

OC04 Gillian's Wonderland Pier

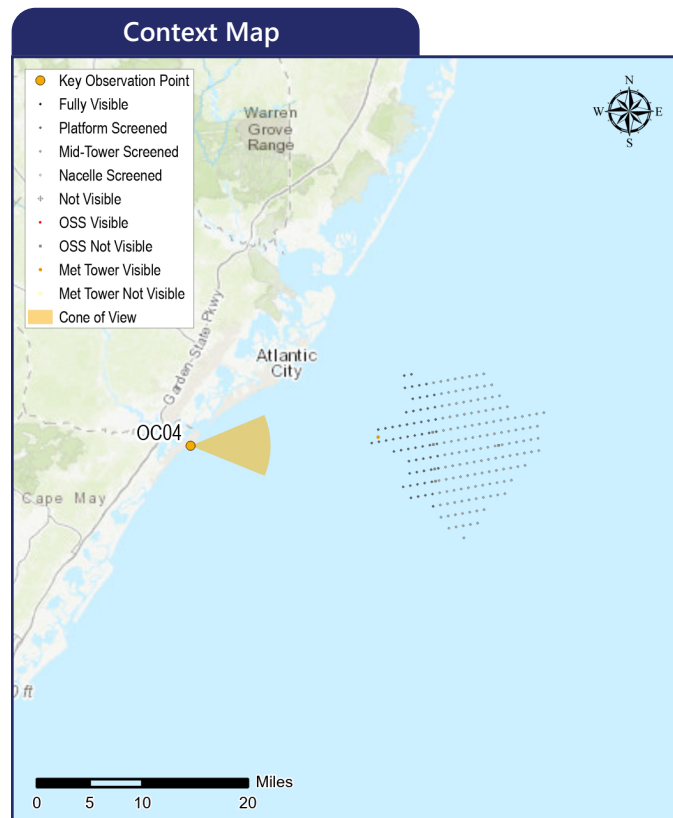
Ocean City, Cape May County, New Jersey



The image above is a +/- 124° panorama photograph from the beach near Gillian's Wonderland Pier, panning clockwise from north-northeast (left) to southeast (right). The yellow rectangle within the photo represents the extent of the photosimulation photo(s).

Notes

Printed at 100%, the photosimulations are 15 inches wide by 10 inches high. At this size, the photosimulation(s) should be viewed from a distance of 21 inches.



Simulation Information

Coordinates: 39.27510°N, 74.56878°W
 Character Area: Commercial Beachfront, Seascape (SCA)
 User Group: Residents/Tourists, Fishermen
 Direction of View: East
 Distance to Nearest Visible Turbine: 17.18 miles
 Visually Sensitive Resource: Ocean City Beachfront

Environmental Information

Date Taken: 08/25/2022
 Time: 12:47 PM
 Temperature: 91°F
 Humidity: 29%
 Visibility: 10 miles
 Wind Direction: Variable
 Wind Speed: 3 mph
 Conditions Observed: Fair

Photograph Information

Camera: Canon EOS 5D Mark IV
 Resolution: 30.4 Megapixels
 Focal Length: 50mm
 Camera Height: 5.1 feet AMSL

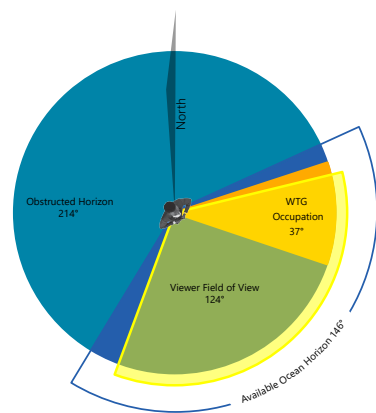
Meteorological Visibility Model (2019)

Visibility Conditions Represented in Photosimulation: 34 Miles
 Frequency of Visibility Condition in September, 2020: 5.4%
 Alternative Condition/Frequency #1: 18 miles/(31.5%)
 Alternative Condition/Frequency #2: 20 miles/(28.5%)

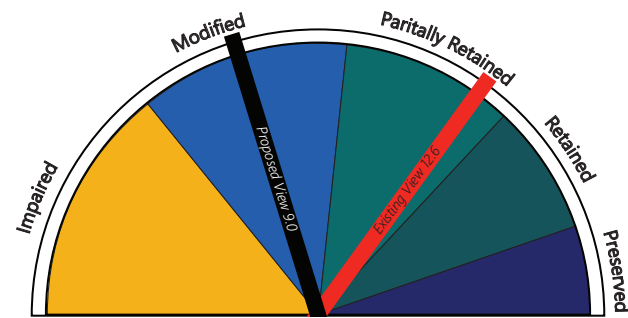
Simulated Photograph(s)



Field of View Visual Impact Rating



Impact Rating Summary



-3.6. Significant

Visual Threshold Level (VTL)

5 An object/phenomenon that is not large but contrasts with the surrounding landscape elements so strongly that it is a major focus of visual attention, drawing viewer attention immediately and tending to hold that attention. In addition to strong contrasts in form, line, color, and texture, bright light sources such as lighting and reflections and moving objects associated with the study subject may contribute substantially to drawing viewer attention. The visual prominence of the study subject interferes noticeably with views of nearby landscape/seascape elements (Sullivan et al., 2013).

Principles of Composition and Factors Affecting Visual Impact Summary

Design Elements	Description
Focal Point	Horizon line, however, the real focal point is the Pier to the left that is out of view.
Order	Horizontal landscape with a strong perspective point to the left that the rolling surf fans out from.
Visual Clutter	The general lines converge as a one point perspective on the horizon.
Movement	Waves, wildlife, and people on the beach likely to be the majority of movement.
Duration & Frequency of View	Long-Term Repeated and Occasional
Atmospheric Conditions	Thin and hazy cloud cover throughout most of the sky. Waves present foreground haze in the form of sea spray.
Lighting Direction	Backlit & Side-Lit
Scenic or Recreational Value	This site has a boardwalk and beach access as well as an amusement park and Ocean City Music Pier; Open beach with large powerful waves presents a sense of interest and wonder.

Compatibility and Contrast Rating Average

Gillian's Wonderland Amusement			
Resource	Compatibility	Scale	Spatial Dominance
Water Resources	2.4	2.1	2.1
Landform	2.1	1.8	1.8
Vegetation	0.0	0.0	0.0
Land Use	1.8	2.0	1.8
User Activity	1.9	2.0	1.8

1 – Compatible
 2 – Somewhat Compatible
 3 – Not Compatible
 1 – Minimal
 2 – Moderate
 3 – Severe
 1 – Subordinate
 2 – Co-Dominant
 3 – Dominant

Existing Conditions

Scenic Quality: Partially Retained
 Rating Panel Score Average: 12.6
 Rating Panel Score Range: 10.3 - 14.8

This view is from the beach near Gillian's Wonderland Amusement in Ocean City, New Jersey. Gillian's is a historic amusement park founded in 1929 by David Gillian, who first came to Ocean City in 1914. It is located on the ocean boardwalk and is famous for its 144-foot (44 m) Giant Wheel, one of the largest Ferris wheels on the east coast. Gillian's Wonderland Amusement is currently home to 28 rides and attractions over multiple decks both indoor and outdoor.

The existing view to the east from the selected location looks up the beach along the surf line. The beach slopes gently toward the line of breaking waves that angle from the foreground to the background (right to left) across the view. A scattering of people on the beach and the large breaking waves gives the view a dynamic feel. Little of the ocean is visible beyond the surf, but the thin line of dark water behind the waves presents strong contrast with the hazy white sky at the horizon. The sky transitions to blue overhead and, looking into the sun, people on the beach appear strongly backlit. In the selected photo, the beach appears well used but largely natural. However, outside the field of view to the left, the Ferris wheel and buildings along the boardwalk are prominent man-made features along the edge of the beach. These structures and vehicle tracks in the sand alter the overall character of the beach to a much more developed/disturbed commercial waterfront.

Rating panel members indicated that this commercially developed beach edge, which borders the ocean boardwalk and Gillian's Amusement Park, would provide ample gathering space across the wide expanse of sand and be a highly visited location for summer tourism. The open sand and roaring surf are visually dynamic and offer extended, unobstructed views to the horizon that are compressed horizontally due to the lack of intercepting vertical elements in the view. The monochromatic colors, silhouetted visitors and low, rolling surf create a simple, aesthetically pleasing landscape despite the intense commercial development that is just out of the view. Rating panel scores for the existing conditions photographs ranged from 10.2 to 14.8 (average score = 12.6). This score suggests that this view is partially retained.

Proposed Conditions

Scenic Quality: Modified
 Rating Panel Score Average: 9.0
 Rating Panel Score Range: 6.2 - 11.5
 Impact Magnitude: 3.6 (Significant)

Viewshed analysis suggests that Project visibility from this general area will be largely limited to the open beach and boardwalk, in addition to a few small pockets of open land that extend inland. Ground level views of the Project will be completely blocked by the first inland row of built structures as one moves into the City.

With the proposed Project in place, the visible array of WTG rotor blade tips sit partially above the horizon and extend across a large portion of the ocean view to the east-southeast from this location. Of the 163 degrees of relatively unobstructed ocean horizon, the Project occupies approximately 37 degrees or 22.7 percent of the view (see Field of View Image, left). Project visibility is enhanced by the relative proximity of the WTGs (17.18-miles) and their back-lighting by the rising sun, which makes the WTGs appear dark against the sky. Rating panel members had a somewhat variable range of reactions to the impact resulting from the Project WTGs, with the VIA scores ranging from 6.2 to 11.5 (average score = 9.0). These scores indicate an average reduction of 3.6 points in comparison to the existing view, suggesting the view becomes modified and significant visual impacts are expected during high visibility viewing conditions. Individual rating panel members indicated reductions that ranged from 0.7 to 7.0. Panel members indicated that while most of the WTGs are concealed below the horizon line, the density of the WTG arrangement and the bisected appearance of the blade tips above the surf/horizon line visually dominate the crashing waves and alter the simple landscape with an industrial intervention. The WTGs reduce the expansiveness of the view by creating a semi-transparent edge across the horizon that mimics the intense horizontal forms found within the view. The movement of the rotor blades will also attract viewer attention and make the WTGs the focus of this view. However, the visibility and visual dominance of the WTGs is likely to be reduced under more hazy or foggy sky conditions. The 2019 meteorological data suggests that the availability of views as presented in the photosimulation would only occur over approximately 4.6% of the month of September. Two other conditions are also presented herein and these photosimulations illustrate the appearance of the WTGs when visibility is limited to within a distance of 18 and 20 miles. These conditions occurred during 31% and 27% of the month of September, respectively. The photosimulations illustrate that all but the closest WTGs are completely obscured from view and even the visible portions of the Project are difficult to perceive on the horizon. While visible, it is not anticipated that the WTGs will result in any significant effects on viewer enjoyment of this resource.

Considering the scale, compatibility, and spatial dominance factors that influenced the visual impact rating at this KOP, panel ratings indicated that the WTGs present a moderate scale contrast when considering the ocean (water resources), landform, land use and user activity. The WTGs were also considered co-dominant and somewhat compatible considering the ocean, landform, land use and user activity. Panel members assigned the Project visibility an average VTL of 5 from this KOP.

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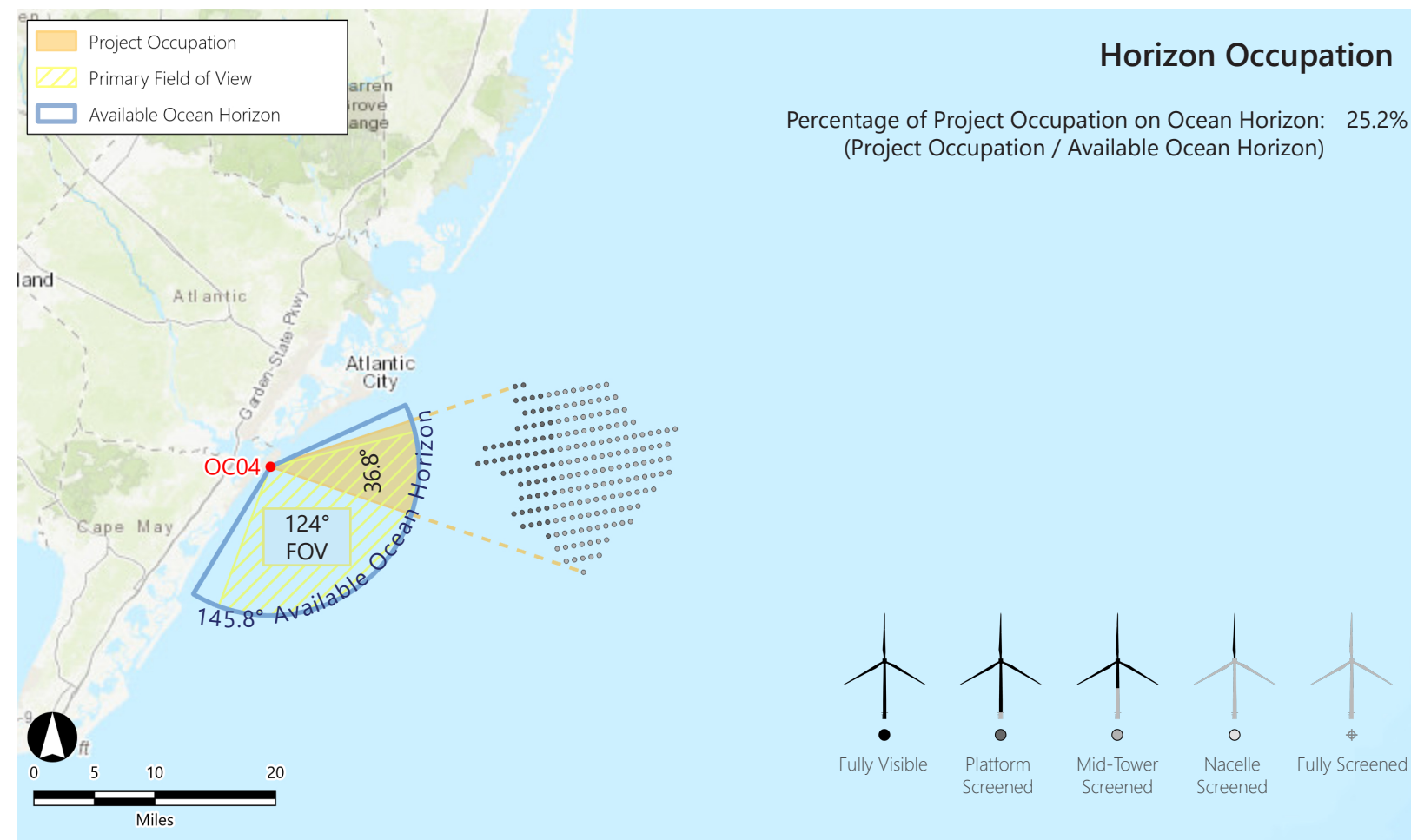
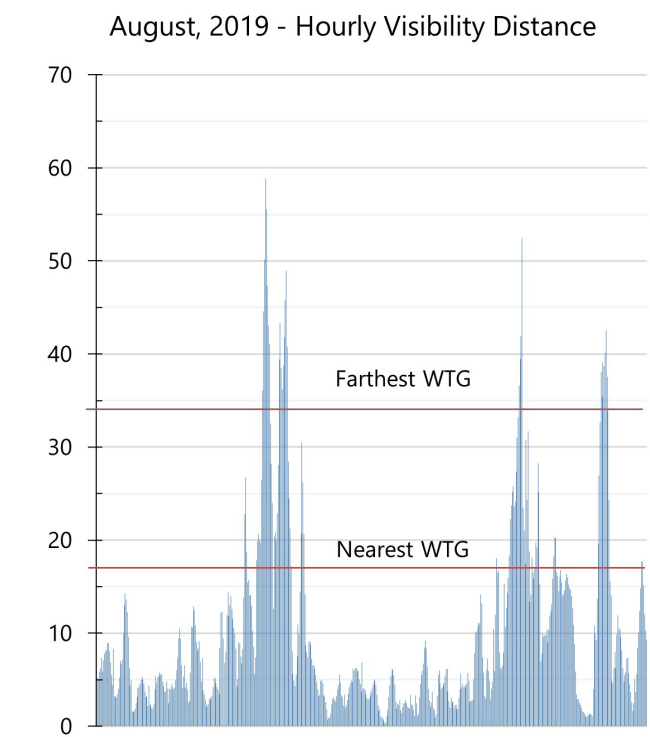
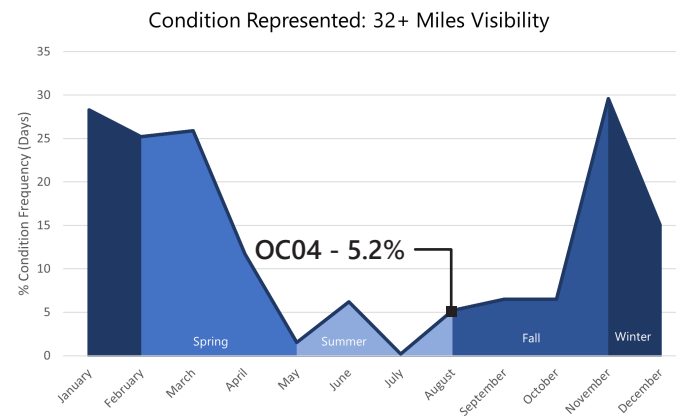
Ocean City, Cape May County, New Jersey

KOP Information

Primary Field of View: Southeast
 Distance to Closest WTG: 17.18 miles
 Camera Height: 5.1 ft
 User Groups: Residents, Tourists, Fishermen

Atmospheric Perspective

The effect the atmosphere has on the appearance of an object as viewed from a distance.



WTG Color Contrast

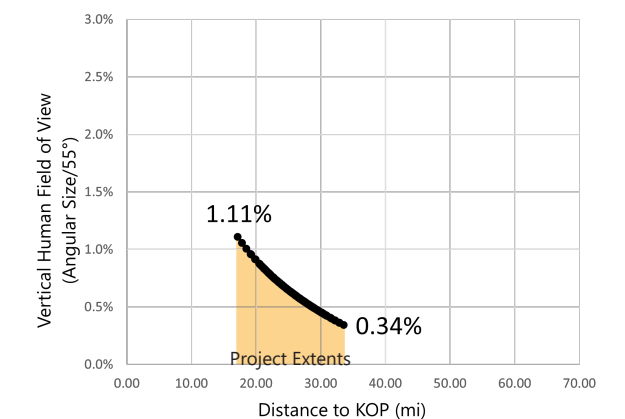
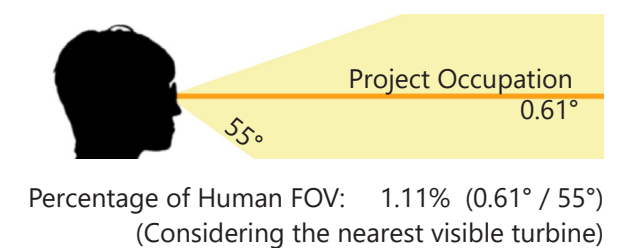
Color Contrast Rating: 1.73
 Turbine (Dark Grey) / Background (Light Grey)

Lighting Condition: Back lit
 Season: Fall
 Sky Condition: Fair
 Atmospheric Condition: > 10 Miles

SIMILAR VIEWING PARAMETERS:

KOP SBB01 Illustrates the project from 19.35 miles in the front lit condition. This provides an indication of how the turbines may appear from this KOP during evening conditions.

Vertical Occupation



Existing Conditions



Photosimulation



Atlantic Shores Offshore Wind Project

Outer Continental Shelf - New Jersey

Key Observation Point: OC04 - Gillian's Wonderland Pier

Attachment E: Photosimulations: Page 138 of 159

Printed at 100% the resulting photosimulation size is 15 inches wide by 10 inches high. At this size and focal length, the photosimulation should be viewed from a distance of 21 inches.



This scale is designed to insure the photosimulation images are printed at the intended size.

Photosimulation - 18-mile Visibility



Atlantic Shores Offshore Wind Project
Outer Continental Shelf - New Jersey

Key Observation Point: OC04 - Gillian's Wonderland Pier
Attachment E: Photosimulations, Page 139 of 159

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Photosimulation - 20-mile Visibility



Atlantic Shores Offshore Wind Project
Outer Continental Shelf - New Jersey

Key Observation Point: OC04 - Gillian's Wonderland Pier
Attachment E: Photosimulations: Page 140 of 159

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Existing Conditions



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Photosimulation



Photosimulation - 18-mile Visibility



Atlantic Shores Offshore Wind Project

Outer Continental Shelf - New Jersey

Key Observation Point: OC04 - Gillian's Wonderland Pier

Attachment E: Photosimulations: Page 143 of 159

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Photosimulation - 20-Mile Visibility



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