

A6. SITE CONTEXT

A6.1 INTRODUCTION

Chapter 6 of the 2009 Environmental Statement (ES) provided a broad overview of the natural and human environment in the vicinity of the proposals, identifying key natural features, designations, and developments. This background situation is largely unchanged. However, alterations to the design and layout of the Viking Wind Farm, in particular the deletion of all proposals for the Collafirth quadrant, have reduced the geographical extent of the scheme and increased the distance of proposed turbine locations from a number of environmental receptors and nearby settlements. Please see chapter A4, Development Description, for further details.

Apart from a small alteration to the position of turbine N132, at the south end of Hill of Flamister, and the addition of one borrow pit area of search in Kergord, all changes have consisted of deletion of elements of the proposed development, and therefore all alterations to the design have resulted in reduced impacts on the environment. Details of the changes, where significant, are given in Chapter A4, Development Description, and in the appropriate specialist chapters of this ES Addendum.