continuity**: Later ecclesiastical use marked by the construction of a lime-mortared chapel during the Middle Ages;
- **Architectural features**:
    - Chapel measures 8.08 m by 3.4 m with walls up to 0.9 m thick; and
    - Enclosure and probable hut remains nearby, plus rounded structures to the north.
- **Christian symbolism**: Contains cross-incised boulders with Latin crosses, likely marking burials;
- **Placename evidence**: Suggests ecclesiastical use persisted into the Norse period, indicating cultural continuity; and
- **Research potential**:
    - Can provide insights into early and medieval church organization, architecture, and burial practices; and
    - Offers evidence of societal structure and continuity of landownership during the Norse and early medieval periods.

1.6.1.7.2 Present Setting

160. St Patrick's Chapel, Ceann a' Mhara, Tiree lies in a remote and tranquil area on the western shore of Balephuil Bay c.900 m south of Beinn Ceann a' Mhara on the Isle of Tiree. The chapel is oriented east to west with views across Balephuil Bay. It is situated in an area of rocky outcropping which gives the chapel and remains a sense of isolation. There is no road access to the monument, and it is only accessible on foot with views out to sea provided on approach.

161. As the monument only survives as fragmentary remains, it is not possible to see it from across Balephuil Bay, as such it can only be experienced and appreciated at close proximity. There are also views south across the wide seascape.

1.6.1.7.3 Change to Setting

162. The nearest WTG will be c.38 km from St Patrick's Chapel. As indicated by the ZTV and wirelines (**Figure 12**) the WTGs would be visible on the horizon as very distant elements of the background to views when looking directly towards the WDA and only on a clear day. Only the upper elements of the WTGs would be visible only to a viewer who actively searched for them and would be visible low

on the horizon and as very distant background elements of the view. This is illustrated by Figure 16.2.29 of **Chapter 16 Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impacts**.

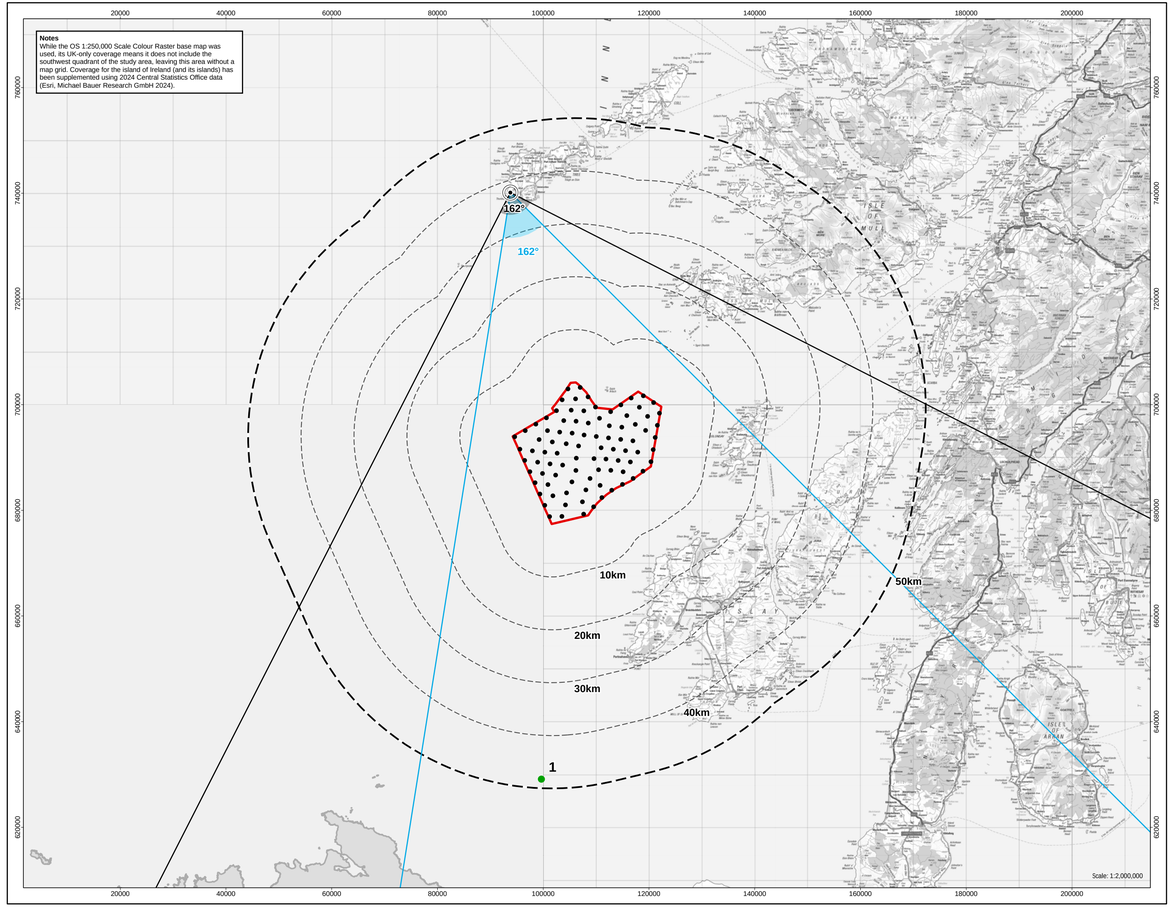
163. Moreover, views between each element of the monument would be unaffected, as would the key view from St Patrick's Chapel across Balephuil Bay. The WTGs would not be sufficiently audible from the monument to give rise to a change to setting so the sense of remoteness and isolation would not be affected from a sound perspective. As such, the change to setting would be minimal.

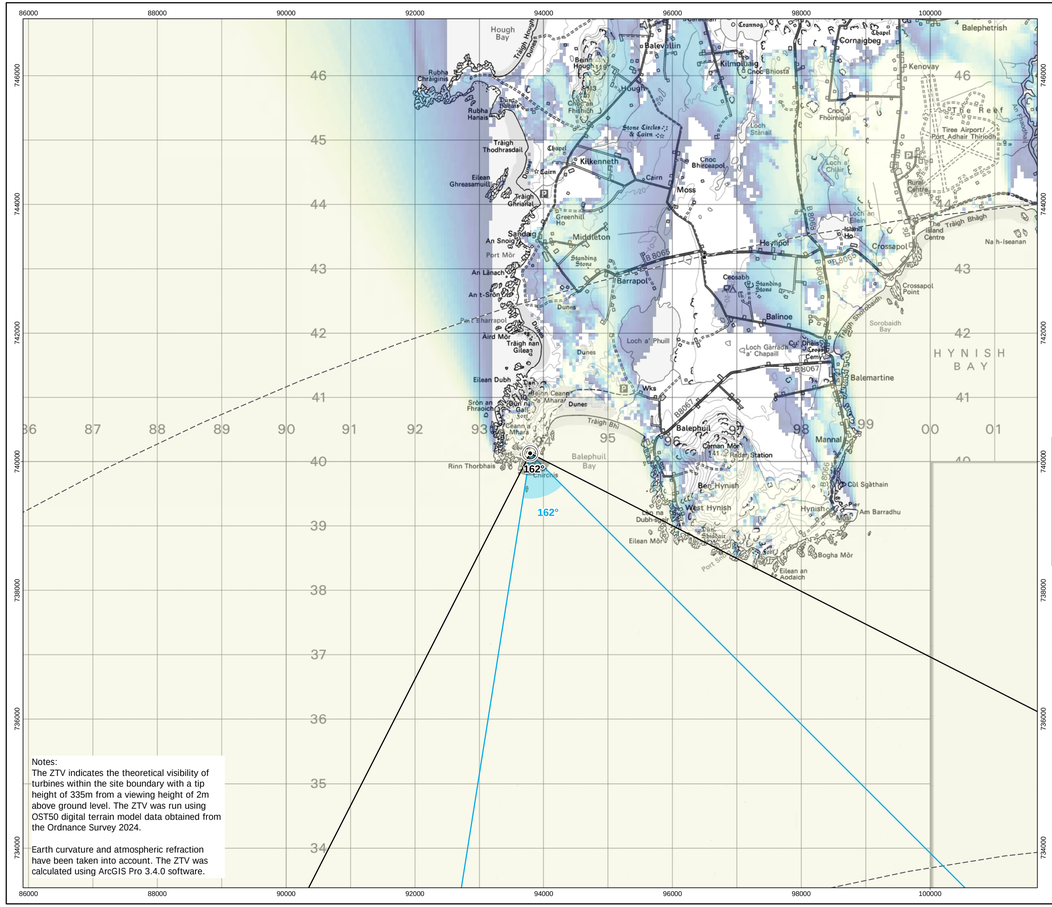
1.6.1.7.4 Consideration of Worst Case

164. In the case of this asset, the separation between the asset and the proposed development is such that it would be very difficult to discern any difference in magnitude of effect between the indicative 91 WTG and 144 WTG layouts, and no change to the assessed magnitude of effect would be anticipated from the adoption of the 144 WTG layout.

1.6.1.7.5 Significance of Effect

165. The WTGs would only be visible when looking directly at the WDA on a clear day and would appear as distant objects on the horizon. The presence of the WTGs in the distant seascape would not detract from the key views discussed above or from those elements identified that contribute to its cultural significance. Equally, the key views identified above would be unaffected by the presence of the WTGs. As such, the change to setting would be of **negligible** magnitude and the effect to cultural significance would be **minor adverse**, which is **not significant** in EIA terms.





Notes:
The ZTV indicates the theoretical visibility of turbines within the site boundary with a tip height of 335m from a viewing height of 2m above ground level. The ZTV was run using OST50 digital terrain model data obtained from the Ordnance Survey 2024.

Earth curvature and atmospheric refraction have been taken into account. The ZTV was calculated using ArcGIS Pro 3.4.0 software.

REV	REV DATE	GIS CREATOR	GIS REVIEWER	TECHNICAL CHECKER	TECHNICAL APPROVER
2	07/05/2026	DS	TH	LC	PM

DRAWING NUMBER	MCW-DWF-ENV-MAP-RHS-000113		
DATUM	OSGB36 (EPSG:27700)	PROJECTION	Transverse Mercator
SCALE	1:50,000	PAGE SIZE	A3
PROJECT TITLE	MachairWind		

Figure 12:
St Patrick's Chapel, Ceann a' Mhara, Tiree.

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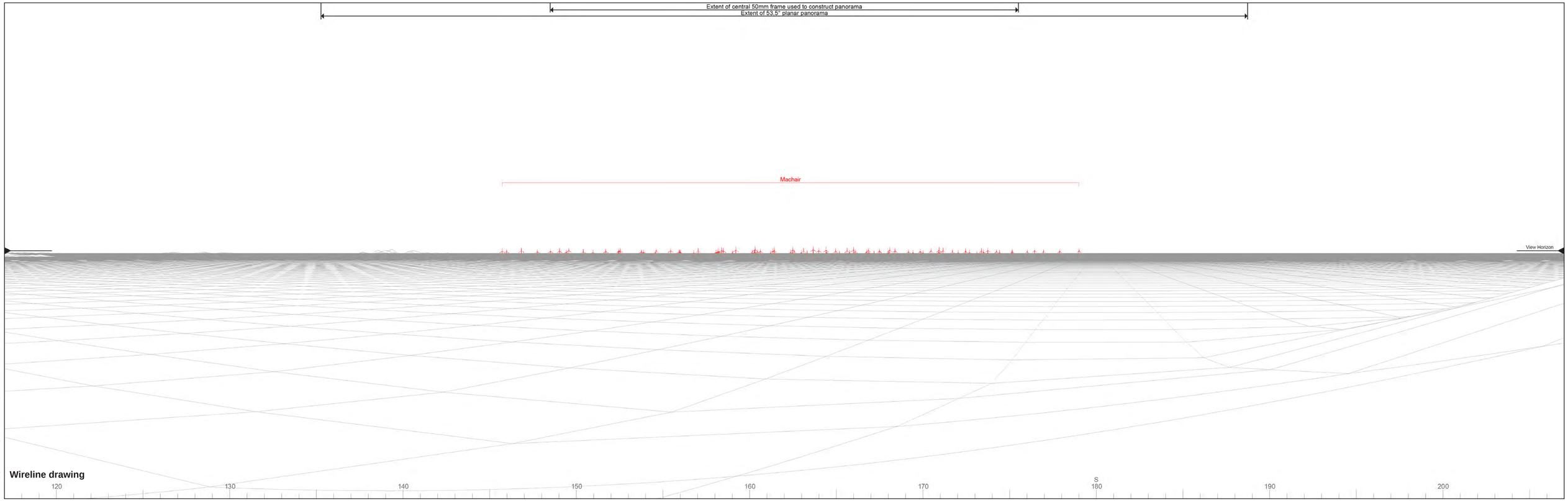

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LUC

OS reference:	93789E 740129N		90° (cylindrical projection)
Above Ordnance Datum:	12.68 m	Principal distance:	522 mm
Direction of view:	162°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	38.72 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

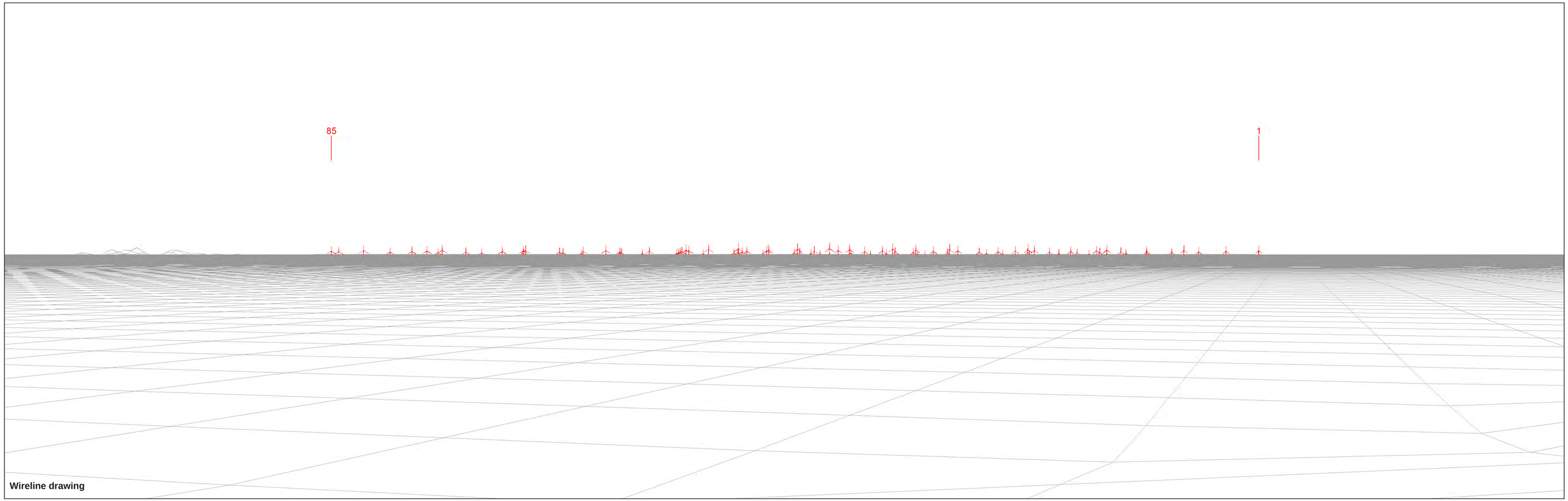
Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 12a

Viewpoint CH9: St Patrick's Chapel, Ceann a' Mhara, Tiree



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LUC

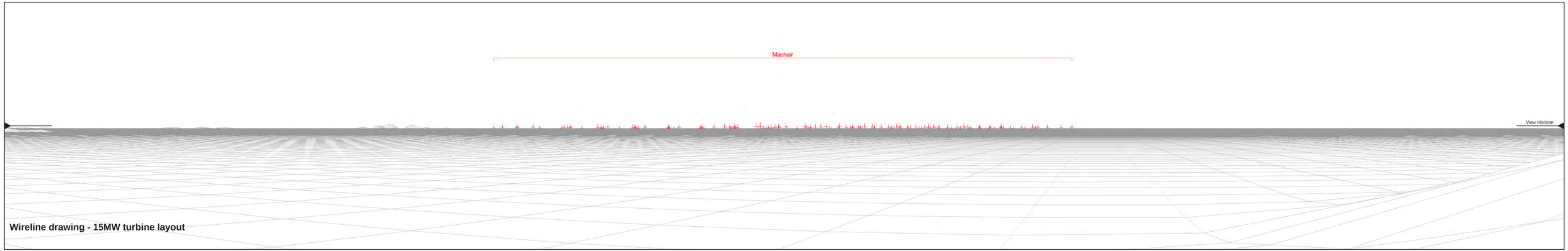
OS reference:	93789E 740129N		53.5° (planar projection)
Above Ordnance Datum:	12.68 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm
Direction of view:	162°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	38.72 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

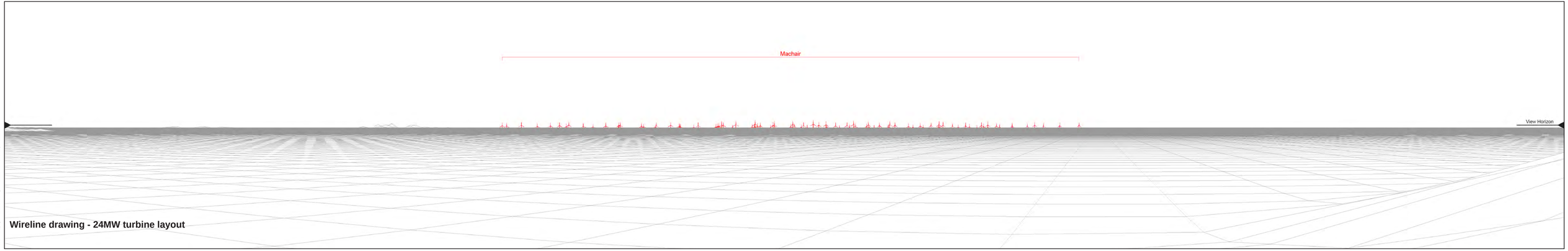
Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 12b
Viewpoint CH9: St Patrick's Chapel, Ceann a' Mhara, Tiree





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LUC

OS reference:	93789E 740129N		90° (cylindrical projection)
Above Ordnance Datum:	12.68 m	Principal distance:	522 mm
Direction of view:	162°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
		Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 12c

Viewpoint CH9: St Patrick's Chapel, Ceann a' Mhara, Tiree

1.6.1.8 Eileach-an-Naoimh, monastery, Garvellachs (SM90138)

1.6.1.8.1 Importance

166. Eileach-an-Naoimh, monastery, Garvellachs is a SM and heritage asset of national importance. It comprises the extensive remains of a monastery originating in the pre-Norse period located on the Garvellachs. The site is very complex with a long building history but has never been excavated which makes the inter-relationship between features difficult to determine.

167. The core of the site contains two church structures (one of stone and clay construction), a subterranean chamber and several other structures possibly related to a small monastery. To the east is a substantial burial ground with graves formed as raised rectangular platforms. To the east are a pair of interconnecting bee-hive cells which are thought to be the oldest structures on the island.

168. There are several structures between the core of the site and the natural boat-landing to the south. To the southwest is an Early-Christian burial cairn, known as Eithne's grave (for the mother of St Columba who is anecdotally buried there) with a cross-marked slab, it occupies a natural terrace on the hill side. A second burial ground lies c.200 m to the southwest of the main site.

169. First recorded by John of Fordun in the 14th century who described it as a sanctuary, the site is older but is thought to have been in continuous use since its foundation. The site is thought to have been founded by St. Brendan the Navigator.

170. The monument is of national importance because it is one of the best preserved Early Christian monasteries in Scotland, suffering from very little later encroachment. Located on what is now an uninhabited island, the structures have not been quarried, and the archaeological deposits are likely to be well preserved. This site has the potential to enhance our understanding of the history of the introduction of Christianity to Scotland and the impact of subsequent events, in particular the Norse invasions and settlement.

171. As outlined in the statement of significance (HES, 2006) its cultural significance can be summarised as follows:

- **Early Christian heritage**: Traditionally founded around 542 AD by St Brendan, representing one of Scotland's earliest monastic sites;
- **Exceptional preservation**: Remoteness has protected the site from later disturbance, making it one of the best-preserved early Christian monasteries;
- **Historical continuity and change**: Abandoned during Norse raids (c. 800 AD), later became the property of Oronsay Priory until the Reformation;
- **Unique architectural features**: Includes a rare double beehive cell and grave enclosure linked to Eithne, mother of St Columba;
- **Burial and ecclesiastical significance**: Presence of burial grounds and enclosures associated with early Christian practice;
- **Post-Medieval agricultural use**: Evidence of farming structures (byre, possible farmhouse, corn-drying kiln) and cultivation remains from the 17th–19th centuries; and
- **Experiential value**: Remote setting offers visitors a sense of solitude and insight into the lifestyle of early monastic communities.

1.6.1.8.2 Present Setting

172. Eileach-an-Naoimh, monastery is located on Garvellachs, a small island located c.10 km northwest of the Isle of Jura. Eileach an Naoimh is reached by boat from Tobarlochy on Luing, or from the Crinan harbour. It seems to be a popular stop for sailing boats, kayakers and people from the neighboring islands who have access to boats (HES, 2006).

173. The main part of the monastery is located towards the centre of the island, while the beehive cell is located to the southeast of this. There are uninterrupted views between the individual elements of the monastery. The natural ridge of the island to the northwest provides natural protection from the elements and perhaps was a consideration when the island was selected for the monastery. Views from the monastery, beehive cell and graveyard are mainly back towards the Scottish mainland and the surrounding islands; as these elements generally lie between 11-20 m AOD while the ridge lies between 35-55 m AOD, they are naturally screened by the ridge.

174. The remoteness of the island allows visitors to experience the spirituality, tranquility and the solitude of the early monastic community.

1.6.1.8.3 Change to Setting

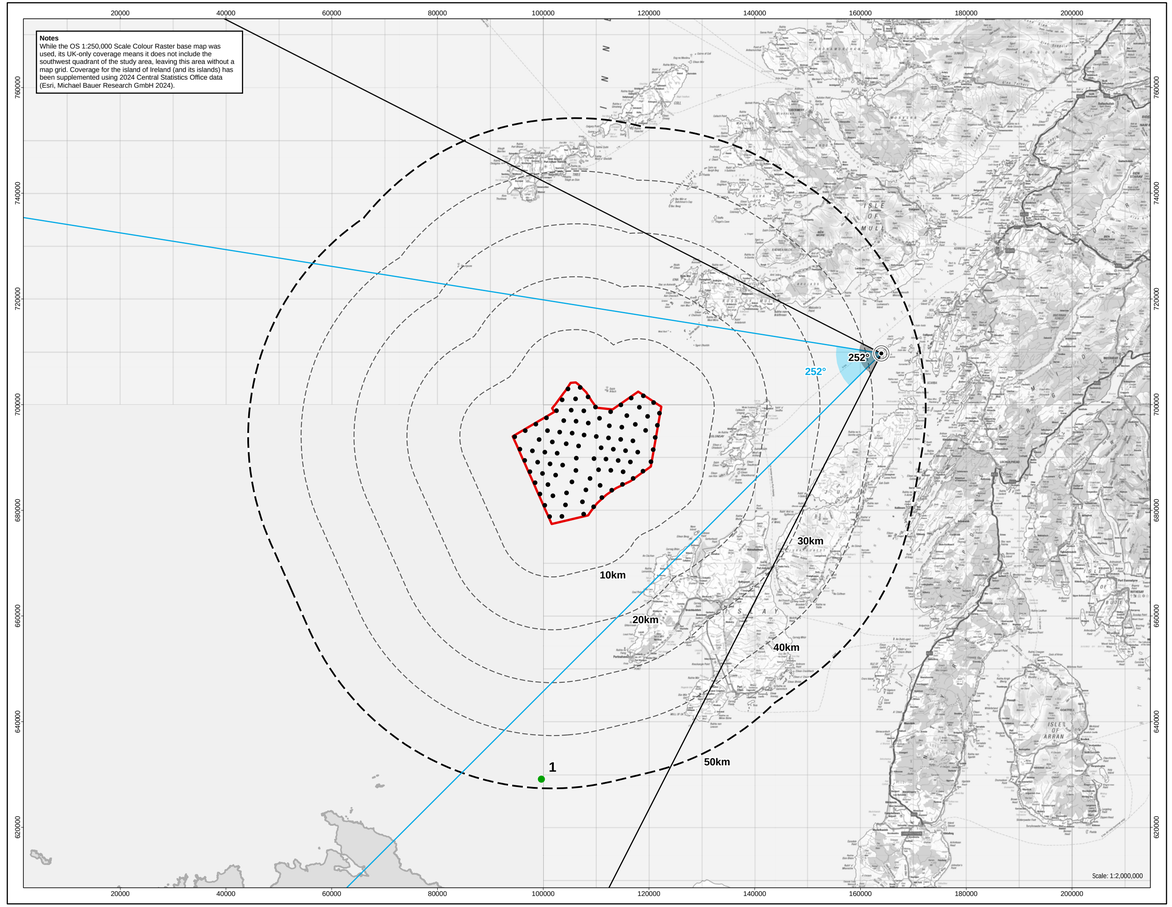
175. The nearest WTG will be located c.42 km from Eileach-an-Naoimh, monastery. As indicated by the wirelines, ZTV (**Figure 13**) and Figure 16.2.17 of **Chapter 16 Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impacts**, the WTGs would be seen only from a few locations on Garvellachs from the elevated northwestern ridge as illustrated in **Figure 17**. The monastery, beehive cell and graveyard would all be screened. As such, views between each element of the monument would be unaffected, as would views of the monument on approach. Therefore, the sense of solitude and serenity would be maintained. When viewing the WTGs from the elevated ridge, they would appear as small features on a very distant horizon, the nearest WTG being c.40 km away. As such, the change in setting to the monument due to the WTGs will be minimal.

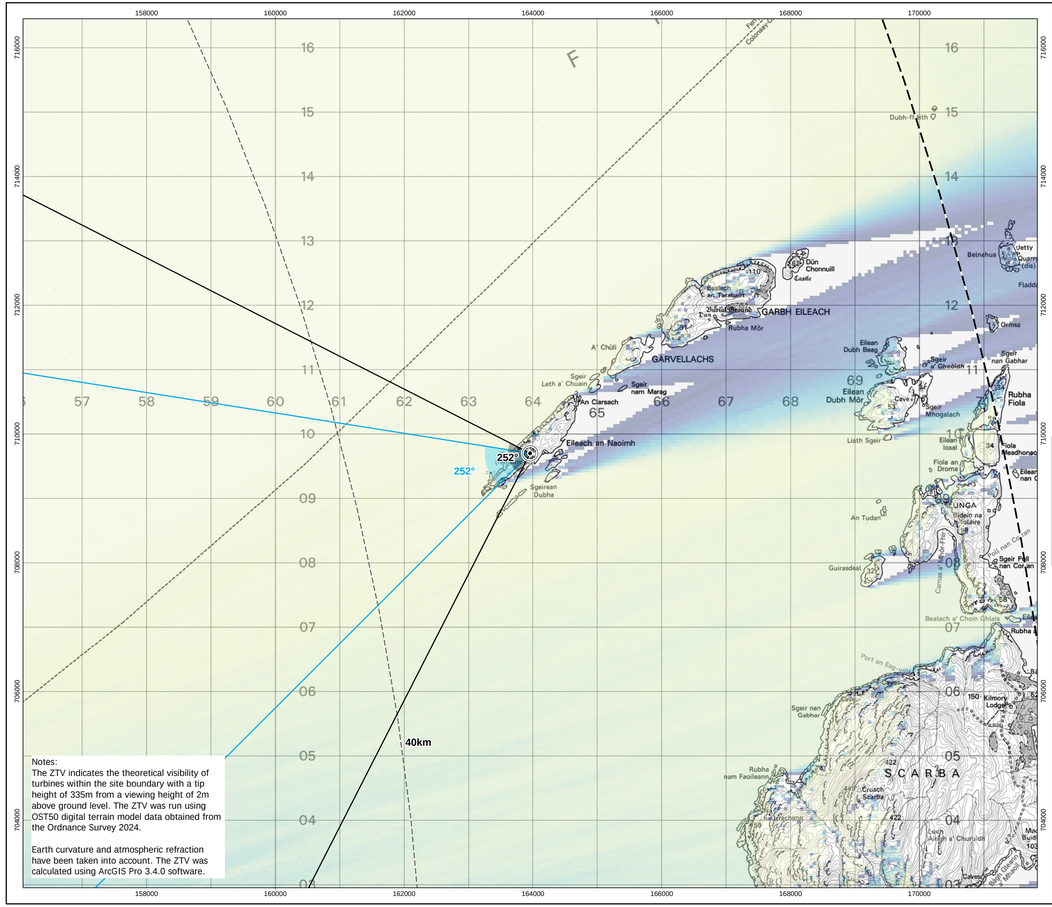
1.6.1.8.4 Consideration of Worst Case

176. In the case of this asset, the separation between the asset and the proposed development is such that it would be very difficult to discern any difference in magnitude of effect between the indicative 91 WTG and 144 WTG layouts, and no change to the assessed magnitude of effect would be anticipated from the adoption of the 144 WTG layout.

1.6.1.8.5 Significance of Effect

177. The change to the setting to Eileach-an-Naoimh is assessed as being of **negligible** magnitude as the WTGs will only be visible as distant elements on the horizon when standing at the highest point of the scheduled area. This will give rise to a **minor adverse** effect to cultural significance, which is **not significant** in EIA terms.





Windfarm development area
Indicative 24MW turbine layout
10km interval from windfarm development area
50km study area

Zone of Theoretical Visibility
More turbines visible
Less turbines visible

Wind Farm Status
Design/Scoping
1. Malin Sea Wind

90° Field of View
53° Field of View

N

0 2 Kilometres

REV	REV DATE	GIS CREATOR	GIS REVIEWER	TECHNICAL CHECKER	TECHNICAL APPROVER
2	27/05/2026	DS	TH	LC	PM

DRAWING NUMBER	MCW-DWF-ENV-MAP-RHS-000114
DATUM: OSGB36 (EPSG:27700)	PROJECTION: Transverse Mercator
SCALE: 1:50,000	PAGE SIZE: A3
PROJECT TITLE	MachairWind

Figure 13:
Eileach-an-Naoimh, monastery, Garvellachs.

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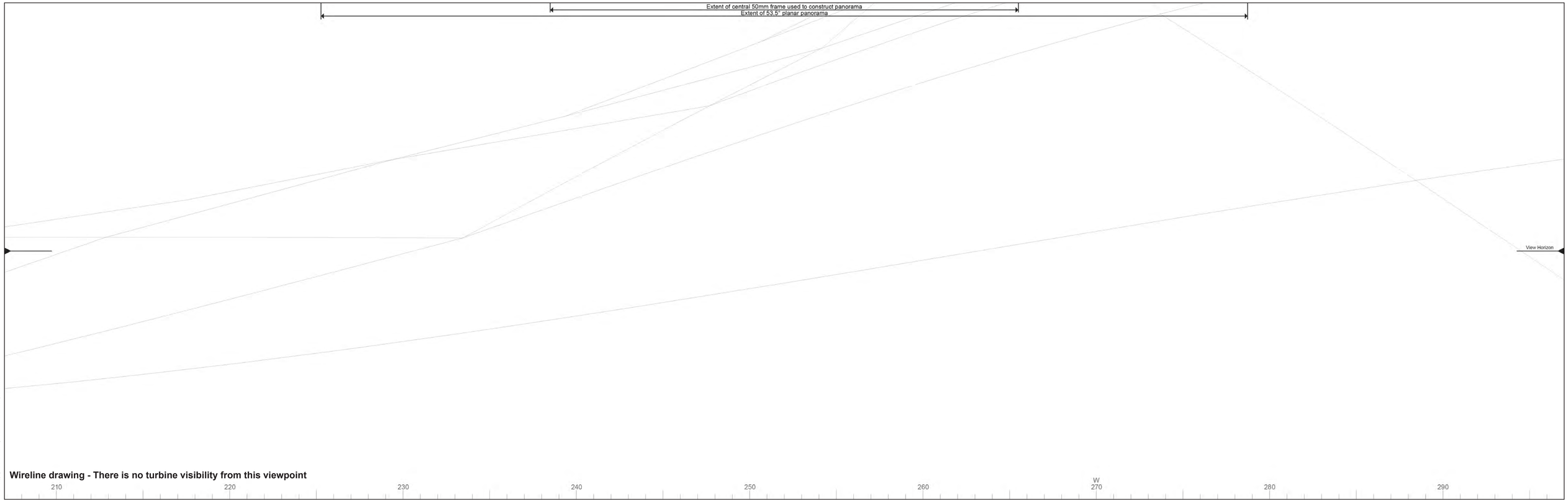

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LUC

OS reference:	163956E 709698N		90° (cylindrical projection)
Above Ordnance Datum:	25.38 m	Principal distance:	522 mm
Direction of view:	252°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	43.47 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 13a

Viewpoint CH10: Eileach-an-Naoimh, monastery, Garvellachs

Wireline drawing - There is no turbine visibility from this viewpoint

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LUC

OS reference:	163956E 709698N		53.5° (planar projection)
Above Ordnance Datum:	25.38 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm
Direction of view:	252°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	43.47 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

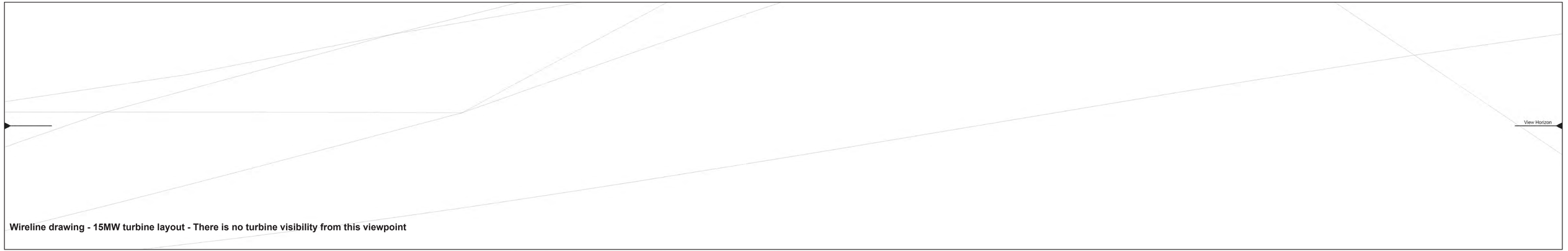
Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

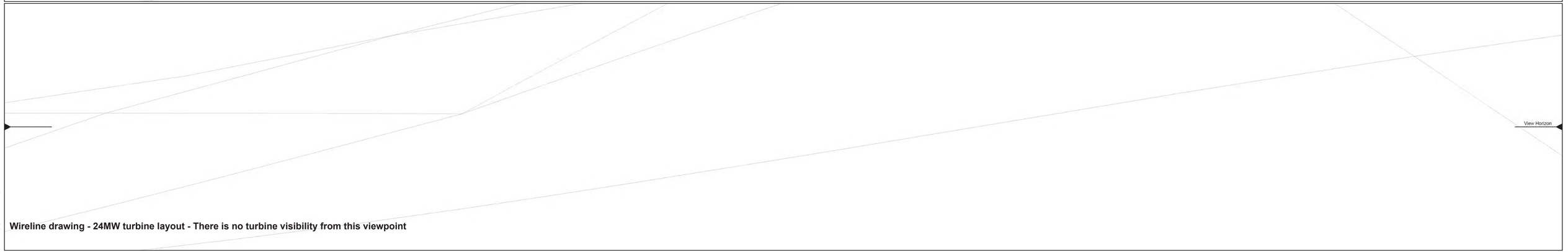
MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 13b

Viewpoint CH10: Eileach-an-Naoimh, monastery, Garvellachs



Wireline drawing - 15MW turbine layout - There is no turbine visibility from this viewpoint



Wireline drawing - 24MW turbine layout - There is no turbine visibility from this viewpoint

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LUC

OS reference:	163956E 709698N		90° (cylindrical projection)
Above Ordnance Datum:	25.38 m	Principal distance:	522 mm
Direction of view:	252°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
		Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 13c

Viewpoint CH10: Eileach-an-Naoimh, monastery, Garvellachs

1.6.1.9 Dun Domhnuill Fort Oronsay (SM5140)

1.6.1.9.1 Importance

178. Dun Domhnuill Fort located on Oronsay comprises the remains of a contour fort in a site naturally defended on all sides by steep drops except the north. It is situated on a detached rocky ridge on the south-east flank of Beinn Oronsay. No definitive entrance has been traced but there are remnants of circular huts inside.

179. The importance and cultural significance of the monument can be summarised as follows:

- **National importance**: Scheduled Monument with high potential to inform on Iron Age society in Scotland;
- **Defensive location**: Built on a naturally defended rocky ridge with steep drops on all sides except the north;
- **Architectural features**:
  - Contour fort design adapted to the terrain; and
  - Remnants of circular huts within the enclosure, indicating domestic occupation.
- **Chronological context**: Likely dates to the Iron Age (c. 600 BC – AD 400);
- **Research potential**:
  - Offers insights into settlement patterns, economy, and material culture of Iron Age communities; and
  - Can reveal defensive and domestic architectural techniques through archaeological excavation.
- **Landscape significance**: Demonstrates strategic use of elevated, isolated terrain for security and habitation.

1.6.1.9.2 Present Setting

180. Dun Domhnuill Fort is situated on a detached rocky ridge on the south-east flank of Beinn Oronsay. A site visit could not be conducted as access was restricted due to ground nesting birds. The monument lies at c.45 m AOD, while land to the west and north lie between 50 and 55 m AOD. As such there are no long-range views to the west and north of the monument as they are naturally screened by the surrounding topography. Views therefore are east and south along the Oronsay peninsula.

1.6.1.9.3 Change to Setting

181. The nearest WTG will be located c.14 km from Dun Domhnuill Fort. As indicated by the Oronsay Priory ZTV (**Figure 4**), only a few WTGs would be visible from the monument. Views out to sea are available, but these contribute mainly by offering clear views into a regionally distinctive landscape and seascape context, as the monument is defended to the north and west by elevated ground. As such, change to the setting of the monument will be minimal.

1.6.1.9.4 Consideration of Worst Case

1.6.1.9.5 In the case of this asset, any difference in magnitude of effect between the indicative 91 WTG and 144 WTG layouts is minimal as a result of the limited visibility of the proposed development,

and no change to the assessed magnitude of effect would be anticipated from the adoption of the 144 WTG layout.

1.6.1.9.6 Significance of Effect

182. The change to the setting of Dun Domhnuill Fort is assessed as being of **negligible** magnitude as the presence of the WTGs would not affect those elements summarised in **Section 1.6.1.9.1**. This will give rise to a **minor adverse** effect to cultural significance, which is **not significant** in EIA terms.

1.6.1.10 Eilean na Ba, fort, Rinn Thorbhais, Ceann a' Mhara, Tiree (SM6904)

1.6.1.10.1 Importance

183. The monument consists of a fort occupying a rocky promontory separated from the mainland by a 16.5 m deep gorge. It lies 400 m west of St Patrick's Chapel and just over 1 km south southwest of the summit of Bein Ceann a' Mhara, on the southwestern tip of the Isle of Tiree.

184. The landward side of the fort is defined by a bare stone wall running northwest to southeast, which survives as a low stoney mound c.1 m thick. Several stretches of the outer face are visible, but none of the inner face survives above ground. Towards the east end of the south side of the fort, two gullies accessible from the shore are blocked by short stretches of wall. The longer of these retains some stones of its outer facing along a substantial proportion of its length. Within the fort, the ground slopes southeast in a series of shelves from the highest point of the fort. On the highest of these shelves there are traces of at least two circular stone-walled houses.

185. The entrance to the fort lies at the east end of the enclosure wall, where a gully allows easier access. The approach has been improved by steps cut in the gully floor and by a stone-revetted causeway leading across the gorge from the base of the steps. The stone revetment is well-preserved on its west side, but less so on the east side.

186. The importance and cultural significance can be summarised as follows:

- **National importance**: A well-preserved later prehistoric fort with high potential to inform on Iron Age society in Scotland;
- **Strategic location**: Occupies a rocky promontory separated from the mainland by a 16.5 m deep gorge, emphasizing defensive design;
- **Architectural features**:
    - Landward side defined by a stone wall (c. 1 m thick), with visible outer facing;
    - Blocked gullies with short stretches of wall for additional defence; and
    - Stone-revetted causeway and steps across the gorge, showing advanced access control.
- **Domestic evidence**: Traces of at least two circular stone-walled houses on the highest shelf within the fort;
- **Defensive complexity**: Multiple barriers and natural isolation make the site highly defensible and difficult to access; and
- **Research potential**:
    - Can provide insights into later prehistoric defensive and domestic architecture; and
    - Part of a cluster of broadly contemporary sites, enhancing understanding of Iron Age social organization and settlement patterns.

1.6.1.10.2 Present Setting

187. The monument is located on a rocky promontory on the southeastern tip of Tiree in a rough scenic environment. It has wide ranging views in each direction. As a promontory fort, important views are those back inland and views of the promontory from the surrounding landscape. It is surrounded on

three sides by the sea; however, its relationship to the sea appears to be one of isolation as a means of defence rather than one of connectivity.

1.6.1.10.3 Change to Setting

188. The nearest WTG will be located c. 40 km from the monument and, as indicated by the St Patrick's Chapel ZTV (**Figure 12**), the tips of some of the WTGs would be visible from the monument. Similarly, as indicated by the Hynish viewpoint (**Figure 16.2.29** of **Chapter 16 Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impacts**) the WTGs would only appear on the distant horizon as very distant features on a clear day and would be difficult to perceive. Additionally, long range views of the distant horizon are not considered to be key views that contribute to the setting of the monument. As such, changes to the setting of the monument would be minimal.

1.6.1.10.4 Consideration of Worst Case

189. In the case of this asset, the separation between the asset and the proposed development is such that it would be very difficult to discern any difference in magnitude of effect between the indicative 91 WTG and 144 WTG layouts, and no change to the assessed magnitude of effect would be anticipated from the adoption of the 144 WTG layout.

1.6.1.10.5 Significance of Effect

190. A minimal change to the setting of the fort is assessed as a **negligible** magnitude of change. For an asset of high sensitivity, this would give rise to a **minor adverse** effect, which is **not significant** in EIA terms.

1.6.1.11 Dun Uragaig Fort, Colonsay (SM5077)

1.6.1.11.1 Importance

191. Dun Uragaig Fort (**Plate 36**) is a promontory fort dating to the Iron Age located in the north of the Isle of Colonsay, to the northwest of Kiloran Bay.

Plate 36 Dun Uragaig Fort

192. The site of the fort is on an almost detached promontory accessible only via a narrow adjoining strip of land to the southeast of the monument with sheer cliffs surrounding it. Archival photographs illustrate the best surviving traces of the fort are the foundations of the series of six or more huts

which stood as part of this fort. The surviving earthworks have been greatly weathered by the remote conditions at the exposed site. The fort was protected by a wall c.60 m long and c.2 m thick on the landward side, remnants of which survive. During the site visit, only the remnants of the wall could be identified.

193. The importance and cultural significance of the Dun Uragaig Fort can be summarised as:

- **National importance**: Scheduled Monument with strong potential to enhance understanding of Iron Age settlement and architecture in Scotland;
- **Strategic location**: Situated on an almost detached promontory with sheer cliffs, accessible only via a narrow land strip, emphasizing defensive design;
- **Architectural features**:
  - Protected by a substantial wall (c. 60 m long and 2 m thick) on the landward side; and
  - Foundations of six or more huts within the fort, indicating domestic occupation.
- **Chronological context**: Dates to the Iron Age (c. 600 BC – AD 400), with possible later use.
- **Research potential**:
  - Offers insights into defensive and domestic architecture of the Iron Age; and
  - Excavation could reveal settlement patterns, economy, and material culture.
- **Landscape significance**: Demonstrates strategic exploitation of rugged terrain for security and habitation.

1.6.1.11.2 Present Setting

194. The fort is a prominent feature within the surrounding landscape, one which is accessible only on foot c.550 m to the west of the few isolated properties within this rocky peninsula. The fort has far-reaching views across the sea to the west, northeast, northwest and southwest and the east with views to the southeast and looking back inland towards the rocky, green upland by which the site is accessed.

195. As few elements of the fort survive as upstanding remains, it is difficult to understand and visualise how the monument was sited within the surrounding landscape to its full extent. There is no trace of the huts to the naked eye, so it is not abundantly clear that this site was once inhabited.

196. As a promontory fort, its position would have utilised the steep rocky cliffs which surround it as means of defence given the inaccessibility from the water. As such, views inland and up and down the coast are of particular importance to understanding its location and setting as these would be from where visitors to the fort would have arrived.

1.6.1.11.3 Change to Setting

197. The nearest WTG would be located c.16 km from the monument. In views out to sea the WTGs would comprise a background element of a long-distance view. Key views up and down the coast and back inland from where the site is accessed would be unaffected. As such, views of the WTGs would not hinder the viewer's ability to appreciate those elements that contribute to the monument's significance, namely that the sea has been utilised as a means of isolation and defence rather than connectivity. As such, while the presence of the WTGs would represent a change to the setting of the monument, the change would be minimal.

1.6.1.11.4 Consideration of Worst Case

198. In the case of this asset, any difference in magnitude of effect between the indicative 91 WTG and 144 WTG layouts is minimal. The increased scale and prominence of the larger WTGs, would be balanced by the denser layout required for the smaller WTGs and likely increased stacking, although a denser layout would arguably appear more coherent, though this is impression is in part a function

of the 'dense perimeter' layout adopted for the indicative worst-case, and no change to the assessed magnitude of effect would be anticipated from the adoption of the 144 WTG layout.

1.6.1.11.5 Significance of Effect

199. A minimal change to the setting of the fort is assessed as a **negligible** magnitude of change. For an asset of high sensitivity, this would give rise to a **minor adverse** effect, which is **not significant** in EIA terms.

1.6.1.12 Dun Gallain Fort, Colonsay (SM5969)

1.6.1.12.1 Importance

200. Dun Gallain Fort (**Plate 37**) comprises a prehistoric fort located on Colonsay situated at the western end of a rocky promontory 700 m to the west of Colonsay airfield. The summit is defined by an oval wall, enclosing an area about 30 m by 20 m with an outer wall on the east and south sides. The main wall is best preserved on the east and south side. There is a modern marker cairn on the highest point of the interior.

Plate 37 Dun Gallain Fort

201. Situated within an isolated coastal location, the raised site of the fort is a prominent feature within the landscape. The partial remains of the walls of the fort survive, and blend into the surrounding rocky landscape.

202. The heritage significance of the asset lies in its well-preserved survival as a prehistoric site and as such the potential of the monument to provide knowledge on architecture dating to this period as well as social, economic, farming behaviours.

203. However, the fort also holds significance in its role in the folklore of Colonsay and the wider Hebrides. The monument is associated to the Norse Lord Grey Somerled who is said to have lived at the fort (MacGregor, 1937).

204. The importance and cultural significance of Dun Gallain Fort can be summarised as follow:

- **National importance**: A well-preserved prehistoric fort with strong potential to inform on early defensive architecture and social organization;

- **Strategic location**: Positioned on a prominent rocky promontory at the western end of Colonsay, making it a visible and defensible landmark;
- **Architectural features**:
    - Oval wall enclosing an area about 30 m by 20 m; and
    - Outer walls on the east and south sides, best preserved in these areas.
- **Chronological context**: Prehistoric origin, likely Iron Age, with later associations;
- **Research potential**: Can provide insights into architecture, economy, and farming behaviours of early communities;
- **Cultural Significance**: Associated with Norse folklore, specifically linked to Lord Grey Somerled, adding a layer of legendary and historical interest; and
- **Landscape Prominence**: Isolated coastal location enhances its visibility and symbolic role in the landscape.

1.6.1.12.2 Present Setting

205. The fort is located on rocky promontory, and is bounded by the sea to west, north and south. There are white sandy beaches located either side of the promontory with Colonsay airfield located to the east. The fort is in a large hilly and agricultural landscape with access provided from the golf course. Areas of ridge and furrow can be noted in this landscape.

206. From the summit of the fort there are expansive views inland across this rugged landscape (**Plate 38**), with views up and down the coast also provided (**Plate 39** and **Plate 40**). There are expansive views west, out across the sea. The promontory on which the fort is located is a dominant feature in the landscape and can be seen from multiple locations (**Plate 41**). The modern marker cairn at the highest point of the fort's interior illustrates the use of the site as a landmark. Though the views extend over the sea, the dramatic landscape is shaped by the remote hinterland surrounding it.

Plate 38 Views inland from the summit of Dun Gallain Fort

Plate 39 Views north along the coast

Plate 40 Views south along the coast

Plate 41 View of Dun Gallain Fort from the north

1.6.1.12.3 Change to Setting

207. The nearest WTG will be located c.14 km from the fort. While the WTGs would be seen from the summit of the fort, they would comprise a background element of a long-distance view out to sea. Important views are those of the fort and a prominent landmark, and view from the fort inland out across the expansive rugged landscape. These views help to understand how the fort would have functioned and would be unaffected by the presence of the WTGs in the seascape. Similarly, scenic views up and down the coast would be unaffected. As such, the presence of the WTGs would represent a minimal change to the setting of the fort.

1.6.1.12.4 Consideration of Worst Case

208. In the case of this asset, any difference in magnitude of effect between the indicative 91 WTG and 144 WTG layouts is minimal. The increased scale and prominence of the larger WTGs, would be balanced by the denser layout required for the smaller WTGs and likely increased stacking, although a denser layout would arguably appear more coherent, though this is impression is in part a function of the 'dense perimeter' layout adopted for the indicative worst-case, and no change to the assessed magnitude of effect would be anticipated from the adoption of the 144 WTG layout.

1.6.1.12.5 Significance of Effect

209. A minimal change to the setting of the fort is assessed as a **negligible** magnitude of change. For an asset of high sensitivity, this would give rise to a **minor adverse** effect, which is **not significant** in EIA terms.

1.6.1.13 Tobar Fuar, dun 1100 m NW of Achrins, Colonsay (SM5970)

1.6.1.13.1 Importance

210. Tobar Fuar comprises the remains of a prehistoric or early historic dun, which is situated on a low knoll overlooking the shore at the northeast end of Machrins Bay. Roughly circular on plan, the dun measures about 12.5 m in diameter. Several outer facing stones can be seen on the west, south and east, and the entrance probably lay on the northeast, where a large stone appears above the turf and may form part of the southeast side of the passage. The entrance is not apparent, and the interior is flat. During the site no obvious remains could be identified.

211. The importance and cultural significance of Tobar Fuar, dun can be summarised as:

- **National importance**: Recognized as a Scheduled Monument for its potential to inform on later prehistoric society in Scotland;
- **Prehistoric/early historic heritage**: Likely represents a dun (fortified dwelling) dating to the later prehistoric or early historic period;
- **Strategic location**: Positioned on a low knoll overlooking Machrins Bay, suggesting defensive and territorial significance;
- **Architectural features**:
  - Roughly circular plan, about 12.5 m in diameter;
  - Wall reduced to a stony mound with visible outer facing stones on west, south, and east sides; and
  - Probable entrance on the northeast, marked by a large stone.
- **Interior characteristics**: Flat interior, with scant visible remains, indicating possible domestic use; and
- **Research potential**:
  - Can provide insights into later prehistoric architecture, economy, and social organization; and
  - Archaeological excavation could reveal material culture despite the current scant remains.

1.6.1.13.2 Present Setting

212. Tobar Fuar is situated within a bay along the eastern coast of Colonsay, on a comparably low knoll compared to the rocky cliffs within proximity of this monument. Due to the lack of remains associated with the monument it is difficult to accurately understand and determine its setting. Views from the monument are panoramic across this relatively remote and rural landscape. Dun Gallain Fort can be seen as a prominent feature from here so some association between two monuments can be assumed and that this view is key.

1.6.1.13.3 Change to Setting

213. The nearest WTG will be c.15 km from the dun; however, due to its low elevation, visibility of the WTGs would be limited. Due to the monument's state of preservation, it is very difficult to identify and, as such, its setting and the contribution its setting play in its cultural significance is limited to providing a regionally distinctive landscape and seascape context. If it is assumed that the relationship between it and Dun Gallain Fort are important to past function, then views between the two are the most important view from the monument. These views would be unaffected by the WTGs and as such, the presence of the WTGs would represent a minimal change to the setting of the dun.

1.6.1.13.4 Significance of Effect

214. A minimal change to the setting of the dun is assessed as a **negligible** magnitude of change. For an asset of high sensitivity, this would give rise to a **minor adverse** effect, which is **not significant** in EIA terms.

1.6.1.14 Dun nan Nighean, dun, Islay (SM13215)

1.6.1.14.1 Importance

215. Dun nan Nighean comprises the remains of a prehistoric, defended settlement or dun, likely to date from the Iron Age (between 500 BC and AD 500). The dun comprises a substantial drystone wall, over 6 m wide in places and standing up to 1.6 m high, which encloses part of a dramatic coastal promontory. The enclosed area measures 17 m by 15 m. On the southeast side, several rock-cut

steps lead into the dun's interior. On the northwest side of the promontory, just outside the enclosure, there is a sub-oval underground chamber of drystone construction with a corbelled slab roof.

216. Duns belong to a much broader category of later prehistoric settlement, which includes brochs, forts, crannogs, and hut circles. It is believed that duns represent the remains of living spaces of small groups or single families. They are largely a coastal phenomenon and tend to be located on locally high ground, along prominent coastal routes or within easy reach of the coast. Most of these structures were built most likely to offer some protection to individual families or small groups, although some of the larger examples could possibly also have had a variety of other functions, perhaps serving as a central place for the wider community.

217. Researchers have suggested they were positioned in places which would have been visible from far afield and from other contemporary sites; and that this was just as important as having good visibility from a monument. There are over 230 duns recorded in Argyll with only 34 sites classified as such having undergone some degree of excavation. Dating evidence form these sites suggests duns could have been in use from 4th – 1st centuries BC up until the late Medieval Period (Webb and Simpson, 2017).

218. The 'fortified' nature of these places has in the past been taken to imply some form of defensibility or territorial dominance, but these conceptions have been rooted in modern cultural assumptions about landscape, warfare, land ownership and the value of visibility, and it is by no means clear that these are helpful to developing and understanding of the function and purpose of these sites; it is clear that these site did not exert any form of practical control over seaborne traffic and the distance at which the relatively small vessels used during the pre-modern era and the value of that visibility is questionable.

219. The importance and cultural significance of Dun nan Nighean can be summarised as:

- **National importance**: Scheduled Monument with strong potential to enhance understanding of later prehistoric society in western Scotland;
- **Iron Age heritage**: Likely dates between 500 BC and AD 500, representing a defended settlement typical of the period;
- **Strategic location**: Occupies a dramatic coastal promontory, naturally defensible and visually prominent;
- **Architectural features**:
    - Substantial drystone wall, over 6 m wide and up to 1.6 m high, enclosing an area of 17 m by 15 m;
    - Rock-cut steps leading into the interior on the southeast side; and
    - Sub-oval underground chamber with corbelled slab roof just outside the enclosure, indicating complex construction.
- **Research Potential**:
    - High likelihood of well-preserved archaeological remains within and around the dun;
    - Can provide insights into defensive architecture, domestic life, and social organization; and
    - Offers evidence of inter-community connections and economic practices during the Iron Age.

1.6.1.14.2 Present Setting

220. The dun is situated 20 m above sea level on the northwest coast of Islay. It has extensive views westwards across the sea, up and down the coast, back inland and towards Dun Bheolain. It is somewhat dwarfed by the adjacent Dun Bheolain. Due to their proximity, it is possible that the two are associated.

1.6.1.14.3 Change to Setting

221. The nearest WTG will be located c.16 km from Dun nan Nighean. While the WTGs will represent a discernible change to its setting, they will only be visible when looking directly out to sea and these views are not considered to be of particular importance to understanding its historic development. As such, the change to setting will be minimal.

1.6.1.14.4 Consideration of Worst Case

222. In the case of this asset, any difference in magnitude of effect between the indicative 91 WTG and 144 WTG layouts is minimal. The increased scale and prominence of the larger WTGs, would be balanced by the denser layout required for the smaller WTGs and likely increased stacking, although a denser layout would arguably appear more coherent, though this impression is in part a function of the 'dense perimeter' layout adopted for the indicative worst-case, and no change to the assessed magnitude of effect would be anticipated from the adoption of the 144 WTG layout.

1.6.1.14.5 Significance of Effect

223. A minimal change to the setting of the fort is assessed as a **negligible** magnitude of change. For an asset of high sensitivity, this would give rise to a **minor adverse** effect, which is **not significant** in EIA terms.

1.6.1.15 Dun Chroisprig, dun, Islay (SM13306)

1.6.1.15.1 Importance

224. Dun Chroisprig comprises a prehistoric dun (a defended settlement), likely to date from the Iron Age, sometime between 500 BC and AD 500.

225. The dun is roughly circular, and its drystone wall stands over 1 m high in places. The dun interior is approximately 12 m in diameter. Several significant architectural features are visible, including a single entrance and parts of two substantial intra-mural galleries within the north and southeast arcs of the dun wall. A probable outwork runs around the summit of the knoll, offering further protection for the dun. There may have been a gateway on the northwest side and there has been some reconstruction on the east-south-east and southwest sides.

226. The importance and cultural significance of Dun Chroisprig, dun, Islay can be summarised as follows:

- **National Importance**: Scheduled Monument with strong potential to enhance understanding of later prehistoric society in western Scotland;
- **Iron Age Heritage**: Likely dates between 500 BC and AD 500, representing a small, defended settlement typical of the period;
- **Architectural Features**:
    - Roughly circular drystone wall, standing over 1 m high in places;
    - Interior approximately 12 m in diameter;
    - Single entrance and two substantial intra-mural galleries within the north and southeast arcs.
    - Probable outwork around the summit for additional defence; and
    - Possible gateway on the northwest side; some reconstruction evident on east-southeast and southwest sides.
- **Research Potential**:
    - High likelihood of well-preserved archaeological remains within and around the dun and its outwork;
    - Can provide insights into defensive architecture, domestic life, and social organization; and

- Offers evidence of inter-community connections and economic practices during the Iron Age.

1.6.1.15.2 Present Setting

227. The dun occupies the summit of a rocky knoll at 60 m above sea level. The knoll is some 50 m from a sandy shore on the Rinns of Islay and overlooks Machir Bay and the Islay coast but is overlooked by high ground to its rear.

228. It is believed that duns of this type represent the remains of the living spaces of small groups or single families. They are largely a coastal phenomenon and tend to be located on locally high ground, along prominent coastal routes or within easy reach of the coast. Dun Chroisprig is typical in occupying a steep-sided coastal knoll and taking advantage of its natural defences. However, the presence of much higher ground to its immediate east and south is unusual for duns in this area.

229. The value of visibility to these sites in use is unclear, and these sites may have been positioned in places which would have been visible from far afield and from other contemporary sites, or would have been located in clearings, affording controlled visibility in and out of the site. At present, they are frequently difficult to discern in longer views, even though changed use of the landscape has resulted in widespread clearance of what vegetation and tree cover may have been present.

230. From the summit of the monument there are far ranging views in all directions. There are also views from the wider landscape of the monument. Views out towards Machir Bay and back towards the dune are perhaps of most importance as the monument seems to have been deliberately sited with this in mind.

1.6.1.15.3 Change to Setting

231. The nearest WTG will be located c.22 km from Dun Chroisprig. The WTGs would be noticeable features when looking directly towards the WDA; however, when looking down towards Machir Bay they would appear as background features in long distance views. Views out across the wider landscape would be unaffected, as would views of the monument from the wider landscape. As such, the overall change to the setting of Dun Chroisprig will be minimal.

1.6.1.15.4 Consideration of Worst Case

232. In the case of this asset, any difference in magnitude of effect between the indicative 91 WTG and 144 WTG layouts is minimal. The increased scale and prominence of the larger WTGs, would be balanced by the denser layout required for the smaller WTGs and likely increased stacking, although a denser layout would arguably appear more coherent, though this impression is in part a function of the 'dense perimeter' layout adopted for the indicative worst-case, and no change to the assessed magnitude of effect would be anticipated from the adoption of the 144 WTG layout.

1.6.1.15.5 Significance of Effect

233. A minimal change to the setting of the dun would result in a **negligible** magnitude of change. For an asset of high sensitivity, this would give rise to a **minor adverse** effect, which is **not significant** in EIA terms.

1.6.1.16 Moy Castle (SM5139)

1.6.1.16.1 Importance

234. Moy Castle is an early 15th century tower house located in Lochbuie on the Isle of Mull. The towerhouse stands at 17.5 m high and 10.7 m square. The remains of an irregular barmkin lie on the

southeast and a rock-cut ditch is to the northwest. The surviving fabric is early 15th century, though additions and alterations were made particularly to the upper works prior to abandonment in 1752.

235. The tower has three main stories and a garret, with two entresol floors built over the haunches of the barrel-vaults covering the ground and first floors, and remains of two 16th century cap-houses. Numerous architectural details survive including original battlements and crenelations, and corbelled latrine-chutes.

236. The importance and cultural significance of Moy Castle can be summarised as follows:

- **National importance**: A prime example of an early 15th-century fortified domestic building in western Scotland, surviving in near-complete condition;
- **Architectural Features**:
  - Tower house stands 17.5 m high and 10.7 m square;
  - Three main stories and a garret, with two entresol floors over barrel vaults;
  - Original battlements and crenellations, corbelled latrine chutes, and remains of two 16th-century cap-houses; and
  - Associated irregular barmkin and rock-cut ditch for defense.
- **Chronological Development**:
  - Built in the early 15th century, with later additions and alterations before abandonment in 1752.
- **Research Potential**:
  - Offers insights into fortified domestic architecture and social/economic life from the 15th to 18th centuries; and
  - Excavation could reveal material culture and organization of high-status households.
- **Historical Associations**:
  - Played a role in the wars of religion in the 17th century; and
  - Visited by Dr Samuel Johnson and James Boswell in 1773, adding literary and cultural significance.

1.6.1.16.2 Present Setting

237. Moy Castle is located on the northeastern shore of Loch Buie on the island of Mull. The landscape surrounding the Loch is rural and mountainous and presumably encapsulates the landholdings that once accompanied the castle. The castle has wide ranging view out across Loch Buie and the surrounding rural landscape. It is a prominent feature within the landscape and would have been a symbol of status and wealth.

1.6.1.16.3 Change to Setting

238. The nearest WTG will be c.46 km from the Moy Castle and would only be visible as inconsequential features on the horizon when looking out from the castle across Loch Buie. Views of Moy Castle from the surrounding landscape would be unaffected, as would views of the surrounding landscape from the castle. As such, the change to setting due to the presence of the WTGs in the seascape will be inconsequential and therefore minimal.

1.6.1.16.4 Consideration of Worst Case

239. In the case of this asset, the separation between the asset and the proposed development is such that it would be very difficult to discern any difference in magnitude of effect between the indicative 91 WTG and 144 WTG layouts, and no change to the assessed magnitude of effect would be anticipated from the adoption of the 144 WTG layout.

1.6.1.16.5 Significance of Effect

240. A minimal change to the setting of Moy Castle would result in a **negligible** magnitude of change. For an asset of high sensitivity, this would give rise to a **minor adverse** effect, which is **not significant** in EIA terms.

1.6.1.17 Shiaba, deserted township, Mull (SM5634)

1.6.1.17.1 Importance

241. Shiaba, deserted township comprises a major part of the remains of the pre- crofting and crofting settlement of Shiaba. The deserted township is situated on the south coast of the Ross of Mull on a terrace overlooking several landing places. The earliest record of the settlement is in 1779; in 1804 it was turned into crofts and it was cleared in 1847. Excellent documentation survives for the later history of the site; the settlement's history is likely to precede 1779.

242. The settlement comprises typical drystone houses with rounded corners; barns, associated yards, lazy beds and ridge and furrow; two corn-drying kilns, one with a barn the other built into a slope; and one, if not two, horizontal water mills. The best-preserved mill exhibits particularly good field characteristics and is situated in a bend on the east bank of the Allt Cnoc na Feannaige.

243. A small rectangular building, set within a sub-rectangular enclosure, situated immediately to the north of Port na h-Eaglaise may be a small chapel. A building to the northwest of the main settlement may have been the school.

244. The crofting settlement with its linear arrangement of stone dykes is superimposed over the pre-crofting remains. Several houses (with angular corners) survive, and one is still partly roofed. The robbed out remains of the earlier settlement are visible to the east of the upstanding remains.

245. The importance and national significance of Shiaba can be summarised as follows:

- **National importance**: A well-preserved and well-documented rural settlement illustrating the evolution from pre-crofting to crofting economy;
- **Chronological development**:
  - Earliest record in 1779; reorganized into crofts in 1804; cleared in 1847; and
  - Likely earlier origins before 1779.
- **Architectural and agricultural features**:
  - Drystone houses with rounded corners, barns, yards, lazy beds, ridge and furrow;
  - Two corn-drying kilns (one with barn, one built into slope);
  - One or two horizontal water mills, including a well-preserved example; and
  - Linear stone dykes marking crofting layout superimposed over earlier remains.
- **Associated structures**:
  - Possible chapel near Port na h-Eaglaise; and
  - Building northwest of main settlement may have served as a school.
- **Research potential**:
  - Offers insights into rural economy and society of the 18th and 19th centuries, and possibly earlier; and
  - Exceptional preservation of field characteristics and industrial features (kilns, mills).
- **Cultural landscape value**:
  - Demonstrates continuity and change in land use and settlement patterns on the Ross of Mull.

1.6.1.17.2 Present Setting

246. Shiaba, deserted township is sited on the south coast of Mull in a large rural agricultural coastal landscape. There is a large tract of woodland to the north and large rugged cliffs to the south. Scenic views are provided up and down the coast and towards Colonsay, Islay and Jura. Key views are those between each individual element of the settlement and these allow for the history of the settlement to be understood.

1.6.1.17.3 Change to Setting

247. The nearest WTG will be located c.30 km from Shiaba, deserted township and would be visible from some locations within the scheduled area. However, due to the distance, these would appear as distant features on the horizon in the background of more generalised seaward views. Views towards Colonsay, Jura and Islay would be unaffected as would views between the individual elements of the settlement. These are key to the understanding and appreciation of the monument as a whole. As such, the change to setting due to the presence of the WTGs in the seascape will be inconsequential and therefore minimal.

1.6.1.17.4 Consideration of Worst Case

248. In the case of this asset, the separation between the asset and the proposed development is such that it would be very difficult to discern any difference in magnitude of effect between the indicative 91 WTG and 144 WTG layouts, and no change to the assessed magnitude of effect would be anticipated from the adoption of the 144 WTG layout.

1.6.1.17.5 Significance of Effect

249. A minimal change to the setting of Shiaba, deserted township would result in a **negligible** magnitude of change. For an asset of high sensitivity, this would give rise to a **minor adverse** effect, which is **not significant** in EIA terms.

1.6.1.18 Kilchoman Church, Cill Chomain Cross & tombstones (SM2337)

1.6.1.18.1 Importance

250. The monument consists of the Cill Chomain Cross and other medieval carved stones situated in Kilchoman burial ground.

251. The present parish church, now disused was erected in 1827 and replaced an earlier building on the same site. The dedication was presumably to one of the several Irish saints named Comman and the existence of two early Christian cross slabs nearby suggests an Early Christian establishment of some importance. The church does not from part of the scheduling.

252. The Cill Chomain Cross is a very fine, well preserved free-standing cross in its original socket-stone at the southeast angle of the burial ground. It dates from the 14th-15th centuries measuring 2.57 m in height by 0.97 m across the arms. Both faces are bordered by continuous mail-head ornament between roll mouldings. The east face of the crosshead bares an elaborate representation of the crucifixion. The Shaft contains, in descending order: a cusp-headed niche with the figures of two men holding books, probably the donor and his father; an inscription; intertwining plant-stems rising from a cusped niche which contains a horse and rider; and, at the base, a cruciform interlace knot. The west face of the crosshead is filled with a complex interlace pattern, and the shaft with plant-stems springing from the tails of two confronted animals at the base. The inscription is in Lombardic capitals and reads:

'This is the cross by Thomas, son of Patrick, doctor, for the souls of his father, mother and wife, and all the faithful departed, and of the said ...'

253. Within the churchyard, to the south of the church, are more than twenty medieval carved grave slabs or fragments of grave slabs and other carved stone, displaying a wide range of motifs common to such monuments and mostly dating from the 14th-15th centuries.

254. The importance and cultural significance of Cill Chomain Cross and other medieval carved stones can be summarised as:

- **National importance**: A well-preserved collection of medieval carved stones and a free-standing cross of exceptional craftsmanship; and
- **Early Christian associations**:
  - Dedication to St Comman suggests an early ecclesiastical foundation; and
  - Two early Christian cross slabs nearby indicate the site's importance in the early Christian period.
- **Medieval ecclesiastical heritage**:
  - Cill Chomain Cross dates to the 14th–15th centuries, standing in its original socket-stone; and
  - Measures 2.57 m high and 0.97 m across the arms, richly decorated on both faces.
- **Artistic and cultural value**:
  - East face features an elaborate crucifixion scene, donor figures, inscription in Lombardic capitals, and intricate plant and animal motifs; and
  - West face displays complex interlace patterns and symbolic designs.
- **Associated carved stones**: Over twenty medieval grave slabs and fragments within the burial ground, showcasing motifs typical of West Highland carving traditions.
- **Research potential**:
  - Offers insights into medieval religious practice, commemorative art, and craftsmanship; and
  - Provides evidence of continuity from early Christian to medieval ecclesiastical traditions.

1.6.1.18.2 Present Setting

255. As the monument Cill Chomain Cross and other medieval carved stones are situated in Kilchoman burial ground the principal contribution to their setting rests in their relationship to the church and burial ground. Longer views do not contribute to this relationship.

1.6.1.18.3 Consideration of Worst Case

256. In the case of this asset, any difference in magnitude of effect between the indicative 91 WTG and 144 WTG layouts is minimal. The increased scale and prominence of the larger WTGs, would be balanced by the denser layout required for the smaller WTGs and likely increased stacking, although a denser layout would arguably appear more coherent, though this impression is in part a function of the 'dense perimeter' layout adopted for the indicative worst-case, and no change to the assessed magnitude of effect would be anticipated from the adoption of the 144 WTG layout.

1.6.1.18.4 Change to Setting

257. The nearest WTG will be c.21 km from the monument. While the WTGs will be visible, long-range views are not considered to form part of its setting and the cross and tombstones are understood in the context of the burial ground. The presence of the WTGs in long distance views will not impede on the viewers ability to appreciate the cross and tombstones in this setting. As such, there will be no change to the setting of this monument.

1.6.1.18.5 Significance of Effect

258. As there will be no change to the setting of the monument there is **no potential for significant effects**.

1.6.1.19 Dun Haunn, fort 300 m S of, Treshnish, Mull (SM10582)

1.6.1.19.1 Importance

259. Dun Haunn comprises a fort dating to the late prehistoric period. It lies on the level summit of a rocky stack about 300 m south of the coastal promontory known as Dun Haunn. It is protected by sheer rock cliffs, ranging from 8 m on the south and east to more than 30 m on the north and west. The fort is roughly sub- rectangular in plan and measures about 40 m by 28 m internally. Traces of rubble walling can be seen around the inland cliff face to the southeast and southwest.

260. The entrance lies to the south at the head of a natural cleft in the rock, about 1.5 m wide. Much of the interior is occupied by rocky outcrops. Below the main rock stack is a level grassy platform, defined by an outer natural rock outcrop, which appears to have been enhanced in places.

261. The importance and cultural significance of Dun Haunn can be summarised as:

- **National Importance**: A well-preserved late prehistoric fort with strong potential to inform on defended settlement and economy in western Scotland;
- **Chronological Context**: Dates to the later prehistoric period (likely Iron Age).
- **Strategic location**:
    - Situated on the level summit of a rocky stack, naturally defended by sheer cliffs (8 m–30 m high); and
    - Proximity to another dun (450 m north) enhances its research value for understanding regional settlement patterns.
- **Architectural Features**:
    - Sub-rectangular plan, measuring about 40 m by 28 m internally;
    - Traces of rubble walling along inland cliff faces;
    - Entrance at the south via a natural cleft, about 1.5 m wide; and
    - Level grassy platform below the main stack, possibly enhanced for use.
- **Research Potential**:
    - High potential for well-preserved archaeological remains within and around the fort; and
    - Can provide insights into defensive architecture, domestic life, and social organization during the Iron Age.

1.6.1.19.2 Present Setting

262. Dun Haunn lies on the level summit of a rocky stack about 300 m south of the coastal promontory known as Dun Haunn. It is protected by sheer rock cliffs, on either side. There are high cliffs located c.200 m east of the promontory. These cliffs and the location of the dun on the promontory provides natural protection. There are wide ranging views up and down the coast and out to sea. Key views appear to be those inland as it can be assumed this is where the inhabitants of the dun would have cultivated and sourced food. As a dun, it can be assumed that views of it on approach are important as it has been suggested by researchers that such sites were positioned in places which would have been visible from far afield and from other contemporary sites.

1.6.1.19.3 Change to Setting

263. The nearest WTG will be located c.47 km from the dun and while the WTGs will be visible, at this distance they will appear as very distant features on the horizon and would only be visible on clear

days. The WTGs would not affect views up and down the coast or inland. As such, there will be no change to the setting of the dun.

1.6.1.19.4 Consideration of Worst Case

264. In the case of this asset, the separation between the asset and the proposed development is such that it would be very difficult to discern any difference in magnitude of effect between the indicative 91 WTG and 144 WTG layouts, and no change to the assessed magnitude of effect would be anticipated from the adoption of the 144 WTG layout.

1.6.1.19.5 Significance of Effect

265. As there will be no change to the setting of the monument, there is **no potential for significant effects**.

1.6.1.20 Beinn Duill, structures and field system 550 m SSE of, Treshnish, Mull (SM10584)

1.6.1.20.1 Importance

266. This monument comprises a field system and structures of post-medieval date. It lies some 550 m SSE of Beinn Duill, and occupies a large, level platform between the 100 m and 140 m contours on one of the rock 'steps' which characterise this part of Mull. It consists of the remains of five structures dispersed within a cluster of small fields.

267. The remains of substantial stone and turf banks can also be seen which define at least six irregularly shaped fields. The structures are sited just inside the northern and western edges of this field system. Traces of ridge cultivation can be seen in the fields. They appear to have fallen out of use by the late 19th century. This group of single dispersed structures among small fields is very unusual for northwest Mull, where more tightly clustered large groups of buildings, with field systems around them, are more common. This site may therefore represent a specialised and perhaps short-lived phase of intensive cereal or potato cultivation at some point before the 1870s.

268. The importance and cultural significance of Beinn Duill, structures and field system can be summarised as follows:

- **National importance**: Represents a rare and unusual example of dispersed post-medieval rural settlement in northwest Mull;
- **Chronological context**: Likely dates to the 18th–19th centuries; appears to have fallen out of use by the late 19th century;
- **Architectural and agricultural features**:
    - Five dispersed structures within a cluster of small, irregularly shaped fields;
    - Substantial stone and turf banks defining at least six fields; and
    - Evidence of ridge cultivation within the fields.
- **Distinctive layout**:
    - Unusual for the area, where larger, tightly clustered settlements are more common; and
    - Suggests a specialized or short-lived phase of intensive cereal or potato cultivation.
- **Research potential**:
    - Offers insights into rural economy, land-use practices, and settlement organization during the post-medieval period; and
    - Physical remains provide valuable evidence of agricultural adaptation and social patterns.

1.6.1.20.2 Present Setting

269. The monument is located on level platform between the 100 m and 140 m contours on one of the rock 'steps'. It is in a natural valley with steep hills to the north, east and south. It is protected by its location within a gully, with steep slopes on either side. Key views are those between each individual element of the monument as they help to identify how the site was used. There are also views out to sea.

1.6.1.20.3 Consideration of Worst Case

270. In the case of this asset, the separation between the asset and the proposed development is such that it would be very difficult to discern any difference in magnitude of effect between the indicative 91 WTG and 144 WTG layouts, and no change to the assessed magnitude of effect would be anticipated from the adoption of the 144 WTG layout.

1.6.1.20.4 Change to Setting and Significance of Effect

271. The nearest WTGs would be located c.47 km from the assets. The WTGs would be visible as very distant elements of the background in a small number of views from the asset and only to the viewer who actively searches. As such, there would be no change to the setting and **no discernible adverse effect**.

1.6.1.21 Crackaig, chapel and burial ground 370 m south of, Treshnish, Mull (SM10576)

1.6.1.21.1 Importance

272. Crackaig, chapel and burial ground comprises the remains of a chapel and burial ground of medieval or post-medieval date, visible as upstanding walls.

273. The monument lies a little below the ruins of the former township of Crackaig. The remains of the chapel are aligned east to west and measure 5.2 m by 3.3 m internally. They are represented by partially turf-covered stone footings with an entrance on the west side.

274. The chapel is surrounded by a sub-oval burial ground with some facing stones remaining. Several stones protrude through the turf, but none can be positively identified as tombstones. In the southeast the wall of the burial ground is overlain by an old field dyke.

275. The site appears to have no recorded history, but the general character of the remains suggests that the building was a chapel of medieval or post-medieval date.

276. The importance and cultural significance can be summarised as follows:

- **National importance**: Represents a medieval or post-medieval ecclesiastical site with potential to inform on rural religious practice;
- **Chronological context**: Likely dates to the medieval or post-medieval period, though exact history is unrecorded;
- **Architectural features**:
    - Chapel aligned east–west, measuring 5.2 m by 3.3 m internally; and
    - Partially turf-covered stone footings with entrance on the west side.
- **Burial ground**:
    - Sub-oval enclosure surrounding the chapel, with some facing stones visible; and
    - Several stones protrude through turf, possibly grave markers, though none definitively identified.
- **Landscape context**:
    - Located below the ruins of the former township of Crackaig, suggesting integration with local settlement history; and

- **Research Potential**:
  - Offers insights into medieval/post-medieval ecclesiastical architecture and burial practices; and
  - Can contribute to understanding continuity of religious sites in rural communities.

1.6.1.21.2 Present Setting

277. The chapel and burial ground are located on the coast below Crackaig and Glac Gugairidh, depopulated settlements. Its location here seems to be based on a need to separate the chapel and burial ground downhill of the settlements, rather than because of an association with the sea.

1.6.1.21.3 Consideration of Worst Case

278. In the case of this asset, the separation between the asset and the proposed development is such that it would be very difficult to discern any difference in magnitude of effect between the indicative 91 WTG and 144 WTG layouts, and no change to the assessed magnitude of effect would be anticipated from the adoption of the 144 WTG layout.

1.6.1.21.4 Change to Setting and Significance of Effect

279. The nearest WTGs would be located c.47 km from the assets. The WTGs would be visible as very distant elements of the background in a small number of views from the asset and only to the viewer who actively searches. As such, there would be no change to the setting and **no discernible adverse effect**.

1.6.1.22 Crackaig and Glac Gugairidh, depopulated settlements, Mull (SM10577)

1.6.1.22.1 Importance

280. The monument comprises two neighbouring depopulated settlements and an associated schoolhouse at Crackaig and Glac Gugairidh, Treshnish, Mull.

281. Crackaig has the best-preserved buildings of the two settlements, consisting of a group of fifteen buildings with associated enclosures. The buildings stand mostly to eaves height, with the rounded external corners characteristic of Mull, and many have door and window lintels in situ.

282. There are indications of multi-period use of this settlement, with turf-covered foundations visible around and below some structures. One building at the far northwest end of the Crackaig settlement is most unusual in having one gable-end.

283. The settlement of Glac Grugairidh lies 200 m to the northeast of Crackaig and has been subject to later re-use for stock pens and enclosures. The buildings are therefore less well-preserved and have additional lengths of dyke joining up structures and creating enclosures.

284. The importance and cultural significance of Crackaig and Glac Gugairidh, depopulated settlements can be summarised as follows:

- **National importance**: Represents well-preserved examples of post-medieval rural settlement with strong potential to inform on social and economic history;
- **Chronological context**: Multi-period use indicated; likely 18th–19th century origins with later adaptations;
- **Architectural features**:
  - Crackaig: Fifteen buildings with associated enclosures, many standing to eaves height with rounded corners typical of Mull; door and window lintels in situ;
  - One unusual building with a single gable-end; and

  - Glac Gugairidh: Less well-preserved, later reused for stock pens and enclosures, with additional dykes linking structures.
- **Associated structures**: Schoolhouse included within the monument, adding educational and community significance;
- **Distinctive Layout**: Wide range of building types and evidence of multi-period occupation; and
- **Research Potential**:
  - Offers insights into rural economy, land-use, and settlement organization during the post-medieval period; and
  - Proximity to other contemporary monuments enhances comparative study.

1.6.1.22.2 Present Setting

285. The monument is located on level platform above the coastline below in a natural valley with steep hills to the north, east and south. It is protected by its location within a gully. Key views are those between each individual element of both settlements and between the individual settlements as they help to identify the site and how it was used. Views of the rural landscape are also key as presumably the people that lived here would have cultivated this land. There are also views out to sea.

1.6.1.22.3 Consideration of Worst Case

286. In the case of this asset, the separation between the asset and the proposed development is such that it would be very difficult to discern any difference in magnitude of effect between the indicative 91 WTG and 144 WTG layouts, and no change to the assessed magnitude of effect would be anticipated from the adoption of the 144 WTG layout.

1.6.1.22.4 Change to Setting and Significance of Effect

287. The nearest WTGs would be located c.47 km from the assets. The WTGs would be visible as very distant elements of the background in a small number of views from the asset and only to the viewer who actively searches. As such, there would be no change to the setting and **no discernible adverse effect**.

1.6.1.23 Dun Cul Bhuirg, fort 770 m NW of Culbuirg, Iona (SM7761)

1.6.1.23.1 Importance

288. Dun Cul Bhuirg comprises a prehistoric hillfort which is situated on a rocky crag 770 m northwest of Culbuirg Farm, on the west side of the island of Iona. The fort is defined by a low drystone rubble wall running around the edge of an uneven terrace on the north, east and south flanks of the summit, enclosing an area approximately 35 m by 40 m. Excavations in the late 1950s and in 1969 found extensive occupation debris, including sherds of distinctive mid-Iron Age pottery, which indicate that the site was occupied in the early centuries AD. On the east side of the terrace a small circular house with a central hearth was discovered.

289. On the highest point of the crag is a brass plate marking an Admiralty hydrographic triangulation station - this is also included in the scheduling.

290. The importance and cultural significance of Dun Cul Bhuirg can be summarised as follows:

- **National importance**: A well-preserved prehistoric hillfort with strong potential to inform on domestic life and defensive architecture in the Iron Age;
- **Chronological context**: Occupied during the early centuries AD, confirmed by mid-Iron Age pottery found during excavations;
- **Strategic location**: Situated on a rocky crag on the west side of Iona, offering natural defense and commanding views;

- **Architectural features**:
  - Low drystone rubble wall enclosing an uneven terrace on north, east, and south flanks;
  - Enclosed area measures approximately 35 m by 40 m; and
  - Excavations revealed a small circular house with a central hearth.
- **Research potential**:
  - Extensive occupation debris indicates domestic activity and social organization; and
  - Can provide insights into settlement patterns and inter-community connections during the Iron Age.
- **Additional interest**: Admiralty hydrographic triangulation station on the summit adds historical significance related to 19th–20th century mapping of Scotland.

1.6.1.23.2 Present Setting

291. Dun Cul Bhuirg fort is a naturally well-defended site with sheer cliffs on three sides. It has a seaward outlook to the southwest and with good views inland over much of Iona. On approach it stands as a dominant feature that can be seen from multiple locations. Research has suggested that monuments of this type were positioned in places which would have been visible from far afield and from other contemporary sites; and that this was just as important as having good visibility from a monument.

1.6.1.23.3 Consideration of Worst Case

292. In the case of this asset, any difference in magnitude of effect between the indicative 91 WTG and 144 WTG layouts is minimal. The increased scale and prominence of the larger WTGs, would be balanced by the denser layout required for the smaller WTGs and likely increased stacking, although a denser layout would arguably appear more coherent, though this impression is in part a function of the 'dense perimeter' layout adopted for the indicative worst-case, and no change to the assessed magnitude of effect would be anticipated from the adoption of the 144 WTG layout.

1.6.1.23.4 Change to Setting and Significance of Effect

293. The nearest WTG will be c.23 km from the assets, and while visible, long-distance views out to sea are not considered to be key contributors to its setting. As a promontory fort, important views are those inland and views of the monument, which would be unaffected. As such, the change to setting would be minimal and there would be **no discernible adverse effect**.

1.6.1.24 Cladh Sorobaidh, burial ground, site of church and two crosses, Tiree (SM271)

1.6.1.24.1 Importance

294. The monument consists of a burial ground containing an Early Christian cross-slab, the shaft of an early-16th century cross, and the remains of a medieval church. The existence here of the Early Christian cross-slab suggests that this may have been an early ecclesiastical, probably monastic site.

295. The Early Christian cross-slab stands in the east side of the burial ground within what appears to be its original socket stone. It bears a cross in bold relief on each face, the arms of that on the east face projecting so that the stone itself is cruciform. The cross on the east face is of Latin form, with the edges defined by a cable moulding and a large boss in the centre. Three serpents are present on the upper arm and there are traces of a key pattern on the left arm. The incised foliaceous scrolls on the shaft appear to be a later addition. The background of the slab is also ornamented, and the edge bears a cable moulding. The cross on the east side of the stone is ring-headed and does not reach to the edges of the slab. The edges of the slab are ornamented by cable moulding, and the head and shaft of the cross are ornamented. On the top of the upper arm of the cross is a low projection, possibly imitating the small house or shrine frequently carved on the tops of Irish high crosses.

296. On the west side of the burial ground lies a cross-shaft with an inscription stating that it was erected by Anna, Prioress of Iona (Anna MacLean), Prioress from before 1509 until 1543. It is broken in 2 places and is now partly buried so that only the front is visible. The front shows St Michael slaying the dragon and a female figure, possibly representing the Prioress, attended by Death, shown as a cadaver. The rear of the shaft bears a plant scroll. Other Early Christian and late medieval carved stones are to be found in the burial ground.

297. In the northwest corner of the burial ground, low mounds representing the foundations of the church are visible. The church appears to have measured 14 m by 8 m. Several architectural fragments of 13th-century character survive, re-used as burial markers. The church served the medieval parish of Soroby, until the union of Coll and Tiree parishes in 1618. The church is recorded in the 13th century, and it seems to have remained in use until at least the late 17th century.

298. It has been suggested that the site can possibly be identified as that of the Columban monastery of Campus Lunge, and the existence of the Early Christian carved stones here do suggest that this was an early and important ecclesiastical site. This may have had some connection with the probable Early Christian monastic site at St Patrick's Chapel, 5 km away.

- **National importance**: A highly significant ecclesiastical site with evidence spanning Early Christian, medieval, and post-medieval periods;
- **Early Christian heritage**:
    - Presence of an Early Christian cross-slab in its original socket stone suggests an early monastic foundation; and
    - Carved with bold relief crosses, cable moulding, serpents, and key patterns, reflecting high artistic and symbolic value.
- **Medieval Ecclesiastical features**:
    - Cross-shaft from early 16th century with Lombardic inscription, linked to Anna MacLean, Prioress of Iona (1509–1543); and
    - Iconography includes St Michael slaying the dragon and a female figure attended by Death.
- **Church remains**:
    - Foundations of a medieval church (14 m x 8 m) visible in the northwest corner of the burial ground;
    - Architectural fragments of 13th-century character reused as burial markers; and
    - Church served the medieval parish of Soroby until 1618 and remained in use until at least the late 17th century.
- **Artistic and cultural value**: Rich decorative motifs on crosses and slabs, including interlace, plant scrolls, and symbolic imagery;
- **Historical associations**:
    - Possible identification with the Columban monastery of Campus Lunge, enhancing its early Christian significance; and
    - Likely connected to St Patrick’s Chapel, 5 km away.
- **Research Potential**:
    - Offers insights into continuity of ecclesiastical practice from the early Christian period through the medieval era; and
    - Provides evidence of burial traditions, religious art, and social hierarchy.

1.6.1.24.2 Present Setting

299. The monument is set within a quiet burial ground that reflects centuries of religious significance. At its heart stands an Early Christian cross-slab, positioned on the east side in what appears to be its

original socket stone, its bold relief carvings and intricate ornamentation hinting at early monastic origins.

300. To the west lies the broken shaft of a 16th-century cross, partly buried yet still bearing evocative imagery of St Michael and a female figure, linking the site to Anna MacLean, Prioress of Iona. In the northwest corner, low grassy mounds mark the foundations of a medieval church, once serving the parish of Soroby, with scattered architectural fragments re-used as grave markers.

301. Surrounded by other carved stones and set against the backdrop of Tiree's windswept landscape, the site conveys a sense of layered history—an early Christian sanctuary that evolved into a medieval parish church, possibly connected to the Columban monastery of Campus Lunge and St Patrick's Chapel nearby.

1.6.1.24.3 Consideration of Worst Case

302. In the case of this asset, the separation between the asset and the proposed development is such that it would be very difficult to discern any difference in magnitude of effect between the indicative 91 WTG and 144 WTG layouts, and no change to the assessed magnitude of effect would be anticipated from the adoption of the 144 WTG layout.

1.6.1.24.4 Change to Setting and Significance of Effect

303. The nearest WTGs would be located c. 38 km from the monument. The WTGs would be visible as very distant elements of the background in a small number of views from the asset and only to the viewer who actively searches. As such, there would be **no change** to the setting and **no discernible adverse effect**.

1.6.1.25 Dun Mor a' Chaolais, broch and cup-marked rock, Millton, Tiree (SM906)

1.6.1.25.1 Importance

304. The monument at Dun Mor a'Chaolais, Tiree, comprises a broch and its surrounding outwork, located on the summit of a low rocky hill with limited natural defences. The broch, built in dry-stone, shows 1 internally. Its original wall thickness of 3. . . facework from both phases remain, though much stone has been robbed, likely for nearby field walls. The entrance passage lies on the northwest, with traces of an intramural gallery in the southwest quadrant and mural chambers in the southeast. A later rectangular building to the southwest may conceal another chamber. The southwest section of the broch survives up 1. northeast is more eroded due to cultivation.

305. 1 . 1. . ars at least seven cup marks, the largest .

306. 1 entred on the broch, including the broch, its outwork, cup-marked rock, and later structures, but excluding modern fences and the OS triangulation station.

307. The importance and cultural significance of the monument can be summarised as follows:

- **Architectural significance**:
  - Rare example of broch construction: Represents a well-preserved Iron Age broch with complex design features;
  - Multi-phase development: Two distinct construction phases illustrate evolving building techniques; and

- Structural features: Includes intramural galleries, mural chambers, and an entrance passage, showcasing advanced engineering.

- **Defensive and social role**:
  - Fortified dwelling: Thick walls and surrounding outwork indicate its function as a stronghold and status symbol.
- **Adaptation over time**: Later rectangular building and modifications reflect prolonged occupation and reuse;
- **Archaeological integrity**:
  - Associated outwork: Large oval enclosure adds context to the broch's defensive system; and
  - Preservation variability: Southwest 1. structural evidence despite stone robbing.
- **Cultural and ritual connections**:
  - Cup-marked rock: At least seven prehistoric cup marks link the site to ritual or symbolic practices; and
  - Continuity of use: Combines domestic, defensive, and ceremonial elements within one landscape.
- **Research potential**
  - Insights into Iron Age life: Provides evidence of settlement patterns, social hierarchy, and architectural innovation in western Scotland; and
  - Comparative value: Parallels with brochs on Mull enhance understanding of regional variation.

1.6.1.25.2 Present Setting

308. The broch occupies the summit of Dun Mor a' Chaolais, a low rocky hill that dominates the northeast end of Tiree. The hill is gently sloping and provides only limited natural protection compared to steeper promontories.

309. The area is characterized by open, rocky terrain with modern field boundaries crossing the site. The setting is exposed, offering wide views across the surrounding landscape, typical of Tiree's coastal environment.

310. The broch itself sits at the highest point of the hill, enclosed by an oval outwork extending up to 18 m from its outer wall. The outwork measures over 50 m north–south and curves inward to meet the broch on the west side. The broch and outwork occupy a commanding position, though the hill's gentle slopes mean the defences rely heavily on built structures rather than natural cliffs.

311. Approximately 27 m west of the broch, on the edge of a rock outcrop, is a cup-marked rock with at least seven cup marks, adding prehistoric ritual or symbolic significance to the setting. Later structures and modern field walls intersect the site, indicating long-term reuse of the landscape.

312. The setting combines prehistoric defensive architecture with ritual elements (cup marks) in a windswept, open coastal environment, reflecting both strategic and symbolic choices in site placement.

1.6.1.25.3 Consideration of Worst Case

313. In the case of this asset, the separation between the asset and the proposed development is such that it would be very difficult to discern any difference in magnitude of effect between the indicative 91 WTG and 144 WTG layouts, and no change to the assessed magnitude of effect would be anticipated from the adoption of the 144 WTG layout.

1.6.1.25.4 Change to Setting and Significance of Effect

314. The nearest WTGs would be located c.43 km from the assets. The WTGs would be visible as very distant elements of the background in a small number of views from the asset and only to the viewer who actively searches. As such, there would be **no change** to the setting and **no discernible adverse effect**.

1.6.2 Listed Buildings

1.6.2.1 Iona Abbey (LB12310)

315. In terms of the effects on the Category A listed building Iona Abbey (LB12310), these are assessed the same as the corresponding SM (see **Section 1.6.1.5**), while the Abbey church would remain the dominant element in all views of the asset and would very much retain its imposing physical and spiritual presence in the asset group, the juxtaposition of turbines with the asset would detract to a degree. Therefore, the magnitude of change is assessed as **low adverse**, resulting in a **moderate adverse** significance of effect, which **is significant** in EIA terms.

1.6.2.2 Replica of St John's Cross (LB52541)

316. In terms of the Replica of St John's Cross, Iona Abbey, Isle of Iona (LB52541), the cross is located outside St. Columba's shrine and is viewed from the south and south west with this in the background. The change to setting will be limited as it is experienced within the grounds of the Abbey and its relationship to the Abbey, and most importantly St. Columba's shrine, are key to its understanding and appreciation. As such, the magnitude of change is assessed as **negligible** which for an asset of high importance will result in a **minor adverse** significance of effect, which is **not significant** in EIA terms.

1.6.2.3 Dubh Artach Lighthouse (LB12320)

1.6.2.3.1 Importance

317. Dubh Artach Lighthouse was built to address the severe dangers posed by the stormy waters between Tiree, Iona, Colonsay, and Islay, where numerous shipwrecks occurred, including 24 vessels lost during the winter of 1865–66. Engineers Thomas and David Stevenson, working for the Northern Lighthouse Board, recommended a light on Dubh Artach Rock, an isolated basalt outcrop about 12 miles off the Ross of Mull. Construction began in 1867, using granite quarried and dressed at a shore station on Erraid.

318. The method followed that used at Skerryvore, with a temporary barrack erected on the rock, but this time supported by a wrought-iron frame rather than timber—a decision that proved vital during violent storms. In one notable incident in August 1868, waves rose above the barrack, 77 feet above high water, leaving workers in darkness for several seconds.

319. The lighthouse was completed and first lit on 1 November 1872, becoming the first isolated rock light to burn paraffin. The project cost £65,784 and relied on steam power during construction. Dubh Artach was automated in 1970–71, and the former barrack site now serves as a helicopter landing pad, marking a significant evolution in lighthouse technology and maintenance.

320. The importance and cultural significance of Dubh Artach can be summarised as follows:

- **Maritime safety**:
  - Built to safeguard one of Scotland's most hazardous sea areas, notorious for frequent shipwrecks; and
  - Its remote position 12 miles offshore provided a crucial navigational aid.
- **Engineering achievement**:

  - A remarkable feat of 19th-century marine engineering on an isolated basalt rock; and
  - Designed by Thomas and David Stevenson, continuing Scotland's lighthouse legacy.
- **Technological Innovation**:
  - First isolated rock lighthouse to use paraffin, marking a major advance; and
  - Employed steam power and a wrought-iron barrack frame for durability.
- **Construction Ingenuity**:
  - Granite prepared at Erraid shore station, showcasing logistical expertise; and
  - Iron barrack frame ensured survival during violent storms.
- **Historical and Cultural Value**:
  - Demonstrates the evolution of Scottish lighthouse design and maritime safety; and
  - Symbolizes human resilience in extreme conditions.
- **Endurance and Adaptation**:
  - Automated in 1970–71, reflecting modernization while preserving historic fabric; and
  - Retains high research potential for engineering and social history.

1.6.2.3.2 Present Setting

321. Dubh Artach Lighthouse occupies an isolated basalt outcrop at the end of the Torran Rocks reef, approximately 12 miles southwest of the Ross of Mull. Its remote marine setting is entirely exposed to the Atlantic, surrounded by open water and subject to severe storms, which historically made navigation extremely hazardous.

322. The lighthouse and its surroundings have not significantly changed since its construction and retains an isolated and prominent position within the Atlantic.

323. There are panoramic sea views from the lighthouse into the Atlantic and back towards Mull, Colonsay, Tiree, and Iona reinforcing the sense of remoteness and vulnerability. Long-distance views of the lighthouse are provided from Mull, Colonsay, Tiree, and Iona, where the lighthouse appears as a small but definitive marker in an expansive horizon. These views are important as historically, this is likely to have been where vessels using the lighthouse as a navigational aid would have originated.

324. Dubh Artach Lighthouse performs a specific function to warn of localised danger. This functional relationship is therefore a crucial part of its setting.

325. Close range views are from passing vessels, where the structure provides a critical point of reference amid open ocean and dangerous reefs. Navigation data indicates that most traffic that passes by Dubh Artach Lighthouse passes on its eastern side and largely comprises cargo and fishing vessels.

326. This stark, exposed setting is key to the lighthouse's significance, illustrating both the peril it was built to mitigate and the engineering achievement of constructing such a structure in an unforgiving environment.

1.6.2.3.3 Change to Setting

327. The nearest WTG will be c.4 km from Dubh Artach Lighthouse, reflecting a separation distance to ensure that the lighthouse remains an effective warning of the navigational hazard. The wirelines (**Figure 14**) illustrate that the WTGs will be visible in views to the south, southwest and southeast of the lighthouse and would be a prominent change to these views. The WTGs would appear in the periphery of views to the east and west. The project will appear as a line of WTGs, albeit with some gaps between them, and will appear as a modern element in views from and to the lighthouse. The WTGs will not appear in views north towards Tiree, Mull and Iona.

328. While the WTGs will be close to Dubh Artach Lighthouse, their presence will not detract from its open and panoramic quality. Despite the proximity of the WTGs, the lighthouse will not appear to be surrounded as there will be no WTGs to the north of Dubh Artach Lighthouse. Once within functional range of Dubh Artach Lighthouse it would not appear to be competing in visual prominence and character with the WTGs and this would certainly be the case when viewed from the 2 nm buffer around Dubh Artach Lighthouse which has been built into the project design to allow it to function as a lighthouse and to be accessed by maintenance vessels. Similarly, the navigational warning lights on the WTGs would be clearly differentiated from the lighthouse light.

329. The wireframes provided represent views from the lighthouse and of the lighthouse from areas of sea that are used with varying frequencies primarily by fishing vessels but also some freight and limited leisure sailings. There is also very limited and very distant visibility – effectively available only to a viewer who is aware of its presence and location and actively searches – of the lighthouse from Oronsay (**Figure 14**) and the location of the lighthouse is marked on other visualisations.

330. In terms of changes to setting as a result of the noise of the WTGs, the lighthouse is located in a harsh environment in which the noise of the WTGs is unlikely to be sufficiently loud to be distinguishable from the sound of the sea.

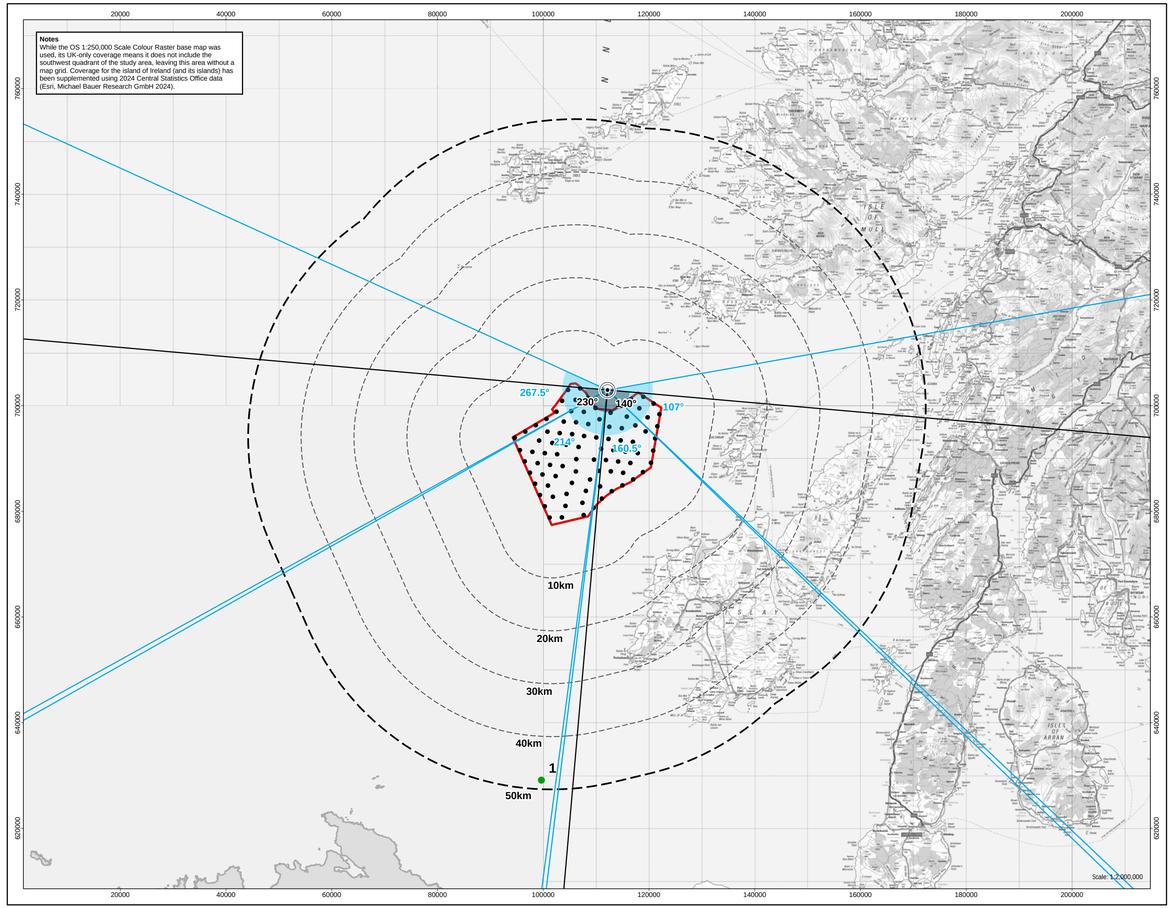
1.6.2.3.4 Consideration of Worst Case

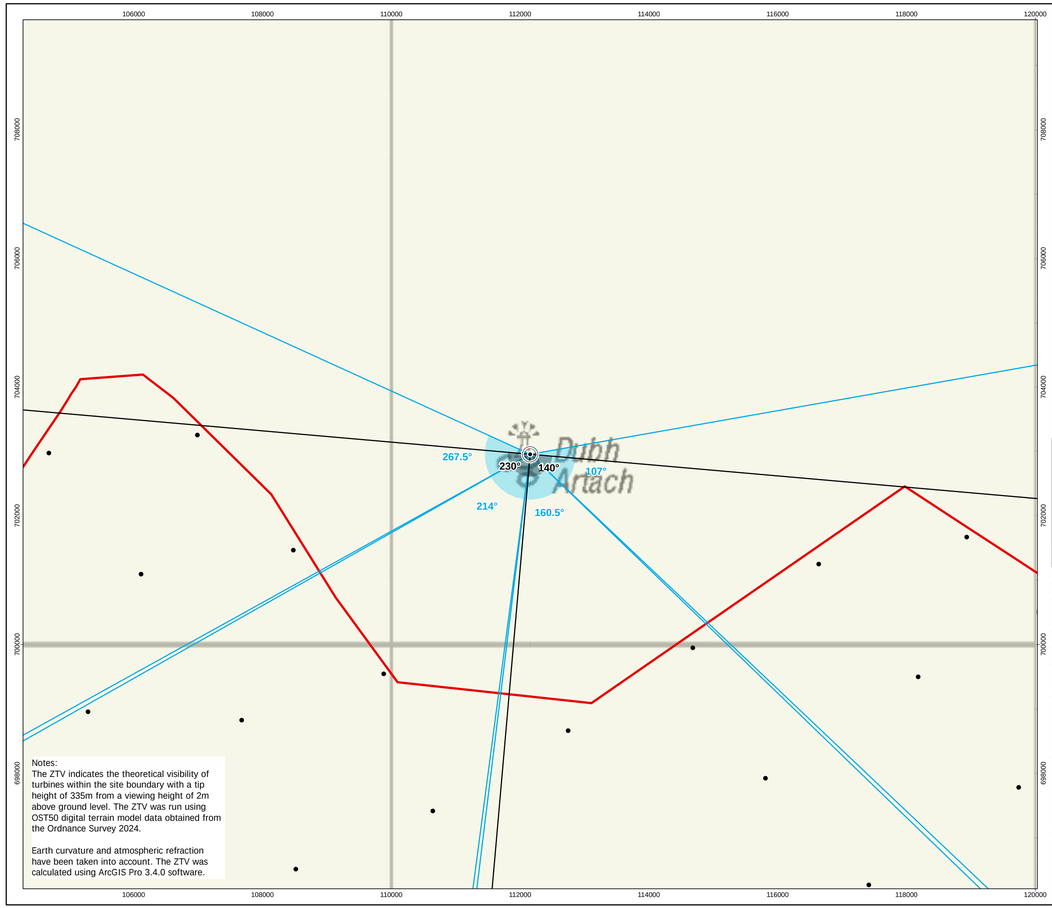
331. In the case of this asset, the large number and dynamic nature of the views to and from the asset make it very difficult to identify a clear worst-case for assessment, and that worst case will likely vary in different conditions and from different viewpoints, with the openness of the 91 WTG layout resulting in reduced change in close views, particularly at night when fewer navigation and aviation lights would be in use, but the smaller 144 WTG layout presenting a reduced effect in longer views. Consequently, adoption of either layout would give rise to an equivalent magnitude of change.

1.6.2.3.5 Significance of Effect

332. The ZTV and visualisations all indicate that the presence of the WTGs would represent a discernible change to the setting Dubh Artach Lighthouse. However, the WTGs would not intrude upon the relationship with Tiree, Iona and Mull and would not affect its functionality as a lighthouse and so will retain its status as a Stevenson lighthouse which still actively operates. Similarly, it would have no effect on the key contributors to its cultural significance that are discussed above.

333. As such, this change to the setting will result in a **medium adverse** magnitude of change. For an asset of high sensitivity, this would give rise to a **major adverse** effect, which **is significant** in EIA terms.





Windfarm development area
Indicative 24MW turbine layout
10km interval from windfarm development area
50km study area

Zone of Theoretical Visibility
More turbines visible
Less turbines visible

Wind Farm Status
Design/Scoping
1. Malin Sea Wind

90° Field of View
53° Field of View

N

0 2 Kilometres

REV	REV DATE	GIS CREATOR	GIS REVIEWER	TECHNICAL CHECKER	TECHNICAL APPROVER
2	27/05/2026	DS	TH	LC	PM

DRAWING NUMBER	MCW-DWF-ENV-MAP-RHS-000115		
DATUM	OSGB36 (EPSG:27700)	PROJECTION	Transverse Mercator
SCALE	1:50,000	PAGE SIZE	A3
PROJECT TITLE	MachairWind		

Figure 14:
Dubh Artach Lighthouse.

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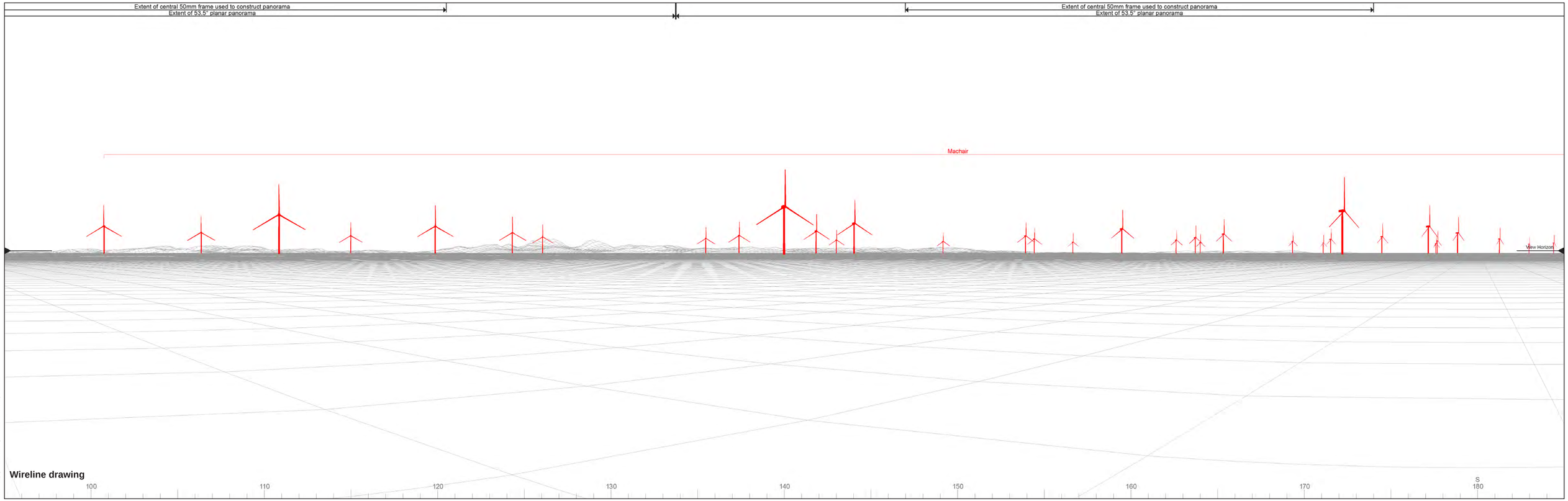
NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION

Haskoning
Enhancing Society Together

ScottishPower Renewables

Project: N:\12000\12059 Machair Wind SLV\AI\PROS\SLV\A12059_001_SLVIA_ZTV\012059_001_SLVIA_ZTVs.aprx
Name: MCW-DEN-GIS-MAP-1_to_21_CH_VP_MapSheets_A3L



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LUC

OS reference:	112156E 702955N		90° (cylindrical projection)
Above Ordnance Datum:	10 m	Principal distance:	522 mm
Direction of view:	140°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	3.93 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

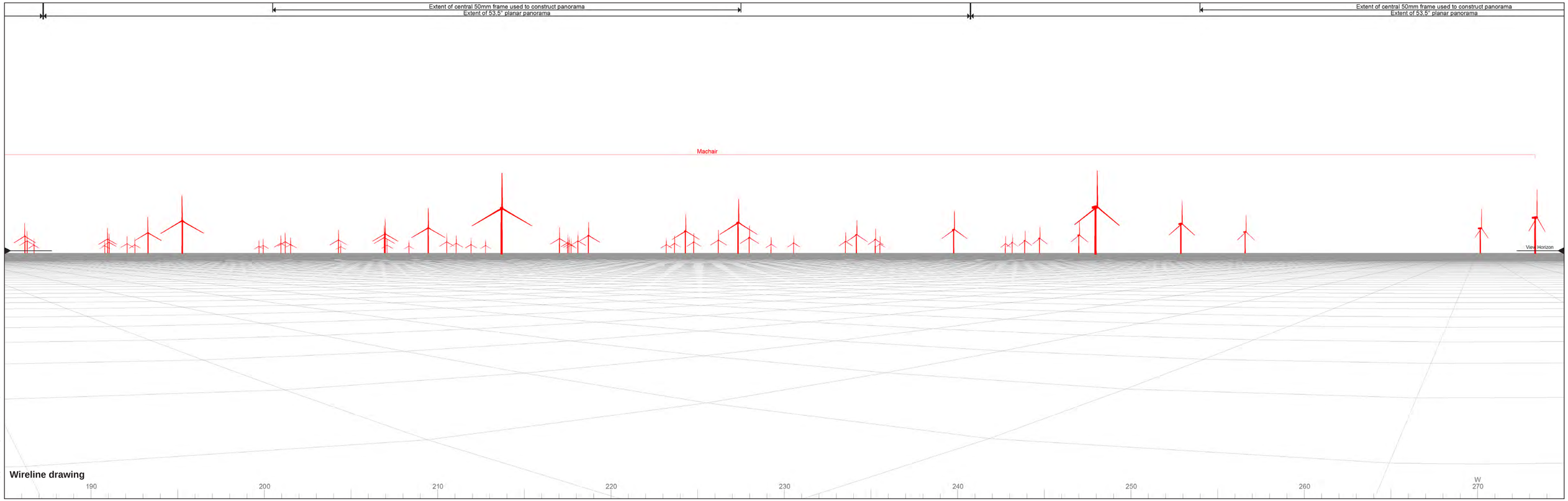
Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 14a

Viewpoint CH11: Dubh Artach Lighthouse



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LUC

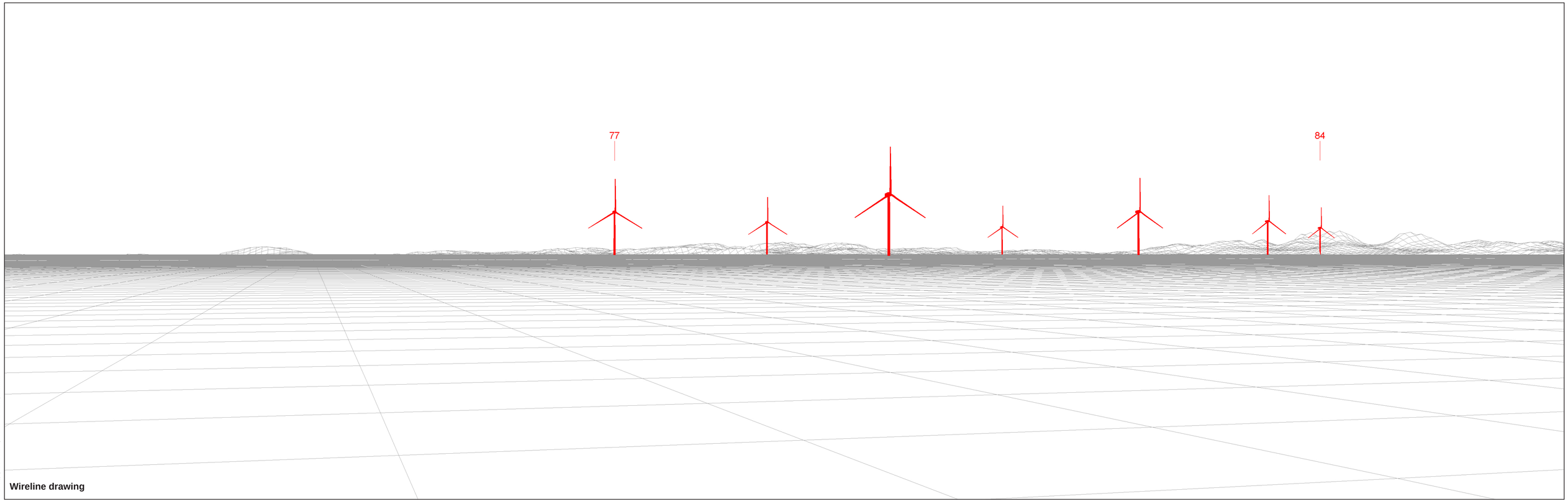
OS reference:	112156E 702955N		90° (cylindrical projection)
Above Ordnance Datum:	10 m	Principal distance:	522 mm
Direction of view:	230°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	3.93 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 14b
Viewpoint CH11: Dubh Artach Lighthouse



Wireline drawing

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OS reference:	112156E 702955N		53.5° (planar projection)
Above Ordnance Datum:	10 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm
Direction of view:	107°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	3.93 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

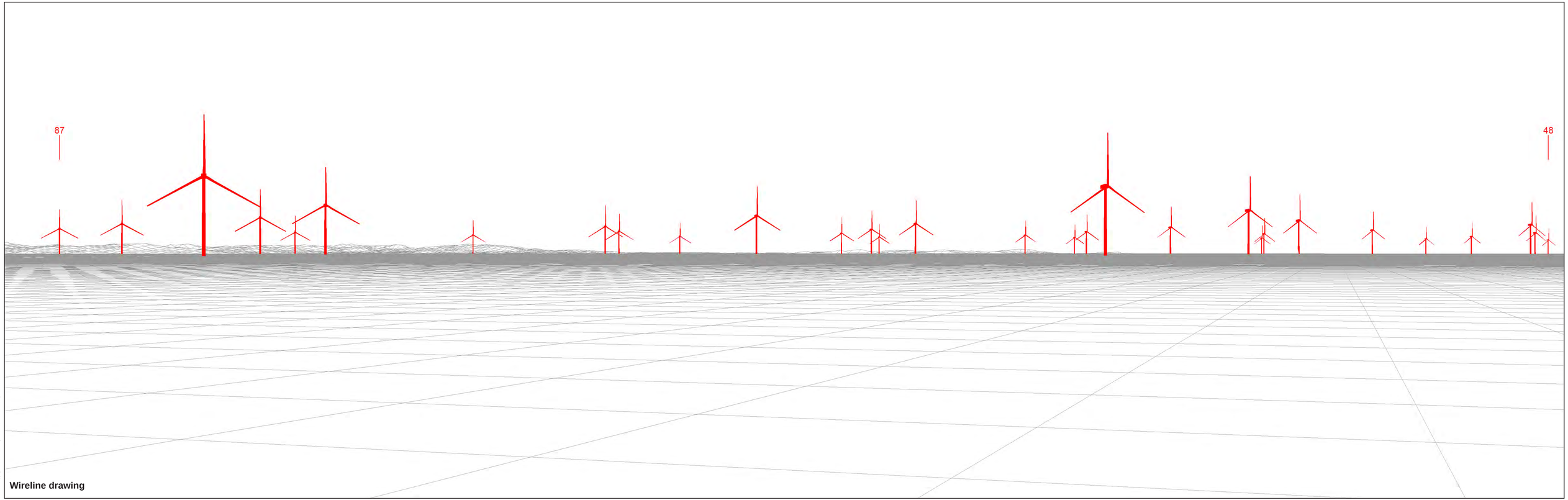
Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 14c

Viewpoint CH11: Dubh Artach Lighthouse



Wireline drawing

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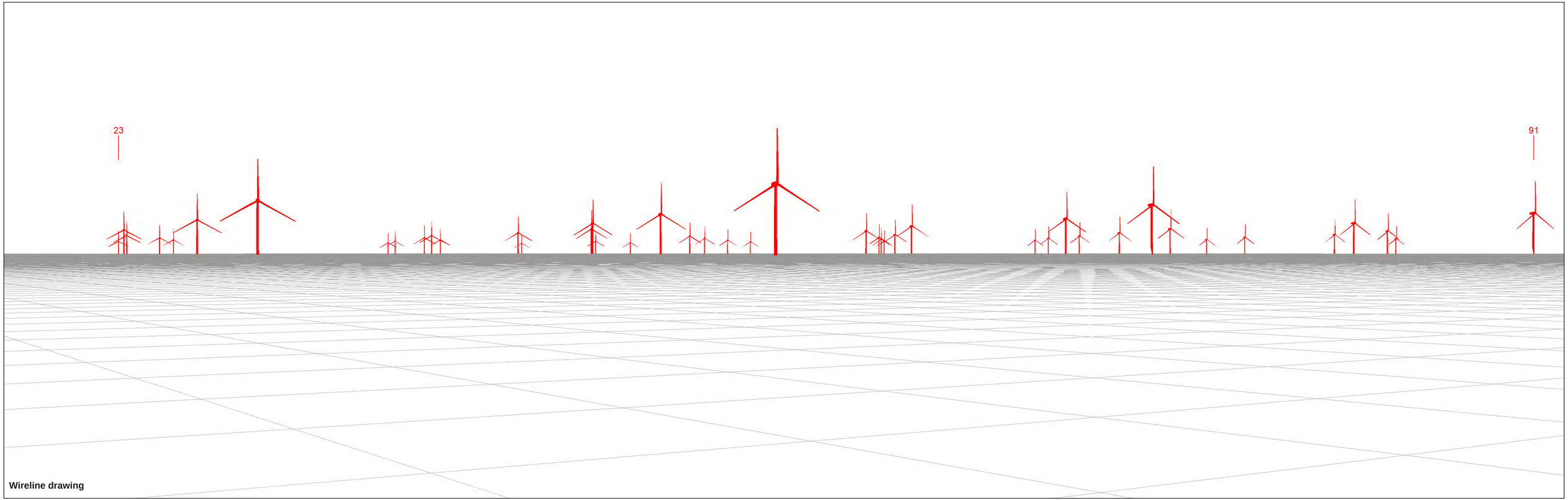
OS reference:	112156E 702955N		53.5° (planar projection)
Above Ordnance Datum:	10 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm
Direction of view:	160.5°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	3.93 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 14d
Viewpoint CH11: Dubh Artach Lighthouse



Wireline drawing

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LUC

OS reference:	112156E 702955N		53.5° (planar projection)
Above Ordnance Datum:	10 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm
Direction of view:	214°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	3.93 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

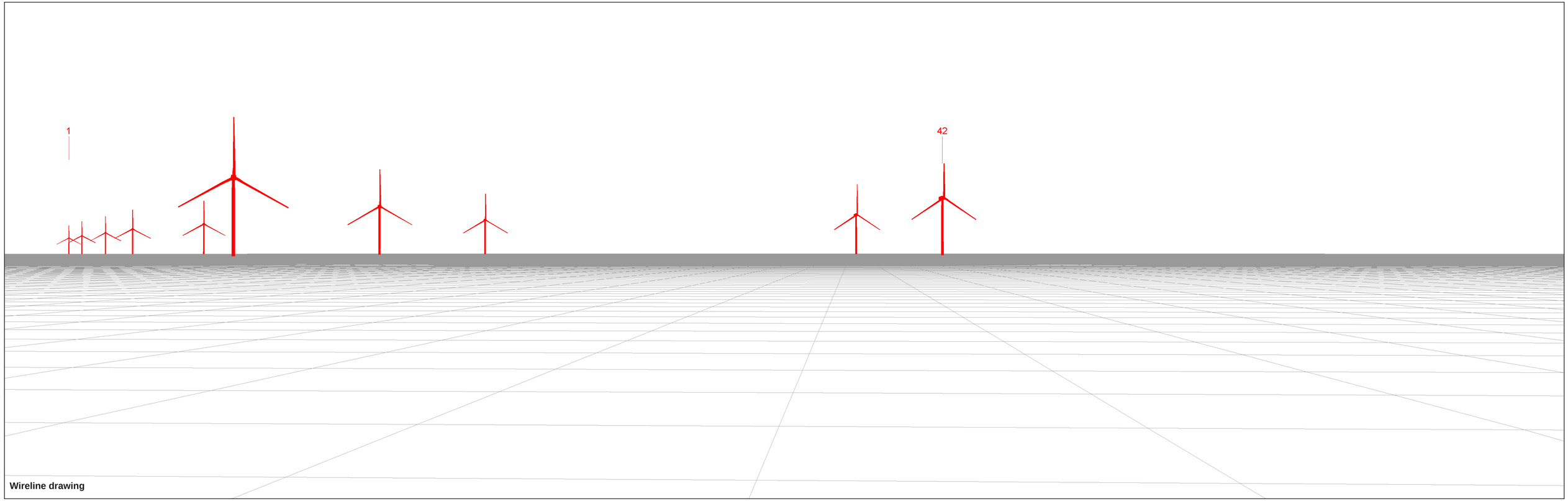
Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 14e

Viewpoint CH11: Dubh Artach Lighthouse



Wireline drawing

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OS reference:	112156E 702955N		53.5° (planar projection)
Above Ordnance Datum:	10 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm
Direction of view:	267.5°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	3.93 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

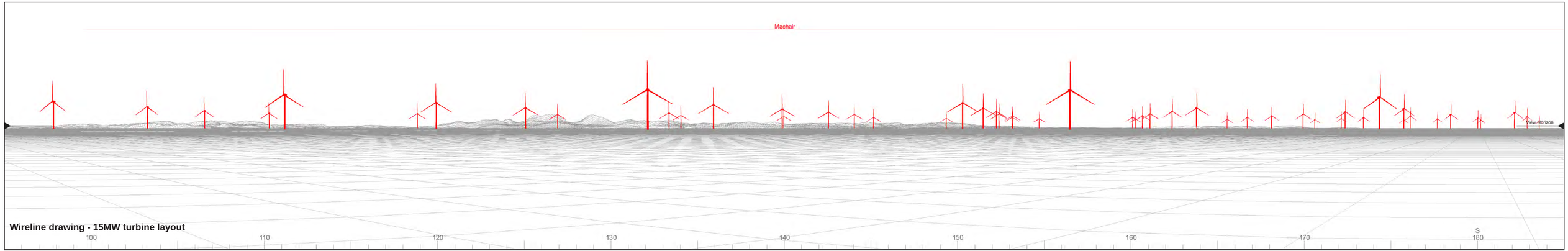
Notes:

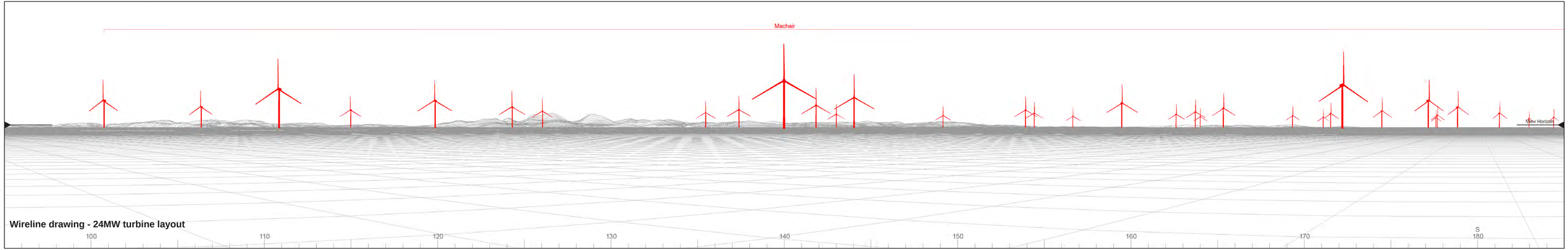
The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 14f

Viewpoint CH11: Dubh Artach Lighthouse





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LUC

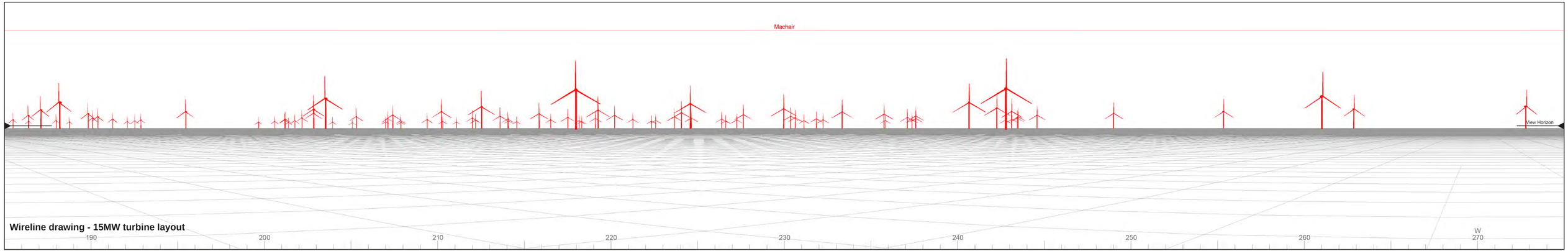
OS reference:	112156E 702955N		90° (cylindrical projection)
Above Ordnance Datum:	10 m	Principal distance:	522 mm
Direction of view:	140°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
		Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

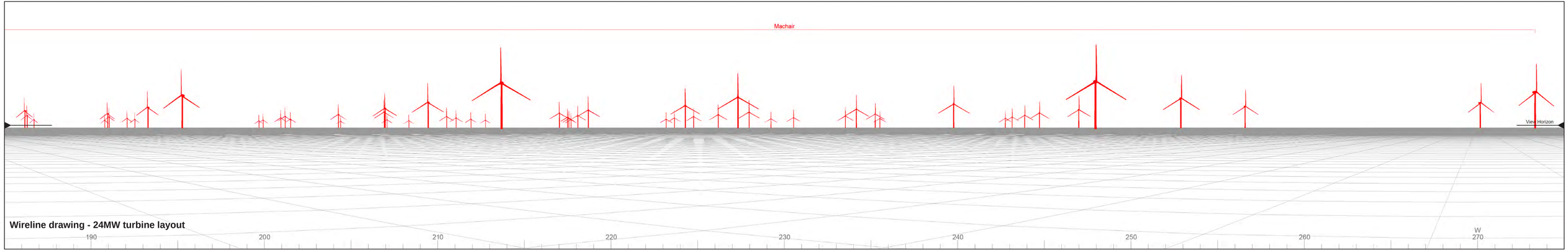
Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 14g
Viewpoint CH11: Dubh Artach Lighthouse





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LUC

OS reference:	112156E 702955N		90° (cylindrical projection)
Above Ordnance Datum:	10 m	Principal distance:	522 mm
Direction of view:	230°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
		Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Notes:

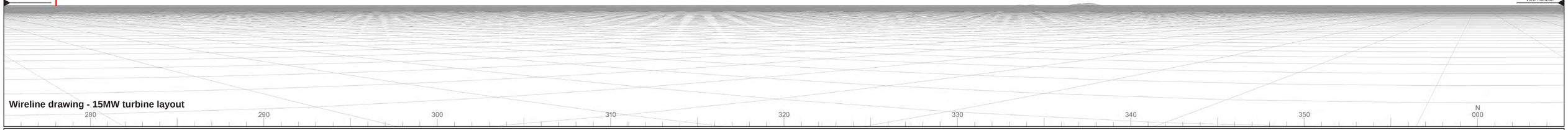
The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 14h
Viewpoint CH11: Dubh Artach Lighthouse

Machair

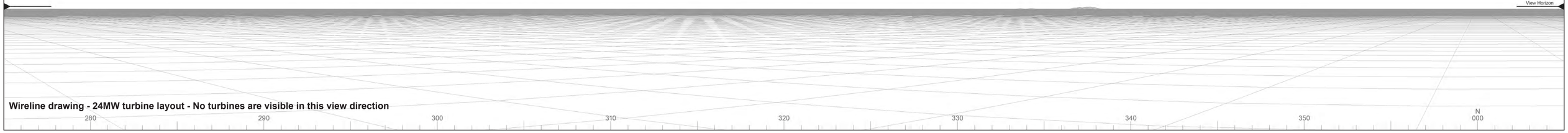
View Horizon



Wireline drawing - 15MW turbine layout

280 290 300 310 320 330 340 350 N 000

View Horizon



Wireline drawing - 24MW turbine layout - No turbines are visible in this view direction

280 290 300 310 320 330 340 350 N 000

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LUC

OS reference:	112156E 702955N		90° (cylindrical projection)
Above Ordnance Datum:	10 m	Principal distance:	522 mm
Direction of view:	320°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
		Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 14i

Viewpoint CH11: Dubh Artach Lighthouse

1.6.2.4 Skerryvore Lighthouse, Tiree (LB17849)

1.6.2.4.1 Importance

334. Skerryvore Lighthouse stands on a remote, wave-swept reef off the west coast of Scotland, visible only as a distant silhouette from shore. Its construction, completed in 1844, was an extraordinary feat of 19th-century engineering, requiring over 200 days to excavate the foundation pit and years of . 4 1 . mainly from Ross of Mull granite, with the lowest courses of local Hynish stone.

335. The shore station at Hynish, with its pier, dock, storehouses, barracks, signal tower, and keeper's cottages, remains an integral part of the setting and illustrates the logistical complexity of the project. The signal tower, now a museum, interprets the building process and semaphore communication system once used between Hynish and the lighthouse.

336. The water-scouring system devised to prevent harbour silting further reflects the innovation behind the scheme. Together, the isolated lighthouse and its shore base form a dramatic and historically significant landscape, symbolizing human resilience and technical mastery in the face of the Atlantic's power.

- **Maritime safety**:
  - Built to safeguard one of Scotland's most dangerous reefs, notorious for wrecks and violent seas; and
  - Provided a vital navigational aid in the exposed waters off the west coast.
- **Engineering achievement**:
  - Represents one of the greatest feats of 19th-century lighthouse engineering; and
  - 4 1 . -swept reef under extreme conditions.
- **Construction ingenuity**:
  - Required over 200 days to excavate the foundation pit and years of work in harsh weather; and
  - Stones were precisely shaped at Hynish shore station; Ross of Mull granite used for most of the tower.
- **Associated shore infrastructure**:
  - Surviving pier, dock, storehouses, barracks, signal tower, and keeper's cottages illustrate the logistical complexity.
  - Signal tower now a museum interpreting the building process and semaphore communication system.
- **Technological innovation**: Ingenious water-scouring system devised to prevent harbour silting, capable of releasing up to a million gallons to clear sand; and
- **Historical and cultural value**:
  - Symbolizes human resilience and technical mastery in the face of the Atlantic's power; and
  - Holds an important place in lighthouse history as one of Scotland's most iconic and challenging constructions.

1.6.2.4.2 Present Setting

337. Skerryvore Lighthouse stands on a submerged reef in the Atlantic Ocean, about 16 km southwest of Tiree. The reef is a long, low ridge of rocks, mostly underwater, where waves break violently, creating a dramatic and constantly shifting seascape. The lighthouse rises as a solitary vertical landmark from

this exposed marine environment, emphasizing its isolation and the engineering triumph of its construction.

338. The surrounding setting is dominated by vast open water and uninterrupted horizons, reinforcing the sense of remoteness and vulnerability. The associated shore station at Hynish on Tiree, with its pier, dock, and signal tower, forms part of the wider setting and illustrates the logistical network that supported the lighthouse's construction and operation.

339. Key views are those from Tiree and Hynish towards the lighthouse as a fine pencil-like silhouette on the horizon, often seen through binoculars. Close range views are those from passing vessels, where the tower rises from the waves, highlighting its role as a beacon in an otherwise featureless and hazardous expanse.

1.6.2.4.3 Change to Setting

340. The nearest WTG will be located c.30 km from Skerryvore Lighthouse. While the WTGs will be visible from Tiree, key views southwest between Hynish on Tiree will be unaffected. Consequently, the change to setting would be of negligible magnitude and the effect to cultural significance would be of minor adverse significance which is not significance in EIA terms.

1.6.2.4.4 Consideration of Worst Case

341. In the case of this asset, the separation between the asset and the proposed development is such that it would be very difficult to discern any difference in magnitude of effect between the indicative 91 WTG and 144 WTG layouts, and no change to the assessed magnitude of effect would be anticipated from the adoption of the 144 WTG layout.

1.6.2.4.5 Significance of Effect

342. The proposed WTGs would not feature in keys views between the lighthouse and Hynish on Tiree. Additionally, the WTGs would be visible as very distant elements of the background in a small number of views from the asset and only to the viewer who actively searches. They would not affect any of the key views identified above and as such, the change to setting would be minimal and there would be **no discernible adverse effect**.

1.6.2.5 Rhinns of Islay Lighthouse, Orsay, Islay (LB11944)

1.6.2.5.1 Importance

343. Built in 1825 by engineer Robert Stevenson at a cost of £8,000, this lighthouse stands on Orsay Island and is a striking example of early 19th-century Scottish lighthouse design. The tower, constructed of rubble masonry, rises in five stages with string courses and a platform roof. It originally housed a reflector light, later replaced in 1896 by a Dioptric flashing light supplied by Barbier and Bernard of Paris, and was electrified in 1978. Inside, a cast-iron turnpike stair leads to a round-ended vestibule at ground level and the lantern above, which is encircled by a diamond-pattern railing typical of Stevenson's work. The top storey below the lantern features circular windows.

344. The tower is flanked by two Georgian-style keeper's houses; single-storey rubble structures with flat lead roofs and distinctive octagonal chimneys, linked to the lighthouse by short passages. Associated infrastructure includes a foghorn complex, pier, compound, and shore station at Bowmore. The site was extensively photographed by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS) in 1999, preserving details of its architecture and operational history.

345. Along with the lights at Buchan Ness and Little Ross Island, at the entrance to Kirkcudbright Bay, Lord Kelvin described the Rinns of Islay as '*undoubtedly the three best revolving lights in the world*'.

346. The importance and cultural significance of the lighthouse can be summarised as follows:

- **Maritime safety**: Built in 1825 to guide ships through hazardous waters around the Rinns of Islay and Orsay Island, therefore a key navigational aid for vessels entering the Atlantic approaches to the Inner Hebrides;
- **Engineering and architecture**: Designed by Robert Stevenson; a rubble-built tower with five stages, string courses, and a platform roof. It features include circular windows below the lantern and Stevenson's signature diamond-pattern railing;
- **Technological innovation**: Originally fitted with a reflector light; upgraded to a Dioptric flashing light in 1896. It was electrified in 1978, marking modernization;
- **Associated structures**: Two Georgian-style keeper's houses with flat lead roofs and octagonal chimneys. It includes foghorn complex, pier, compound, and former shore station at Bowmore; and
- **Historical and cultural value**:
    - Exemplifies Scotland's pioneering role in lighthouse engineering.
    - Linked to the Stevenson dynasty and contractor John Gibb.
    - Documented by RCAHMS in 1999 for its architectural and historical significance.

1.6.2.5.2 Present Setting

347. Rinns of Islay Lighthouse occupies a rugged and exposed position on Orsay Island, off the southwest tip of Islay, where the Atlantic meets the approaches to Loch Indaal. The setting is dominated by dramatic coastal scenery, open sea, and vast horizons, emphasizing the lighthouse's isolation and its strategic role in guiding vessels through hazardous waters. The surrounding compound, foghorn complex, pier, and keeper's houses form a cohesive historic group that illustrates the operational life of the station.

348. Key views are those from the Atlantic with the lighthouse as a prominent landmark against the open ocean, guiding ships past dangerous reefs. Similarly distant views of the tower and keeper's houses framed by the sea are seen from the Rinns of Islay. Close views reveal the proportions of the tower and its Georgian-style cottages set against a dramatic maritime backdrop. Panoramic views are provided from the compound sweeping across the Atlantic towards Jura and Colonsay, reinforcing its strategic maritime position.

1.6.2.5.3 Consideration of Worst Case

349. In the case of this asset, any difference in magnitude of effect between the indicative 91 WTG and 144 WTG layouts is minimal. The increased scale and prominence of the larger WTGs, would be balanced by the denser layout required for the smaller WTGs and likely increased stacking, although a denser layout would arguably appear more coherent, though this impression is in part a function of the 'dense perimeter' layout adopted for the indicative worst-case, and no change to the assessed magnitude of effect would be anticipated from the adoption of the 144 WTG layout.

1.6.2.5.4 Change to Setting and Significance of Effect

350. The nearest WTG will be c.30 km from the Rhinns of Islay Lighthouse. The WTGs would be visible as very distant elements of the background in a small number of views from the asset and only to the viewer who actively searches. They would not affect any of the key views identified above and as such, the change to setting would be minimal and there would be **no discernible adverse effect**.

1.6.2.6 Breachacha House, Coll (LB4709)

1.6.2.6.1 Importance

351. Breachacha House is a prominent mid-18th-century country house on Coll, originally built in 1750 by Hector Maclean as a neo-Palladian villa to replace the nearby 15th-century Old Breachacha Castle. The two castles, along with Breachacha Steading, form an exceptional architectural group in a remote island setting. The new house was positioned to overlook the old castle, reflecting changing attitudes to historic architecture.

352. In 1856, under John Lorne Stewart, the house was extensively remodelled in a Gothic-Baronial style, adding a fourth storey, crenelated parapets, bartizan turrets, and enlarged windows. This transformation mirrored the popularity of romantic historicism in the Highlands during the mid-19th century. Later additions included a gabled porch and internal alterations in the late 19th century.

353. The building lay empty from the 1930s to the 1980s, during which many fixtures were removed for reuse elsewhere on the island. Restoration in the 1990s included roof repairs and removal of later accretions, though much of the interior remains stripped to bare stone. The relationship between the old and new castles illustrates evolving architectural tastes and social aspirations over two centuries, making Breachacha a site of considerable historical and cultural significance.

354. The importance and cultural significance of Breachacha House, Coll can be summarised as follows:

Architectural Importance: Mid-18th-century neo-Palladian villa, later transformed into a Gothic-Baronial mansion with Distinctive features including crenelated parapets, bartizan turrets, and enlarged windows from the 1856 remodel;

- **Historic Development**: Built in 1750 by Hector Maclean to replace Old Breachacha Castle. It was remodelled under John Lorne Stewart in 1856, reflecting romantic historicism in Highland architecture; and
- **Cultural Value**: Forms an exceptional group with Old Breachacha Castle and Breachacha Steading in a remote island setting and Illustrates changing architectural tastes and social aspirations over two centuries.

1.6.2.6.2 Present Setting

355. Breachacha Castle occupies a dramatic coastal location on the island of Coll, forming an exceptional architectural group with Old Breachacha Castle and Breachacha Steading in a remote, open landscape. The new castle was deliberately positioned to overlook the old castle, creating a visual and historical dialogue between the two buildings. This relationship reflects changing attitudes to architecture—from the neo-Palladian style of the 18th century to the Gothic-Baronial revival of the 19th century—set against the backdrop of Coll's rugged terrain and expansive sea views.

356. Key Views are framed views of Old Breachacha Castle across the grounds, reinforcing the historic connection. Similarly, views back to the mid-18th-century house highlight contrasting architectural styles. From across the bay, there are panoramic views of the castle group within the open island landscape and seascape. The new castle's Gothic-Baronial silhouette and its relationship to the older tower house are striking from both inland routes and coastal approaches.

1.6.2.6.3 Consideration of Worst Case

357. In the case of this asset, the separation between the asset and the proposed development is such that it would be very difficult to discern any difference in magnitude of effect between the indicative 91 WTG and 144 WTG layouts, and no change to the assessed magnitude of effect would be anticipated from the adoption of the 144 WTG layout.

1.6.2.6.4 Change to Setting and Significance of Effect

358. The nearest WTGs would be located c. 50 km from the assets. The WTGs would be visible as very distant elements of the background in a small number of views from the asset and only to the viewer who actively searches. As such, the change to setting would be minimal and there would be **no discernible adverse effect**.

1.6.2.7 Breachacha Castle, Coll (LB4708)

1.6.2.7.1 Importance

359. Breachacha Castle is a mid-15th-century tower house on Coll, originally built for the Maclean family after the island was granted to John Maclean in 1431. The castle began as a four-storey rectangular tower with integral stair, mural cupboards, and garderobes, enclosed by a crenelated curtain wall and courtyard with a circular tower at the southeast corner. Later additions included a hall, a three-storey crowstep-gabled dwelling house, and a battery wall to strengthen landward defences. Unlike most Hebridean castles, it was built without vaults or mural fireplaces, a feature shared only with Kisimul Castle on Barra.

360. The castle remained occupied until the mid-18th century when it was superseded by the new Breachacha Castle. It fell into ruin during the 19th century but was described in the 1930s as "*the most perfect and least altered example of a medieval stronghold in the Hebrides*". In the late 1960s, architects Ian Lindsay and Richard Avery led a sensitive restoration, rebuilding to wallhead, re-roofing, and converting it into a family home while retaining its original plan and character. Modern services were discreetly incorporated into existing spaces, and most alterations were reversible. This conservation approach, preceded by archaeological survey, preserved most of the 15th-century fabric and respected the castle's historic integrity.

361. The importance and cultural significance of Breachacha Castle, Coll can be summarised as follows

- **Architectural importance**: Rare mid-15th-century Hebridean tower house with courtyard and curtain walls. It is unique in lacking vaults and mural fireplaces, comparable only to Kisimul Castle;
- **Historic development**: Built for the Maclean family after 1431; expanded through 16th–17th centuries with hall, dwelling house, and battery wall. It was superseded by New Breachacha Castle in 1750 but remained occupied into the 19th century;
- **Cultural value**: Strong association with the Maclean clan for over 400 years reflecting changing defensive and domestic architecture in the Hebrides;
- **Conservation Significance**: Restored in the late 1960s by Ian Lindsay and Richard Avery following archaeological survey. This sensitive conversion retained original plan and fabric with reversible interventions; and
- **Comparative Value**: Shares features and historical trajectory with Kisimul Castle, offering insights into Hebridean strongholds

1.6.2.7.2 Present Setting

362. Breachacha Castle stands in a dramatic coastal setting on the south shore of Coll, close to the sheltered waters of Breachacha Bay. The tower house occupies low ground near tidal flats, with the Atlantic stretching beyond, giving it a commanding position over the approaches to the island. Its relationship to the surrounding landscape is one of openness and exposure: moorland rolls inland to the north and east, while the sea dominates the southern horizon. This location was chosen for strategic reasons, allowing clear surveillance of maritime routes and easy access to anchorage.

363. From the upper levels and the curtain wall, the views are expansive and purposeful. To the south and west, the outlook takes in Breachacha Bay and the Sound of Mull, historically vital for monitoring

shipping and defense. Inland, the prospect is of wide, treeless moorland and distant hills, offering early warning of landward approach. Today, these views also frame the later Breachacha Castle, built in the 18th century further inland. The visual connection between the two buildings is striking: the medieval tower, compact and crenelated, contrasts with the Georgian villa's elegance, illustrating a deliberate dialogue between past and present. Approaching from the bay, the old castle's silhouette—its crowstep gables and circular southeast tower—rises starkly against the coastal backdrop, reinforcing its martial character and sense of permanence within this remote Hebridean landscape.

1.6.2.7.3 Consideration of Worst Case

364. In the case of this asset, the separation between the asset and the proposed development is such that it would be very difficult to discern any difference in magnitude of effect between the indicative 91 WTG and 144 WTG layouts, and no change to the assessed magnitude of effect would be anticipated from the adoption of the 144 WTG layout.

1.6.2.7.4 Change to Setting and Significance of Effect

365. The nearest WTGs would be located c. 50 km from the assets. The WTGs would be visible as very distant elements of the background in a small number of views from the asset and only to the viewer who actively searches. As such, the change to setting would be minimal and there would be **no discernible adverse effect**.

1.6.2.8 Hynish, Harbour and Lighthouse Establishment, Including Signal Tower, Housing, Sheds/Stores, Dam and Walled Enclosures, Tiree (LB17848)

1.6.2.8.1 Importance

366. Skerryvore Lighthouse support complex, built mainly between 1837 and 1840, was designed to facilitate the construction and ongoing maintenance of the lighthouse. The site is characterized by robust masonry architecture, with buildings constructed from large stone blocks and roofs either flat or slated, reflecting a functional yet monumental approach typical of Stevenson's engineering works.

367. At its heart lies the harbour, formed of rock-faced ashlar, and the dock, which originally featured guiding rails for a locking gate and a hand-operated derrick for handling heavy loads. A pier projects from the west side, providing essential access for vessels. Surrounding these are a series of purpose-built structures: the Seamen's Barracks, a two-storey stepped row originally housing workers, now privately owned; and the Keeper's Houses in the Upper Square, single-storey, flat-roofed dwellings with Egyptian-style detailing, massive doorways, and walled gardens, echoing Stevenson's distinctive lighthouse keeper architecture.

368. Other key elements include the Signal Tower, now a museum, built in ashlar with a corbelled cornice and platform, once used for semaphore communication with Skerryvore Lighthouse. Long, low store buildings step down the slope, while a reservoir and underground conduit, still operational in the late 20th century, served to flush silt from the dock basin. Additional structures such as coal stores, garden walls, and peripheral outbuildings complete the ensemble, creating a self-contained industrial and residential hub that illustrates the logistical ingenuity behind one of Scotland's most challenging lighthouse projects.

369. The importance and cultural significance of the monument can be summarised as follows:

- **Exceptional rarity and integrity**: The Skerryvore Lighthouse support complex is a unique survival in Scotland, retaining its original layout and fabric with minimal alteration since the 19th century;

- **National maritime significance**: Built to enable the construction and maintenance of Skerryvore Lighthouse, one of Scotland's most challenging and important lighthouse projects, demonstrating the scale and complexity of Victorian engineering in remote locations;
- **Architectural importance**: Robust masonry structures designed by Alan Stevenson, including harbour, dock, barracks, keeper's houses with Egyptianised detailing, and signal tower, exemplify functional yet monumental design;
- **Historic and social value**: The ensemble reflects the living and working conditions of lighthouse keepers and construction crews, forming a self-contained industrial and residential hub; and
- **Technological ingenuity**: Features such as the operational reservoir and semaphore signal tower illustrate innovative solutions for communication and maintenance in an isolated setting.

1.6.2.8.2 Present Setting

370. The Skerryvore Lighthouse support complex occupies a dramatic coastal setting on the Isle of Tiree, positioned to serve as the operational base for one of Scotland's most remote and hazardous lighthouse sites. The buildings cluster around a sheltered harbour and dock, which form the heart of the complex, with the pier projecting westward into the bay. This maritime orientation reflects the site's original purpose: to receive and dispatch supplies, equipment, and personnel to Skerryvore reef far offshore.

371. From the harbour, the views open south and west across the Atlantic, emphasizing the isolation and exposure that shaped the design and function of the complex. Inland, the terrain rises gently, framing the stepped rows of the Seamen's Barracks and the distinctive Keeper's Houses of the Upper Square, whose flat roofs and Egyptianised detailing stand out against the rugged landscape. The Signal Tower, now a museum, commands a prominent position, its corbelled platform offering panoramic views over the bay and toward the open sea. Together, these views out to sea and across the self-contained cluster of industrial and domestic buildings reinforce the sense of a purpose-built hub, adapted to its remote island setting and visually connected to the maritime world it served.

1.6.2.8.3 Consideration of Worst Case

372. In the case of this asset, the separation between the asset and the proposed development is such that it would be very difficult to discern any difference in magnitude of effect between the indicative 91 WTG and 144 WTG layouts, and no change to the assessed magnitude of effect would be anticipated from the adoption of the 144 WTG layout.

1.6.2.8.4 Change to Setting and Significance of Effect

373. The nearest WTGs would be located c. 36 km from the assets. The WTGs would be visible as very distant elements of the background in a small number of views from the asset and only to the viewer who actively searches. As such, the change to setting would be minimal and there would be **no discernible adverse effect**.

1.6.3 Conservation Areas

1.6.3.1 Iona (CA468)

1.6.3.1.1 Importance

374. The Iona Conservation Area, designated by Argyll and Bute Council in 2003, protects the unique architectural, historic, and cultural character of the island's village and surroundings. It encompasses the compact settlement clustered around the historic abbey, traditional stone cottages, pathways, walls, and the connecting coastline. The conservation area ensures that repair, redevelopment, and

any new development respect the distinctive scale, materials, and historic layout that define this iconic Hebridean landscape.

375. Iona's significance lies not just in its built environment centred on the 6th- and medieval parish church but also in the timeless natural setting that frames them. White sandy beaches, the Atlantic backdrop, and gently sloping moorland contribute to its spiritual ambience. These elements combine to create a tranquil yet evocative atmosphere that has inspired pilgrimage, artistry, and conservation efforts for centuries.

376. Protecting this area means carefully managing changes to ensure they preserve or enhance its special qualities. Controls are in place over alterations to historic buildings, the use of traditional materials, stone walls, and the way new structures integrate with existing views of the abbey, shoreline, and open landscape. The designation supports the island's continuing traditional crofting and fishing character, balancing community needs with the conservation of an extraordinary place of national and spiritual importance.

1.6.3.1.2 Present Setting

377. The Iona Conservation Area is defined by its dramatic Hebridean setting, where a compact historic Mary's Abbey and the medieval parish church. The built environment of stone cottages, narrow paths, and boundary walls sits within an open coastal landscape of white sandy beaches, rocky shoreline, and gently sloping moorland. Views across the Atlantic and toward the abbey dominate the experience of the area, creating a sense of tranquillity and spiritual significance. This interplay of historic architecture and unspoiled natural scenery gives Iona its distinctive character and underpins its national importance as a place of pilgrimage and cultural heritage.

1.6.3.1.3 Change to Setting

378. The nearest WTG will be located c.24 km from Iona CA. The presence of the WTGs would represent a discernible change to the setting of the CA. The visibility of the WTGs would be greatest on its east (towards the foreshore) with the WTGs falling away as the viewer moves westward. Key views are the insular views towards and surrounding natural scenery that dominate the experience of the area, creating a sense of tranquillity and spiritual significance. Similarly, the WTGs would not be would not be sufficiently audible from the CA to give rise to a change to setting thus maintaining the sense of spirituality and tranquillity that the area encapsulates.

1.6.3.1.4 Consideration of Worst Case

379. In the case of this asset, identifying a worst case is very difficult given the distance from the array and the large number and dynamic nature of the views experienced as the viewer moves through the asset group. At the separation involved, any difference in magnitude of effect between the indicative 91 WTG and 144 WTG layouts is limited, but the increased scale and prominence of the larger WTGs, is likely to present the differentiating factor, albeit balanced by the denser layout required for the smaller WTGs. Screening of the proposed WTGs by intervening landform and buildings would be broadly equivalent and no change to the assessed magnitude of effect would be anticipated from the adoption of the 144 WTG layout.

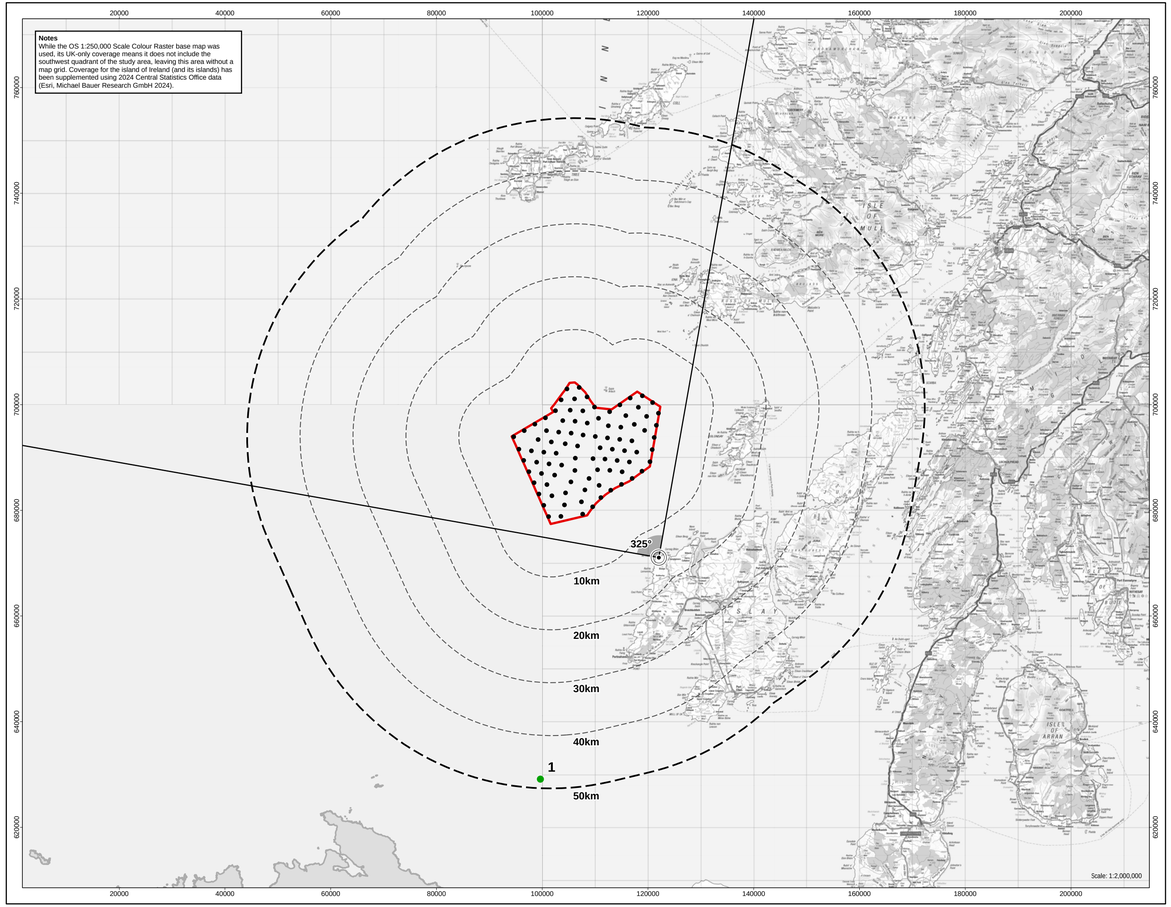
1.6.3.1.5 Significance of Effect

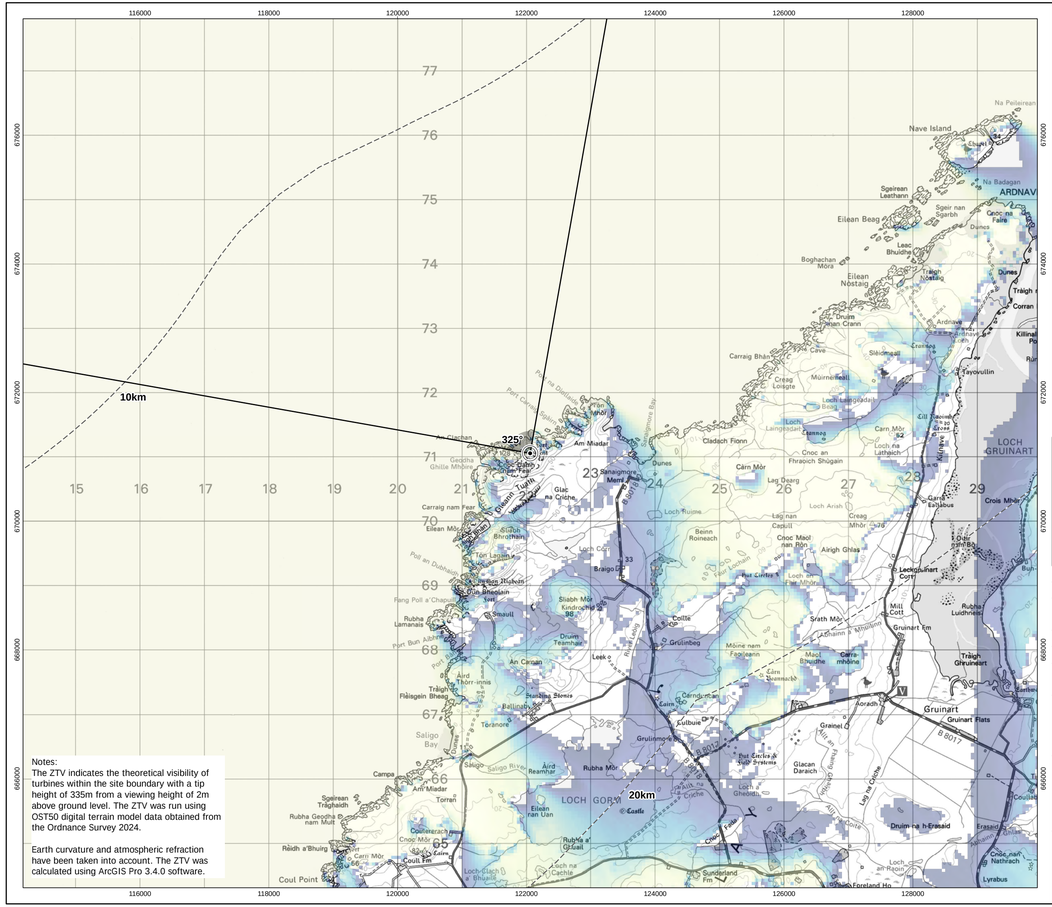
380. As discussed, the WTGs on the eastern side of the array would be visible from various locations around the CA. In these views, the WTGs are not prominently visible but would present a visibly detracting element due to the introduction of modern infrastructure into the setting of the asset, albeit as distant elements of the background of views. The full array would not be visible from any points

within the designated area or in any views of the designated area, with the ZTV (**Figure 8**) suggesting visibility of at most 26-50 WTGs , with little to no visibility from much of the CA. The focus of the CA is St. Mary's Abbey and while the WTGs would be visible as a background element of views of it, it would remain the visually dominant focal point of views.

381. The presence of the WTGs s in the distant seascape would not detract from those aspects key outlined in **Section 1.6.3.1.1** which contribute to its cultural significance.

382. As a result, distant visibility of the WTGs, the change to setting would be of **low adverse** magnitude which for an asset of **high** importance will give rise to a **moderate adverse effect** to cultural significance which would be **significant** in EIA terms.





Notes:
The ZTV indicates the theoretical visibility of turbines within the site boundary with a tip height of 335m from a viewing height of 2m above ground level. The ZTV was run using OST50 digital terrain model data obtained from the Ordnance Survey 2024.

Earth curvature and atmospheric refraction have been taken into account. The ZTV was calculated using ArcGIS Pro 3.4.0 software.

Windfarm development area
Indicative 24MW turbine layout
10km interval from windfarm development area
50km study area

Zone of Theoretical Visibility
More turbines visible
Less turbines visible

Wind Farm Status
Design/Scoping
1. Malin Sea Wind

90° Field of View
53° Field of View

N

0 2 Kilometres

REV	REV DATE	GIS CREATOR	GIS REVIEWER	TECHNICAL CHECKER	TECHNICAL APPROVER
2	27/05/2026	DS	TH	LC	PM

DRAWING NUMBER	MCW-DWF-ENV-MAP-RHS-0001
DATUM	OSGB36 (EPSG:27700)
PROJECTION	Transverse Mercator
SCALE	1:50,000
PAGE SIZE	A3
PROJECT TITLE	MachairWind

Figure 15:
Beinn a' Chaisteil, promontory fort and associated remains, Islay.

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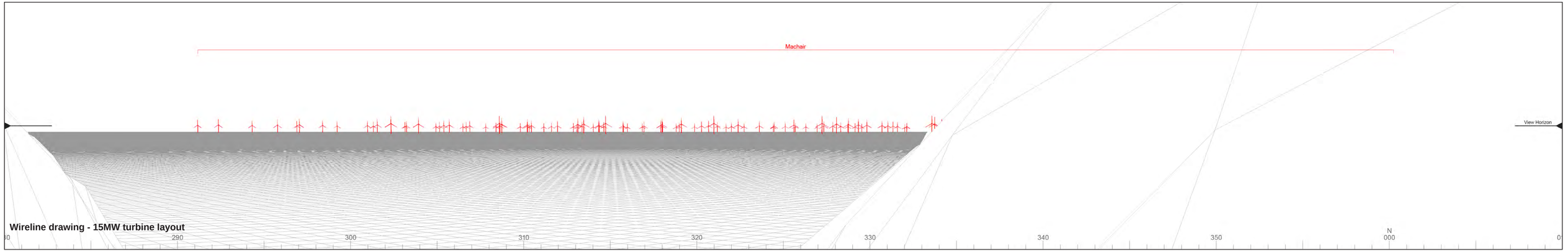

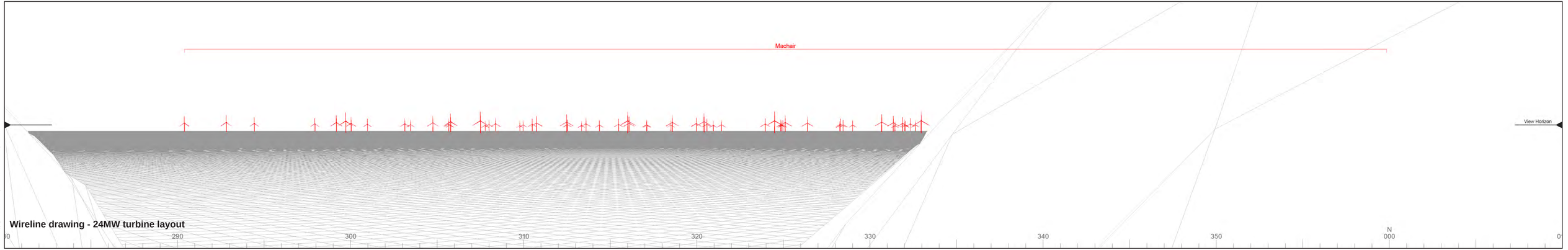

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LUC

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Direction of view:	325°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
		Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

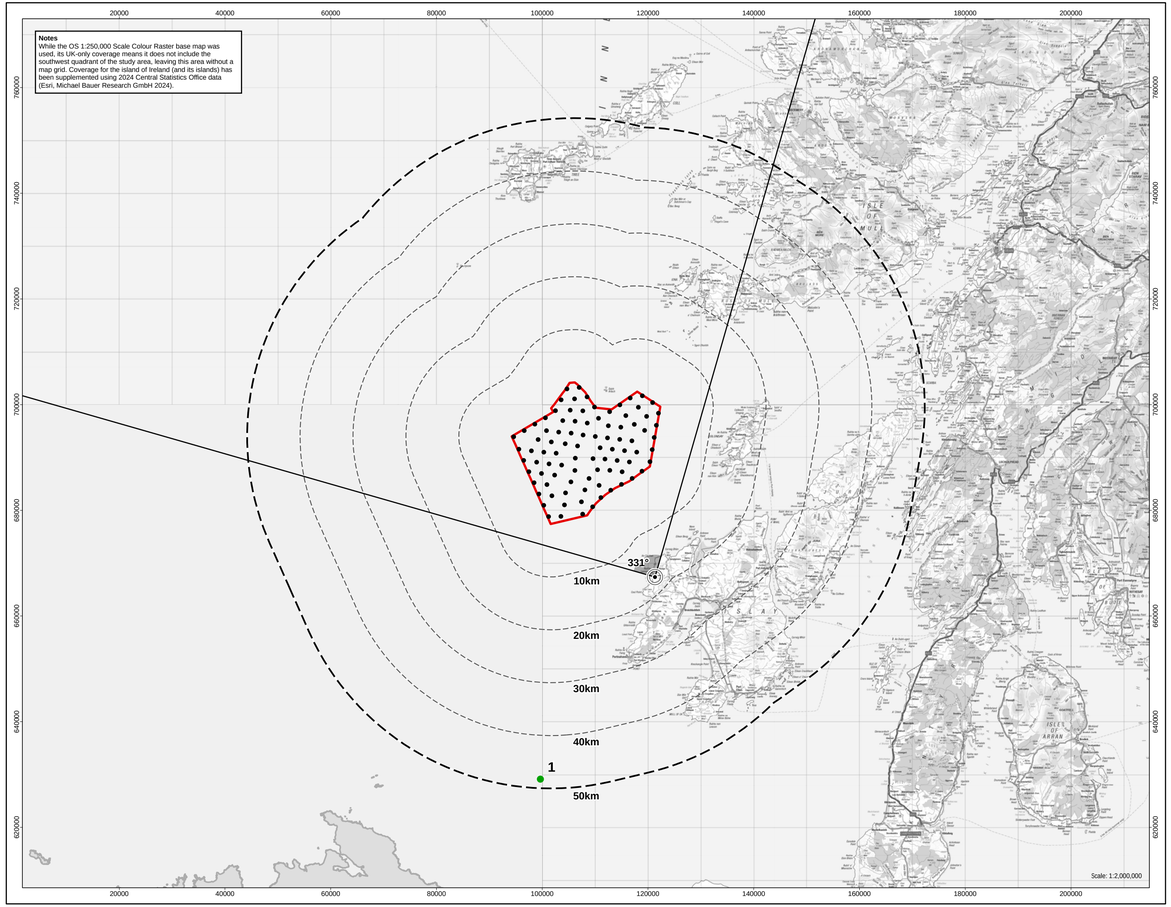
Notes:

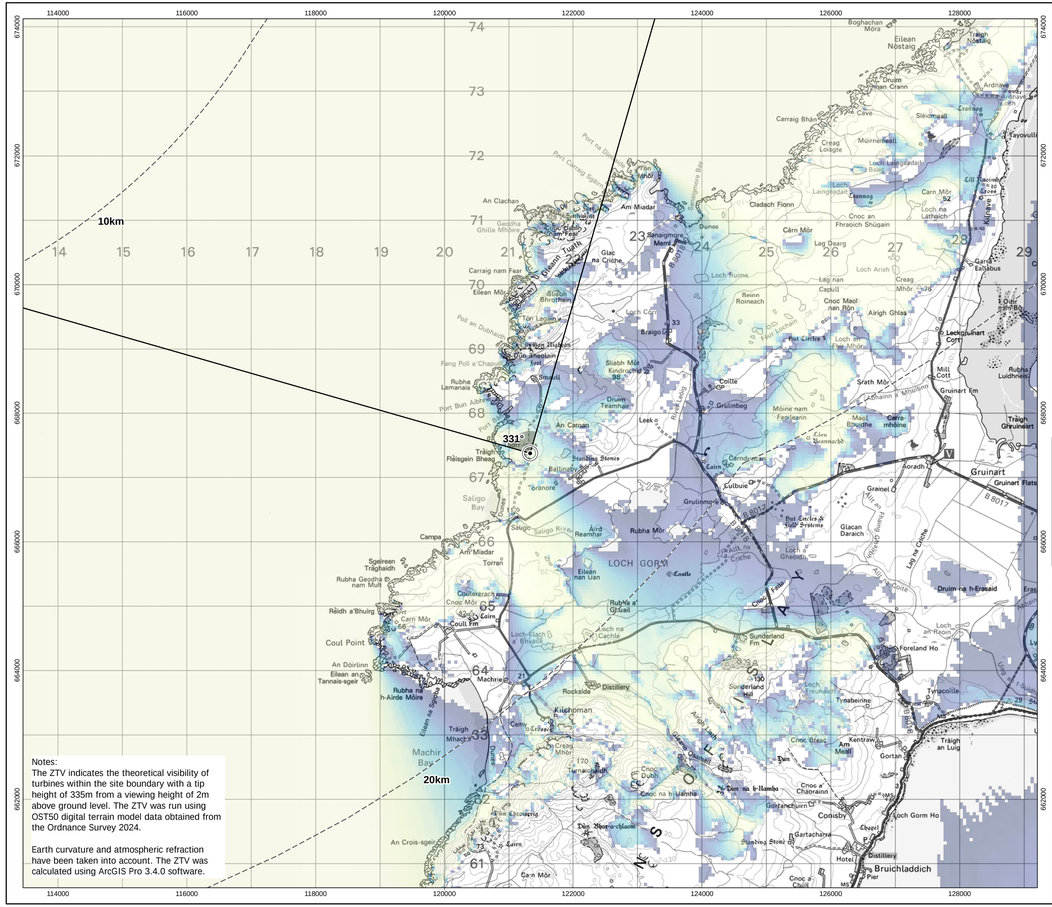
The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 15a

Viewpoint CH12: Beinn a' Chaisteil, promontory fort and associated remains, Islay





Windfarm development area
Indicative 24MW turbine layout
10km interval from windfarm development area
50km study area

Zone of Theoretical Visibility
More turbines visible
Less turbines visible

Wind Farm Status
Design/Scoping
1. Malin Sea Wind

90° Field of View
53° Field of View

N

0 2 Kilometres

REV	REV DATE	GIS CREATOR	GIS REVIEWER	TECHNICAL CHECKER	TECHNICAL APPROVER
2	27/05/2026	DS	TH	LC	PM

DRAWING NUMBER	MCW-DWF-ENV-MAP-RHS-0002
DATUM	OSGB36 (EPSG:27700)
PROJECTION	Transverse Mercator
SCALE	1:50,000
PAGE SIZE	A3
PROJECT TITLE	MachairWind

Figure 16:
Dun Bheolain, fort, Islay (SM13214) from the south.

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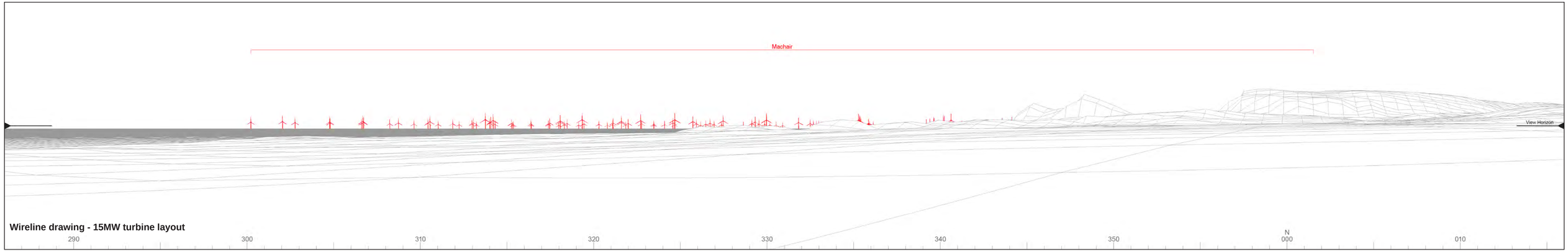

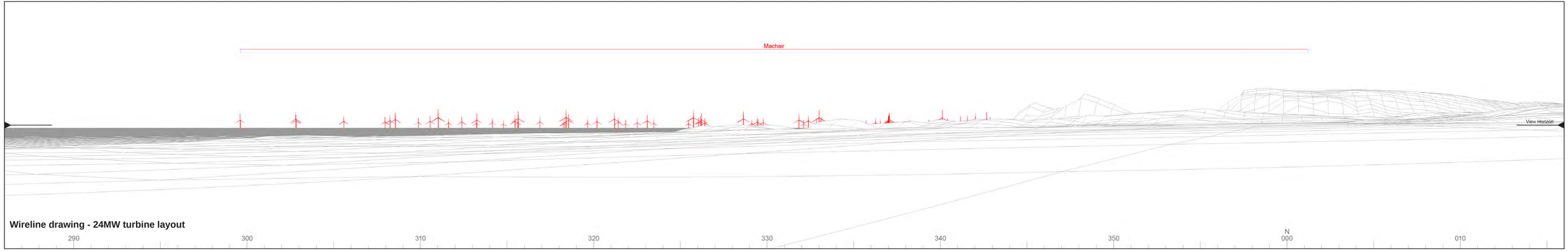

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LUC

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Direction of view:	331°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
		Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

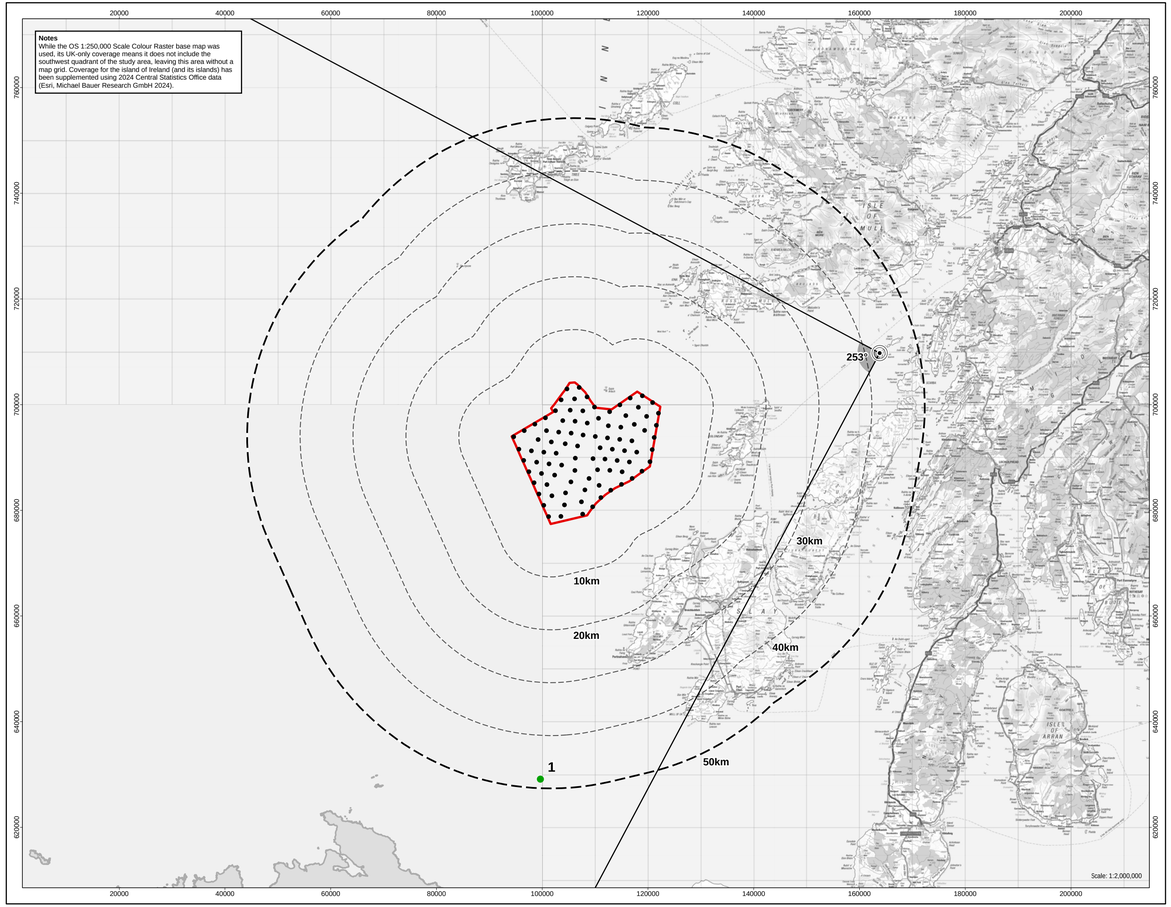
Notes:

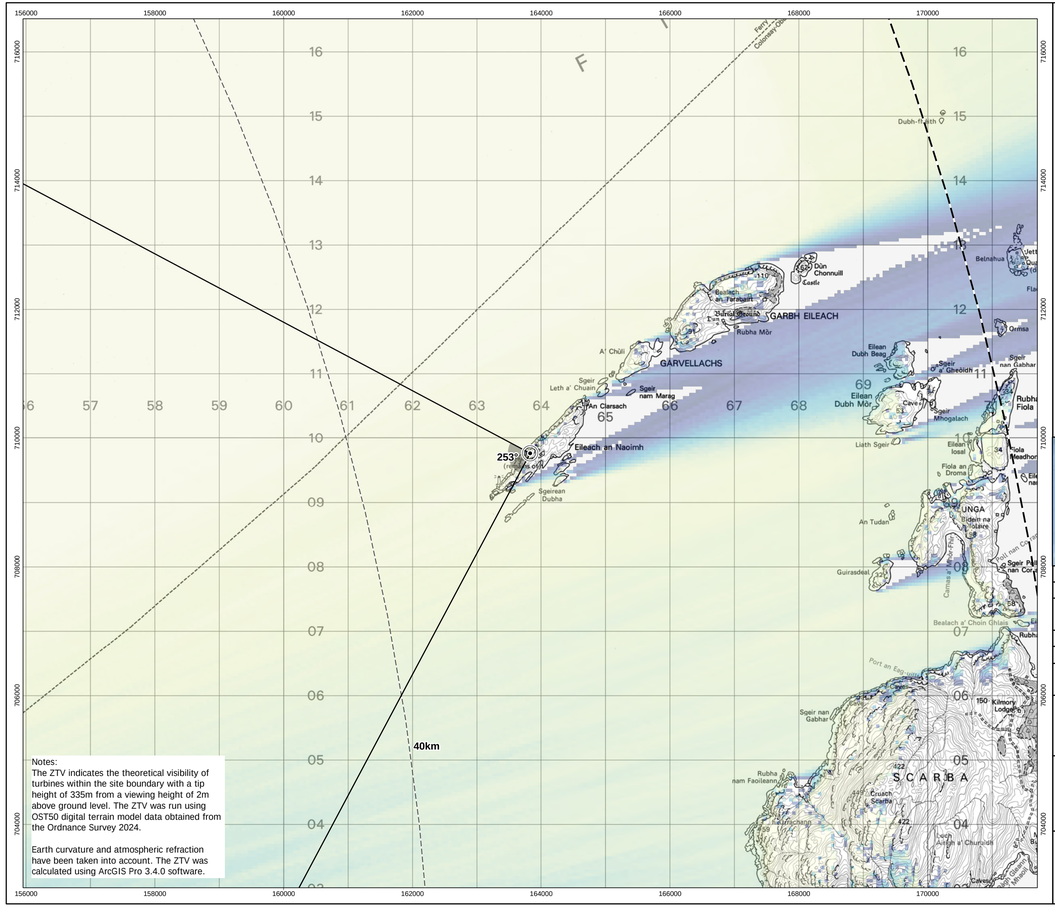
The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 16a

Viewpoint CH13: Dun Bheolain, fort, Islay (SM13214) from the south





Windfarm development area
Indicative 24MW turbine layout
10km interval from windfarm development area
50km study area

Zone of Theoretical Visibility
More turbines visible
Less turbines visible

Wind Farm Status
Design/Scoping
1. Malin Sea Wind

V 90° Field of View
V 53° Field of View

N

0 2 Kilometres

REV	REV DATE	GIS CREATOR	GIS REVIEWER	TECHNICAL CHECKER	TECHNICAL APPROVER
2	27/05/2026	DS	TH	LC	PM

DRAWING NUMBER MCW-DWF-ENV-MAP-RHS-0002 1

DATUM	OSGB36 (EPSG:27700)	PROJECTION	Transverse Mercator
SCALE	1:50,000	PAGE SIZE	A3

PROJECT TITLE: MachairWind

Figure 17:
Eileach-an-Naoimh, monastery, Garvellachs (elevated position).

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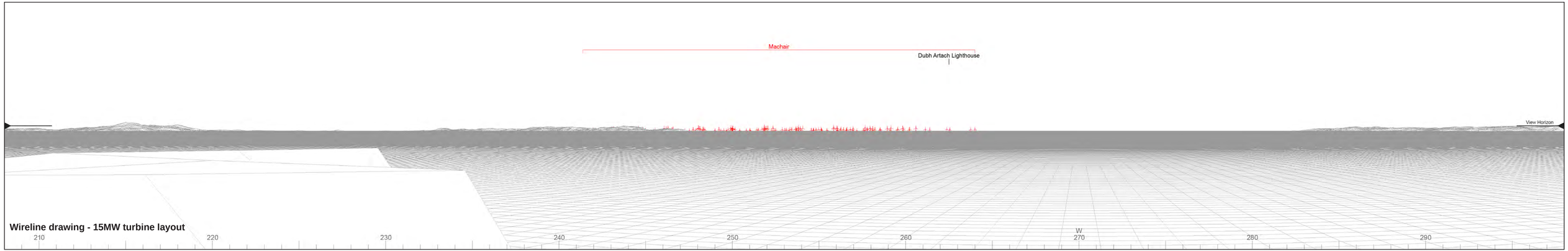

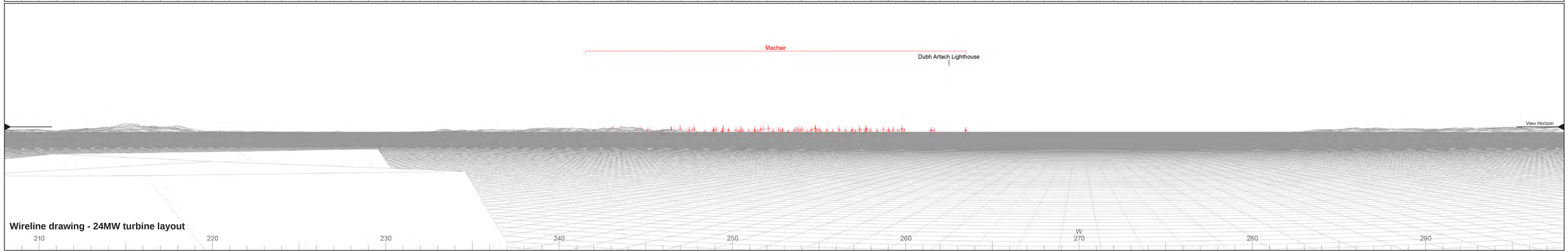

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LUC

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Direction of view:	253°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
		Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

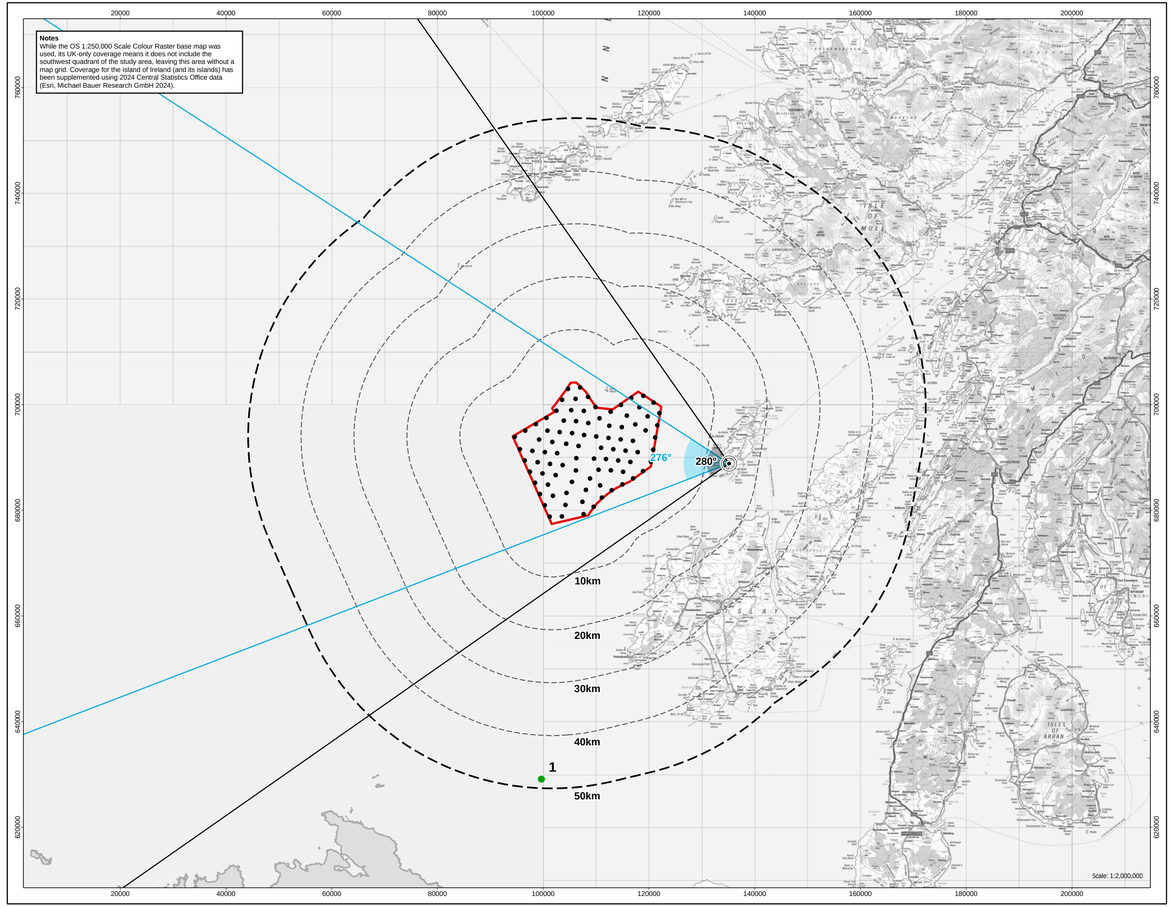
Notes:

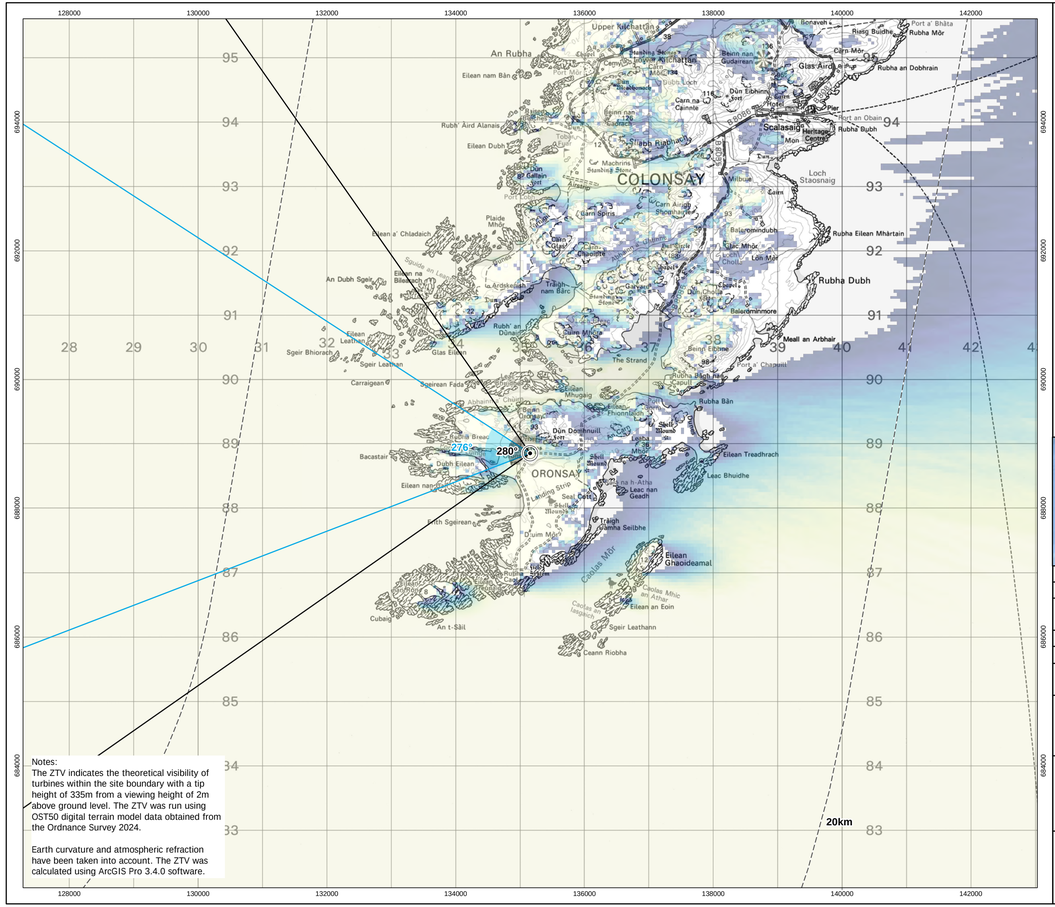
The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 17a

Viewpoint CH14: Eileach-an-Naoimh, monastery, Garvellachs (elevated position)





Windfarm development area
Indicative 24MW turbine layout
10km interval from windfarm development area
50km study area

Zone of Theoretical Visibility
More turbines visible
Less turbines visible

Wind Farm Status
Design/Scoping
1. Malin Sea Wind

90° Field of View
53° Field of View

N

0 2 Kilometres

REV	REV DATE	GIS CREATOR	GIS REVIEWER	TECHNICAL CHECKER	TECHNICAL APPROVER
1	27/05/2026	DS	TH	LC	PM

DRAWING NUMBER	MCW-DWF-ENV-MAP-RHS-000215		
DATUM	OSGB36 (EPSG:27700)	PROJECTION	Transverse Mercator
SCALE	1:50,000	PAGE SIZE	A3
PROJECT TITLE	MachairWind		

Figure 18:
Path at Oronsay Priory.

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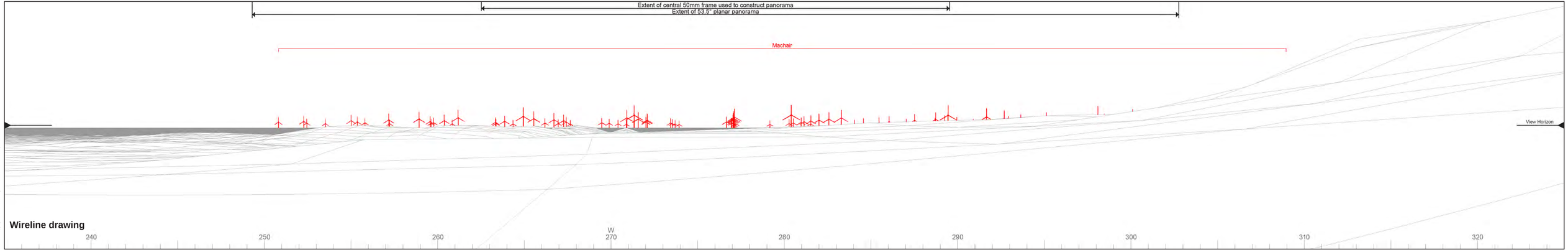

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LUC

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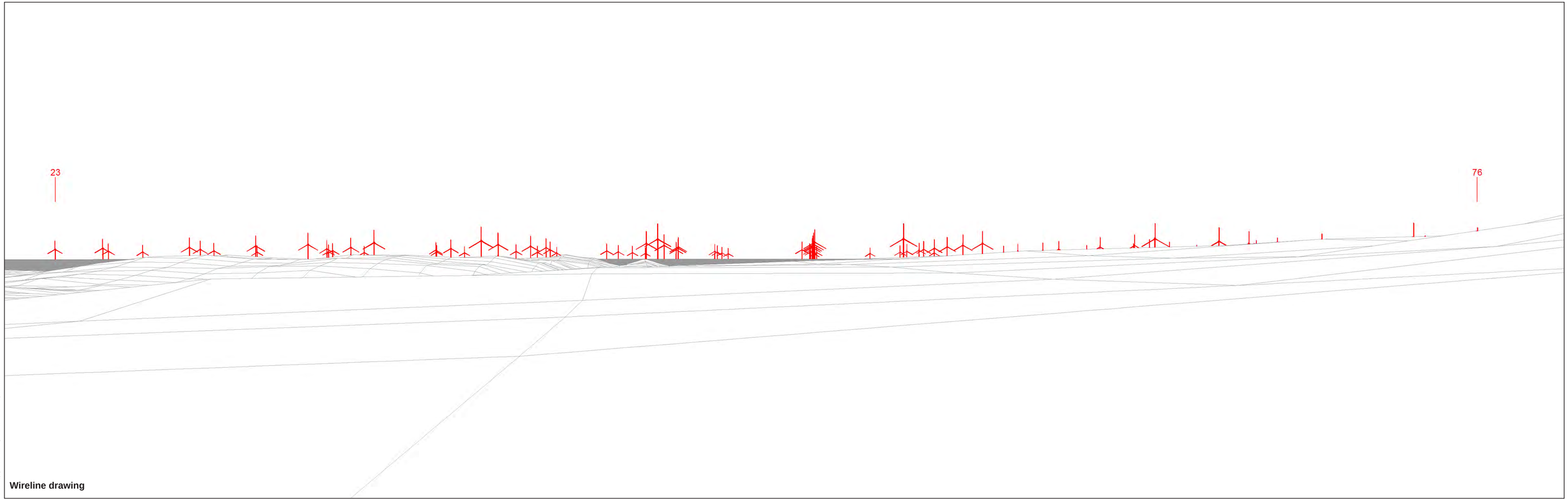
Direction of view:	280°	Correct printed image size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)	Camera height:	1.5 m		
Nearest turbine:	14.6 km		820 x 260 mm				

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 18a
Viewpoint CH15: Path at Oronsay Priory



Wireline drawing

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Direction of view:	276°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	14.6 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 18b

Viewpoint CH15: Path at Oronsay Priory

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LUC

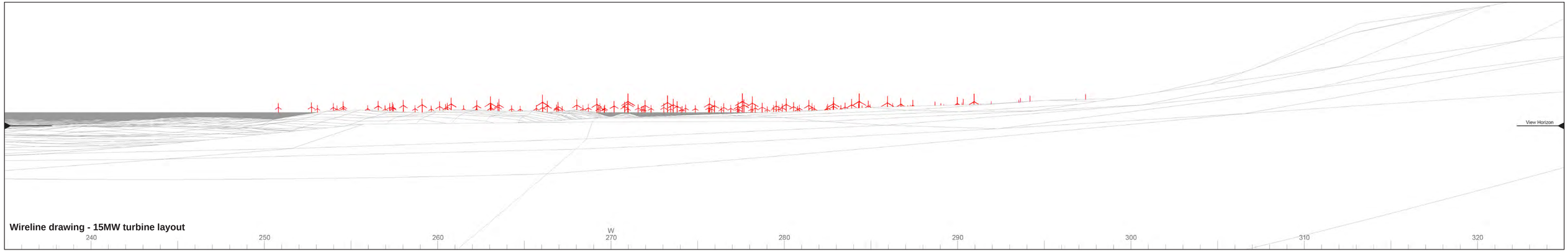
OS reference:	135156E 688852N	Principal distance:	53.5° (planar projection)	Camera:	NIKON D750	Photography Date:	06/05/2026
Above Ordnance Datum:	13.72 m	Paper size:	812.5 mm	Lens:	50mm Fixed Focal Length	Photography Time:	10:50
Direction of view:	276°	Correct printed image size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)	Camera height:	1.5 m		
Nearest turbine:	14.6 km		820 x 260 mm				

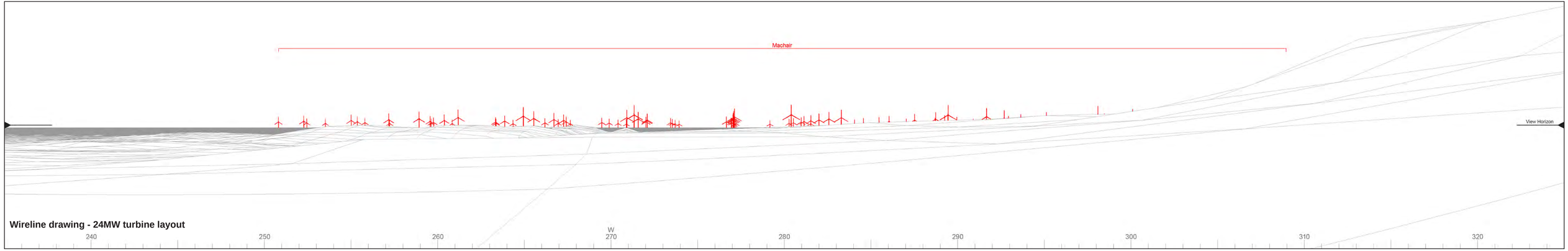
Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 18c
Viewpoint CH15: Path at Oronsay Priory





OS reference:	135156E 688852N		90° (cylindrical projection)
Above Ordnance Datum:	13.72 m	Principal distance:	522 mm
Direction of view:	280°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	14.6 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

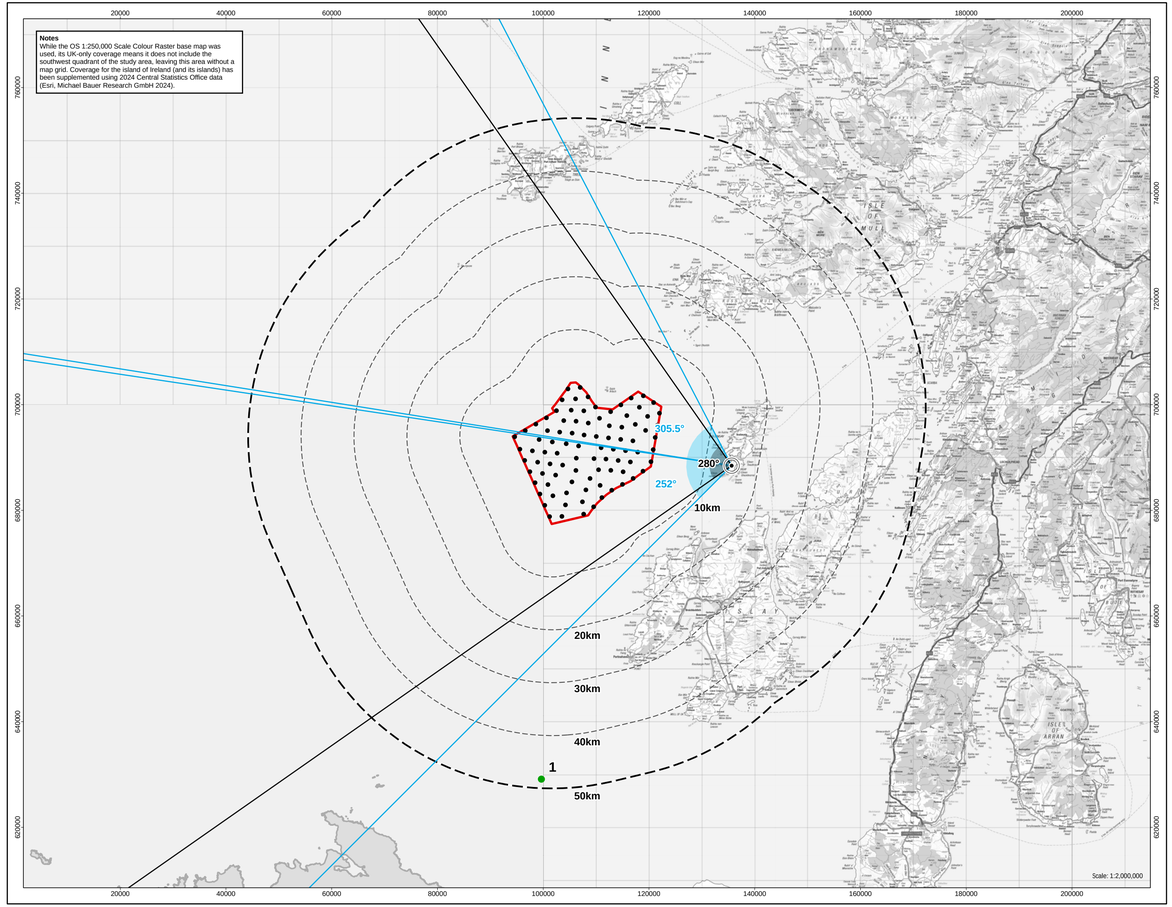
Notes:

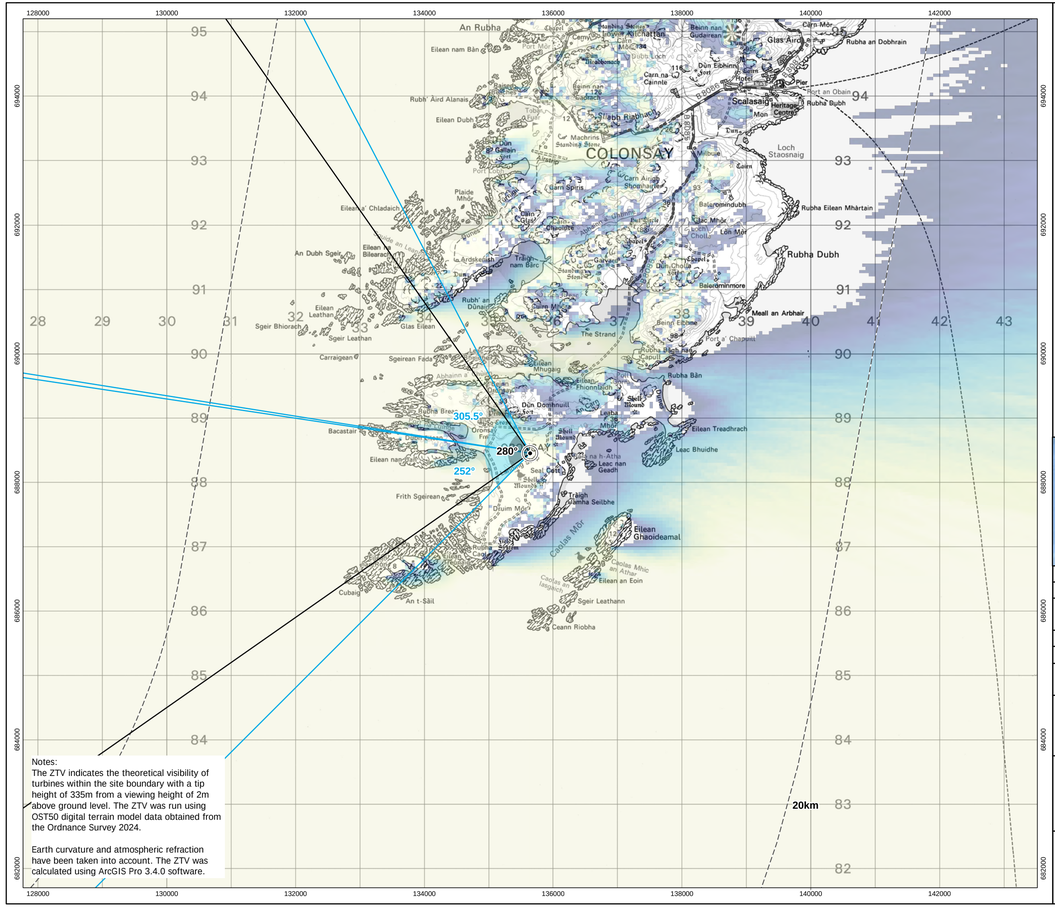
The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 18d

Viewpoint CH15: Path at Oronsay Priory




An Rubha
COLONSAY
Scalasaig
Loch Staosnaig
Rubha Eilean Mhàrtain
Rubha Dubh
Meall an Arbhair
Rubha Bàn
Eilean Treadhrach
Leac Bhuidhe
Eilean Shaoideamal
Rubha an Dobhrain
Glas Àird a' Mhuilt
Eilean nam Bàn
Rubh' Àird Alanais
Eilean Dubh
Strath Rubhasdail
Eilean a' Chladaich
An Dubh Sgeir
Eilean Bàrasaigh
Rubh' an Dùnain
Glas Eilean
Sgeir Leathan
Carraigean
Sgeirean Feòir
Eilean Mhugaig
Rubha Breac
Bacastair
Eilean nan Gobhar
Frith Sgeireach
Cubaig
An t-Sàil
Ceann Riobha
Sgeir an Eòin
Caolas Mòr
Caolas Mòr an Athair
Caolas Mòr an Fhraoich
Traigh Camha Seilbhe
Leac nan Geadh
Dùn Domhnuill
Dùn Eibhinn
Cairn na Cainnte
Cairn Mòr
Baile Mòr
Baile Meadhonach
Baile Beag
Machrins
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Bushfield Bay
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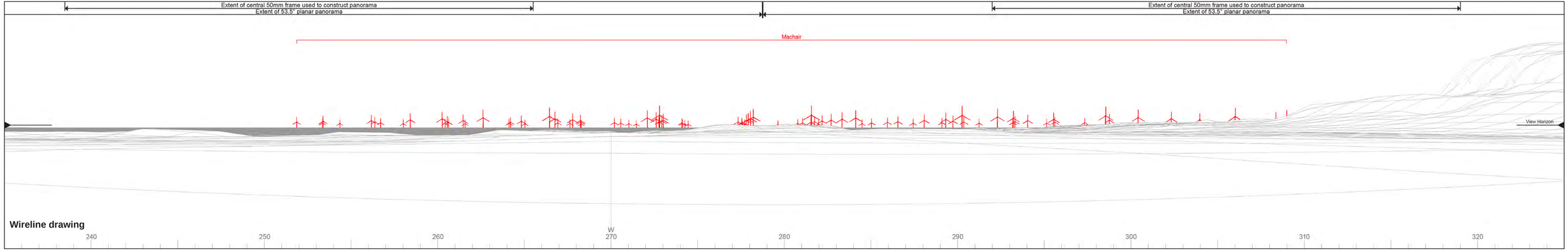

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LUC

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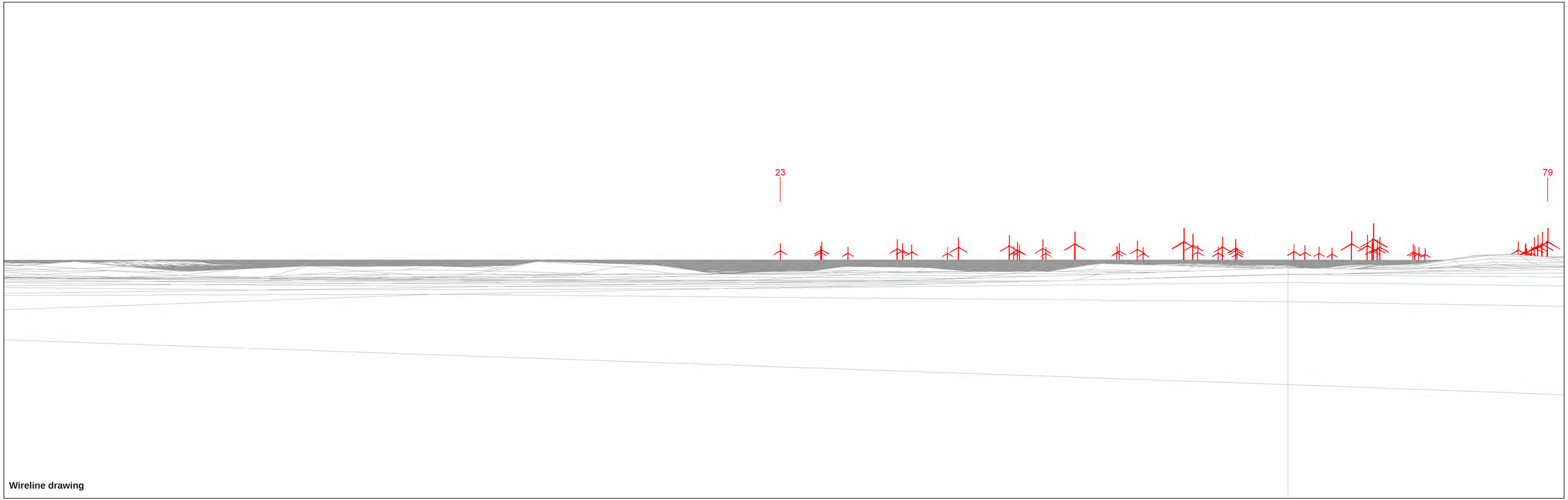
Above Ordnance Datum:	12.2 m	Paper size:	522 mm	Lens:	50mm Fixed Focal Length	Photography Time:	11:36
Direction of view:	280°	Correct printed image size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)	Camera height:	1.5 m		
Nearest turbine:	15.15 km		820 x 260 mm				

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 19a
Viewpoint CH16: MacDuffie Cross - Oronsay Priory



Wireline drawing

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OS reference:	135642E 688450N		53.5° (planar projection)
Above Ordnance Datum:	12.2 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm
Direction of view:	252°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	15.15 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 19b

Viewpoint CH16: MacDuffie Cross - Oronsay Priory

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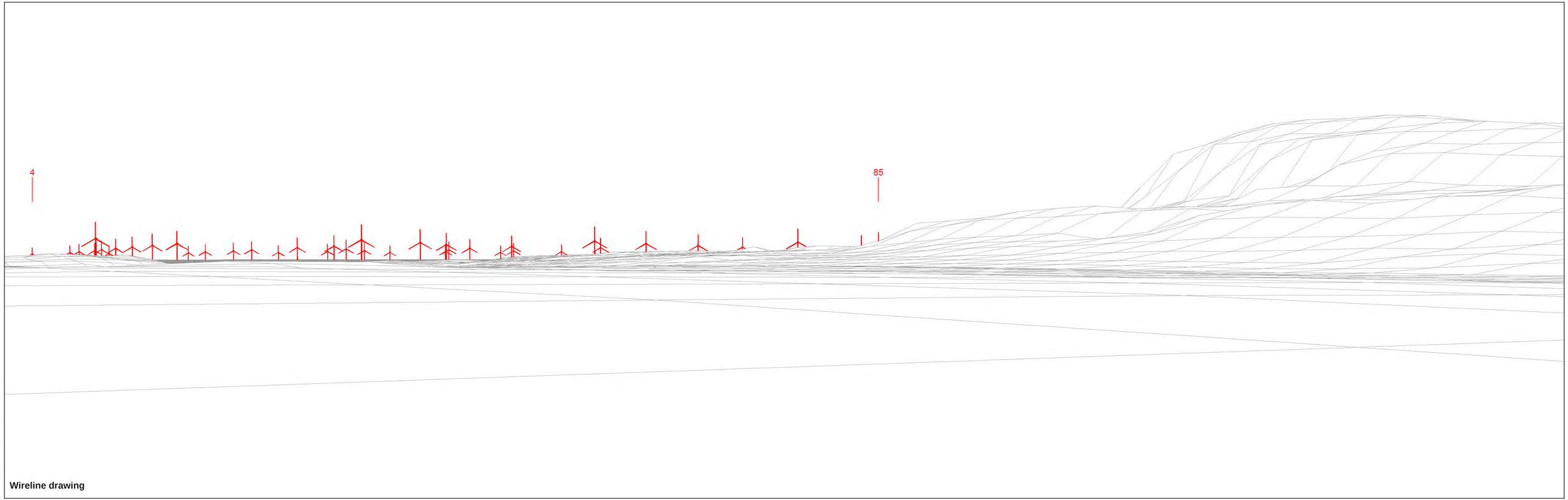
OS reference:	135642E 688450N		53.5° (planar projection)	Camera:	NIKON D750	Photography Date:	06/05/2026
Above Ordnance Datum:	12.2 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm	Lens:	50mm Fixed Focal Length	Photography Time:	11:36
Direction of view:	252°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)	Camera height:	1.5 m		
Nearest turbine:	15.15 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm				

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 19c
Viewpoint CH16: MacDuffie Cross - Oronsay Priory



Wireline drawing

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LUC

OS reference:	135642E 688450N		53.5° (planar projection)
Above Ordnance Datum:	12.2 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm
Direction of view:	305.5°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	15.15 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 19d
Viewpoint CH16: MacDuffie Cross - Oronsay Priory

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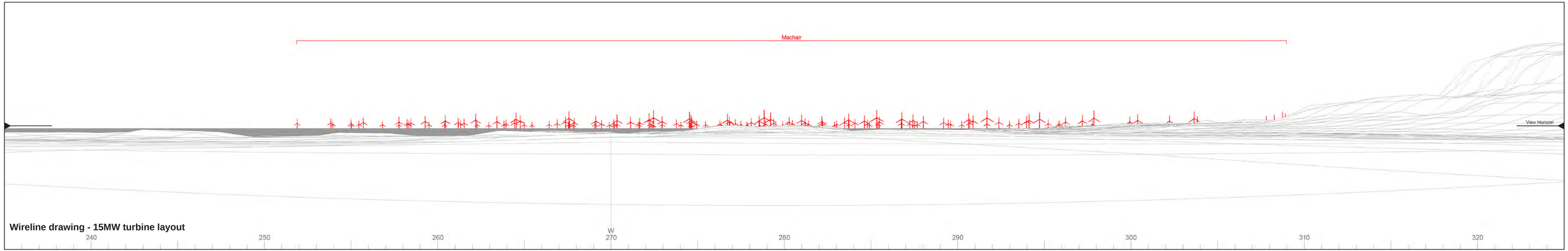
OS reference:	135642E 688450N	Principal distance:	53.5° (planar projection)	Camera:	NIKON D750	Photography Date:	06/05/2026
Above Ordnance Datum:	12.2 m	Paper size:	812.5 mm	Lens:	50mm Fixed Focal Length	Photography Time:	11:36
Direction of view:	305.5°	Correct printed image size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)	Camera height:	1.5 m		
Nearest turbine:	15.15 km		820 x 260 mm				

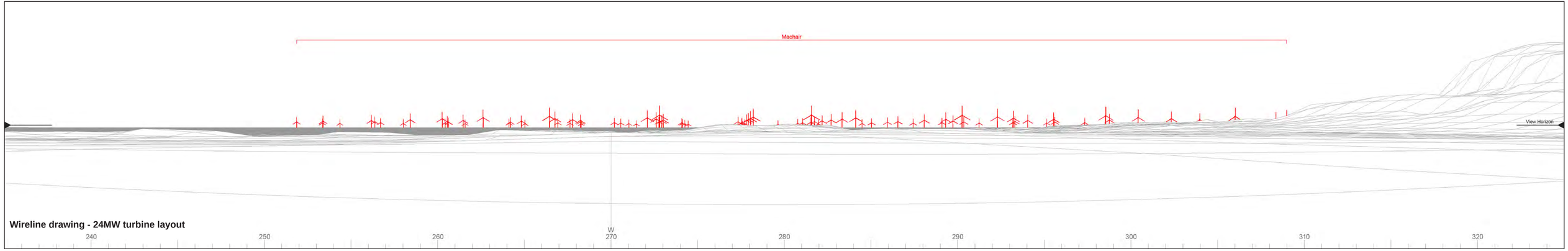
Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 19e
Viewpoint CH16: MacDuffie Cross - Oronsay Priory





LUC

OS reference:	135642E 688450N		53.5° (planar projection)
Above Ordnance Datum:	12.2 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm
Direction of view:	305.5°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	15.15 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

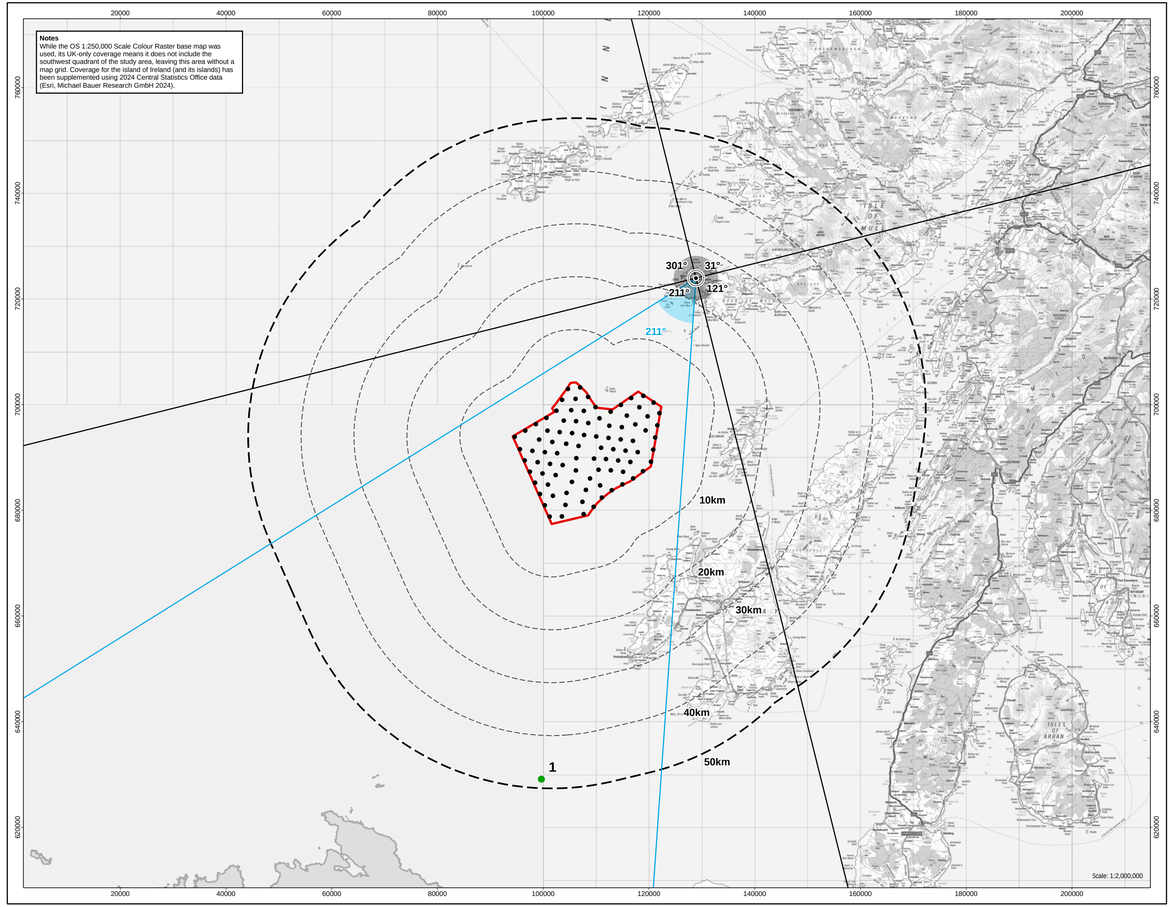
Notes:

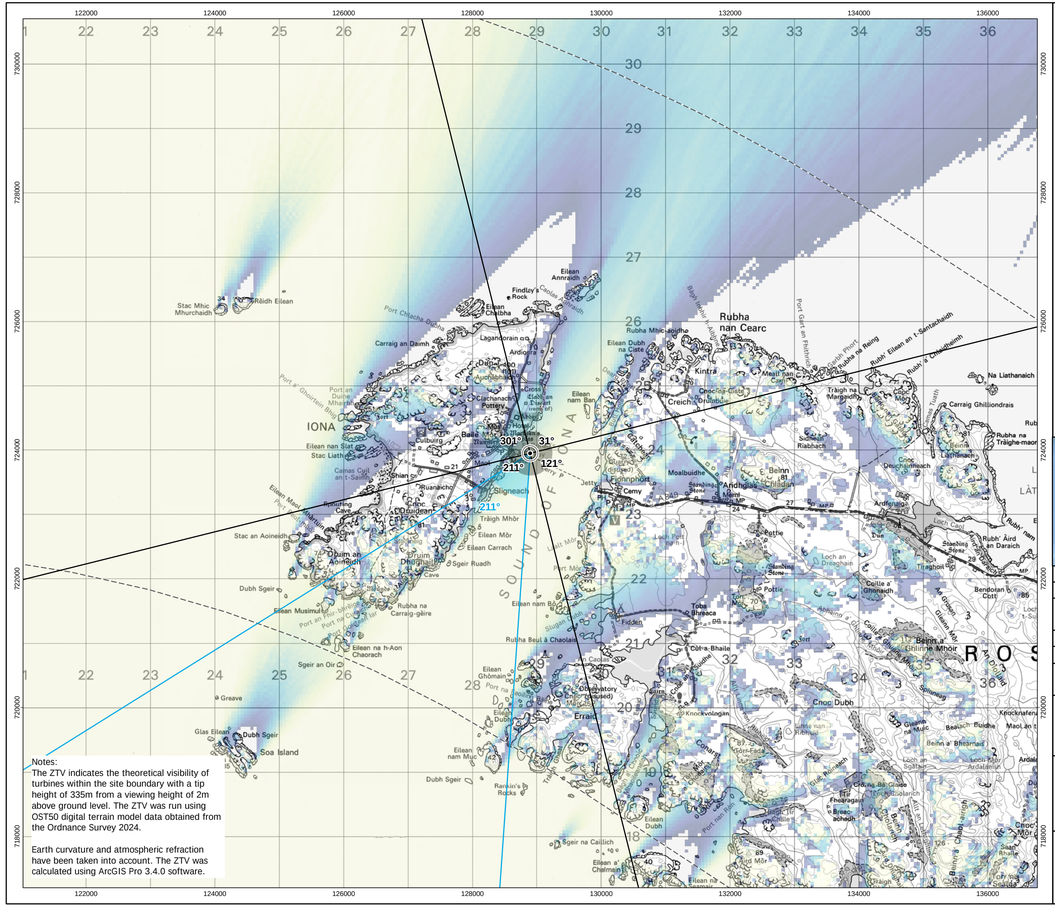
The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 19f

Viewpoint CH16: MacDuffie Cross - Oronsay Priory





Windfarm development area
Indicative 24MW turbine layout
10km interval from windfarm development area
50km study area

Zone of Theoretical Visibility
More turbines visible
Less turbines visible

Wind Farm Status
Design/Scoping
1. Malin Sea Wind

V 90° Field of View
V 53° Field of View

N

0 2 Kilometres

REV	REV DATE	GIS CREATOR	GIS REVIEWER	TECHNICAL CHECKER	TECHNICAL APPROVER
1	27/05/2026	DS	TH	LC	PM

DRAWING NUMBER	MCW-DWF-ENV-MAP-RHS-000217
DATUM	OSGB36 (EPSG:27700)
PROJECTION	Transverse Mercator
SCALE	1:50,000
PAGE SIZE	A3
PROJECT TITLE	MachairWind

Figure 20:
Panoramic view from the ferry showing WDA and Iona Abbey.

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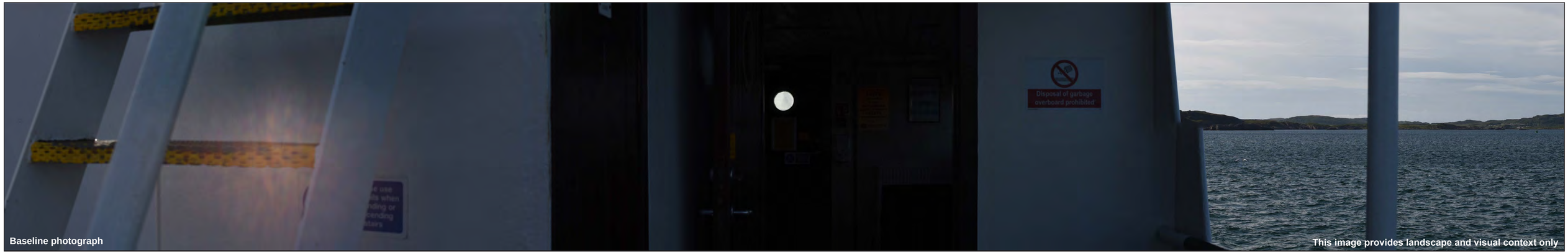
NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION

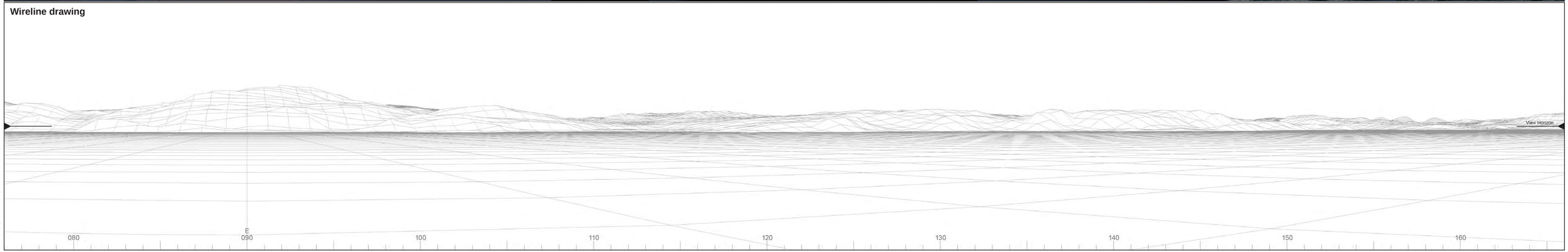
Haskoning Enhancing Society Together
ScottishPower Renewables



Baseline photograph

This image provides landscape and visual context only

Wireline drawing



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LUC

OS reference:	128895E 723950N			Camera:	NIKON D750	Photography Date:	15/072025		
AOD:	4.5 m	Principal distance:	90° (cylindrical projection)	Lens:	50mm Fixed Focal Length	Photography Time:	08:52		
Direction of view:	121°	Paper size:	522 mm	Camera height:	1.5 m				
Nearest turbine:	24.39 km	Correct printed image size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)						
			820 x 260 mm						

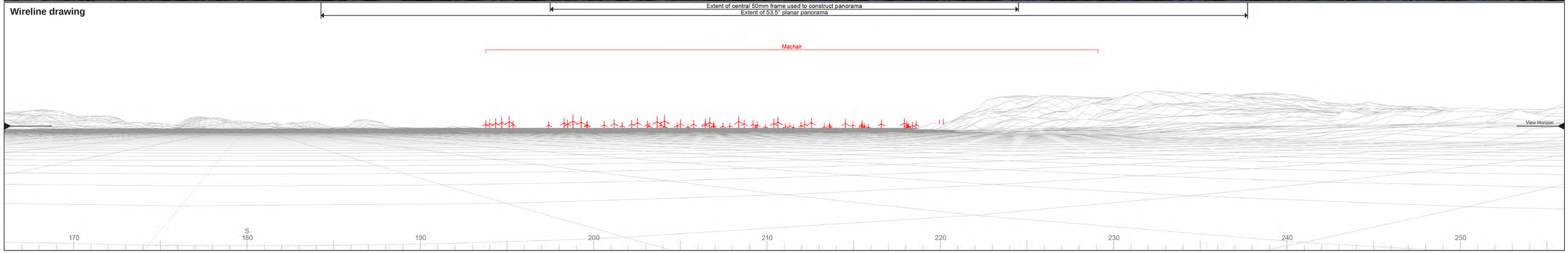
Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 20a

Viewpoint CH17: Panoramic view from the ferry showing WDA and Iona Abbey



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AOD:	4.5 m	Principal distance:	522 mm	Lens:	50mm Fixed Focal Length	Photography Time:	08:52
Direction of view:	211°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)	Camera height:	1.5 m		
Nearest turbine:	24.39 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm				

Notes:

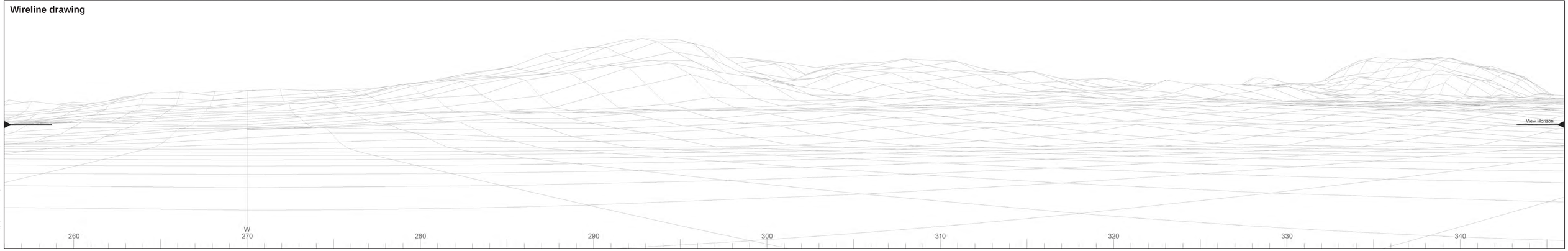
The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 20b

Viewpoint CH17: Panoramic view from the ferry showing WDA and Iona Abbey

Wireline drawing



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LUC

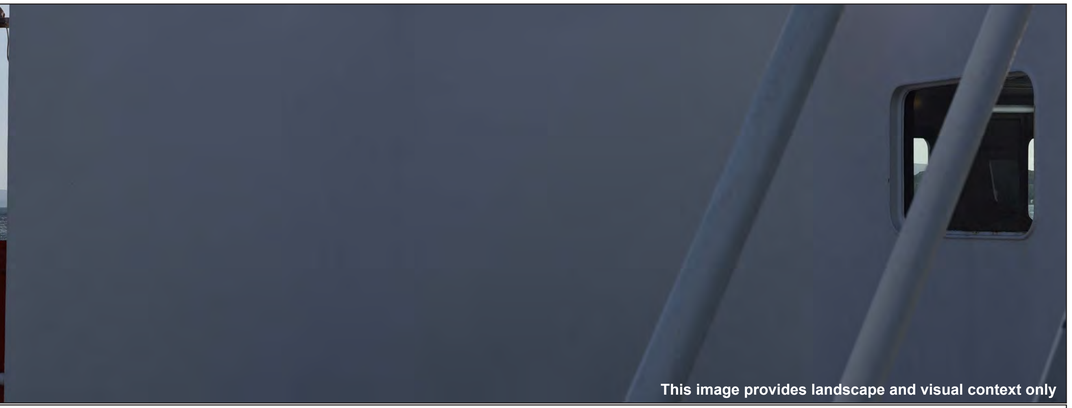
OS reference:	128895E 723950N		90° (cylindrical projection)	Camera:	NIKON D750	Photography Date:	15/072025
AOD:	4.5 m	Principal distance:	522 mm	Lens:	50mm Fixed Focal Length	Photography Time:	08:52
Direction of view:	301°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)	Camera height:	1.5 m		
Nearest turbine:	24.39 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm				

Notes:

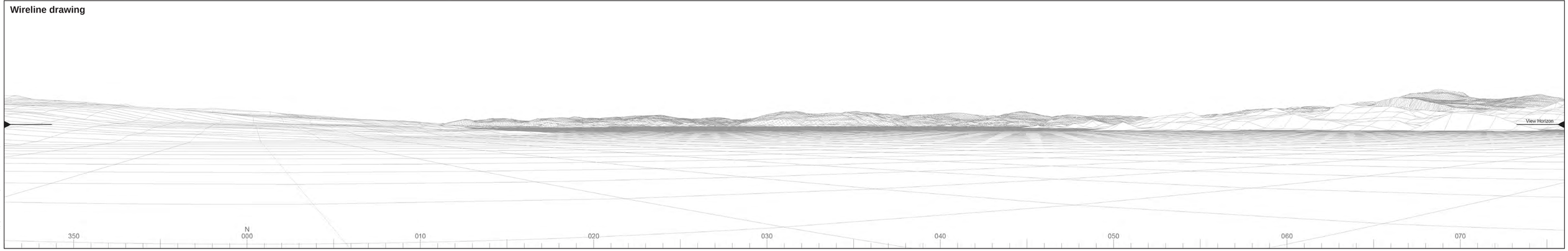
The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 20c
Viewpoint CH17: Panoramic view from the ferry showing WDA and Iona Abbey



Wireline drawing



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LUC

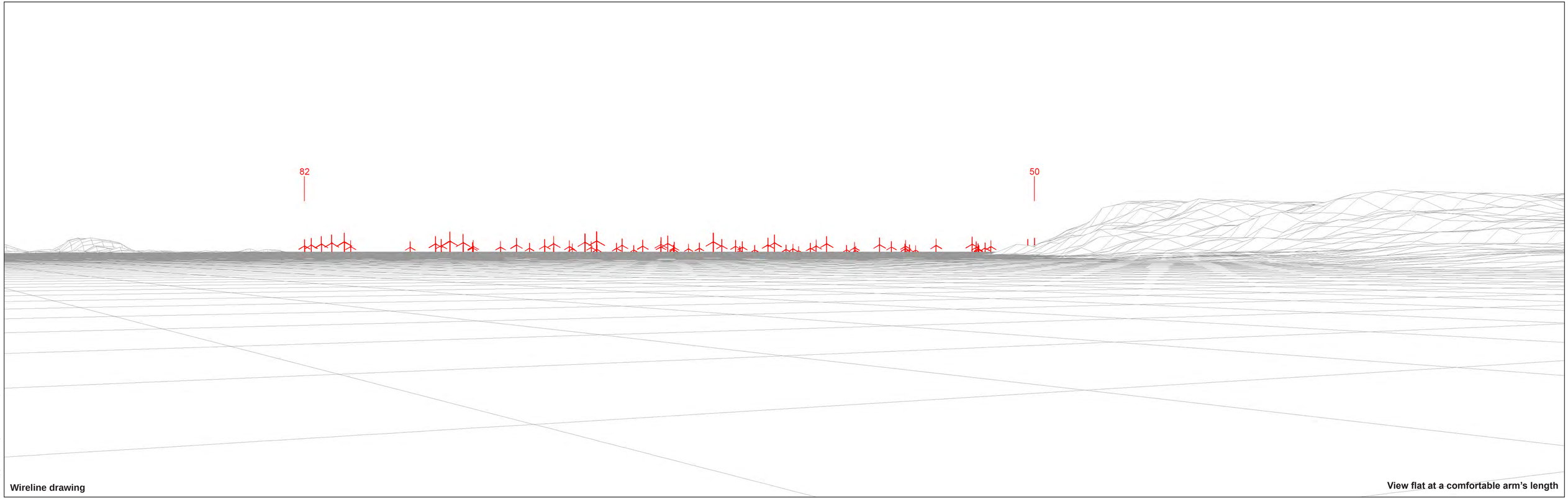
OS reference:	128895E 723950N		90° (cylindrical projection)	Camera:	NIKON D750	Photography Date:	15/072025
AOD:	4.5 m	Principal distance:	522 mm	Lens:	50mm Fixed Focal Length	Photography Time:	08:52
Direction of view:	31°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)	Camera height:	1.5 m		
Nearest turbine:	24.39 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm				

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 20d
Viewpoint CH17: Panoramic view from the ferry showing WDA and Iona Abbey



Wireline drawing

View flat at a comfortable arm's length

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OS reference:	128895E 723950N	Principal distance:	53.5° (planar projection)
AOD:	4.5 m	Paper size:	812.5 mm
Direction of view:	211°	Correct printed image size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	24.4 km		820 x 260 mm

Wind Farm Developments key (by status):

- Proposed scheme
- Application
- Operational
- Scoping
- Under construction
- Appeal/PLI
- Consented

Notes:
1) Only added in if required.
2) Added in by switching on layer in InDesign
3) Cannot be automated by spreadsheet

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 20e

Viewpoint CH17: Panoramic view from the ferry showing WDA and Iona Abbey

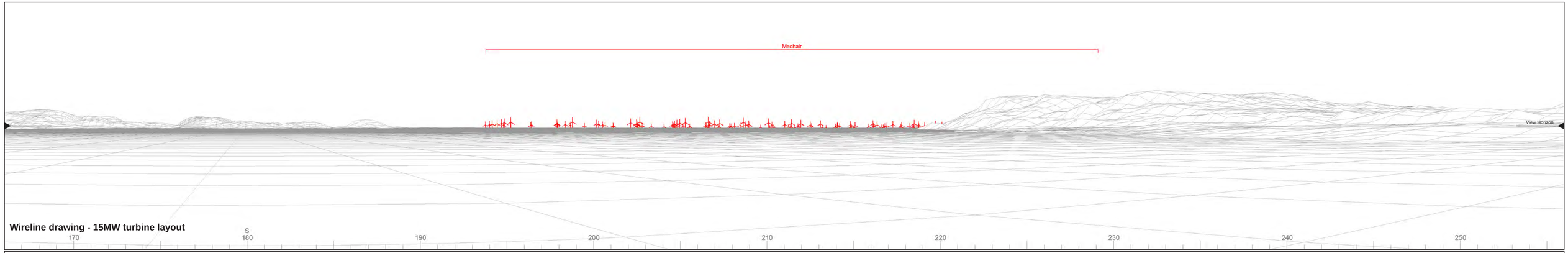
OS reference:	128895E 723950N	Principal distance:	53.5° (planar projection)	Camera:	NIKON D750	Photography Date:	15/072025
AOD:	4.5 m	Paper size:	812.5 mm	Lens:	50mm Fixed Focal Length	Photography Time:	08:52
Direction of view:	211°	Correct printed image size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)	Camera height:	1.5 m		
Nearest turbine:	24.4 km		820 x 260 mm				

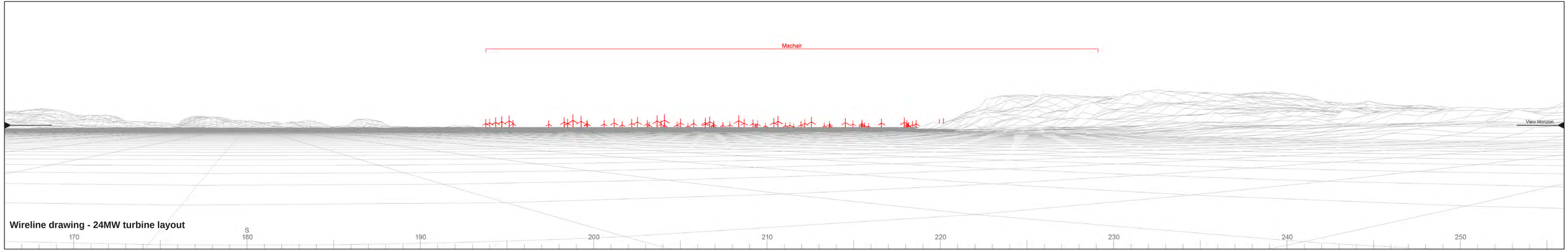
Notes:
1) Only added in if required.
2) Added in by switching on layer in InDesign
3) Cannot be automated by spreadsheet

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 20f

Viewpoint CH17: Panoramic view from the ferry showing WDA and Iona Abbey





LUC

OS reference:	128895E 723950N		53.5° (planar projection)
AOD:	4.5 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm
Direction of view:	211°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	24.4 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

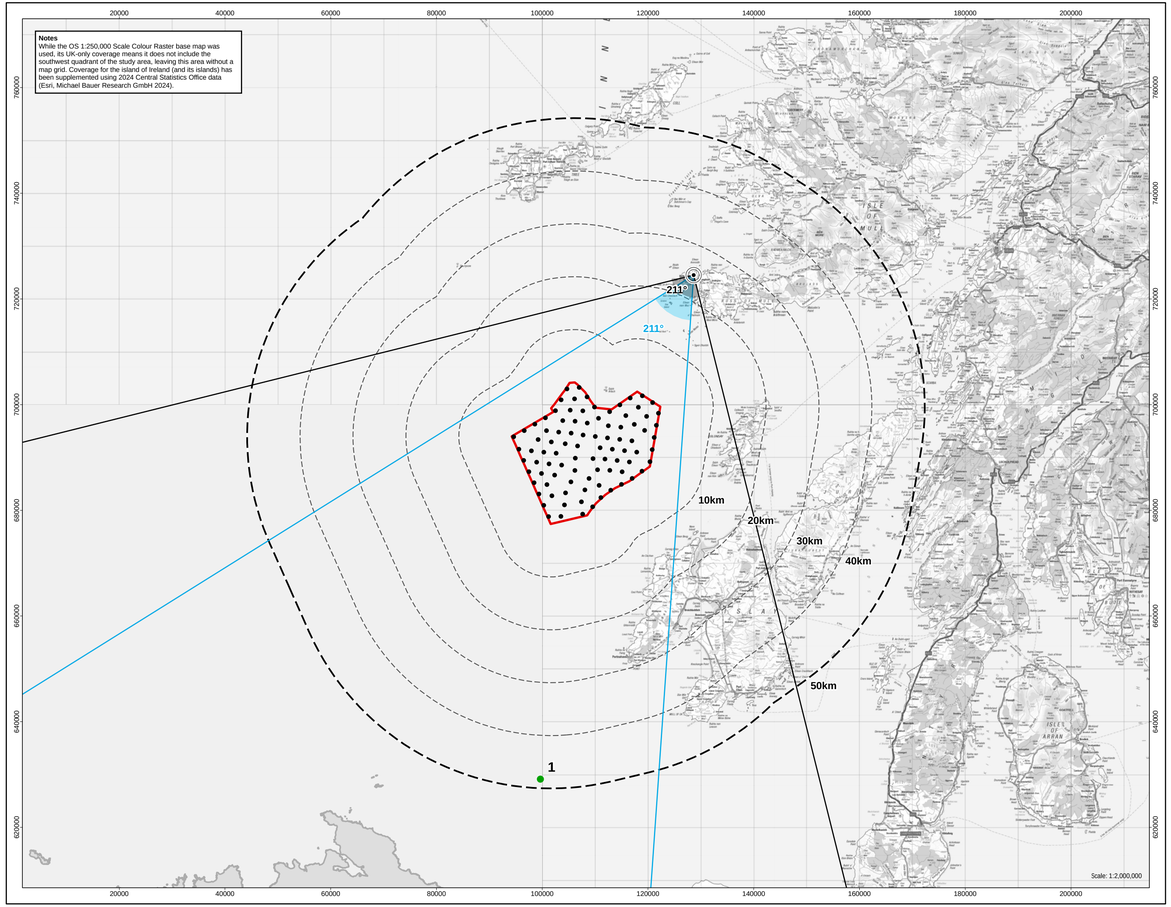
Notes:

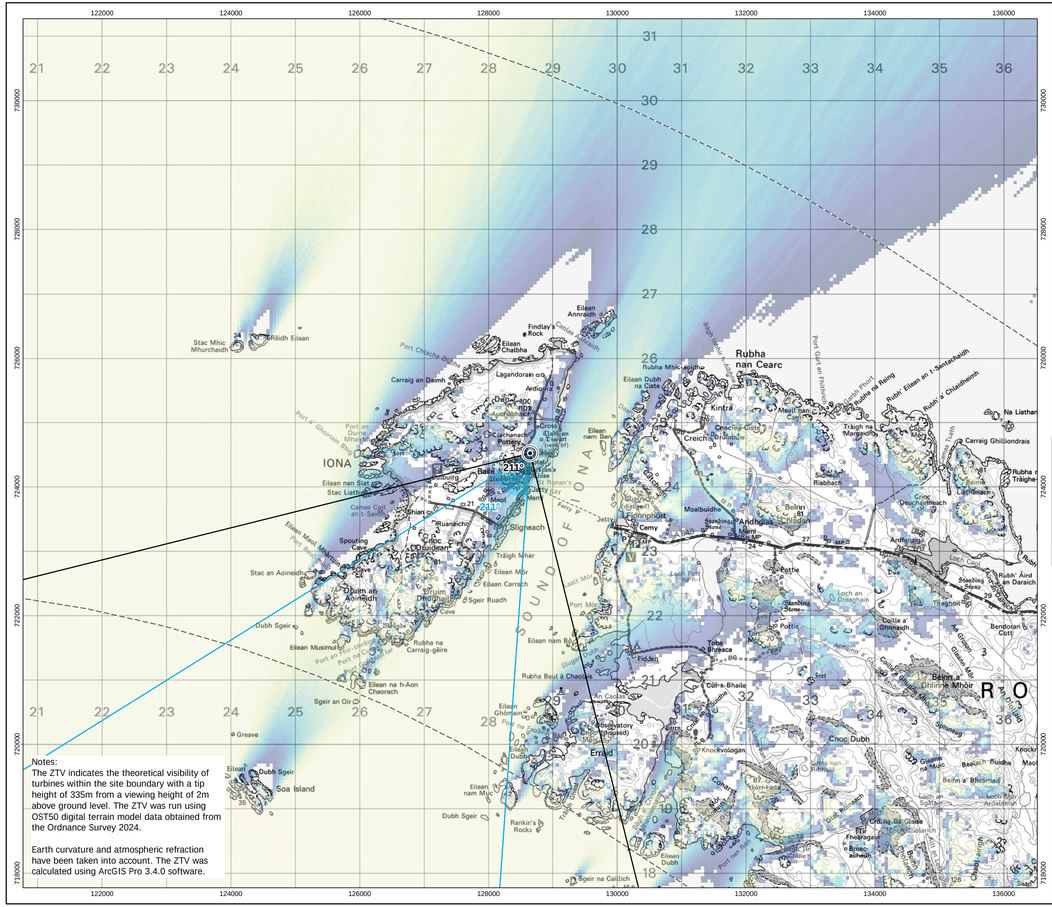
The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 20g

Viewpoint CH17: Panoramic view from the ferry showing WDA and Iona Abbey





Windfarm development area
Indicative 24MW turbine layout
10km interval from windfarm development area
50km study area

Zone of Theoretical Visibility
More turbines visible
Less turbines visible

Wind Farm Status
Design/Scoping
1. Malin Sea Wind

V 90° Field of View
V 53° Field of View

N

0 2 Kilometres

REV	REV DATE	GIS CREATOR	GIS REVIEWER	TECHNICAL CHECKER	TECHNICAL APPROVER
1	27/05/2026	DS	TH	LC	PM

DRAWING NUMBER	MCW-DWF-ENV-MAP-RHS-000218
DATUM	OSGB36 (EPSG:27700)
PROJECTION	Transverse Mercator
SCALE	1:50,000
PAGE SIZE	A3
PROJECT TITLE	MachairWind

Figure 21:
Entrance to St Columbas Shrine.

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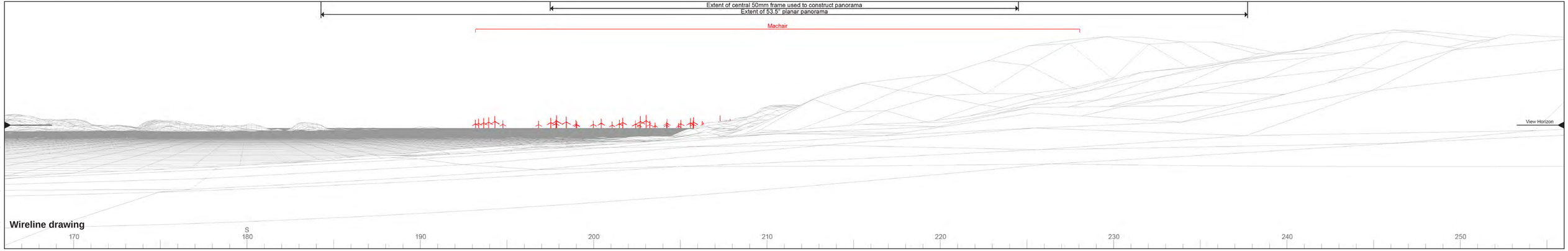

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LUC

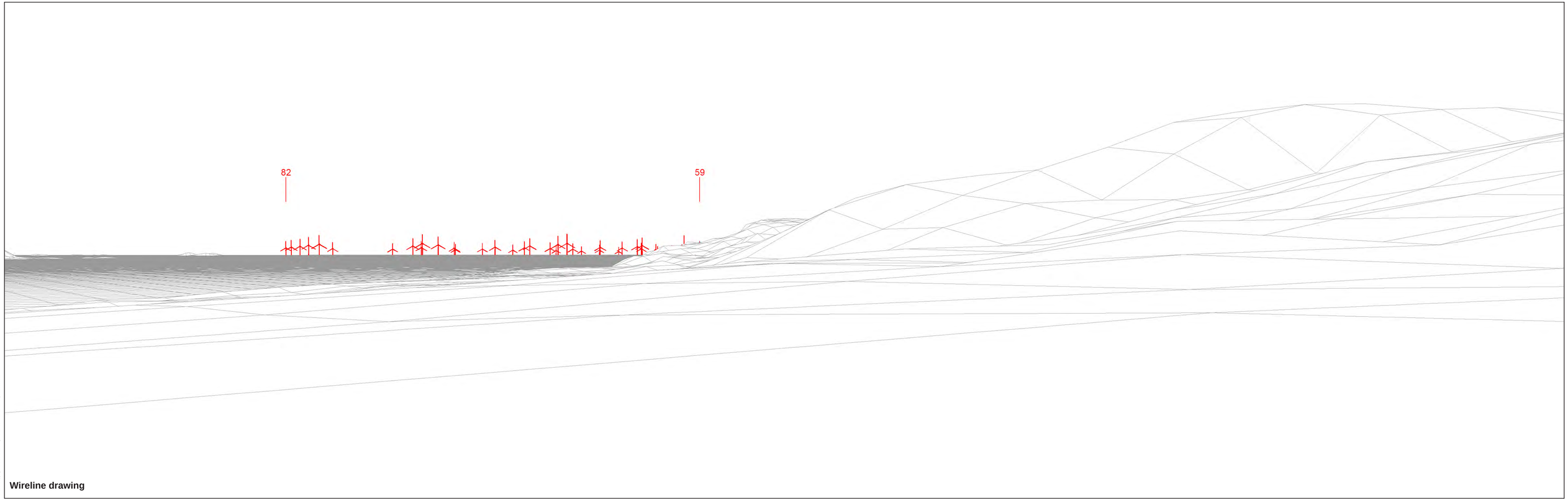
OS reference:	128646E 724520N	Principal distance:	90° (cylindrical projection)	Camera:	NIKON D750	Photography Date:	05/05/2026
Above Ordnance Datum:	20.24 m	Paper size:	522 mm	Lens:	50mm Fixed Focal Length	Photography Time:	9:24
Direction of view:	211°	Correct printed image size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)	Camera height:	1.5 m		
Nearest turbine:	24.83 km		820 x 260 mm				

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 21a
Viewpoint CH18: Entrance to St Columbas Shrine



Wireline drawing

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OS reference:	128646E 724520N		53.5° (planar projection)
Above Ordnance Datum:	20.24 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm
Direction of view:	211°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	24.83 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 21b
Viewpoint CH18: Entrance to St Columbas Shrine

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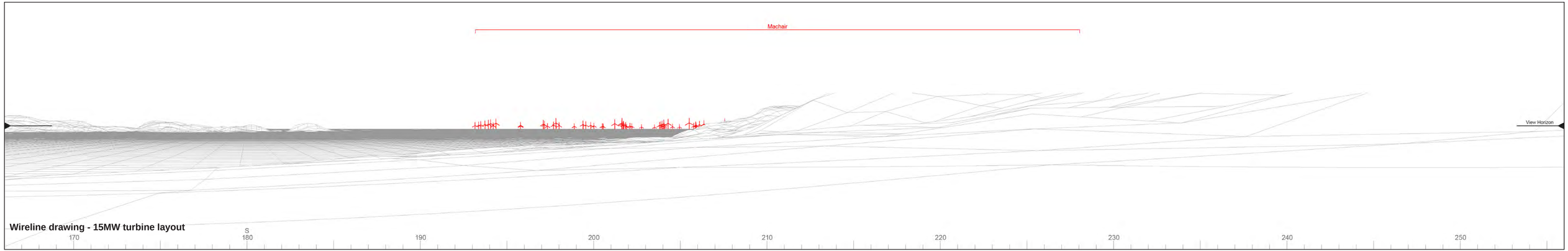
OS reference:	128646E 724520N	Principal distance:	53.5° (planar projection)	Camera:	NIKON D750	Photography Date:	05/05/2026
Above Ordnance Datum:	20.24 m	Paper size:	812.5 mm	Lens:	50mm Fixed Focal Length	Photography Time:	9:24
Direction of view:	211°	Correct printed image size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)	Camera height:	1.5 m		
Nearest turbine:	24.83 km		820 x 260 mm				

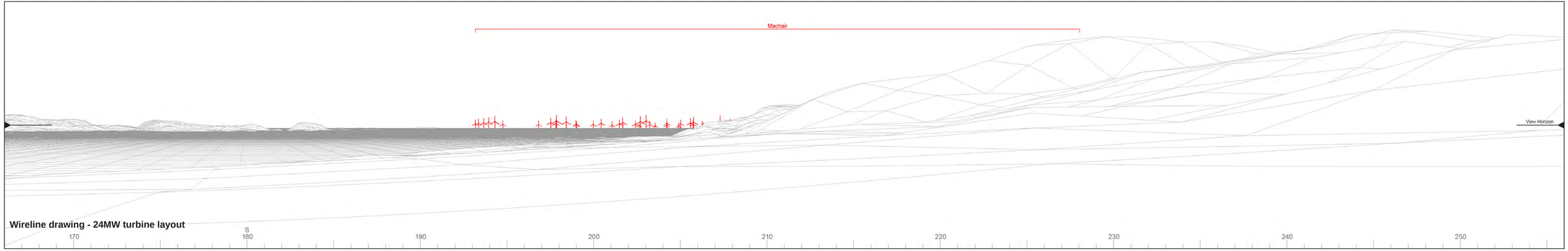
Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 21c
Viewpoint CH18: Entrance to St Columbas Shrine





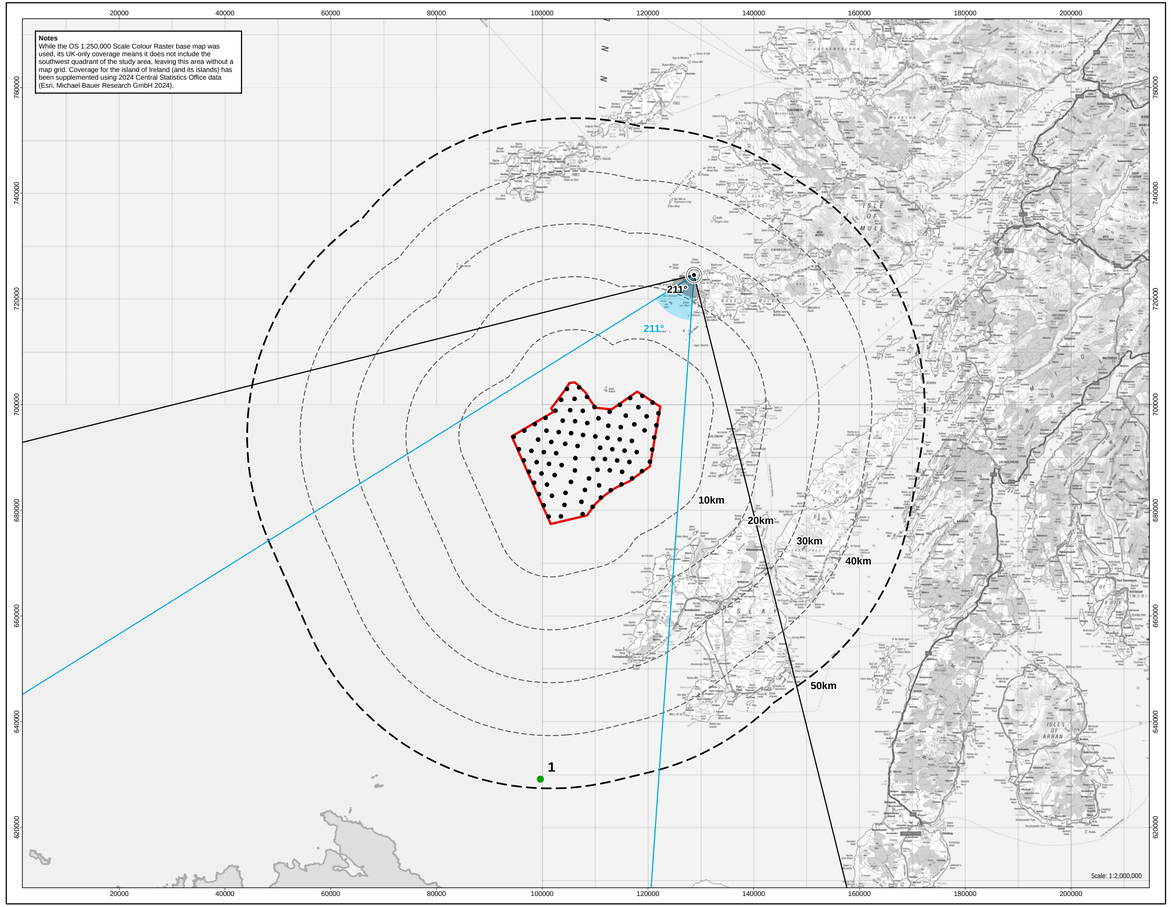
OS reference:	128646E 724520N		53.5° (planar projection)
Above Ordnance Datum:	20.24 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm
Direction of view:	211°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	24.83 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

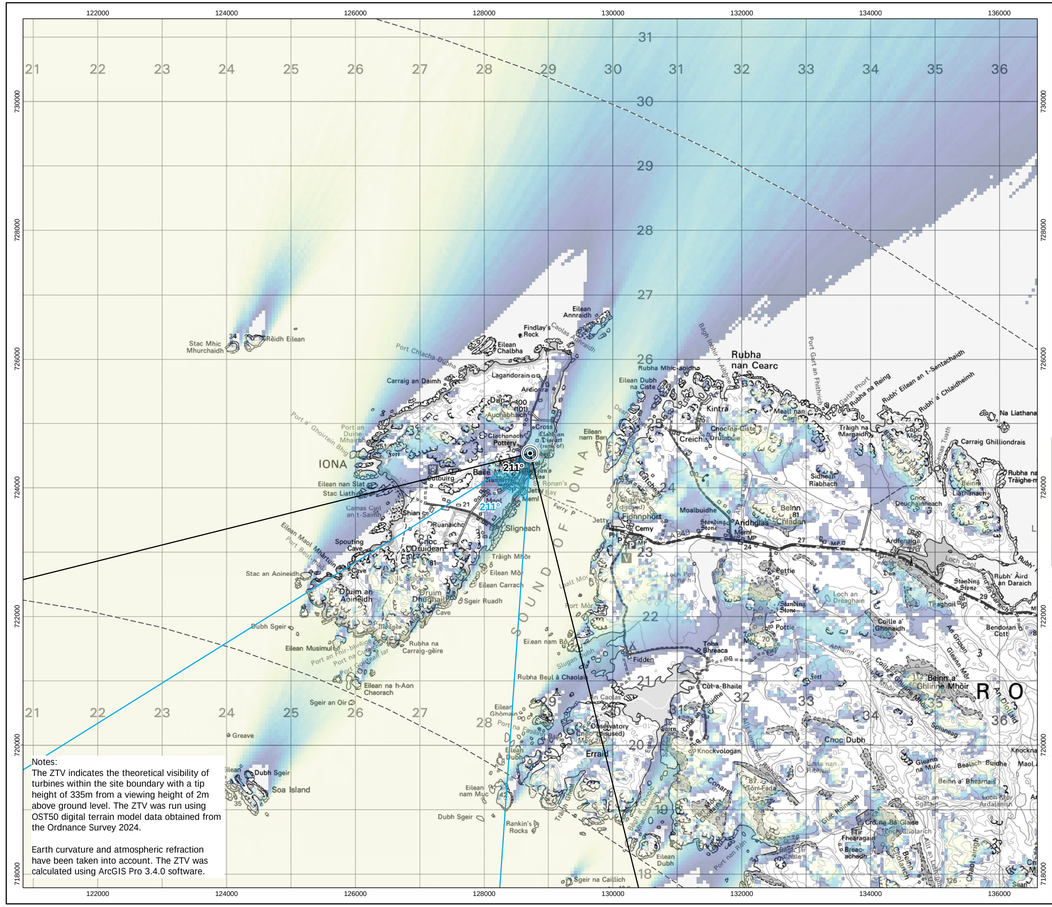
Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 21d
Viewpoint CH18: Entrance to St Columbas Shrine





Windfarm development area
Indicative 24MW turbine layout
10km interval from windfarm development area
50km study area

Zone of Theoretical Visibility
More turbines visible
Less turbines visible

Wind Farm Status
Design/Scoping
1. Malin Sea Wind

V 90° Field of View
V 53° Field of View

N

0 2 Kilometres

REV	REV DATE	GIS CREATOR	GIS REVIEWER	TECHNICAL CHECKER	TECHNICAL APPROVER
1	27/05/2026	DS	TH	LC	PM

DRAWING NUMBER	MCW-DWF-ENV-MAP-RHS-000219
DATUM	OSGB36 (EPSG:27700)
PROJECTION	Transverse Mercator
SCALE	1:50,000
PAGE SIZE	A3
PROJECT TITLE	MachairWind

Figure 22:
East of Iona Abbey.

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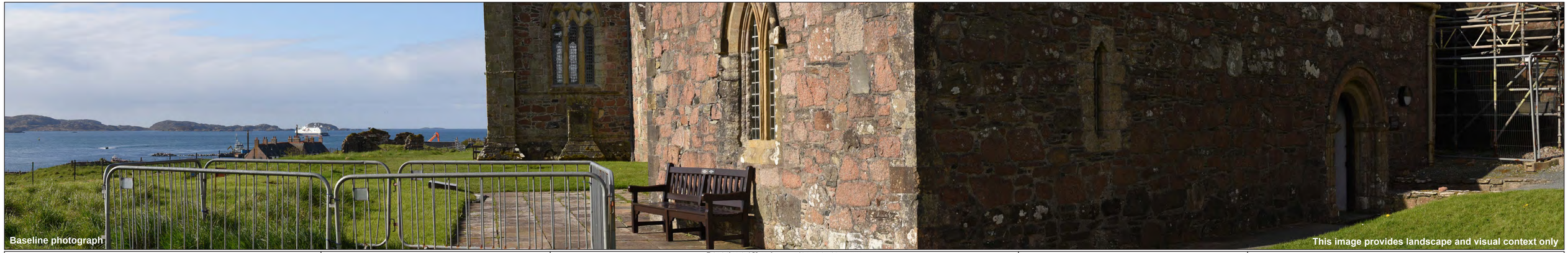

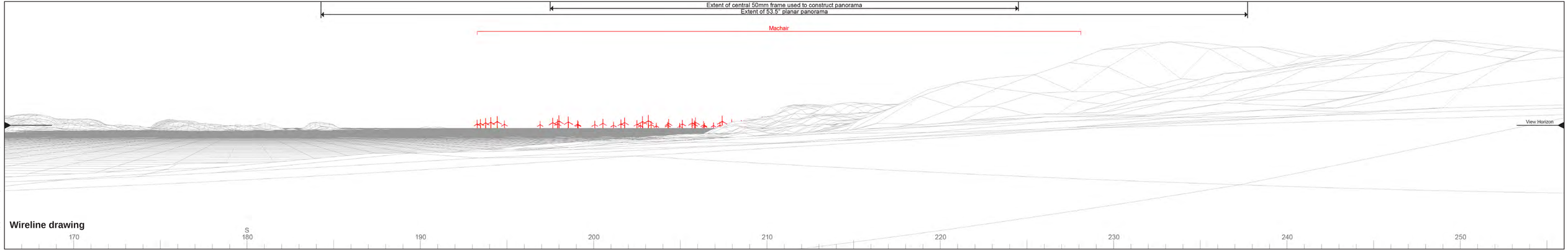

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LUC

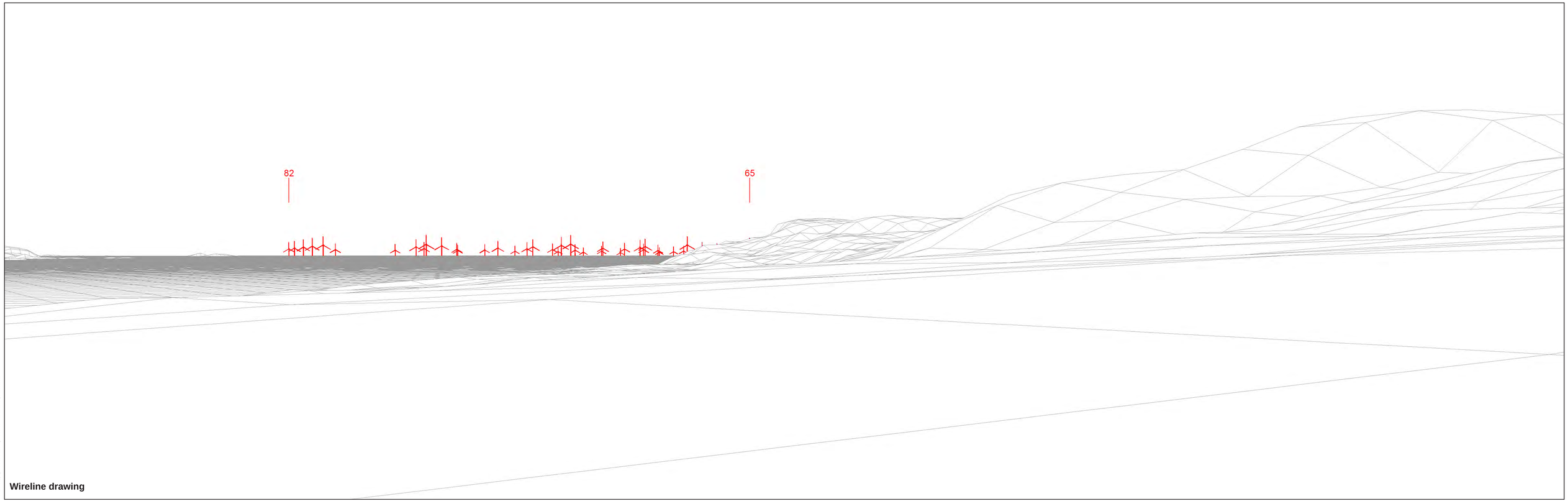
OS reference:	128714E 724534N	Principal distance:	90° (cylindrical projection)	Camera:	NIKON D750	Photography Date:	05/05/2026
Above Ordnance Datum:	17.39 m	Paper size:	522 mm	Lens:	50mm Fixed Focal Length	Photography Time:	8:56
Direction of view:	211°	Correct printed image size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)	Camera height:	1.5 m		
Nearest turbine:	24.87 km		820 x 260 mm				

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 22a
Viewpoint CH19: East of Iona Abbey



Wireline drawing

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OS reference:	128714E 724534N		53.5° (planar projection)
Above Ordnance Datum:	17.39 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm
Direction of view:	211°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	24.87 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 22b
Viewpoint CH19: East of Iona Abbey

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OS reference:	128714E 724534N	Principal distance:	53.5° (planar projection)	Camera:	NIKON D750	Photography Date:	05/05/2026
Above Ordnance Datum:	17.39 m	Paper size:	812.5 mm	Lens:	50mm Fixed Focal Length	Photography Time:	8:56
Direction of view:	211°	Correct printed image size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)	Camera height:	1.5 m		
Nearest turbine:	24.87 km		820 x 260 mm				

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 22c
Viewpoint CH19: East of Iona Abbey

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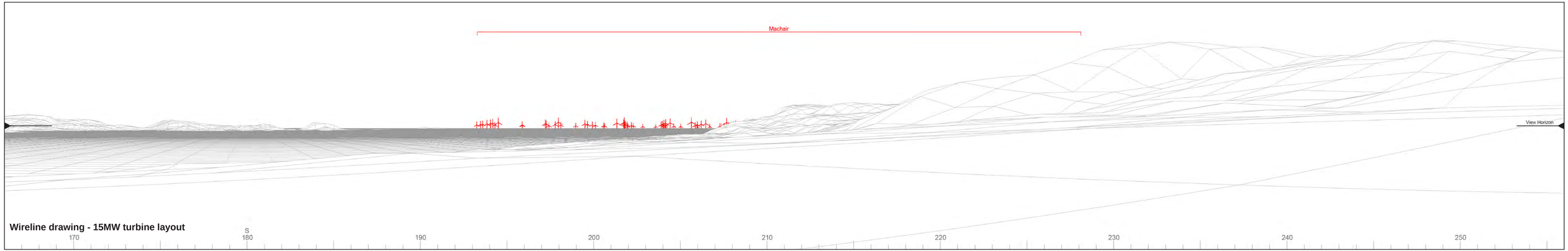
OS reference:	128714E 724534N	Principal distance:	53.5° (planar projection)	Camera:	NIKON D750	Photography Date:	05/05/2026
Above Ordnance Datum:	17.39 m	Paper size:	812.5 mm	Lens:	50mm Fixed Focal Length	Photography Time:	8:56
Direction of view:	211°	Correct printed image size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)	Camera height:	1.5 m		
Nearest turbine:	24.87 km		820 x 260 mm				

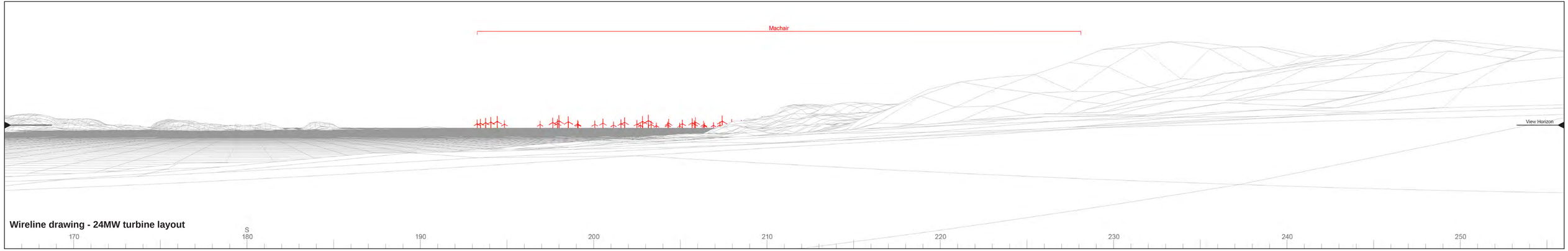
Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.
The turbines in red represent those will be obscured by Iona Abbey.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 22d
Viewpoint CH19: East of Iona Abbey





LUC

OS reference:	128714E 724534N		90° (cylindrical projection)
Above Ordnance Datum:	17.39 m	Principal distance:	522 mm
Direction of view:	211°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	24.87 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

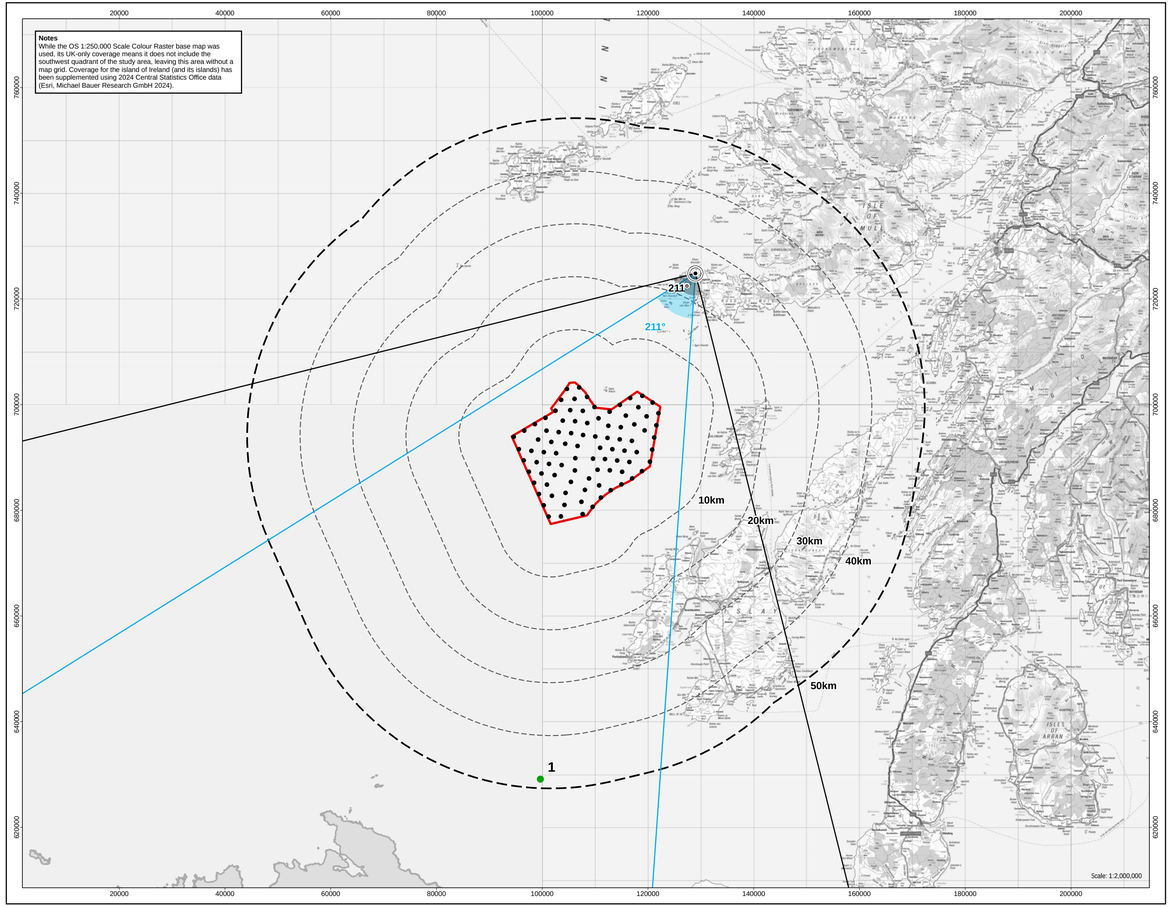
Notes:

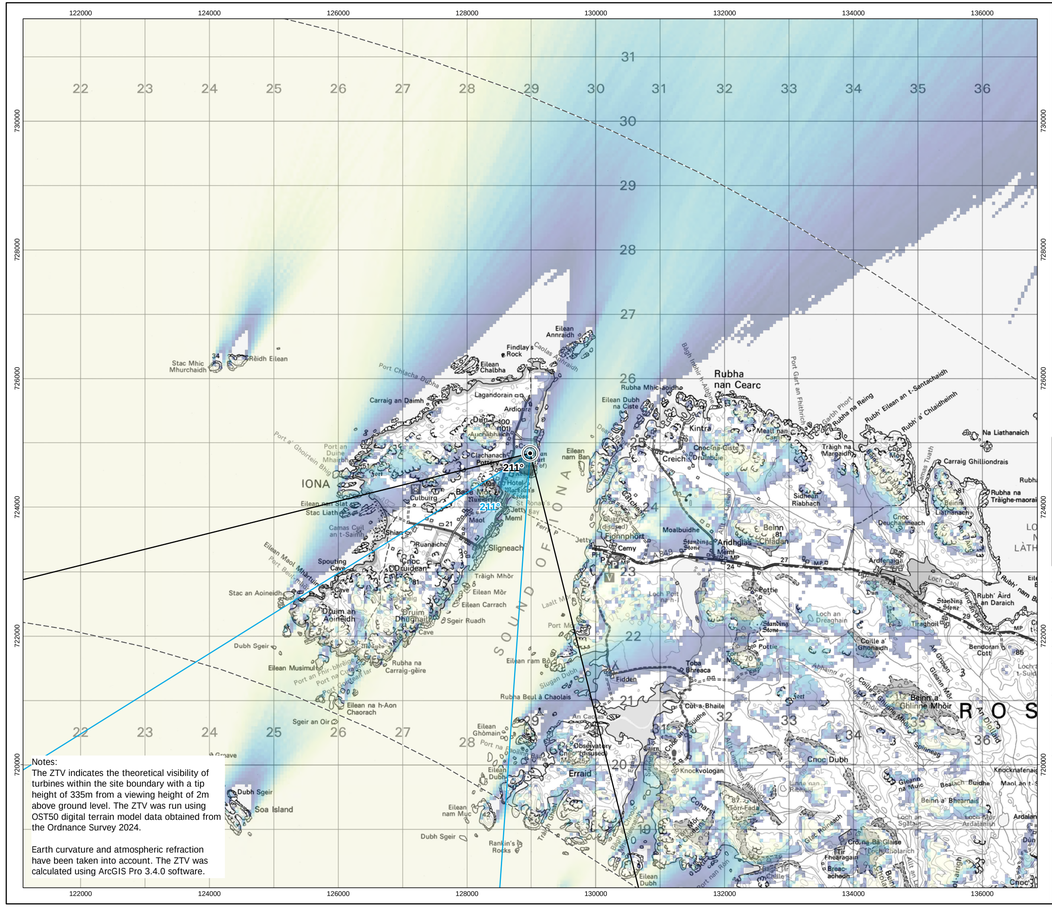
The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 22e

Viewpoint CH19: East of Iona Abbey





Windfarm development area
Indicative 24MW turbine layout
10km interval from windfarm development area
50km study area

Zone of Theoretical Visibility
More turbines visible
Less turbines visible

Wind Farm Status
Design/Scoping
1. Malin Sea Wind

V 90° Field of View
V 53° Field of View

N

0 2 Kilometres

REV	REV DATE	GIS CREATOR	GIS REVIEWER	TECHNICAL CHECKER	TECHNICAL APPROVER
1	27/05/2026	DS	TH	LC	PM

DRAWING NUMBER	MCW-DWF-ENV-MAP-RHS-000220
DATUM	OSGB36 (EPSG:27700)
PROJECTION	Transverse Mercator
SCALE	1:50,000
PAGE SIZE	A3
PROJECT TITLE	MachairWind

Figure 23:
Cladh an Diseart.

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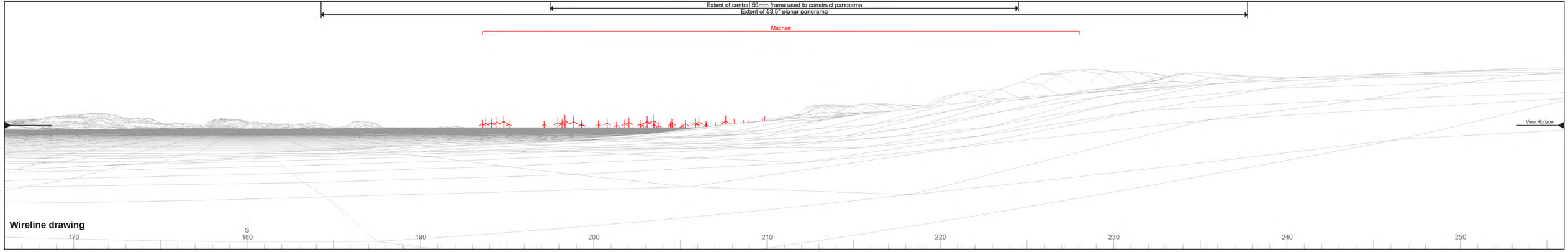

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LUC

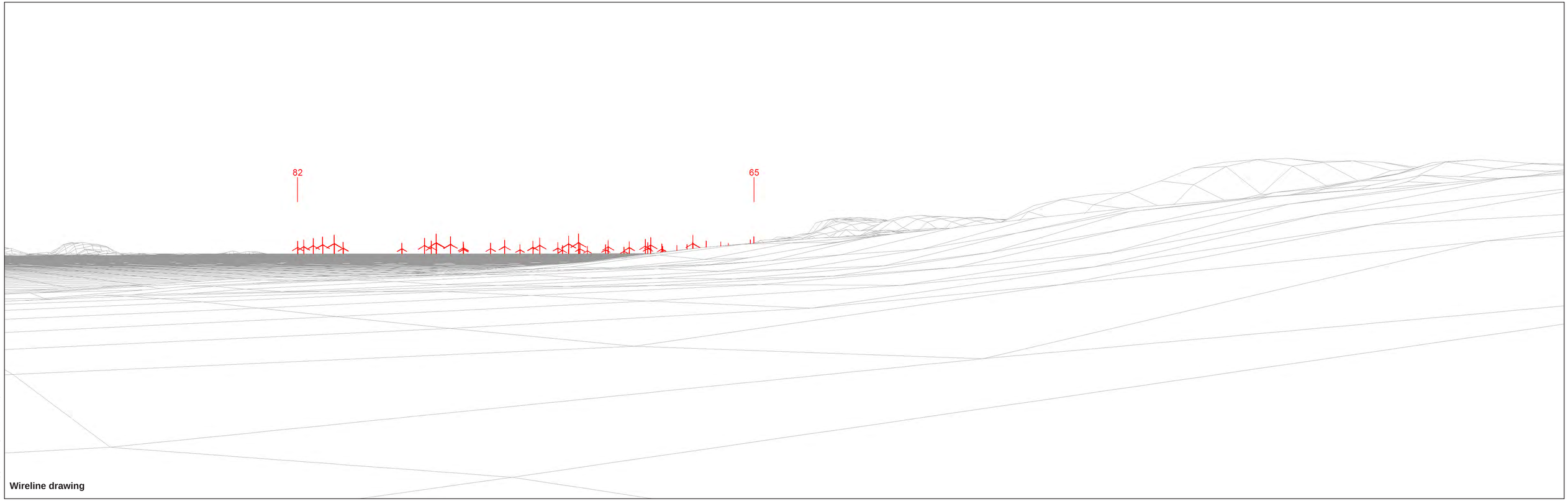
OS reference:	128980E 724838N	Principal distance:	90° (cylindrical projection)	Camera:	NIKON D750	Photography Date:	05/05/2026
Above Ordnance Datum:	9.41 m	Paper size:	522 mm	Lens:	50mm Fixed Focal Length	Photography Time:	7:22
Direction of view:	211°	Correct printed image size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)	Camera height:	1.5 m		
Nearest turbine:	25.25 km		820 x 260 mm				

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 23a
Viewpoint CH20: Cladh an Diseart



Wireline drawing

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LUC

OS reference:	128980E 724838N		53.5° (planar projection)
Above Ordnance Datum:	9.41 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm
Direction of view:	211°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	25.25 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 23b
Viewpoint CH20: Cladh an Diseart

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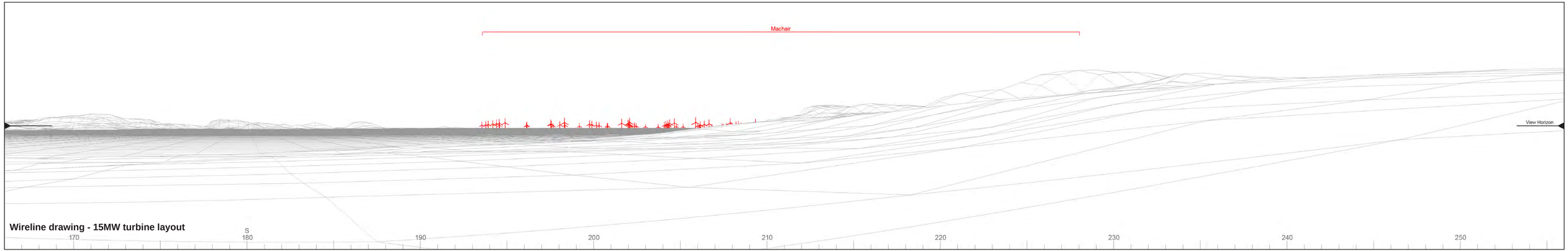
OS reference:	128980E 724838N	Principal distance:	53.5° (planar projection)	Camera:	NIKON D750	Photography Date:	05/05/2026
Above Ordnance Datum:	9.41 m	Paper size:	812.5 mm	Lens:	50mm Fixed Focal Length	Photography Time:	7:22
Direction of view:	211°	Correct printed image size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)	Camera height:	1.5 m		
Nearest turbine:	25.25 km		820 x 260 mm				

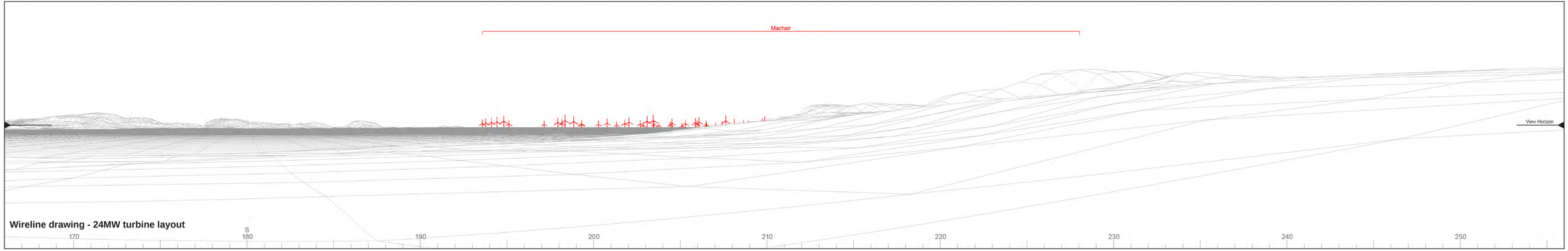
Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 23c
Viewpoint CH20: Cladh an Diseart





LUC

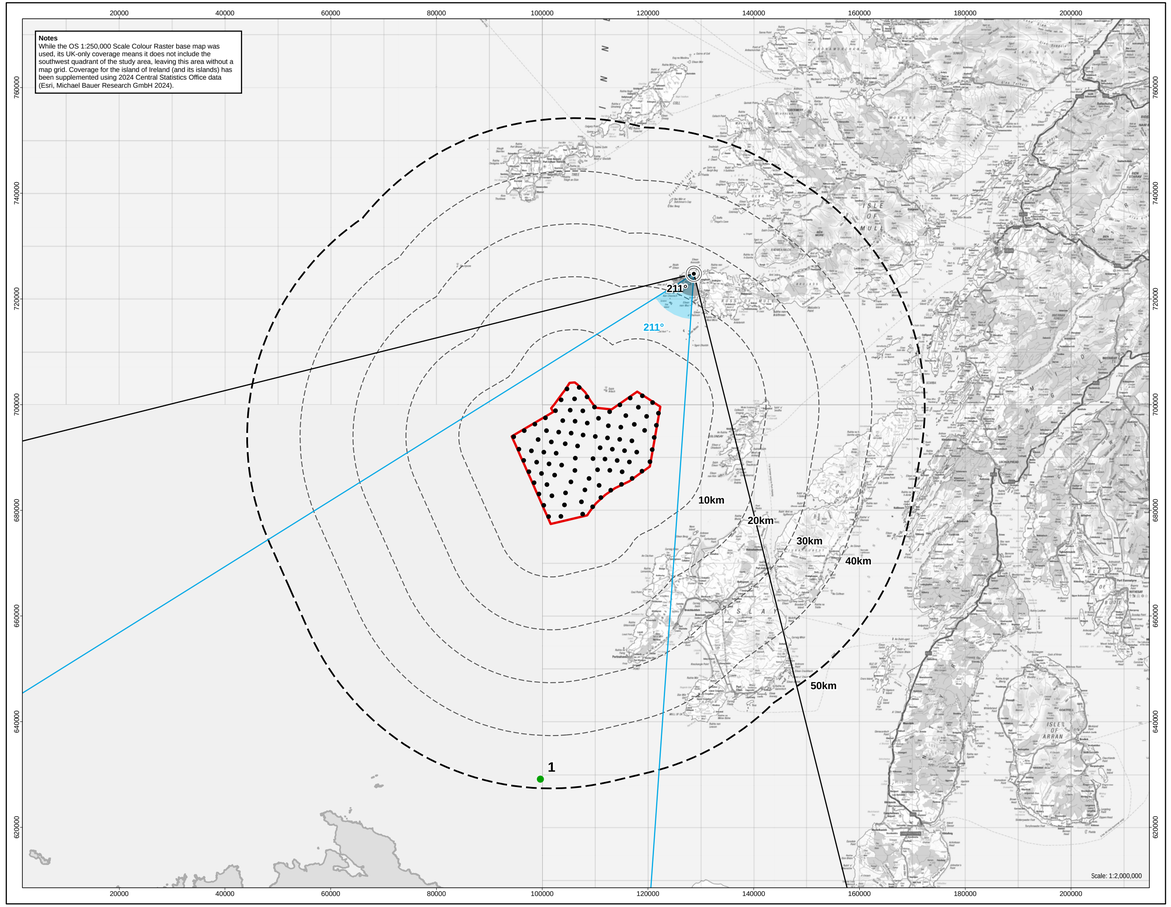
OS reference:	128980E 724838N		53.5° (planar projection)
Above Ordnance Datum:	9.41 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm
Direction of view:	211°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	25.25 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

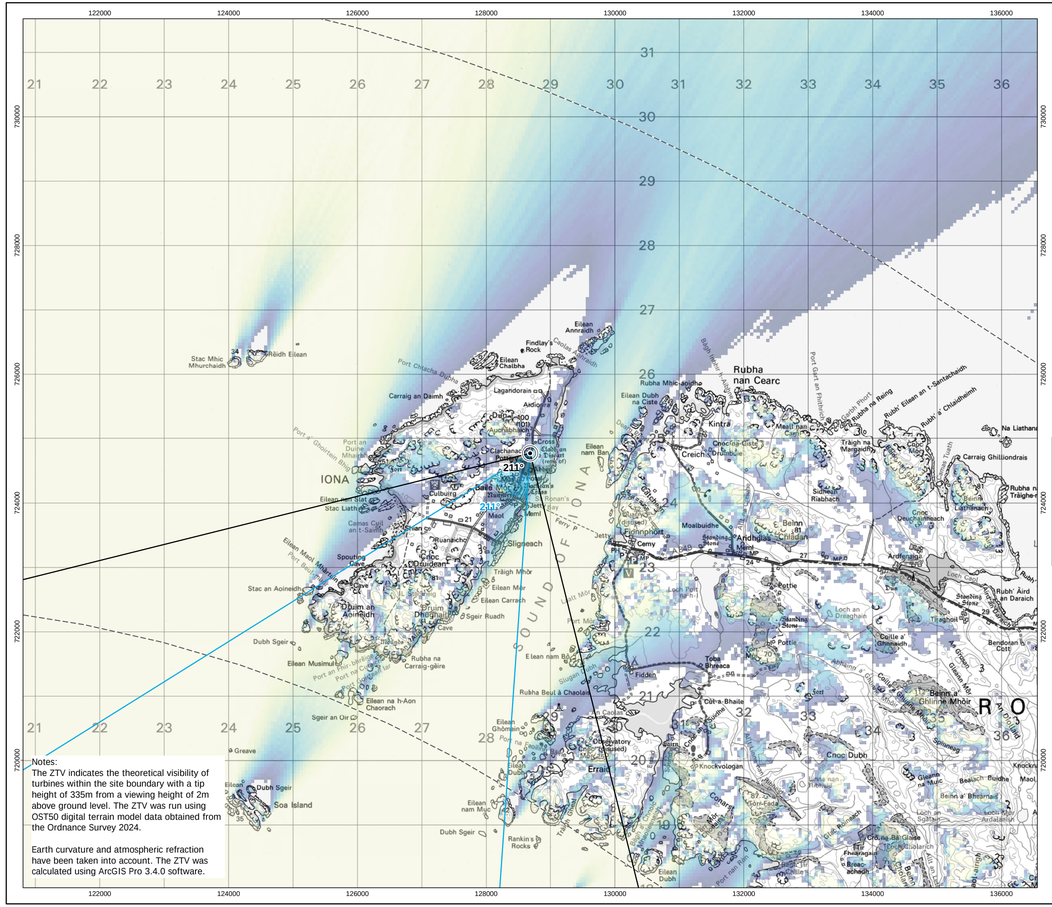
Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 23d
Viewpoint CH20: Cladh an Diseart





Windfarm development area
Indicative 24MW turbine layout
10km interval from windfarm development area
50km study area

Zone of Theoretical Visibility
More turbines visible
Less turbines visible

Wind Farm Status
Design/Scoping
1. Malin Sea Wind

V 90° Field of View
V 53° Field of View

N

0 2 Kilometres

REV	REV DATE	GIS CREATOR	GIS REVIEWER	TECHNICAL CHECKER	TECHNICAL APPROVER
1	27/05/2026	DS	TH	LC	PM

DRAWING NUMBER	MCW-DWF-ENV-MAP-RHS-000221
DATUM OSGB36 (EPSG:27700)	PROJECTION Transverse Mercator
SCALE 1:50,000	PAGE SIZE A3
PROJECT TITLE	MachairWind

Figure 24:
Access track to Grianan.

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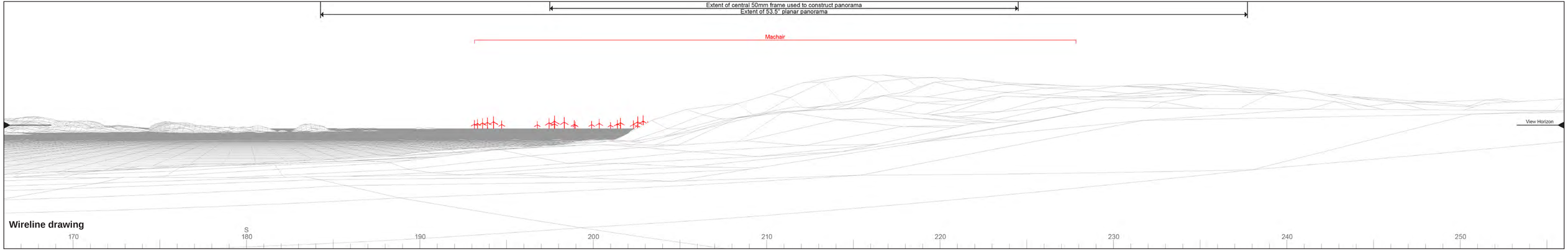
NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION

Haskoning Enhancing Society Together
ScottishPower Renewables



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LUC

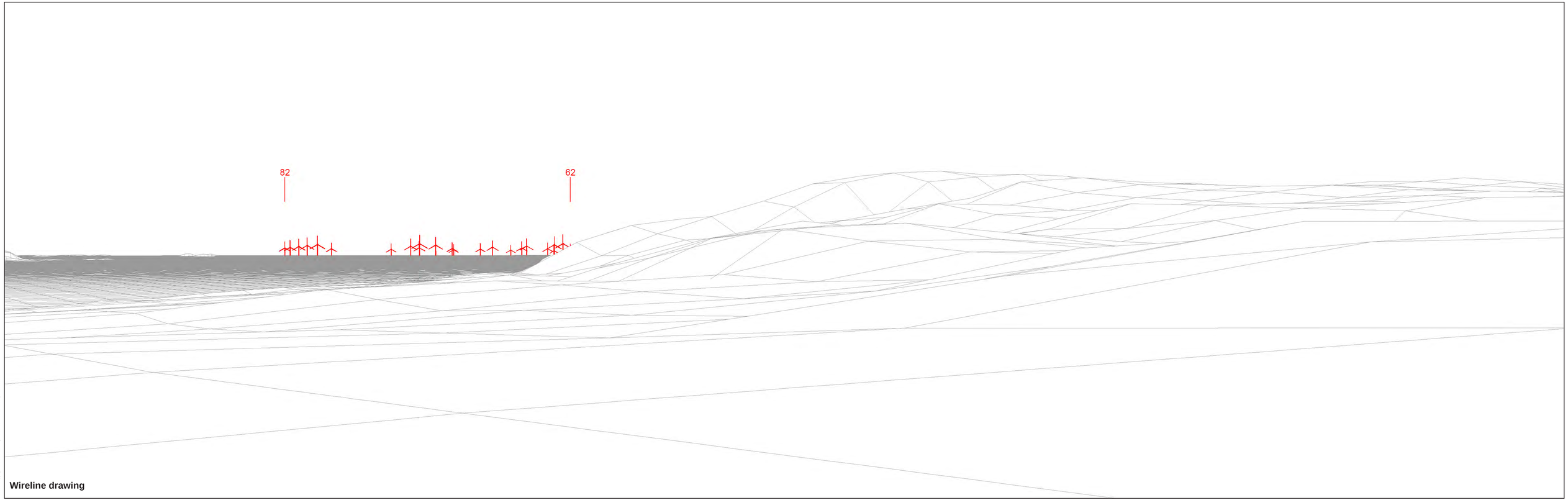
OS reference:	128682E 724770N		90° (cylindrical projection)	Camera:	NIKON D750	Photography Date:	05/05/2026
Above Ordnance Datum:	27.67 m	Principal distance:	522 mm	Lens:	50mm Fixed Focal Length	Photography Time:	10:34
Direction of view:	211°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)	Camera height:	1.5 m		
Nearest turbine:	25.07 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm				

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 24a
Viewpoint CH21: Access track to Grianan



Wireline drawing

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OS reference:	128682E 724770N		53.5° (planar projection)
Above Ordnance Datum:	27.67 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm
Direction of view:	211°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	25.07 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 24b
Viewpoint CH21: Access track to Grianan

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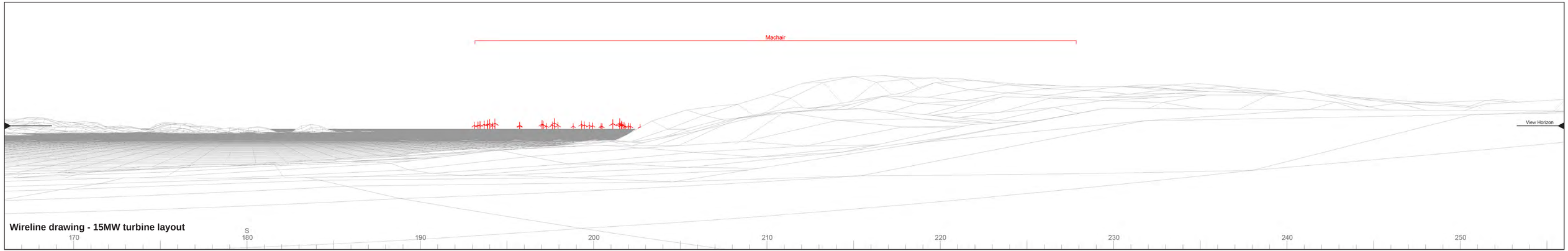
OS reference:	128682E 724770N	Principal distance:	53.5° (planar projection)	Camera:	NIKON D750	Photography Date:	05/05/2026
Above Ordnance Datum:	27.67 m	Paper size:	812.5 mm	Lens:	50mm Fixed Focal Length	Photography Time:	10:34
Direction of view:	211°	Correct printed image size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)	Camera height:	1.5 m		
Nearest turbine:	25.07 km		820 x 260 mm				

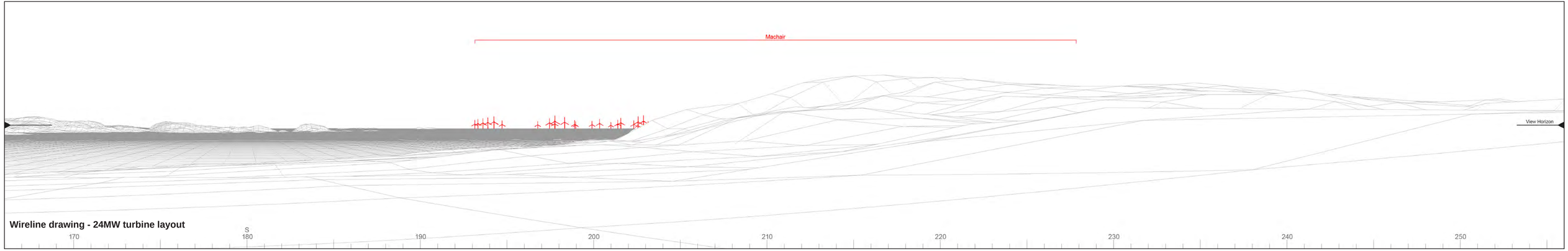
Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 24c
Viewpoint CH21: Access track to Grianan





LUC

OS reference:	128682E 724770N		53.5° (planar projection)
Above Ordnance Datum:	27.67 m	Principal distance:	812.5 mm
Direction of view:	211°	Paper size:	841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Nearest turbine:	25.07 km	Correct printed image size:	820 x 260 mm

Notes:

The project is using indicative turbine numbers and turbine heights, based on what is currently available on the market. However, it is likely that the market will evolve by the time MachairWind enters construction phase (anticipated late 2020s), therefore the indicative turbine numbers and heights may change based on the turbines available at that point in time.

MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

Figure 24d
Viewpoint CH21: Access track to Grianan

1.7 SUMMARY

383. A summary of the change to setting and the significance of effect for each SM assessed is presented in **Table 4** below.

Table 4 Summary of effect to scheduled monuments

Asset Name	ID	Magnitude of Impact	Significance of Effect
Oronsay Priory and Cross	SM287	**Low adverse**	**Moderate adverse** (significant)
Beinn a' Chaisteil, promontory fort and associated remains, Islay	SM13213	**Medium adverse**	**Major adverse** (significant)
Nave Island, monastic site, Viking house, chapel, burial ground, settlement and kelp-burning kiln	SM3233	**Negligible**	**Minor adverse** (not significant)
Dun Bheolain, fort, Islay	SM13214	**Medium adverse**	**Major adverse** (significant)
St Mary's Abbey, Iona, monastic settlement	SM12968	**Low adverse**	**Moderate adverse**(significant)
Iona Nunnery	SM90350	**Negligible**	**Minor adverse** (not significant)
St Patrick's Chapel, Ceann a' Mhara, Tiree	SM6905	**Negligible**	**Minor adverse** (not significant)
Eileach-an-Naoimh, monastery, Garvellachs	SM90138	**Negligible**	**Minor adverse** (not significant)
Dun Domhnuill Fort Oronsay	SM5140	**Negligible**	**Minor adverse** (not significant)
Eilean na Ba, fort, Rinn Thorbhais, Ceann a' Mhara, Tiree	SM6904	**Negligible**	**Minor adverse** (not significant)
Dun Uragaig Fort, Colonsay	SM5077	**Negligible**	**Minor adverse** (not significant)
Dun Gallain Fort, Colonsay	SM5969	**Negligible**	**Minor adverse** (not significant)
Tobar Fuar, dun 1100 m NW of Achrins, Colonsay	SM5970	**Negligible**	**Minor adverse** (not significant)
Dun nan Nighean, dun, Islay	SM13215	**Negligible**	**Minor adverse** (not significant)
Dun Chroisprig, dun, Islay	SM13306	**Negligible**	**Minor adverse** (not significant)
Moy Castle	SM5139	**Negligible**	**Minor adverse** (not significant)
Shiaba, deserted township, Mull	SM5634	**Negligible**	**Minor adverse** (not significant)
Kilchoman Church, Cill Chomain Cross & tombstones	SM2337	**No change**	**No change**
Dun Haunn, fort 300 m S of, Treshnish, Mull	SM10582	**No change**	**No change**
Beinn Duill, structures and field system 550 m SSE of, Treshnish, Mull	SM10584	**No change**	**No change**
Crackaig, chapel and burial ground 370 m S of, Treshnish, Mull	SM10576	**No change**	**No change**
Crackaig and Glac Gugairidh, depopulated settlements, Mull	SM10577	**No change**	**No change**
Dun Cul Bhuirg, fort 770 m NW of Culbuirg, Iona	SM7761	**No change**	**No change**

Asset Name	ID	Magnitude of Impact	Significance of Effect
Cladh Sorobaidh, burial ground, site of church and two crosses, Tiree	SM271	**No change**	**No change**
Dun Mor a' Chaolais, broch and cup-marked rock, Millton, Tiree	SM906	**No change**	**No change**

384. A summary of the change to setting and the significance of effect for each LB assessed is presented in **Table 5** below.

Table 5 Summary of effect to listed buildings

Asset Name	ID	Magnitude of Impact	Significance of Effect
Iona Abbey	LB12310	**Low adverse**	**Moderate adverse** (significant)
Replica of St John's Cross, Iona Abbey, Isle of Iona	LB52541	**Negligible**	**Minor adverse** (not significant)
Dubh Artach Lighthouse	LB12320	**Medium adverse**	**Major adverse** (significant)
Skerryvore Lighthouse, Tiree	LB17849	**No change**	**No change**
Rhinns of Islay Lighthouse, Orsay, Islay	LB11944	**No change**	**No change**
Breachacha House, Coll	LB4709	**No change**	**No change**
Breachacha Castle, Coll	LB4708	**No change**	**No change**
Hynish, Harbour and Lighthouse Establishment, Including Signal Tower, Housing, Sheds/Stores, Dam and Walled Enclosures, Tiree	LB17848	**No change**	**No change**

385. A summary of the change to setting and the significance of effect for Iona CA is presented in **Table 6** below.

Table 6 Summary of effect to conservation areas

Asset Name	ID	Magnitude of Impact	Significance of Effect
Iona	CA468	**Low adverse**	**Moderate adverse** (significant)

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ANNEX 1 - SCREENING OF COASTAL HERITAGE ASSETS

ANNEX 2 – TRIPOD PHOTOGRAPHY

CH01 – Oronsay Priory and Cross

CH02 – Oronsay Priory and Cross Elevated Position

CH03 - Beinn a' Chaisteil, promontory fort and associated remains, Islay

CH04 - Nave Island, monastic site, Viking house, chapel, burial ground, settlement and kelp-burning kiln

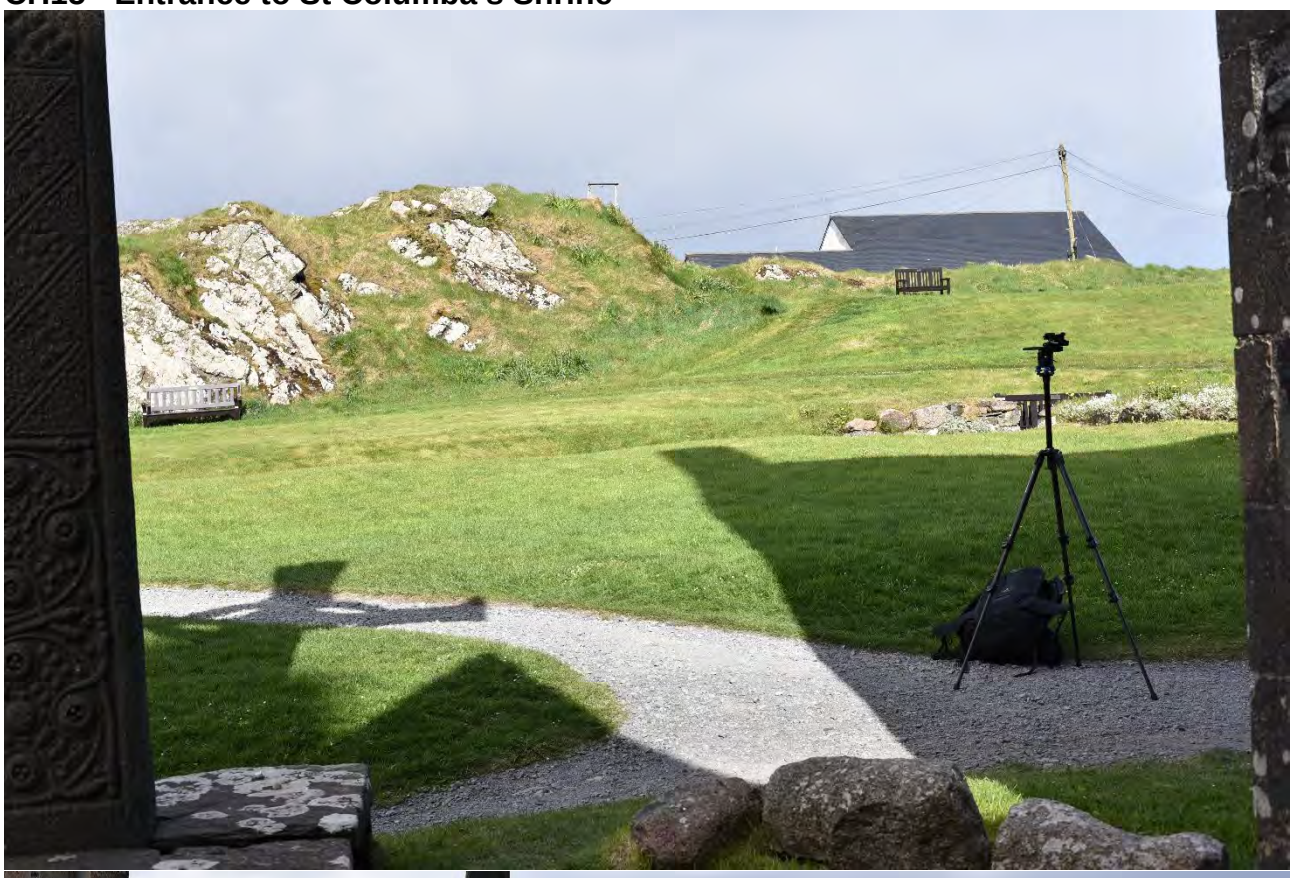
CH05 - Dun Bheolain, fort, Islay

CH06 - St Mary's Abbey, Iona, monastic settlement (Torr an aba)

CH07 - St Mary's Abbey, Iona, monastic settlement (Street of the Dead)

CH08 - St Mary's Abbey, Iona, monastic settlement (Field behind Abbey)

CH15 - Entrance to St Columba's Shrine



CH17 - View from East of the Abbey

CH17 - From Cladh an Diseart

CH18 - Main Road Iona - Access track to Grianan

CH19 - Path at Oronsay Priory

CH20 - MacDuffie Cross - Oronsay Priory